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CARDINAL CHATTER

WELCOME BACK!!!

As the start of the new school year approaches, Earlham Schools is excited to announce a new option for the registration process! This year, any parent with access to JMC's Parent Portal will be able to complete a large portion of the registration papers online. There are some forms that still require information and a signature, but the intent of implementing online registration is to drastically cut down on the number of forms that parents have to fill out. Registration is still open now through August 18th!

Parents who currently use the Parent Portal will only have to log in and select "Student Registration" from the menu. There, you will be able to change any contact information for your student, as well as complete field trip, medication, military and PIE forms. After you have completed the online portion of your registration, you can come to the school anytime before August 19th to pick up the forms that will complete the registration process and to pay the textbook fees.

If you do not currently have Parent Portal access and you would like to register online, please contact Megan or Becky in the District Office at 758-2214.

Upcoming Events

August 17

7th Grade
Orientation @
5:30pm

August 17

9th Grade/New
Student Orientation @
6:30 pm

August 18

Elementary Back-to-
School Conferences
12-8

August 18

MS & HS Back-to-
School/Laptop Roll-
out @ 6 pm

August 18

All athletes &
parent meeting @
5:30

August 18

FB Scrimmage vs.
Woodward Academy
@ 7pm

August 23

FIRST DAY OF
SCHOOL! WOO-HOO!

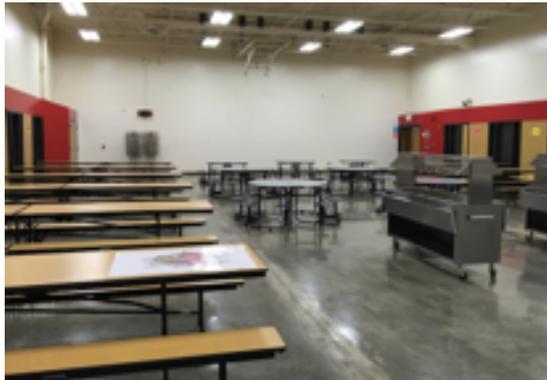
August 29

First day of
Preschool.

See the master calendar at home.ecsdcards.com for more scheduled events.

BUILDING FACELIFT

While students and staff were on summer break, the custodial department made some pretty amazing changes in the High School wing! The multi-purpose room had its' flooring removed and essentially the room was "gutted" as it was transformed into just a cafeteria (no more multiple purposes). All students will eat breakfast as usual in there, and now, all lunches will be served in the cafeteria in four grade bands: K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12.



Additionally, the bleachers in the competition gym were removed and the new, ADA compliant bleachers were installed. Wheelchair designated seating areas, steps with railings and grooved seats will await volleyball and basketball fans this year.

There will be approximately 75 fewer seats, so come early to grab your seat!



The building looks sharp with rooms cleaned and the floors freshly waxed!

MEET CASEY BARCLAY,



OUR NEW ELEMENTARY PE & HEALTH TEACHER

Hello everyone! My name is Casey Barclay and I am excited to be the new K-6 Physical Education & Health teacher at Earlham Elementary. I recently moved to Iowa from the northwest suburbs of Chicago where I have been teaching 5-8th grade PE/Health for the past three years. I graduated in 2010 from Northern Arizona University with a Bachelors in Parks & Recreation Management. I spent a year working with youth sports and fitness programs which led me to complete my teaching certification in Physical Education from Northeastern Illinois University. The hobbies that I enjoy when I am not teaching are spending time outdoors, cycling, rock climbing, cross-country skiing, and spending time with my family. I am looking forward to meeting all of you and look forward to this upcoming year!

Haiku and JMC: Which student system do you use?

Haiku is the grade and communication system that all teachers in the school district will be using this school year. In a standards-based learning environment where students demonstrate levels of mastery of content standards, grades take on a new meaning. Students are learning more deeply, and will practice, just as they would for a sport or for fine arts, to constantly strive to get better at their depth of knowledge and skill level.

Haiku is a system that allows teachers to communicate with students and parents in order to share details about a student's learning rather than just a letter grade. Individual components can be examined so that teachers can analyze exactly what the student is struggling with and provide guidance.

0	1	2	3	4
No Evidence	Developing Understanding	Approaching Understanding	Understanding	Thorough Understanding
				

The system not only shows an overall grade, but levels of mastery (on a 1-4 scale) for standards and benchmarks within the course. It has a whole communication piece where students and parents can see the calendar of upcoming projects, tests or activities, actual lesson material (videos, documents, rubrics, guidelines) and other announcements that are also on the Haiku class pages.

JMC is a student management system that can still be accessed to examine student attendance and lunch account balances. Otherwise, JMC is used by District personnel to compile information that the State Department of Education requires our school to submit such as enrollment data, graduation dates, and transcripts.

Orientations, Laptops & Back-to-School conferences

If you haven't already done so, please mark your calendars for several important dates to start the 2016-17 year off right! There will be two orientations on Wednesday, August 17th in the Choir room. At 5:30 pm, students who will be entering 7th grade should attend orientation to middle school with a parent. At 6:30 pm, students entering 9th grade or new to the high school should attend orientation with a parent. Laptops will be rolled out to those students only this evening.

Elementary students have already scheduled back-to-school conferences with their teacher in their classroom on Thursday, August 18th between 12 noon and 8 pm. IF you have forgotten your time and/or need to re-schedule, please contact Megan in the main office at 515-758-2214, ext. 121.

All secondary students and parents (even 7th and 9th) should plan on meeting in the auditorium on Thursday, August 18th at 6 pm prior to being dismissed to advisory groups to collect laptops. We will review standards-based learning and grading, handbook changes, as well as expectations for this year. Any 7-12 athlete and their parents should plan on meeting with Mr. Caskey in the auditorium at 5:30 pm to go over common guidelines and expectations and policies for all Earldom athletes.

Dismissal Procedures Still in Place (even with new dismissal times)

Last year, after the School Board analyzed options, the District put new dismissal procedures in place to better insure the safety of all of our students. Those procedures are still in place for the 2016-17 year.

Starting this year, elementary students are dismissed at 3:25 pm (their day begins promptly at 8:10 am).

Middle school and high school students are dismissed at 3:30 pm (their day begins at 8:05 am). The

additional time in the day will allow for more learning to occur!



Parents who come to pick up their students will use the circle drive in front of the school by the flagpoles, stay in their vehicles and wait for their children. After the children have been picked up, the parent drivers will circle back to the south onto 4th Street. If the parent is walking home with their children, they may come to the main doors (not into the building), and walk their child home via the crosswalks on 4th Street.

Buses will be loaded farther north near the greenhouse. After loading, all buses will exit to the north onto 6th Street as they have in the past.

Students who drive will need to exit the parking lot to the west and turn north to get to 6th Street or turn south to get to 4th Street. Students will not be allowed to exit the parking lot to the east. We encourage all students and parents to drive safely and slowly and watch for others walking or biking home from school.

FALL SPORTS PREVIEW

While some students relaxed over the summer and enjoyed a well-deserved break from school, student-athletes have been working hard to prepare for their Fall Sports through weight-lifting, running and camps (for themselves and for upcoming Little Cardinals).

If you got up early enough, you may have seen a flash of color along a sidewalk or road near you as the cross country runners went on their invigorating, morning run with Coach Braet or Coach Dalton. As they make final preparations for their season, they are enjoying some team-building and yes, more running at Springbrook camp for a few days.



FALL SPORTS (cont.)



Volleyball has also been preparing for a season in the gym with new bleachers for their fans to watch them “Set, Spike and Serve”. They recently returned from team camp at Central College to get some additional tips for their season. Coach Mindy Harskamp and Coach Janay Michel are excited about their upcoming season with their first home match on September 13th.

Football is also gearing up with weightlifting and long morning practices to try and beat the heat. The team is excited to welcome lots of new freshmen players after a successful season last year, with basically the same team as they only lost a few seniors. The team is coached by

Chris Caskey (head) and assistants: Justin Johnson, Cory Houghton, and John Sneller and a host of volunteers that aid the team. The coaches are excited about the hard work the boys have been putting in, and their commitment so far this season!



Cheerleading has also begun practicing, and is coached by Danielle

Beaman. The cheerleaders also plan on their annual fundraiser: painting the “E” and cardinal heads in the driveways on Sunday, August 21st and 28th from 12-4pm. Please contact their coach at dstrasser@ecsdcards.com to arrange for your decal to be refreshed or to get a new one painted!

And last, but definitely not least, look forward to Earlham’s award-winning marching band at halftimes to perform music from “The Jersey Boys” under the direction of Nate Sletten. Get all your meet, match and game schedules off of our District website. And, don’t forget, ECAB, the athletic boosters are hosting their annual block party and membership drive on Saturday, August 20th at 6pm at City Park.



Get the *Cardinal Chatter* delivered to your mailbox or inbox!

We will publish this newsletter monthly throughout the school year to keep our school community updated on our progress as a district. Copies will be available at local businesses and it will be posted on the school website, but you can elect to have the Chatter delivered directly to your home via email or mail! Simply go online to <http://goo.gl/dJ08ds> or call the district office at 758-2214 to get signed up to receive all future issues!

Looking for more information about our school? Check out our school website at home.ecsdcards.com for additional announcements, a calendar of events, the staff directory, program information and more.