



**AUGUST 2017**

## **upcoming dates...**

### **Principal's Note:**

Dear Parents-

The first day of school is right around the corner which means Fire Ridge is busy with activity! During the summer, teachers are in and out of the building, preparing their classrooms and planning for instruction.

Our custodians have been hard at work cleaning and maintaining the school inside and out! I truly appreciate the dedication from our staff to prepare for each new school year!

We are anxious to see all of the students back in the classrooms learning, laughing and excited about seeing friends missed over the summer.

We want to continue our positive relationships with parents and community members. We value your input and support throughout the school year. Please feel free to contact me anytime with concerns or questions!

Sincerely-  
Deb Knutson

#### **August 9th**

Back to School 101  
10:00 AM-7:00 PM

#### **August 15th**

Open House  
5:30-6:15 PM  
Curriculum Night  
Session 1-6:15-6:35 PM  
Session 2- 6:40-7:00 PM

#### **August 17th**

First Day of School

#### **August 21<sup>st</sup>**

Solar Eclipse

#### **August 28th**

PTO Meeting, 7:00 PM

#### **August 29<sup>th</sup>**

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Japanese School Skype  
7:00 PM

#### **September 4th – Labor Day**

No School

#### **September 15<sup>th</sup>**

Walk-a-Thon

#### **September 18th**

In-service Day/No School

#### **September 20<sup>th</sup>**

George Washington Assembly

### **EPS Needs YOU!!**

Elkhorn Public Schools is looking for elementary teacher assistants to start ASAP!

Apply at [www.elkhornweb.org](http://www.elkhornweb.org)  
Click employment and scroll down to apply for jobs. Then click on support staff non-certified.



## **WALKING CLUB BEGINS** **FRIDAY, AUGUST 18TH**

All students are invited to join Walking Club. Walking Club begins at 7:55 a.m. and ends when the first bell rings at 8:10 a.m. Students should meet on the east playground and wait for direction from Mr. Dahl. For those who do not want to participate in Walking Club, please arrive at 8:10 a.m. Kindergarten will not participate in walking club for the first week and will meet their teachers in front of the school.

## **TRAFFIC REMINDERS**

Please keep the following things in mind during drop off and pick up times:

- Slow down, watch for safety patrol members
- Right turn only out of front loop
- Make sure kids can buckle and unbuckle independently
- **Pull forward**
- Kids enter and exit car curbside only
- Make sure your child knows where he/she will be picked up. (front loop or side loop)

## **WELCOME NEW STAFF**

**Ashley Dabelstein**  
4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher

**Brittney Logue**  
Special Education Teacher

## **Furry Friends**

If you walk to drop off or pick up your child please do not bring along your dog. Our furry-footed friends need to stay in the car or at home. I appreciate you being cognizant of those with allergies or fears. Thanks for helping to keep our students safe.



## **PTO NEWS**

- Our first PTO meeting is Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM in the media center. Our new officers will be leading our meetings: President-Tina Halm, Vice-President-Angie Knutson, Secretary-Ellie Grace and Treasurer-Kelly Lofdahl and Sarah Schmidt. We are excited to have you be an active part of PTO!
- Please visit the PTO website at [fireridgepto.com](http://fireridgepto.com) for more information.
- Yearbooks will be sold on-line again this year. Information about purchasing a yearbook will be sent in September.



## Solar Eclipse

As some of you may be aware, a total solar eclipse with 98% totality will be viewable in our community on Monday, August 21 from 11:30 a.m. – 2:20 p.m. This event will be both educational and historical for our students to witness, as an eclipse with this level of visibility has not occurred since 1918.

District science teachers and administrative staff have been busy preparing for the event by ordering special glasses for all students to be able to view the eclipse, as well as preparing learning materials and resources for staff to adequately engage students at all grade levels in this event. Some schedules will also be adjusted in order to allow for participation and viewing. Pre-K and Kindergarten students will not participate in the viewing, but will discuss and watch a live stream of the eclipse in their classrooms.

While all staff will be trained on safety measures to be taken in regards to protecting all students, there is a potential for retinal injury by viewing the eclipse directly, when done without the protection of the glasses. Due to this possibility, we are requiring positive parent permission for students to participate. This will be available to sign at Open House and sent home the first day of school. All permission slips should be returned on Friday. Any students without parent permission will take part in an alternate solar eclipse activity inside the building. Please contact Mrs. Knutson with any questions or concerns!

