

Manchester

At Manchester Elementary, our mission is to provide a respectful, responsible, and safe learning environment that ensures academic and personal excellence in a collaborative environment, so students will become productive citizens committed to lifelong learning



A Welcome Message from Mrs. Christ

The 2017-2018 school year is quickly approaching, and we can hardly wait to see all of our Mighty Mountain Lions back in action. On Thursday, August 17th, we will welcome over 530 students into our building. The staff has been busy preparing the school and classrooms for a new beginning.

This month, we begin one of our most important endeavors – working with you to educate your children. This will be my 10th year as the principal of Manchester Elementary, and I realize there has never been a time when parents and community did not play a significant role in the overall progress of our students' learning. A strong and healthy parent/school relationship is important. I personally invite you to help us build our strong sense of community and to strengthen our partnership. We have an excellent staff, wonderful students, and dedicated parents. Together, we have the opportunity and responsibility to make a difference. Please become involved in your children's school.

Enjoy the last few days of summer vacation! I am looking forward to working with you and your children to make this year one of the best educational experiences for all of the students. If you have any questions, please call 402-289-2590 or email me at achrist@epsne.org. I'm looking forward to working with you this year.

Sincerely,

Amy Christ, Manchester Principal



Going Green

In the interest of saving paper, we will be emailing all families the monthly newsletter. Our next newsletter will be for the month of September. It will also be available on the district website: www.elkhornweb.org by selecting the Manchester Elementary link and then the newsletter link.



School Day Information

The first day of school is Thursday, August 17th. **The students will meet their teachers the first two days outside.** The teachers will be holding signs with their names on them. Kindergarten and first grade students will be meeting their teachers in front of the building. Second and third grade students will be meeting their teachers on the playground by the soccer field. Fourth and fifth grade students will be meeting their teachers on the playground by the portables.

The school day begins at 8:15 a.m. and the tardy bell will ring at that time. The students are dismissed at 3:06 p.m. Please make every effort to arrive on time. A student that arrives to school on time is more likely to make the most of his/her day. Your help with this is appreciated!

If your child will not be attending school or will be coming late due to illness, doctor/dentist appointment, or another type of appointment please call the school office at 402-289-2590. Please minimize doctor appointments and vacations during school hours.

Students arriving to school late or leaving school early must sign in/out at the front office. When a student leaves early, a parent must come into the office to sign his/her child out.

Back-to-School 101

Tuesday, August 8th 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m

Please plan on attending Back-to-School 101. Parents and students are invited to attend to turn in completed and updated registration forms. The forms that need to be turned in and updated will be arriving in your mailbox soon. During this time, you will have the opportunity to turn in the forms, purchase school apparel, take Lifetouch pictures, deposit money into your child's breakfast/lunch account, purchase a yearbook, and find out your child's teacher! Please bring your student with you.

For any items you purchase, a separate check will need to be written. For those students unable to attend, pictures will be taken on Picture Re-take Day on Tuesday, Oct. 10th.



Manchester Open House and Curriculum Night will be held on Tuesday, August 15th from 5:30 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Open House 5:30-6:00 This is a great opportunity for parents and students to meet their new teacher. The school will be open for self-guided tours.

Curriculum Night –Two sessions will be offered for all grade levels.

- Session One—6:00 to 6:30
- Session Two—6:30 to 7:00.

Location for Curriculum Presentations:

- Kindergarten—Each kindergarten teacher will lead the sessions in her own room.
- First Grade—Mrs. Thies' room
- Second Grade—Mrs. Post's room
- Third Grade—Mrs. Meske's room
- Fourth Grade—Ms. Krohn's room
- Fifth Grade—Mrs. Becker's room *Information related to Outdoor Education will also be shared.

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. Kindergarten students will not participate in the viewing, but will discuss and watch a video about 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. Please fill out and return the permission slip if you would like your child to participate. It will be in the back-to-school packet mailed to your home. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this event, please feel free to contact me.

Be a Partner in Your Child's Education

Your child will have dozens of terrific instructors over the years, but you'll always be your child's most important teacher. To become a partner in your child's education:

- Volunteer in class or within the school.
- Attend open house, curriculum night, and parent-teacher conferences.
- Read every handout and paper your child brings home.
- Make school a priority. Schedule appointments and vacations outside of school hours.
- Expect your child to succeed in school. Children try harder to meet parents' expectations.
- Respect homework. Sit with your child as he works. Show him that you take it seriously.
- Speak up. If there's a problem at school, talk to your child's teacher immediately.
- Work together on finding a solution.
- Celebrate! Your child is learning more every day!



Parents, you have an extremely important role in your child's success at school. By demonstrating an interest and involvement in what your child learns each day, you can greatly increase your child's desire to learn and do well in school. We welcome you to visit Manchester and to volunteer at school.



Visitor Guidelines

School safety is a major concern for both parents and school personnel. Several procedures at Manchester need to be followed by all visitors to our building.

- All visitors are required to sign in/out when arriving and leaving the building.
- Visitors will be asked to wear a visitor's badge while at Manchester Elementary.
- All visitors must use the front entrance. Please ring the doorbell after 8:30a.m. to be granted permission to enter the building. Please do not go directly to the classrooms without checking in at the office. If you have brought something that your child has forgotten, please drop it off at the office, and we will be happy to take it to your child. Please help us to minimize classroom interruptions.



Walking Club: A Great Way to Start the Day

Walking Club is a daily activity that begins at 7:55 a.m. Children arriving at school between 7:55 a.m. and 8:10 a.m. will participate in this supervised exercise. Supervision is not provided before 7:55 a.m. Please do not drop off your children before this time. **If you need to drop off your child before this time please contact the Elkhorn Foundation and enroll your child in Kids Campus or we do have supervision for the breakfast program that starts at 7:35 a.m.** The Foundations number is 402-289-1727. Staff will bring students into the building at 8:10 a.m. Students arriving after 8:10 a.m., but before 8:15 a.m. may go directly to their classrooms. Any student arriving after 8:15 a.m. in his/her classroom will be marked tardy. **Walking Club starts Monday, August 21st.** Walking Club and recess will occur outside if the temperature is 20 degrees or above.

New Faces and Changes

We have a few new faces joining the Manchester staff this year. Please help me in welcoming them. They will be excellent additions to our team.

Reading Specialist: Kim Shirley

Teacher Assistants: Ashley Gloystein & Janelle Wilson

Third Grade: Sarah Jenkins

Fourth Grade: Kyle Sittler

Instructional Facilitator: Benji Hoegh



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.



<https://www.giveproseeds.com/>

1. Choose Manchester PTO to Support
2. Link Your Cards
3. Earn 5% for the Manchester PTO Automatically

From the Nurse...

Welcome back, I hope you had a great summer! We want to keep your student(s) happy, healthy, and safe while at school, so please read the following information carefully.

~ Sick Child Policy ~

Please remember if your student is running a fever of >100.0 or has vomiting/diarrhea, please keep them home from school until fever or vomiting free for 24 hours, without the aid of medication (Motrin, Tylenol, Advil, acetaminophen, ibuprofen).

~ Physical and Immunization Requirements ~

Nebraska law requires that all school children have a **physical examination** upon entry into school, at seventh grade, and when transferring from an out-of-state school. Students must provide proof of a **visual evaluation** to include testing for amblyopia, strabismus, internal and external eye health and visual acuity upon entry into school and when transferring from an out-of-state school. The law also requires your child be immunized and provide **proof of immunization** before attending classes. Please visit the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (link below) which outlines specific vaccine requirements.

Link to DHHS vaccine summary for 2017-2018:

<http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Immunization/Documents/2017-2018%20School%20RR%20English.pdf>

~ Medication for the 2017-2018 School Year ~

If your student requires any medication (over-the-counter and/or prescription) while at school, each medication must have a Medication Authorization form (link below) signed by the parent and a physician, before we can administer. All medications must be unexpired and provided in the original packaging and/or pharmacy container. For prescription medication, please only provide a **maximum of 30 day supply** at a time.

All medication must be dropped off in the office by a parent or guardian.

Please do not send any medications with your student.

Link to print blank medication authorization form:

<http://www.elkhornweb.org/parents/student-medication-form/>

~ Students with Asthma, Severe Allergies, Diabetes, and/or Seizures ~

If your child has asthma, severe allergies, diabetes, and/or seizures, please submit an emergency action plan signed by your physician. Plans must be updated annually. Blank forms can be obtained at the school office, or your physician's office can use whichever form they prefer.



Boxtop Labels!

Bring on the Boxtop labels! The students may turn these into their classroom teachers. This is a simple way to raise funds for the school.



Safety Patrol

Our fifth grade students have been trained to help students cross the street when it is safe. Please respect their role and encourage their leadership opportunities. Patrol members carry walkie-talkies in order to report inappropriate behaviors by our students, traffic endangerment or other policy violations on school grounds.

School Breakfast and Lunch

Meal Charge Policy: Students in grades K-5 will be allowed to charge up to -\$10.00. Notification will be emailed to parents or guardians on the account when the account reaches \$5.00. Students falling below \$0 will have a hard copy notification sent home informing parents of a negative balance. Money may be deposited into your Sodexo account on-line or at school. Breakfast runs from 7:35-7:55 a.m. You are welcome to have lunch with your child any day. Please make your lunch reservation with the school office before 9:00 a.m. on the day you are planning to join your child if you'll be having school lunch.

Student Breakfast \$1.50 Adult Breakfast \$2.05

Student Lunch \$2.50 Adult Lunch \$3.85

Milk \$.45

Junior Achievement

Junior Achievement of the Midlands has partnered with our school to bring economic and business education to all our students. A non-profit organization, Junior Achievement is committed to preparing children for the future by educating them about life skills and their role in society.

We need you to teach children how to succeed in life through Junior Achievement's programs. Volunteers make five 30 to 45 minute (longer for upper grades) visits to a classroom and present an easy to follow curriculum that is provided ahead of time. Teachers provide the classroom management. Parents make excellent volunteers! With you as their mentor volunteer, children will see how their schoolwork relates to the real world, and how what they learn at school leads to their future success.

You'll be surprised at how easy and rewarding your volunteer experience is with this program! This fall we need volunteers for 3rd – 5th grades. We will need volunteers for K – 2nd grades in the spring. If you would like to volunteer, please email Candice Milone at cmilone@epsne.org or call the front office.



Classroom Treats and Party Invitations

Just a friendly, but an important reminder that due to various student allergies any treat/snack brought to the classroom to be dispersed needs to be store bought with the ingredients labeled.

Invitations to birthday parties and other events must be mailed or distributed away from the school grounds to students for out of school parties according to district policy.

Boo-Hoo Yahoo Welcome Breakfast

Thursday, August 17th at 9:00a.m. (For New Families and Kindergarten Parents)

Our annual Boo-Hoo Yahoo breakfast held on the first day of school. Please join us at 9:00 in the library.



Student Attire Reminder

Tank tops with thin spaghetti straps or halter tops where a bare back is displayed will not be permitted during the school day.



Check out the Manchester PTO Website

www.ManchesterPTO.com

**TAGG FOR US
WHEN YOU
EAT, DRINK
AND SHOP!**

HOW TO TAGG

- 1 Download the TAGG app
- 2 Visit participating businesses and snap a photo of your receipt
- 3 Choose us! The business will donate 5%

Hundreds of businesses will donate 5% to us everyday!



**TOGETHER
A GREATER
GOOD**

The kids are heading back to school, how about you?

The Elkhorn Public School District is currently seeking teacher assistant/paraprofessionals in our early education, elementary, and secondary settings. EPS is seeking caring and collaborative individuals with a desire to help students achieve.

- Family friendly hours – follows the school day and calendar
- Competitive pay (\$13.75/\$14.25)
- Rewarding working environment

Apply at www.elkhornweb.org Employment: Support Staff Non-Certified: Teacher Assistant

Manchester Cares

Manchester Elementary and Manchester Elementary PTO are partnering together for year four of Manchester Cares. The goal of Manchester Cares is to teach students the importance of giving back and helping others in our community and elsewhere.

For August, we will be collecting school supplies during BTS 101 and during Open House and Curriculum Night. Please consider donating new supplies for us to donate to students in need. There will be a collection box inside the entrance of the school.



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