

# ELKHORN RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

17880 Marcy Street  
Omaha, NE 68118  
(402) 334-9302

November 2018



## PARENT COMMUNICATION/BOOSTER MEETING

Our next Parent Communication/Booster meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 13 at 1:30 PM. Time is set aside during these meetings for parents to address concerns and ask questions about our programs. If this time does not work into your schedule and you have questions or concerns, please call Mr. Riggert to discuss those issues. We believe parent involvement is critical to the success of our children's education and invite all of you to become involved.

## FREDDY'S FAMILY NIGHT

Our next Family Fun Night will be held, Tuesday, November 13th at Freddy's Steakhouses on 180<sup>th</sup> and Center from 4:30 pm – 9 pm Hope to see you there!

## MAKE UP DAYS FOR MISSED SCHOOL DAYS (SNOW DAYS)

As we approach the winter months, it is important to note a change to the EPS calendar from past years. The Elkhorn Board of Education has built in two makeup days to the calendar in the event that school is canceled due to inclement weather (snow days). Those two days are May 23 and 24.

If there are two or more missed school days prior to April 1, students will have school on these two days making the last day of school May 24. If no snow days the last day of school is May 22.

The first two missed days will be made up; in the event of three or more snow days the administration will reevaluate the calendar at that time.

## EARLY DISMISSAL WEDNESDAY, 11/21

School will be dismissed one hour early at all Elkhorn Schools on Wednesday, November 21. This is an update from the printed District calendars.

## 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: <http://www.elkhornweb.org/erms/teacher-sites/staff/>

## Need financial assistance with holiday season?

Do you need financial assistance with the holiday season approaching? Have you encountered medical or financial hardship recently? If so, please contact Jodi Klein (Guidance Counselor) or Kevin Riggert (Principal) at 334-9302. We have organizations that would like to help families in need.

## SAFE SCHOOLS ALERT

Thank you for continuing to make ERMS a safe place for everyone. I appreciate the phone calls sharing your concerns and reporting information you are hearing. We all have a responsibility in keeping our students safe. We will be conducting a lock down drill in November as well as discussing safety procedures with our students. Just as a reminder, we have an online reporting system for students and parents to use to report any type of safety concern. You can find that information on our district website by going to the ERMS webpage and clicking on Safe Schools Alert.

## NEW - STORM ACADEMY

Elkhorn Ridge Middle School is committed to supporting all of our students in ways that allow them to grow as learners, and as people. Students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade are expected to complete homework on a daily basis. If students fall behind on homework, the reason may be that they need more specific help or support from the appropriate teacher. We have several interventions in place to assist students with the help they need, and have just added an additional one, Storm Academy. Storm Academy is held on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:30 to 4:30 pm and Wednesday and Friday mornings from 7:00 to 8:00 am. Students are selected by grade level teams. If you think your child would benefit from this program, please contact one of your child's core teachers. Other additional time and support is offered through our guided study program. It is the belief of the Elkhorn Ridge Middle School Staff that all students can learn, and thus time is provided for students needing additional academic assistance. If you have questions about these learning opportunities, please give us a call.

Kevin Riggert  
Building Principal  
402-334-9302

## PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher conferences were held on Tuesday, October 16th and Wednesday, October 17th. We had a great turnout. Thanks for being involved in your child's education!

## ATTENDANCE BY GRADE

6th Grade 96%

7th Grade 91%

8th Grade 89%

## CONFERENCE DINNERS - THANK YOU!!!

The middle school staff would like to thank all of the parents who put together the dinners for our parent/teacher conferences. The meals were great! We appreciate all you do!



## 6th Grade News

Mr. Ebers, Mrs. Finks, Mrs. Mitteis,  
Ms. Niebaum, Mrs. Ottens,  
Mr. Gralheer, Mrs. Randall, and  
Ms. Stromgren

### **SOCIAL STUDIES - Mr. Ebers and Mrs. Randall**

Social Studies students have been learning about the 3 branches of the Federal government as well as how the government works at the state and local levels. In November, we will start an intro to economics unit where we will focus on needs/wants, supply/demand, and economic decisions in our society.

### **LANGUAGE ARTS - Mrs. Randall and Ms. Stromgren**

The sixth grade Language Arts students have been busy! October ended practicing using commas correctly. The beginning of the month will have students working on creating powerful paragraphs and writing them using different modes: descriptive, persuasive and narrative. The rest of the month will be spent working on refining details in writing and identifying adjectives and pronouns in sentences. Don't forget that spelling tests are on Thursdays. Always watch teacher websites if you need to find an assignment.

### **MATH - Ms. Niebaum**

It was a pleasure getting to meet parents at student led conferences and see the great support the students have at home! In math, we have completed Chapter 1 and the unit on number theory. We are well on our way with Chapter 2. The students are working on converting between fractions, decimals, and percents. They can tell you how much an item on sale at the store will cost. Next, we reviewed finding least common multiple with a set of whole numbers. The whole numbers then changed to fractions and we learned to find the least common denominator so we could then compare and order the fractions. Comparing and ordering decimals was found to be easier for the students to do. Now they can compare fractions, decimals, and percents. We are now working with all the operations with decimals. A review of adding and subtracting fractions was done before multiplying and dividing. Next, students will use integers, absolute value, and graphing on the coordinate plane to solve real-world problems.

### **PRE-CONCEPTS - Ms. Niebaum and Mrs. Ottens**

We were happy to share in your conferences with your child. They are eager to learn and continue to work hard! We finished the unit on converting between fractions, decimals, and percents. The students can also tell you what an item on sale, with a certain percentage off, will cost. Calculating a tip on your dinner out can also be done by your child. We had a lively discussion on financial literacy while calculating simple interest and learning about principal and mortgage. Next, we will dive into integers. The students will use and justified the rules for adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing integers.

### **READING - Mrs. Finks and Ms. Stromgren**

During the month of November, students will continue to read, Tuck Everlasting. Students will have discussions and participate in critical thinking activities in class. Periodically, students will review vocabulary chapters 1-5 to prepare for a mid-year review in December. Students will practice the skill of text-dependent analysis as we dig into non-fiction text. After Tuck Everlasting, students will take their story element district common assessment (DCA). The AR deadline is on December 7.

### **LANGUAGE EXPERIENCE - Mrs. Espinoza and Ms. Garrison**

Students are learning French as the second quarter begins. Please read the front of the syllabus packet and notice the due date for extra credit as well as the page 4 question of the day. If you are absent, remember to highlight the absence date on your syllabus and speak with your teacher the day you return at 8:00 or during home team. This will help you stay on track. The syllabus has helpful information for you to find success. Please note that students need to learn the spelling and accents of the words on levels 1, 4, and 5. In French we will focus on greetings, questions, numbers, colors, days, months and basic conversations. Please double check that your student has a single subject notebook and a flashcard holder for Language Experience only. They will also need notecards to make their flashcards over our French vocab. Studying daily helps students learn the material well.

### **SCIENCE - Mr. Gralheer and Mrs. Mitteis**

Students have completed their energy assessments and were able to model how to either minimize or maximize thermal energy. Currently, students are working on gathering, analyzing, and communicating evidence of the relationship between structure and function in living things. We will use microscopes to examine cells and identify the jobs of cells. Then we will make our way through learning all the human body systems.



## 7th Grade News

Mrs. Bradford, Mr. Breikreutz,  
Mrs. Bryan, Mrs. Klein,  
Mrs. Mitteis, Mrs. Nelson  
Mrs. Ottens, and Ms. Pawoll

### **LANGUAGE ARTS - Mrs. Nelson and Ms. Pawoll**

The month of November will have students finishing expository writing pieces. Parts of speech will continue to be reviewed and practiced throughout the quarter. Students will also practice text dependent writing in preparation for the district writing assessment. Encourage your child to work on proofreading, applications of grammar, and studying for tests and quizzes. Please remind your child to utilize the resources available to him/her like the homework calendar.

## READING - Mrs. Nelson and Mrs. Bradford

Seventh grade students will be diving into *The Westing Game* in November as we begin our class novel mystery unit. There will be reading assignments both in and out of class time. It is very important to keep up on reading with the class, so that the discussion can be meaningful. Students usually really enjoy this unit as they try to make sense of the clues and figure out just who will win the Westing game. Our vocabulary words will be from the book as well, so there will be a slight change in our vocabulary format for the month. I would encourage you to find a copy and read along with your child. You will enjoy it!

## SPANISH 1 - Ms. Garrison and Mrs. Espinoza

Students are finishing chapter 1B which includes adjectives that describe people. They are creating sentences about themselves and other people. Your student should be able to complete these sentences:

Yo soy \_\_\_\_ y \_\_\_\_.

No soy ni \_\_\_\_ ni \_\_\_\_.

Mi amiga es \_\_\_\_ y mi amigo es \_\_\_\_.

Please have them study their important questions.

You can ask these questions to your student because they should have the question, translation and how to answer it in their notes.

How to Improve Spanish Grade:

Vocabulary: Students should know how to pronounce the word, spell it correctly.

On-line book: Students know how to access the book through class link.

Listening Comprehension: If your student is struggling, he/she needs to listen to the audio activities posted on Moodle or Google Classroom  
Notebook and syllabus packet: Students should study all of their notes a little bit each day.



## PRE-ALGEBRA - Mrs. Ottens and Mrs. Klein

Students completed the unit on real numbers, and have been getting ready to solve equations. They have been using the distributive property and combining "like terms" in order to prepare for eventually solving multiple-step equations. This is a main area of focus for being prepared for Algebra I next year. Students have frequent assignments online (ALEKS), which can be worked on at school or at home. If your child wants extra math practice, the Learning Path on ALEKS is a great tool to help him/her be more successful in math.

## MATH 7- Mrs. Klein

Students have been working on Chapter 2, which covers using percents to calculate proportions, tips, taxes and discounts. Please ask your students to calculate how much the tax and tip are next time you go out! Next we will be calculating with integers. After computing with integers, we will be working with rational numbers (fractions). Students have occasional assignments online (ALEKS), which can be worked on at school or at home. If your child wants extra math practice, the Learning Path on ALEKS is a great tool to help him/her be more successful in math.

## WORLD HISTORY - Mrs. Bryan and Mr. Breitreutz

In World History, we will finish exploring Ancient Greece. We will then move on to Ancient Rome!



## SCIENCE- Mr. Breitreutz and Mrs. Mitteis

During the last half of November students will be wrapping up the Earth Science unit on layers of Earth, plate tectonics, earthquakes, and volcanoes. This *Inside the Earth* unit will conclude with a district common assessment (DCA). We will then transition into our Life Science unit of Human Body Systems. In this unit students will explore all the systems that make up the complex human body and how they interact to maintain our health and balance. This unit will most likely not conclude until after Winter Break. During the Human Body Systems unit, students will complete a STEM lab designing casting systems for broken bones. We need your help collecting chicken wing bones. Please send the bones (clean, please) in a baggie with your student any time before December. In the past we've asked the deer hunters among us to save, bag, freeze, and donate the harvested deer heart to our Science classes. The teacher will perform the dissection for the kids to observe. We're asking for 8 deer hearts total. If you can, please donate as soon as legally possible.



## 8th Grade News

Mr. Barry, Mr. Breitreutz, Ms. Christie,  
Mrs. Hultman, Mrs. Kammerer,  
Mrs. Ottens, Ms. Pawoll, and Mrs. Semin

## MATH - Mrs. Semin (Algebra and Pre-Algebra) / and Mrs. Ottens (Pre-Algebra)

**Algebra:** Students have been learning the different forms of linear equations: standard form, slope-intercept form and point slope form. They have also been using the different forms to solve and graph linear equations. We finished a DCA on graphing linear equations and will be moving on to solving and graphing inequalities.



**Pre-Algebra:** Students have just completed their Number Sense unit. We are moving into studying Algebraic Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities. We will be focusing on simplifying Algebraic expressions, solving one-step, two-step, and multi-step equations, and solving one- and two-step inequalities with graphing their solutions on a number line. Feel free to email us with any questions!

Mrs. Julie Semin: [jsemin@epsne.org](mailto:jsemin@epsne.org)

Mrs. Kelly Ottens: [kottens@epsne.org](mailto:kottens@epsne.org)

## SCIENCE - Mrs. Kammerer and Mr. Breitreutz

The students have just completed and presented their Science Inquiry projects and we are starting our next unit, Rocks and Earth's History. In this unit students will be exploring how to use rock layers and fossils to play history detective and figure out what happened to Earth's surface millions of years ago. This unit will end with a district common assessment by the end of the month.

## AMERICAN HISTORY - Mrs. Hultman and Mrs. Semin

To start, we will finish up a unit on the Duties & Responsibilities of American Citizens. There will be a district common assessment over this material. We will continue studying different aspects of the U.S. Constitution, focusing on the different branches of government, checks and balances, the Bill of Rights, other amendments, and the amending process. Next, we'll begin looking at the first three presidents and their accomplishments and struggles as well as how the U.S. gained different land portions of what we call the U.S.A. today! As always, don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

## SPANISH 1- Ms. Garrison and Mrs. Espinoza



Students are currently finishing chapter 4B which includes sports and accepting/refusing invitations. Students will work with the irregular verbs called boot verbs this chapter. They can master conjugating these verbs by using pig quiz. Your student should be studying his/her packet/flashcards (Quizlet) about 10 minutes each night. Also, please have them study and memorize their important questions (as well as the answers). You can ask these questions to your student because they should have the question, translation, & how to answer it in their notes.

How to Improve Spanish Grade:

**Vocabulary:** Students should know how to pronounce the word, spell it correctly.

**On-line book:** Students know how to access the book through class link.

**Listening comprehension:** If your student is struggling, he/she needs to listen to the audio activities posted on **Moodle or Google Classroom:** Study your Notebook and syllabus packet:

**Notebook and syllabus packet:** Students should study all of their notes a little bit each day.

## READING - Ms. Christie and Ms. Pawoll

During November, we will continue reading our whole class post apocalyptic dystopian science fiction novel, *The City of Ember*, through Literature Circles and in-class reads. During this unit, students will practice using the elements of fiction, introduced during the first quarter, for literary and sociopolitical analysis. We will also continue our study of Greek and Latin roots. The vocabulary final for all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in the district is cumulative, so please remember to take advantage of Quizlet to reinforce former units and practice current units of study. Finally, the AR deadline for this quarter is December 14<sup>th</sup>.

## LANGUAGE ARTS- Mr. Barry and Ms. Pawoll

The month of November will be a nice change of pace. We will continue focusing on becoming better writers. The District Wide Writing Assessment will take place this month as well. This will be a Text Dependent Analysis piece that will be completed in class. From there, we will switch gears, working on a national scholarship opportunity called Letters About Literature. Each student will actually enter their writing piece into this contest for a chance to win! With this, we will also begin the discussion about the importance of planning for college and how we could pay for this higher education. The hope is that students will bring this conversation home, conversing with parents or guardians, grandparents, and other important people in their life about what this looks like for them specifically and where they see themselves beyond high school.

## YEARBOOK - Mrs. Mitteis

Don't miss out on buying a yearbook this year! There are less than 70 yearbooks left to purchase. Prices will go up after December 31st. To order, go to [yearbookforever.com](http://yearbookforever.com), enter our school name, and follow the instructions to order your copy. If you have any questions or concerns please email Kelsi Mitteis at [kmitteis@epsne.org](mailto:kmitteis@epsne.org)

Taking photos this year? At the game, the musical? Share them by using Community Upload! When you submit your amazing photos to the yearbook staff via Community Upload, your pictures have a chance to be featured in the yearbook. Submit your photos now with Community Upload:

- Go to [yearbookforever.com](http://yearbookforever.com), or download the Yearbook Snap mobile app from the App Store or Google Play.
- Enter our school's name (it will populate), select our school. Under Community Upload, enter access code storm and click Enter.
- Click Upload Photo to begin uploading your photos.

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*Yearbook*

## **P.E. - Mr. Everingham and Mrs. Finn**

Every student needs to have a change of clothes to wear during class. A T-shirt, shorts and tennis shoes are all they need. They are issued a locker in the gym to put their clothes in. Also, please make sure you students are bring their PE clothes home to wash every weekend.

## **ERMS ATHLETIC NEWS:**

Following are our event dates for November.

Thursday, November 1- Team Pictures 3:30pm

### **Monday, November 5- 7th Grade Boys Basketball (BBB) vs. Gretna**

Monday, November 5- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade BBB @ Gretna

### **Monday, November 5- Intramural Games- Aux Gym @3:45.**

Thursday, November 8- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade BBB @ Valley View

### **Thursday, November 8- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade BBB vs. Valley View**

### **Monday, November 12- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade BBB vs. Gretna Aspen Creek**

Monday, November 12- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade BBB @ Gretna Aspen Creek

### **Monday, November 12- Intramural Games- Aux Gym @3:45.**

### **Thursday, November 15- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade BBB vs. Waverly**

Thursday, November 15- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade BBB @ Waverly

Monday, November 19- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade BBB @ Bennington

### **Monday, November 19- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade BBB vs. Bennington**

### **Monday, November 19- Intramural Games- Aux Gym @3:45.**

### **Tuesday, November 20- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade BBB vs. Elkhorn Middle**

Tuesday, November 20- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade BBB @ Elkhorn Middle

### **Tuesday, November 27- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade BBB vs Blair**

Tuesday, November 27 -7<sup>th</sup> Grade BBB @ Blair

### **Tuesday, November 27- Intramural Games- Aux Gym @3:45.**

Thursday, November 29- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade BBB @ Grandview

### **Thursday, November 29- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade BBB vs Grandview**

**Home games are in bold and all games start at 4:15**

Schedules can also be found at [www.easternmidconference.org](http://www.easternmidconference.org)

## **CAREER DAY- Mrs. J. Klein**

Middle school parents interested in speaking at our 8th grade Career Day on January 25, please contact Mrs. Klein, Guidance Counselor ([jklein@epsne.org](mailto:jklein@epsne.org)). The career session is 30 minutes in length with 15-20 students.

## **HALE—Mrs. Miller**

The Quiz Bowl teams continue to practice on Tuesdays for the district competition which is coming up at the end of November. Team members are developing strategies for how to maximize success by drawing on each other's strengths in mathematics, geography, literature and science.

HALE students are being encouraged to consider participating in the 2018 History Day competition. On October 9th, 7th grade students were introduced to the 2019 History Day theme, shown examples of various presentation methods, and advised about the criteria expected when preparing a process paper and an annotated bibliography. Mrs. Miller will collaborate with Mrs. Bryan to prepare students interested in participating in the Nebraska NHD competition held annually at Omaha's Durham Museum during March.

Ten of ERMS' 8th grade math students have qualified for the American Mathematics Competition 8 exam which will be given here at ERMS on November 13. Mrs. Miller met with these students in October to provide information about the competition and offer suggestions for how they might practice for the exam. These students will compete with hundreds of students from around the United States. Answer sheets are scored at a central location in Maryland and schools are notified of the results within 30 days of the exam date.

HALE students were given the opportunity to participate in several field trips. We visited with the Evidence Response Team at the FBI, traveled to Lincoln to attend Engineering Days, and saw a group of traveling actors perform Shakespeare's "A Midsummers Night's Dream".

Please remind your child to periodically check their HALE Google Classroom for upcoming activities and workshops.

## **POWERSCHOOL/HOMEWORK ACCESS**

Parents have the ability to view child's academic progress through the internet. Parents/guardians have a username and password for each child which allows you to track homework completion and see current grade status. Teacher expectations are to keep Powerschool updated generally every two weeks.

Another way of accessing your child's homework is to go to the district web page [www.elkhornweb.org](http://www.elkhornweb.org), under the the Schools tab find ERMS and then click on Homework on the left side of the page. You will then see all teachers and their homework. If you have questions please call us at 402-334-9302.

## **STUDENT COUNCIL - Mrs. Espinoza**

Student council is running a canned food drive November 5-8. Our goal is that each home team fills 1 or 2 boxes. Home teams will earn one raffle per filled box. The winning home team will win a wondrous grand prize. All cans will go to charity.



## CHORUS-Mrs. Church (Long Term Sub), ERMS Vocal Music Instructor and Mrs. Foley, Accompanist

6-7-8 Choir students performed their outstanding "Weather The Storm" Fall Concert on October 25th. Their dedication to correct choral singing progressed mightily through those first few months of choir class. You ALL made Mrs. Church, Mrs. Foley and Mrs. Ballou proud. GREAT JOB!!

In November, Chorus students will be working on Music Theory through Rhythm activities. Mrs. Ballou plans to return after Thanksgiving break.

The "APPLAUSE" Show Choir will also begin after the break.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following singers selected for the UNO Middle School Honor Choir: Bobby Barr, Brooke Kingston, Landon Stallman, Ava Held, and Isabella Dizona.

## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC - Mr. Dressen

Congratulations to all of our 8th Graders who auditioned for the NSBA 8th Grade All-State Band. We had the most students ever audition at ERMS! They all put together very strong auditions and we should know results in mid-November. Congratulations, and respect earned!

Our first concert is Nov. 13th and 6:30pm in the ERMS Gymnasium. This concert will feature our 6th grade band, 7th grade band, and 8th grade band. Students should plan to arrive at ERMS between 6:00-6:15pm in their band concert attire. The concert should be around an hour.

If you or your aspiring musician are interested in Private Lessons please ask Mr. Dressen for a list of recommended instructors. Private lessons can benefit every musician and are a great way to foster your student's musical development.

6th Grade Band has started weekly practice records. These are all on Google Classroom. They are expected to practice 100 minutes a week. Private lessons would count for double time. So a half-hour private lesson would count for 60 minutes of practicing. The weekly record gives them all a goal to focus on during their week of practicing. Then at the end of the week, they should record a video discussing their goal, how many minutes they practiced, and then play their instrument to demonstrate their improvements. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you for your continued support of our ERMS Band Program!

## WEATHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

When weather conditions exist that would jeopardize the safety of students traveling to or from school, information about closing will be broadcast over stations KFAB (AM 1110), KETV, KMTV, WOWT, and KPTM. If school is to have a delayed start or be cancelled, announcements will begin on those stations at approximately 6:00 a.m. regarding early dismissals due to bad weather. The district has adopted the Alert Now Notification Service which will also be used to notify parents of school closings and cancellations.



## Elkhorn Ridge Middle School Booster Club Meeting

October 9, 2018

President Teresa Svoboda called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. School Board Candidate Nancy Rogic Greufe introduced herself and answered questions. The September 2018 minutes were approved as distributed.

**Treasurer Report:** Vice President Camas Lubberstedt presented the current financials.

**Old Business:** The Fall Fundraiser has currently surpassed the \$9,000 goal. Donations are still being sent in, so the final number is yet to be determined. Boy Scout Adam Svoboda met with Lanoha and determined a plan for landscaping the east and west sides of the school which will begin in the spring. Caroline Henry and Jodi McShannon, our new Landscaping Committee, will maintain the project after planting.

**New Business:** Vice President Camas Lubberstedt reported GOAL meeting updates. The Booster Club committed \$200 to Student Council for their December 14<sup>th</sup> schoolwide event. New water filters were ordered to replace existing filters.

**Parent Communication** Mr. Riggert addressed parental concerns and announced Red Ribbon Week will be October 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. A Vocal Concert will be held October 25<sup>th</sup>.

### Committee Reports:

**Apparel-** A second sale will be held prior to Winter Break.

**Box Tops-**Collection weeks will be October 1<sup>st</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> with a goal of 3,500 box tops collected.

**Hy-Vee Receipts-**Any Hy-Vee receipt obtained between September 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> can be turned in to either Hy-Vee or ERMS. This includes gas, grocery, alcohol, and pharmacy sales.

**Sponsors-**Any business that contributed \$250 to the Booster Club had their logo placed on a banner which is displayed in the gym.

**Concessions-**A Sign-Up Genius will soon be created and emailed for Boys Basketball with games beginning in November.

**Family Fun Night-**The Good Life will be Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. November 13<sup>th</sup> will be Freddy's from 4:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Celebration-**The date for the event will be May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Many of the providers have been booked and inflatables reserved.

The October meeting of the ERMS Booster Club was adjourned at 2:37 p.m. The next Booster Club meeting will be held November 13<sup>th</sup>, at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ricci Nisley, Secretary.

## BOOSTER CLUB

I am pleased to announce that we collected just over \$9,500 in donations during our No Sell Fundraiser! Thanks to all of the families that donated, we exceeded our goal of \$9,000. Thank you letters for parents were handed out to students during home team on October 18. Please check back packs if you donated but did not receive your letter.

Thanksgiving is right around the corner and there is no better time to thank the many generous volunteers; your time and hard work is MUCH appreciated! Thank you, Jennifer Wilson, for your work on the ERMS directory. Thanks to Amy Parks for her efforts in getting our new sponsorship program going this year. Thanks to Abby Haarala for putting together the Fall apparel sale. Thanks to Tina Farrel for collecting all of the Box Tops. Thanks also to all who sent in their Box Top. We will let you know how we did soon. Thanks to Beena Burg for keeping our concessions supplied with all the goodies. Thanks to Tiffany Stantpn for planning our Family Fun Nights. A big thank you to our kindness chair Kati Cramer and Renee Black, our conference meals chair, for taking such good care of our teachers! Thanks to the Booster Club Executive Board for all of your efforts this year; Camas Lubberstedt, Laura Sartore and Ricci Nisley. Of course, we would like to thank the teachers, administrators, and all of the ERMS staff for all of the work you put in each and every day, for our children! We are fortunate to have such a great staff at ERMS!

Thank you to all of the volunteers that stepped up to help with the volleyball concessions. Basketball is around the corner and we will continue to need volunteers. We need everyone's help to make sure that we can operate a concession stand at each of the home basketball games.

Lastly, our apparel committee is busy putting together new apparel items for our holiday sale. Keep an eye out for an email soon. Apparel items make perfect gifts!

Our next meeting is Tuesday, November 13th at 1:30 pm. Hope to see you there!

Teresa Svoboda

Booster Club President



### HYVEE RECEIPTS

The HyVee "Cash for Students" Program continues until December 31. Please save those Hy-Vee receipts - grocery, gas, pharmacy, coffee - and submit in the box at the **180th and Pacific** location.

Forgot to drop it on your way out? Please send to school with your student. They can submit to their Home Team teacher or drop at the office.

Thank you for your continued support.

Questions? Contact Jen Athy 402-250-1565

### BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

THANK YOU to everyone who submitted Box Tops during last month's collection drive! We just finished counting the Box Tops that were collected and will be announcing the results at the upcoming Booster Club meeting. Three randomly drawn students who submitted Box Tops will win a \$10 gift card.

Box Tops can be handed in at any time during the school year, but **we will also be doing another collection drive in early February**. So keep clipping those Box Tops because EVERY CLIP COUNTS!

For more information on the Box Tops for Education program, including a list of participating products and our school's progress, visit [www.BTFE.com](http://www.BTFE.com).



# NOVEMBER 2018

ELKHORN RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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17880 MARCY STREET  
OMAHA, NE 68118

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Boys Basketball Team Pictures 3:30 pm	2	3
4 Daylight Savings Time	5 8 BBB @ Gretna MS 7 BBB vs Gretna MS	6 Polling Place General Election	7 End of Rotation #2	8 Start Rotation #3 8 BBB vs. EVVMS 7 BBB @ EVVMS	9	10 <b>*** ALL GAMES AT 4:15 PM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED***</b>
11	12 School Board Meeting 6:30 pm 8 BBB vs Gretna AC 7 BBB @ Gretna AC	13 Parent Booster Meeting 1:30 pm 6th – 8th Band/Jazz Band Concert 7 pm Family Fun Night— Freddy's 180th and Center 4:30 to 9 pm	14 Progress Reports Sent Home	15 8 BBB vs Waverly 7 BBB @ Waverly	16	17
18 /	19 8 BBB @ Bennington 7 BBB vs Bennington /	20 8 BBB @ EMS 7 BBB vs EMS 27 8 BBB vs Blair Otte MS 7 BBB @ Blair Otte MS	21 Early Dismissal 2:20 pm /	22 NO SCHOOL /	23 NO SCHOOL /	24 
25	26		28	29 8 BBB vs. EGVMS 7 BBB @ EGVMS	30	

## WHEN IS MY CHILD TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?

Proper care in the early stages of an illness can reduce recovery time for the ill child and reduce the possibility of spreading the illness to others. Proper diet, adequate rest, and good personal hygiene (especially frequent handwashing) can assist the body's ability to fight infection.

The following are guidelines to assist you in deciding when your child should stay home from school:

**Irritability, poor appetite, tiredness, achiness** are vague symptoms. Changes in a child's normal behavior can often signal the beginning of an illness.

**Fever of 100 degrees or higher.** Take your child's temperature if he is complaining of feeling tired, headache, sore throat or stomach ache. **A child should be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication before returning to school.**

**Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.** Keep your child at home for the duration of these symptoms. No vomiting or diarrhea for the past 24 hours is recommended. Be sure your child is able to tolerate food without difficulty before returning.

**Nasal secretions and coughing/sneezing** spread respiratory infections easily when these symptoms can't be controlled.

**Suspected communicable conditions** such as undiagnosed rashes, pink eye, ringworm, or chickenpox. A child must be sent home until identified symptoms are evaluated and conditions for return to school are provided by a health care provider.

### VNA School Nurse

## **ATTENDANCE**

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success starting in kindergarten and continuing through high school. Even as children grow older and become more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and in life.

We realize some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other circumstances. But, we also know that when students miss too much school—regardless of the reason – it can cause them to fall behind academically. Your child is less likely to succeed if he or she is chronically absent—which means missing 18 or more days (2 per month) over the course of an entire school year.

Research shows:

- By 6<sup>th</sup> grade, chronic absence is a proven early warning sign for students at risk for dropping out of school.
- By 9<sup>th</sup> grade good attendance can predict graduation rates even better than 8<sup>th</sup> grade test scores.
- Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with conflicts or facing some other potentially serious difficulty.
- Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child graduate from college and keep a job.

Absences can add up quickly. A child is chronically absent if he or she misses just two days every month!!

### **Clearly going to school regularly matters!**

We don't want your child to fall behind in school and get discouraged. Please ensure that your child attends school every day and arrives on time. Here are a few practical tips to help support regular attendance:

- Make sure your children keep a regular bedtime and establish a morning routine.
- Ensure your children go to school every day unless they are truly sick.
- Avoid scheduling vacations or doctor's appointments when school is in session.
- Talk to teachers and counselors for advice if your children feel anxious about going to school.
- Develop back up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, neighbor, or another parent to take your child to school.

Let us know how we can best support you and your child(ren) so that they can show up for school on time every day. We want your child to be successful in school. If you have any questions or need more information please contact the school.



# District Reminders

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## **SCHOOL MESSENGER - ARE YOU UP TO DATE?**

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

## **TECH SAVVY PARENT TIPS**

### *Healthy Screen Relationships*

Being constantly connected can hinder active learning, as one becomes passive in taking in new information because he or she is constantly “learning” new things. Taking a step away from technology and the absorption of information allows one’s brain a needed break and creates an active learning environment. By being intentional in determining technology downtime, you are giving your brain that break to be able to focus on other things.

Below are 5 questions you can ask to determine the health of your child’s relationship with screens:

- 1) Are they physically healthy and getting enough sleep?
- 2) Are they reported to be engaged and learning while in school?
- 3) Are they pursuing other hobbies and interests?
- 4) Can they interact socially with friends and family without the use of technology?
- 5) Does their digital life appear fun and positive?

For more information on youth and their use of technology, visit [www.common sense media.org](http://www.common sense media.org).

*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.*

**FIND US ON**



Mark your calendar....

## **FAMILY FUN NIGHT**

**Enjoy dinner and a night out at:**



***Whether you DINE-IN or go through the DRIVE-THRU 30% of proceeds will be donated to the ERMS Booster Club!!***

**Date: Tuesday, November 13th**

**Time: 4:30 - 9:00 pm**

**Location: 180th & Center Location  
2920 S. 180th St.**

**\*\*LET THEM KNOW YOU ARE FROM ELKHORN RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL\*\***



# Elkhorn Public Schools FOUNDATION

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Considering an end of year gift? A tax-deductible donation to the Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation will help further our mission in 2019 and beyond. Thank you for your continued support in enriching the education of our Elkhorn Public Schools students!

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Mark your Calendar: Bids 4 Kids will be held on April 4, 2019. Join us for a fun evening of silent auction bidding! We are grateful for any and all donations! For donation information, please contact Stacey Selk at [sselk@elkhornfoundation.org](mailto:sselk@elkhornfoundation.org)

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EKC is hiring! Are you bright, energetic and creative? Do you like working with children? Then EKC is for you! Stop in to the foundation office for an application, or download it online at <http://www.elkhornfoundation.org/ekc/ekc-application/>. Email your completed application to [awhorlow@elkhornfoundation.org](mailto:awhorlow@elkhornfoundation.org)

# FUNDRAISING PARTNERSHIP!

GET YOUR UPPER LEVEL TICKETS TO THE FOLLOWING GAMES FOR ONLY



# \$33.50 Each!

**REGULAR SEASON GAMES**

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**NOV. 11TH @ NOON – ARIZONA CARDINALS**

**\*NEWLY ADDED! LIMITED AVAILABLE\***

**DEC. 9TH - BALTIMORE RAVENS**

**DEC. 13TH - CHARGERS**

**DEC. 30TH - RAIDERS**

\$10 of every ticket purchased will go back to the Special Education Programs in Elkhorn Public Schools!

**Purchase your tickets @**

**[www.chiefs.com/ticketfundraiser/](http://www.chiefs.com/ticketfundraiser/)**

**USING PROMO CODE EPSNE**

