



Husky News

Elk Point-Jefferson School District

Showing Pride Taking Action

Volume 3, Issue 2

December 2002

Community Service and the Student

by Brian Shanks, Superintendent

It seems that the only time we are concerned with students giving anything back to the community is when they are filling out scholarship forms and they are asked to "Please list any community projects you have been involved with while in high school." Or unfortunately, when they get in trouble, they are asked to perform community service as part of their punishment. It is time to take a look at the benefits of students volunteering their time within the community and how it helps to produce a well-rounded adult.

I feel that it is an untapped source of energy that is worth exploring. In my years of education, I have found that students have the mental and physical tools to handle any task that they find motivating. The key is just to ask them. I have found that kids are wonderful workers and more than willing to help others. I have been involved with the salt drive through the Booster Club for the last three years and when asked to help, students respond in a resounding way. Last year we had so many kids that the salt drive went very well.

I find that I am also guilty of not utilizing this resource and that the school should perhaps find ways of utilizing this energy. We need to find ways to allow our kids to experience the pleasure of helping others. Helping accomplish a goal in a community or helping those who are less fortunate is the "ultimate high" a person can experience. We need to instill this in our children by insisting that our kids "get involved." I find that kids that "get involved" don't get in trouble and are less "self-loving." Kids that help others, or volunteer their time to something worthwhile become better adults. They are more concerned with creating a better world than just enriching their own.

Clubs and organizations are wonderful ways to get your child active in "volunteerism," but it seems the best way is to model that behavior yourself. Parents who are active in volunteer projects tend to instill the importance of "getting involved" into their own children. Our most "civic minded" students tend to have parents who are also willing to give of themselves. Sometimes it can be something so simple as picking up an empty pop bottle in a park or helping someone you don't know with a problem. When a child sees this, it is powerful, as you have demonstrated that was the right thing to do.

I grow weary of people complaining that we are raising selfish and hedonistic children who won't help others. They will if they are asked, and if we model that behavior ourselves. We need to make room in our lives to help others. Let's bring up our children to do the same.

Middle School Adopting "ACTS"

by Travis Aslesen & the Middle School Staff

Mission Statement

It is the belief of the Elk Point-Jefferson Middle School staff that middle school students are beginning the development of their abilities in the areas of work ethic, accountability, and responsibility. Furthermore, it is the staff's charge to ensure that students are given an adequate model to develop these traits. It is the belief of the staff that daily work is crucial to the success of students in their present studies as well as essential to their preparation for the rigors of high school. With these beliefs, there is no excuse for students to fail to turn in daily work at any time during the school year when they are given a reasonable amount of work and time to complete such work.

Incomplete assignments negate the beliefs held by the staff of Elk Point-Jefferson Middle School. Incomplete assignments are more than inconveniences. Future assignments and assessments hinge upon the knowledge gained throughout the totality of the school experience. Understanding and application of knowledge balance on complete understanding of subject material. To allow for incomplete assignments is counterproductive to the mission of education. No middle school student will be allowed to neglect his

or her duties. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the Elk Point-Jefferson staff to cultivate positive traits, which lead to the development of the characteristics of an effective and successful student through the requirement of completion of all homework assignments.

To combat the seriousness of incomplete assignments, the following policy attempts to place a positive yet stern spin on this situation. The opportunity for assignment completion and tutorial help will be referred to as ACTS (Assignment Completion and Tutorial Session). The ACTS program will run from 3:15 - 4:00 after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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LIBRARY HOLIDAY HOURS
December 23 - January 4:

Mon. - Thurs. 1:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Fri. - Sat. 1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

New Years Eve and New Years Day



Parents of High School Students! Your child can earn post-secondary credit while attending EPJ!

by Phil Breed, Guidance Director

Elk Point-Jefferson High School, Southeast Technical Institute (STI) and Western Iowa Technical Community College (WITCC) recognize the quality of instruction, the expertise of the program instructors and the competencies that students attain through their technical training in each system. It is because of this that students from EPJ may benefit from the articulation program. It has been determined that some high school curriculum is equivalent in content and rigor to the technical institute's introductory coursework. EPJ students can gain credits at both the high school and the technical institutes. Guidelines for articulation are listed below:

1. Students at the 11th and 12th grade level may earn credit to allow them to advance toward their post-high technical diploma or Associate of Applied Science degree. Students may earn credit from courses offered or completed at the ninth or tenth grade level only if the courses are part of an established career pathway that is developed in cooperation with the technical institutes.
2. To receive articulated credit, the student must have completed the high school course within the last three years.
3. For a student to articulate courses after the three (3) year time limit, an assessment of skill mastery will be required.
4. In order to receive credit, the student must have a **minimum of a "B" average (3.0)** in the high school course to be articulated and successfully meet all other requirements of this agreement.
5. All students enrolled under the articulation agreement shall meet the admissions standards as established by the post-secondary institute for that particular program.
6. Students will receive credit at the approved institute upon acceptance into a program.
7. Tuition is not charged for articulated credit, but students will pay \$5 per credit hour transcript fee for credits earned.
8. No grade will be assigned for articulated credit. These courses will not be counted in determining post-secondary grade point average.
9. Articulated courses through STI will be honored by all state-supported technical institutes in South Dakota for those courses that have common numbers and titles.

Below are the Elk Point-Jefferson courses that honor the articulation agreement. In the opposing columns are the respective technical institute courses. If you have any questions or concerns or would like more information, please contact Phil Breed at 356-5871 or Phil.Breed@k12.sd.us.

EPJ	STI	WITCC
Welding	N/A	Welding
Business Law	Business Law	N/A
Computer Bus. App.	Excel or Access	N/A
CAD/Drafting	Engineering Drawing	CAD
Computer Applications	Intro to Windows	N/A
English for Life & Work	N/A	Communication Skills
Child Development	N/A	Child Development
Woods I & Construction	N/A	Carpentry
3 credits of math	General Math	N/A
Integrated Math III	Intermediate Math	Applied Math
Geometry	Technical Math	N/A

Middle School Adopting "ACTS" *continued from page 1*

Policy

Any student who fails to turn in a completed assignment on the due date will be held responsible to complete the assignment after school in a supervised, positive learning environment. This environment is to allow the student tutorial help in finishing the assignment in question. Once the assignment is completed, the student will be required to complete the ACTS curriculum. The ACTS curriculum's main focus is to promote and improve student study skills. This curriculum will attempt to aid the student in organization, homework responsibility, and preparation in regards to the academic environment. It is also assumed that the skills learned in ACTS will have a positive, lasting effect which will become an asset to each ACTS student.

This policy has been developed by the Elk Point-Jefferson Middle School staff in conjunction with Superintendent Shanks.

New Logo for UCCPT

by Phil Breed, Guidance Director

Union County Child Protection Team would like to congratulate Nick Lindsey for being the first place winner of the UCCPT logo contest. Erin Hasenbank and Kira Gill both tied for second place. Each student received a gift certificate to Old Mill for a pizza and pop. Watch for the new UCCPT logo below.



A Tribute to an Elk Point-Jefferson Graduate

by Lori Hawley, PDC Mentor/English Teacher



The first subject in a series of articles on successful graduates from the Elk Point and Jefferson communities is Eric Abraham. Eric, a 1987 graduate of Elk Point High School, was very active during his high school career, participating in student council, oral interpretation, National Honor Society, newspaper staff, band, vocal, and golf. After completing high school, Eric attended St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota, majoring in physics and mathematics. From there he attended Rice University in Houston, Texas, earning a masters degree in 1994 and a PhD in 1996 in physics. His doctoral dissertation won the Wilson Award for Outstanding PhD Thesis in Physics. He went on to a position working with Nobel Prize winner Dr. Eric Cornell at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Boulder, Colorado. In 1998, he took a position as assistant professor at the University of Oklahoma, where he remains today. His work at this research university involves the study of ultracold gasses. Applications for his research may have far-reaching implications, including new atomic clocks used in the Global Positioning System.

Eric encourages all students to seek out as many math and writing courses as they can. He also believes that training in public speaking is very important. He stresses that students' competence in math, writing, and speaking will have a direct bearing on their success, no matter what field they enter. He believes that being successful can come down to being able to communicate well through speaking and writing. He urges all students to take the time they spend in high school very seriously. He reminds students to ask themselves, "What are you doing with your time?" Time spent on academics, extra-curricular activities, and reading is worthwhile. Time spent watching a lot of TV, playing video games, web surfing, etc. is causing students to fall behind. He also stresses the role of self-discipline and motivation in success. Those who are disciplined and motivated, without parents and teachers hounding them, make it — and the others fail. He believes that discipline and motivation are more important factors leading to success than either intelligence or preparation.

Library News. . . by Carmen Wilcox, School Librarian

Puppeteer Markie Scholz from Spearfish, South Dakota, visited the school on November 20 with her puppet troupe, *Dragons Are Too Seldom*. Her visit coincided with National Children's Book Week. Kindergarten through third grades enjoyed "The Last Dragon," the story of a young dragon who discovers from his forest friends that he is the last living dragon in the world. However, he is encouraged when he learns that a single dragon egg exists, carrying with it the possibility of friendship and companionship for the dragon. The second performance for grades four through six was entitled, "Alpha Saves the Beticals." In this performance, Planet X is in trouble. A war is taking place between the king and another faction. Each wants to rule the planet and destroy the Beticals, a peaceful race who simply want to be free of any rule. Both performances demonstrated the energy and the entertaining abilities of Markie Scholz. She has performed with her puppets in 33 states over a 30-year period. The EPJ Library was able to secure her through the South Dakota Fine Arts Council. A grant from the Council helped to finance her visit. In addition to Markie's visit, names were drawn for prizes to add to the recognition of Children's Book Week.

This year's Book Fair was a success with a profit of \$980.00. From this profit, \$570.00 was earmarked for the visitation of our special puppeteer guest, Markie Scholz. A special thanks goes out to all who supported the annual event.

Wednesday, January 22, at 1:00 P.M. will be the start date and time for the new year's adult beginning computer class. These classes are offered at no cost. However, pre-registration is required.

In addition to adult computer classes, the library will again offer a preschool story time beginning on Thursday, February 6, at 12:45 P.M. Pre-registration is required.



The library staff is very excited about a donation from both the local VFW and American Legion. They have donated \$200.00 toward the purchase of a South Dakota Writing Project entitled "Fallen Sons and Daughters of WWII." The 4-volume set represents the research and writing project of students across South Dakota, including the EPJ English students in both Mrs. Skinner's and Mrs. Limoges' classes. Their students spent a great deal of time and effort researching information on the lives of men and women who lost their lives in action during WWII. Ten fallen men from the local area have been included in the set. Upon receipt of the set, both the Legion and the VFW will be invited for coffee and a private viewing of the set. The library staff greatly appreciates the financial support from both organizations for this very historic and important document.

A much-needed new acquisition at the library is the purchase of missing microfilm copies of the early editions of our local newspapers. Seventeen new rolls of microfilm at a cost of \$510.00 were recently added to our existing collection. These documents become very important archives, as in many instances they are the only documented history of the early days of Elk Point. Anyone is invited to stop by the library to do some research. We offer a microfilm reader/printer for public use. A charge of \$.10 per page is collected for printing.

The EPJ Library staff wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

NCS Learn SuccessMaker Software . . . by Jerry Klumper, Technology Director

During the past two years the Elk Point-Jefferson District has placed an increased emphasis on the utilization of the SuccessMaker software system. The following excerpt was taken from an NCS Learn white paper entitled "High Stakes Management: Leveraging SuccessMaker Research to Raise Achievement." I felt that many readers would find this explanation of the program both interesting and informative.

Curriculum Structures

SuccessMaker courseware is the product of more than 30 years of research and development in adaptive instruction. NCS Learn's research department has collected data from thousands of students to refine the adaptation to the individual learner, and to improve the effectiveness of course design, instructional strategies, and implementation models.

SuccessMaker foundations courses, such as Math Concepts and Skill (MCS) and Reader's Workshop (RW), are structured by strands, or content areas. The objectives in each strand are organized in increasing, evenly spaced levels of difficulty and indexed by grade-level units. A student moves to the next level in a strand by demonstrating mastery of the current level, based on established criteria. Strand level is thus an objective-based (criterion-referenced) measure of student skill and understanding.

The position of a student in the overall course is represented by an average of the strand levels. This average level indicates the specific knowledge and skills the student has been presented and mastered. The student's overall course level summarizes the student's current status and is used to compute the gains the student has made over specified periods of time.

The student's overall gain is measured from the student's functional level in the course, which is established by a process called initial placement motion (IPM). The gain is calculated by measuring the difference between this initial level and subsequent levels. The gain thus represents the student's progress through content-specific objectives. For example, a student progressing from an initial placement level of 4.5 to a level of 5.75 has a gain of 1.25 levels. This is a criterion referenced gain, representing an amount of work accomplished.

Adaptive Algorithms

Using adaptive learning algorithms developed and refined over decades, the course adjusts the distribution of activities



across strands for each student based on that student's individual performance. In this way the course identifies and emphasizes the areas in which the student needs the most attention, to ensure that the student's development of skills and learning of the subject material are well balanced. The student's average level is, therefore, a continuously updated, representative summary of the student's academic progress in the course.

If each student were to see the same block of material, as with some computer-assisted instruction, the amount of time needed to complete a specific lesson would be determined only by the student's response time and the number of attempts required. In contrast, SuccessMaker adapts to each student, adjusting the content distribution, the number of exercises presented on each objective, and the tutorials and other strategies to help the individual student learn. The learning models and mastery decisions of the foundations-based curriculum make the most of student time on task by dynamically adjusting to student performance. Equally important, the software is designed to keep the student engaged by presenting the most relevant material at a pleasantly challenging pace.

Forecast of Courseware Progress

Through the years the company's Research and Measurement Department has guided the evolution, refinement, and implementation of SuccessMaker courses. In particular, they have improved the recommendations for scheduling and pacing of students in the foundations math and reading courses. They have analyzed data on thousands of students, calculating each student's gain over time (learning trajectory), and updating estimates of the average time students need to master particular objectives. This research enables educators, at the beginning of the year, to schedule students' time in a course to achieve desired gains.

At the beginning of the year, Successmaker determines each student's appropriate initial placement in the course and reports this to the teacher. Then, based on the student's pace through the course, the system refines the estimated time the student will need to make desired gains. The teacher can thereby schedule the student for sufficient time in the course so that she or he progresses from her/his initial SuccessMaker course level to the desired level.



Parent Portal Training II

by Jerry Klumper, Technology Director

The Parent Portal, an integral part of the DDN Campus student information package, has proven to be both useful and popular. A significant number of parents and students are using the Portal to check assignments and grades.

Haven't picked up your password and username? No problem. Stop into Room 160 during the junior varsity and varsity girl's or boy's basketball games (approximately 5:15 to 9:00) on Tuesday, January 21. Portal usernames and passwords will be distributed. Mr. Breed and Mr. Klumper will be available for brief Portal training sessions. Hope to see you then!

FROM THE DESK OF Doug Brusseau, Elementary Principal

Since the beginning of the school year, you as well as the staff at Elk Point-Jefferson School District have either read in the papers or heard on the news reports concerning student safety, students being overweight, or students playing video and computer games.

Personal and student safety is a topic that should be freely and openly discussed with students. When discussing safety, one should be calm and reassuring and avoid discussing frightening details of what might happen. The most important things an adult should do are to listen to children, know their daily activities, and teach them to be assertive and self-confident. Parents should take these simple steps to safeguard their children's safety.

It is difficult to teach children about dangerous people. Instead, focus on teaching children how to recognize and respond to dangerous situations. Teach them to ask permission from you before they go anywhere with another adult. Those grownups should not ask children for directions or ask for any help. Children should trust their instincts. If they get a "funny feeling" about a person, they should get away. As they put distance between themselves and the person, children should keep their eyes on the individual so they can keep themselves safe. Recently the school, along with the EPJ Activities Boosters, provided training to students using the Kid Escape program. The students were taught techniques to use if someone tried to grab them.

The Elk Point-Jefferson School District is attempting to address the second issue in the news concerning overweight children. Since 1980, the percentage of children and adolescents considered overweight has tripled. That means over four million children pre-K through eighth grade are in danger of suffering from heart disease, cancer, type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, osteoporosis and other maladies associated with extra weight. The medical profession has labeled it an epidemic. Studies show that overweight children become overweight adults. To help break this cycle, students are learning about healthy living in class. However, learning about good nutrition and exercise in the classroom does little good when high-sugar snacks are available to students.

The Elk Point-Jefferson School District is beginning to take a stance against poor nutrition during the school hours. The school is attempting to disallow students in grades K-8 from buying soft drinks and candy during the school day and is

attempting to offer healthy choices in the vending machines. This year the school has initiated a breakfast program. Studies show that students who eat breakfast are healthier, more attentive, and perform better academically. Hopefully, eliminating the sales of junk food, offering breakfast, and providing a focus on good nutrition in the classroom will result in more attentive students who will miss fewer days and perform better academically. Remember the next time you pack your child's lunch to put in a healthy snack instead of a candy bar or bag of candy.

Video and computer games seem to be another area that is frequently in the news. These games appear to top the wish lists of many children. While they do have their advantages, electronic games can lure children away from activities such as play, reading, and socializing with friends and family. As you get your child that next electronic game, consider the following.

Electronic games do have some advantages. Playing these games can help children feel comfortable with technology, can give them a chance to compete against themselves, and may help them learn to solve problems and follow directions. Despite these advantages, electronic games should not replace other types of play. You should require your children to spend at least as much time engaged in physical activities as they do with electronic games. This will also help to keep children from being overweight and out of shape.

If you choose to provide your children with electronic games, offer games that are educational as well as entertaining. Before you let your child buy, rent, or play a game, look for the rating. Games rated "E" are usually the best for school-age children. "T" games include questionable language, scenes, and themes and are intended for those 13 and over. If the game has a rating of "M" or "AO," it is for individuals over the age of 17. You may also want to check the rating of online games by checking the ESRB's web site for content. One thing to consider in playing online games is that you never really know who is on the other end. Make sure your child does not reveal his or her age, grade, name or other personal information.

Set limits on how much time can be spent playing electronic games. Keep an eye on grades. Use game time as a privilege, not a daily activity, and insist that school work be completed first. Electronic games played together can be a way for parents and children to connect. But remember to spend time together away from the electronic games, too.

Kindergartners take part in Veteran's Day

by Toni Hall, Kindergarten Teacher

As a part of Veteran's Day celebrations, the kindergartners gathered together to receive American flags. Sylvia Rosenbaum and Nancy Meister, members of the American Legion Auxiliary, led the group in saying the Pledge of Allegiance, and presented each student with a small flag and a card with the Pledge of Allegiance printed on it. A coloring book with the Pledge and pictures relating to it was also sent home for the students to color. The kindergarten classes discussed the Pledge and what each part means, and the students colored their own flags.



Elementary Students Fight Off Germs! *by Lisa McInerney, School Nurse*



Ask any kindergartner, 1st, or 2nd grader about good hand washing and they can tell you a lot! They know that germs are tiny living things that can make us sick. Germs are everywhere. The best way to keep germs from spreading is to **wash our hands**. We should wash our hands before we eat, after we use the bathroom, after we play with our pets, and after we cough or sneeze. We should use warm water and soap, rubbing the palms and tops of our hands and between our fingers.

All of the K-2nd grade students demonstrated how well they could wash their hands. A small amount of pretend "Glo-Germs" was sprinkled in each students hands. They rubbed it into their hands and then saw how "germs" were all over their hands by looking at them under a special UV light. Then they practiced using good hand washing to get rid of the germs. When everyone was done, even the teachers, no germs were left glowing.

Music Concert Preparations Underway . . . *by Jeanne Hanson, K-4 Music*

With Christmas vacation just around the corner, here are a few websites that can keep your child occupied with learning without them knowing it! Look up www.sfskids.org for the San Francisco Symphony website for kids. It has a music lab that introduces the children to musical concepts in a very entertaining way. It also has a page describing the instruments used in the orchestra.

For a wonderful listening lesson on Anton Dvorak, go to <http://learning.carnegiehall.org>. This site by Carnegie Hall has added a clever visual approach to learning the movements of a song. It explains the different themes and movements. You also can read the biography of Dvorak and his explanation for the piece of music. Good for the whole family!

Have you heard any budding singers practicing their songs? Concert rehearsals are putting the final touches on the songs for the Christmas concert. The concert date is December 19 at 7:00 in the Middle School Gym. Songs for the concert are carefully chosen so that national music standards can be met while working on the program songs. It is always fun to "show off" skills gained in singing, performing on instruments, and dancing.



First graders practice for the Christmas Concert.



Elk Point-Jefferson second graders visited the nursing home on Tuesday, November 26. They performed three "turkey tunes" for the residents. They presented "Albuquerque Is a Turkey," "I'm a Little Turkey," and "The Turkey Trot." This musical and language oriented activity was a great learning experience for all of the students.

Elementary Registration

If you have a child who will be 5 years of age by September 1, 2003, please call Norma at 356-5800 or send an e-mail message to norma.ferdig@k12.sd.us. Please provide the child's name, birth date and parent's name, address and phone number.

Junior High Quiz Bowl

by Selene Van Wyk, Coordinator/Advisor

On Friday, November 15, twenty-four junior high teams participated in the Annual EPJ Junior High Quiz Bowl. The twenty-four teams consisting of four students per team participated in three preliminary rounds. The top three scoring teams advanced to the final rounds. The teams advancing were:

Team 3 – Doug Dailey, Kyle Hanson, Darin Schmidt, Andy Grupp

Team 15 – Tommi Hanson, Jessica Hudelson, Amy Harris,
Amber Merryman

Team 22 – Nettie Brown, Courtney Brown, Megan Hansohm,
Teresa Grupp

After a round robin of play, Team 3 answered the most questions correctly. Congratulations Team 3!

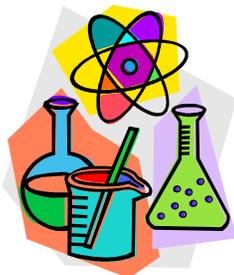


First place winners in the EPJ JH Quiz Bowl.

Mark your calendar: The EPJ High School Science Fair will be held February 10, 2003

Middle School Holds Science Fair

by Daryl Fletcher, 7-8 Science



The Elk Point-Jefferson Middle School Science Fair was held Tuesday, November 26, in the middle school gymnasium. Students in grades 5-8 participated in this year's science fair. Overall there were over 100 projects evaluated by 18 different judges.

Selected as grand champion and runner-up in grades 5-6 were Jeremiah Curry, first place winner, and Alex Elkins, second place. In grades seven to eight, first place went to the team of John Frankl and Bobby Trudeau, followed by runner-up Kyle Hanson. Each grand champion winner received a \$100 savings bond with the runners-up receiving a \$50 savings bond. The Elk Point-Jefferson Education Association funded these savings bonds.

The winning projects will advance to the Regional Science Fair in Brookings on April 4, 2003. Projects were classified in each of three different classifications: biology, earth science, and physical science.

Listed below are the local award winners for this year:

Grade 5:

1st Place
2nd Place
3rd Place
4th Place

Biological Science

Caitlin Thorpe
Adam Trudeau
Shelby Larsen
Nick Johnson

Earth Science

Allyson Murphy
Reid Steckelberg
Ali Truhe
Bobbie Backer

Physical Science

Alex Elkins
Bailey Johns
Lydia Gille
Colton McCreary

Grade 6:

1st Place
2nd Place
3rd Place
4th Place

Biological Science

Jerry Curry
Kirsten Hanson
Chelsey Borchardt
Emily Connelly

Earth Science

Shauna Hilbrands
Thomas Rarrat
Kylee Rosenbaum
Devan Penfield

Physical Science

Andrew Rosenbaum
Amanda Chicoine
Ashley Zeller
Luke Frankl

Grade 7:

1st Place
2nd Place
3rd Place
4th Place

Biological Science

Myles Larsen/Linley McInerney
Molly Shanks/Kim Wurtz
Kale Nelson
Hannah Wilkinson

Earth Science

John Frankl/Bobby Trudeau
Charlie Gann
Brad Irwin/Jerry Renken
James Joffer/Kyle Buum

Physical Science

Sara Peasley/Amanda Connelly
Denise Dodds/Hope Metzgar
Anna Erickson/Kirsten Schaffer
Sam Turner/Troy Turkleson

Grade 8:

1st Place
2nd Place
3rd Place
4th Place

Biological Science

Kyle Hanson
Alex Staum/Abby Davis
Josh Reed/Luke Quam
Doug Dailey

Earth Science

Darin Schmidt/Chris Tow
Autumn Barnes/Amber Merryman
Kaitlin Forsling/Alisha Limoges
Maria Fowler

Physical Science

Kara Bosse/Kyle Rarrat
Josh Viereck
Tommi Hanson
Leafia Hare/Paige Pollard

FROM THE DESK OF Randy Pirner, 7-12 Principal

Attitude: Affects our lives at work, play, and home

As another school year rolls on, it is sometimes important to reflect on the important things in life. You might recall a special moment when you truly touched another person’s life or made someone’s day great, – not just good. You may wish you would have handled a situation differently, wish you had bit your tongue, had a good laugh, or a whole host of memories. No matter where your thoughts have taken you, there is one thing we all need to remember. We are in the people business here at school, every minute of every day, at work, play and at home. Our attitude has an impact on what we do, how we feel, and how other people feel.

Take a few minutes out of your busy schedule to complete the following “quiz.”

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last three Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name five people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer prize.
4. Name the last dozen Academy Award winners for best actress.
5. Name the World Series winners from the last three years.

Was it as tough for you to remember as it was for me? The point is, few of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers; they are the best in their fields! But the applause dies. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

See how you do on this “quiz.”

1. List three teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name five friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Name three people who made you feel appreciated and special.
5. List three people with whom you enjoy spending time.

The lesson: the people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. The people who make a difference are the people who care!!



**Have a Safe
&
Happy Holiday Season**



Notes from the Band Room

by Jeremy Schutter, 5-12 Band

WOW, it’s December already!! This school year continues to move quickly. There have been some accomplishments that have happened in the first half of the year that I would like to point out.

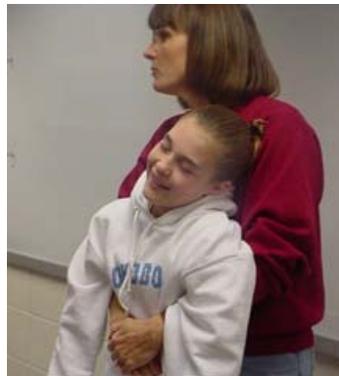
First, the EPJ Marching Band placed 3rd in Class B at the USD Dakota Days Parade. This is the second straight year the band has placed and won an award for their work.

Second, I want to recognize the following individuals for their participation in the Augustana Band Festival held on November 15 and 16: Renee Curry, Olivia Wilkinson, Mickie Hawley, Cole Mapstone, Whitney Karpen, and Robert Curry. This group represented EPJ with pride and honor.

Finally, Olivia, Robert, & Whitney, along with Anne Rosenbaum and Nicola Obeney, successfully auditioned in the Region I Honor Band. This festival was held November 25 in Yankton. When you see these individuals, pat them on the back and tell them GREAT JOB!!

As of now, we have ten high school band members nominated for USD’s Quad State Honor Band. In addition, we have had ten middle school band members make audition tapes for the Wayne State College Junior High Honor Band Festival. We will find out results for both of these events by mid-December.

Looking into our crystal ball, the band is going to be quite busy in January. We will not only have our Pep Band performances, but we will also begin working towards Region I Solo/Small Ensemble Contest, Arts Night, Jazz Festivals, an All-Band Concert (March 10), and more. Never do we have a dull moment.



Thanks for the Mini Courses!

The Elk Point-Jefferson middle school students would like to thank the following people for sharing their time and talents during the 2002 Mini Courses:

- Renae Begnoche* *Picture Frames*
- Dennis Ferdig* *Autobody Repair*
- Rhonda Weidner* *Taco Ring*
- Gary Nebelsick* *Cribbage*
- Glen Rosenbaum* *Wood Duck Carving*
- Mary Ellen Staum* *Candy Making*
- Mr. Breed and Improv Students* *Improvisation*
- Jean McLaury* *First Aid*
- Doug Talbott* *Basic Car Care*
- Linda Talbott* *Crochet and Cross Stitch*
- Travis Aslesen* *Hearts and Pitch*
- Brian Shanks* *Fishing*
- Melissa Shanks* *Christmas Crafts*
- Lon Hird* *Lasers*
- Beth Rosenbaum* *Juvenile Law*
- Southeast Elevator* *Tour*
- Cammy Abbey* *Massage*
- Joe Rarrat* *Gemology*
- Glen Bosse* *Taxidermy*
- Brenda Truhe* *Hair Care*
- Steve Hofland* *Taekwondo*
- Lori Hawley and Students* *Oral Interpretation*

National Honor Society Inducts New Members

by Rita Ahmann, NHS Supervisor

The annual induction of new members to the National Honor Society was held on Monday, November 18, at 7:00 P.M. in the Commons. Nine new members were pledged into the Husky Chapter. They were: seniors Caroline Knutson, Allison Mead, and Katie Weavill; juniors Whitney Karpen, Ryan Larsen, Julia Matthys, Lisa Scott, Bobby Truhe, and Brandi Turkleson. Current members reviewed the characteristics of scholarship, leadership, character and service, according to which the new members were selected. Then a short listing of each new member's activities was read. The new members recited the National Honor Society pledge. They were presented with a membership pin and card by their mothers.

The officers of the local chapter were also inducted at the ceremony. This year's president is Renee Curry. Vice president is Molly Frankl. Leslie Nebelsick is secretary and Mickie Hawley is the treasurer.



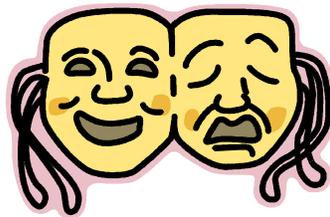
The 2002-03 National Honor Society members.

1-Act Play Season Begins

by Lori Hawley, Supervisor

High school students have begun working on this year's 1-Act Play to prepare for region competition in January. As mandated by state rules, the category this year is humorous.

This year's selection is entitled "Making Nice" by Alan Haehnel, a humorous look at the world of play production. The cast of 20 is comprised of Whitney Karpen, Jason Donnelly, Olivia Wilkinson, Mickie Hawley, Renee Curry, Sam Shedd, Jessica Pribil, Karley Sieverding, Genevieve Stalvig, Bobby Truhe, Molly Frankl, Brooke Turkleson, Leslie Nebelsick, Katie Weavill, Stephanie Reed, Jennifer Mead, Dale Schoenherr, Anne Rosenbaum, Drew Staum, and student director Jiska Gojowczyk. Region I competition will be held in Vermillion on January 28, 2003. The public will be invited to view the show at Arts Night, which will be held on February 20 in the middle school gym.



Local Oral Interpretation Winners Compete at Region Level

by Lori Hawley, Supervisor

Winners of the Elk Point-Jefferson Local Oral Interpretation Contest competed at Region I Oral Interpretation Contest in Sioux Falls on November 19. Competition among the 11 schools in the region involved students from Elk Point-Jefferson, Beresford, Canton, Sioux Falls Christian, Vermillion, Lennox, Harrisburg, West Central, Parker, Alcester-Hudson, and Tri-Valley. Competing in the poetry category was Mickie Hawley with her selection entitled "Credo." Molly Frankl entered her oratory selection "Advertising." In the duet interpretation category, Julia Matthys and Desiree Steeg performed a cutting from the play "Between Daylight and Boonville." In serious plays, Cole Mapstone read an excerpt from "Of Mice and Men." Mickie Hawley entered the serious prose category with a selection entitled "Silver Water." The reader's theater group, comprised of Jake Donnelly, Mickie Hawley, Justin Sieverding, and Olivia Wilkinson, entered their cutting from the play "The Compleat Works of Wllm Shkspr."

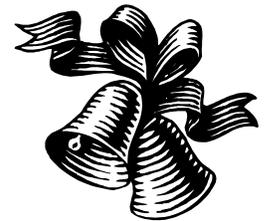
Vocal Students Prepare for Upcoming Concerts

by Melissa Shanks, 7-12 Vocal

The high school choir has been working to prepare for the holiday concert which is Thursday, December 12, at 7:00 P.M. The mixed choir will sing "In December," "Feliz Navidad," "Carol of the Bells," and "Worthy To Be Praised." The boys ensemble will sing "Christmas in About Three Minutes" while the girls ensemble will perform "Whisper! Whisper!" The All-State chorus delegates and alternates will perform "Gloria" by Haydn.

EPJ high school students will travel to KMEG on Wednesday, December 11, to record our Christmas concert. This performance will be aired on KMEG television station on Christmas Day! Watch for us!

The middle school (grades 5-8) will perform "North Pole Exposure" on Monday, December 16, at 7:00 P.M. This holiday musical will take a look at all the famous characters that make Christmas dreams come true: Santa's well-trained reindeer corps, the overworked elves, snowmen who dream of a tropical vacation, what Mrs. Claus really does on Christmas Eve, and Santa Claus himself! You won't want to miss this performance with lively music and hilarious acting!



EPJ Football Season Comes to a Close

by Rahn Bertram, Head Football Coach

The EPJ football team battled through a season in which we may not have seen the success we wanted in wins and losses, but we improved and competed each week against one of the toughest schedules in the state in 2002.

Our Junior Varsity ended the season with a 6-2 record, losing close games only to Harrisburg and Parker. We made tremendous strides while going 3-0 and winning our own EPJ jamboree.

We played a demanding schedule, with six of our eight opponents making the playoffs, while two of them (Parkston and Akron-Westfield) played for state championships in South Dakota and Iowa respectively. Many freshman and sophomores contributed valuable time to the varsity while playing a full JV schedule. Many of these boys grew into young men very quickly, learned on the run, and adapted to the varsity game. I am proud of these athletes for their role on our football team. Other freshman and sophomores worked tremendously hard each day and improved themselves for the upcoming years. These athletes do not always get the recognition they deserve, but they are truly the heart of our team.

We will say goodbye to our seniors and wish them the best of luck in the future. They are irreplaceable and we will miss them. The seniors are: Kyle Donnelly, David Trudeau and Jake Donnelly. I wish them only the best.

This year's junior class must step up and accept their roles as leaders of this football team as I am sure they will. We have six juniors returning for their final season next year. They are: Brian Schmitz, Bobby Truhe, Jed McInerney, Dallas Mitchell, Ryan Larsen and Tony Hummel. Their work ethic and leadership abilities are next to none. These young men have set a great example in the past. I am looking forward to working with these fine young men once again.

We will lose three letter winners, but will return nineteen letter winners next fall, which includes ten starters on offense and nine starters on defense. We will still be a very young team next season as we return a core of very talented freshman and sophomores who have made an impact on this football team. These young men have a lot of experience at the varsity level and have competed against some very talented athletes in their young careers.

I am very excited about the future of our football program at Elk Point-Jefferson. We have great kids that have high expectations of themselves and our team. Our off-season weight room work will be a very big key to our success next year, and these kids realize that.

Congratulations go out to the members of the Big Sioux Conference All-Conference team. Members are: Kyle Donnelly, David Trudeau, Bobby Truhe, Brian Schmitz and Dallas Mitchell. Jake Donnelly was selected to the Academic All-State this year.

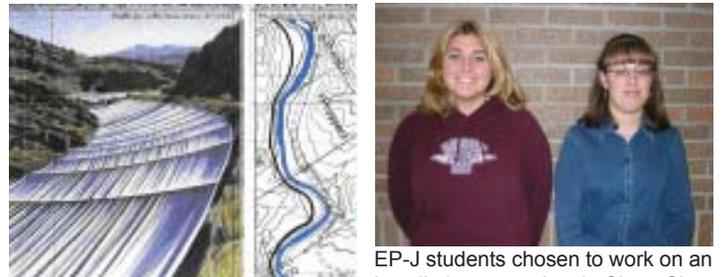
I also want to thank all of the parents, the EPJ boosters, and our administration for their support again this year. Your time and energy is greatly appreciated by both the coaching staff and players. We couldn't do it without you.

Students Create with Artist-in-Residence

by Brenda Kunkel, 6-12 Art

Christina Hummel and Katie Buum, high school students at EPJ, were nominated to work as a group with twenty other students from the Sioux City area to create an installation in the atrium of the Sioux City Art Center. These students will learn what installation art is and how it compares and contrasts to other forms of art. All students will work together with Artist Connie Herring of Larchwood, Iowa to create one artwork that reflects the effects of the past, present, and future of the Missouri River.

The primary medium to create the installation will be a translucent fabric used to make hot air balloons. The focus of the project will be the Missouri River, and the students, through brainstorming, will decide the content. Contemporary artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude will be used as examples of site-specific installation artists who work with fabric. Students will also create a small collage made from drawings of the atrium, map segments of the Missouri, and some of the fabric used in the installation. All work will take place at the art center Thursday afternoons and installation will begin February 25th-27th. The opening reception will be March 8, 2003, at the Sioux City Art Center from 5:00 to 8:00 P.M. Everyone is welcome to attend.



Example of a Christo Installation over the Arkansas River in Colorado, 1999.

EP-J students chosen to work on an installation art project in Sioux City.

American Education Week Celebrated at EPJ

by Carol King, 2nd Grade

American Education Week is celebrated across the country every November to celebrate all the things that are happening in public schools. The theme, "Making Public Schools Great for Every Child," reflects the cooperation and hard work of all education staff, parents, community members, and business people involved in helping students achieve. At EPJ we are proud of this work, and American Education Week is the time to celebrate that joint effort.

Students in grades 1-6 designed placemats that were distributed in community restaurants and bookmarks that were given to the Community Library that reflected this year's theme. The 7th and 8th grade students participated in an essay contest, and the high school students participated in a trivia game related to education.

Delta Kappa Gamma (DKG) members judged the student essays. DKG is an international society dedicated to the professional growth of educators and excellence in education. The essays were all very good. We can be proud of our young writers. The first place winner was Kara Bosse, second place was Kyle Hanson, and third was Shayna Heinert.

EPJ Web Site Continues to be Updated

by Rod Knutson, H.S. Business

New additions to the school web site include a link to a school tour. This link will take you to a page where you can chose a photo tour or a virtual tour of the Elk Point-Jefferson School.

The "Activities" link has had many additions. The following team stats, pictures, etc. have been added to the following links:

- **Academic Competition** – a calendar is provided for dates of all local quiz bowls, Big Sioux Conference quiz bowls, Destination Imagination, Math Olympiad, National Current Events League, National Geography Bee, and Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl.
- **Arts** – a calendar is provided for Theatrical Arts and Visual Arts. A link is also provided to an art gallery of student work from EPJ.
- **Cross Country** – team photo
- **Football** – team photo, EPJ football records, and game pictures
- **Jr. High Sports** – boys' and girls' track records
- **Music** – band and chorus photos
- **Track & Field** – boys' and girls' track records
- **Volleyball** – team photos of Varsity, JV team, and C team
- **Wrestling** – individual records, state meet placers, top 15 career records

Computer Tip

When searching for a word or words within a document (word processing or the Internet), use the Find tool to quickly locate the word(s). To access the Find tool, press and hold the CTRL key and click the F key, or go to the Edit Menu and select Find. Type in the word or words to search for and click Find Next.

Art Exhibits and Accomplishments at EPJ

by Brenda Kunkel, 6-12 Art

Congratulations to Michael Strassburg, 7th grade, for winning the 2002 Lion's Club Peace Poster Contest. His poster will advance to the regional contest.

High school art students will exhibit the best examples of their works over the semester at the 9-12 music concert December 12, 2002.

Sixth and seventh grade art students will exhibit the best examples of their works from the fall semester at the 5-8 music concert December 16, 2002.



'Tis the reason family living class played hooky from school to go shopping for Secret Santa project for class. Eight students and Mr. Breed and Mrs. Baagoe spent Friday, December 6, filling their orders.

It's a Bird . . . It's a Plane . . . by Melanie Suter, H.S. Science

It's a bird...It's a plane... Wait, it's a rocket!?!? You are right; those were rockets flying through the air October 17, 18, and 22. During the first 9 weeks of school, the freshmen were busy studying motion, force, and acceleration in physical science. As a culminating activity, students constructed model rockets in class the week of October 14-18. At the end of the week, we went outside and shot them off. The students were responsible for measuring the angle at which the rocket took off and the time in flight. With this information, they were able to determine how far their rockets flew. Despite the cold weather, our launch was a success. Even with our excellent retrieval teams, we did lose a few rockets over the neighbors' fence lines, a couple ended on top of the school, and one blew up in air. Congratulations, freshmen for a job well done!!!



Get Ready!



Get Set!



Go!

Showing Pride Taking Action

January 2003

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Girls & Boys BB @ Home w/ Ponca, Ne. @ 5:00	4 AAU Youth Wrestling Tourney @ EPJ @ 9:00am
5	6 Students Return to Classes After the Holidays	7 Girl's BB w/Alcester @ Home @ 5:00	8	9 BBB Big Sioux Conference @ Alcester - EPJ vs Parker @ 6:30 Wrestling @ Harrisburg @ 6:00	10 BBB Big Sioux Conference @ Alcester	11 Little Huskies GBB & BBB (Gr. 3-6): BBB Big Sioux Conf. Finals @ EPJ @ 4:00: All State Band Auditions in Sioux Falls
12	13 Board of Educ. Meeting @ 7:00: JVGBB @ 6:30 JVBBB @ 8:00 w/ Hinton @ Home: JHBBB w/Beresford @ Home @ 4:00	14 BBB w/Alcester Away @ 5:00 Wrestling Quad @ Vermillion @ 5:00	15	16 Big Sioux Conference GBB @ Canton - EPJ vs Canton @ 8:00 JHBBB @ Dakota Valley @ 4:00	17 Big Sioux Conference GBB @ Canton	18 Big Sioux Conf. GBB Finals @ Harrisburg Tri-Valley Wrestling Inv. @ Colton @ 10:00am Little Huskies GBB & BBB
19	20 JHBBB @ Canton @ 4:00	21 GBB & BBB w/ Vermillion @ Home @ 4:00	22 Financial Aid Night @ 7:00	23 GBB @ Parker @ 5:00 JHBBB @ Sioux Falls Christian @ 5:45	24 BBB @ Parker @ 5:00	25 Dakota Valley BB Classic - Girls & Boys Big Sioux Conf. Wrestling @ Alcester @ 11:00 Little Huskies GBB & BBB
26	27 JHBBB @ Harrisburg @ 4:00 Quad State Honors Band @ USD All Activities Banquet @ 6:15	28 GBB & BBB @ Akron, IA @ 5:00 JHBBB w/Alcester @ Home @ 4:00 Wrestling Tri @ EPJ @ 6:00 One-Act Play Contest @ Vermillion	29	30 GBB w/ Hartington Cedar Catholic @ Home @ 5:00	31 GBB & BBB @ Canton Girls @ 4:00 Boys @ 5:15 JHBBB w/Lennox @ Home @ 4:00	

February 2003

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Omaha Roncalli Wrestling Inv. @ 9:00 Little Huskies GBB & BBB (Grades 3-6)
2	3 JHBBB @ Vermillion @ 4:00	4 GBB @ Harrisburg @ 5:00 BBB w/Lennox @ Home @ 5:00 Wrestling w/Lennox @ Home @ 6:00 JHBBB w/Parker @ 4:00	5	6 GBB w/Lennox @ Home @ 5:00 Beresford Wrestling Quad @ 5:00	7 GBB & BBB w/ Dakota Valley @ Home @ 4:00 Sharks Tailgate	8 JHBBB Big Sioux Conference @ 9:00 7th Gr. @ Parker 8th Gr. @ Canton Little Huskies GBB & BBB
9	10 Board of Educ. Meeting @ 7:00 9th -12th Science Fair	11 GBB & BBB @ Homer, NE @ 5:00 Music Boosters Meet @ 7:00	12 Vocal Solo & Ensemble Contest @ Yankton	13 JHBBB w/Dakota Valley @ Home @ 4:00 Dismiss @ 12:45 for Teacher Inservice	14 GBB & BBB w/ Beresford @ Home @ 4:00 NO SCHOOL	15 District Wrestling @ Garretson @ 12:00 Noon Little Huskies GBB & BBB Tourney
16	17 Little Huskies GBB & BBB Tourney (Grades 3-6) NO SCHOOL	18 Little Huskies GBB & BBB Tourney 6:00-8:00 All Activities Booster Club Meet @ 7:00 JHBBB w/ Vermillion @ Home @ 4:00	19	20 EPJ Arts Night @ 7:00	21 BBB @ Harrisburg @ 5:00	22 Region Wrestling @ EPJ @ 11:00 9th GBB @ Beresford @ 9:00 9th BBB @ Canton @ 9:00
23	24 District GBB @ Dakota Valley	25 District GBB Finals @ Sioux Falls Elmen Center	26	27 State Dual Wrestling Meet @ Aberdeen	28 State Wrestling @ Aberdeen	

March 2003

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 State Wrestling @ Aberdeen Destination Imagination Regions
2	3 District BBB @ EPJ @ 6:30	4 Band Solo & Ensemble Contest @ Vermillion Region GBB @ Canton @ 7:30		5	6 District BBB Finals @ Dakota Dome @ 6:30	7 Edgars Basketball Tournament End of Third Quarter
						8 Edgars Basketball Tournament
9	10 Board of Educ. Meeting @ 7:00 Band Concert - Grades 5th - 12th @ 7:00	11 Region BBB @ Sioux Falls Elmen Center Music Booster Meeting @ 7:00		12	13 State Girl's BB @ Rapid City K-12 Variety Show @ 7:00 Dismiss @ 12:45 Teacher Inservice	14 State Girl's BB @ Rapid City
						15 State Girl's BB @ Rapid City
16		17		18	19	20
		18 Parent/Teacher Conference - 4:00 - 8:00 P.M. School Dismiss @ 2:25 Coyote Jazz Festival @ USD		19	20 Parent/Teacher Conference - 4:00 - 8:00 P.M. School Dismiss @ 2:25 State Boy's BB @ Rapid City	21 State Boy's BB @ Rapid City No School
						22 State Boy's BB @ Rapid City
23	24 No School	25		26	27	28
30	31	25 NE Community Jazz Festival @ Norfolk, NE Dan Lennon Track @ USD DakotaDome @ Noon		26	27 Modern Woodman Speech Finals All State Band @ Yankton	28 ESA School Carnival All State Band @ Yankton
						29 Activities Boosters Salt Sale Deliveries All State Band @ Yankton

Boy Oh Boy That is One Big Bubble!

by Angie Langle, 8-12 Math

Recently Mr. Aslesen's 8th grade math class and Mrs. Langle's 8th grade Algebra I class combined knowledge forces on a bubble gum lab. Students were given different brands of gum and gathered data by measuring the diameter of their bubble and weighing the mass of their gum after each bubble was blown. The students then took their data and calculated measurements of central tendency and created bar graphs displaying their data. The students became well-informed consumers based on cost and the diameter of the bubbles blown as to which brand of bubble gum was the best overall.



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