

Dover-Eyota Elementary School

NEWS & NOTES

Issue 7

March 2019



Principal's News by Dr. Jeanne Svobodny

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We made it to March! February was a battle to say the least, wasn't it? I know all the school closings and delays created challenges for you parents with child care arrangements. Hopefully we won't experience another winter like this one until your children have all graduated from high school! Children thrive on consistency and routine so all the disruptions have made learning challenging for many. It is hard to get learning momentum going and sustained with all the cancelations.

As you probably know, the school board made some decisions regarding our make-up days at their February 19th board meeting. **Students will now have regular school days on Friday March 29, Thursday April 18, and Monday April 22.** Teachers will have an additional make-up day on March 1. The 18th and 22nd were listed as potential snow make-up days on our district calendar so these make-up days don't come as much of a surprise. We realize and understand that some families may have made plans to be away for these days.

In the Board's discussion, they did not think it would be beneficial for student learn-

ing to add additional days on to the end-of-the-school year.

You probably have noticed that many districts have used e-learning days this year when the weather has necessitated school cancelations. This concept is being considered by administration for next school year. Our research into flexible learning or e-learning days has resulted in an awareness of pros and cons which administration is weighing carefully. Nothing can replace the learning that occurs face-to-face with a teacher. One concern is that the assignments would be quality or authentic learning and not just "busy work". There is also a concern about what to do if children don't have access to the internet to complete assignments, what to do if multiple children in a family need to use the internet with one device in the home, or if day care providers aren't able to assist with the learning tasks.

Teachers will be providing input as these discussions continue. No one likes to make up weather related school cancelation days so if we can determine how to

make flexible learning meaningful, it will be strongly considered. A district needs to apply to the Minnesota Department of Education to obtain approval of using flexible learning days. Districts are allowed up to 5 flexible learning days in a school year.

Currently, Minnesota requires that schools be in session for so many **minutes**, not days as many people believe. Computing the lost minutes of instruction due to our school cancelations with the minutes gained by adding the make-up days, students at D-E Elementary School are in session more minutes than required. Whew!

Conferences that were scheduled for Monday, February 25 have been rescheduled for **Tuesday March 5**. Conferences are scheduled at their original times unless individually changed with the teacher.

Stay tuned...winter isn't over unfortunately!

Thanks for supporting your child(ren) in oh, so many ways!!

New Fountas & Pinnell Reading System



I just wanted to update you on the implementation of our new literacy curriculum system. Our K-2 teachers have been working very hard to switch from our old Reading Street program to this new program which is structured very differently from what we were using for 10+ years. The literacy system provides materials for large and small group instruction, shared reading, phonics and word study, book clubs, and writing.

The feedback I hear most from K-2 teachers is that our students LOVE reading the books. The pictures in the books are amazing and the content is very interesting to students. Teachers say that students "can't wait" to read the next book which is a very good thing! The structure of the program allows teachers to teach to students' individual skill levels more accurately than our old system did.

Fountas and Pinnell are in the process of expanding their literacy system and instructional materials to 3rd—5th grade. The Fountas & Pinnell materials are very expensive so it worked out well for us that we were able to stagger our purchase and the implementation of the new system over several years. The materials for 3rd—5th grade will be arriving in August so 3rd—5th teachers will begin the implementation process next year. These teachers are currently using one strategy of the new program (Guided Reading) but will now have the actual Fountas & Pinnell books to use during guided reading along with all the other additional components of the new program. We are looking forward to our whole school using the same literacy instructional system.

A huge thanks to Nick Truxel, our district's Teaching and Learning Director, and to Peter Dodds, our PreK-12 Instructional Coach for their support to teachers as they become familiar with the use of the new components of Fountas & Pinnell.

Student Council News

Thank you to everyone who donated to Pennies for Patients which was sponsored by the elementary student council. This year our school raised a total of **\$1,217.57**. For the tenth year in a row, third grade donated the most money bringing in \$448.67. Congratulations third grade. The whole grade level will be dining on pizza someday soon.

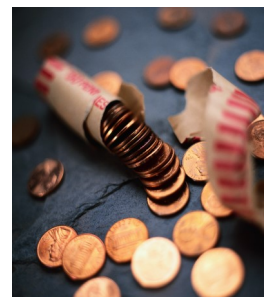
Students also recognized and honored people who have experienced cancer by writing

their names on 90 special hearts and donating a \$1.00 per heart. The special hearts were placed on the Wall of Honor to recognize those impacted by cancer.

Thank you to all who sent in pennies, coins and dollars. We have such a generous school community! We are proud to send the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society a check for \$1,307.57 which will be used for cancer research.

Special thanks to the student council members and to their advisor, Mrs. Kobs, for organizing this meaningful event!

Student Council is sponsoring our Second Quarter Spirit Day which will be **"Twins Day"** on **Friday, March 29**. Dress as a twin, as a Minnesota Twin or in MN Twin colors.



Parents And Teachers Together

Friday March 15: Family Bingo...Back by popular demand. Families had so much fun at our first Family Bingo night that PATT has scheduled a second one. Come and fill up your cards and win a prize. 6:30—8:00. Contact Chelsey Johnson with questions.

Tuesday, March 19: Next PATT Meeting. 6:00 PM in the staff lounge. Everyone is welcome.

Thursday & Friday March 28 & 29: Inflatables in PE. Contact Shauna Young with questions.

Thursday May 9: Annual Plant Sale with a new vendor. Contact Amy Dessner with questions.

YOU ARE INVITED

WHAT: First and Second Grade
Spring Music Program

WHEN: Friday, March 22

"Gettin' Down with Mama Goose"

TIME: 9:25 AM or 2:00 PM (Come
either time as we are trying to improve our lack of parking situation)

WHERE: Dover-Eyota Elementary Gym...Doors won't open until 1:30PM

Come and join us for an afternoon of fun and singing. We have been working hard and look forward to sharing our program with you. Thank you!

Mrs. Kabes, Elementary Music Teacher



Preschool Registration

Registration for next year's preschool classes will be posted on-line beginning Monday March 4.

Please spread the word that families can register for Footsteps, Look-At-Me-I'm 3, Learning Readiness (AM or PM), and/or Transition classes by going to the Early Childhood webpage on our district's website. Class options and fees will be listed. In addition to the registration, all necessary forms may be accessed on-line. The class deposit and registration forms must all be submitted to save your spot. The classes fill up fast so register your child as soon as possible.

At this time, we are planning to offer all of our preschool classes (Footsteps, Look at Me, I'm 3, LRP, and Transition) on the same day and times as this year. Please be aware that classes may be eliminated if few children enroll for the class.

Registration Form

Please Print Information Neatly

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
E-Mail _____

Winner need not be present to win
www.admitoneproducts.com
Form # RF12

Eagle Awards

When adults in the building notice a particular student or a class demonstrating outstanding behaviors, the adult submits an Eagle slip to recognize the student or class. Every two weeks, slips are counted and the grade level class that receives the most Eagle Slips has the privilege of "housing" the award in their classroom for the next two weeks.

Classrooms that earned the Eagle Award for February were:

	12/21 –2/1	2/4—2/15
Kindergarten:	Mrs. Bushman	Mrs. Rowen
First Grade:	Mrs. Kobs	Mrs. Clark
Second Grade:	Ms. Wolf	Ms. Brinkman
Third Grade:	Mrs. Puetz	Mr. Matejka
Fourth Grade:	Ms. Sinn	Mrs. Doschadis
Fifth Grade:	Mrs. Donnay	Mr. Asper



Congratulations classes!! Thanks for being such good role models!

Word-of-the-Week Class Winners for February are:

Mrs. Braun's kindergarten class for "Cooperation", Mr. Matejka's 3rd grade; Mrs. Thompson's 3rd grade class for "Assertion", and Mrs. Donnay's 5th grade class for "Responsibility"

Great job students!



4th & 5th Grade Spring Party

Our 4th & 5th grade "spring party" is coming...we just don't know the date for sure since a snow make-up day was added on March 29. We are trying to change the inflatables from Thursday to Friday March 29 so we can have the party Friday evening. The party will either be Thursday March 28 or Friday March 29. The date and start time will be on the permission forms which will be sent home soon.

Students love the spring party because they get to eat yummy pizza, play on the huge inflatables, and hang out with friends. In addition, they enjoy playing games, the group dances, and the limbo. Hope your child will be able to attend. Parent volunteers to supervise activities are needed.

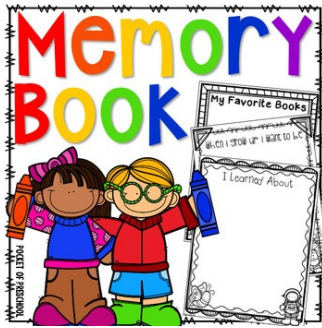
Lost and Found

Our Lost and Found is overflowing right now with a large variety of winter gear...hats, mittens, snow pants, sweatshirts, etc. Please take time at conferences to look through the assortment of items in our Lost and Found and claim what belongs to your child by Friday March 29. What isn't claimed by then will be donated locally. Thank you!



Summer School Information

Summer School dates have been set! Summer School will be Monday –Thursday mornings from 8:30—12:00 June 17—20, June 24—27, July 22—25, and July 29—August 1. Attendance at summer school may have been discussed during conferences. Permission forms will be sent home with report cards at the end of third quarter.



2018-19 Elementary Memory Books

Don't forget to order your 2018-19 Memory Book to capture some of the special moments from your child's school year. Orders can be placed on-line or by hard copy. Orders are due April 5. The cost is \$15.81. Enjoy!



Kindergarten Registration

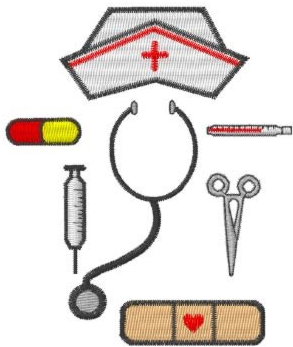
Parents of 2019-2020 kindergarten students are invited to attend Kindergarten Registration with your upcoming kindergarten child on Thursday, March 14. You will be receiving a letter soon with your assigned time (4:30—5:30 or 5:30—6:30) along with additional information regarding this important event. The mailing will also contain kindergarten registration forms.



Please mark this date on your calendars. If you have a child that has a summer birthday and you have decided to have your child wait another year before starting kindergarten, please call the elementary office (545-2632) so that we know of your decision. It is important for us to monitor enrollment numbers carefully. If you feel your child is not quite ready for kindergarten, a developmentally appropriate alternative is our preschool Transition Class that meets three full days a week (Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday) with transportation provided to those who live within the district.

Looking forward to seeing young excited faces.

Nurses' Corner



Please review the attached chart which is a visual of our expectations regarding conditions and a student's return to school. You may want to put this on your refrigerator to refer to when your child exhibits the symptoms. We do want students to be in school, however, if they are sick and have conditions that will spread to others, it is best to keep them at home where they are comfortable until they have met the return to school requirements.

Thank you for your help. It truly takes everyone working together to stop the spread of virus/conditions in an elementary school.

Why Read 20 Minutes at Home Each Day?

Because it makes a huge difference in a student's success in school! Please take note of the book graphic that is attached to this issue of the News & Notes to see the importance of reading at home.

If students start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of **60** school days, Student B will have read for **12** school days, and Student C will have read for **3**. The gap in skills that students gain when reading for 60 days verses 3 days is huge! Please help your child have the advantage of staying ahead instead of getting behind.



March 21 Crazy Socks Day

Wear a pair of crazy socks or mis-matched socks in recognition of Down Syndrome Awareness Day.



Rescheduled Group Pictures

Peter Schuneman from PocketWatch Photo will be taking group pictures early in the day on **Tuesday, March 5th**. Students who are in Math Wizards, Academic Triathlon, Elementary Choir, Student Council, School Patrol, will have pictures taken at this time for the yearbook.



Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments

'Tis the season!

Our state reading and math assessments for grades 3-5 start in March. It is important that your child is in school for these important assessments.

Reading

Third Grade: All classes March 19—March 22 in the morning
Fourth Grade: Sinn & Doschadis March 26—29; Karsjens & Benike April 2—5
Fifth Grade: Kruger & Zars March 26—29; Asper & Donnay April 2—5.

Math

Third Grade: All classes April 9—11 in am
Fourth Grade: All classes April 9—11 in am
Fifth Grade: All classes April 9—11 in am

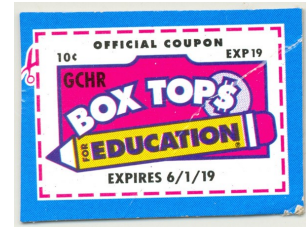
Science (5th only): All classes April 30 in am

Make-ups: May 1—3

Please try to have your child get extra rest and a healthy breakfast to help them feel rested and have stamina for the assessments. Thank you!

**Fifth Grade Graduation is Monday June 3 at 1:30.
4th & 5th Awards at 12:45 in elementary gym.**

Collections



There is little time left to turn in your Milk Moola caps and bag tops as the program ends the first of April. To have time to count and record our amounts we need all Milk Moola caps and bag tops by **Wednesday, March 27**. Thanks to everyone who has faithfully donated caps and bag tops to us. The money raised has gone to purchase a variety of classroom instructional materials for our students as well as some needed materials for our school.

We are also collecting Tyson frozen chicken products A+ UPC symbols as well as Country Hearth or Village Hearth bread UPCs. Please just cut off the UPC, rinse to clean and collect in a zip-lock bag or envelope and send to school anytime. Students can give them to their teachers to send to the office or you can drop them off in the collection bin in our school entryway. Thank you so much!

The student council wants to thank everyone for sending in Box Tops. This program funds our student council events as well as student council money donations to various causes. Just a gentle reminder to check the expiration dates before sending them in. The next submission date is June, 2019. Again, huge thanks for your support!

Important End-of-Year Dates



Friday May 10:	2:00 PM Elementary Band/Choir Concert
Thursday May 16:	7:00 PM Fifth Grade Musical
Friday May 17:	K-2 Activities Day
Thursday May 23:	9:00 AM LRP Graduation
	1:15 PM LRP & Transition Graduation
Friday May 24:	AM 3rd—5th Track & Field Day
	12:45 Senior Walk-through Elementary
Monday June 3:	12:45 PM 4th & 5th Awards Program
	1:30 PM 5th Grade Graduation



Second Quarter Artists

Congratulations to the following students for being selected by Mrs. Peterson as our "Second Quarter Artists" for their special art project.

Kinder: Emersyn Hinz (Rowen) –Snowman Looks Up Collage
 Kinder: Owen Welp (Bushman) –Mondrian Inspired Painting
 1st Grade: Ted Pedersen (Clark) –Winter Landscape Collage and Painting
 1st Grade: Layli Sexton (Kobs) –Chalk Polar Bear Drawing
 1st Grade: Luka Tomic (Keller) –Ceramic Pinch Pot Animal Sculpture
 4th Grade: Ava Monroe (Karsjens) –Relief Sculpture Name Plaque
 4th Grade: Kale Young (Karsjens) –Monochromatic Self-portrait Painting

Pictures Coming Next Month



Dover-Eyota Elementary School
27 Knowledge Road SW
Eyota, MN 55934
507-545-2632
Toll free 1-888-272-0189

Check us out on the
web! www.desch.org



Thank you to the amazing
parents/grandparents who
helped at the Valentine's
parties. WOW!

Huge thanks to each of
you who planned creative
crafts, games and food for
the children to enjoy.
They had such a great
time!



Summer 2019 Mark Your Calendars

Summer Arts Camp: July 15—19 9:00—11:30 @ elem.

Summer School : Mornings Only (Mon.—Thur.)
June 17—20
June 24—27
July 22—25
July 29-August 1

If you have any bus concerns, please call the transportation department at 507-545-2633 or 866-847-9863. They will be able to assist you by speaking directly with the drivers and/or watching the bus tapes. Thank you.

Up-coming Dates

Tuesdays March 5, 12, 19, 26	3:00—5:00 PM Open Computer Lab 3. Come join us!
Monday, March 4	Preschool Registration On-line Opens
Tuesday, March 5	Group Pictures Rescheduled Conferences 3:30—7:00 PM
Thursday, March 7	Footsteps Waterpark Trip in AM
Monday, March 11	6:00 PM School Board Meeting (Note time change)
Thursday, March 14	Elementary Skate Day Kindergarten Registration (4:30 or 5:30)
Friday, March 15	Elementary Skate Day
Tuesday, March 19	MCA Testing Begins 6:00 PM PATT meeting in staff lounge
Thursday, March 21	Crazy Socks Day
Friday, March 22	1st & 2nd Grade Music Program 9:25 & 2:00
Thursday, March 28	Inflatables
Friday, March 29	End-of-3rd Quarter "Twins" Spirit Day Potential 4th and 5th Grade Spring Party 6:30—8:30