



March 2018

upcoming dates...

Principal's Note:

Dear Parents-

Thank you for your participation in Parent Teacher Conferences! We value our parent-teacher connections at Fire Ridge. Research shows that students are more successful academically and socially when schools build positive relationships with families. The most significant type of involvement takes place at home. Parents can contribute to their child's success by monitoring grades, setting goals with their child, and developing a positive relationship with teachers.

We appreciate all of the support you give your children and the staff at Fire Ridge!

Deb Knutson

Did You Know...

The state assessment known as Nebraska State Assessment (NESAS) has changed to Nebraska Student Centered Assessment System (NSCAS). This test will have some changes but will continue to test our 3rd-5th graders in the areas of math and language arts. The 5th graders will also be tested on science. All of these tests will be assessing the state grade level standards that have been taught throughout the school year.

March 1st

-5th Grade Recorder Concert-EVVMS

March 2nd

-Kindergarten Round Up
-No school for kindergarteners

March 5th-10th

-Staff Appreciation Week

March 16th

-Teacher In-service-No School

March 19th-23rd

-Spring Break-No School

March 28th

Battle of the Books-Fire Ridge
Report Cards Go Home

April 2nd

-Battle of the Books-District
(Fire Ridge)

April 5th

-5th Grade Symphony Field Trip

April 9th

-PTO 7:00

April 20th

-Teacher In-service-No School

Important Testing Dates

Each spring, all District students in the third, fourth, and fifth grades complete the Nebraska Student Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) assessments and the MAP tests. Results from the NSCAS and MAP assessments are used to identify strengths and areas of need across the District, as well as for each individual student. It is important that your student(s) be present during these assessments in order to get an accurate snapshot of their level of mastery in relation to state standards. These results will also allow our teaching staff to guide classroom instruction based on areas of need.

Listed below are the scheduled dates for the NSCAS and MAP assessments at Fire Ridge. Please be mindful of these dates when scheduling appointments, vacations, etc.

Assessment	Third	Fourth	Fifth
NSCAS-Reading/ELA	April 17 & 18	April 17 & 18	April 17 & 18
NSCAS-Math	April 10 & 11	April 24 & 25	April 24 & 25
NSCAS-Science	NA	NA	April 19 & 26
MAP Testing	April 30-May 4	April 30-May 4	April 30-May 4

Second Grade will also be taking the MAP test April 30th-May 4th.

PTO NEWS

- The next PTO meeting is Monday, April 9th at 7 PM in the media center.
- Thank you to all the parents who donated items to the Parent Teacher Conference dinner! It was delicious and we appreciate your generosity!
- Mark your calendars for March 6th for Chipotle Night 5-9 at the Legacy location!

Tech Tips for Building Newsletters – March 2018

'Cookies' and Targeted Advertising

The ads you see when you search the web aren't by chance—your browser is using your cookies, or bits of data sent from the websites you visit, to collect and store data about you. Websites also track your search history, purchase history and profile information you provide to send targeted advertising as you browse the web. It is important to periodically clear your cookies, cache and search history from your browser to ensure your device is running as fast and secure as possible.

Time Savers

For students, procrastination generally takes on the form of "multitasking", which often leads to distractions and wasted time. In order to curb this occurrence prior to it becoming a bad habit that will move with them into adulthood, take a look at a few options for apps and plug-ins that help reduce the instances of this current trend.

RescueTime: this plug-in tracks how much time is being spent on specific sites and generates reports showing the results. By reviewing these reports, you and your child can see exactly where the majority of their time is being wasted.

Work Mode: *Work Mode* blocks access to all social media feeds during any time frame that the plug-in is turned on. What better way to ensure your child is focused solely on the task at hand than by making the distractions they typically default to inaccessible during the time they need to be focusing on other important things?

For more information on these and other time saving apps and plug-ins, please visit www.commonsensemedia.org.

EPS Summer Enrichment Program

Elkhorn Public Schools is excited to launch a new Summer Enrichment Program for incoming students in grades 1-8 (for the 2018-2019 school year). Inspiring courses are designed and taught by EPS certified staff members to expand student experiences and enrich summer learning. Courses will run in two (2), one-week long sessions.

REGISTRATION:

Opens Friday, March 9th at 6:00 p.m. at summerenrichment.elkhornweb.org