

March/April 2019

ELLICOTTVILLE

D I S T R I C T • N E W S L E T T E R

Volume 49, Issue 5

ECS Drama Club: *Cinderella*

The Ellicottville Central School Drama Club is pleased to announce their upcoming production, *Cinderella*. This version is Rodgers & Hammerstein's Broadway adaptation of the classic musical. This contemporary take on the classic tale features Rodgers & Hammerstein's most beloved songs, including "In My Own Little Corner," "Impossible/It's Possible," and "Ten Minutes Ago."

The lead characters are:

Seniors: Jaelyn Freundsuh as Ella (Cinderella), Kayleigh Coolidge as Marie (Fairy Godmother), and Meganne Chapman as Madame (StepMother).

Juniors: Gabe Hauri as Topher (Prince), and Heli Kongats as Charlotte.

Sophomores: Gabe Snyder as Sebastian, Kelsea Tomczak as Gabrielle, Brett Krynski as Jean Michel, Lucas Adams as Lord Pinkleton, Erin Quinn as Fox, and Lindsay Swalcy as Raccoon.

Rounding out the cast are: **Seniors** - Gabby Squires; **Juniors** - Allison Calarco, Jonathan Hawkins and Sammi Van Wicklin; **Sophomores** - Cameron Lendvay, Abby Ploetz, Jordyn Sage, Summer Wilson, Brianna Winship and Cody Yarnes; **Freshmen** - Antonia Epps, Joe Freundsuh and Emma Steffenhagen; Eighth graders - Breana Andrews, Tristin Bomberly and Christian Swalcy.

Senior Ally Fisher is the cast choreographer. Also in the production are Louisa Benatovich (French Horn), Megan Hartsell (Trumpet) and Ginna Hensel (Percussion) in the pit orchestra. Alex Hunt will be running the light board.

The production runs **Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 21st, 22nd, and 23rd at 7:00 pm** in The Ward at the High

School. The show is Directed by Pat Waldron, Assistant Directors are Stacey Chapman & Deb McGowan. Producer is

Shawne Hunt and Rehearsal Accompanist is Lucas Yerbe/Stock.

Tickets are \$7 at the door.

ELLICOTTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA DEPARTMENT PRESENTS
RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S
CINDERELLA
7pm Thursday, March 21
7pm Friday, March 22
7pm Saturday, March 23
• 2019 •
Directed by Patricia Waldron
Ellicottville High School
Tickets \$7 at the door
Produced by special arrangement with R&H Theatricals
STUDIO4EAST

A "Sneak" Peek at Budget Information

I hate to sound like a broken record, but I took a look back at last year's article for the newsletter regarding the budget for the current school year (2018-19). It seems like some of the information (unfortunately) is quite similar with respect to the upcoming budget year (2019-20). The Governor is predicting a budget deficit overall in NYS. At the same time, he is predicting a \$956 million increase in School Aid (which is more than what was predicted last year around this time). And, just like last year, not everyone will get large increases. With over 700 public schools in the State (not including charter schools), each district will receive varying amounts of state aid based on complicated and confusing formulas.

At this time, ECS is projected to receive an increase of just \$7,032 in Foundation Aid (the largest unrestricted category of State Aid). This amount represents a .25% increase over last year and is the minimum guaranteed increase allowed by the State. This is not a significant amount in a school budget, and, when compared to the other schools in Cattaraugus County it is quite small as the average percent increase for all the schools in the county is approximately

1.5% (and the average across New York State is 1.9%). So, in the end, Ellicottville is expected to and must raise a good portion of funds for its budget through local taxes.

At the same time, ECS has to work within the constraints of the 2% tax cap. While we are still working on the budget, we estimate that a 1% increase on the tax levy is about \$75,000. The biggest problem with a 2% tax cap for schools like ECS is that 2% does not keep pace with the increases (utilities, insurance, etc.) a district must cover each year.

These constraints are nothing new to ECS, and over the past several years, the District has found ways to create a fiscally responsible budget. At the same time, you, the taxpayers of the District, have recognized the quality of the educational experience that ECS provides and have generously supported the District each year when you vote on the budget (Thank You!). The overall end result is that ECS is able to maintain a relatively low per pupil cost compared to the county and state averages. The Empire Center calculates that for the current school year, ECS spent approximately \$3,459 **less** than the county wide per pupil cost

and \$5,864 **less** than the state wide per pupil cost https://www.empirecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/SBS_Report_2018-19_5.4.18final.pdf

As we move forward in the budget process, please be assured that we will continue to work hard to assemble a budget that will meet the needs of the students that attend ECS while being conscious of the taxpayers. In the end, I'm confident in predicting that together we will ensure that the strong tradition of excellence that ECS is known for will prevail.



Robert R. Miller
Superintendent of Schools



A BIG "THANK YOU!"

On March 1st, it was necessary for ECS to enter into a lockdown and then move to a lockout/shelter in place. While I cannot share many details about the situation, I can let you know the situation **did not** involve any weapons at school. I would also like to say thank you to everyone that assisted that day. Thank you to the staff for remaining confident and calm throughout the day. Thank you to parents for remembering the descriptions of protocols that have been shared with you and not rushing to the school. Thank you to parents and community members who defended the school on social media when others wanted to complain or state things that were simply not true. Thank you to the Ellicottville Police, the Cattaraugus County Sheriffs, the NYS Troopers and the Cattaraugus County Emergency Services that responded and came to the school. And, thank you to the students who demonstrated patience and understanding as we worked through the situation. While it was an unfortunate situation, working as a team, we were able to ensure the safety of students and staff.

Board of Education Vacancies

Nominating petitions for the Ellicottville Central School District Board of Education are now available. **The annual election will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2019** to fill the seats currently held by board members Mrs. Nicole Klein and Mr. Robert Van Wicklin. **Nominating petitions must be filed with the District Clerk by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 22, 2019.**

Petitions must contain the signatures and legal addresses of at least 25 qualified voters living in the Ellicottville Central School District. A qualified voter must be: a United States citizen; at least 18 years of age; and a district resident for 30 days prior to the election, with their current address on the nominating petition. To qualify as a candidate, one must be a qualified voter and a district resident for one year immediately prior to the election.

The two candidates receiving the highest number of votes will each serve a five-year term, beginning on July 1, 2019 and expiring on June 30, 2024.

Nominating petitions are available in the District Office, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Monday-Friday) when school is in session.

ECS INCOME TAX CODE: 181

E-Cigarettes & Vape Devices

Stopping the Spread of This Hazardous Epidemic

ECS has not escaped the vape epidemic plaguing today's teen population. If you have a child in middle or high school, chances are you've heard of these devices and their presence on campus. Please keep reading to remain up to date on this important safety issue.

Identification: E-cigarettes & vape devices are small, easy to hide electronic devices that vaporize juice/liquid to deliver nicotine and other chemical drugs in an inhalable form. Vape devices range from the size of a USB thumb drive (known as "Juul"s) to more powerful devices the size of cell phones. The use of these devices can be detected with the signature sweet smell of the vape, like a vanilla or fruit candle. Most devices give off faint liquid vapor which can be very difficult to visually detect.

Source: Most teens who gain possession of these devices obtain them from an older acquaintance or purchase them online. Some underage teens who can pass for 18 buy them illegally in person at vape shops or gas stations. Once in the hands of teens, they are frequently shared and passed on, creating a separate safety issue related to oral hygiene.

Dangers: Vape devices almost always contain nicotine, but they can also contain THC oil (known as "dab"s). It is impossible to visually inspect the liquid to determine the actual contents of fluid/juice in a device. Nicotine "pods" or capsules of nicotine juice contain as much nicotine as an entire pack of cigarettes, making it easier for a vape user to inhale large amounts of active ingredients, such as nicotine or THC.

Next Steps: Speak openly with your children about the dangers of these devices, including rapid addiction, dangerous and still unknown effects of vape use on human lungs and body, unknown contents of vape pens and dabs, and health dangers of sharing devices. Direct emails or use of our anonymous tip email service on our webpage are great ways to report the presence/use of such devices on campus.

This article is a summary of a longer parent information letter sent to parents in January. A full-length copy of this letter is available on our school website.



SAVE THE DATE "SCREENAGERS"

With digital technology growing exponentially, the country has seen an increase in the amount of time people spend behind screens. Whether the screen is a TV, a computer monitor or a smartphone, they are all screens in the end. With this increased time behind screens, parents need to be ever more aware of what their child / children are doing behind (or in front of) these screens. How is this screen time affecting my child / children is a question probably every parent has asked at some point in time. In an effort to help parents with this question, ECS will be hosting a viewing of a program call "Screenagers." This is a program by Physician and mother of two, Delaney Ruston, and it frames the issue of children's addiction to smart phones, gaming and screen time as "one of the most difficult parenting issues we have ever faced."

ECS will be hosting this program for parents the evening of Monday, April 8th starting at 6:30 PM in the high school gym. The video is a little over an hour long and after the video we will be engaging in conversations about the video and how to best approach concerns parents may have. We anticipate the entire evening lasting approximately two (2) hours. This evening is being designed for parents only, as we will be having a different version of the program for students within a week or so of April 8th (if you do not want your child to participate in this event, please notify your child's / children's principal as soon as possible so an alternative activity may be assigned). We are also trying to pull together an "activity night" in the high school cafeteria for younger students so that parents may attend without having to worry about babysitters. The activity night will feature hands on activities that do not require "screens." We will update and remind parents about this event in late March/ Early April.

SAVE THE DATE! **SAVE THE DATE!** SAVE THE DATE!

Hot Dog Sale at ECS!

When: May 21st, Noon–Until Gone

Where: Outside Elementary Foyer

Cost: \$5.00 donation to the Class of 2020

What you get: Hot dog, Chips,
Drink, and Dessert



Thank you for supporting the class of 2020!

PLEASE NOTE:
School Will Be Closed for Spring Break:
Thursday, April 18th through Sunday, April 28th

APRIL

2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 Grades 3-8 ELA Testing	3 Grades 3-8 ELA Testing	4	5 End of Marking Period PTO Bookfair 6:00 pm Father/ Daughter Dance	6
PLEASE NOTE: Homework Club will return to Tuesdays & Thursdays from April 1st-May30th						
7	8 PTO Bookfair	9 7:00 pm Board of Education Meeting - HS Library	10	11	12 5:30 - 7:30 pm PTO Dime Carnival	13
14	15	16 4:30 pm Board of Education Meeting - HS Library	17	18 Spring Recess	19 Spring Recess	20
21	22 Spring Recess	23 Spring Recess	24 Spring Recess	25 Spring Recess	26 Spring Recess	27
28	29	30				

MAY

2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 NYS 3-8 Math Testing 6:00 pm NHS County Banquet	2 NYS 3-8 Math Testing	3 6:00 pm PTO Mother/ Son Dance	4
PLEASE NOTE: Homework Club will return to Tuesdays & Thursdays from April 1st-May30th						
5	6	7 7:00 pm Board of Education Meeting - HS Library	8	9	10 NYSSMA Solo Festival	11 NYSSMA Solo Festival
12	13	14 7:00 pm Board of Education Meeting (Budget Hearing) HS Cafeteria	15	16 6:30 pm All District Chorus Concert	17	18
19	20	21 1:00 pm Budget Vote & Board Member Election (Elementary Foyer) 6:00 pm PTO Math, Science, Tech Exposition 8:00 pm Board of Education Meeting - HS Library	22 Grades 4 & 8 NYS Science Performance Tests 6:00 pm HS Awards Banquet	23	24	25
26	27 School Closed - Memorial Day 10:30 am MS/HS Band Concert @ Gazebo in Ellicottville	28	29	30 6:30 pm All District Band Concert	31	

Three-peat State Championship for Girls Ski Team

By Coach Fredrickson

The Ellicottville Girls Alpine Ski Team (coached by Kelly Fredrickson) won the NYSPHSAA alpine skiing team championship for the third consecutive season this year at Gore Mountain Ski Resort. This was led by Logan Fredrickson winning three individual titles: Slalom, Giant Slalom, and Alpine Combined.



The Ellicottville girls team scored a total of 92 points, topping (Section 5) Pittford's score of 84 to capture the NYS Girls Alpine Team Championship Title.

Hayly Fredrickson, was 5th in the slalom (1:43.56) and 7th in the giant slalom (2:27.38).

Cece Carls, was 29th (2:34.96) in the giant slalom and did not compete in the slalom.

Emmylu Carls, was 45th (2:05.84) in the slalom and 38th (2:41.88) in the giant slalom. In the boys, Adrian DeOrbe, was 53rd (2:03.32) in the slalom and 43rd (2:37.96) in the giant slalom.

Receiving sportsmanship awards for Section 6, were Logan Fredrickson and Adrian DeOrbe.

Hayly and Logan Fredrickson will continue their season at the Eastern High School Championships in Attitash, NH. on 3/8-9.



Bowling Season Update

By Coach Olson

The 2018-2019 Girls Bowling team ended their season on February 5th with the Roll-Off Tournament at Lucky Lanes. The top six bowlers (Allison Calarco, Madisyn Kilby, Megan Stuve, Sammi VanWicklin, Abby Ploetz, and Aleah Arena) competed against 15 other schools from Divisions 1, 2, and 3. Other team members included Sammi Lin, Abby Donoghue, Hannah Jacobson-Coolidge, and Elsa Woodarek. Our top bowler for the season was Megan Stuve with an average of 109. Some game high scores throughout the season were Megan Stuve with a 177, Aleah Arena with 140, and Sammi VanWicklin and Abby Ploetz with 139. Thanks for a great season girls!

The 2018-2019 Boys Bowling team ended their season on February 6th with the Roll-Off Tournament at Lucky Lanes where they competed against 16 other schools. Our boys team consisted of Dominic Brown, Adam Delity, Logan Dimpfl, Alex Hunt, and Adam Silvernail. Our top bowler for the season was Adam Silvernail with an average of 108. Some game high scores from the season were Alex Hunt and Adam Delity with 162, Logan Dimpfl with 153, and Adam Silvernail with a 150. Thanks for a fun season boys!



Basketball Sports Report



Girls Varsity

By Coach Cole

The Lady Eagles finished up their 2018-2019 Basketball season with a loss in a playoff game to Cassadaga Valley. The Eagles finished the season with an overall record of 10-11 and a league record of 8-2. The team was coached by Chelsea Cole and Jen McAndrew (assistant/JV). The team included three seniors, Linnea Jimerson, Sierra Maybee, and Meganne Chapman, we would like to thank them for their time and effort they put forth into the basketball program. The juniors consisted of Evelyn Nuzzo, Brooke Eddy, Camryn Earley, and Makenna Smith. There was also one freshman, Emilee Ruiz.

There were a few individual accomplishments at the end of the season. Linnea Jimerson was named a CCAA East II, First Team All-Star. She will represent Ellicottville in the Big 30 Classic Senior All-Star game on March 31st in Portville. In January, Linnea also reached the 1,000 point mark! Makenna Smith was named CCAA East II, Second Team All-Star. Evelyn Nuzzo and Emilee Ruiz were named Honorable Mention.

A big “thank you” goes out to the three members of our JV team for moving up and helping out during playoffs. Those three are freshman, Harley Ficek and 8th graders Allison Rowland and Lauren Frascella. The Lady Eagles will return a large portion of their roster next year and look forward to making improvements heading into next season.

Boys Varsity

By Coach McCann

The Boys Varsity Basketball team finished the 2018/2019 season with an impressive 14-8 record. For the fourth consecutive season, the Eagles were able to bring home a CCAA East 2 League championship with a perfect 10-0 record in league games. Unfortunately however, the season came to an end with a hard fought loss to Bennett High School in the Sectional Semi-finals at Jamestown Community College.

The boys navigated through an extremely difficult non-league schedule which featured opponents from

Southwestern, Tapestry, Randolph, Frewsburg, Salamanca, Clymer, and Portville. The boys were able to grow and gain confidence with each new experience. That growth in confidence and team play became evident within league play and into playoffs.

There were several individual accomplishments at the end of the season for the Eagles as well. Senior Steven Rowland was named a CCAA East II, First Team All-Star. He will also represent Ellicottville in the Big 30 Classic Senior All-Star Game on March 31st in Portville. Leif Jimerson (Sophomore), Wyatt Chudy (Sophomore), and Clayton Rowland (Sophomore) were all named CCAA East II, Second Team All-Stars. Jordan Grinols (Junior) was named Honorable Mention.

Three seniors will graduate from the program this year. Those seniors are Steven Rowland, Brenden Chudy, and Brennan Finn. All have put 6 years into the basketball program and their efforts will be greatly missed. Juniors on the team included: Jordan Grinols, Christian Hutchinson, Nik Logel, and Nathaniel Ploetz. Sophomores this year included Clayton Rowland, Wyatt Chudy, and Leif Jimerson. Logan Grinols moved up to Varsity for league play as a freshman. A special “thank you” to 3 members of our JV team for moving up and helping out during playoffs. Those three are sophomores Harrison Newark and Ryan Dekay, and freshman Lucas Marsh. The Eagles showed a lot to be proud of this season. Their hard work and dedication showed great progress. They will look to improve and continue to get better heading into next season. Great season Eagles!

Boys Modified

By Coach Keenan

The Boy’s Modified basketball teams finished another season that showed the boy’s learning and developing their skills and knowledge of the game.

There were enough players to carry two teams, with the first group consisting of: Shawn Clancy, William Benatovich, Reese Benjamin, Chris Calarco, Owen Chudy, Aiden Harrington, Hunter Smith, Koda Curtis, Yahir Valazquez-Garcia, Ian Zeher, David Thompson and Zach Westfall.

The second team consisted of: Jaxon Czapl, Gavin Dietrich, Liam Jimerson, Brad John, Errol Moore, Aidan Murray, Gian Nuzzo, Braylon Wyatt, Caedon Wyatt and Ben Fisher.

The first team struggled to get wins with a record of 2-8-1 (overtime tie at Franklinville), this group consisted of mostly first year players and they were working to jell as a team, and learn how to win. I hope to see this group next year to continue teaching them Eagles basketball.

The second group was made up primarily of kids that played modified basketball last year and continued to build on that experience. They finished their season with a 6-5 record, capped by a win over Olean on the road. Without question this was one of the most team driven groups I have worked with. Everyone on this squad put the team ahead of themselves and worked very hard for each other. It was a pleasure working with them and I look forward to watching them continue playing at the next level of Eagle basketball.



Spring Sports Schedules

2019



Varsity Baseball

Coach Chris Mendell

March 23 TBD vs. Panama
@ St. Bonaventure (double header).....
March 27, 4:30 pm.....@ Catt/Little Valley
March 29, 4:30 pm..... vs. Clymer
April 3, 4:30 pm.....@ Randolph
April 4, 4:30 pm..... vs. Salamanca
April 8, 4:00 pm..... vs. Catt/Little Valley
April 10, 4:30 pm.....@ Franklinville
April 12, 4:30 pm..... vs. Frewsburg
April 15, 4:30 pm..... @ North Collins
April 29, 4:30 pm..... vs. Pine Valley
May 2, 4:30 pm..... vs. Franklinville
May 4, TBD@ Clymer
May 6, 4:30 pm..... vs. North Collins
May 8, 4:30 pm..... vs. Randolph
May 13, 4:30 pm..... @ Salamanca
May 14, 4:30 pm..... @ Pine Valley
May 17, 4:30 pm..... @ Frewsburg

Modified Baseball

Coach Dave McCann

April 30, 4:00 pm..... vs. Olean
Double header
May 2, 4:30 pm.....@ Catt/ Little Valley
May 4, 11:00 am vs. Salamanca
May 7, 4:30 pm..... @ Randolph
May 9, 4:30 pm.... vs. Allegany/Limestone
May 11, 11:00 am.....@ Franklinville
May 14, 4:30 pm..... vs. Portville
May 18, 11:00 am vs. Catt/Little Valley
May 21, 4:30 pm..... @ Salamanca
May 23, 4:30 pm..... vs. Randolph
May 28, 4:30 pm...@ Allegany/Limestone
May 29, 4:30 pm..... vs. Franklinville
June 1, 11:00 am @ Portville

Varsity Softball

Coach Matt Finn

March 27, 4:30 pm.....@ Catt/Little Valley
March 29, 4:30 pm. vs. Portville @ Bona's
April 3, 4:30 pm.....@ Randolph
April 4, 4:30 pm..... vs. Salamanca
April 5, 4:30 pm..... vs. Cal-Mum
April 8, 4:00 pm..... vs. Catt/Little Valley
April 10, 4:30 pm.....@ Franklinville
April 12, 4:30 pm..... vs. Frewsburg
April 15, 4:30 pm..... @ North Collins
April 29, 4:30 pm..... vs. Pine Valley
May 2, 4:30 pm..... vs. Franklinville
May 4, TBD@ Clymer (dbl header)
May 6, 4:30 pm..... vs. North Collins
May 8, 4:30 pm..... vs. Randolph
May 13, 4:30 pm..... @ Salamanca
May 14, 4:30 pm..... @ Pine Valley
May 17, 4:30 pm..... @ Frewsburg
May 20, 4:30 pm..... @ Portville

Junior Varsity Softball

Coach Tracie Myers

March 27, 4:30 pm.... vs. Catt/Little Valley
April 1, 4:30 pm@ Maple Grove
April 2, 4:30 pm..... vs. Silver Creek
April 5, 4:30 pm@ Catt/Little Valley
April 9, 4:30 pm.....@ Gowanda
April 11, 11:00 am vs. Dunkirk
April 16, 4:30 pm vs. Maple Grove
April 30, 5:00 pm @ Bolivar/Richburg
May 3, 5:00 pm @ Dunkirk
May 7, 4:30 pm..... vs. Gowanda
May 15, 4:30 pm@ Olean
May 17, 4:30 pm vs. Allegany/Limestone
May 20, 4:30 pm...@ Allegany/Limestone

Modified Softball

April 30, 4:00 pm vs. Olean
Double header
May 2, 4:30 pm@ Catt/ Little Valley
May 4, 11:00 am vs. Salamanca
May 7, 4:30 pm.....@ Randolph
May 9, 4:30 pm.... vs. Allegany/Limestone
May 11, 11:00 am.....@ Franklinville
May 14, 4:30 pm vs. Portville
May 18, 11:00 am vs. Catt/Little Valley
May 21, 4:30 pm..... @ Salamanca
May 23, 4:30 pm..... vs. Randolph
May 28, 4:30 pm...@ Allegany/Limestone
May 29, 4:30 pm..... vs. Franklinville
June 1, 11:00 am @ Portville

Boys Golf

Coach Dan LaCroix

April 10, 3:30 pm @ Cardinal Hills CC
ECS/Alleg-Limestone
April 15, 3:30 pm@ Elkdale CC
ECS/Salamanca/Catt-LV
May 2, 3:30 pm @ Ischua Valley CC
ECS/Randolph
May 6, 3:30 pm ...Double Black Diamond
Rand/Portville/Catt-LV
May 10, 3:30 pm @ Birch Run CC
ECS/Randolph
May 13, 9:00 am @ Bartlett CC
Sectional Qualifier
May 15, 3:30 pm@ Bolivar CC
ECS/Portville
May 16, 3:30 pm .Double Black Diamond
Franklinville/ALCS/Salamanca
May 20, 9:00 am@ River Oaks CC
State Qualifier
May 23, 9:00 am @ Gowand CC
3-Man Tourney

Track combined w/Franklinville

April 3, 4:30 pm@SHS
April 9, 4:30 pm@ Randolph
April 13, 1:00 pm.....Frostbite Relays
April 16, 4:30 pm@ Clymer/Sherman/
Panama
April 26 Gator Relays @ALCS
April 30, 4:30 pm vs. Frewsburg
May 3 Hornell Invitational
May 8, 4:00 pm..... vs. West/Brocton
May 11 Wellsville Invitational
May 14, 4:30 pm vs. Maple Grove
May 17 Super 8's @Salamanca
May 20, 4:30 pm..... vs. Catt. LV
May 24/25 ... CCAA League Meet @Olean

Modified Track

April 29 vs. Olean/Portville
May 2@ Olean
May 6 @ Washington
May 9 @ Falconer
May 13 @ Maple Grove
May 16 vs. Cass. Valley/Silver Creek

Budget Vote Information

The budget hearing for the 2019-20 school budget will be held on **Tuesday, May 14th at 7:00pm** in the HS Cafeteria.

Voting for the 2019-20 budget and Board of Education members will take place on **Tuesday, May 21st** in the elementary foyer. Voting will take place from 1:00pm to 8:00pm.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Applications for Absentee Ballots must be received by the district clerk at least seven days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election, if the ballot is to be issued to the voter in person.

PTO Update and Upcoming Events



Please Send in Your Box Tops!

The PTO is always collecting Box Tops! We have only collected about \$500 in Box Tops this year, our goal is \$1,000, please keep collecting them. Send your Box Tops in to the school, you can also drop them off at TOPS in Ellicottville or at the Great Valley Post Office.

Spring 2019 Events:

- **Dime Carnival:**
Friday, April 12th (5:30pm-7:30pm)
- **Mother/Son Dance:**
Friday, May 3rd
- **Science Exposition:**
Tuesday, May 14th (6:00pm-7:00pm)
- **Field Day:**
June 24th (8:30am-10:30 am)



PTO Dime Carnival!

This year's Dime Carnival will be held on **Friday, April 12th from 5:30pm to 7:30pm**. The event will be in the High School Cafeteria and Gymnasium. We will be using tickets for the games again this year and they will be sold 10 tickets for \$1. We will also have tickets for our basket raffle for sale at \$1 each or 12 for \$10. Food and drinks will be available to purchase during the event.

If you would like to donate a gift certificate or a basket to the basket raffle, help the PTO out by volunteering your time or donating desserts for the cake walk please contact Diana Olson at 378-6698 or via email at dolson@eville.wnyric.org.

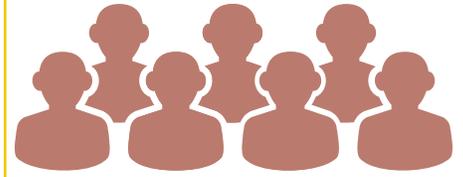
We look forward to seeing you at the Dime Carnival!

If you would like more information please feel free to attend any of our meetings or you can email **Diana Olson** at dolson@eville.wnyric.org.

BOGO BOOKS

SPRING BOOK FAIR:

Our **"Buy 1 Get 1 Free"** Spring Book Fair will be held on Friday, April 5th from 8:00am-3:30pm & 5:30pm – 7:30pm during the Daddy Daughter Dance; and Monday, April 8th, 8:00am – 3:30pm.



Get Involved!

Come find out what the PTO is doing and get involved. PTO continues to help K-12 students and the surrounding community. These activities can't be done without all of the volunteers!

4th Annual Talent Show Another Huge Success!

Our 4th Annual PTO Talent Show was a huge success! We had over 40 students in grades 4 – 8 who participated! We had students perform a wide variety of talents. Each participant received a \$5 Subway gift card. Thank you to Mr. LaCroix, Mrs. Wilder, Mrs. Burlingame, and Mrs. Edwards for all of their help making the Talent Show run smoothly! This year's participants were:

1. Isabella Wilder- Singing "The Girl I Mean To Be" from the Secret Garden
2. Katie Krotz & Hali Fish- Singing "Everybody Hurts"
3. Jayden Doutht- Singing "I Told You So" by Carrie Underwood
4. Calum Farnum, Jaxson LaCroix, Christopher Edwards, Tosh Klein- 4 Comedians
5. Ande Northrup & Teaghan Finn – Hula-Hooping to "I Got This Feeling"
6. Jackson Kruszynski- Singing "Snoopy and the Red Baron"
7. Alyssa Flag & Amberlynn Freundsuh- "Better When I'm Dancing" by Megan Trainer Lip Sync
8. Brayden Wilson- Using a pogo stick to the Circus theme song
9. McKenzie Green & Nora Santiago- Magic Show
10. Adelaide Weber- Singing "Mary Song" by Taylor Swift
11. Jordan O'Connell & Lanie Wilson- Singing and Dancing to "Shotgun"
12. Adrian Taylor & Cameron Mendell- Singing a song they wrote
13. Raiddan Wilson, Ady Andrews, Breanna Byroads, Alexa Burrell- "Girls Like You" Lip Sync
14. Ava Woodarek- Singing "Burning House" by Kam
15. Ella Erlandson- Singing "A Thousand Years"
16. Audrey Meacham-Williams Singing "Fireflies" & Braiden Hayes as a DJ
17. Harper Klein, Delaney Meyers, Izzy Coburn- Playing "The Greatest Showman"
18. Skye Wood- Playing the Saxophone
19. Juliana O'Connell & Ainsley Edwards- Singing "Descendents"
20. Yanieliz Velazquez-Garcia - Singing "Echame La Culpa"
21. Ryha Blalock- Singing "Happier" by Marshmello
22. Bianca Bush & Faith Burlingame- Dancing Babies
23. Natalee Leiper- Singing "Can't Help Falling In Love With You"
24. Ella Meacham-Williams- Auctioneering
25. Chloe Carson- Singing "Faded" by Alan Walker
26. Jayce Pearl - Trump Impressions
27. Gwendolyn DeChane- Hula-Hooping to "Trip" by Ella Mai
28. Kayedance Hayes & Kiera Baldwin- Harry Potter Spell Battle
29. Katie Krotz- Singing "Ain't No Mountain High Enough"

Free and Reduced School Meals

Understanding How ECS Participates in the Program



The school is often asked why we don't apply for the grant to obtain free meals (breakfast and lunch) for all students. While the answer to this question is fairly simple, our bigger concern is the overall participation rate in the National School Lunch program (free and reduced school meals).

First, the grant to obtain free meals for everyone is based on what is known as direct certification. Direct certification is when we are notified directly from the county that all the children from a household are to receive free meals. Various county agencies make the decision of who qualifies and they share this with the school. In the end, 40% of our student population would need to qualify for free meals through direct certification to offer free meals for all students, and we do not meet that criteria. In fact, while some schools in the area do, many more do not.

Beyond this criteria involving direct certification, we also need to keep in mind that there are many other programs that rely on the overall percentage of free and reduced meals that we serve. Traditionally Ellicottville Central School's participation rate in this program has been relatively low when compared to other districts. While we realize that we cannot increase the participation rate significantly in a quick period of time, we would ask that you keep some things in mind moving forward.

This program is completely anonymous. A family applies and only one person at the school is able to review and approve applications (unless there is a discrepancy, in which the Superintendent will become involved). Once approved,

We would also like to share a couple of other thoughts around the program to encourage increased participation:

- The amount of reimbursement for free and reduced lunches from the government exceeds the amount we receive from a paid lunch.
- The cafeteria receives more government issued food when our participation rate is higher, which in turn lowers our cost to maintain the cafeteria program.
- Once a child or family is approved for free or reduced lunches, they remain approved until the end of the September of the following school year. *(The exception is the 45 day "emergency application" filed by the school when an application is not submitted by the family.)*
- Applications for free and reduced lunches may be submitted at any point during the year. This is important to remember as a family's financial situation may change.
- Research shows that students that eat well balanced meals tend to be more focused and alert during the school day and perform better on their academic endeavors.
- Some of the college classes at ECS will consider a student's free and reduced status when determining costs such as tuition (and this is ONLY done with written parent permission).
- Fee waivers for things such as the SAT, ACT, college applications, etc. can be considered (this is through a student's / family's self-disclosure).
- There are a number of grants available to schools that ask about the percentage of free and reduced meals, and often times, grants are awarded based on higher percentages.

the student's information is entered into the school lunch data base, which, in turn, is connected to the student's ID number and ID card (for the MS/HS) or a class list (PreK-5th grade). Please know that student ID numbers do not appear on the card or lists, and, instead, a bar code is used which only a bar code reader can interpret. In the end, when the student goes through the cafeteria line, the reader scans the card or list. The cashier NEVER knows if the student was approved; just that a meal was obtained by a student. The school lunch database handles how the meal was approved: free or reduced, paid

or "charged." And, it is the school lunch database that generates letters and phone calls for paid accounts that are not up to date. The point of this lengthy explanation is to let you know that the program is truly and completely anonymous.

We ask that parents please keep all of this information in mind, not only for the remainder of this year, but also for next year. We encourage all families to apply. You may be surprised and find out you qualify. And, if you don't, please be assured the fact that you did not qualify will be held in the strictest confidence.



Save the Date!

ECS ALUMNI BANQUET AT HOLIDAY VALLEY

SATURDAY, JULY 20, 2019

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

MARK WARD 716-378-1237 OR JOHN BURRELL 716-498-1117





Pre-K and Kindergarten

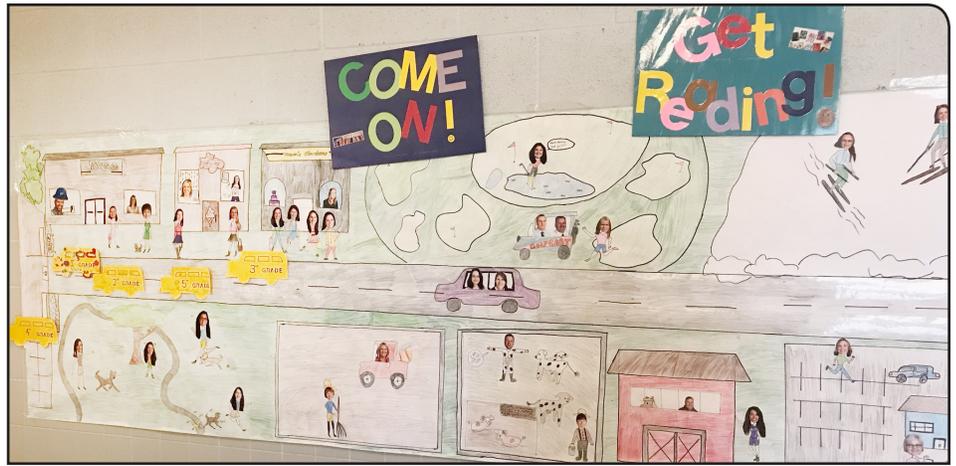
PRE-KINDERGARTEN:

If your son or daughter will be turning **4 years old by Dec. 1, 2019**, please call the Elementary Office. We will then mail you a planning packet that will need to be completed and returned to the Elementary Office. Each year New York State reviews the funding structure for the grant supported Pre-K programs. Our Pre-K program is a half day program. If our Pre-K program is again funded, acceptance letters for the program will be mailed this June. *(The state considers a child Pre-school age if their birth date is between December 1, 2014 and November 30, 2015.)*

Please contact the Elementary Office at 699-2318 and we will be happy to answer any questions that you have at this time.

KINDERGARTEN:

Do you have a child that will be Kindergarten age this fall, but is not currently enrolled in our Pre-K program? **Please notify the Elementary Office at 699-2318** so we may include your family in some upcoming activities this spring such as Kindergarten Screening and the annual Pre-K picnic. Our Kindergarten program is a full school day. *(The state considers a child Kindergarten age if they turn 5 years old before December 1, 2019.)*



“Come On, Get Reading!”

ECS Elementary Holds Special Celebration

Students in the elementary were thrilled to hear Mr. Miller read his favorite book, *The Monster at the End of This Book*, at the launch of the reading celebration on January 18th. Our mantra this year was, “Come On, Get Reading!”

Other guest readers at the kick-off were Maddie Winship, sixth grader, and Ginna Hensel and Louisa Benatovich, seniors and officers of the high school readers’ club, ESPRA. The fifth grade chorus, under the direction of Mrs. Waldron, sang “Come On, Get Reading!” to the tune of The Partridge Family’s “Come On, Get Happy!”

The centerpiece of our celebration this year was a wonderful mural designed and created by Ms. McGowan’s art students: Cameron Lendvay, Victoria Provorse, and Summer Wilson. The mural showed the route from school to the public library with the elementary faculty members getting into mischief along the way!



As students met their reading goals, their buses moved toward the library. Each grade level was striving for full participation on weekly reading goals, the grand prize a trip to the Ellicottville public library for an afternoon of fun.

The PTO provided wonderful incentives for our students. Parents visited as guest readers. Just before February break, Mrs. Bush visited each class as a mystery reader to keep the momentum going.

The event will wrap up on March 1st. Stop by the elementary foyer to see the mural and find out who our winner was!



The 2019 Grades 3-8 New York State Assessments: What Parents Need to Know

Every spring, the Grades 3-8 English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics Tests are administered to students across New York State. These annual ELA and math tests for students in grades 3-8 are required by the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015. The tests are designed to measure how well students are mastering the learning standards that guide classroom instruction and help to ensure that students are on track to graduate from high school with the critical thinking, problem solving, and reasoning skills needed for success in college and the modern workplace. The tests also show how schools and districts are progressing with the learning standards and can support professional development for teachers. Below you will find information about the 2019 tests.

Fewer Test Sessions

- Like the 2018 tests, the 2019 Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Tests are two sessions each.
- With fewer test sessions, each test will have substantially fewer questions than in recent years, lessening test fatigue for students and better enabling them to demonstrate what they know and are able to do.

Untimed Tests

- Like the 2016 – 2018 tests, the 2019 Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Tests will be untimed.
- In general, this means that as long as students are working productively, they will have as much time as they need to complete each test session, within the confines of the regular school day.
- Schools and districts have discretion to allow students to read silently or quietly exit the room when they have completed their test while others continue to work.

Test Questions Reviewed and Written by New York State Teachers

- Teachers from across the State serve on committees to write, evaluate and select questions for the tests.
- Hundreds of New York State educators were involved in creating and reviewing questions for 2019 Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Tests and selecting the questions for the test forms.
- This year, most of the test questions were written by New York State teachers specifically for the annual New York State tests.

Providing Results for Teachers and Improved Resources for Parents

- Like the previous three years, the New York State Education Department plans to have instructional reports returned to teachers by the end of the school year and to release at least 75% of the test questions again.
- The 2019 Score Reports for parents will feature more information about what students should know and be able to do at each grade level.

Questions about testing programs, policies, and procedures may be sent to emscassessinfo@nysed.gov



3rd - 8th New York State Assessment Dates at Ellicottville Central School

English Language Arts (ELA): April 2 & 3, 2019

Mathematics: May 1 & 2, 2019

Science:

4th and 8th Grade Performance = Wednesday, May 22, 2019

4th and 8th Grades Written = Monday, June 3, 2019

$$\frac{6}{20} = \frac{x}{100}$$



If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's teacher or principal at 716-699-2318 ext.1601 for the Elementary Office or 716-699-2316 ext. 1401 for the Middle/High School Office.

Ellicottville Central School
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www.ellicottvillecentral.com

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Mr. Robert Miller, Superintendent
Mr. Erich Ploetz, 7-12 Principal
Mrs. Maren Bush, Elementary Principal / Director of Curriculum
Mrs. Aimee Kilby, Business Administrator
Mrs. Melissa Dahlman, CSE-CPSE Chairperson



Bright Smiles at ECS

Important Oral Care Habits

ECS Students celebrated National Children's Dental Health month this February with a special delivery from Colgate®. The Colgate Bright Smiles, Bright Futures® program sent classroom kits to Kindergarten and First Grade classes. The kits had free toothbrush and toothpaste samples for each student. The program also provided books, posters, DVDs and other classroom materials making it easy and fun for young children to learn the importance of healthy oral care habits.



Be Sure to Visit Our Website: <http://www.ellicottvillecentral.com>



Ellicottville Central Schools

Embracing Change, Celebrating Success, Surpassing Expectations



E-Mail



Grades



Directory



Calendar