

Extraordinary Elkhorn



2010-11

Annual **REPORT**

PROUD TO TEACH TODAY
FOR TOMORROW!



ELKHORN
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Extraordinary COMMUNITY

OUR DISTRICT

Elkhorn Public Schools (EPS) is a rapidly growing suburban school district located on the west edge of the Omaha Metro area. Our enrollment continues to climb by more than six percent each year, and we continue to add facilities to accommodate our growing student population. The District offers the cultural, educational and retail advantage of the city, while still maintaining the qualities of a smaller community. We pride ourselves on the achievement of our students and the dedication of our staff.

EPS currently maintains 12 school buildings as well as an Early Education Center. In 2010, the District opened its second high school, marking the first time a Nebraska public school district maintained two Class B high schools. The decision to open a second high school aligned with the District's belief in smaller schools and smaller class sizes.

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 during the 2010-11 school year.



OUR COMMUNITY

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

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

The Elkhorn community has passed seven major bond issues since 1992 and has supported the opening of seven new schools since 2000. Support from our community has been essential to accommodating the rapidly growing student population while maintaining our 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. ”

Extraordinary STUDENTS

OUR STUDENTS

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 maintain high standards for academics, activities and community involvement.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Elkhorn High School	52.5%	Manchester Elementary	98.8%
Elkhorn South High School	72.0%	Skyline Elementary	99.5%
Elkhorn Middle School	80.0%	Spring Ridge Elementary	99.0%
Elkhorn Ridge Middle School	87.9%	West Dodge Station Elementary	99.0%
Fire Ridge Elementary	99.0%	Westridge Elementary	96.0%
Hillrise Elementary	98.0%	<i>*Average of Fall and Spring attendance.</i>	

2010-11 K-12 Enrollment	
K	531
1	494
2	507
3	465
4	462
5	426
6	424
7	438
8	404
9	358
10	373
11	353
12	322
Total	5,557

	ELKHORN	STATE
Poverty Percentage	9.08%	42.58%
English Language Learners Percentage	1.08%	6.72%
Special Education Percentage	12.70%	15.17%
School Mobility/Migrant Rate	5.42%	11.52%
Attendance Rate	96.12%	94.80%

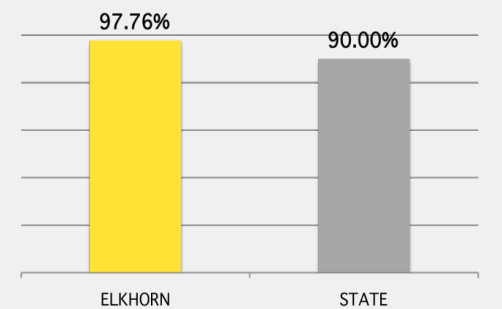
STUDENT to TEACHER RATIO

Elementary	20.6
Middle School	21.9
High School	23.5
District Average	22.3

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

White	92.1%
Asian	2.68%
Native American	0.23%
Black	1.77%
Hispanic	3.22%

Graduation Rates



DID YOU KNOW?

From 2008 to 2011, EPS added 1,072 new students.

Extraordinary EXPECTATIONS

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

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

- 8 Credits of English
- 6 Credits of Social Science (*must include American History and American Government*)
- 6 Credits of Mathematics (*Must include Algebra 1*)
- 5 Credits of Science (*Must include Biology*)
- 2 Credits of Physical Education
- 1 Credit of Technology (*Career Information Technology Course*)
- 14 Credits of Electives

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 must complete six hours of science credits.*

EPS 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, Foreign Language, Career/Technical Education, Physical Education/Health and Visual Performing Arts.

STUDENTS GRADUATING WITH 50 OR MORE CREDITS

2008	38.2%
2009	39.4%
2010	40.8%
2011	49.0%

2011 GRADUATES

...Attending a Two or Four-year College/University
92.7%

...Receiving Scholarships

138 Students

Approximate Value of 2011 Scholarships

6.5 Million

INSTRUCTIONAL TIME REPORT

High School

Total Instructional Hours Required	1,080 Hours
Total Instructional Hours Scheduled	1,165.25 Hours
Total Instructional Hours Attended	1,124.10 Hours

44.1 hours or 6.7 days over the minimum requirement

Middle School

Total Instructional Hours Required	1,080 Hours
Total Instructional Hours Scheduled	1,147.55 Hours
Total Instructional Hours Attended	1,124.10 Hours

33.39 hours or 5.15 days over the minimum requirement

Elementary School

Total Instructional Hours Required	1,032 Hours
Total Instructional Hours Scheduled	1,111.25 Hours
Total Instructional Hours Attended	1,077.67 Hours

45.67 hours or 7.19 days over the minimum requirement



ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Elkhorn High Schools offer rigorous, college-level Advanced Placement courses in English Literature and Composition, English Language and Composition, Calculus (AB and BC), Chemistry, Biology, U.S. History, and European History. Students may earn college credit in any of these classes upon successful completion of a National Advanced Placement Exam in May.

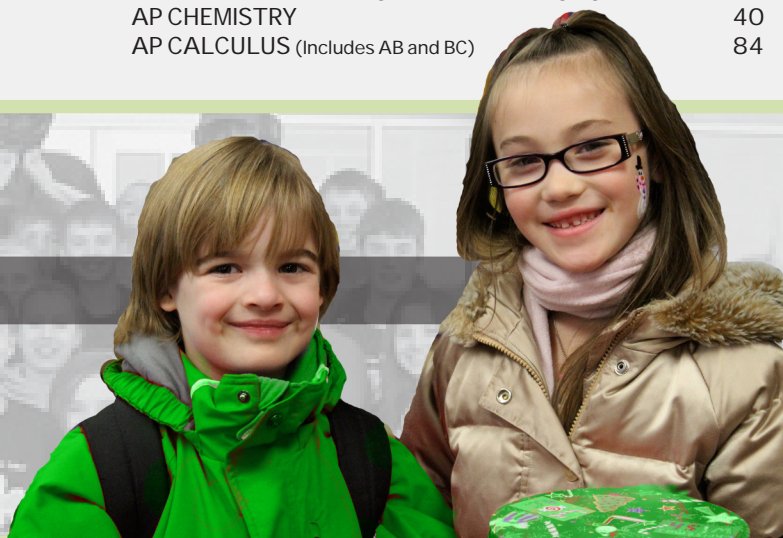
TOTAL ENROLLMENT IN AP COURSES

(EHS and ESHS combined totals 2010-11)

AP HISTORY (Includes U.S. and European History)	146
AP BIOLOGY	25
AP ENGLISH (Includes Eng. Literature and Language Classes)	211
AP CHEMISTRY	40
AP CALCULUS (Includes AB and BC)	84

DID YOU KNOW?

Since the 2009-10 School year, District high school curriculum has featured a "Healthcare Careers" class for students interested in pursuing a degree in the medical field.



Extraordinary **ACADEMICS**

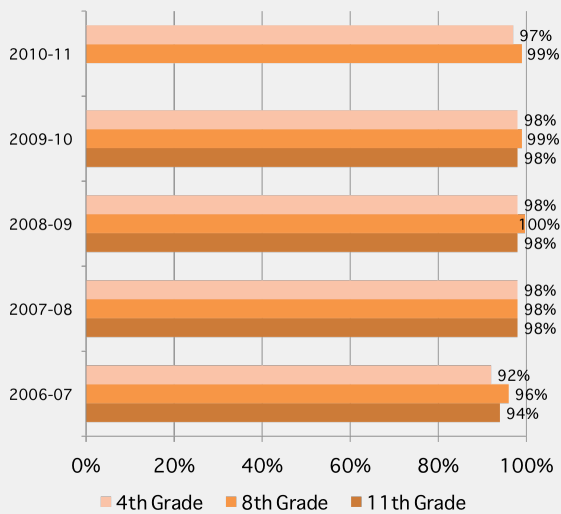
NeSA ASSESSMENTS

Each spring, students in grades three through eight as well as eleventh grade take the Nebraska State Accountability assessments (NeSA) in writing, reading and most recently added in 2010, math. 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 the *cut scores*, which determine how a student must score in order to fall in each of the three categories.

NeSA-Writing

Since its induction in 2006, Elkhorn students have shown very high levels of mastery on the NeSA-W, with more than 98 percent of students mastering state standards.

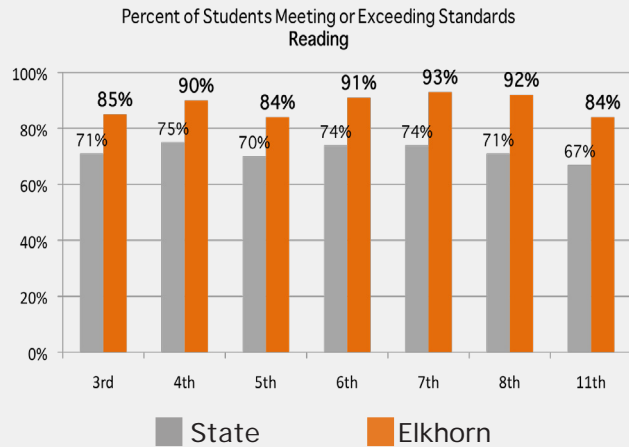


In 2010, eleventh-graders piloted an online version of the NeSA-W assessment. Because the test was taken as a pilot, official results are not available.

NeSA-Reading

2010-11 marked the second year of the State Reading Assessment, NeSA-R. Elkhorn students again showed high levels of mastery with 84 to 93 percent of students meeting or exceeding the standards. The most notable gains from last year's scores were at the middle school

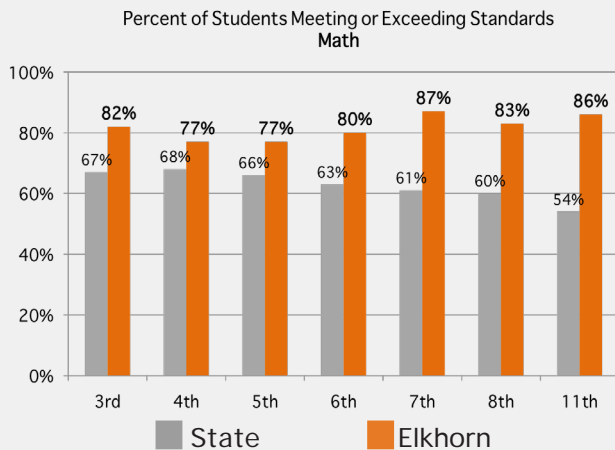
level. "Our middle school teachers and students have worked hard to improve last year's reading achievement, and these results are a testament to that," said Dr. Cindy Gray, Associate Superintendent.



NeSA-Math

2010 marked the first year of the NeSA-Math assessments. Elkhorn students showed high levels of mastery especially at the higher grade levels. The District was pleased to see gains made as students progress through grade levels.

The state set high cut scores for the first NeSA-M assessment, with 46 percent of Nebraska eleventh-graders not meeting standards.



DID YOU KNOW?

Data from the NeSA-M assessments show Elkhorn High School and Elkhorn South High School leading the 22 Learning Community High Schools in level of mastery. Eighty-six percent of Elkhorn eleventh-graders mastered the test, compared to 54 percent across the state.



Extraordinary STAFF

OUR STAFF

Elkhorn Public Schools takes pride in the quality and dedication of its staff. In 2010-11 the District employed more than 700 people (452 certified).

Elkhorn teachers value continued education, more than 62 percent of Elkhorn Teachers hold Masters Degrees and four have earned doctorates.

2010-11 CERTIFIED STAFF

Classroom teachers	318
Special Education Teachers/Specialists	66
Guidance Counselors	15
Media Specialists	11
Gifted Education Teachers	7
Reading Specialists	6
Specialists, Coordinators, Athletic Directors	9
Administrators	20

AVERAGE TEACHER SALARY

Elkhorn	\$48,102
State	\$47,368

AVERAGE YEARS OF TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Elkhorn	13.19 Years
State	15.24 Years

TEACHING STAFF WITH MASTERS DEGREES

Elkhorn	62.33%
State	45.15%



HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS ENDORSED

State accreditation requires that at least 80 percent of instructional units provided at the secondary level be assigned to teachers who hold certificates displaying appropriate endorsements. "Endorsements" mean the teacher has a major in the subject area they teach.

Elkhorn	97.38%
State	95.11%



OUR LEADERSHIP

EPS employs seven central office administrators, 12 principals and three assistant principals (2011-12). 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

Stephen R. Baker

Associate Superintendent

Dr. Cindy Gray

Assistant Superintendent

Bary Habrock

Executive Director of Business Services

Pam Roth

Director of Student Services

Lee Frye

Director of Human Resources

Nancy Whitney

Director of Business Support Services

Ryan Lindquist

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2010-11 an additional seven high school teachers attended an Advanced Placement Institute.



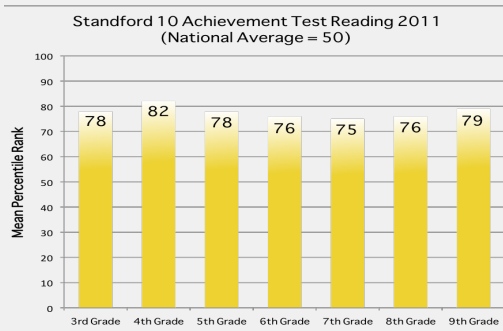
Extraordinary RESULTS

STANFORD TEN

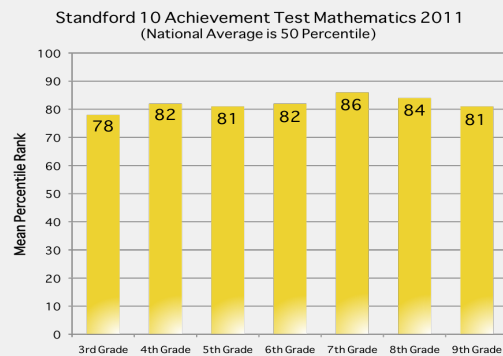
Elkhorn Students in grades three through nine took the Stanford Ten (SAT 10) Achievement test in April. The comprehensive standardized achievement test allows parents and teachers to measure student progress against a nationally representative sample of students at the same grade level.

Stanford Ten information is shared with parents and also used by teachers to identify curriculum strengths and weaknesses. Results in the following graphs indicate the percent of students in the national norm group who scored lower than Elkhorn students. For example, a percentile rank of 78 indicates that Elkhorn students, as a group, scored higher than 78 percent of their peers in the national sample. Elkhorn students consistently score well above the 50th percentile national average.

Reading

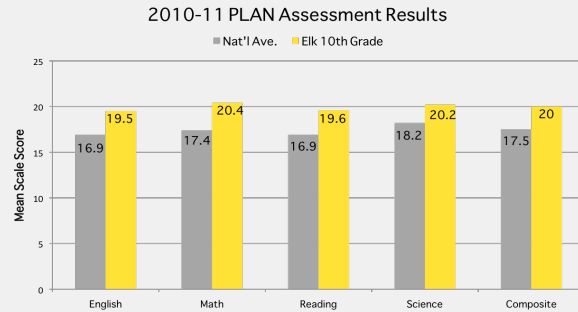


Math



PLAN TEST

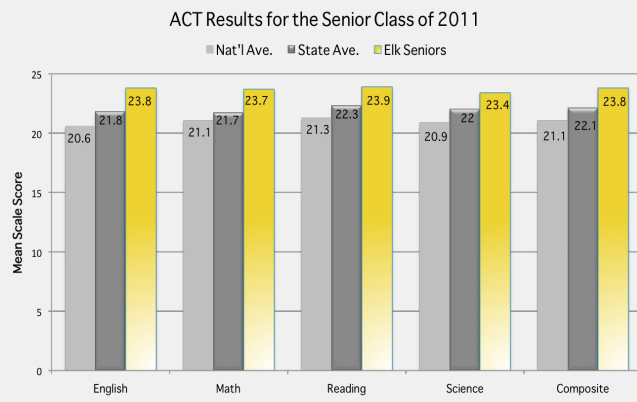
The PLAN test is given annually to all Elkhorn tenth grade students. This test is developed by the American College Testing Service (ACT) and is used to gather a variety of information, including: educational plans, career interests, predicted ACT scores and academic need areas. Elkhorn students as a group have consistently performed above national averages on this assessment.



ACT

The ACT measures the skills and higher order thinking necessary to be successful in college. In 2011, the overall average composite score for Elkhorn seniors (EHS only in 2010-11) was 23.8. As a group, Elkhorn students consistently score above both the State and National averages.

More than 87 percent of Elkhorn seniors took the ACT in 2010-11.



DID YOU KNOW?

In 2010-11 EPS assessment results were at their highest levels in 10 years for the Stanford Ten, PLAN and ACT.

Extraordinary OPPORTUNITIES

HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

With the addition of Elkhorn South High School, the District saw increased participation in extracurricular activities. During the 2010-11 school year, 79.4 percent of high school students participated in extracurricular activities.

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, S.A.D.D., Pep Club, Student Athletic Training, Intramurals, Football, Cross Country, Volleyball, Softball, Golf, Tennis, Wrestling, Track, Soccer, Swimming and Baseball.



79.4% of District high school students were involved in activities in 2010-11.



MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

All 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, Student Council, Yearbook, Drama Club, academic competitions (Math Counts, History Day, Future Cities Competition, Destination Imagination) Running Club, Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Wrestling and Track.



INTRODUCING THE ESHS STORM

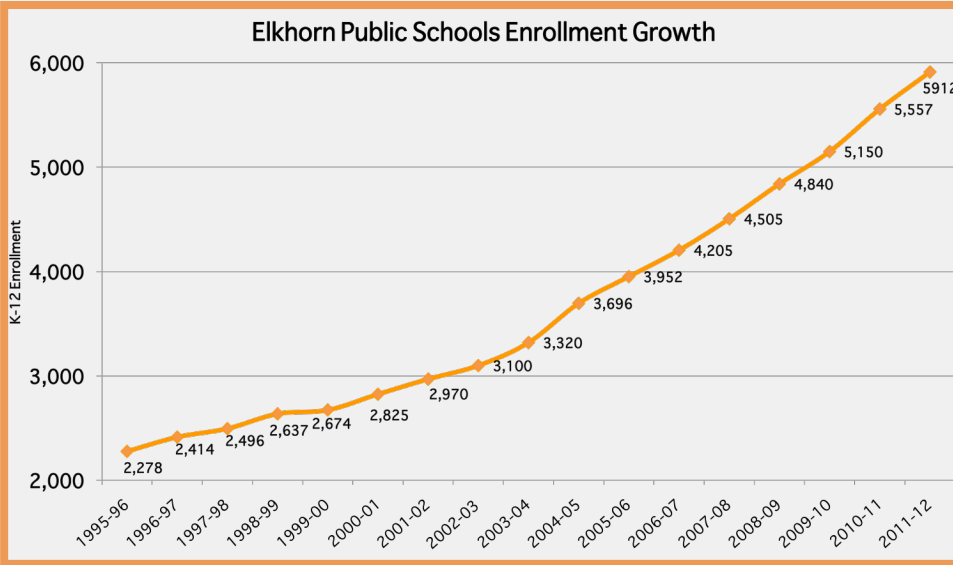
In 2010, Elkhorn High School moved into the NSAA's Class B from Class A, with the addition of Elkhorn South High School, "The Storm." This marked the first time in the state of Nebraska a public school district operated two Class B Schools. Many assumed the split would halve the size of the school's sports teams and other extracurricular groups—but something remarkable happened. While the number of students attending Elkhorn High School went down significantly, the number of students participating in extracurricular activities remained steady. Having two, smaller, Class B schools allowed twice as many students to be varsity athletes, sing with the varsity show choir or be a lead in the school play. Students who had previously not had the opportunity to explore their talents found themselves leading sports teams and excelling in the fine arts.

In October 2010, the Elkhorn High School Antlers prepared to face the Elkhorn South Storm for the first time on the football field. Students from both schools came together and decided they would hold a "grey out." Instead of dividing their shared football stadium in groups of red and blue, they sold grey t-shirts that read "One Game, One Community, One Cause." Students raised more than \$7,000, which was donated to a foundation devoted to fighting brain cancer. An event that could have easily divided a community brought them together in a sea of grey.

DID YOU KNOW?

Elkhorn is the only school district in the history of the State of Nebraska to operate two Class B high schools.

Extraordinary **GROWTH**



DISTRICT BOUNDARIES (as of Fall 2011)

High School

North of Dodge Street attend Elkhorn High School.

South of Dodge Street attend Elkhorn South High School.

Middle School

North of Dodge Street attend Elkhorn Middle School.

South of Dodge Street and East of 192nd Street attend Elkhorn Ridge Middle School.

South of Dodge Street and West of 192nd Street attend Elkhorn Valley View Middle School.

DISTRICT GROWTH

Over the past 10 years EPS has more than doubled in size, at a rate of 1,000 new students each year. The District continues to grow at a rate of more than six percent each year and projections show continued growth for the foreseeable future.

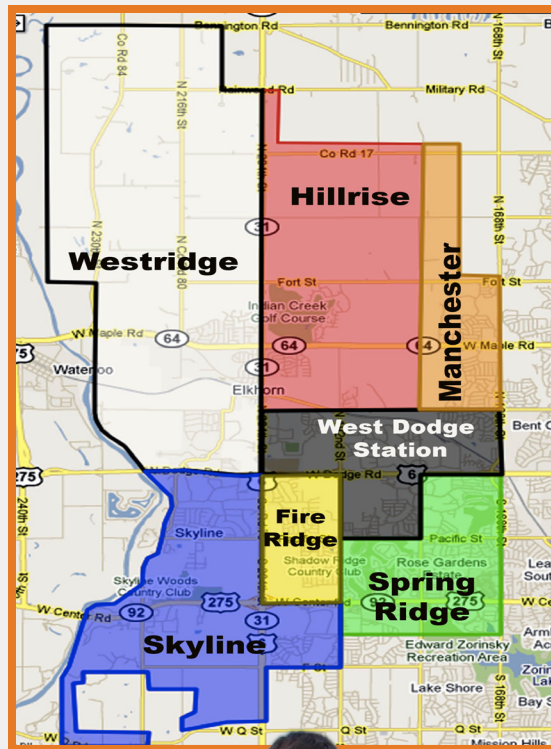
Elkhorn Public Schools welcomed more than 420 additional students to the District for the 2010-2011 school year, an increase of 8.15 percent from 2009-10. This marked the 24th consecutive year for growth in the District.

“When a school district grows in one year by 400 students, it’s the equivalent to adding another elementary school,” said Superintendent Steve Baker. The 5,557 K-12 students in 2010-11 exceeded predictions by more than 100 students.

In 2010, the District opened West Dodge Elementary School to address crowding at Manchester and Fire Ridge Elementary Schools. West Dodge Station opened with more than 350 students, marking the largest first year elementary school in the District.

West Dodge Station will provide only temporary relief to Manchester and Fire Ridge as those areas continue to develop.

Elementary School



DID YOU KNOW?

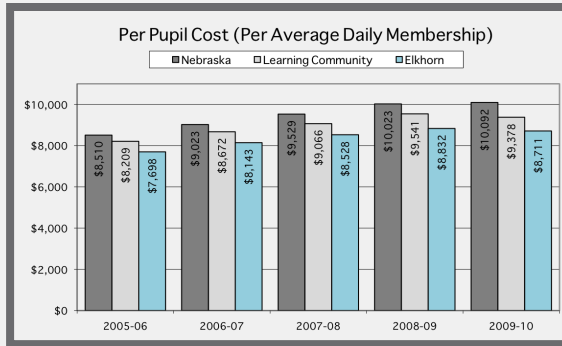
The Fire Ridge attendance area has some of the most active housing developments in Douglas County. More than 520 students from the two square-mile area attend Fire Ridge Elementary.



Extraordinary STEWARDSHIP

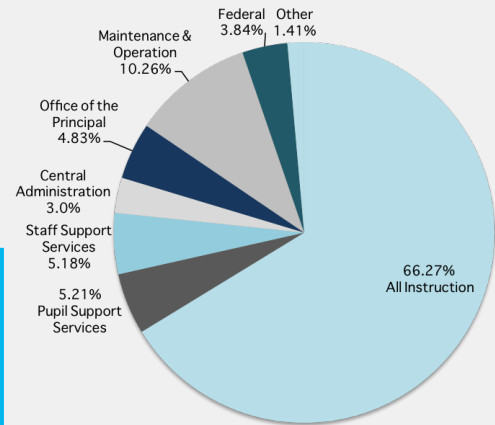
PER PUPIL SPENDING

EPS maintains one of the lowest per pupil costs in both the Learning Community of Douglas and Sarpy Counties as well as the State.



EXPENDITURES

EPS maintains a strong focus on student learning. More than 66 percent of the total budget goes directly into the instructional budget, compared to a state average of 57.68 percent.

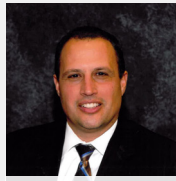


TAX LEVY

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.

Property Tax Levy	Learning Community Common General Fund	Elkhorn General Fund	Learning Community Common Building Fund	Elkhorn Building Fund	Bond Fund	Total
2006-07		1.0176		0.0323	0.2416	1.2916
2007-08		1.0234		0.0399	0.2432	1.3051
2008-09		1.0542		0.0000	0.2507	1.3049
2009-10	0.9500	0.0900	0.0100	0.0000	0.2550	1.3050
2010-11	0.9500	0.0900	0.0000	0.0000	0.2750	1.3150

Elkhorn Board of Education



John Marasco

President



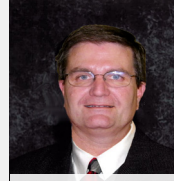
Calvin Bull

Secretary

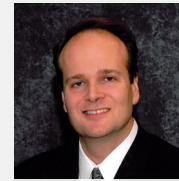


Ann Long

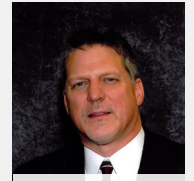
Treasurer



Chuck Burney



Aaron Clark



Ron Riggle

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, Stephen Baker at 20650 Glenn Street, Elkhorn, NE 68022.



DID YOU KNOW?

EPS was commended by the Advanced Accreditation Association for being *good stewards of taxpayer dollars.*

Extraordinary **SCHOOLS**



Elkhorn High School

Opened 1980
Grades 9-12
Dan Radicia, Principal
1401 Veterans Drive
(402) 289-4239



Elkhorn South High School

Opened 2010
Grades 9-12
Mark Kalvoda, Principal
20303 Blue Sage Parkway
(402) 289-0616



Elkhorn Middle School

Opened 1968
Grades 6-8
Mike Tomjack, Principal
3200 N. 207th Street
(402) 289-2428



Elkhorn Ridge Middle School

Opened 2003
Grades 6-8
Kevin Riggert, Principal
17880 Marcy Street
(402) 334-9302



Elkhorn Valley View Middle School

Opened 2011
Grades 6-8
Chad Soupir, Principal
1313 S. 208th Street
(402) 289-0362



Fire Ridge Elementary

Opened 2005
Grades K-5
Anne Doerr, Principal
19660 Farnam Street
(402) 289-0735



Hillrise Elementary

Opened 1979
Grades K-5
Deb Gerandt, Principal
20110 Hopper Street
(402) 289-2602



Manchester Elementary

Opened 2006
Grades K-5
Amy Christ, Principal
2750 N. HWS Cleveland Boulevard
(402) 289-2590



Skyline Elementary

Opened 1975
Grades K-5
Jan Peterson, Principal
400 S. 210th Street
(402) 289-3433



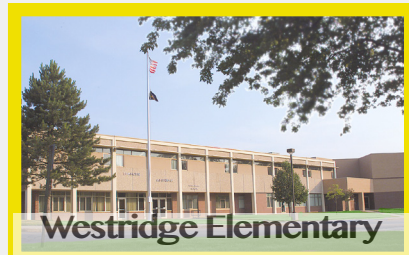
Spring Ridge Elementary

Opened 2000
Grades K-5
Don Pechous, Principal
17830 Shadow Ridge Drive
(402) 637-0204



West Dodge Station Elementary

Opened 2010
Grades K-5
Pam Wahl, Principal
18480 California Street
(402) 289-2773



Westridge Elementary

Opened 1961
Grades K-5
Troy Sidders, Principal
3100 N. 206th Street
(402) 289-2559



Student Services



Administration Building

Student Services is housed out of the former Elkhorn City Hall building. The building was acquired by EPS in 2010.

The Administration Building is the former K-12 Elkhorn School, established in 1931

SCHOOL CALENDAR

2011-12

First Student Day	Aug. 17
Winter Break	Dec. 22-Jan. 6
Spring Break	April 4-6
Graduation	May 20
Last Student Day	May 23

2012-13

First Student Day	Aug. 14
Winter Break	Dec. 24-Jan. 4
Spring Break	March 11-15
Graduation	May 19
Last Student Day	May 23

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

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.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional State Report Card information can be found at the Nebraska Department of Education website www.education.ne.gov.

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 330-0960 or 1-800-922-7379.

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.



ELKHORN
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Elkhorn Public Schools publishes the Annual Report for the sole purpose of informing District residents of the programs, procedures, and progress of the school District. Questions or comments should be addressed to: Superintendent Steve Baker, Glenn Street, Elkhorn, NE 68022, (402) 289-2579

EXTRAORDINARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2010-11

37 Elkhorn High School students were recognized as AP Scholars.

EPS was again recognized as an outstanding supporter of the American Heart Association's Jump Rope for the Heart. Students raised more than **\$68,900** for the cause.

ERMS 7th Grader, **Ross Grieb**, was honored as a Duke Tipp Bevan Scholar after scoring a perfect 36 on the ACT Reading Test. Twenty seven other Elkhorn middle school students were also honored as Duke Tipp Scholars.

313 ESHS students made the first quarter Honor Roll with GPAs of 3.25 or better.

ERMS and EMS placed **1st and 3rd** respectively in the 2011 State Future Cities Competition.

Skyline fourth-grader, **Ted Gernhart**, was a semifinalist in the 2011 Nebraska Geographic Bee. Ted was one of only 102 students in the state (out of 11,000 who

participated) selected to compete in the State Bee.

The **ESHS girls Soccer Team** received the Outstanding Sportsmanship award at the State Tournament.

87 graduating seniors received Presidential Academic Recognition.

EHS Senior Brian Strubbe was one of only nine students in the State to be named to the *Omaha World-Herald's* All-state Academic Team.

Westridge Elementary was recognized as the school with the greatest participation in the Omaha Public Library's Summer Reading Program.

EHS student **Leanna Willer** was named as a 2011 HOBY (Hugh O'Brien Foundation) Award Winner.

Tessa Delaney, Ryan Smelser and Kaleb Anderson were honored as 2011 National Merit Finalists.

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.

NEBRASKA SEAT BELT 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.**

THE 2010-11 ANNUAL REPORT

In past years the EPS Annual Report was distributed in July, due to the delayed release of many assessment results the Annual Report will now be distributed in October in lieu of the Fall Highlights. The Fall Annual Report has allowed the District to combine three annual publications. This change reduces costs associated with printing and distribution.

