

WINTER 2015

ELCO Communicator

A Newsletter for the Residents of Eastern Lebanon County School District

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EASTERN LEBANON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT'S MISSION STATEMENT

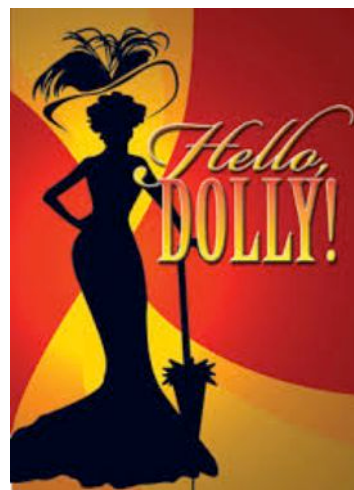
To provide quality educational opportunities for all students so that, as citizens, they can successfully meet the challenges and responsibilities of the future.

SPRING MUSICAL at ELCO "Hello, Dolly!"

March 13TH & 14TH

This year's ELCO High School Musical performance will be *Hello, Dolly!* The show, *Hello, Dolly!* was written by Michael Stewart and features music and lyrics by Jerry Herman. It is based on the play "The Matchmaker" by Thornton Wilder.

This musical is about a witty matchmaker, who goes by the name of Dolly Gallagher Levi. Dolly, a widow from New York, finds herself in Yonkers, New York, working for Mr. Horace Vandergelder. Her job is to find him a new wife. Horace is not the only one looking for love. His two assistants have found themselves in a web of love-related complications with a milliner named Irene Malloy, and her assistant Minnie Fay. Will Dolly be able to find Horace his perfect match? With heartfelt songs and comedic dancing, this musical is sure to knock you



hats off! Be sure to *Put On Your Sunday Clothes* and come out to see ELCO High School's 2015 production of *Hello, Dolly!* Don't let *The Parade Pass You By*.

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KINDERGARTEN 2015-2016 INFORMATION

REGISTRATION

If you have a child who will be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2015, he or she is eligible to be registered for Kindergarten during the 2015-2016 school year. A packet containing all necessary paperwork required for your child to begin Kindergarten in the fall, may be picked-up at either Fort Zeller Elementary School or Jackson Elementary School beginning the week of **January 26, 2015 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. daily**. Or, if you prefer you may download the documents from the website. They can be found from the following location: District Information - Student Registration - Kindergarten Students.



It is requested that all forms be completed and returned to your respective elementary school office no later than April 10, 2015. We understand that some forms and appointments (dental and physical exams) may not be completed by this time; however, this date will allow ample time for processing of information prior to your child's kindergarten screening which will occur during the week of April 27 through April 30, 2015. Please try to have as much paperwork completed as possible and necessary appointments scheduled! Upon returning the required paperwork, you will receive the date and time of your child's kindergarten screening.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact one of the elementary schools: Fort Zeller Elementary - (610) 589-2575 or Jackson Elementary - (717) 866-2624. We are glad to help!

Spring Musical....*Continued*

Playing the lovely Dolly Levi is Jackie Schoener. Griffin Yeyna will portray Horace Vandergelder. Michael Schaeffer will charm audiences as Cornelius Hackl. Newcomer Nick Shanfelder will play Barnaby Tucker. LeeAnna Capretti will perform the role of Irene Malloy. Kayla Light will delight audiences as Minnie Fay. The show also features Tyler McConnell as Ambrose Kemper; Olivia Burkhart as Ermengarde; and Kaitlyn Groff as Ernestina.

The high school has again teamed up with the Rotary Club to provide a special senior citizen breakfast and performance scheduled on Tuesday, March 10, 2015. Breakfast will be served at 8 a.m. in the ELCO High School cafeteria. The show will begin at 9 a.m. Free tickets are available in the high school office for seniors living in the district.

Additional performances are scheduled for Friday, March 13 and Saturday, March 14, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$8 for students and senior citizens and \$10 for adults. You can preorder tickets by calling 717-866-7447 ext. 5306, or by visiting the ELCO School District webpage at www.elcosd.org

ELCO 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.

Nomination forms for the 2015 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 **Thursday, May 14, 2015** in order to be considered for the 2015 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 2015 ELCO Hall of Fame inductee will be chosen.

The ELCO School District is looking for community members who would be willing to serve on an operational committee to help plan the events for the 2015 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 2015 ELCO School District Hall of Fame inductee. If you are interested in serving on either of these committees, please contact Mr. Richard R. Sweger, Jr., High School Assistant Principal, no later than **Friday, May 1, 2015**, by calling 717-866-7447 ext. 2004 or by sending an email to rsweiger@elcosd.org to express your interest.

JACKSON ELEMENTARY WINS FRIGO CHEESE HEADS COMPANY - ***BUILD A BRIGHT FUTURE PROMOTION***

It is with great pleasure that I have the opportunity to communicate this wonderful news with the ELCO community. Jackson Elementary School has been blessed to have such wonderful support and outreach from students, teachers, parents, the PTO, and the community to rally behind the Parham Family and support our cause to purchase inclusive playground equipment for the school.

In honor of their son, Rees Parham, Mr. and Mrs. Parham asked for their Make-a-Wish® contribution to be put towards inclusive playground equipment for students with special needs. The Make-a-Wish Foundation of America® contributed \$9,000 to the

ELCO School District to help kick start fundraising efforts to purchase the playground equipment. Unfortunately, playground equipment for schools is expensive and will cost approximately \$50,000 or more. As this is a great start, we have a long way to go to accomplish this goal.

In the beginning of the school year, Jackson Elementary School PTO President, Mrs. Paula Plummer, organized an application for a promotion she found to help raise money for the new playground at Jackson Elementary School. This was the ***Build a Bright Future Promotion*** run by the Frigo® Cheese Heads Company®, which is a division of Saputo Cheese USA, Inc. Information, along with the application, was sent home with all students the first week of school for this national contest. Mrs. Plummer organized and promoted the reason for the contest and helped to encourage the community to submit the application for Jackson Elementary School to win the promotion.

Around mid October of 2014, I was contacted by Saputo Cheese USA, Inc. and told that Jackson Elementary School was nominated as one of the top 10 schools in the country. This prestigious honor guaranteed Jackson Elementary to receive \$1,000 and the chance to win a total of \$4,000! With the wonderful efforts of members from the Jackson Elementary PTO, we started getting the word out to vote for Jackson Elementary School to become a possible winner of the grand prize of \$4,000! In true ELCO fashion, the community rallied around this family and the voting began.

After being told Jackson Elementary School was one of the top five schools in the country, we quickly organized an assembly with the help of representatives from the Frigo® Cheese Heads Company® to present the check with the Parham Family and students present. Representatives told us that they were surprised and “awe struck” when driving through our community. They felt a great sense of pride and went on to tell us that our school, Jackson Elementary, received the most application entries in the country for this promotion. In addition to the most applications submitted, our school received the most votes in the country! In fact, we received over 7,000 more votes than the next school nominated!

The winning entry was written and submitted by Mrs. Michelle Wolf. Her entry was posted on the Frigo® Cheese Heads Company® Facebook page, which is where the voting took place. This was one of many entries that was submitted by members of the ELCO community. Mrs. Wolf wrote the following:

Our project is in loving memory of an 8 year old little boy, whom was dealt an incurable disease. One that has taken so many others, all too young, all too small, all too many. Cancer, a 6 letter word that no family wants to hear especially applied to a child, or your child. The Parham family lost a piece of their heart earlier this year.



JACKSON ELEMENTARY WINS FRIGO CHEESE HEADS COMPANY...*Continued*

Their wish is to donate a playground in their son's school in memory of him, so that other children can share their son's joy of playing. To which project is most deserving of a donation, one must be asking. Well, a project that is built piece by piece, hand by hand, heart by heart, friend by friend, memory by memory, sounds, at most, the best pick, a small town, tight knit community coming together in loving memory, building a playground for all children to enjoy years and years to come. Perhaps Elmo says it best, "one small voice, can teach the world a song. Start with one small voice till another comes along... Then you'll feel the music growing full and sure and strong. One small voice can teach the world a song."

Once again we are reminded of the thoughtful, committed, and prideful community of the ELCO School District! We are excited about the continued efforts of the community to see this project through and I look forward to more exciting news to come as we continue raising funds for our playground. Please keep a close eye out for opportunities to help our cause to support the Parham Family and Jackson Elementary School's quest for new inclusive playground equipment!

PROFESSIONAL STAFF MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Nominations Due by April 17th

The purpose of the Eastern Lebanon County Professional Staff Recognition Program is to highlight the outstanding efforts and accomplishments of professional staff members who consistently demonstrate excellence in their respective assignment. The program serves to honor those staff members who consistently implement appropriate methods and strategies, which are proven to be effective, while advancing the goals and objectives of the school district. Professional staff recognized through this program will be those who demonstrate a commitment to the educational profession and to enhancing the status of the profession.

Nominations may be made by parents, administrators, and/or colleagues. Applications may be found in the office at each school building or downloaded from the ELCO website and are due by April 17th.

Please send completed applications to Tina Kunder, ELCO District Office, 180 ELCO Drive, Myerstown, PA 17067.

SENIOR VOLUNTEER TAX PROGRAM

Applications Due by June 30th

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.

A criminal history and child abuse background check is required for anyone working in a public school. The cost of the background checks is \$10 each for a total of \$20 per person.

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

Reminder: Applicants must submit a new application each year even if they were previously enrolled in the program.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH...*Continued*

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

October 2014

Rylan Brown, daughter of Jason & Karen Brown



Katelyn Price, daughter of Harrison & Carol Price



November 2014

Campbelle Boltz, daughter of Robert & Dennie Boltz



Madeline Horst, daughter of Jeff & Jodi Horst



December 2014

Lucy Bickel, daughter of Jonathan & Maria Bickel



Harshaan Grewal, son of Kevin & Preel Grewel



January 2015

Max Bricker, son of Kevin & Kelly Bricker



Jordan Hershey, son of Derrick & Becky Hershey



MIDDLE SCHOOL

October 2014

Ryelle Shuey, daughter of Edward & Ashley Shuey



David Deitz, son of Jon & Heidi Deitz



November 2014

Jennifer Axarlis, daughter of Ted & Sandie Axarlis



Rashawn Bass, son of Danny & Kim Bass



December 2014

Elizabeth Hower,
daughter of John &
Jennifer Hower



Samuel Buckwalter,
son of John & Lisa
Buckwalter



January 2015

Kaylin Nolt, daughter of
Darin & Anita Nolt



Riley Kilheffer, son of
Don & Kristi Kilheffer



HIGH SCHOOL

September 2014

Laura Fiorini, daughter of
Anthony & Elizabeth
Fiorini



Micah Musser, son of
David & Ella Musser



October 2014

Abigail Dundore,
daughter of Amy Kerper
& Paul Dundore



Spencer Folk, son of Mark
& Lori Folk



November 2014

Andria Harpold, daughter of
Wesley & Sharon Harpold



Jonathan Miranda, son of
David & Brooke Miranda



December 2014

Leanne Superdock,
daughter of Dave & Beth
Superdock



Ben Spitler, son of
Wendy Spitler





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 twenty 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, indoor track, wrestling, and basketball for girls and boys. 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. Layne Conners is the lone senior on the squad, which consists of sixteen girls. The squad is coached by first year head coach Ashley Huttenstine, and the assistant coach is Alysha Burkholder.

Wrestling

The wrestling team finished the dual meet season with a 20-5 record and qualified for the District III AAA tournament. The team lost in the first round to Exeter, placed second at the Delco Duals going 4-1, won their own tournament in December and also won the Twin Valley Duals going undefeated in both tournaments. Good luck to all the wrestlers that will advance into post-season competition.

Bowling

The bowling team is having a great season under the direction of third year head coach Mike Rittle. The team is currently in second and hopes to qualify for the league team tournament. Top bowlers for ELCO are Joe Rittle, Rachel Rittle, Ryan Stone, and Dylan Landuyt. Best of luck to the entire team as they continue their season and post-season competition.

Indoor Winter Track & Field

The indoor track team is under the direction of first year head coach Robert Miller. The group participated in Invitational Meets at Kutztown University and Albright College. This program serves as a tune-up for the upcoming spring track season.

Girls' Basketball

The girls' basketball team finished their season with a 9-13 record. The team consisted of three seniors: Cassie Shimp, Claire Shaak, and Andria Harpold.

Boys' Basketball

The boys' team completed the regular season with a 13-9 record. They qualified for the District III AAA tournament and will play East Pennsboro. The Raiders were led by junior Colton Lawrence who is 30 points shy of scoring a career 1,000 points. The team consisted of two seniors, Dustin Miller and Jesse Kline.

Swimming

ELCO does not offer the sport of swimming, however, students can compete as individuals in hopes of qualifying for league and district meets. Freshmen Emma Flesher placed 6th in the 200 Freestyle at the Muhlenberg Mayhem Invitational. She will participate in the Lancaster-Lebanon League Meet and a chance to qualify for the District III AA Championships.

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 24th beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria and 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, athletes need to complete and submit the recertification form, which can be picked up in the main office or athletic trainers room.

Social Networking

- Please follow ELCO Athletics on Twitter to get updates of scores, postponements, and other important information about the ELCO athletic department. The account is @_dbohannon
- To find out the updated weekly sports schedule, cancellations, or postponements, call the athletic office. To access the system, dial 866-7447, option 3, 4, and then option 1. Please call this number if you have any athletic event questions.

ELCO Coaching Vacancies

- Junior High Girls Soccer and JH Field Hockey Coaches for the 2015 fall sports season.

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ATHLETICALLY SPEAKING....Continued***Congratulations to:***

Bob & Louise Trump were inducted into the Lancaster-Lebanon League Hall of Fame. Bob and Louise Trump, as many of you know, have spent 35 years as PIAA cross country and track and field officials and have helped as game workers for more than 30 years at ELCO in many capacities such as game managers, clock operators, and helped with many booster clubs. Bob is well known around the league, district and state for his website www.bobtrump.com and can be seen taking pictures of Lancaster-Lebanon League athletes at many athletic events. Bob and Louise Trump were inducted and honored at halftime of the Lancaster-Lebanon League Girls Basketball Final, which was held on Saturday, February 14 at 1 p.m.

HOOPS FOR HEART

Yeah that's right "Hoops for Heart" is back! Can you believe it's been seven years? Read this article to hear all about the exciting events from December 23, 2014.

The first event that was held was a knockout tournament. The winners for the boys were: Braden Bohannon (6th Grade), Evan Huey (7th Grade), and Patrick O'Neill (8th Grade). Winners for the girls were: Cate Liskey (6th Grade), Haley Orfino (7th Grade) and Jordan Rosengrant (8th Grade). Congratulations to all of the knockout winners!! In all, there were 56 total participants.

The second event for Hoops for Heart was a 3-on-3 Tournament. The grade finalists for the boys were the Ballers (6th Grade), Homey Quan (7th Grade), and Colo-Colo (8th Grade). The grand champion team for the boys was our seventh graders, Homey Quan. The team

then had a chance to play against the faculty. Unfortunately, they did not fair too well against our faculty champs. The Raiders Hoops, Raiders and Cotton Headed Ninny Muggins were our 6th, 7th and 8th grade champs respectively. Our faculty did not fair so well with our 8th grade Cotton Headed Ninny Muggins team as they won over our staff team.

Overall the Hoops for Heart event was a great success with a total of \$714 raised for the American Heart Association. The event also collected over 200 canned goods for the local community. The middle school physical education faculty would like to thank everybody who participated and raised money and canned goods for those in need. We couldn't be more proud of our students!!



LIFETIME PHYSICAL ACTIVITY INTRODUCED TO STUDENTS AT ELCO IS

Cathy Shaak, our Central PA United State Tennis Association (USTA) representative and one of ELCO's boys and girls tennis coaches; along with her daughter Maddy Shaak, 2013 ELCO Graduate who attends West Chester University and was named Conference Freshmen Rookie Player of the Year, once again spent the first week of 2015 with our 3rd thru 5th grade students. During PE class, students were introduced to the lifetime time sport of tennis. Students enjoyed the opportunity to experience fun skills, mini games and the energy and excitement from our instructors!

Noah Ginder and Robert Schultz both 2013 ELCO Graduates, currently attending Millersville and Penn State respectively, and Adam Bahney, ELCO Senior were also able to join us on the first clinic day to share their knowledge and love of the game with our students.



DID YOU KNOW

Composer Alisa Bair worked with the ELCO High School Concert choir on her original choral work "Angel Breathing Out" which the concert choir performed at the Holiday concert in December.



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The ELCO Communicator

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

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CELEBRATE THE ARTS DISTRICT-WIDE ART SHOW

Tuesday, May 19th 5-9 p.m. - ELCO High School

The Elco School District Celebrate the Arts will take place on Tuesday, May 19th from 5-9 p.m. in the High School. The event will feature the visual artwork of all students in the district (K-12) who participate in the art classes. Senior art students will be showcasing their work in the High School Library with a "Meet and Greet the Artists" from 6-7 p.m.

Additional features include "ROCS" and Jazz Band Performance at 7:30 p.m. in the High School Auditorium; as well as business and technology displays.

Student artwork will be on sale with the proceeds benefiting the Elco National Art Honor Society. Hresko's Bar-B-Q will again be available for everyone's enjoyment.

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.