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CARDINAL CHATTER



Dismissal Reminders

Soon, inclement weather conditions will accompany the drop in temperature, and we anticipate more adults will utilize the student pick-up lane after school dismisses. We ask that you review the following protocol with any adult that may be picking up your child at the end of the day to ensure that students continue to be dismissed safely and efficiently.

Anyone who uses the circle drive to pick-up a student should stay in the vehicle, wait for the student to come to the car, then circle back to the south onto 4th street to exit school grounds. It is also an option to park in the main parking lot and walk to the main entrance to meet a student. Regardless of the pick up method, all adults need to wait for their children outside the building. Buses are loaded near the greenhouse. After loading, all buses exit to the north onto 6th street. Students who drive exit the parking lot to the west to exit to 4th or 6th streets.

Elementary students are dismissed at 3:10, and secondary students are dismissed at 3:15. The district appreciates everyone's cooperation with the new dismissal procedures.

Upcoming Important Dates

Nov. 2

Professional Development - No School

Nov. 10 & 12

Parent-Teacher Conferences, 4-8 pm

Nov. 13

Teacher Comp. Day - No School

Nov. 26 & 27

Thanksgiving Break - No School

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

Professional Development

During each professional development day, teachers focus on improving their practices in order to better meet the needs of Earlham students.

During full professional development days, teachers spend time curriculum mapping in Atlas, integrating technology into lessons, working toward building goals, discussing building climate foci, and collaborating in Professional Learning Communities.

In future issues of the *Chatter*, each focus area will be described in more detail.

Cardinals in Action



1st graders work on rhythm with Mrs. Homan.



Kindergarten students listen to Mr. Ridgely read.



Mr. Hansel talk with middle school students.



A high school art student works with clay.

Drama Department Presents *Bye Bye Birdie*



Come see Conrad Birdie plant One Last Kiss on Kim MacAfee before he is drafted to the army! If jealous Hugo Peabody has his way, it won't happen! And what is happening with Albert Peterson and his secretary Rose Alvarez? Will he finally settle down with her or will his obnoxious mother drive Rosie away? You have two chances to find out!

Plan to attend the musical production on Saturday, November 7, at 7:00 pm or Sunday, November 8, at 2:00 pm

Ticket prices are \$8 for adults, \$5 for students and children aged PK and under are free!

Elementary



Because 82.74% of grades 3-5 students were proficient or meet growth goals on the Math portion of the 2014 Iowa Assessment, the elementary was designated a SINA-3 school for math.

The district has identified corrective actions for the building, including adopting the Everyday Math 4 curriculum and utilizing the ST Math program. AEA consultants are continuing to provide professional development for teachers in math and literacy instruction.

Additionally, the elementary has implemented literacy intervention times in every grade level to allow multiple teachers to work with small groups of students on targeted reading skills. In addition to addressing the SINA-1 designation for reading, this step will help students better comprehend assessment questions on standardized assessments.

Technology



The Technology Committee met in mid-October and discussed how to spend REAP funds.

After discussing many options it was determined that additional external DVD drives would be purchased to increase the availability of disc drives for teacher use. The Macbook Air that teacher's have does not include an internal DVD drive.

The committee also decided to purchase new bluetooth speakers for all teachers who do not currently have audio amplification systems in their rooms. The new bluetooth speakers are compatible with any bluetooth capable device and will improve sound quality of audio/visual materials.

If you have an interest in serving on the Technology Committee, contact Cory Houghton, Technology Director, at choughton@ecsdcards.com.

Secondary



With Standards-Based Grading, traditional teaching practices are refined to focus more on student learning.

During instruction, students develop a deeper understanding of content standards through various types of practice work.

Teachers use formative assessments to determine if students are understanding the material and tweak their instruction to fill in gaps in knowledge or misconceptions immediately. Summative assessments allow students to demonstrate their level of mastery of a standard.

This process is similar to what occurs in extra curricular activities. For example, players practice and the coaches provide feedback based on player performance so that they can continually improve. The performance or game acts as the summative assessment where mastery is measured.

Fall Athletic Season Comes to a Close

The football, volleyball, and cross country teams concluded successful seasons in October.

Despite have an injury-riddled roster, the football team finished with a 6-3 regular season record, and qualified for the state play-offs but lost to Colfax-Mingo in the first round. The team graduates four seniors, but will return several players who gained valuable varsity experience this year.

The volleyball team finished 4th in the West Central Athletics Conference, with five wins and three conference losses. The team finished the season with an overall record of 11-11 and was defeated by West Central Valley in the first round of post-season play. The team graduates five seniors, but with just over 30 girls on the team, the future looks bright for the program.

The cross country teams were once again competitive this season. The girls finished in 5th place at the Conference Meet and boys finished in 7th. At the State Qualifying meet, the girls grabbed 11th place and boys finished in 6th as a team. Morgan Allen qualified for the State Cross Country meet with a 7th place finish at the Qualifying Meet. At the State Meet, she finished 17th. The boys and girls team both graduate four seniors, but several up-and-coming runners will return next season.

Congratulations to all the fall teams, athletes and coaches!



Sports photos courtesy of Shannon Payne Photography

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 more announcements, calendar of events, staff directory and more.