

Cardinal Chatter



May 5, 2014 Issue 10

Earlham Community School District, Earlham, Iowa

Reunification Drill Completed

On Friday, May 2, Earlham students, staff and parents participated in a parent/student reunification drill in preparation for a situation in which the school would be evacuated or closed as a result of a hazardous materials incident, fire, school violence, or other incident.



Parents received notification of this drill via monthly letters and email reminders beginning in February. The reunification process requires every student to have a reunification release form completed by parents and returned to the district. During the

drill, every student is to be picked up by a person listed on this form.

During this drill, PK-12 grade students were evacuated for a fire drill, and then relocated to the football field. Staff members supervised students and reunified 532 students with their emergency contacts in approximately 75 minutes. Parent participation was excellent, and the longest wait time recorded by staff was 24 minutes.

Local law enforcement, firefighters and emergency responders participated as well. Steve Warren from the Iowa Homeland Security Emergency Management Division observed the drill to provide feedback to the Safety Committee on the procedures used. His initial report was very positive, and he indicated that he would like to use our plans as examples for other districts.

The Safety Committee is reviewing all feedback to tweak procedures that will streamline the process while keeping the safety of children a priority. Practicing these procedures is necessary to better prepare students and staff for any event that may render the building unsafe for occupation. The district greatly appreciates everyone's cooperation and participation during the drill.



Duke TIP Participants

In the fall, 7th graders Alexis Huls, Kaylee Hohertz and Trent Williamson participated in the Duke University Talent Identification Program (Duke TIP). This allowed the students to take the ACT with high school students at an ACT testing site to gain insight into the students' academic abilities and allow for effective planning into high school and beyond.

All three students scored well on the ACT and will receive eInsights through their tenth grade year and My College Guide in tenth and eleventh grade. Students can explore their potential, receive tips on planning for high school and college, and have access to resources that will assist them in achieving their educational goals.

The three students will also receive state recognition in May at an awards ceremony at Grinnell University for their performance on the ACT. Each also has the opportunity to attend the Academy for Summer Studies.

PBIS



Lieutenant Governor Kim Reynolds came out to Earlham for one multi-grade PK-8 speech in the auditorium for the April PBIS Assembly. She began by sharing her special ties with Earlham; she has a daughter who teaches in our district and a granddaughter who attends our elementary.

safe environment in which to learn, and education reform with the Teacher Leadership and Compensation grant. She commended our school for our PBIS program that teaches students to be respectful and act responsibly, as well as having an anti-bullying hotline as we are creating a good culture to learn and feel safe. Finally, she was excited that a school our size had been selected for a Teacher Leadership and Compensation grant and to be a leader in educational reform in the state. She was highly impressed by how proactive and "cutting edge" Earlham Schools is. Her entire speech can be viewed on the Cube through the district website.

Lt. Governor Reynolds shared her three passions in education: Science, Technology and Mathematics (STEM) programs, anti-bullying lessons and creating a

Lt. Governor Reynolds ended her time with students by taking questions that ranged from her world trade travels (Iowa and soybeans) to daily life in the Capitol.



ELP Students Recognized

Four 4th grade ELP students participated in the *Vision of Inventiveness!* competition, sponsored by the Belin-Blank Center at the University of Iowa. This competition required students to invent something that would allow them to do their favorite activity in an unusual place.

Samantha Billington and Braydon Hamilton were named 2014 Meritorious Award Recipients in this contest. Samantha drew Scuba Box Basketball and Braydon drew Sky Dome Paintball.

Their inventions were depicted through original artwork, which can be seen at <http://www2.education.uiowa.edu/belinblank/students/inventia/Vision.aspx>.



CPR Training Provided

The State of Iowa requires all Iowa graduates to receive CPR training during high school. In late April, all members of the Class of 2014 participated in the American Heart Association's BLS CPR training for adults, children and infants.

Additionally, fourteen staff members opted to voluntarily participate in BLS CPR training on Saturday, April 5.

During the interactive, hands-on trainings, staff and students learned how to properly perform CPR, use an AED, and assist a choking victim.

All trainings were provided by four ECSD staff members, who are certified CPR trainers, using equipment rented from West Des Moines EMS.



Technology

The district has begun using High School Cube, a free video streaming service, to broadcast many school events.

These events are streamed live and also archived on the high school Cube website and available for playback at any time on any device with the free high school Cube App or internet access.

Events are filmed with an iPad, and high school Cube provided free broadcasting accessories to the school as well.

Interested parties can watch these events for no charge, and can sign up to receive broadcasting notifications by visiting highschoolcube.com and searching for Earlham Senior High School.

Battle of the Books

Two Earlham Elementary teams competed in the *Battle of the Books* competition at Panorama High School on Saturday, April 26. Twenty-two teams competed in four different flights of 5th - 8th grade students. The battles were difficult but great fun.

The 5th grade team, consisting of Ella Goodrich, Mollie Davis, and Allissa Stiles, came in 2nd in their flight of five teams. They had to compete against 2 teams of 8th grade students along with a mixture of other grades.

The 6th grade team, consisting of Olivia Nicholson, Jenna Becker, and Skyler Jensen, came in 3rd in their flight of six teams. They had all grades in their flight.



FFA Students Participate in Leadership Conference

Twenty-one students attended the 86th Iowa FFA Leadership Conference. Students participated in Career Development events, while others participated in Meals From the Heartland. Spencer Hochstetler, Kelli Crabbs, Sydney Waldron, Kass Nielsen and Chekota Kluesner helped to package over 263,000 meals for starving people around the world.

Jake Kinsey, Chris McColloch, Thomas Payne and Nick Graham participated in the Farm Business Management Quiz receiving a bronze. Sterling Bean and Sadie Waldron took the Greenhand quiz receiving bronze and silver. McKenna von Rentzell, Hannah Taylor and Danielle James received a gold rating for their Chapter Display. Rachel Hoy and Erica Baier were recognized for the Iowa Degree which is the highest honor the state FFA can bestow upon a student. Kacey Reynolds was recognized for her proficiency in Veterinary Science, receiving 2nd place overall in that category. The team Ag Sales team consisting of Justin Hopp, Cassie Bond, Lexie Kliegl and Erica Baier took first place overall at the state level and will be representing the Iowa FFA at National Convention in Louisville Kentucky this Fall.

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.