

# NEWSLETTER

October 2017

Volume 3, Issue 2

## ELKHORN MIDDLE SCHOOL

### PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Elkhorn Middle School will be conducting parent-teacher conferences on October 17 & 18 from 4:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. We will be utilizing the student-led format for conferences once again. We would like to recommend the following:

**Student's last name A-M attend conferences on Tuesday**

**Student's last name N-Z attend conferences on Wednesday**

You may come at any time on your recommended day. If you need to switch your day, please feel free to do so. As always, if you feel you need a private conference with a teacher or the team, call or email the Team Teacher Point of Contact to set up your appointment. We encourage you to visit with each teacher during conferences about the specifics of their class.

**Team Teacher Point of Contact:**

6th Grade, - Jenny Gragert - [jgragert@epsne.org](mailto:jgragert@epsne.org)

7th Grade - Trina Lutes - [klutes@epsne.org](mailto:klutes@epsne.org)

8th Grade - Tracey Grisham - [tgrisham@epsne.org](mailto:tgrisham@epsne.org)

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### NESA STUDENT REPORTS

The district has received NeSA (Nebraska State Accountability) Individual Student Reports from the spring of 2017. These individual reports will be available to parents at Parent-Teacher Conferences on October 17th and 18th. It is certainly also an option for parents to contact the school office and pick up the report prior to conferences. Elkhorn students once again demonstrated very strong performance, and the district is thankful for its hard-working students, dedicated staff, caring parents, and supportive community.

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### PURPLE HANDS RALLY

EMS is celebrating its 13<sup>th</sup> annual Purple Hands Rally at 8:30am, Thursday, October 12th in the gym.

This is an anti-bullying /tolerance program in which students, parents, and staff pledge to stop bullying at our school. There will be a play performed by RESPECT2ALL to emphasize how peer pressure and harassment can affect the entire student body. Whether the bully, the victim, or the by-stander, studies have shown that this behavior has negative consequences for all involved. As a school and community we need to teach acceptance of others and the issues they may be dealing with.



RESPECT2ALL is a research-based, nonprofit organization based in Omaha and was founded by child psychologist, Dr. Patricia Newman. In this program, actors interact with the students after the play to educate them on how to identify situations in which they may feel peer pressure and healthy strategies they may use if they feel pressure to engage in unhealthy behaviors. At times, these plays can bring out strong emotions.

We invite you to join us in the audience for the rally and the performances.

## 6TH GRADE NEWS

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

Lang Arts – We have learned about the different ways words can work together in sentences. This month, we will continue to focus on subjects and predicates. We will have our sentences district assessment this month. During second quarter, we will be writing paragraphs.

Reading – Sixth grade students are studying the elements of fiction and applying those elements to the novel: Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt. All students should be reading AR books and taking tests over them when done.

Science – In the beginning of October we will finish up our Science Inquiry Unit. For the rest of the month we will studying the Environment.

Social Studies –Social Studies students will continue studying the United States Government. We will also study our state and local government.

Math – After completing our number theory unit, sixth grade math students will be focusing on ratios and proportions.

Pre-Concepts – This month the pre con students will be focusing on ratios, proportions and percents. Following that, they will be starting pre algebra.

### **IMPORTANT DATES!**



#### Important Dates in October

Tuesday, 10/17 and  
Wednesday, 10/18  
Conferences  
2:20 p.m. Dismissal

Friday, 10/13  
Teacher In-Service  
NO SCHOOL

Friday, 10/20  
NO SCHOOL

## 7TH GRADE NEWS

MR. BEARD, MRS. HINGORANI, MRS. HOLLMAN, MRS. KLUENDER,  
MR. KMENT, MS. LUTES, MS. MEIER, MRS. PIKE, MRS. WELLS,  
MRS. MATUELLA

In Science, 7<sup>th</sup> graders will be wrapping up the scientific method and inquire unit. We will then move into Earth Science. In this unit we will study Earth's structure, plate tectonics, earthquakes, and volcanoes. The Student textbook will be online. We will continue to have Friday quizzes over material covered each week.

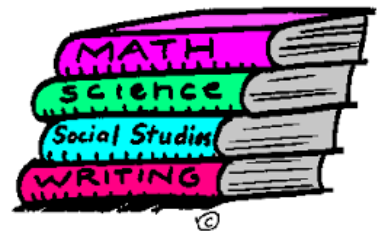
In Language Arts we will begin second quarter with a writing project. We will be practicing the steps of the writing process and be taking our work from prewriting to publishing. We will also begin our study of the eight parts of speech in mid-October. That will take us through the end of the month.

7<sup>th</sup> grade Math students will be finishing Chapter 2 and starting Chapter 3. This will start an application of percentages unit.

Pre-Algebra students have begun Chapter 3, which includes simplifying expressions and solving equations using all operations.

In World History we are finishing up with the Fertile Crescent Empires. We have been looking at the ancient areas of Mesopotamia, Sumer, Babylon, and Assyria. In addition, we have been studying the different empires that were established in these areas and how the civilizations and empires were developed. In the next chapter we will be studying Ancient Egypt.

In reading, we will continue with our fiction unit and will begin our mystery novel at the end of the month. First quarter AR goals are due on Monday, October 9.



## 8TH GRADE NEWS

MRS. BAUMERT, MRS. COLLINGSWORTH, MRS. GRISHAM, MS. GUTSCHOW,  
MRS. HOLLMAN, MR. HULTMAN, MS. MEIER, MRS. VALASEK

Our year is off to a fantastic start. We are enjoying your students. We will soon begin preparation for Student-Led Conferences which will be held October 17 & 18.

In Language Arts we are beginning our writing unit. We are focusing on powerful sentence structure, effective paragraphing, specific/precise details, and text-dependent analyses. We are preparing for the district writing assessment which will take place early in November.

In Reading, students are finishing this quarter's theme of comprehension and analysis of fiction, with emphasis upon inferring and drawing conclusions. Students will take the common assessment over fiction in mid-October.

In American History we will be working toward our first common assessment, Duties and Responsibilities of American citizens.

In Science we will finish working on our science inquiry project and then begin studying weathering, erosion, and Earth history.

In Pre-Algebra we will be covering positive and negative exponents, scientific notation, along with divisibility rules. In Algebra we will be writing, solving and graphing (compound) inequalities.

## CHORUS NEWS

MRS. WORTMAN



Congratulations to the 2017/18 "Classics" show choir! I am so very proud of all who tried out! I know the judges had a tough time rating the auditions! Members are:

Patrick Amezcua, Victoria Bashara, Beau Beard, Dalton Beber, Joshua Buck, Tyler Callan, Patton Engel, Espinoza, McKenna Flynn, Hudson Goldal, Clay Gooding, Taylor Grasz, Benjamin Gusse, Grant Hailey, Sofia Hartman, Michael Haugen, Jackson James, Anna Janvrin, Caily Jones, Sydney Keller, Piper Koon, Max Langland, Noah Lindberg, Jordan Lockner, Jocelyn Logue, Nolan Mangiamelli, Morgan Moore, Jaxson Ninete, William Oestmann, Dane Petersen, Dylan Robinson-Long, Jessica Schiefelbein, Audrey Schultz, Grace Scott, Charlee Sharack, Isabella Smith, Olivia Stednitz, Aiden Sufficool, Michaela Todd, Shae Traynor, Danielle Witt, Isaac Workman, Alexis Zimmer.

A new addition to the EMS Vocal Department is our 6th Grade Show Choir. 55 out of 100 choir members have made the commitment. We meet Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am.

All 6th, 7th, and 8th grade choirs are busy working on music concepts and the songs for our 1st concert on Tuesday, November 7th. The concert is held in the EMS gymnasium at 6:30 PM. All students should be in their designated spots by 6:15. Concert attire is the EMS "Noteworthy" polo shirt with black pants, socks, and shoes. The students look forward to sharing all their hard work at the concerts. We look forward to seeing you!



## BAND NEWS

MR. EDWARDS

**Congratulations** to **Alison White** who was honored as the September "Classical Kid" by KVNO radio! Alison was selected for her skills as a cello player. She plays cello in the Omaha Area Youth Orchestra Debut Orchestra. We would like to also recognize **Joel Mears** (clarinet) and **Preston Smith** (tuba) who are members of this orchestra, too.



**October 3rd – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band to EHS**– On Tuesday, October 3rd, the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band will go to EHS to observe and participate in a high school marching band rehearsal. This is always a really good experience for the students. It helps educate the 8<sup>th</sup> graders about what marching band is like at the high school level. **Joel Mears** and **Kendall Backora** have done a great job assisting the EHS Marching Band this fall as “Roadies” for several performances. Thank you for your assistance, Kendall and Joel!

**November 14th - Concert @ EMS** – On Tuesday, November 14th, all the band students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be performing their first concert of the year. The concert will take place in the EMS gym and will start at 6:30 PM. All students should arrive at EMS by 6:00 PM for warm-ups. Please come to encourage your students and enjoy the concert. Concert attire will be expected for all students and will include black pants, black shoes and socks, and the EMS “Noteworthy” polo shirt (tucked in).

**January 5th - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Pep-Band @ EHS** – On Friday, January 5th, the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band has been invited to perform with the EHS high school band at a varsity basketball game. More details will be sent home with the students as we get closer to the event, but students should plan to report to the EHS music rooms by 6:15 PM. Students will be dismissed at 8:30 pm. Participating students will be admitted to the game free, but parents and siblings will need to pay normal admission or show their Elkhorn Activity Passes. Dress for this event will be jeans, tennis shoes, and the EMS “Noteworthy” polo shirts (tucked in). This is always a fun evening for the students, so please put it on your calendar!

## DISCOVERY CENTER NEWS

MS. HARTMAN

EMS will be hosting a fall Scholastic Book Fair October 10-12 and 16-18. The book fair will run from 8:00 a.m.–3:40 p.m. on normal school days. During parent-teacher conferences it will be open from 8:00 am–2:30 p.m. and from 4:30 pm–8:30 p.m. Please feel free to stop into the library anytime to check out the new titles and series that our students are reading. For those who prefer to shop online, a link will be posted soon on the library web page under EMS Links.

The online fair will be accepting orders from October 6th through October 20th and can be found at <http://www.scholastic.com/bf/elkhornmiddleschool1>.

Thanks for supporting the EMS library!

## MIX-IT-UP AT LUNCH

We will be having Mix-It-Up at Lunch Day on October 31st for 6th graders. Students will be encouraged to break out of a rut and sit with different students at lunch. They may even end up making a new friend! For 7th and 8th graders, we will “mix it up” during Hi-5.



## DAILY BULLETIN

Parents may view the EMS daily announcements at: [www.elkhornweb.org](http://www.elkhornweb.org), click on Elkhorn Middle School under the Buildings Tab, and then click on Daily Bulletin.

## POWER SCHOOL

If you did not attend Open House, you may still pick up your username and password information from the office. This will give you access to your child's grade book for each class. District policy states that parents/guardians must personally come in to the office to sign and pick up this confidential information. Unfortunately, we are not allowed to mail or send this information home with students. Please take advantage of this powerful tool.

## APPOINTMENT REMINDER

Any student who needs to leave school during the day for an appointment **must check out with the office before leaving**. No student will be dismissed unless the following has occurred:

Parents/guardians have contacted the school office and arranged for the dismissal (by phone or note). You may notify the office up to a week before, but preferably no later than 8:30 am the day of the appointment. The student will be given a pass to leave the classroom, go to their locker, sign out in the office, and meet you at the front door at the requested time. This process allows for minimal disruption to the classroom while allowing you to pick your child up as needed. We appreciate your efforts to schedule appointments outside of school hours when possible.



## TECH SAVVY PARENT TIPS

OCTOBER 2017

### ***SchoolMessenger – Are You Up to Date?***

EPS uses a parent messaging system called SchoolMessenger to send emails and phone calls to parents. To ensure you are receiving important messages from your school, be sure to let the office know of any changes to your email addresses or phone numbers.

### ***YouTube – A Guide to Understanding Your Child's Video Watching***

YouTube is a common video watching platform used by many youths to find content on subjects that they find interesting or enjoyable to watch. In order to have a better understanding of what your child is watching on YouTube, below is a list of questions that you can ask:

*What's trending today?* Trending videos appear on YouTube's home page and show the most recent viral videos, what's funny, and what's being shared. Knowing what's trending will give parents a better understanding of the type of content your child is being exposed to by them simply going to the YouTube home page.

*What channels do you subscribe to?* If a child is taking the time to subscribe to a specific channel, it's a guarantee that the content being shown is something of interest to them. Get involved and find out what those channels are, so you can get a better idea of what specific content your child finds interesting and why. This could turn out to be a significant subject area interest for your child and a good common ground topic for conversations.

*What's in your library?* One's YouTube library is the place where videos that the user has liked or shared are stored. This too, is a way to discover content that your child finds interesting.

*What was the last video you shared?* Youth share things with others only when they find them to be interesting or enjoyable, or they feel that others will enjoy them as well. Get a glimpse into what videos are catching their attention by asking this question.

## OCTOBER BOX TOPS CONTEST

Bring in 10 BoxTops (must be in a baggy or envelope with your name & your Hi-5) and you will be entered into a drawing for \$10 CASH! Each Box Top is worth 10 cents for EMS! Collecting them is an easy way to help raise money for EMS. A complete list of products is available at: [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com). Thanks for your support!!



## HEALTH SCREENINGS

Health screening will be held on Wednesday, November 1st at EMS. Screenings being done are measuring height, weight, vision, hearing and dental. Twenty volunteers will be needed to get this accomplished in a short period of time. The success of this screening will depend on the volunteers so please consider helping. The screening will be in the afternoon between 1:00 and 3:00 pm. It is helpful if small children are not brought along as there is no place for them to be and you are busy during this time. Your help is appreciated! [Click here for Sign-Up Genius](#)



## BOOSTER CLUB NEWS

**APPARREL ORDERS** are completely distributed to your students. Our next order will be in November and back by mid December in time for the holidays. Look for ordering info in next month's newsletter.

**8TH GRADE CELEBRATION** The 8th Grade Celebration Committee is being formed! Any interested 8th grade parents who would like to assist with the planning of the springtime event should contact Wendy Moore at [WendyMooreOmaha@aol.com](mailto:WendyMooreOmaha@aol.com)

**SNACK PACKS** Snack Packs continue to be a hit with our EMS students as they travel to represent our school. This year we decided to partner with the Elkhorn Public Schools YAP program, who build the Snack Packs for us. We are proud of this connection!

**CONCESSIONS** EMS Booster Club wants to thank all of our amazing volunteers so far for signing up to volunteer for a concession stand shift. It is a fun and easy way to connect with other parents while helping raise funds for your school, so please sign up to work one shift. [Sign up here](#)

The **80's DANCE** was a TOTALLY AWESOME night for our EMS students. We would like to thank all of the volunteers that helped with the dance: Heather Witt, Christy Todd, Kelli Swanson, Melissa Goldal, Salli Branch, Debbie Chaney, Tabby Pegler Haines, Chris Me-haffey, Patrick & Theresa Kimmell, Shari Seibel, Hillarie and Jay Calek, Bryan & Erin Deming, Cassie Bratcher, Mandy Mangiamelli, Sara Beyer, Glenn Benes, April Horstman Reser, Denae Nuismer, and officers who planned/worked Jodi Hague, Lori Lindberg, Kim Carbee and Scott & Wendy Moore. We would also like to thank the AWESOME staff that were present: Miss Turner, Mrs. Giesselmann, and Principal Garrison!



**BOX TOPS** Box Tops are an easy way to raise funds for EMS. We have monthly CASH raffle prize, so please send 10 Box Tops in with your child EACH MONTH to support EMS.

**PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES** Our teachers work long days on Parent-Teacher Conference days, which will be Oct 17 & 18. Please click on the link below to sign up to help us to provide a meal for the teachers on Tuesday and Wednesday. We are asking for cash donations or to bring drinks or desserts on either day. [Sign up here](#)

## EPS STAFF DIRECTORIES AND EMAIL ADDRESSES

Parents - as a reminder, please always double check the email address of any staff member you are attempting to contact, as some email addresses include a number in them. If you are not sure of the correct address, you can find all addresses and email all staff members directly by clicking their name on the following "Staff Listing" page on our website: [Elkhorn Middle School Staff Directories and Email Addresses](#)

# DEADLINE APPROACHING!



*We hope you will join us!*  
*RSVP By October 6th*

Our 23rd annual reception will honor 9 community members, educators and businesses that have made significant and positive contributions to Elkhorn students, schools and the Elkhorn community. Sponsorship opportunities are available as listed below. All donations are tax-deductible contributions to the Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation.

**Sunday, October 22, 2017**

{Elkhorn South High School} {2:00 - 4:00 PM}

FREE to attend - RSVP Required

## SPONSORSHIPS

HALL OF FAME BENEFACTOR: **\$2,500**

Company logo on **Front Cover** of program  
Company logo in presentation  
Recognition in EPSF Newsletter  
Company logo on EPSF Website  
EPSF Social Media Promotion

HALL OF FAME SPONSOR: **\$500**

- Listing as Sponsor in program  
Name in presentation  
Recognition in EPSF Newsletter  
Listing as Sponsor on EPSF Website

HALL OF FAME PATRON: **\$1,000**

Listing as Hall of Fame Patron inside of program  
Company logo in presentation  
Recognition in EPSF Newsletter  
Company logo on EPSF Website

FOUNDATION FRIEND:  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Listing as Foundation Friend inside program

RSVP or purchase sponsorships online at:

[elkhornfoundation.org/2017halloffame](http://elkhornfoundation.org/2017halloffame)

## 2017 Hall of Fame Award Recipients

**Carl L. White Educator of the Year**

Laura Seyl - Spring Ridge Elementary

**Golden Apple Educator of the Year**

Kendra Smith - Fire Ridge Elementary

**Former Educator of the Year**

Dr. Dennis Flood

**Support Staff Member of the Year**

Steven Smith - Arbor View Elementary

**Alumni of the Year**

Julie Mahloch & Doug Nielsen

**Partners in Education Mentor of the Year**

Patti Franz

**Community Booster of the Year**

Jodi Schendt - Popperista Gourmet Popcorn

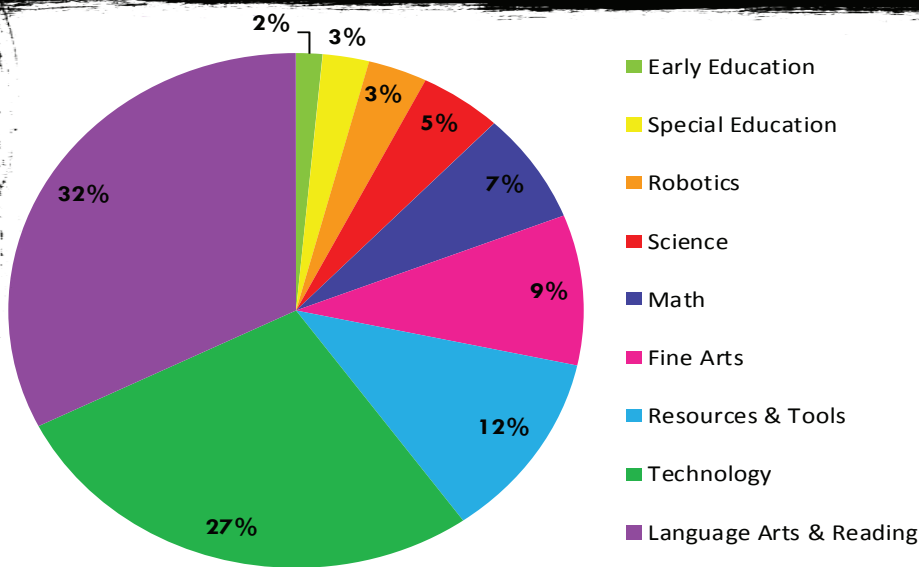
**Volunteer of the Year**

Tom Scott

# DEADLINE APPROACHING!

## GRANT A WISH

### 2017 - 2018 CLASSROOM GRANT CAMPAIGN



**111** Wishes totaling over **\$166,000** were awarded to Elkhorn Public Schools classrooms through the Foundation's Classroom Grants Program this year!



Please consider supporting our classroom grant program so we can continue to grant more wishes! You can even designate your school or specific grant for your donation.

To be recognized in the program for our Hall Of Fame reception on October 22nd, as well as on Classroom Grant checks at each school, please submit your donation by **October 6th**.

To see your school's grant wishes or to donate online please visit our website at

[www.elkhornfoundation.org](http://www.elkhornfoundation.org)



# October 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 8 FB vs. ERMS @ EVVMS 4:15 pm 7 FB @ Gretna 4:15pm 8 VB vs EGMS @ Elkhorn High 4:15	4	5 8VB vs Plattsmouth @4:15pm 7VB @ Plattsmouth 4:15pm EMS Booster Club Meeting 3:45pm	6	7
8	9 8 VB @ EVVMS 4:15 pm 7 VB vs EVVMS 4:15 pm	10 8 FB @ Norris 4:15pm 7 FB vs. Gretna Aspen Creek 4:15 pm	11 District Spelling Bee 9:00 am EMS DC TRIP	12 8 VB @ Neb City 4:15 pm 7 VB vs Neb City 4:15 pm EMS DC TRIP	13 NO SCHOOL Teacher In-Service EMS DC TRIP	14 EMS DC TRIP
15	16 8 VB vs Gretna Aspen Creek 4:15 7 VB @ Gretna Aspen Creek 4:15 7th & 8th Grade Boys Basketball Meeting @ 3:25 pm	17 One Hour Early Dismissal Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30-8:30 p.m.	18 One Hour Early Dismissal Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30-8:30 p.m.	19 8 VB @ Gretna MS 4:15 pm 7 VB vs Gretna MS 4:15 pm Boys Basketball Practice begins	20 NO SCHOOL	21
22 EPSF Hall of Fame Reception	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 Mix-It Up In Hi-5 & at Lunch Day				