



EAGLE UPDATE

Phone (402) 843-2455
Fax (402) 843-2475
www.elgineagles.org

Elgin Public School
P.O. Box 399
101 N. 4th St.
Elgin, NE 68636-0399

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January, 2017

DATES TO REMEMBER



January 4
School Resumes



January 12
School Board Meeting
7:30pm ITV Room



January 16
Boone Central Choral
Clinic



January 23
NO SCHOOL
Teacher In-Service

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



From Mrs. Beckman

Second Grade Library Fun

On a cool crisp day in December the second grade visited the Elgin Public Library. It was a fun afternoon to listen to a story, do an activity and get treats. Thank you Mrs. Gunderson and Mrs. Bode.



From Mrs. Heithoff

Yearbook Ads

Businesses check out the school webpage www.elgineagles.org, "Academics-Yearbook" to view your yearbook ad. If you haven't purchased an ad yet and would like to, send a business card and \$35 (make checks payable to Elgin Public Schools) to Elgin Public Schools, Box 399, 101 N 4th Street, Elgin, NE 68636 Attn: Rita Heithoff



Thank you to all of the businesses that sponsor our yearbook every year. Your support is very much appreciated!!!!!!!!!!

***For the most current news and calendar,
go to www.elgineagles.org.***

Preschool Childfind

Most parents wonder at times if their child is growing and developing like other children the same age. If you are concerned that your child is growing or learning at a slower rate than other children, help is available through your local school district and Educational Service Unit #8. Contact your local school superintendent or Ruth Miller at ESU #8 (402)887-5041 ext 1225 if you would like more information about a free evaluation for your child.

All children develop at different rates. Here are some guidelines for you to see how your child is developing:

3 years

- Jump up and down
- Begin to pedal a riding toy
- Throw a big ball and catch it
- Sort two objects that match
- Play with others and share toys sometimes
- Talk in short sentences and try to tell you what I'm feeling
- Ask what and why questions

4 years

- Talk with words in sentences that can be understood by friends and family (75% of what is said)
- Draw simple circles and stick figure people
- Match and name 3 or 4 colors
- Climb up and down a slide by myself
- Put together simple puzzles with 5 or 6 pieces
- Follow simple two step directions
- Use the toilet with just a little help

5 years

- Can dress and undress myself without much help
- Run, jump, skip, and climb with ease
- Follow three step directions
- Ask and answer who, what, when, and where questions
- Play well with others in a group
- Enjoy games and follow simple rules
- Recognize my printed name
- Name 3-6 colors
- Can count a small group of objects

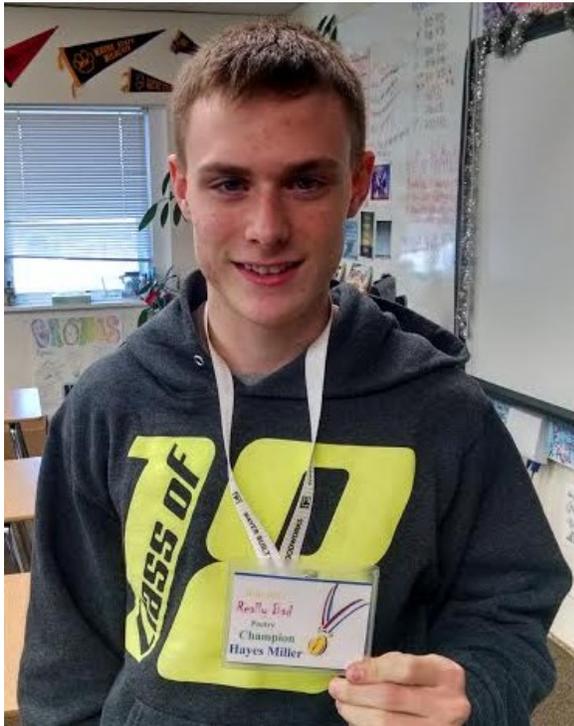
Bad Poetry Slam Champ Crowned— by Mrs. Shoe

On Friday, December 9, junior Hayes Miller was recognized as the English 11 2016-17 Bad Poetry Champion. He joins the likes of other “distinguished” EPS poets (Kenny Bush, Elianne Heilhecker, and Alois Warner) in the EPS Literary Hall of Shame.

The annual contest occurs at the conclusion of the early American literature unit. The unit focuses on Puritan literature, primarily historical narratives, sermons and, well, poetry. Though this genre did not play a tremendous role at the time, some did exist.

After spending a good portion of time writing their best poetry in previous years, the students are challenged to write a bad poem—a poem utterly painful to the ears. They must follow specific guidelines in order to demonstrate their understanding of Puritan poetry, their mastery of assorted poetic devices, and their grasp of new vocabulary.

Upon completing their Master—or better yet—“Minorpieces,” the students deliver their poems in slam format. Three to four unsuspecting celebrity judges are roped into the task of ranking the poets on a scale from 1-10. Hayes emerged as the victor this year. Congratulations to all of our poets on a job well done . . . or shall I say “poorly done.”



Post Season Volleyball Awards

Congratulations to the Wolfpack Volleyball players earning post season honors. These awards came out after our ceremony was held.

NVC:

1st Team: Liz Selting, Jordan Mescher, Baylee Wemhoff, Amy Nelson

2nd Team: Grace Henn, Paige Meis
Honorable Mention: Nickol Payne



Norfolk Daily News Class D:

1st Team: Liz Selting

2nd Team: Amy Nelson

3rd Team: Baylee Wemhoff

Honorable Mention: Jordan Mescher

Lincoln Journal Star Class D-1:

2nd Team: Liz Selting and Jordan Mescher

Honorable Mention: Amy Nelson and Baylee Wemhoff

Antelope County News All Area:

1st Team: Jordan Mescher, Liz Selting, Amy Nelson

Honorable Mention: Baylee Wemhoff, Grace Henn, Paige Meis and Nicki Payne

Nebraska Prep Volleyball Class D-1:

1st Team: Liz Selting and Jordan Mescher

Honorable Mention: Amy Nelson and Baylee Wemhoff

Omaha World Herald All State:

1st Team: Liz Selting and Jordan Mescher

Honorable Mention: Amy Nelson, Baylee Wemhoff, Paige Meis, and Grace Henn

State Tournament Teams:

Class D-1

Lincoln Journal Star & Nebraska Preps

Liz Selting



BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

We still collect BoxTops For Education and Campbell's Soup UPC Labels. BoxTops and Labels can be dropped off at the school at anytime. Thanks!

From Mr. Coakes

Friction in Physics Class

The Physics class spent a few days performing labs to study friction forces. In one lab, they collected data to determine what factors affect the coefficient of friction. They discovered surface type and mass are the only factors that can cause a change in the friction force of an object. Another lab had students testing the amount of friction of various types of shoe tread on different surfaces.



From Mrs. Druke

One-Act Honors

The 2016 One Act cast and crew took to the stage to prepare and present "Thirteen Signs You Should Stop Being a Pirate" by A.M. Dittman. The group's public debut opened with a community performance on November 14, and their first competition was the following day in Tilden. The students earned fifth place for their efforts. Earning individual acting honors were Kenny Bush, Ashton Evans, Hayes Miller, Jaime Hofer, Zoey Bergman, Taya Voborny and Kira Widger.

The group performed a matinee for the entire school just prior to Thanksgiving break, which was a valuable preparation for Districts in Leigh on November 30. The team won third place at Districts. Individual acting honors were awarded to Jaime Hofer, Taya Voborny, Kenny Bush, Hayes Miller, and Zoey Bergman. The season was full of drama, excitement, and lots of laughs, but it was certainly a memorable experience for everyone involved.



From Mrs. Schwartz

FFA Pajama Drive

The Elgin FFA Chapter collected new Children/ Youth Size 8-14 Pajamas for a Christmas service project. Other community members and school staff contributed to the pajama drive. The Pajama Project was a collaboration of radio stations; 106 Kix, WJAG, and Lite Rock 97-5 KEXL with the Salvation Army. KEXL collected the new pairs of pajamas that are distributed to families by the Salvation Army.



From Mrs. Borer

5th Grade Reading Articles

To kick off reading class the fifth graders have been reading a short, nonfiction article on the iPads at digital.readworks.org. Students log in, read the passage, answer the questions, and submit them to the teacher. The teacher then grades them on the computer. Some of the articles they've read so far have been about helpful animals and background information to the Civil War.



OPTION ENROLLMENT DEADLINE

Are you interested in sending your students to Elgin Public School? If you live outside of District 18 and would like to enroll for the fall semester 2017-2018, you must file the option enrollment application before March 15th. If you file after that date your resident school district determines whether they will allow you to opt out of their district. For further information or to request an option enrollment application, please contact the school office 843-2455.

Snow Days



CALLING SCHOOL OR ACTIVITIES OFF DUE TO WEATHER is a very difficult and somewhat controversial decision sometimes. Please be advised that if you EVER disagree with the decision and wish to keep your children home or have them come home that is completely within your discretion. Just let the school know.

From Mrs. Lindgren

Graphing Invasion!

Graphing has invaded the high school math department. Algebra I students are solving systems of equations by graphing. Geometry students have been using coordinate geometry to show that segments are parallel, perpendicular, congruent. Advanced Algebra made scatter plots to determine a line of best fit for non-linear data. Calculus students have been calculating slopes of curves at a point, and have been using graphs to help visualize this concept. College Algebra students are learning about and graphing conic sections. Technology has helped reduce the time needed to complete these tasks. The students enjoy working with the TI graphing calculators as well as Desmos, an online graphing app.



From Mrs. Wemhoff

Christmas Kindness for Kindergarten and 1st Grades

The first grade and kindergarten classes have been talking a lot about kindness this Christmas season. We hope that some of our kindness has reached you this holiday season! Merry Christmas everyone! We are looking forward to learning a lot in 2017!



**Don't Throw Away
That Empty Printer
Cartridge!
Bring it to school!**

Empty inkjet cartridges can be recycled and remanufactured. Our school will receive \$2.00 for each cartridge turned in. Bring in your empty cartridges (use a Ziploc bag to avoid ink spills) to the office recycle bin.

From Mrs. Heithoff

Junior High Decorations

Mrs. Heithoff's junior high study took a day to decorate their door and spread some holiday cheer. Even though the project proved to be a little more complicated than expected the students persevered and problem solved. The result was outstanding!



From Mr. Becker

Tunnel Tag Fun in P.E.

Kindergarten had fun using their crawling skills while playing tunnel tag in P.E.



*For the most current news and calendar,
go to www.elgineagles.org.*

From Mrs. Eisenhauer

Third Grade New Year's Resolutions

The third graders came up with New Year's resolutions for 2017! Here is what each student is going to improve or work on for 2017:

Kyndal- I am going to work on doing well at my new horse chores at home.



Aiden- I am going to work on not interrupting others when they are talking.

Taytum- I am going to work on getting better grades on Math homework.

Creighton- I am going to work on saving my money instead of spending it right away.

Alison- I am going to work on better spelling habits.

Adeilia- I am going to work on getting better grades on Math homework.

Nick- I am going to work on reading more at home.

Kayton- I am going to work on reading more at home.

We wish everyone a great and prosperous new year in 2017!

From Mrs. Vanis

Preschool Checklist

- Letters to Santa
- Christmas songs mastered for our concert
- Ready for Santa and Christmas Day

Hoping everyone had a very Merry Christmas!! We are very excited to see what 2017 has in store for us!

From Mr. Ostransky

4th Grade Christmas Tree

The fourth graders are busy at work constructing their Christmas tree.



BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION



THE GRUMPS OF RING-A-DING TOWN

From Mr. Heithoff

Here are some pictures from our recent concert.



Look2College and Careers

The first semester is over, and it is a good time to evaluate progress made on your journey (or your child's journey) to college.

At EPS, the conversation starts as early as 3rd grade, as we will begin career exploration next semester as part of elementary guidance. We revisit careers again in 6th grade, utilizing Education-Quest's new curriculum resource *Look2College*. We start to look at the differences between associates and bachelor degrees, and we use **MyNextMove.org**, which is a website that has students take a career interest survey that then explores careers of interest. *Look2College* also fosters good conversations about what's important for students to know about if they want to pursue college as part of their journey to their career choice: solid study skill habits, strength in character, and investing in themselves.

In 8th grade, students take an Exploratory Careers course, starting in January. In this course, students use **NebraskaCareerConnections.org** to delve deeper in to skills, interests, and values of a variety of career pathways. A college connection for 8th graders is *KnowHow 2Go*. This resource provides a good check list of steps for 8th graders as well as 9th and 10th graders to follow:

Sign up for *Countdown2College* which is a monthly college planning email from EducationQuest. It revisits importance of taking challenging courses especially to help on ACT, working hard to get good grades and GPA, and getting involved in extracurricular activities.

Take advantage of Career Fairs

Save for college

EducationQuest also provides a great resource for juniors & seniors. For example, it provides Juniors & Seniors with the following checklist:

| SENIORS | | JUNIORS | |
|---|---|--|---|
| Fall Check List | Winter/Spring Check List | Fall Check List | Spring Check List |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meet with school counselor to ensure you're on track to graduate & meet college admission requirements. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Apply for scholarships. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Get involved in extracurricular activities to increase your chances for scholarships & college admissions. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue involvement in extra-curricular activities AND taking challenging course work! |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attend FAFSA meeting. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expect financial aid award notifications from colleges that you listed on FAFSA. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Take a prep course for ACT. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUSH yourself to boast your GPA and class rank |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Apply to & visit 2-3 colleges. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If requested by college, submit verification documents for FAFSA asap. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visit Career Fair. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Take ACT or Accuplacer. (All juniors will take ACT April 19.) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create FSA ID and complete FAFSA by October 1. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Watch for acceptance letters | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work on improving GPA and class rank! | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schedule senior year coursework to consider dual credit. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Retake ACT if needed | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compare financial aid award packages to determine which college offers best award package. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Take challenging course work. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Start narrowing your college choice. Schedule a college visit. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research scholarships & request letters of recommendation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Make final college selection. Notify school of your decision and accept financial aid awards. | | |

F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Greg Wemhoff
greg.wemhoff@elgineagles.org



Wow, how time flies when you are having fun! One semester is in the books. I hope that everyone has a safe and enjoyable holiday season and that you enjoy your time with family and friends.

What a fast and enjoyable first semester we have had. Of course, we had a few bumps in the road here and there, but for the most part things have gone very well. I have enjoyed seeing many of you in our school this year. I hope that the elementary parents enjoyed our 2nd annual "Donuts with Dads" and "Muffins with Moms", I know the kids did and so did I. Thank you for showing up, it was fun. The Veterans Day program in November, once again attracted many community members to the school in honor of our Veterans. This event is always well attended. It is an honor for EPS to host this yearly event. I also want to commend the number of fans that traveled to Lincoln to watch the Lady Wolfpack at the State Volleyball Tournament. I was very proud of our school and community on the following; as were the representatives of the NSAA that I visited with in Lincoln. Great job Elgin!

Next semester will present our student body with more challenges as teachers work tirelessly preparing the students for the NeSA test, which will take place in April. Last year our students performed very well. However, it is a yearly challenge for students and teachers to assure success on the test. Juniors will be taking the ACT this year for the State Test. I am sure that our teachers will have the juniors prepared to the best of their abilities. And as we did in early fall, we will implement MAP testing in the spring to measure our students' academic growth throughout the year.

It's scary to think about, but since I have been in education, the second semester always seems to go by faster than the first. As we move through the semester, please remember to keep the lines of communication open. Feel free to call the school anytime if you have any questions or concerns. Have a great holiday season.



Follow us on
TWITTER!

@elginpublic

Our twitter feed is also on our
website:

www.elgineagles.org.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Residents of District 18, Elgin, are notified that School District 18, Elgin, NE participates in all required Special Education Services for all resident students, ages 0-21. If you know of any student not currently being serviced by an appropriate educational program or have questions concerning the Special Education Program, contact the Superintendent's office at Elgin Public School.

Elgin Public School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap. Further, the school complies with all Title IX and Equal Employment Opportunity guidelines as determined by Federal directives.

Administratively Speaking . . .



By Dan Polk
dan.polk@elgineagles.org

HAVE A GREAT WINTER BREAK AND WISHING YOU A WONDERFUL 2017!!!

Mr. Polk



Check our website for the most
current news and calendar!

Happy Holidays!
School resumes January 4th

ELGIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEWSLETTER
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