

## High School News

### News from Mrs. Bergan



Student display their talents in "DINING BY THE DOCK" course

Once again for the Ed-Co students are hosting meals as part of the "Food Prep and Beyond" class, AKA-'Dining By The Dock'. This course is available for students who have taken Foods I and Advanced Foods. Students build upon their knowledge that they have gained from previous coursework to prepare a weekly meal for community members to come and enjoy. Besides applying culinary and food service skills, students will need to use business skills to make decisions for their business.

Meals are based around cuisine themes and December meals have included Greek, Italian, and Mexican. Currently, the students are finishing up a holiday cheesecake project and have two meals themes left to be served in January, which are "Healthy Twist" and "Chinese". Advanced reservations are required and community members can call the high school office (928-6412) by the Monday prior to the meal date.



### **Dining by the Dock 2016**

Chefs: Kohl Moser, Danielle Childers, Chloe Carithers, Paige Ashline, Elliott Meyer

## **Drivers Education Class in February.**

Deadline to register is January 6th.

Visit [www.RightWayDriverEd.com](http://www.RightWayDriverEd.com) to register or call 319-350-1733 with questions.



### From the counseling office



Happy New Year!

The New Year is a time for fresh starts, new beginnings and resolutions. Changing behavior is never easy. But the New Year is a great time to start. Identify what is important to you, build your motivation, and create obtainable goals to increase your chance for success!

BIG THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the Christmas is for Kids program this year! Change is never easy but the new system worked great! Our community is full of so many helpful and generous people. Thank you!

Registration for next year's class schedules begins in January! Please take some time to plan out your son or daughters schedule with them to help make informed decisions.

### 8th grade parents - **SAVE THE DATE**

Freshman Orientation will be held in the High School Commons on Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. This meeting will provide you and your child with information that will be beneficial in developing their 4 year plan. Staff members will be sharing information about classes that are offered. Look for a letter coming home soon.

### News from Mrs. Lange



The first half of the year has been a good one in junior high math. The students have made big strides in their learning, and are on track for a

great second half of the year. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade students have spent a lot of time learning how to solve equations and inequalities for the first time. Not only can they complete the process, but they are able to apply this to situations and find solutions. They are also learning to explain what their solution or solution set means. We will be moving on to ratios and rates soon. One of the first things we will do is use rates and unit rates to compare costs of grocery items sold in varying sizes. The 8<sup>th</sup> graders spent the first part of their year reviewing things like solving equations, but have moved on to learning about functions; specifically linear functions. We just wrapped up a unit on solving systems of equations. After break we will move on to working with exponents and working with numbers written in scientific notation.



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

Greetings! Christmas break will soon be here and the students as well as the teachers are looking forward to the time off. High School English is a busy place and the students have been working hard on their assigned tasks.

In English Ten the students are currently working on the World Food Prize Research Papers. The students are learning how to write the research paper using the APA format and appear to be catching on to this style of research writing quite well. In addition to writing research papers, this group has been busy trying to get their end of the quarter book projects completed. Period two is studying Hispanic authors and period three African authors.

My English Eleven classes just finished *The Crucible* and are in the process of completing the test over the material. The next units of study in American Literature will be Romanticism and Modernism. The class also has two end of the quarter book projects: both books are to be an

example of modernism but one must be a modern realism book.

The course grade for Composition One is due to Northeastern Iowa Community College by December 20th, but the class will continue until January 13th when our school quarter ends. Students are busy putting the final touches on their portfolios before they are handed in for grading.

Contemporary Literature is also a semester long course. The class was assigned two books to read for outside reading in addition to the three books read in class: *Peace Like a River*, *All These Things I've Done*, and *Because It Is My Blood*. All five books had five required journals for each book and a written essay test associated with the book. This class also has a final written exam over Contemporary Literature due by the end of the quarter.

My students and I would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



### **News from Mrs. Ostwinkle**

Everybody in Mrs. Ostwinkle's room is looking forward to the holidays. All students had to write a five-paragraph essay about something to do with Christmas. One student researched the Christmas tree through the years, another researched how Christmas is celebrated around the world, and another studied the history of Christmas. It is good practice for students to put together all important parts of an essay and the subject matter seems to make them more motivated at this time of year.

We prepared Thanksgiving Dinner for our students and faculty and staff at Ed-Co. The dinner went really well, the decorations were awesome, and the food



was excellent. Students learn planning, cooking, measuring, serving, and good manners as well as many other things when we work in the kitchen.

Students write something every day on a classroom blog, called the Daily Write. They also have been working on improving their reading fluency by reading something every day. We have read A Series of Unfortunate Events, Oliver Twist, Jack's Run, and Little Women, among many other selections. We practice understanding inferences when working on the comprehension questions between chapters. Improving all students' ability to make inferences is a goal throughout the entire junior high and high school. Upcoming plans for our room include a visit to Camp Courageous and writing a book together as a class. It's difficult to believe that it is time for our winter break already. It seems like we just got going! Happy Holidays from Mrs. Ostwinkle's room and here's to an amazing new year.

### ***Yearbooks:***

Yearbooks are available to order for \$30. Order forms can be found in the office or you can order online at <http://community.pictavo.com>

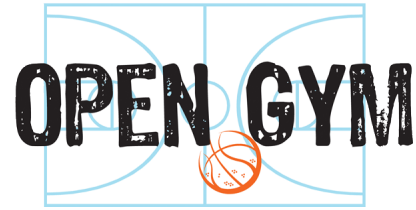
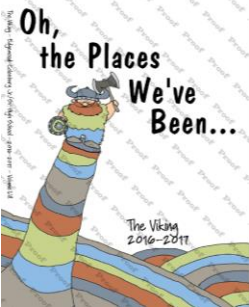
#### ***Senior Parent Yearbook Reminders:***

Senior Portraits are due to Mrs. Meyer by Jan. 13th. These can be emailed right to her:

[mmeyer@edge-cole.k12.ia.us](mailto:mmeyer@edge-cole.k12.ia.us)

Senior Recognition Ads can be created now online at <http://community.pictavo.com>. These

must be completed by Feb. 28th and the prices of the ad INCLUDES a yearbook with them. Don't want to create them yourself? Email Mrs. Meyer photos/message and send check to school. Questions? Contact Mrs. Meyer



### **Open Gym Nights**

January 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

February 4th, 18th, 25th

Please bring your own ball and a clean pair of tennis shoes. This is a privilege, please be respectful of this opportunity.

### **Elementary News**



#### **News from Mrs. Gaul**

The 5<sup>th</sup> grade students completed a geometry unit that focused on finding volume before break. To kick off their next unit they had to work within a budget to design a holiday ugly sweater. Next unit of study will be decimal operations using addition and subtraction.

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade students completed their unit of study on ratios and rates by working on a project titled "Buying a Car". Students had to research the many aspects of finance when purchasing a car. Topics within their project included; determining the car and cost, gas mileage, getting a bank loan, determining Iowa state taxes, title and registration costs, as well as insurance. Projects are displayed in the hallway if you would like to check them out!

#### **Elementary Music Notes**



It's hard to believe the year is almost half way over! The holiday concerts are behind us, and they were a huge success. Thank you to everyone who came out to support the elementary students at their performances. We had a large crowd at both the afternoon dress rehearsal and the evening performance. We will open the

dress rehearsal to the public again in the spring. Look for details as the date approaches.

The spring concert is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m.** Please mark your calendars.

Before we start the music for the spring concert, we will be doing our keyboard unit. All students in grades 1-6 will learn some basic piano skills. 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade students will practice note reading and learn to play a simple melody on the keyboard. Students in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade will get to try out their composition skills and compose their own piece. This unit will be especially exciting this year because we get to use the brand new keyboards! Thanks to the Dubuque Racing Foundation, we were able to purchase 20 new Yamaha keyboards this year. We are all very excited to get a chance to try them out!

### News from Mr. Busch



#### **Rumors and Facts**

At cross country and track meets I usually see a team or two sporting shirts with slogans on the back stating "*Faster than small town rumors.*" I never realized how fast those kids really are. Rumors do spread fast. The first rumor that I would like to put to rest is the the Colesburg Elementary building is going to be closed. This is not the case.

In April of 2016, the district began working with StruXture Architects from Waterloo to develop a long-range master facilities plan. Team members from StruXture Architects toured and examined the buildings for various elements of design, architecture, code compliance and accessibility. Consultants from KCL Engineering examined the building for mechanical, electrical, and plumbing adequacies. The facilities were

evaluated based on prior and current building codes and the American with Disabilities Act. A series of meetings were held with StruXture personnel, school staff, board members, and community members to discuss the facilities, space planning and utilization. StruXture used the community information coupled with their own knowledge and experience in order to determine and recommend facility considerations and generate cost estimates. The report is available at <https://goo.gl/etnoYL>. From those meetings, the following are proposed improvements:

- HVAC in both buildings
- Secure Entrances at both buildings
- Reroofing at both building
- Restroom update at both buildings
- Replace windows at both buildings
- Resurface gym floor at both buildings
- Parking Lot improvements at both locations
- Elementary playground improvements
- Accessible door hardware and other ADA compliant improvements at both buildings
- New Competition Gym located in Edgewood

As you can see there are improvements planned for both buildings in both communities.

#### **Why does this project need to be done now?**

The District issued \$2,270,000 in voter approved General Obligation Bonds in 2003 for the purpose of funding additions to the existing district campus. Over the past three fiscal years – FY15, FY16 and FY17 – the school board has taken action annually as part of their budget process to surplus levy within the bond debt service fund additional amounts which have been used annually to pre-pay principal on those original bonds, reducing overall interest repayment costs to our taxpayers. Through that prudent process of the board, the total interest cost on that final payment due in FY2018 has been reduced by \$20,475.

**One could argue there is never a good time to increase taxes, so when is a good time to do a project like this?** The longer we wait to address the needs of our buildings, the more the cost goes up. So while \$11.2million is a lot of money, that number will be higher next year and even higher the year after. Meanwhile, the problems with our building are not going away and we simply cannot fix them without a bond.

**How do we know Ed-Co won't be closed in 20 years?** Rumors about school closing and mergers are also running rampant. Nobody can say for certainty how things will be 20 years into the future. We can only look at current factors and make the best decision possible based on the information we have now. Ed-Co's current serves 513 students.

One thing we considered was West Central. Their current enrollment is 265 students. They just invested \$7.9 million into an addition. Ed-Co serves just over 500 students. Aren't our students worth the same investment? I also believe the bond can be paid off in less than 20 years.

Please contact me with any questions/concerns.

Your partner in education,  
Rob Busch  
563-856-2415  
[rbusch@edge-cole.k12.ia.us](mailto:rbusch@edge-cole.k12.ia.us)

**NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION  
Code No. 102.E1**

Students, parents, employees and others doing business with or performing services for the Edgewood-Colesburg Community School District are hereby notified that this school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age (except students), religion, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender, creed, socioeconomic status, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment in, its programs and activities.

The school district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age (except students), religion, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender, creed, socioeconomic status, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment in its hiring and employment practices. Any person having inquiries concerning the school district's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), § 504 or *Iowa Code* § 280.3 is directed to contact:

Karla Trenkamp,  
District Equity Coordinator  
409 East Street  
P.O. Box 125  
Colesburg, IA 52035  
563-856-2415  
[ktrenkamp@edge-cole.k12.ia.us](mailto:ktrenkamp@edge-cole.k12.ia.us)



## ***WINTER BUS SAFETY TIPS!***

### **For students:**

#### **DO'S**

- Do dress in warm winter clothing: hats, mittens and boots.
- Do walk facing traffic & wear bright clothing so you are visible in times of reduced light.
- Do wait for the bus several feet further off the road in a safe place in winter weather. Be mindful that some stops may still have snow piles or drifts.
- Do use the handrail when boarding or exiting the bus to prevent slipping & injuring yourself on icy road surfaces or steps.
- Do keep your head & arms inside the windows when riding the bus to prevent frostbite & other injuries to your limbs & face.
- Do move away from the bus to a place where the driver can see you & you can see the driver after you get off the bus.
- Do cross 10 feet in front of the bus, but wait for the "all clear" signal from the driver before leaving the curb.



#### **DON'TS**

- Don't stand or play on snow piles at the bus stop - you could slide into the street in the path of oncoming traffic.
- Don't attempt to retrieve your books or lunchbox from around or underneath the bus until after it has cleared the unloading zone.
- Don't chase after the bus or attempt to grab the rear bumper.

### **For parents & drivers:**

#### **DO'S**

- Do encourage your children to follow school bus safety rules.
- Do clear snow from the bus loading & unloading area near your home.
- Do use extra caution in school zones, at bus stops & at bus loading and unloading areas where high snow banks may exist.
  - Do know & follow the laws of your state regarding school buses.
  - Do drive safely - our winter climate, with its extreme weather conditions, short daylight & dangerous roads, requires extra effort by every driver.

#### **DON'TS**

- Don't be in a hurry. Student safety is important.
- Don't try to catch the bus at another stop with your vehicle if your students miss their pick-up. Take them all the way to school. The bus driver may not see the car in back of the bus & as the students attempt to run along the side of the bus to board, they may fall underneath the wheels & be injured or killed.
- Don't follow too closely behind the school bus making student stops.
- Don't disregard the red flashing signals when following or facing a school bus. It is illegal - and dangerous - to pass a stopped school bus with its red lights flashing.

Keep these DOs and DON'Ts in mind and we can all do our part at home and on the road to keep Ed-Co students safe! For more information about bus safety, contact Jeff Harbaugh, Transportation Director at 563-928-6411.

**Students Finalist in Iowa State Bar Association Competition**

Allison Voss, Laida Renteria, Emma Kerns & Elliott Meyer are finalists in The Iowa State Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division “Know Your Constitution” Project.

One hundred finalists were selected from more than 1,000 students across the State of Iowa who participated in the “Know Your Constitution” Project. These finalists will be honored at a luncheon to be held at the West Des Moines Marriot Hotel in West Des Moines on January 6, 2017. This year’s keynote speaker will be the Honorable Rebecca Goodgame Ebinger of the United State District Court for the Southern District of Iowa.

From the finalists, five students and their teachers will be chosen by a random drawing to attend the all expenses paid, Close-Up Foundation’s five day long education work session in Washington, D.C., in February 2017. The work sessions are designed to develop a deeper understanding of government and the political process.

The “Know Your Constitution” Project is designed to enrich students’ understanding and appreciation of the Constitution. The students participating in the project were required to familiarize themselves with Constitution related issues. A quiz was completed by each participating student. An essay question accompanied the quiz in case of a tie. This year’s essay topic involved Constitutional questions centered on the admission into the United States of immigrants from identified nations and the documentation of current residents in the U.S. of immigrants from those countries.

This program is sponsored by The Iowa State Bar Association, with additional funding from the Iowa State Bar Foundation and many of the county Bar Associations across Iowa.

**Winter Concerts 2016**



## *January 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)

**Jan. 1-2**-No School-Winter Break

**Jan. 3**-Classes Resume

4:00pm-JV Girls Basketball @ Turkey Valley  
5:00pm-JV Boys Basketball @ Turkey Valley  
6:00pm-HS Wrestling @ Clayton Ridge High School  
6:15pm-V Girls Basketball @ Turkey Valley  
7:45pm-V Boys Basketball @ Turkey Valley

**Jan 5**

6:00pm-9<sup>th</sup> grade Boys Basketball vs. Springville @ Colesburg  
6:00pm-HS Wrestling @ River Ridge, Patch Grove, WI

**Jan. 6**

4:00pm-JV Girls Basketball @ Central Elkader  
4:30pm-HS Wrestling @ Clayton Ridge-Guttenberg  
5:00pm-JV Boys Basketball @ Central Elkader  
6:15pm-V Girls Basketball @ Central Elkader  
7:45pm-V Boys Basketball @ Central Elkader

**Jan. 10**

4:00pm-JV Girls Basketball vs. Kee High @ Colesburg  
5:00pm-JV Boys Basketball vs. Kee High @ Colesburg  
6:15pm-V Girls Basketball vs. Kee High @ Colesburg  
7:45pm-V Boys Basketball vs. Kee High @ Colesburg

**Jan. 12**

6:00pm-HS Wrestling-High School @ Turkey Valley

**Jan. 13**

5:00pm-JV Girls Basketball @ Postville  
6:15pm-JV Boys Basketball @ Postville  
7:45pm-V Boys Basketball @ Postville

**Jan. 14**

9:00am-Con. Large Group Speech @ Clayton Ridge

**Jan. 16**

No School-Prof. Development  
7:00pm-HS Conference Band Festival @ Postville

**Jan. 17**

4:00pm- JH Boys Basketball @ NFV Middle School-Elgin  
4:00pm-JV Girls Basketball vs. Starmont @ Edgewood  
5:00pm-JV Boys Basketball vs. Starmont @ Edgewood  
5:00pm-Chili Cookoff-Edgewood Commons  
6:15pm-V Girls Basketball vs. Starmont @ Edgewood  
7:45pm V Boys Basketball vs. Starmont @ Edgewood

**Jan. 19**

4:00pm-JH Boys Basketball- @ Maquoketa Valley  
4:00pm-JV Girls Basketball vs. East Buchanan @ Edgewood  
5:00pm-JV Boys Basketball vs. East Buchanan @ Edgewood  
6:00pm-HS Wrestling @ Colesburg  
6:15pm-V Girls Basketball vs. East Buchanan @ Edgewood  
7:45pm-V Boys Basketball vs. East Buchanan @ Edgewood

**Jan. 20**

4:00pm-JV Girls Basketball vs. Clayton Ridge @ Colesburg  
5:00pm-JV Boys Basketball vs. Clayton Ridge @ Colesburg  
6:15pm-V Girls Basketball vs. Clayton Ridge @ Colesburg  
7:45pm-V Boys Basketball vs. Clayton Ridge @ Colesburg

**Jan. 21**

District Large Group Speech @ Cascade  
10:00am-HS Wrestling @ Midland

**Jan. 23**

4:00pm-JH Boys Basketball vs. Starmont @ Edgewood  
6:15pm-9<sup>th</sup> grade Boys Basketball @ Springville

**Jan. 24**

4:00pm-JV Girls Basketball vs. Alburnett @ Edgewood  
5:00pm-JV Boys Basketball vs. Alburnett @ Edgewood  
6:15pm-V Girls Basketball vs. Alburnett @ Edgewood  
7:45pm-V Boys Basketball vs. Alburnett @ Edgewood

**Jan. 26**

4:00pm-JH Boys Basketball @ Alburnett  
6:00pm-HS Wrestling @ Postville

**Jan. 27**

4:00pm-JV Girls Basketball @ MFL MarMac-Monona  
4:00pm-JV Boys Basketball @ MFL MarMac-Monona  
6:15pm-V Girls Basketball @ MFL MarMac-Monona  
6:15pm-V Boys Basketball @ MFL MarMac-Monona

**Jan. 28**

9:00am-HS Wrestling-Con. Tourny @ MFL MarMac-Monona

**Jan. 29**

Little Vikes Wrestling Tournament @ Colesburg  
Weigh ins: 8:30-9am-PS & Kindergarten, 9-9:30am-1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

**Jan. 30**

4:00pm-JH Boys Basketball @ Cedar Valley Christian

**Jan. 31**

4:15pm- JV Girls Basketball vs. NFV @ Edgewood  
5:15pm-JV Boys Basketball vs. NFV @ Edgewood  
6:15pm-V Girls Basketball vs. NFV @ Edgewood  
7:45pm-V Boys Basketball vs. NFV @ Edgewood