



ANNUAL REPORT

2019
2020



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.

To our community,

A strong partnership with our community is one of the hallmarks of the Elkhorn Public Schools. To this end, the district publishes an Annual Report to the community to provide an overview of finances, assessment results, progress updates, and more. Most importantly, the Annual Report gives us an opportunity to showcase the achievements of our students.

During the 2019-2020 school year, the District experienced its 33rd consecutive year of growth with an enrollment of 9,928 students. In 2020-2021, Elkhorn Public Schools serves over 10,700 students, an enrollment increase of 5% which maintains a five-year average increase around 7% annually and marks the 34th consecutive year of growth for the district.

Historically, Elkhorn students' test scores place them among the top statewide and nationally. We are proud of our students and know that no ranking or test score can provide a complete picture of the accomplishments that are achieved each and every day in our classrooms. As you know, the pandemic has disrupted our lives in many ways. Finishing the 2019-2020 school year with our students learning from home did not allow us to gather the data from many measurements, including assessment results normally reported annually to our community in this report.

Since the start of the pandemic, the adaptability of our educational system has been tested and all involved have been asked to teach and learn in new ways. The interdependence between school and home has been magnified like never before. Our teachers have been creative and hard working, our students resilient and engaged, and our parents exceptionally supportive and involved. Together, everyone has been truly amazing in helping navigate remote learning, in-person learning, and the many protocols that make school a safe place during a pandemic. We are, however, looking forward to a return to normal and all students returning in 2021-2022.

Regardless of the disruption the pandemic has caused, our continued growth, outstanding achievement, and community partnership make our Elkhorn school-community a great place to live, learn, and grow. Only together can we ensure that every student thrives in school and is prepared to write their future story beyond our system. On behalf of the Elkhorn Board of Education, the staff, and most importantly, the students, we thank you for your continued support of our schools.

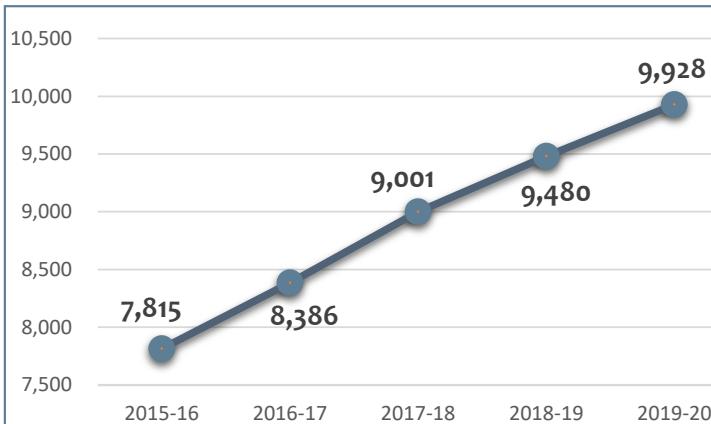


Bary Habrock, Superintendent



—Student and Staff Demographics—

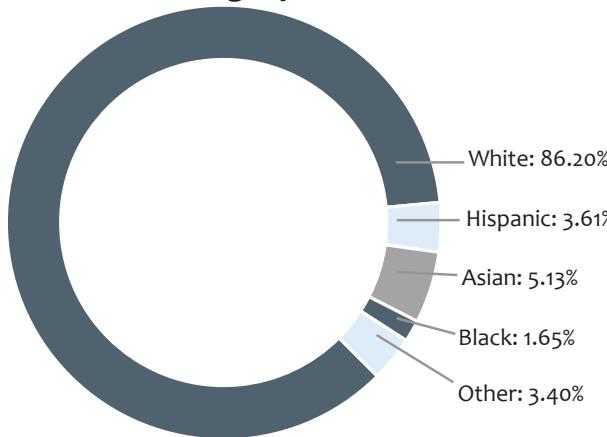
Student enrollment within Elkhorn Public Schools continued to climb as the District experienced its 33rd consecutive year of enrollment growth during the 2019-2020 school year. With a K-12 enrollment of 9,928, EPS maintained its status as the 5th largest school district in Nebraska.



Students by Grade Level

Kindergarten	791	6 th Grade	824
1 st Grade	835	7 th Grade.....	745
2 nd Grade	787	8 th Grade	753
3 rd Grade.....	844	9 th Grade	752
4 th Grade	753	10 th Grade.....	745
5 th Grade.....	791	11 th Grade.....	676
		12 th Grade	632

Student Demographics



Poverty.....	8.98%
English Learner.....	1.14%
Special Education	12.06%
High Ability	13.95%

In 2019-2020, the district employed 1,580 people, including over 780 certified staff.

EPS Certified Staff Group

Classroom Teachers	549
Special Education Teachers/Specialists	127
Administrators.....	31
Guidance Counselors.....	22
Media Specialists.....	17
Specialists and Coordinators	12
Gifted Education Teachers.....	11
Reading Specialists.....	11
Title I Interventionists	4

EPS teachers are required to be highly qualified in their content areas and must demonstrate that they have sufficient knowledge in their subject. Nebraska teachers meet this requirement by holding the appropriate endorsement for the courses taught or successfully completing a state evaluation.

Certified Staff with Master's Degrees

Elkhorn Public Schools	71.94%
State of Nebraska.....	56.06%

Average Years of Experience

Elkhorn Public Schools	13.96 years
State of Nebraska.....	12.74 years

Average Teacher Salary

Elkhorn Public Schools	\$56,637
State of Nebraska.....	\$55,479



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

From March 2-4, 2020, EPS hosted eighteen distinguished leaders from across Nebraska who conducted an external accreditation review of the District. This visit was part of a system-wide accreditation process with external leaders visiting each building in the district. The process included a review of strategic documents and a variety of interviews with students, parents, community members, staff members, and administrators.

Commendations included:

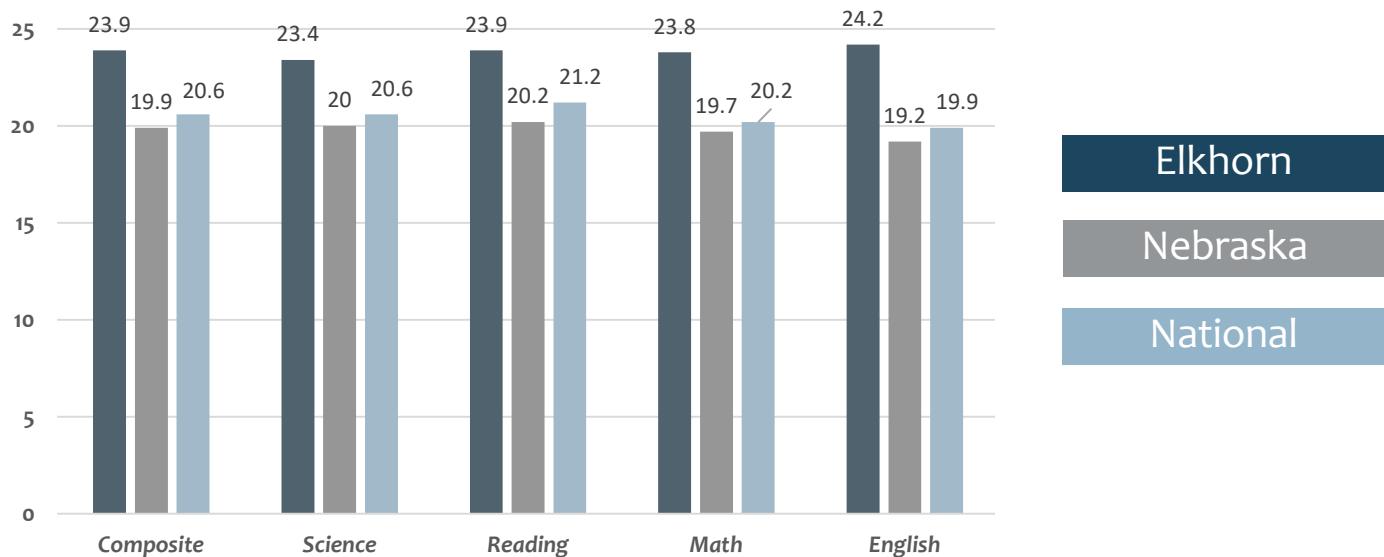
- Embedded culture of high expectations
- Teacher leadership and collaborative improvement
- Data-informed instruction and continuous improvement
- Positive culture of staff commitment, student learning, and parental engagement, emphasizing an appreciation for the potential of every student.

In the spirit of a continuous improvement process, all districts receive both commendations and recommendations. EPS was pleased that recommendations strongly aligned with self-identified areas for next steps. The external team affirmed the continuation and refinement of work that has already begun for the district. Recommendation areas included continued attention to implementation of Elkhorn's Instructional Model, continued work in processes for intervention and enrichment for students, and continued refinement of purpose and protocols for collaborative teacher learning teams.



Graduate ACT

EPS graduates consistently score above both state and national averages on the ACT. For 2020 EPS graduates, the average composite score was 23.9. Results featured illustrate how 2020 EPS graduates rank in comparison to state and national averages.



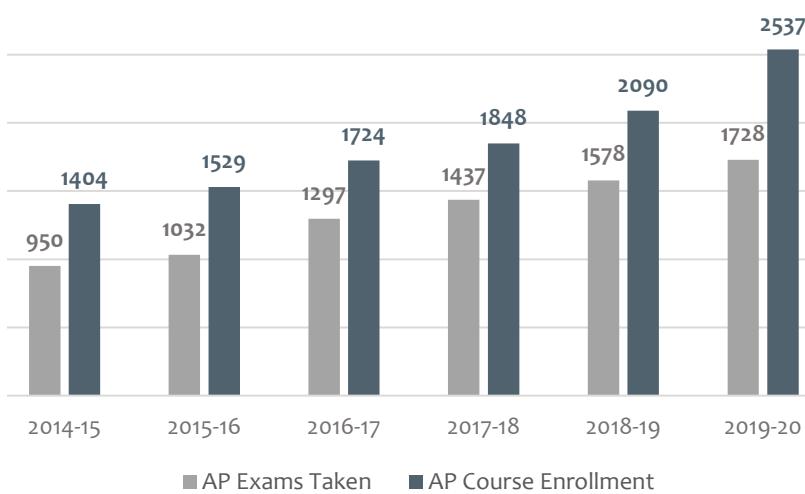
Advanced Placement

EPS offers numerous, rigorous, college-level Advanced Placement (AP) courses where students may earn college credit upon successful completion of a National AP Exam.

EPS AP enrollment and the number of AP exams taken for college credit has steadily increased in the last five years. This shift is credited to the continued focus on AP course offerings and the culture of rigor at all EPS high schools.

2019-2020 AP Enrollment by Subject

AP History*	712
AP English*	596
AP Statistics	297
AP Physics	207
AP Psychology	200
AP Calculus*	143
AP Biology	99
AP Government	91
AP Chemistry	73
AP Spanish	68
AP Computer Science	35
AP French	9
AP Japanese	7



*Multiple course offerings available within listed subject area.

■ AP Exams Taken ■ AP Course Enrollment

Additionally, in 2019-2020, EPS was again honored by the College Board with placement on the AP Honor Roll for the 8th consecutive year. This recognition indicates that EPS is successfully engaging academically prepared students likely to benefit from rigorous AP coursework.

Graduation Report

The EPS Class of 2020 had a different graduation experience than previous classes as their ceremony was held outdoors for the first time in recent history due to the need for pandemic-related safety precautions. EPS was proud to be the first metro-area district to host an outdoor graduation ceremony celebrating over 600 seniors as they closed their high school careers and moved forward on the path to their futures.

District-wide Graduation Rate 95%
Pursuing Post-secondary Education 86%

Scholarships Earned \$26M
Composite ACT Score 23.9



Courtesy Photos:
Dwyer Photography



District Construction Update

As part of the bond passed in 2018, funds were allocated for the construction of three new schools, including Elkhorn North High School, Elkhorn North Ridge Middle School, and Woodbrook Elementary. All three schools serve students in the northwest quadrant of the district.

In April 2018, immediately following the passing of the bond, construction began on Elkhorn North High School, with an expected opening date of August 2020. Though the pandemic caused delays, Elkhorn North, the third EPS high school, successfully opened its doors to over 600 9th-11th grade students for the first time on August 18, 2020. Woodbrook Elementary, the twelfth EPS elementary school, also welcomed students in August 2020, following the successful, on-time completion of the facility which began in May 2019. Woodbrook Elementary serves over 250 K-5th grade students. While EPS has been unable to host an in-person ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony for either facility, events will be planned as soon as feasible to allow our community to view the newest completed EPS schools.



Art space at ENHS includes both a classroom and workshop.
Photo Credit: Jaiden Mencke, Grade 10

ENHS is the first EPS high school to include a welding lab and the course can be taken by any EPS high school student.

Outdoor classroom spaces are available for use between each classroom wing at Woodbrook.

The Woodbrook media center features large windows to provide plenty of natural light.

Construction Progress at Elkhorn North Ridge as of November 15, 2020

Construction of the fifth and newest EPS middle school, Elkhorn North Ridge, began in April 2019. The project continues to meet planned timelines, and EPS looks forward to welcoming students in August 2021.

Financial Report

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.

2019-2020	1.415	2017-2018:	1.3600
2018-2019	1.3900	2016-2017:	1.3500

Additional financial information as provided by the Nebraska Department of Education for the 2019-2020 was not immediately available. Please visit <https://nep.education.ne.gov/> in early 2021 for financial information.

Instructional Time Report

On March 12, 2020, following guidance from state officials in regards to COVID-19 safety precautions, EPS closed the doors of all district facilities and students began receiving instruction online as part of the EPS Temporary Distance Learning Plan (TDLP). TDLP teaching and learning was implemented for all EPS students from March 13 - May 15; therefore, instructional hours for the 19-20 year are reported by instructional method.

Elementary School

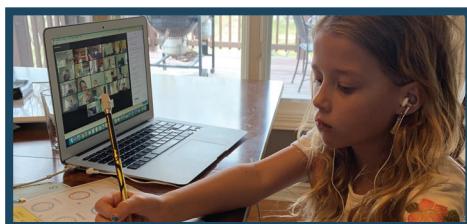
Total In-Person Learning ... 828.85 hrs.
Total Remote Learning..... 279.4 hrs.

Middle School

Total In-Person Learning ... 870.64 hrs.
Total Remote Learning..... 293.04 hrs.

High School

Total In-Person Learning ... 870.64 hrs.
Total Remote Learning..... 293.04 hrs.



District Leadership

Superintendent Dr. Bary Habrock
Associate Superintendent Dr. Cindy Gray
Chief Financial Officer Pam Roth

Exec. Dir. Business Support Services Ryan Lindquist
Exec. Dir. Personnel Dr. Don Pechous
Exec. Dir. Student Services Anne Doerr

Board of Education

The Elkhorn Board of Education meets monthly on the second Monday at the Administration Building, 20650 Glenn Street. As the elected governing body of the school district, the 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 residents of the district to write, call or appear before the board.

Chuck Burney

Aaron Clark

John Marasco

Amy Parks

Nancy Rogic-Greufe

Renee Vokt

Scot Ringenberg (Member Elect)

Jennifer Shatel (Member Elect)

Annual Notices

SPECIAL EDUCATION CHILD FIND: Any resident of the Elkhorn Public Schools 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 Student Services Offices at 402-289-2579.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: 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, eating disorders, violent/aggressive behaviors, drug/alcohol abuse or other concerns. The student assistance program can be accessed by calling 402-330-0960 or 800-922-7379.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION: It is the policy of Elkhorn Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, marital status, age, disability, genetic information, pregnancy, childbirth, or related condition, or any other category protected by law in its education programs, administration, policies, employment or other district programs. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination: Dr. Don Pechous, Exec. Director of Personnel, 20650 Glenn Street, Elkhorn, NE 68022, 402-289-2579.

NEBRASKA SEAT BELT SAFETY REMINDER: All children up to age eight must ride correctly secured in a federally-approved car seat or booster seat. 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.

TEACHER QUALIFICATION NOTICE: As part of federal legislation, all parents have the right to request information about their child's teacher's 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 Executive Director of Personnel, Dr. Don Pechous, 20650 Glenn Street, Elkhorn, NE 68022.



— 21-22 Kindergarten Information —

Registration for students entering kindergarten for the 2021-2022 school year will be open from January 25-29, 2021 at www.elkhornweb.org.

By completing the online registration, parents/guardians will be added to the contact list to receive an incoming-kindergarten student information email in March 2021, which will include details for the parent meeting and kindergarten round-up.

The parent meeting will be held virtually on Monday, April 5, at 7:00 PM. Kindergarten round-up is scheduled for Friday, April 9, with the format yet to be determined. Additional details will be provided in the March 2021 communication.