



UPDATED DISTRICT MISSION & VISION PAGE 2



BUILDING INFO & TECHNOLOGY PAGE 3



MEET THE BOARD CANDIDATES PAGE 4

CARDINAL CHATTER



New Student Dismissal Procedures

The School Board considered recommendations from many sources and has announced a new dismissal procedure for students effective this school year. Parents who come to pick up their students will use the circle drive, 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 need to wait for their children outside the building.

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 as they have in the past.

Safety of students is a top priority for the Earlham Community School District.

Upcoming Important Dates

August 20

Back-to-School Conferences, 12-8 PM

August 20

JMC Training for Parents, 5:30 PM

August 24

First Day of School

September 4

All-School Picture
K-8 wear red shirts
9-12 wear white shirts

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

School Board Adopts New Mission, Vision, Learning Goals

The Earlham Community School District will be opening the year with new Mission, Vision, and Learning Goal statements. The district's new mission is "Empowering innovative, adaptive, and resourceful Learners" and the new vision statement is "to provide all learners with skills and diverse educational opportunities; to engage all learners in relevant, real-world experiences; and to develop learners' confidence, character, and perseverance so that they will positively impact their world."

Updated district learning goals address the following seven areas:

Critical Thinking: Students will be able to access and analyze key information to develop solutions to real world problems that may have no clear answer.

Innovation: Students will be able to incorporate curiosity and creativity to generate new or original thoughts, interpretations, products, works, or techniques.

Complex Communication: Students will be able to share purposeful, clear and concise messages through multiple means for an accurate exchange of information and ideas.

Collaboration: Students will apply effective group skills and productive group interactions to achieve common goals.

Flexibility and Adaptability: Students will respond appropriately, adjust to situational need and change to meet the challenges in a variety of situations.

Productivity and Responsibility: Students will prioritize, plan and apply knowledge and skills to make decisions that create quality results.

Social Consciousness: Students will recognize and respect diversity while understanding their role as citizens and America's place in the global community.

The School Board approved the new statements, which were reviewed and updated by the School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC) during the Spring and Summer of 2015.

New Staff at ECSD



Shelly Berkowitz is the new PK-8 art teacher. She's excited to start the new school year, and her first year teaching in Earlham. She is from Iowa City and studied Art Education at the University of Iowa. Her main art interests are painting, sculpture, and kinetic art. Her hobbies are cooking, bicycling, hiking, and playing instruments. She plans to create lessons that leave room for their independent thinking. Ms. Berkowitz is looking forward to experiencing what each student brings to the art room.

Other Changes

After a one year sabbatical, Anne Mendoza returns to the district as a HS Science teacher. Cheyenne (DeMoss) Hopper will be teaching 6th grade. Jody Dvorak will be teaching 2nd grade.



Elementary

K-6 students will use the newest edition of Everyday Math in their classrooms this year, EM4. Though there will be familiar components of the program, such as games, use of technology and a spiraling curriculum, the content of the program has been updated.

The EM4 curriculum is tightly aligned to the Common Core, so lessons contain only the content that aligns with grade-level standards. Major strands for each grade level are introduced in the first units so students will have more exposure to them throughout the school year in the spiraling curriculum.

The updated and research-based curriculum continues to maintain a high cognitive demand for students and helps them develop fact strategies. Each lesson in the new version has been field-tested and revised prior to releasing to the materials.



Technology

This starts a pretty exciting year in technology at Earlham! All students in grades 7-12 will be getting a brand new 13" Macbook Air. These computers have 4 gigs of memory, 120 gig hard drives, and the fastest wifi on the market. They will be loaded with the newest operating system: Yosemite OS X.

There will be two teacher leaders, Dan von Rentzell and Bailey Gulley, helping the staff integrate technology in the classroom. These two are fully versed in what is new in the industry and highly motivated to put their knowledge to work with their colleagues.

Your student is at a great place to have access to technology and be connected to teachers who will give them opportunities to use computers, iPads, 3D printer, SMART boards, document cameras, and the green screen room.



Secondary

As our children morph into teenagers and young adults, it is more important than ever for school and home to team together for our students' success. Communication between student, parent and teachers must happen through JMC, planners, e-mails, websites, google classrooms and face-to-face interaction.

A great way to start the conversation this year would be through incoming 7th Grade Orientation on August 19th at 6 pm or incoming 9th Grade/New Student Orientation at 7:30. All parents of students in grades 7-12 are encouraged to come to Back-to-School Night at 6pm in the auditorium on August 20th for a quick meeting and break to see advisory teachers, get schedules, laptops and information! All parents are also welcome to attend our first day flag-raising ceremony and Academic Pep Rally as we kick the school year off with our learning!

Meet the 2015 School Board Candidates

The regular school election will be held on Tuesday, September 8. Three of the five seats are up for election on the Earlham School Board.

School board members are locally elected public officials charged with accountability for student learning, determining educational goals, setting policy, overseeing school finances and other duties. School board members are elected to serve four-year terms, with elections taking place in odd-numbered years. Those elected receive no pay.

The filing period for school election candidates ended on Thursday, July 30 at 5 p.m. Nomination papers were delivered to the county auditor on Friday, July 31. There are five candidates running for the three open seats: Jan Fletcher, Julene Mutchler-McNeal, Rex Stancil, Marvin Taylor, and Jessica Tiemeyer. Andrew Arnburg, David Morford, and Steve Willem are not running for re-election.

Partners in Education (P.I.E.) will be hosting a school board candidate forum on August 31 at 7 PM in the school auditorium. Interested voters can listen to the candidates to respond to a series of questions about their candidacy. A brief introduction, written by each candidate, is provided below in alphabetical order.



Jan Fletcher

Address: 555 NE Sycamore

Age: 64

Years in District: 39

I have been married to Lynda for 42 years. Our daughters, Megan and Jessica, both graduated from Earlham in '97 and '01, respectively. I graduated from Truman State University in '74 with a B.S. in Math and Physical Education. I taught for two years at the Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri, and the next 35 years at Earlham as a math teacher, athletic director, and coach. In 2003, I completed my Masters in School Administration at Drake and served 9 years as Earlham's 7-12 Principal, until I retired from education in 2011. Since retiring, I have stayed active in the school and community. I volunteer as host to officials at Friday night football games and have been the "Voice of the Cardinals" for home track meets. I am the Chairman of the Trustees for the United Methodist Church and on the Board of Adjustments for the City. Once a week, I deliver Meals on Wheels to people in our community. I am running because service is important to me. I want to enhance and help the school move forward and have a positive influence on the school and community.



Julene Mutchler-McNeal

Address: 445 NW 3rd street

Age: 35

Years in District: 26

I grew up in Earlham and graduated in 1998. I then studied English at Drake University. I moved back to Earlham in 2006 so my oldest, Eva, could start school here. I am currently a stay-at-home mom. This year Eva will be an 8th grader. My

middle child, Rowen, will be starting 4th grade this year. My youngest, Xander, will be in Kindergarten. My husband, James, works in Waukee and is a member of the Earlham Fire Department. I have been a volunteer for Freedom Fest for 8 years and have served on the Earlham Soccer Board for 3 years. As an Earlham Alumni and a parent of 3 current students I take great pride in our school and would like to do my part to help maintain a superior school district.



Rex L. Stancil

Address: 525 NW 3rd Street

Age: 47

Years in District: 10

Married to wife Heather since 2002. Faithful Servant to Earlham Community Since 2006. Associate Minister Earlham Church of Christ 2006-2011. Senior Minister at Fairview Church in rural Stuart 2013 to present. Full time Minister for 23 years. Former Children and Youth Minister. BA and Master's Degree. Specialized in Counseling. Earlham Ministerial Organization Member for 8 years. Director of Earlham Ministerial Organization 3 years. Current Volunteer as Crisis/Disaster Response for Red Cross. My goals are to Serve our community by giving every family a voice. Oversee the district budget making sure our income and debt capacity are used in a responsible way. I am running for the school board because to serve our community in the most responsible way possible paying close attention to the needs of parents, students and staff and the district overall. *(Candidate's photo not available at press time.)*



Marvin Taylor

Address: 145 SE Maple Ave

Age: 42

Years in District: 15

I have been married to my wife since 2001, and we have two boys, 13 and 11. I grew up in eastern Iowa and received my BS in Biology from Northland College. I have worked over 17 years in the science and research fields, and am currently employed as a research scientist at an Ag Biotech company. My experience includes management of both \$5 to 20 million dollar budgets as well as people, and is able to work in team environments. In every case my goal is to drive change within my organization that will improve processes and create efficiencies, using research to compile facts and data in order to make critical decisions. I regularly Interact with our end-user clients and am held accountable for my performance via metrics reporting. I am driven, responsible, professional, hardworking and a lifelong learner. I look forward to meeting and hearing from all of the Earlham community. I am running for school board because I want to use my skill sets to give back to the community I love.



Jessica Tiemeyer

Address: 19291 365th Street

Age: 32

Years in District: 10

I am excited for the opportunity and consideration for School Board. My husband, Zeke and I moved to Earlham 10 years ago and quickly started a family. We have 3 young children, Blake will be starting 3rd grade this year, Peyton is excited to be starting 1st grade and our youngest, Reese is 1. With our young family, we are committed to Earlham Community Schools for the next 17 years. I have spent time volunteering at the school in classrooms as well as provided support to local Earlham organizations. I am passionate about giving back to the community and feel this is a great opportunity to do so. I work full time as a Human Resources representative, always considering the best interests of our employees and company. I truly believe that my professional experience will help guide me in making strong, long term decisions for our students, staff and community.

I am running to serve our community. I want to continue to grow educational opportunities for students while promoting long-term growth and opportunity.



The Varsity baseball team poses for a photo after being named 2015 West Central Activities Conference Champions, with a conference record of 15-3.

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.