



## **From Superintendent Rob Busch**

### **Snow make-up days**

Getting our school make-up plan figured out for the 2018-19 school year has become a very challenging task. As soon as a plan seems to be finalized and ready to be announced, another snowstorm moves in and buries the plan. Mother Nature has shown Iowa school districts who really is in control of schedules and plans.

Iowa schools are required by the State to implement calendars reflecting either a minimum of 180 days or 1,080 hours of instruction. Due to the required length of day, the Edgewood-Colesburg Community School District opted for the 1,080 hours of instruction model. While our 2018-19 school year calendar was scheduled to have 1,112 hours, the missed instructional time up to this point has caused us to fall below the minimum required hours.

With approximately 500 students in the district and many unique family needs, there will be “no one size fits all” and there will be some conflicts in scheduling as we move forward for to meet the required 1080 of instruction. Our original plan was to make up an instructional day on February 18<sup>th</sup>, we all know how that went.

One of the biggest difficulties Ed-Co deals with is our current length of day. Some school districts have added on 10 to 15 minutes before school and the same to the end of the day. At Ed-Co the situation is very unique. Unofficially our day starts for almost all elementary students at 7:45 and ends at 3:45 (except those that walk or get a ride to and from the elementary). That is one of the longest days around. Now the bad news, officially our school day is from 8:30 until 3:15 - 6 hours and 20 minutes the shortest day I have found. Some of our students are getting on the bus at 6:50 AM.

Personally, I also just dislike just meeting the “state minimum”, but this year is a very different year. If you Google, “Iowa, Did you know?,” you will understand how important it is for students to “learn to learn” and prepare for the ever-changing future. It is difficult to learn and work on standards without school in session.

The current plan is as follows:

- March 14 – Change to **full instructional day** from an early dismissal.

- March 15 - Change to **full instructional day** from a non-instructional day.
- March 26 – Change to **2:30 early dismissal** from 1:30 early dismissal.
- March 28 - Change to **2:30 early dismissal** from 1:30 early dismissal.
- March 29 - Change to **1:30 early dismissal** from a non-instructional day.
- April 10 - Change to **full instructional day** from an early dismissal.
- May 1 - Change to **full instructional day** from an early dismissal.
- Add **full instructional days** on May 24, May 28, May 29, May 30, May 31, June 3, June 4, and June 5<sup>th</sup>.

The decisions that we have made to address the loss of instructional time will not meet all of the needs of our students, our staff, or our families. It is, however, my hope that we have made the best decision based on our current situation.

An important note: this plan is contingent on the cooperation of the weather! If there are additional full-day cancellations, late starts and/or early dismissals, this plan will be adjusted accordingly.

As always, I ask that you please become involved with the educational opportunities for our young people and assist us in making Edgewood-Colesburg the best school in the State of Iowa. I thank you for taking the time to read these articles as we proceed through a very exciting and snowy 2018-2019 school year. If you have ideas for improvement or areas of concern, please contact me by phone at 856-2415 or e-mail at [rbusch@edge-cole.k12.ia.us](mailto:rbusch@edge-cole.k12.ia.us).

Your Partner in Education,  
Rob Busch



### **Edgewood-Colesburg Preschool Registration Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>.**

Administrators and teachers will be available to discuss the program. Families will also have an opportunity to visit the preschool classrooms. Families with the last names beginning with A-M please come at 5:30 p.m. and families with the last names beginning with N-Z please come at 6:15p.m. Children must be 4 years old by September 15<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the elementary school (563-856-2415) with any questions that you need answered prior to the registration. Thank you!

### Honor Bands

Meistersinger Honor Band was held February 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> at Wartburg College. Congratulations to Morgan Vorwald, Luka Schulte, and Kearstin Hansel for being selected to participate.



Dorian Honor Band will be held March 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> at Luther College in Decorah. Congratulations to Kearstin Hansel,



Kalie Jaster, Carson Kirby, & Morgan Vorwald for being selected to participate.



### 2018-19 Yearbooks

There are few seniors that still need to get senior portraits into Mrs. Melissa Meyer. Please make sure your son/daughter has done this. Also, senior ads are due to Mrs. Meyer by March 14th. A letter was

sent home in regards to this. Please watch your email for a reminder as well.

Make sure to get your 2018-2019 "Gold from Every Angle" yearbook ordered today! Yearbooks are on sale for \$35. A limited amount of extras will be ordered. Orders can be given to the high school office or you can order your book online at [edcoyearbook.com](http://edcoyearbook.com). If you have any yearbook questions, please contact Melissa Meyer at [mmeyer@edge-cole.k12.ia.us](mailto:mmeyer@edge-cole.k12.ia.us) or by calling the school at 928-6412.

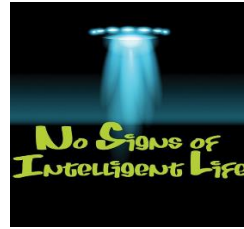
### Congratulations to Ethan Streicher



Ethan needed 27 points to get to 1,000 going into Monday, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> first round of District play vs. Clayton Ridge. He hit a 3 in the second half to score 28, getting him to this great

milestone. Ethan is only the 3<sup>rd</sup> male basketball player at Ed-Co to reach such an accomplishment. The other two were Jared Diers (Class of 2000) and Justin Putz (Class of 2005).

### Spring Play information



The spring play this year is "No Signs of Intelligent Life" by Bryan Starchman. Performances will be at 7:30pm in the Edgewood Gym on March 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Synopsis: If you think you've suffered too many awkward moments or been in the dark in conversations, just think how poor, innocent aliens feel! Hungry to fit in, (a little too hungry at times!) they do and say things that we humans aren't allowed to. Join in the laughter as these extraterrestrials meet all kinds of humans -- teenagers, rednecks, survivalists and the most enigmatic, tech support nerds.

Will these hapless aliens be able to figure out the daily rituals of dating, gossiping at the water cooler, camping, or even fixing our computers? The aliens have the knowledge to increase food production, create alternative energies, and achieve world peace. Are Earthlings the intelligent life they seek to bestow these gifts? More important, could Earthlings help the aliens get home again?

JOB CORPS PRESENTS

# YOUTH EMPOWERMENT INFORMATIONAL NIGHT

DATE: MARCH 19, 2019  
 TIME: 6:00 P.M.  
 LOCATION: NICC TOWN CLOCK CENTER  
 680 MAIN ST, ROOM 106B  
 DUBUQUE, IA

OPEN TO TEENS AND UP  
 FREE ADMISSION  
 SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED

COME LEARN ABOUT DIFFERENT CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES THAT OUR COMMUNITY HAS TO OFFER!

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS EVENT, PLEASE CONTACT BRI FARREY AT: 563-564-7029 OR FARREY.BRIANNE@JOBCORPS.ORG



**Congratulations** to Spencer Amling for his participation in the State wrestling tournament. He has a lot to be proud of and had a great season!

### Individual Speech Results

Conference contest	District contest		
Mon., Feb. 18 at Ed-Co	Monday, Feb. 25 at Starmont		
Category	Student	Conference	District
Original Oratory	Kirstyn Payne	II	II
Original Oratory	Hunter Phelps	II	II
Original Oratory	Wendy Hrcirova	II	I
Spontaneous Speaking	Lucas Rezende	II	I
Spontaneous Speaking	Carson Kirby	I	I
Expository Address	Emma Ehlers	I	I
Storytelling	Sophia Wilson	I	I
Storytelling	Noelle Kerns	I	I
Storytelling	Mia Kelzer	II	II
Literary Program	Morgan Vorwald	I	I
Prose	Maddy Streicher	I	I
Review	Morgan Vorwald	I	I
Acting	Kalie Jaster	I	I
Acting	Kirstyn Payne	I	II
Acting	Luka Schulte	II	I
Acting	Maddy Streicher	I	I
Prose	Ethan Staner	I	II
Solo Music Theater	Kalie Jaster	I	I
Poetry	Carson Kirby	I	I
Radio News	Ethan Streicher	NA	II
Radio News	Dayne Bergan	NA	I

Eleven of entries from District will be moving on to perform at state speech on Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at Waldorf College in Forest City.

#### JH Conference Results

Prose	Emma Saddoris	II
Prose	CC Dolan	I
Prose	Lynn Uhlenkamp	I
Prose	Megan Pierschbacher	I
Prose	Campbell Kirby	I
Prose	Ava Kerns	I

#### CONTINUOUS NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION Code No. 102.E2

It is the policy of the Edgewood-Colesburg Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact: Karla Trenkamp, District Equity Coordinator, 409 East Street, Colesburg, IA 52035, 563-856-2415, [ktrenkamp@edge-cole.k12.ia.us](mailto:ktrenkamp@edge-cole.k12.ia.us)



### FFA News

**District review night held  
Wednesday, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> at Ed-Co**

Hunter Thompson ran for district office.

Logan Heims, Zach Knipper, Emma Ehlers, Noelle Kerns, Mariah Hummel, and Haley Fitzpatrick's Iowa degrees were approved and they will receive them at State convention.

SAE proficiency results:

Noelle Kerns- gold advance diversified horticulture  
Natalie Palmershiem-gold advance equine placement  
Charlie Ehlers- gold alternate goat production  
Chezney Priem- silver diversified livestock  
Emma Ehlers- silver ag processing  
Hunter Thompson- bronze dairy production

**Sub-district FFA contest  
Tuesday, Feb. 19 at Starmont**

Parliamentary Procedure: Charlie Ehlers, Carson Knipper, Brenden Pape, Chezney Priem, and Natalie Wessel: 1<sup>st</sup> Advance to districts  
Conduct of Meetings: Lucas Rezende, Luka Schulte, Zander Carter, Nathaniel Gaul, Annie Hoffman, Avery Wessel, and Cameron Knipper: 2<sup>nd</sup> Gold advance to districts  
Ag Broadcasting: Mariah Hummel: 2<sup>nd</sup> Gold advance to districts  
Maci Hummel-Creed Speaking: 1<sup>st</sup> Gold advance to districts  
Madison Hummel and Wyatt Rowcliffe-Program of activities: 2<sup>nd</sup> advance to districts  
Noelle Kerns-Public speaking: 2<sup>nd</sup> Gold advance to districts  
Hunter Thompson-Ag Sales: Gold alternate to districts  
Logan Heims-Extemporaneous Speaking: Silver  
Emma Ehlers-Job Interview: Gold alternate to districts

### High School News

#### News from Mrs. Lange



A New Face in Mrs. Lange's Classroom

Mrs. Lange is hosting a student teacher from the University of Northern Iowa this semester. Rachelle Feldman is a

2014 graduate of Western Dubuque High School. She is currently a math education major at UNI, who will graduate this spring. Ms. Feldmann started her post-secondary journey at NICC in Peosta, and later transferred to UNI. She also started out looking to be an art teacher, but later changed her major to math.

She made the change because, "I started to feel art was more of a hobby than a real career choice for me. I decided to pursue math instead since it was also, along with art, a favorite topic of mine."

Ms. Feldmann is fitting in at Ed-Co. She really likes the small school atmosphere, and being able to know all of her students. "I had previous field experiences at much larger high schools and just didn't feel that they were a good fit for me," Feldmann explained. "I really like to know everyone as I'm walking through the halls." Rachele also has a connection to Ed-Co, as her mother, Bobbi (Parkinson) Feldmann, was a 1990 graduate of Ed-Co. Her grandmother, Mary Lou Parkinson, still resides in Edgewood at Lincolnwood Assisted Living.

Ms. Feldmann has, at this point, started teaching all of Mrs. Lange's classes which include 7<sup>th</sup> grade math, 8<sup>th</sup> grade math, and Algebra I. Feldmann says, "Being in the classroom full time is different than what I expected because I didn't realize how much work grading, planning, management, and paperwork were until I started here. I am getting the hang of it, and am excited moving forward." Ms. Feldmann will be at Ed-Co until May 3, possibly May 10 depending on how many more snow days we get.



### **News from Mrs. Meyer**

Congrats to the following students! Their art pieces were selected to be on display at the Dessert Concert on Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>. These pieces may also be

submitted to the Tri-Rivers Conference Art show on April 12<sup>th</sup> as well.

Alexa Steger (Graphic Art)  
Chloe Weipert (2-Graphic Art)  
Hailey Rausch (Graphic Art)  
Harrison Underwood (Photography)  
Jaimi Fagan (Graphic Art)  
Kalie Jaster (2- Photography)  
Kelsi Askeland (Graphic Art/Photography)  
Lily Aulwes (1- Graphic Art; 2- Photography)  
Maci Pritchard (2- Photography)  
Mia Kelzer (Photography)  
Natalie Wessel (3- Photography)  
Chezney Priem (Photography)  
Riley Preuss (Photography)  
Katie Snook (Photography)  
Tori Bolsinger (2- Photography)

### **Upcoming Art Shows:**

**March 20<sup>th</sup>:** Northeast Iowa High School Art Show at Upper Iowa: This art show is by registration only. I will be selecting students by the end of February to attend. It's not only a judge show, but attendees also get to go to workshops throughout the college that focus on various areas of art.

**March 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>:** Ed-Co's District Art Show featuring pieces K-12 during the Spring Play

**April 12<sup>th</sup>:** Tri-Rivers Conference Art Show at Springville: Students that attend this go to an all day event that includes various workshops put on by teachers within the conference. Art work is also judged.



### **News from Mrs. Bond**

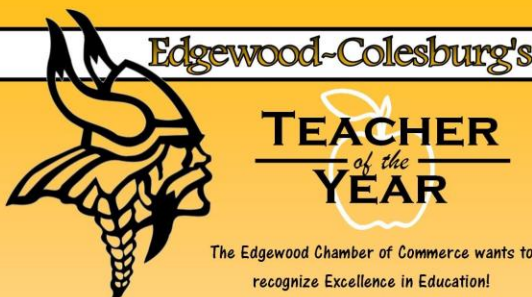
The semester has started off a bit roughly with all of the snow days we are receiving. However, we have managed to get some work done in school!

English 11 just finished the Dark Romanticism unit and they are now reading from a unit on Realism/Regionalism. In addition, the students have two projects due by the end of the quarter, so please encourage your child to work on these projects. We are also covering the "Correcting Common Errors" unit in the language text book. Hopefully, covering this unit will give your children an "edge" when it comes to taking the ACT tests this Spring.

The English 10 kids are busy too. They are all writing a research paper for the World Food Prize organization. The top papers will be submitted to the organization, and those students will be eligible for a \$500 dollar scholarship to Iowa State. In addition to this opportunity, the students have a book project to complete by the end of March. We are currently reading African literature.

I have two electives this semester: Composition 2 and Introduction to Literature. Both classes are worth college credit from NICC. Composition 2 is a technical writing class and Intro to Literature introduces students to the various types of literature and teaches the class how to interpret and analyze literature.

I look forward to discuss your child's performance in my class. Feel free to email me or stop in for conferences.



The Edgewood Chamber of Commerce wants to recognize Excellence in Education!

Is there an Ed-Co teacher that has gone the extra mile? Show your appreciation by nominating them for the Ed-Co Teacher of the Year Award, sponsored by the Edgewood Chamber of Commerce.

E-mail [director@edgewoodchamber.com](mailto:director@edgewoodchamber.com) or call 563-928-7036 to receive a nomination application.

Applications will be accepted until March 30, 2019.


---

An award of \$750 to be used in their classroom will be given to a teacher at the high school and the elementary.

A committee, chosen by the Edgewood Chamber of Commerce, will review all applications and select the winner.

---

Sponsored by:



## Student of the Week



### Conner Wilson: Week of Feb. 4-10

Mrs. Koth selected Connor Wilson, a seventh grader, as Student of the Week. Connor is in her reading class. Mrs. Koth noted that Connor is a good listener, kind, helpful, and an active participant in class. Congratulations, Connor!



### Brianna Buerger-Week of Feb. 11-17

Mrs. Ehlers chose Brianna Buerger as Student of the Week. Brianna is a junior and in Personal Finance with Mrs. Ehlers. Brianna goes to class every day, gets all of her work done on time, and contributes to discussions. According to Mrs. Ehlers, "She seems to really take an interest in the subject matter and comes to class with a positive attitude." Congratulations, Brianna!



### Kayne Olind-Week of Feb. 18-24

By Lynn Uhlenkamp, *Ed-Co Echoes*

This week Mr. Calderwood chose Kayne Olind to be the Student of the Week. Kayne is in seventh grade and is in the play this year. "Kayne was the first one to have both

of his scenes for the play memorized," Mr. Calderwood said. "Kayne also has great questions on how things are supposed to be done on stage and is always thinking ahead on how things should be presented on stage." Great job, Kayne! We can't wait to see all the hard work you are putting into the play. Keep it up!



### Zach Knipper-Week of Feb. 25-March 3

By Alex Schmitz, *Ed-Co Echoes*

Mrs. Ostwinkle had the privilege of choosing Student of the Week and she chose a senior, Zach Knipper. Zach always has a great attitude in everything he does and never complains. Not only does Zach take responsibility for his own work but he is constantly willing to lend a helping hand to others. Mrs. Ostwinkle says that Zach will be missed like crazy after graduating this year. Congrats, Zach!

## Elementary News

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Surprise

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade had a great surprise on Tuesday, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>! In the fall of this year, Kirstyn Payne, with the help of Maddie Streicher, started an FBLA project about sending letters overseas to soldiers. The 6<sup>th</sup> graders participated in this writing project, and there were seven lucky kids from Mr. Weber's class to receive a letter back from Sargent Kyle Rich. We found out that he is stationed in Guantanamo Bay, and his hometown is Ames, Iowa. He was so excited to receive letters from home. He also sent us a coin from Guantanamo Bay. Another exciting part of this morning was, we even got to Skype with Sargent Kyle Rich! The students go to meet him and ask him a lot of questions. It was awesome seeing how much he appreciated the letters from home!



### Eastern Iowa Reading Council Short Story Writing Contest 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

"Jake, the Wild Horse" by Connor Bailey  
His teacher is Mrs. Tegeler and parents are Brandon and Samantha Bailey.

Congratulations Connor!

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Presentations

On Friday, Feb. 22, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students presented their School Issues presentations. They chose a topic with two viewpoints: School Uniforms, Cursive Writing, Homework, or Cell Phones in School. The students had to research both sides to their topic and come up



with a solution to make both sides happy. They were then able to create a PowerPoint Presentation or a poster. We shared these presentations with the 5<sup>th</sup> graders and other staff members.



### News from Mrs. Anderegg

Well, we are more than half way through the school year (finally)! The special education world at the elementary has been busy catching up on progress monitoring and alternate assessment testing with all the crazy snow days. Because winter testing is almost over, special education teachers are looking closer at student data to see how much progress they've made and whether changes need to be made or not in an IEP (individual education plan) or if instructional changes need to be made.

For students who have an IEP that participate in Iowa Assessments, special education teachers track their progress on a graph. Usually, if there are four or more data points at or above the aim line (a line on their graph showing where we want the student to be toward his or her progress), the IEP goal could be changed or the student could be exited from their IEP. If progress monitoring shows the student below the aim line for more than 4 data points, changes need to be made either to their IEP, or in what the special education teacher is instructing.

For students who have an IEP that participate in Iowa's Alternate Assessment, the same procedures take place, except they usually are not exited from their IEP. The special education teacher also has to review alternate assessment data and evidence to decide the level the student is currently at.

Depending on the grade level of the student, students on alternate assessment are instructed based off of something called the Iowa Core Essential Elements, which is like the Iowa Core Standards. The Iowa Core Essential Elements are broken down into smaller

steps and different levels. These levels help guide a special education teacher in deciding whether or not to move down or up a level in what a student can do.

Needless to say, the teachers and students have all been working very hard all year long. My favorite part of teaching is seeing student growth, and I have seen a lot this year! I look forward to seeing what strides my students have made come spring.



### News from Mrs. Trenkamp

We are always encouraging students to be responsible. Educators agree that responsible children do better in school. Luckily, parents have endless opportunities to foster responsibility. To

boost your child's responsibility:

- Enforce a few age-appropriate rules and consequences. State them clearly so your child knows exactly how you expect her/him to behave—and what will happen if she/he doesn't.
- Trust her/him with meaningful tasks. School-age children are capable of handling responsibilities such as picking up their rooms, setting the table and helping with the laundry.
- Talk about financial responsibility. Many kids receive an allowance. This provides a great opportunity to teach about budgeting, spending, saving and giving.
- Let your child make decisions, such as which homework assignment to tackle first. Having the responsibility of making decisions builds confidence.
- Find ways to help others. Discuss what it means to be a responsible member of a community. Talk about different ways your family can contribute, such as by donating gently-used clothing to a charity or volunteering your time for an important cause.
- Adjust rules and responsibilities. As your child matures, his/her abilities will change. Perhaps he/she can take on more grown-up chores. Or perhaps he/she can make new and exciting decisions. Talk about how great it feels to be responsible!

## 5<sup>th</sup> Graders Share Projects



After researching about European explorers, creating a box full of artifacts, pictures, maps, and many fun facts, fifth graders taught their first grade reading buddies about their explorer.

## 4<sup>th</sup> grade Field Trip



On February 22<sup>nd</sup>, the 4<sup>th</sup> graders traveled to Osborne as a fun extension to their Hatchet reading unit. The student learn about survival skills and went snowshoeing.

**Save the Date to Work Off Some.....**

S T E A M

Build Your Own Structure

Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>  
5:30-7:30 p.m.

Coding

Inflatables

Colesburg Elementary

3D Coloring

Planetarium presentation by Jason from Keystone

Green Screen

**Please come to our free family event and meal celebrating Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics. Enjoy a free meal, S.T.E.A.M. centers, and inflatables!**

## Viking of the Week

### Brock Baumgartner: Week of Feb 4-10



Brock Baumgartner was recently chosen as Viking of the Week. He is a sixth-grade student in Mr. Weber's class. Brock's family includes his mom, dad, and brother, as well as his cat and dog. He enjoys playing his PS4, football, and baseball. Brock's favorite class is P.E. because he likes to run and play basketball in the gym. Brock was quite happy to be chosen as Viking of the Week and always makes certain to ask others if they need help with anything. Congratulations, Brock!



### Tycen Spilman-Week of Feb. 11-17

Miss Reth selected Tycen Spilman as Viking of the Week. He is a junior kindergarten student. Tycen's family includes his mom, Cassi; his dad, Thayne; and his little sister, Olivia. He also has several pets. Tycen enjoys playing Xbox, playing with his sister, and going to his grandma's house. He also likes to go out for recess at school because he likes to play outside. Tycen was excited to be selected as Viking of the Week and always makes sure to be nice to others and help his teachers. Congratulations, Tycen!



### Elsie Lincoln -Week of Feb. 18-24

Elsie Lincoln, a kindergarten student in Mrs. Ludovissy's class, was chosen as Viking of the Week. Her family members include Beth, Blair, Kelly, and Gracie. She also has a cat named Cat in the Hat and a dog named Blackie. Elsie likes to cook with her mom, farm with her dad, and play with her sisters. Elsie's favorite part about the school day is getting to play outside with her friends. She was very happy to be chosen as Viking of the Week. Congratulations, Elsie!



### Aidden Brake-Week of Feb. 25-March 3

By Morgan Vorwald, *Ed-Co Echoes*

The Viking of the Week is Aidden Brake, a first grader in Mrs. Tegeler's class. Aidden's family includes his parents and siblings, Breanna and Chase. The family has two dogs and three cats. Aidden's hobbies include playing outside, watching movies, and playing with Legos. His favorite part of school is math because it helps him learn new numbers. Aidden helps in school by pushing in chairs and playing with everyone. Aidden said he felt excited and happy when told he was Viking of the Week. Keep up the great work, Aidden!



### News from Mrs. Askeland

We are hoping to get back into our school routine after all of the snow days! The weather this winter has been crazy! The preschoolers have been so happy to be back the days we've had school.

In preschool we are conducting a Box Study. So, what does this mean? This means that we are using the children's interest in boxes to explore important social studies and science concepts and use skills in literacy, math, technology and the arts. The children will make observations about boxes, build things

with boxes and explore how food and materials travel from one place to another and how people help with this process. Many times our Box Study leads into making box houses and the story of The Three Little Pigs and Hansel and Gretel. What a great way to incorporate literacy!

The preschoolers are also continuing to learn their letter sounds. We have 5 more single letter sounds to learn. All of the children have made progress with learning sounds. It is exciting to see them use this letter sound knowledge when reading and writing! Writing is an everyday occurrence in Preschool. Children sign in when they arrive and need to sign up for Centers. They also draw and write in journals and for book pages. These are great authentic writing activities.

As you can see, Preschool is never a boring place to be! We are open to visitors and volunteers at any time! Contact the school (563-856-2415) if you'd like to join us!

### **District News**



#### **Library News from Mrs. Meyer**

The elementary and high school libraries have been busy promoting "reading for enjoyment". There are so many academic benefits for reading for enjoyment, but did you know that it could also help your social well-being? One thing that it really helps our students do is develop empathy, which is the ability to understand and share the feelings of another. Here is a really great article by Katie Prince, that talks about how reading helps our young people develop this skill.

#### **Research shows reading improves kids' emotional intelligence and increases empathy**

Growing up in a small town in Iowa, books were my window to a larger world. I would curl up in our overstuffed floral chair and be transported to a new world—from the 1930s Dust Bowl in *Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse to the castle in *Ella Enchanted* by Gail Carson Levine. Books taught me about people who had different life experiences and grew up in different places than the Midwest.

The author, David Foster Wallace, accurately summarizes the importance of reading fiction and how fiction can help us better understand others, saying, "Fiction is about what it means to be human." This notion that reading can better help us connect to the broader human experience is more than a simple

observation, it has been supported by extensive research. Studies show that reading can help kids build developmental skills of emotional intelligence and empathy, enabling our young readers to better connect with other perspectives and human experiences.

#### **Fiction can increase emotional intelligence**

The ability to learn about diversity through reading has been studied extensively, as researchers try to tap into what lifelong readers know as the magic of reading.

According to, researchers at the New School in New York City "found evidence that literary fiction improves a reader's capacity to understand what others are thinking and feeling." The article further argues that literary fiction can "support and teach us values about social behavior, such as the importance of understanding those who are different from ourselves."

The results of this study suggest that readers have greater emotional intelligence and empathy, meaning they can better put themselves in someone else's shoes.

An important concept for parents, volunteers, mentors, and teachers to keep in mind during classroom time and one-on-one sessions with kids. By supporting kids' literacy development and a love of reading, you will in turn foster their emotional growth as you read and discuss fiction with them.

#### **Stories and human connection**

The notion that reading is a valuable skill for building social awareness and empathy is echoed by many authors who know and love this magical, important part of reading.

In an interview with Lit Hub, author Sunil Yapa says, "Empathy is a radical act, particularly when you use it to connect with people who are very different from you. Loving others is wonderful, but caring for others is profound...Empathy is a profound act of imagination and human connection. In fiction, we imagine ourselves into other people's experiences. Of course, another word for that is 'reading.'"

Whether fiction or nonfiction, reading offers a unique experience to become engrossed in the stories and life experiences of the characters in the book. Providing readers with the opportunity to connect with other worldviews.

#### **Applying this research in practice**

Giving children an array of diverse choices of fiction



will not only help them become better readers, but will encourage them to be more empathetic people. Books can be a window into different worlds for our students, just like they were for me growing up. The opportunity to strengthen each student's empathy through reading is an exciting prospect. Stories matter, and understanding others matters.

Encourage your children to read, it is so very important for their social and emotional development, and a great place to get books to encourage this is the library!

Happy reading!

Prince, Katie. "Research Shows Reading Improves Kids' Emotional Intelligence and Increases Empathy." *Reading Partners*, 16 Jan. 2018, [readingpartners.org/blog/reading-improves-kids-emotional-intelligence-increases-empathy/](http://readingpartners.org/blog/reading-improves-kids-emotional-intelligence-increases-empathy/). Accessed 15 Feb. 2019.



## COURTESY AT EXTRA-CURRICULAR EVENTS

We are looking forward to excellent extra-curricular events at Edgewood-Colesburg. We share the responsibility

for appropriate behavior at the activities. For the safety of all spectators and support of the participants, the following are Ed-Co's expectations.

- Be respectful and quiet during the national anthem. Hold your right hand over your heart.
- Watch the game.
- Visit with your friends.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship, be respectful and courteous to others; Support the teams, cheer and clap.
- Be a positive credit to your family, school and community.
- Leave your seat only between quarters, at half time and between games.

## March Calendar of Events

\*Events are subject to change. For the most up to date information go to [www.edge-cole.k12.ia.us](http://www.edge-cole.k12.ia.us)

### March 5

TBD-HS Girls/Boys Track @ Wartburg College

### March 7

7:00pm-K-2 Concert @ Colesburg Gym

### March 9

District FFA Contest @ Sumner

State Individual Speech @ Waldorf University-Forest City

### March 12

TBD-HS Girls/Boys Track @ Wartburg College

7:00pm-7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Vocal/Instrumental Concert @ Edgewood Gym

### March 14

1:30pm-Early Dismissal

### March 15-snow make up day

5:30pm-7:30pm-Elementary STEAM night

### March 19

5:30pm-Preschool registration @ Elementary

### March 21

6:00pm-FFA Banquet @ Edgewood Locker Events Center

### March 22

5pm-HS Girls/Boys Track @ University of Dubuque

7:30pm-Spring Play @ Edgewood Gym

### March 23

7:30pm-Spring Play @ Edgewood Gym

### March 25

All State Individual Speech @ UNI

### March 26

1:30pm-Early Dismissal

3:45pm - 7:45pm-P/T Conferences K-12

4:30pm-HS Girls/Boys Track @ Sumner-Fred

### March 28-30

FBLA-State Leadership Conference @ Des Moines

### March 28

1:30pm-Early Dismissal

3:45pm - 7:45pm-P/T Conferences K-12

### March 29

1:30pm-Early Dismissal

4:00pm HS Golf @ Lone Pine

## Use of Recording Device Notice

The Edgewood-Colesburg Community School District Board of Directors has authorized the use of recording devices on school premises and district buses. The recording devices will be used to monitor student behavior to maintain order and to promote and maintain a safe environment. Recordings of students in the classroom will also be used to improve educational practices. Students and parents are hereby notified that the content of the recording may be used in a student disciplinary proceeding. The content of the recording are confidential student records and will be retained with other student records. Recordings will only be retained if necessary for use in a student disciplinary proceeding or other matter as determined necessary by the administration. Parents may request to view the recording of their child if the recordings are used in a disciplinary proceeding involving their child. A parent may view the recordings without consent from any student or parent of a minor student also shown in the recording if the other students are bystanders. But if there is an altercation between multiple students, then all parents must give consent in order for the recordings to be viewed by parents.

# March Menu

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Fruit and Milk will be Served daily with breakfast</b>				1 Ham Patty/Sausage & Toast K-6 PBJ 7-12
4 Bagel K-6 Poptart & Yogurt 7-12	5 Breakfast Bites K-6 Long John & Yogurt 7-12	6 Waffles K-6 Muffin 7-12	7 Breakfast Pizza K-12	8 Omelet & Toast K-6 PBJ 7-12
11 Breakfast Wrap K-6 Cereal & String Cheese 7-12	12 Long John & Yogurt K-12	13 French Toast K-6 Muffin 7-12	14 Ham Patty & Toast K-6 Bagel 7-12	15 Muffin & Toast K-6 Muffin 7-12
18 Pancakes K-6 Poptart & Yogurt 7-12	19 Saus, Egg, Cheese Biscuit K-6 Long John & Yogurt 7-12	20 Poptart & Yogurt K-6 Muffin 7-12	21 Breakfast Bar & Toast K-6 Bagel 7-12	22 French Toast & Toast K-6 PBJ 7-12
25 Pancake Stick K-6 Poptart & Yogurt 7-12	26 Biscuits & Gravy K-6 Long John & Yogurt 7-12	27 Breakfast Pizza K-6 Muffin 7-12	28 Little Smokies & Toast K-6 Bagel 7-12	29 Mini Donuts & Yogurt K-12 Toast K-6
<b>Meal Prices:</b> <b>Breakfast PK-12 \$1.60</b> <b>Breakfast Adult \$2.10</b> <b>Lunch PK-6 \$2.40</b> <b>Lunch 7-12 \$2.60</b> <b>Lunch Adult \$3.63</b>	<b>PBJ offered daily</b> <b>Grades 5-12 can choose a</b> <b>Chef Salad,</b> <b>Garden Salad</b> <b>Or Hoagie</b>			1 Breadsticks Romaine Lettuce Carrots Peaches & Pears  Alternative Main Dish: Philly Cheese Steak
4 Fish Shapes K-6 Butter Sandwich K-6 Fish Sandwich 7-12 Broccoli Cauliflower Peaches  Alternative Main Dish: Pizza	5 Hamburger WG Bun Savory Carrots Mandarin Oranges  Alternative Main Dish: Popcorn Chicken Dinner Roll	6 Chicken & Noodles WG Dinner Roll K-6 WG Biscuit 7-12  Peas Pears  Alt Main Dish: Brat/WG Hotdog Bun Goldfish Crackers	7 Pork Fritter WG Bun Baked Beans Banana  Alt Main Dish: Meatball Sub Scooby Snacks	8 Tomato Soup/Crackers Grilled Cheese Celery Carrots Applesauce  Alt Main Dish: Riblets WG Butter Sandwich
11 Hot Beef Sundae WG Dinner Roll K-6 WG Butter Sandwich 7-12 Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Mandarin Oranges  Alternative Main Dish: Corn Dog	12 Chicken Wrap Corn/Fiesta Beans Applesauce  Alternative Main Dish: Philly Cheese Steak WG Bun	13 Spaghetti Breadstick Romaine Lettuce Cherry Tomatoes Banana  Alternative Main Dish: Chicken Nuggets WG Dinner Roll	14 Pancakes Sausage Potatoes Oranges Applesauce 9-12  Alt Main Dish: Brat / Animal Crackers WG Bun	15 Pizza Hut Pizza K-6 French Bread Pizza 7-12 Romaine Lettuce Cherry Tomatoes Peaches Chocolate Chip Cookie  Alt Main Dish: No Alternative Main Dish
18 Turkey Fritter WG Bun Green Beans Pears  Alt Main Dish: Taco Bites	19 Roast Beef Sandwich American Cheese Cheesy Hashbrowns Mandarin Oranges  Alternative Main Dish: Rib Patty WG Bun	20 Stuffed Crust Pizza K-6 Pizza Hut 7-12 Romaine Lettuce Cherry Tomatoes Peaches  Alt. Main Dish No Alternative Meal	21 Chicken Fajita WG Tortilla Ranchero Beans Apple Slices  Alternative Main Dish: Beef Fritter WG Bun	22 Fish Shapes K-6 WG Butter Sandwich K-6 Fish Square 7-12 WG Bun 7-12 Corn Apple Slices  Alternative Main Dish: Sausage, Egg, Cheese Biscuit
25 Walking Taco's Fiesta Beans Applesauce  Alternative Main Dish Hamburger WG Bun	26 Chicken Patty WG Bun Broccoli/Cheese Peaches  Alt Main Dish: Mac & Cheese Little Smokies WG Butter Sandwich	27 Sloppy Joe WG Bun Tater Tots Pears  Alternative Main Dish: Corn Dog	28 Riblets WG Butter Sandwich Corn/Carrots Banana  Alternative Main Dish: Pizza	29 Mac & Cheese Little Smokies WG Butter Sandwich Green Beans Mandarin Oranges  Alternative Main Dish: Chicken Patty WG Bun