

# NEWSLETTER

April 2017  
Volume 2, Issue 7

## ELKHORN MIDDLE SCHOOL

### FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL

Many important things are scheduled during the month of April – the most important being state testing. A testing schedule is included below and we ask for parents' continued support in avoiding test days for appointments or vacations. We know our students are prepared for these tests and will perform very well!

As we enter the 4th quarter, we at EMS will maintain high expectations and an academic focus. We would ask that you continue to check your child's progress on a regular basis and contact the school if you have any questions. We will work hard to keep students motivated and engaged. You can help us maximize learning by continuing to talk to your child about school and your expectations for them – all the way to the end of the year.

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### TESTING SCHEDULE

April and May will be busy months for assessments for Elkhorn students. All students at EMS will be taking state tests as well as a final administration of MAP tests for this year. Our testing schedule is as follows:

April 3-6:	NeSA-ELA
April 10-13:	NeSA-M
April 17-20:	NeSA-S (8th only)
May 1-11:	Spring MAP



Please make sure your student(s) are getting plenty of sleep and eating a good breakfast on testing days. **If you can avoid having your student miss school during these days, it would be much appreciated.** If you have questions regarding the testing schedule for your child, please contact the office at 289-2428.

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### MAKE-UP DAYS FOR MISSED SCHOOL DAYS

As a reminder, EPS students will have **regular classes on Wednesday, May 24 and Thursday, May 25**. These two days were built into the school calendar to account for the first two missed school days due to inclement weather. There are no other make-up days scheduled at this time.

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### SPECIAL GUEST AT MAY BOOSTER CLUB MEETING

Please mark your calendars for May 4th, at 5:30 pm, and plan to attend our May Booster Club meeting with special guest Dr. Bary Habrock. Dr. Habrock will be here to introduce himself as our new superintendent and discuss the future of the district.

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### EMS INCOMING SIXTH GRADE ORIENTATION

Fifth grade students enrolling at EMS and their parents are invited to an evening orientation on Monday, May 15th at 6:30 p.m. If you have questions or concerns about your child's upcoming 6th grade experience, please give us a call at 289-2428. Fifth grade students from Hillrise, Westridge and Arbor View will be visiting the Middle School that same day. The transition from elementary school to the middle school can be overwhelming, we want to make this transition as easy and comfortable as possible.

## EMS FALL BACK-TO- SCHOOL 101

Please mark your calendars for our pre-registration day for all students on **August 10 from 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.** **It is extremely important that all students come to Back-to-School 101.** Look for more information in upcoming newsletters.



## SCHOOL PHYSICALS FOR 2017-2018 SPORTS (GRADES 8-12)

**Physicals must be dated after May 1st, 2017 for your child to participate in activities for the 2017-2018 school year.**

## REPORT CARDS

Third quarter report cards were mailed out on Tuesday, March 28th. If you did not receive your child's report card, please give us a call at 289-2428.

## PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports for 4th quarter will be mailed home on Wednesday, April 26, so please ask your child about those updates.

## CELL PHONES

A reminder that cell phones need to be turned off and out of sight during school hours. This has become an increasingly violated policy. We encourage parents to sit down with your child and review the number of phone calls and text messages that they received on a given day during school hours. Again, your cooperation with protecting the educational environment and allowing students to focus on their schooling is greatly appreciated!

## BOOSTER CLUB NEWS

**Our next Booster Club meeting will be held Thursday, April 6th at 3:45 pm at EMS.**

We are looking for volunteers for our 2017-2018 Booster Club committees. It is a great way to connect with other parents and help your school. To learn more, please contact Wendy Moore at [WendyMooreOmaha@aol.com](mailto:WendyMooreOmaha@aol.com) or call/text Wendy at 402-850-0121. Back to School Night, August 10th, 2017, is a fun way to connect with other parents and staff, so contact me if you want to be on that "ask" list to work a shift as we get closer to that date.

A special thanks to the Scholarship Committee members: Chair Kim Carbee, Heather Witt, April Cook, Kate Spellerberg, Tammy Bowes and Jacki Steckelberg for taking the time to read and score applicant essays.

HY-VEE NIGHT is APRIL 13th - the THURSDAY BEFORE EASTER. The event runs 5-8pm and EMS earns \$ when you eat dinner, and when you buy groceries. There will be a place to turn in your receipts on site that evening. So mark your calendar for April 13th to go to Hy-Vee with your family. (see attached flyer)

CALLING ALL BOXTOPS! This is the final quarter of competition among the Hi-5 classes. In addition to the Q4 winner AND the TOTAL YEAR winner, we will be surprising the \$10 cash winner for the month. Simply send in 10 BOXTOPS (marked with student name and Hi-5 teacher) to be put in the drawing for \$10 CASH. BOXTOPS are easy fundraising for our school, so thank you for sending them

## TARGET'S TAKE CHARGE OF EDUCATION

Our school received a donation of \$964.85 this year on behalf of Target and the Take Charge of Education program. Target donates up to 1% of purchases made using the RED-card to eligible schools designated by our guests.

We encourage more parents, teachers and community members to get involved in this easy way to support our school. For more information, visit a Target store.

## ELKHORN GIRLS BASKETBALL CAMPS

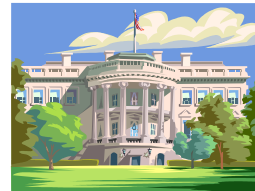
Any girl interested in attending basketball camp at Elkhorn High School can contact Jennifer Wragge by email for more information. Email is [jwragge@epsne.org](mailto:jwragge@epsne.org). Information will also be available on the Elkhorn High School website: <http://www.elkhornweb.org>. Two separate camps will be provided according to the grade that the girls will enter in August of 2017. Focus will be on fundamentals, team offensive and defensive strategies and individual and team competition. Both camps will be held at Elkhorn Grandview on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, and June 1<sup>st</sup>. The elementary camp (those entering 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade) will be from 8am–10am and the upper-elementary / middle school camp (those entering 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade) will be from 10:15am-12:15pm. Camps fees are \$50 if registered on or before May 9, 2017. If registering after May 9<sup>th</sup>, please email to confirm availability (late registration fee is \$60).

## SUMMER ACTIVITY CAMPS

Each summer Elkhorn coaches and sponsors offer a variety of sports/activity camps for students of all ages. Available camps will be posted online at [elkhornweb.org/antlers](http://elkhornweb.org/antlers) and [elkhornweb.org/storm](http://elkhornweb.org/storm) by **April 1, 2017**. Parents can go online to browse camps and download registration flyers.

## WASHINGTON DC TRIP

It's not too late to sign up for the 2017 Washington DC trip.  
Contact Mr. Glover for details at: [dglover@epsne.org](mailto:dglover@epsne.org)



## FLORIDA SCIENCE TRIP 2018

This week 6th grade students will be receiving a packet with information regarding a science trip to Florida next fall. This trip is only available for next year's 7th graders and will be March 17-21, 2018. Danielle McGlynn, administrative coordinator at Elkhorn Valley View Middle School and Elkhorn Grandview Middle School, will be holding an information meeting in the EMS library on Tuesday, April 4th at 6:30 pm for any parent wanting to learn more.

## DRESS CODE REMINDER

The Middle School dress code has been one of common sense, parental approval, and personal pride. Like behavior, an individual's dress should reflect sensitivity and respect for themselves and others. The following directions governing dress and personal grooming seek to encourage the student to take pride in his/her appearance, and to aid the student in developing the habit of good taste in personal appearance.



The following clothing or types of dress are PROHIBITED:

1. Dress which causes or has the potential to cause either a substantial disruption or material interference with the educational process.
2. Clothing which is too short, too tight, too revealing, or is inappropriate for school.
3. Dress which contains vulgar or offensive words or symbols or is sexually explicit, indecent, or lewd. Dress which reflects lack of sensitivity or respect for others is unacceptable.
4. Dress which promotes, advocates, or advances the use of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs, including clothing which displays the logo or trademark of any brand(s) of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs.
5. Sagging pants are not appropriate for school. Pants should be worn so that undergarments are not higher than the pants. The length of shirt worn to cover up the undergarments is not relevant.
6. Any gang-related symbol worn, written, carried, displayed, or communicated will not be tolerated (i.e., hats, caps, coats, sagging pants, bandannas, pagers, and/or handkerchiefs). Hats and sunglasses may be worn to school, but will not be worn in the halls or in any classes.
7. Any items which would detract from the educational environment will not be acceptable.

Dress code violations will be addressed with students by counselors or Administrators. Parents will be notified of a dress code infraction and be asked to supply the appropriate clothing for the student immediately. If parents/guardians cannot supply appropriate clothing, the student will be given clothing to wear that day from a friend or possibly from the lost and found. Continuous violations will result in disciplinary action.

## 6TH GRADE NEWS

MRS. CRAWFORD, MRS. CHANDLER, MRS. GRAGERT, MR. PREISSLER, MRS. YOUNG, MRS. GOEHRING, MS. MEIER, MRS. MEYSENBURG

6th Grade Science will finish up the study of the Protista and Fungi Kingdoms during the beginning of April. At the end of the month we will begin the Weather Unit.

Math 6 and Pre-Con students are doing final preparations for NeSA testing. They will be competing in Math Madness and reviewing skills to help them be successful! NeSA math testing will be April 10-13.

In reading, elements of nonfiction will be the focus of study. Students will need to continue with their daily reading and testing for Accelerated Reader. Final AR goal points for 4th quarter will be due on Friday, May 5th.

The Social Studies class will focus on the geography and urban geography on the remainder of the year. The city of Omaha will be studied according to its growth and formation.

In Language Arts, we are currently working on capitalization, commas, quotation marks, using the right word, and dialogue. Students will take a District Assessment over these skills in April.

## 7TH GRADE NEWS

MR. BEARD, MRS. HINGORANI, MS. LUTES, MRS. PIKE, MRS. WELLS, MRS. MATUELLA

In Science, we will continue the Motion and Forces unit, studying into physics topics. We will continue working with the laws of motions through hands on investigation. Students will review scientific method while investigating motion through an independent study. Our final unit of the year will be astronomy.

In reading, we are taking the NeSA-ELA test before doing a collaborative poetry project with language arts and starting our science fiction novel unit.

In World History, we will finish up the Renaissance and Reformation, then study Science and Exploration, the Enlightenment and Revolution and finish up studying the World Wars.

In Math, students are preparing to take the NeSA-M. Testing for students will occur April 10–13.

In Language Arts we will begin the month working on a collaborative poetry project with reading. This will include writing, analyzing, and presenting poetry. For the remainder of the month, we will continue to study writing mechanics and end the month taking our final district common assessment.

## LIBRARY NEWS - MS. HARTMAN

March 8th-15th the library hosted Teen Tech Week. Students were given the opportunity to design a web page using Google Sites, learn to write HTML, learn computer programming concepts with drag and drop programming, program Sphero robots, and produce green screen video. This activity will be followed by a level 2 Sphero Challenge course.

Also scheduled in March was the *Sweet Sixteen Book Challenge*. The top 16 circulating books in the EMS library were posted and students participated in voting for their favorite book of the 2016-2017 school year.

April is National Poetry Month.



## 8TH GRADE NEWS

MS. GUTSCHOW, MRS. BAUMBERT, MRS. GRISHAM, MR. HULTMAN, MRS. COLLINGSWORTH, MRS. HOLLMAN, MRS. VALASEK

Spring is finally here! We are looking forward to an eventful month. We will be giving the NeSa ELA the week of April 3rd, the NeSa Math test the week of April 10<sup>th</sup>, and the NeSa Science will be given April 17-20. Please let your children know of the importance of these tests as they will help determine some of their high schools classes and activities. Attendance is crucial to the success of your student.

In Language Arts during the 4th quarter students will take their final District Common Assessment over capitalization and punctuation. Please ask them if they are preparing and studying for this test in April. Our final writing unit will be the writing portfolio. This is a comprehensive writing project which will take place for the better part of the quarter.

In both Algebra and Pre-Algebra we will be preparing for and taking the NeSa Math test.

In Science we are starting chemistry and learning about the properties of matter. Students will also be reviewing for NeSa Science.

In Reading we will complete all 20 of our Vocabulary Units by the end of April. In the first two weeks of May, we will review for the Vocabulary DCA, our last DCA and last major test of the year. AR is due May 15. Please ask to see your child's book-mark.

In American History we will be studying the late 1800s and early 1900s Progressive Era.

## 8TH GRADE CELEBRATION UPDATE

We are down to the the last few weeks of preparation for our 8th grade students and their star studded event. Parents, how about expressing a brief message to your soon to be high schooler with a STAR message. Each STAR is \$5.00 and will help fund this wonderful event. Your message will be placed on a red 10" shiny star and hung up at the Celebration for your student to see. The students will get to take the STARS home with them that evening. Please drop off your message in an envelope with \$5.00 to the EMS office. Please be sure to state the students first and last name somewhere (in case of duplicate names).

We still need a little help to make this Celebration a success. Please view the 2 Sign Up Genius in the links below. Any help is greatly appreciated.

If you haven't sent in your "then and now" pictures, please do so ASAP! Photos can be sent to [ems8babypix@gmail.com](mailto:ems8babypix@gmail.com).

Thank you for all the parent support we've received so far!

8th Grade Celebration Planning Committee

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094eabaa28a02-thefun>

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094eabaa28a02-8thgrade>



## TECH SAVVY PARENT TIPS— APRIL 2017

Elkhorn Public Schools Policy 507.13—Internet Safety Policy was written in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act. Tech Savvy Parent tips are intended to inform and educate parents of technology that may be available to their students. Tips may feature apps that are educational as well as those that may be a cause for concern to parents.

### Phishing Scams:

Phishing is a form of social engineering that attempts to steal sensitive information. An attacker's goal is to compromise systems to obtain usernames, passwords, and other account and/or financial data. They most frequently accomplish phishing attacks via email. The attacker sends crafted emails to people within an organization. The email usually pretends to be from someone trustworthy, like your bank, UPS/FedEx, a credit card company or an airline, or some other site for which you may have login credentials. The email includes a link to an "official" website that is actually a fake site operated by the attacker. Once the user visits the fake site, they may be asked overtly to enter account information such as usernames, passwords, credit card details, social security or bank account numbers. If done correctly, the attack can capture sensitive information without the victim even knowing that they have been compromised. More information can be found at <https://www.commoncraft.com/video/phishing-scams>

## BAND NEWS - MR. EDWARDS

**EMC Band Festival Results** – On Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, the 7th Grade and 8th Grade Bands, and the Jazz Band participated in the 7th annual Eastern Midland Conference Middle School Band Festival in Waverly. It was an excellent day for all performers. The 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band, and the Jazz Band received “Excellent +” (Division II+) ratings and the 8th Grade Band received a “Superior” (Division I) rating. In addition, each band received a 15-minute clinic with one of the judges immediately following their performance. This proved to be an invaluable educational experience. A special thank you to all the parents who chaperoned for us: Mr. Akey, Mr., Smith, and Mrs. Mears. Miss Rathman also was in Waverly to help and support our students. Your assistance was greatly appreciated.

**Concert Attire**- Please note that for the following events students are to be in “concert attire.” This includes red EMS Music polo shirt (tucked in), black pants (no leggings, sweat pants, or yoga pants), black socks, and all-black shoes. Simply stated we are asking for “black from the waist down.” We hope this more detailed information will be helpful to parents and guardians as you plan for our remaining 2017 performances. Please contact Mr. Edwards if you have questions and thank you for helping our band look as uniform as possible.

**May 11th Concert** – On Tuesday, May 11th at 6:30 pm, the Elkhorn Middle School Bands will give their final concert of the year. All the EMS bands, including the 6th Grade Band, the combined 7<sup>th</sup> and 8th Grade, Band, and the Jazz Band, will be performing. Students should begin warming up in the band and chorus rooms at 6:00 pm. Please come support your student(s) in their final performance of the year.

**Big Band Jazz Night** – On Saturday, April 29th, the Elkhorn Public Schools will be hosting the 13th annual Elkhorn Big Band Jazz Night. The event will be held at Elkhorn High School with times TBA. The EMS Jazz Band, the Grandview Middle School Jazz Band, and both EHS jazz bands will be performing that night on a rotating basis. In addition to the playing of the bands, there will be a dance floor and concessions available. This event serves as a benefit for the Elkhorn Jazz Bands with all proceeds going toward purchasing jazz music for future performances. Ticket prices are \$5 for adults, \$3 for students, and \$1 for seniors over 65. A meal will again be offered with details TBA. Please mark this date on your calendars, polish off those dancing shoes, and start those swing dance lessons right away! See you then!

**The 4th annual EMS/-Grandview Middle School Summer Band Program will be held at Grandview this year on Mondays through Fridays from June 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> and June 12<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup>, Monday through Wednesday from June 19<sup>th</sup>– June 21<sup>st</sup> and a concert on Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

This program was very popular with students the last three years. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Edwards will again team teach the band and jazz band classes and this year we will be joined by Mr. Auman from Valley View and Mr. Dreessen from ERMS. We plan to play popular music selections similar to those that students have enjoyed in past years. High school band students will assist again this year. The program will include concert band and jazz band classes for 8th graders in the morning and concert band and jazz band classes for 7th graders in the early afternoon. There will be opportunities for morning lessons for 8th graders who would like to audition for the All-State Band in the fall or just improve their playing skills. There will be opportunities for late morning/early afternoon small ensembles for 7th graders or lessons for those who would like to improve their playing skills.

The tentative schedule:

8:00–8:45 am - 8th Grade All-State Preparation/Lessons

11:45 am -12:15 pm - 7th Grade Small Ensembles/Lessons

9:00–10:00 -am 8th Grade Concert Band

12:30-1:30 pm 7th Grade Concert Band

10:15–11:15 am- 8th Grade Jazz Band

1:45-2:30 pm 7th Grade Jazz Band

This is a great opportunity for students to keep playing their instruments in the summer and get to know students who may be in band with them in high school. There is no cost for the program and students may miss some days if they have conflicts. Please contact Mr. Edwards if you have any questions.

## CHORUS NEWS - MRS. WORTMAN



It has been very busy, and successful months for the vocal music department!

- ◆ Congratulations to the “Classics” Show Choir and the 7<sup>th</sup> grade chorus on a great concert on March 7.
- ◆ Congratulations to all 8<sup>th</sup> grade chorus students on a wonderful performance at the High School on February 27.
- ◆ Congratulations go out to the “Classics” for the outstanding performances at the Red carpet Classic and Battle of the Show Choirs, where they received 2nd place and Ben Hastreiter earned Best Male Vocalist.
- ◆ Congratulations to the 6<sup>th</sup> grade chorus and “Classics” on a great concert with the 5<sup>th</sup> grade recorders on March 14.
- ◆ Show Choir Tours will tour the elementary schools and care centers sometime in May. That date is not yet set.

**The final concert for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade chorus students, voice lessons, and “Classics” is scheduled on Thursday, May 4th at 6:30 p.m. in the gym.**



**156th & Maple Hy-Vee location presents:  
EMS SCHOOL SHOPPING & DINNER NIGHT**

Come shop with us and/or eat dinner with us and we'll give  
money back to your school!!

**Thursday, April 13th 5-8 PM**

Shop for your groceries, then turn in your receipt to  
Customer Service for a 5% donation back to your school!



**Thursday, April 13th 5-8 PM**

Dine in our Deli/Kitchen area, then turn in your receipt to our  
Kitchen area register for a 10% donation back to your school!

5TH ANNUAL  
LADIES  
NIGHT OUT  
FUNDRAISER

BENEFITING MATH & READING  
INTERVENTION PROGRAMS IN  
ELKHORN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Bids  
4  
Kids

silent auction + raffles + complimentary appetizers + desserts

April 6 | 6-9PM | Noah's Event Venue

Tickets \$20 Advance | \$25 At Door

[QTEGO.NET/QLINK/EPS](http://QTEGO.NET/QLINK/EPS)

register your phone FREE to bid remotely by clicking the  
orange 'REGISTER FOR AUCTION' button at website above!

SHOP • EAT • MINGLE • SUPPORT

For more information contact: [sselk1@epsne.org](mailto:sselk1@epsne.org) 402-289-1727



# EHS Cheer Tryouts 2017-2018 season



A mandatory meeting will be held for all parents and interested students (currently in 8th-11th grade) on Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the EHS lecture hall. If your parents can not attend, but you would still like to try out please speak with Barb Schmidt or Anna Beard.

Tryout prep clinics will be April 3rd through April 6th, with tryouts on Friday April 7<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. All tryout clinics will be held in the main gym. Please see practice schedule below:

Monday, April 3rd: 3:45-5:15 p.m.

Tuesday, April 4th: 3:45-5:15 p.m.

Wednesday, April 5th: 3:45-5:15 p.m.

Thursday, April 6th: 3:45-5:15 pm

**Friday April 7<sup>th</sup>- Tryouts begin at 4:00 p.m., please arrive at 3:30**

Feel free to call Barb Schmidt at 402-289-4239 with any questions.

We are very excited about the upcoming season and hope  
to see you cheering on the Antlers!

Barb Schmidt & Anna Beard, Elkhorn High School Cheer Coaches

# **Interested in Elkhorn Dance Team ?**

**→ Parent Informational  
meeting Monday March  
13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the  
EHS Lecture Hall**

**→ Tryouts April 10-13<sup>th</sup> 3:30-  
5:00 @ EHS**

**→ Email [alamb@epsne.org](mailto:alamb@epsne.org) with  
any questions!**



- **High School Seniors: ACHIEVE Scholarship applications are due April 12<sup>th</sup> at 3:30PM!** Please see our website at [www.elkhornfoundation.org/2017-achieve-scholarship-program/](http://www.elkhornfoundation.org/2017-achieve-scholarship-program/) for ACHIEVE requirements.
- **We are now accepting nominations for our 2017 Hall of Fame event!** Please join the Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation in honoring educators, alumni, community members, groups and/or businesses that have made significant and positive contributions to Elkhorn students, schools or the Elkhorn community at our Hall of Fame Awards Ceremony and Reception. Nominations are due May 31st, 2017. To submit a nomination, or to view all past honorees, please visit our website <http://www.elkhornfoundation.org/hall-of-fame-rsvp/>

# April 2017



**Elkhorn Middle School**

**The "Classic" One**

**Home of the Antlers**

**3200 North 207th Plaza**

**Elkhorn, NE 68022**

**Phone: 402-289-2428**

**Fax: 402-289-1639**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 NeSA-ELA (All students)	4	5 NeSA-ELA (All students)	6 NeSA-ELA (All students) Booster Club Meeting 3:45 pm EPSF Bids 4 Kids 6-9 pm	7 BT/GT @ Platteview MS Invite 2:00 p.m.  Speech Team @ Creighton Prep	8
9	10 NeSA-M (All students) School Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.	11 NeSA-M (All students) GT Δ @ EVVMS 4:15 p.m. BT Δ @ EMS 4:15 p.m.	12 NeSA-M (All students)	13 NeSA-M (All students)	14  *NO SCHOOL*  TEACHER IN-SERVICE	15
16	17 NeSA-S (8th grade)	18 NeSA-S (8th grade) BT quad @ Platteview 4:15pm GT Quad @ EMS 4:15 p.m.	19 NeSA-S (8th grade)	20 NeSA-S (8th grade)	21 BT/GT @ EHS Kim Baumert Invite 2:00 p.m.  Speech Team @ Marian HS	22  8th Grade Celebration EMS Gym 5:00—8:00 pm
23	24 School Board/ Administrator Workshop 3:30 p.m.	25 BT Δ @ Waverly MS 4:15 p.m. GT Δ @ Neb City 4:15 p.m.	26 EMS Progress Reports Mailed Home	27	28 BT/GT Invite @ Norris 2:30 p.m.  Speech team @ Millard North	29
30						