2015-2016

ELKHORN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

Dear Elkhorn Community,

Each year, the Elkhorn Public School District publishes an Annual Report to the community to provide an overview of finances, assessment results, District updates and more. Most importantly, the Annual Report gives us an opportunity to showcase the achievements of our students.

The more than 8,600 (pre-K through 12) students who make up the Elkhorn Public Schools continue to thrive in the classroom and in their community. Elkhorn students' test scores place them among the top in the state and more than 93 percent of our students go on to attend a two or four-year college after graduation.

We are proud of our students and staff, and know that no ranking or test score can provide a true picture of the amazing work that is done in our classrooms each and every day.

Sincerely, Steve Baker, EPS Superintendent



ELKHORN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Elkhorn Public Schools (EPS) is a rapidly growing suburban school district located on the west edge of the Omaha Metro area. The District offers the cultural, educational and retail advantage of the city, while still maintaining the qualities of a smaller community. Elkhorn Public Schools takes pride in the achievement of its students and the dedication of its staff.

EPS currently maintains 16 school buildings with another slated to open by 2018. Enrollment continues to climb by more than seven percent each year, and the District continues to add facilities to accommodate the growing student population. Since 2005, enrollment has more than doubled.

Our students consistently score well above state and national averages on standardized assessments. EPS maintains a culture of continuous improvement and continues to raise the bar for all students.

This Annual Report offers important and detailed information about the curriculum, demographics and assessment data from the Elkhorn Public School District for the 2015-16 school year.

OUR COMMUNITY

The Elkhorn Public School District takes pride in the students it serves. EPS maintains a high graduation rate and most EPS students go on to attend two or four-year colleges or universities. As enrollment continues to climb, Elkhorn students continue to maintain high standards for academics, activities and community involvement.

OUR STUDENTS

Students and families in Elkhorn benefit from a strong sense of community support in and out of their neighborhood schools.

Elkhorn schools experience high levels of parental involvement, with more than 98 percent of elementary parents attending Parent/Teacher conferences. Local business and individuals are also key to the District's success, with support for the Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation and District programs such as Partners in Education Mentoring.

The Elkhorn community has supported its schools time and time again. Taxpayers have approved more than \$208 million in bonds since 2006 to fund the addition of eight new schools and improvement projects districtwide. Support from the community has been essential in accommodating the rapidly growing student population while maintaining high standards for student achievement.



OUR MISSION

Elkhorn Public Schools unites students, families, educators, and the community to ensure a challenging and enriching academic environment that inspires students to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to become responsible citizens and lifelong learners.

DEMOGRAPHICS

WHITE	88.4%
HISPANIC	3.7%
ASIAN	3.4%
BLACK	1.6%
OTHER	2.9%
POVERTY	6.3%
ELL	0.69%
SPECIAL ED	8.9%
HIGH ABILITY	14.64%

7,815

Total k-12 students in 2015-2016

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE **AVERAGES**

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	99.6%
MIDDLE SCHOOLS	86.5%
HIGH SCHOOLS	67.4%

ENROLLMENT 2015-2016

KINDERGARTEN	623
1ST GRADE	660
2ND GRADE	676
3RD GRADE	610
4TH GRADE	647
5TH GRADE	656

K-5 TOTAL=3,872

6TH GRADE	634
7TH GRADE	612
8TH GRADE	604

K-5 TOTAL=1,850

9TH GRADE	564
10TH GRADE	551
11TH GRADE	501
12TH GRADE	477

K-5 TOTAL=2,093

GROWTH

EPS HAS **OPENED** SEVEN NEW SCHOOLS

IN THE LAST SIX **YEARS**

2016 - 8,392 students - ARBOR VIEW opens

2015 - 7,815 students

2014 - 7,334 students - EGMS opens

2013 - 6,798 students - SAGEWOOD & WEST BAY open

2012 - 6,276 students

2011 - 5,896 students - EVVMS opens

2010 - 5,557 students - ESHS & WDS open

2009 - 5,150 students

2008 - 4.840 students

2007 - 4,505 students

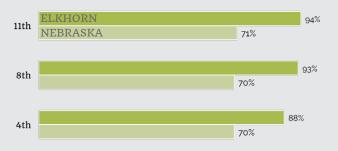
STATE TESTING Nesa

Each spring, students in grades three though eight as well as 11th grade take the Nebraska State Accountability assessments (NeSA) in writing, reading, math and science. Elkhorn students showed high levels of mastery across grade levels and subject areas, scoring well above state averages.

On all NeSA assessments, students fall into one of three categories: Below Standards, Meets Standards or Exceeds Standards. The State is responsible for setting *cut scores*, which determine how a student must score in order to fall in each of the three categories. The following graphs show the percentage of Elkhorn students (dark green) who met or exceeded the State's standards compared to state averages (light green).

NeSA- WRITING

In 2016, students in grades 4, 8 and 11 took the NeSA-Writing assessment. In 2017, this test will be combined with reading to form the Nebraska English Langauge Arts assessment.

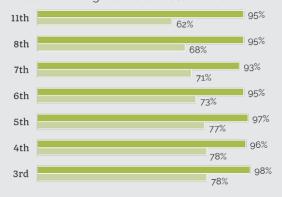




Elkhorn high schools tied as the top scorers in both reading and math among all class A and B high schools in the State.

NeSA- MATH

Math continued to be a strength for Elkhorn students in 2016. Elkhorn and Elkhorn South were tied for the top score among all class A and B high schools across the State.



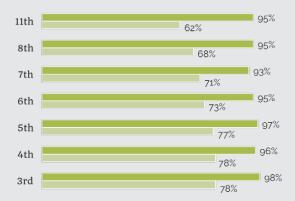
NeSA- SCIENCE

Students in grades 5, 8 and 11 took the State's science assessment in 2016. Elkhorn students were among the top in the metro area in level of mastery. Notably, 94 percent of Elkhorn fifth graders mastered the assessment compared to the state average of 74 percent.



NeSA- READING

Across the state, both NeSA-Reading and Math show a downward trend in performance at higher grade levels. In Elkhorn, students maintain high levels of performance through high school with 93-98 percent of students mastering the State's assessment. In 2017, NeSA-Reading will be combined with writing to form the Nebraska English Language Arts assessment.





ELKHORN RECEIVES STATE'S HIGHEST RATING: EXCELLENT

In 2015, Elkhorn was one of only five districts in the State to receive the highest rating from the AQUESTT system—Excellent. AQUESTT stands for Accountability for a Quality Education System Today and Tomorrow, an accountability system for public schools in Nebraska. Similar to a hotel's 'star' rating, Districts across the State are rated as Excellent, Great, Good or Needs Improvement based on multiple indicators including: growth; improvement; participation; and achievement on the State's reading, math, science and writing assessments. Graduation rates are also factored in AQUESTT ratings.

MORE THAN 85 PERCENT OF ELKHORN STUDENTS SCORE ABOVE THE NATIONAL AVERAGE ON MAP ASSESSMENTS

Nationally, student MAP scores are divided into four quartiles, with approximately 25 students scoring in the top and 25 percent at the bottom. In Elkhorn, 52-62 percent of students fall into the top quartile and more than 85 percent of students outscore the national average or 50th percentile.



NATIONAL TESTING MAP

The Measures of Academic Progress or 'MAP' test is a nationally normed achievement test that is administered to all EPS students in grades 3 - 8, and select students in grades 9 - 12.

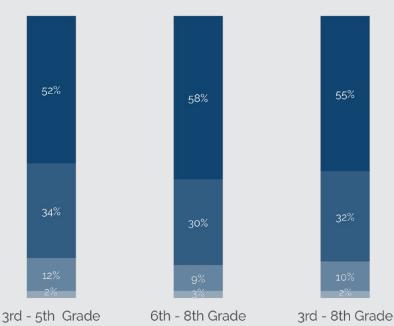
MAP is an adaptive, personalized assessment. This adaptive nature allows teachers and administrators to better identify what individual students are ready to learn.

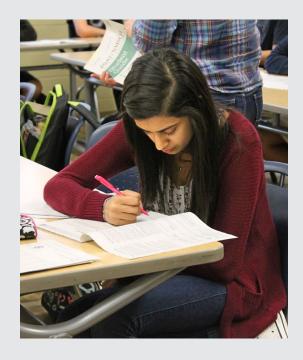
Results illustrated in the graphs below show the percentage of Elkhorn students scoring in each achievement quartile. Nationally, 25 percent of students fall into each of the four quartiles. In Elkhorn, more than 85 percent of students score at or above the national average (50th percentile). The graphs below illustrate the percent of students in each quartile on the Spring 2016 MAP reading and math assessments.

MAP Reading—Spring 2016



MAP Math—Spring 2016

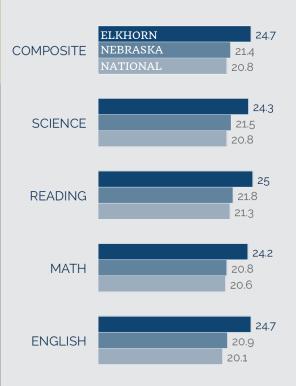




NATIONAL TESTING ACT

The ACT measures the skills and higher order thinking necessary to be successful in college. In 2016, the overall average composite score for Elkhorn seniors was 24.7, the highest in District history.

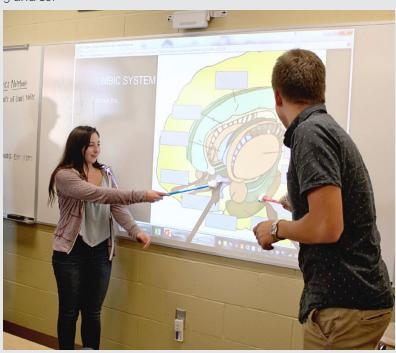
As a group, Elkhorn students consistently score above both the State and National averages. Also notable is that more than 90 percent of 2016 Elkhorn graduates took the ACT Test.



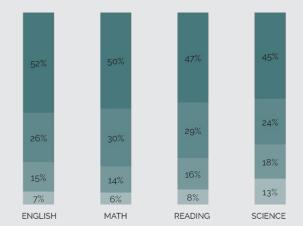
NATIONAL TESTING

ASPIRE TEST

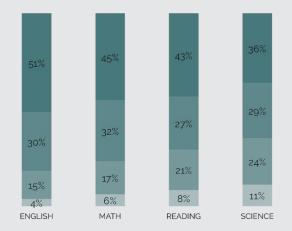
The ASPIRE test is given annually to all Elkhorn 8th, 9th and 10th grade students. This test is developed by the American College Testing Service (ACT) and is used to gather a variety of information, including: educational plans, career interests, predicted ACT scores and academic need areas. Elkhorn students, as a group, perform above national averages on this assessment. In 2017, the ASPIRE test will be replaced with the PreACT exam for students in grades 9 and 10.



ASPIRE Test—9th Grade

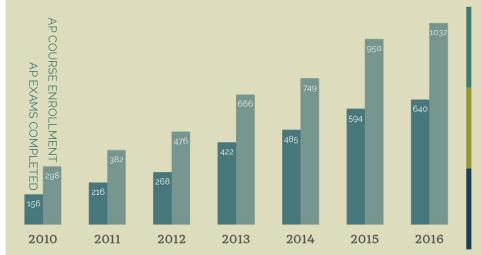


ASPIRE Test—10th Grade



ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

Elkhorn high schools offer rigorous, college-level Advanced Placement courses in English Literature and Composition, English Language and Composition, Calculus (AB and BC), Chemistry, Spanish, Statistics, Biology, U.S. History, World History, Government and Psychology. Students may earn college credit in any of these classes upon successful completion of a National Advanced Placement Exam in May. (AT BOTTOM LEFT) EPS AP enrollment has more than tripled since 2010 and the number of AP exams taken for college credit has quadrupled. This dramatic shift is credited to the increase in course offerings and the culuture of rigor at EPS high schools.



2016 AP ENROLLMENT

AP HISTORY*	482
AP BIOLOGY	63
AP ENGLISH*	421
AP CHEMISTRY	63
AP CALCULUS*	163
AP SPANISH	37
AP STATISTICS	62
AP PSYCHOLOGY	101
AP GOVERNMENT	70

*multiple course offerings available within listed subject area



EPS STUDENTS ARE INVOLVED.

MORE THAN 80 PERCENT OF EPS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE INVOLVED IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES.

HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

The Elkhorn community takes great pride in the involvement of its students. More than 80 percent of EPS high school students participate in extracurricular activities. Studies show students who are involved tend to perform better in the classroom and hold higher grade point averages. Elkhorn's unprecedented decision to operate two smaller high schools has encouraged more students to participate in athletics, clubs and other extracurriculars.

Students at both Elkhorn high schools can participate in a wide array of activities including: DECA, Debate Team, Drama Club, Color Guard, Dance Team, FBLA, FCCLA, E-Club, National Honor Society, Cheerleading, Student Council, Academic Decathlon, Mock Trial, Destination Imagination, Quiz Bowl, Foreign Language Club, Yearbook, Newspaper, Speech Team, Power Drive, Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Show Choir, Jazz Band, S.A.D.D., Pep Club, Student Athletic Training, Intramurals, Football, Cross Country, Volleyball, Softball, Golf, Tennis, Wrestling, Track, Soccer, Swimming and Baseball.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Elkhorn middle school students have the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities including: Instrumental Music, Show Choir, Jazz Band, Chess Club, Computer Club, Science Club (select schools), Student Council, Yearbook, Drama Club, academic competitions (Math Counts, History Day, Future Cities Competition, Destination Imagination) Running Club, Football*, Volleyball*, Basketball*, Wrestling* and Track*. *Middle school sports are sanctioned by the Nebraska Schools Activities Association and therefore are offered for students in grades 7 and 8.

ELEMENTARY ACTIVITIES

Elkhorn elementary school students have the opportunity to participate in school activities including: Reading Club, Computer Club, Walking Club, Writing Club, Student Council, Battle of the Books, Destination Imagination, Safety Patrol and Drama Club.



HIGH SCHOOL COURSE **OFFERINGS**

Elkhorn high schools offer a total of 689 instructional units (state minimum is 400) in the subject areas of Language Arts, Social Sciences, Mathematics, Science, World Language, Career/Technical Education, Physical Education/Health and Visual Performing Arts.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students planning to attend a four-year college or university after graduation are encouraged to take the recommended ACT CORE CURRICULUM, which includes four years of English; three or more years of Math (with Algebra I, II and geometry as the minimum); three or more years of social science; and at least three years of natural science. *Beginning with the graduating class of 2015, students were required to complete six hours of science credits.

In order to graduate from an Elkhorn high school, a student is required to accumulate 42 credits (210 semester hours) that must include the following:

Credits of English

Credits of Social Science

(must include American History and Government)

Credits of Mathematics (Must include Alaebra I)

6* Credits of Science (Must include Biology)

Credits of Physical Education

Credit of Technology

(Career Information Technology Course)

Credits of Electives

STUDENTS GRADUATING WITH **50 OR MORE CREDITS**

2016 47.9% 44.2% 2015 51.3% 2014 2013 53.8%

INSTRUCTIONAL TIME REPORT

HIGH SCHOOL

Total Instructional Hours Required 1.080 Hours Total Instructional Hours Scheduled 1,180 Hours Total Instructional Hours Attended 1,168.34 Hours

> 88.34 hours or 13.26 days over the minimum requirement

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Total Instructional Hours Required 1,080 Hours Total Instructional Hours Scheduled 1.180 Hours Total Instructional Hours Attended 1,171.67 Hours

> 91.67 hours or 13.76 days over the minimum requirement

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Total Instructional Hours Required 1,032 Hours Total Instructional Hours Scheduled 1,123.95 Hours Total Instructional Hours Attended* 1,115.77 Hours

> 83.77 hours or 13.19 days over the minimum requirement



97.6%

-EPS Class of 2016 Graduation RateThe EHS and ESHS collectively earned totaling more than

\$22.9 **MILLION**

93% OF ELKHORN STUDENTS GO ON TO ATTEND A TWO OR FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE AFTER GRADUATION

TAX LEVY

The EPS tax levy is determined by the District's general, bond and building funds. The common general and common building fund levies are set by the Learning Community of Douglas and Sarpy Counties.

2013-2014* EXPENDITURES

EPS maintains a strong focus on student learning. More than 64 percent of the total budget goes directly into the instructional budget, compared to a state average of 61.57 percent.

All Instruction Maintenance and Operation Support Services-Staff Pupil Support Services Office of the Principal Federal/State Expenditures Business Support Services Other Expenditures General Admin.	64.43% 9.70% 6.08% 5.14% 4.90% 2.34% 2.15% 2.15% 3.85%
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*Denotes the most recent available figures

TAX LEVY

2015-16 1.3375 1.3150 2014-15 2013-14 1.3150 2012-13 1.3150

PER PUPIL SPENDING

(2014-15*)

EPS maintains one of the lowest per pupil costs in Nebraska. In 2014-2015 the per pupil spending average at EPS was \$9,902.47 compared to the State average of \$11,619.34.



60.43% OF ALL **EXPENDITURES** GO DIRECTLY TO INSTRUCTION

SPECIAL EDUCATION CHILD FIND

Any resident of the Elkhorn Public School District may refer a child for special education services because of speech, language, hearing, visual, physical or behavioral impairments, learning disabilities, or problems in mental development. Please contact the Office of Student Services at (402) 289-2579.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Elkhorn Public Schools makes available a student assistance program through Arbor Family Counseling to provide assessment, counseling and referral services to students and families who may be experiencing problems with peer relationships, family relationships, violent/aggressive behaviors, eating disorders, drug/alcohol abuse and other concerns. The Elkhorn student assistance program can be accessed by calling (402) 330-0960 or (800) 922-7379.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, disability, or age, in admission or access to or treatment of employment, or in its programs and activities, and the District provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Bary Habrock, Assistant Superintendent, 20650 Glenn Street, Elkhorn, Ne 68022, (402) 289-2579.

NEBRASKA SEAT BELT SAFETY REMINDER

All children up to age six riding in any motor vehicle must be properly secured in an appropriate child restraint system that meets Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards. This requirement is effective for all persons operating a motor vehicle within the State of Nebraska. No matter the length of the trip, all riders should buckle up at all times in a motor vehicle.

ADVANCED ACCREDITATION

Elkhorn Public Schools is proud to be an AdvancED accredited school system. AdvancED accreditation is a voluntary process the District participates in to ensure continuous improvement, rigor in curriculum, and access to educational best practices. AdvancED allows the District to participate in an external and objective review of the District.





OUR STAFF

Elkhorn Public Schools takes pride in the quality and dedication of its staff. In 2014-2015 the District employed more than 925 people, including 592 certified staff members.

Elkhorn teachers value continued education. In 2014-2015, more than 67 percent of Elkhorn Teachers had Master's Degrees and seven had earned doctorates.

NCLB ENDORSED TEACHERS

The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act requires all teachers, teaching in the content areas it identifies as core academic areas, to demonstrate that they have sufficient content knowledge in that subject. Teachers in Nebraska meet this requirement by holding the appropriate endorsement for the courses/classes taught or by successfully completing a state evaluation.

ELKHORN STATE 99.25%

TEACHER QUALIFICATION NOTICE

As part of the federal No Child Left Behind legislation, all parents have the right to request information about teacher qualifications. General information about District teacher qualifications is available on the Nebraska Department of Education website: www.education.ne.gov as part of the State of the Schools Report. Specific requests for teacher qualification information should be directed to Assistant Superintendent, Bary Habrock, at 20650 Glenn St., Elkhorn, NE 68022.

AVERAGE TEACHER SALARY 2014-2015*

ELKHORN STATE

\$51,292 \$50,681

AVERAGE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

2014-2015*

ELKHORN STATE 12.84 Years 14.34 Years

TEACHING STAFF WITH MASTER'S DEGREES

2014-2015*

ELKHORN STATE

67.35% 52.16%

CERTIFIED STAFF 2015-2016

CERTIFIED STITE 2010 20	10
Classroom Teachers	430
Special Education Teachers/Specialists	108
Guidance Counselors	19
Media Specialists	15
Gifted Education Teachers	10
Reading Specialists	7
Specialists, Coordinators, Activity Directors	13
Administrators	24

*Denotes the most recent available figures from the Nebraska Department of Education

Elkhorn South High School

Opened: 2010—Grades 9-12 20303 Blue Sage Parkway-402-289-0616 Principal: Mark Kalvoda, Asst. Principal: Britnie Cox

Elkhorn High School

Opened: 1980—Grades 9-12 1401 Veterans Drive-402-289-4239 Principal: Dan Radicia, Asst. Principal: Luke Ford

Elkhorn Middle School

Opened: 1967—Grades 6-8 3200 N. 207th Plaza-402-289-2428 Principal: Deb Garrison



Elkhorn Ridge Middle School

Opened: 2003—Grades 6-8 17880 Marcy Street-402-334-9302 Principal: Kevin Riggert

Elkhorn Valley View Middle School Elkhorn Grandview Middle School

Opened: 2011—Grades 6-8 1313 S. 208th Street-402-289-0362 Principal: Chad Soupir

Opened: 2014—Grades 6-8 17801 Grand Avenue-402-289-9399 Principal: Mike Tomjack







Arbor View Elementary

Opened: 2016—Grades K-5 5115 N. 208th Street-402-289-1007 Principal: Troy Sidders

Fire Ridge Elementary

Opened: 2005—Grades K-5 19660 Farnam Street-402-289-0735 Principal: Deb Knutson

Hillrise Elementary

Opened: 1979—Grades K-5 20110 Hopper Street-402-289-2602 Principal: Deb Madden







Manchester Elementary

Opened: 2006—Grades K-5 2750 N. HWS Cleveland Blvd.-402-289-2590 Principal: Amy Christ

Spring Ridge Elementary

Opened: 2000—Grades K-5 17830 Shadow Ridge Drive-402-637-0204 Principal: Laurinda Petersen

Sagewood Elementary

Opened: 2013—Grades K-5 4910 N. 177th Street-402-289-9078 Principal: Jan Peterson







Skyline Elementary

Opened: 1975—Grades K-5 400 S. 210th Street-402-289-3433 Principal: Andy Luebbe

West Bay Elementary

Opened: 2013—Grades pre-K-5 3220 S. 188th Avenue-402-289-9045 Principal: Jen Coltvet

West Dodge Station Elementary

Opened: 2010—Grades pre-K-5 18480 California Street-402-289-2773 Principal: Pam Wahl





Opened: 1961—Grades pre-K-5 3100 N. 206th Street-402-289-2559 Principal: Ryan Broshar

COMING SOON!

Elementary #11 located near 216th and F Streets Opening 2018



Central Office Administration

Opened: 1930 20650 Glenn Street-402-289-2579 Superintendent: Steve Baker

Student Services Building

20601 Glenn Street-402-289-2579 opt. 7



elkhornweb.org



BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Elkhorn Board of Education meets on the second Monday of each month at the Administration Building, 20650 Glenn Street. As the elected governing body of the School District, the Elkhorn Board of Education serves as the liaison between the community and professional educators. Your input is welcome as the Board prepares strategic plans, writes educationally sound policies and plans for District growth. The Board continually assesses community priorities and invites the residents of the District to write, call or appear before the Board. If you would like to be on the School Board Agenda, call (402) 289-2579 by the Thursday prior to the meeting date, or write a request to Superintendent of Schools, Steve Baker at 20650 Glenn Street, Elkhorn, NE 68022.

> JOHN MARASCO President **CHUCK BURNEY Secretary AARON CLARK Treasurer AMY PARKS** RON RIGGLE SUSAN ZINGLER

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

EPS employs eight central office administrators, 15 principals and two assistant principals. EPS is one of the lowest spending districts in the Learning Community of Douglas and Sarpy Counties in terms of administrative costs (percent of overall budget).

Superintendent **Associate Superintendent Assistant Superintendent** Exec. Dir. of Business and Finance Dir. of Student Services

Dir. Business Support Services

Dir. of Personnel

Dir. of Special Education

Dir. of Instruction and Learning

Steve Baker Dr. Cindy Gray Dr. Bary Habrock Pam Roth Anne Doerr Ryan Lindquist Dr. Don Pechous Dr.Kendra Schneider Angie Wright



THE END OF AN ERA

The 2016-2017 school year marks the end of an era for Elkhorn Public Schools. Longtime leader, Steve Baker will retire at the close of the school year. Baker has served Elkhorn Public Schools for 42 years as a teacher, band director, assistant principal, assistant superintendent and superintendent.

At the helm of a District experiencing unprecedented growth, Baker has navigated the district through two bond issues and the opening of seven new schools in the last eight years. "His leadership has also been instrumental in the continued success of our students." said Board President John Marasco. "EPS continues to be the top performing district in the state. Steve's attention to finances has allowed EPS to achieve both academic success and growth, while having one of the lowest costs per pupil."

Long before Baker was the voice on the phone announcing a snow day, he was the voice of Friday nights. For 29 years he has announced Antler Football games and he's been the voice of Storm football since the school opened in 2010.

"We will miss Steve's leadership, experience and vision," Marasco said. "Elkhorn is a better place because of Steve Baker."

Baker credits Elkhorn's success to a community dedicated to education. Simply put, Baker says "Elkhorn is special."



