

WINTER 2018

# ELCO Communicator

A Newsletter for the Residents of Eastern Lebanon County School District

## HIGHLIGHTS:

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## Eastern Lebanon County School District's Mission Statement

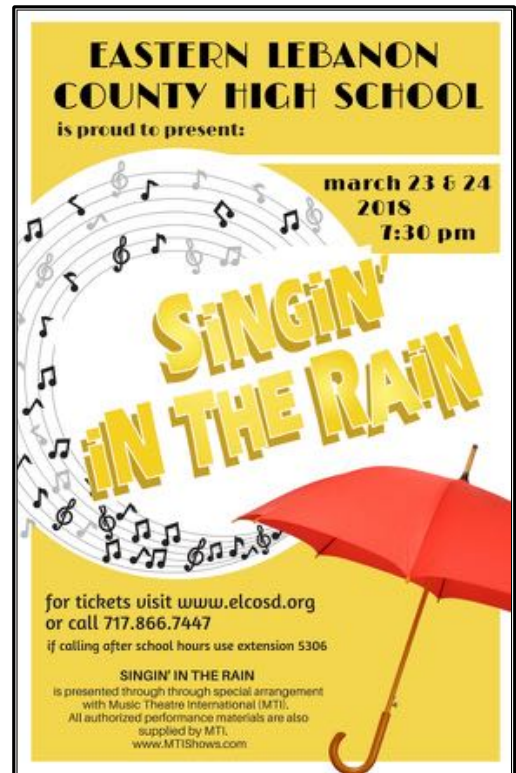
*The mission of the ELCO School District is to prepare ALL students, K-12, to be successful for THEIR futures.*

## SPRING MUSICAL at ELCO *Singin' in the Rain*

Eastern Lebanon County High School is pleased to present their 2018 musical, *Singin' in the Rain*! This musical is based on the beloved classic Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer film and is presented through special arrangement with Warner Bros. Theatre Ventures and Music Theatre International (MTI). The screen play was written by Betty Comden and Adolph Green and the music was written by Nacio Herb Brown and Arthur Freed.

The plot of this show is actually an autobiography of Hollywood. This story details the transition from silent films to talking motion pictures and musicals.

*Continued....Page 2*



## KINDERGARTEN 2018-2019 INFORMATION

If you have a child who will be turning 5 years old on or before September 1, 2018, he or she is eligible to be registered for Kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school year.

A Kindergarten Orientation Meeting will be held on March 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the ELCO Middle School Forum (*parents only, please*). Enrollment packets containing all necessary paperwork required for your child's enrollment will be available at this meeting.

You may also complete the required paperwork prior to the Orientation Meeting. Enrollment information packets are available at both K-2 buildings (Fort Zeller or Jackson Elementary School), as well as the District Office. This same information may also be downloaded from the ELCO website under "*District Information*".

All enrollment forms are to be completed and returned to the DISTRICT OFFICE no later than April 6, 2018. We understand that some forms and appointments (dental and physical exams) may not be completed by this time; however, please turn in all other paperwork prior to these appointments. Turning all documents in as soon as possible gives us ample time for processing of information prior to your child's Kindergarten Screening.

*Continued....Page 2*

**KINDERGARTEN 2018-2019 INFORMATION.... Continued**

Please try to have as much paperwork completed & submitted as soon as possible and necessary appointments scheduled! **Upon returning the required paperwork**, you will receive the date and time of your child's Kindergarten Screening.

- **For students living in the Fort Zeller area, your child's screening will be held either April 10 or April 11, 2018.**
- **For students living in the Jackson area, your child's screening will be held either April 12 or April 13, 2018.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact: Fort Zeller Elementary (610) 589-2575, Jackson Elementary (717) 866-2624, or the District Office (717) 866-7117. We are glad to help!

**SPRING MUSICAL.... Continued**

The story is about the handsome and romantic silent film star, Don Lockwood (played by Luke Reinhart) and his glamorous blonde screen partner/diva, Lina Lamont, (portrayed by Kaylee Hackman). The Hollywood duo Lina and Don are a huge hit onscreen and rumored to be quite the hot pair offstage.

They are pressured by the studio boss R.F. Simpson (Nick Shanfelder) to make their first sound picture, renamed as the musical *The Dancing Cavalier*. There's one serious problem; however, Lina's less than perfect voice! The star's ex-song-and-dance partner, Cosmo Brown (David Deitz) proposes to turn the doomed film into a musical, and suggests that Don's new girlfriend, aspiring actress, Kathy Selden (Kaley Michael) dub in her singing voice behind the scenes for lip-synching Lina. The results of their scheming may doom not only the movie, but their careers, as well.

- ❖ **The Myerstown Rotary Club will be hosting a special Senior Citizen Breakfast and Performance on Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.** Breakfast will be served at 8:00 a.m. in the ELCO High School Cafeteria. The show will begin at 9:30 a.m. Any senior citizen interested in attending the breakfast should pick up a free ticket from the High School Office.
- ❖ **Additional performances are scheduled for Friday, March 23 and Saturday, March 24, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for students/senior citizens and \$10 for adults and will go on sale in late February.**

You can preorder tickets by calling the High School Office (717) 866-7447, during working hours. After school hours please call (717) 866-7447 ext. 5306 or visit the ELCO School District webpage at [www.elcosd.org](http://www.elcosd.org).

**MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS**

These five gentlemen represented ELCO proudly at the PMEA District 7 Chorus Festival. This year's festival was held on January 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> at Susquehannock High School where the singers were part of the 224-member chorus. Congratulations to these extremely talented Raiders and best wishes to them as some advance to Regional Chorus in March!



**Left to Right:**  
Jacob Hitz,  
Clark Lovell,  
David Deitz,  
Luke Reinhart &  
Nick Shanfelder



**ELCO HALL OF FAME***Hall of Fame*

The *Eastern Lebanon County School District Hall of Fame* seeks to recognize individuals who have achieved noteworthy and outstanding accomplishments in their chosen fields and who will serve as role models for students currently enrolled in the ELCO School District. Individuals who are selected to the ELCO School District Hall of Fame are recognized during ELCO's Homecoming activities in the fall of each year. Additionally, a commemorative plaque signifying the individual's selection is hung on the "ELCO Hall of Fame" wall, which is located in the main hallway of the ELCO High School.

In order to be considered for selection into the ELCO School District Hall of Fame, candidates must have been a member of a class that graduated at least 10 years prior to nomination and must have attended public school within the boundaries of the Eastern Lebanon County School District. Previous nominees have demonstrated outstanding records of performance in a profession, business, occupation, and/or public service. Once nominated, that candidate will be considered for five (5) consecutive years and need not be nominated each year; nominated individuals may have pertinent material added to their application as long as the information is submitted by the deadline for all nominations as stated below. In the event an individual is not selected within five (5) years of being nominated, a new nomination form must be submitted for future consideration.

Nomination forms for the 2018 ELCO School District Hall of Fame will be available in the coming weeks on the school district's website and in the ELCO High School main office. Nomination forms and supporting documentation must be submitted to the High School office by **Monday, May 14, 2018** in order to be considered for the 2018 Hall of Fame selection. After this date, a selection committee, comprised of individuals representing the school community, will review all received nomination forms and the 2018 ELCO Hall of Fame inductee will be chosen.

The ELCO School District is looking for anyone from the community who would be willing to help plan the events for the 2018 ELCO School District Hall of Fame. The District is also seeking community members who would be willing to serve on the selection committee to review the nominees and ultimately be involved in the selection of the 2018 ELCO School District Hall of Fame inductee. If you are interested in serving on either of these committees, please contact Mr. Craig A. Soden, High School Assistant Principal, no later than **Monday, May 14, 2018**, by calling 717-866-7447 ext. 2004 or by sending an email to [csoden@elcosd.org](mailto:csoden@elcosd.org) to express your interest.

**PROFESSIONAL & SUPPORT STAFF MEMBER OF THE YEAR****Nominations Due by April 13<sup>th</sup>**

The purpose of the Eastern Lebanon County Professional & Support Staff Recognition Program is to highlight the outstanding efforts and accomplishments of staff members who continue to demonstrate excellence in their respective assignment. The program serves to honor those members who consistently implement appropriate methods and strategies, which are proven to be effective, while advancing the goals and objectives of the school district.

Nominations may be made by parents, administrators, and/or colleagues. Applications may be found in the office at each school building or online at [www.elcosd.org](http://www.elcosd.org) (located under "District News & Announcements").

Applications are due by Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup> and should be submitted to Tina Kunder in the ELCO District Office.

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ELCO STUDENTS OF THE MONTH!

## INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

### October 2017

Ayla Zwally,  
daughter of Amanda  
and Eric Zwally



Joshua Blair,  
son of Karen and Doug  
Blair



### November 2017

Makenna Haas,  
daughter of Jennifer  
and Jason Haas



Jonathan Fisher,  
son of Maria and  
Michael Fisher



### December 2017

Gabrielle Smith,  
daughter of Tracey and  
Duane Smith



Michael Books,  
son of Lori and Bill  
Books



### January 2018

Olivia Winters,  
daughter of Tiffany and  
Andrew Winters



Micah Gray,  
son of Ruthanne  
and Greg Gray



## MIDDLE SCHOOL

### October 2017

Gabriella Bicher,  
daughter of Angie and  
Travis Bicher



Nathan Sanchez,  
son of Karen and  
Matthew Sanchez



### November 2017

Lucy Bickel,  
daughter of Maria and  
Jonathan Bickel



Timothy Shklyar,  
son of Olga and  
Peter Shklyar





**Students of the Month....Continued**

**December 2017**

Campbelle Boltz,  
daughter of Dennie  
and Robert Boltz



Jordan Hershey,  
son of Becky and  
Derrick Hershey



**January 2018**

Saige Blatt,  
daughter of Jen and  
Craig Blatt



Branden Keath,  
son of Kristi and  
Daryl Keath



**HIGH SCHOOL**

**October 2017**

Jalissa Nolt,  
daughter of Anita and  
Darin Nolt



Dylan Martin,  
son of Joanne and Ray  
Martin



**November 2017**

Hailey Seyfert,  
daughter of  
Beth and Paul Seyfert



Grant Brubaker,  
son of Sharon and  
Dale Brubaker



**December 2017**

Vivian Lattanze,  
daughter of Stacey and  
Christopher Lattanze



Jacob Heckert,  
son of Michelle and  
Aaron Heckert



**January 2018**

Alexandra Gates,  
daughter of Shannon and  
Andrew Gates



Chance Leed,  
son of Tess and Tom  
Leed



## ATHLETICALLY SPEAKING

As the winter season winds down, let's take note of what has been happening with the sports programs here at ELCO. We have approximately two hundred students participating on our winter teams. All of these athletes are growing and learning through participation in athletics. The varsity activities we offer through the winter months are cheerleading, bowling, wrestling, indoor track & field, and girls' and boys' basketball. We also offer wrestling, basketball, and cheerleading on the junior high level.

### Cheerleading

The cheerleading squad can be seen and heard at the boys' basketball games. This winter season consists of fifteen girls. The squad is coached by third year head coach Alysha Burkholder and the assistant coach is Elizabeth Yearwood.

### Wrestling

The wrestling team is currently 14-6 with one match still remaining on the schedule. The team hosted two tournaments at ELCO this year. Good luck to all the wrestlers that will advance into individual post-season competition.

### Bowling

The bowling team is in a rebuilding season under the direction of first year head coach Frannie Slabonik. The team finished the season with a 7-84 record. Jacob Hitz is the top bowler on the team and has a chance to qualify for the District Tournament.

### Girls' Basketball

The girls' basketball team finished the season with an 11-11 record. Rylelle Shuey is the top scorer for the Raiders and many other underclassmen on the team return next year.

### Boys' Basketball

The boys' team finished the regular season with a 12-10 record. Congratulations to the team who qualified for the District III Tournament, which takes 10 teams into the 4A Classification Tournament.

### Swimming

ELCO does not offer the sport of swimming, but students can compete as individuals in hopes of qualifying for league and district meets. Emma Flesher, Danika Boltz, Dawson Hartranft, and Adam Stickler competed for ELCO this season.

### Indoor Winter Track & Field

We have 10 boys and 15 girls involved with the winter track team. They participated at the Franklin & Marshall and Lebanon Valley College Invitational Meets this season. Michael Harnish serves as the head coach and is assisted by Kelsey Thorley.

### Spring Sport Physicals

Before we know it, the snow and cold temperatures will be gone. Flowers will begin to bloom, temperatures rise, and the ELCO spring sports teams will be starting to practice. Come out and support our athletic teams during the spring season. Physicals for spring athletes will be held on Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the High School Cafeteria. Athletes should report with their completed physical form and \$25. Athletes who have already received a physical for either fall or winter do not need to report. To be recertified for the spring season, they should complete and submit the recertification form, which can be picked up in the main office or athletic trainer's room.

### Social Networking

- Please follow ELCO Athletics on Twitter to get updates on scores, postponements, and other important information about the ELCO athletic department. The account is @\_dbohannon
- For updated weekly sports schedules, cancellations or postponements, call the athletic office by dialing (717) 866-7447 and choosing option. 3, option 4, and finally option 1.



## ART DEPARTMENT NEWS



Madeline Horst, 8th grade student, was awarded a Gold Key for her ceramics and glass piece titled, "Octoglass," and a Silver Key for her sculpture titled, "Becka" from the 2018 South Central Pennsylvania Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. Her

Gold Key piece will now advance to the national level! It will also be on display from March 10<sup>th</sup> to May 6<sup>th</sup> at the State Museum in Harrisburg.



Junior art student, Dana Lovell, was also recognized for receiving 'Honorable Mention' for her graphite pencil drawing titled, "Fly Away," which she entered in the Scholastic Art Awards.

## CELEBRATE THE ARTS DISTRICT-WIDE ART SHOW

*Tuesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> - 5-9 p.m. - ELCO High School*

The Elco School District *Celebrate the Arts Show* will take place on Tuesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> from 5-9 p.m. in the High School. The event will feature the visual artwork of students in the district (K-12) who participate in art classes. Senior art students will be showcasing their work in the High School Library.

Additional features include ROCS, Jazz Band and Middle School ECHOS performances and other curricular displays. We hope that you will be able to attend this event to support and honor the creativity of the students of the Elco School District.

## RAIDERTHON

On Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, the ELCO High School held RaiderTHON to raise funds for the Four Diamonds (<https://www.fourdiamonds.org/>) whose mission is to conquer childhood cancer. Each year a monetary goal of donations is set, and we are very happy to share that this year's goal of **\$10,000** was met.

Thank you to all who donated funds and/or supplies, volunteered time at the event, and supported our students as they participated.





## ELCO TENNIS AT THE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

For the 8th year in a row, Cathy Shaak, Central PA United States Tennis Association (USTA) representative and one of ELCO's boys' and girls' tennis coaches; once again, spent a week with our 3rd through 5th grade ELCO Intermediate students. During Phys Ed, students were introduced to the "lifetime" sport of tennis. Students enjoyed the opportunity to experience fun skills, mini games and the energy and excitement from our instructors!

Joining coach Cathy were, daughter, Maddy Shaak (2013 ELCO graduate and 2017 West Chester University graduate, where she was captain and also their number two singles player), and Sydney Nye (2016 ELCO graduate who attends Penn State Harrisburg where she is continuing her athletics as a collegiate tennis player and number one singles player).

The students of the ELCO Intermediate School and Phys Ed teacher, Mrs. Slabonik extend their gratitude to those involved for sharing their knowledge and love of the game. Students can also look forward to the after-school tennis program, which is being offered in February.





## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ELCO EMT PROGRAM

Through a grant received from the William Penn Foundation, several "Making an Impact" videos, depicting various unique programs in the commonwealth's public schools, were developed in a joint effort by PSBA, Pennsylvania Principals Association, the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators, the Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials, the Pennsylvania Association of Intermediate Units and the Pennsylvania Association of Rural and Small Schools. To watch the video highlighting the high school's unique EMT program (one of the few to be part of a high school's curriculum) log on to:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=McDE-q4SRdI>



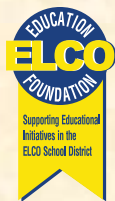
Thank you to the William Penn Foundation  
and all the partnering organizations  
who made this possible:



## ELCO EDUCATION FOUNDATION

### ELCO EDUCATION FOUNDATION 2017 EITC CONTRIBUTIONS

The ELCO Education Foundation wishes to thank the following businesses that made Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) donations to the Foundation. Your support has benefitted students throughout the ELCO School District at all levels. Thank you for your generosity!



**BB&T Bank**  
**Brightbill Body Works, Inc.**  
**Ephrata National Bank**  
**First Citizens Community Bank**  
**Waste Management**

**THANK  
YOU!!**

For more information about the Foundation please see the following page on the ELCO website <https://www.elcosd.org/domain/15>. For questions please contact Tina Kunder, Foundation Secretary by calling (717)866-7117 ext. 2313 or by email at [tkunder@elcosd.org](mailto:tkunder@elcosd.org).



*Mr. James Rovito and Mr. Sean McKinney of First Citizens Community Bank present a check to ELCO Superintendent, Mrs. Vicente for the ELCO Education Foundation.*

## ELCO SENIOR VOLUNTEER TAX PROGRAM

### Applications Due by June 30<sup>th</sup>

The ELCO School District will, again, offer an opportunity for retired senior citizen homeowners who are 60 years of age or older, to participate in the senior volunteer tax work-off program.

The program allows retired senior citizens to volunteer up to 76 hours at \$7.25 per hour, for a tax credit totaling a maximum of \$550. Participants may continue to volunteer after reaching 76 hours but will not receive tax credit for those hours. Tasks may include selling tickets at athletic events, tutoring children, assisting with drama productions, serving as an advisor to student groups, working as substitute custodians, or grounds keeping within the district. Clearances are required for anyone working in a public school. They can be acquired at no cost when choosing "Volunteer".

**Applications must be submitted annually** and are available on the ELCO website by choosing the "**District Information**" link and "**Volunteering within the District**" or by contacting Tina Kunder at (717)866-7117 ext. 2313.



**COURTESY OF PSBA INFORMED Vol. 2, Winter 2018****New Law Impacts Public Education**

Parents should be aware of these changes in state law under Act 55 of 2017 that became effective on Nov. 6, 2017:

**Delay in graduation requirements:** The use of state Keystone Exams in Algebra I, Biology and Literature as a graduation requirement is delayed until the 2019-20 school year.

**School meals:** Schools may not deny a meal to a student, regardless of whether he or she has money to pay for the meal or owes money. Students who cannot pay or owe money cannot be publicly identified or stigmatized, be required to perform chores or forced to discard a meal after it was served.

**Emergency drills:** Schools may conduct a security drill to practice procedures to respond to an emergency situation, such as an act of terrorism, armed intruder situation or other violent threat. Schools must notify and request assistance from local law enforcement and emergency management agencies, and must notify parents in advance of the drill.

**Opioid abuse prevention:** Beginning in the 2018-19 school year, schools must provide instruction to students in grades 6-12 related to the prevention of opioid abuse.

**Agricultural education:** The subject of forestry is added to the list of agricultural education topics for which the state must provide resources and programming to students in grades K-12. A new Commission for Agricultural Education Excellence will assist the Departments of Education and Agriculture in continuing efforts regarding agricultural education.

**PSSA Test changes for spring 2018**

The PA Department of Education (PDE) announced that students in grades 3 through 8 will spend an average of 20% less time on statewide PSSA testing this year, and an even greater reduction – nearly 25% - for the youngest students. The tests have been shortened without changing the rigor of these assessments, which could eliminate up to two full testing days for some schools. For test administration in 2019, PDE anticipates shortening that window and moving it toward the end of the year to provide teachers more time for instruction and to minimize disruptions to classes.

**National look at parent and family involvement**

According to data recently released by the National Center for Education Statistics:

- 89% of students had parents who reported attending a school or a parent-teacher organization or association meeting.
- 78% of students had parents who attended a school or class event; 43% had parents who volunteered or served on a school committee; 59% had parents who participated in school fundraising; and 33% had parents who met with a guidance counselor.
- 83% of students in grades K-2 had parents who felt that the amount of homework their child is assigned is “about right.” This percentage was significantly higher than the percentage for students in grades 3-5 (75%), students in grades 6-8 (73%), and students in grades 9-12 (70%).
- According to their parents, 94% of students in grades K-12 did homework outside of school. Among those students, 86% had a place set aside for homework in their home and 66% had an adult in the household who checked that their homework was done.

NCES: Parent and Family Involvement in Education; Results from the National Household Education Surveys Program of 2016.

## EASTERN LEBANON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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**[WWW.ELCOSD.ORG](http://WWW.ELCOSD.ORG)**

The Eastern Lebanon County School District is an equal opportunity educational institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex and handicap in its activities, programs or employment practices, as required by Title VI, Title IX and Section 504. For information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures, contact Mrs. Amy Shoemaker, Title IX Coordinator, 180 ELCO Drive, Myerstown, PA 17067 (717) 866-7117.

### Early Dismissal:

HS	7:30 a.m.	12:20 p.m.
MS	7:35 a.m.	12:30 p.m.
IS	8:45 a.m.	1:15 p.m.
Elementary	9:00 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
AM Kdg.	9:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
PM Kdg.	11:45 a.m.	1:30 p.m.

*\*Weather Related Dismissals – no PM Kindergarten*

### Two-Hour Delay:

HS	9:30 a.m.	2:20 p.m.
MS	9:35 a.m.	2:30 p.m.
IS	10:45 a.m.	3:15 p.m.
Elementary	11:00 a.m.	3:30 p.m.
AM Kdg.	11:00 a.m.	12:45 p.m.
PM Kdg.	1:45 p.m.	3:30 p.m.

**The ELCO  
Communicator**

Eastern Lebanon County School District  
180 ELCO Drive  
Myerstown, PA 17067

## MYERSTOWN-ELCO ROTARY



***"SERVICE ABOVE SELF"***

### SERVICES PROVIDED BY ROTARY

- ELCO Student Sponsor:
  - Scholarships for College-Bound Seniors
  - Student of the Month Breakfasts
  - Rotary Youth Leadership Conference (RYLA)
  - Breakfast Recognition for First Responders, Enlisted in Military, Active Seniors
- Support Senior Citizens in the ELCO District by Providing Free Breakfast Prior to School Musical
- Support Given to: Local Libraries, Fire Companies, & Needy Families
- Donated 400 Thanksgiving Turkeys to Local Needy Families in Lebanon County
- Sponsor International Well Project in El Salvador
- Sponsor Three Children at the Mortel Foundation (Haiti)
- Participant and Sponsor in the Myerstown Parade/American Heart Walk