

January-February 2016

ELLICOTTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL

Volume 46, Issue 4



ECS Drama Club Proudly Presents ...

'The Wizard of Oz' on March 10-12

The Ellicottville drama club will present *The Wizard of Oz* in three performances this year! Mark your calendars: 7 PM – ECS new stage – Thursday, March 10th, Friday, March 11th & Saturday, March 12th. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$7 and presale at the school.

The Wizard of Oz is directed by Jaye Zelko. Pat Waldron is the vocal director. Senior Kaitlin Smith is assisting Mrs. Zelko as Choreographer, and the Producer/Orchestra director is Crystal Wilder.

Dorothy Gale, a young girl who lives on a farm in Kansas with her Aunt Em and Uncle Henry, gets in the way while the adults try to work. She dreams of a quiet place where she won't get into any trouble – *Over The Rainbow*. The girl is upset because their mean neighbor, Miss Gulch, presents her with a Sheriff's summons for her cherished dog, Toto. Toto escapes from Miss Gulch's bicycle basket and joins Dorothy as she runs away from the farm. They meet up with kind Professor Marvel, who convinces her to go back home. A cyclone hits the area, and Dorothy and Toto are locked out of the family's storm cellar. They go into her room in the house, where Dorothy is accidentally hit on the head. This begins their journey to the Land of Oz. Along the way she meets three new friends and travel companions. The Scarecrow (Hunk, the first of Uncle Henry's farmhands) explains why he needs to see the Wizard in *If I Only Had A Brain*. The Tinman (Hickory) joins them because his life would be better *If I Only Had A Heart*, and the Lion (Zeke) comes along – *If I Only Had The Nerve*. All four sing *We're Off To See The Wizard*.

Our cast includes Seniors: Douglas Bliss, Brenna Cole, Nick Delity, Paige Enderby, Kaleigh Hunt, Quinn O'Rourke, Max Paddock, Annie Prentice, Shelby Toth, Jasmine Valentine, Leah Westfall, Stone Wilson, and Ben Zoller. Rounding the performance out are underclassmen: Rylie Aldrich, Saïdy Bolya, Meganne Chapman, Emma Chew, Hannah Chew, Kayleigh Coolidge, Joshua Coolidge, Hannah DeChane, Ices Decker, Allyson Fisher, Jiana Flora, Alex Hunt, Elizabeth Jacobson Coolidge, Maddy Kilby, Heli Kongats, Lisa Krotz, Kayla Krzanak, Cyrene Moore, Harrison Newark, Andee Pierce, Erin Quinn, Gabe Snyder, Ainsley Watt, Erica Wilber, Summer Wilson, and Bri Winship.



School Closed for Winter Break
February 15-19, 2016

Early Budget Revenue Numbers Remain Low

By Mark J. Ward, Superintendent

As we begin to settle into the 2016-17 budget season, we are just beginning to evaluate the numbers that Governor Cuomo released as part of the Executive Budget. While the numbers for Ellicottville are advertised as an increase of 2.81%, in reality it is an increase of 1.9%.

The small chart below will give you a better look at the numbers and what they mean to our school district. While there are a variety of State revenues, I have outlined the main ones below that the Governor's budget addressed with some further explanation.

	2015-16	2016-17	Increase/Decrease
Foundation Aid	\$2,657,525	\$2,677,993	+\$20,468
*BOCES Aid	\$ 327,085	\$ 378,290	+\$51,207
*Transportation	\$ 157,443	\$ 140,060	-\$17,383
GEA Restoration	-\$ 84,365	-\$ 53,370	+\$30,995

(Senator Young and the Senate have been pushing to end this "subtraction" from our state aid for several years. In our BOCES region, 87% of the money has been restored to the districts ... ECS is still \$53,370 short to make us whole dating back to 2009 when the Gap Elimination Adjustment was first enacted.)

Special Education

(This is still being evaluated)

Building Aid

(We will see a large increase under Building Aid because this will be the first year the District will receive a full year of building aid on the new capital project that is just finishing up.)

*These are both expense driven aids, which means that what you receive is based on what you spent the previous year. Therefore, our expenditures in 2015-16 will determine the aid we receive in 2016-17. Increases mean that you either spent more money in that area or had more things that were aidable. It has nothing to do with what the Governor is "giving" the district.

If you factor out the two expense driven aids, we are actually receiving \$51,463 which is an increase of 1.9% ... hardly substantial given how low the cap is for this year.

On top of this the Tax Cap for 2016-17 is .12% which will greatly reduce any new money the district can generate through taxes.

As the budget process progresses we will carefully watch other revenue sources such as IDEA (Federal money for special education), Title I and special education reimbursements.

At this point, the Board and administration plan to lobby Senator Young and Assemblyman Giglio to recognize the need for additional State revenue to sustain the initiatives, required programs and unfunded mandates that we are required to support.

The District has already implemented a freeze on spending this year, in an effort to generate additional savings.



ECS spelling champion Alex Hunt (center) with finalists Megan Hartsell (left) and Jack Snyder.

Alex Hunt Spells His Way to ECS Champion

The middle school spelling bee was held on January 6. The bee started with the top 32 spellers in grades six through eight. This year's bee was an exciting competition which lasted over an hour as students continually spelled challenging word after challenging word. Some of the discussion after the bee questioned the meaning of words such as "polemic." The list of words provided from the National Spelling Bee Corp. starts with first grade words and works its way up to eighth grade spelling words. It was exhilarating to work our way through the grade levels and end with an eighth grade word. Seventh grader Alexander Hunt won the spelling bee with "stagflation," edging out eighth graders Megan Hartsell and Jack Snyder. Eighth grader Christian Hutchison placed fourth, misspelling the previous word, "pinnacle." Alex will take a written spelling test February 8th to try to qualify for competition in Buffalo as one of the region's top spellers.



Supporting Project Christmas

THANK YOU to the Great Valley Volunteer Fire Company for its generous donation this year of \$3,500 to Project Christmas. They have made a donation in this amount for the past four years. Pictured (l-r) are Kim Watt, Clarence Bickell, Ken Franklin and Jennifer Hasper.



District Chosen to Host Brazil Liaison Program

St. Bonaventure University has recently developed a partnership with Liaison America and Ellicottville Central has been selected as one of the four local high schools who will host students, teachers and administrators. We are excited about the opportunities this will provide our students and a chance for a greater understanding of the people, country and culture of Brazil. **What makes this even more exciting is the fact that Brazil is preparing to host the world's greatest athletic event ... the 2016 Summer Olympics!!!**

We were able to spend time with Sandra Lima Argo, a former Principal of elementary, middle and high schools in Brazil, who is the proprietor of the company and the Director of the Programs.

Sandra is responsible for creating and managing the company's services. Part of the management responsibility is finding companies that could provide services for the Programs, such as Marketing, Tourism Activities (museums, sports and outdoors activities), Colleges and Schools that will host the Program, Hotels and Restaurants and all kinds of local entertainment activities. It could be said that "Liaison America is a company of partnerships."

Liaison America is a company that works with schools and universities in the US and abroad. Their main objective is to provide educational services abroad. They develop educational programs for high school and college students, teachers and school administrators to study abroad, participating in language programs, professional development workshops, internships and cultural experiences.

Their mission is to be a facilitator for individuals, groups and schools that want



Visiting students and teachers from Brazil are seen in the main foyer under the flag of Brazil! Shown (l-r) are: Alandra Blume, Liaison America Coordinator; ECS students Noah Stuve and Alex Fisher; Brazil student Lucas Maciel; Mr. Ward; Brazil student Victor Tavares; and Maria de Lourdes, English Foreign Language Teacher.

to have an international educational experience, through programs that are developed to fit people's needs enriching their personal/professional lives.

The Liaison America academic approach is built in partnership between American and Brazilian institutions. Each program is unique, based on the needs of the participant and the requests of the educational institutions involved. L.A. works as a liaison to American and Brazilian institutions to provide mediation during discussions about the curriculum of the programs.

Participants of L.A. programs develop respect and appreciation for other cultures, which is essential in improving relation-

ships, as well as gaining respect and appreciation for their own culture. L.A. encourages the participants to embrace the world and its diversity

For those of you who like trivia ... here are some interesting facts about Brazil: It is the only Portuguese speaking country in South America, 5th largest country in population and size in the world, largest country in South America, world's largest producer of coffee for over 150 years, 9th largest economy in the world, Rio de Janeiro is probably the most famous city, the equator divides the northern part of the country and two amazing geographic wonders are part of Brazil's landscape ... Amazon River and Andes Mountains!

PTO in Action

Lip Sync & Talent Show A Success

The PTO Lip Sync & Talent Show was held Monday, February 1, at 6:00 pm in the High School Cafeteria. Thank you to all who came out to watch our 4th-8th grade students show off their talents! This year we had students playing instruments, singing solos, hula hooping, and more!

Keep Those Box Tops Coming

The PTO is holding a Box Top Contest for Pre-K through 5th grade students from February 1st - February 12th. If you have students in these grades you can send them in to give to their teachers. If you don't have students in these grades you can still turn Box Tops in to the Elementary Office.

Strategic Planning Meeting Feb. 23rd


The next strategic planning meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, February 23rd in the High School Library.

Please RSVP, or for questions, please email Connie Poulin at cpoulin@eville.wnyric.org or call 699-2318.



Little Eagles Fly High with Penny Collection

Congratulations to our Kindergarten students! They demonstrated the character traits of generosity and citizenship by collecting 8,850 pennies, or \$88.50, for Project Christmas. Not only was this a great opportunity for our Little Eagles to help their community, but this was also an excellent academic learning experience. The children were able to improve their math skills while counting pennies by ones and by tens. Mr. Wilson, Miss Olson, and Mrs. Woodarek are proud of all of you!



ESPRA Seeking Donations for Used Book Sale March 3rd

Are you cleaning house? Are your bookshelves caving in from all the weight? If so, please consider donating your gently used books and DVDs to our upcoming book sale! (Please, no encyclopedias or dated material, ex: World Almanac from 1996).

ESPR, ECS literary club, will be holding a used book sale on March 3rd, immediately after school, as well as before the Pops Concert that evening. Please drop off donations in either office or in room 145. See you at the sale!

Ellicottville Central School Income Tax Code:

181



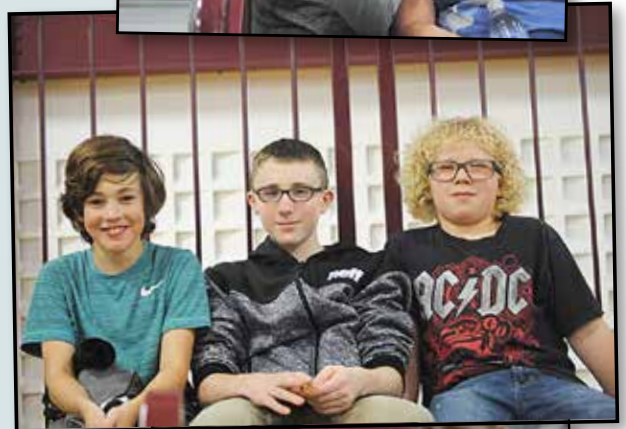
YEARBOOK NEWS

*Do these pictures make the cut?
Reserve a yearbook and you'll find
out in June.*

- You may purchase old yearbooks while supplies last. 2015's book is \$30. Books from previous years are \$10 apiece, while supplies last.



- Yearbooks are \$60 and you must reserve one by May 31st in order to guarantee you get one. Otherwise you'll only be able to get one if we have any left after all reserved ones have had a chance to be claimed. To reserve one you need to put at least \$10 down. See Mrs. Bauer for details.



- The fundraiser is all done. If you sold 30 items you have a free yearbook reserved for you. If you sold less than 30 items you have yearbook reserved with \$1 off the price of the book for each item you sold. You will just need to pay the balance to receive the book.





Thank You Sports Boosters! 😊

By Mark J. Ward, Superintendent

Over two years ago the ECS Sports Boosters decided that they wanted to put banners in the new gym to honor our athletic accomplishments! The capital project provided the time to do the research so we were able to verify league, section, regional and state championships. The Boosters wanted to highlight the various accomplishments in all sports with special attention to teams who have made it to the "State Final Four" and our five (5) New York State Championships!!

We have included a few pictures so you can see what they look like. They are not only a record of athletic history and achievement for our school, they are a classy way to display our accomplishments to students, parents, community members and visitors.

The Boosters spent more than \$6,000 on this project and, on behalf of the Board of Education, administration and school community, we want to thank the Boosters for their vision, school spirit and willingness to provide such a wonderful gift to the school.

A "special thank you" goes out to Deb Golley and Todd Palamatier who worked tirelessly to make this a reality.



Seventh Graders Attend Leadership Conference



On Thursday, January 14th, seventh-grade student officers attended a Middle School Leadership Conference at the Challenger Center in Olean.

Students learned about developing their leadership skills such as displaying gratitude and respect, being positive and passionate. Students wrote gratitude letters to a family member. They developed a personal dream board (shown at left), and worked on ways to improve their school.

Attendees included Brianna Winship, Jamison Caldwell, Sydney Saunders and Coryn Yarnes.



February 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 - Class of 2016 Carnation Sale - Winter Weekend Activities - 6:00 pm PTO Lip Sync - Homework Club	2 - Homework Club	3 - Homework Club	4	5 - 2:00 pm Winter Weekend Assembly - 6:00 pm MS (grades 6-8) Dance	6 - 8:00 pm Winter Weekend Dance
7	8 - Homework Club	9 - NHS Blood Drive - 7:30 pm ECS Board of Education Meeting (HS Library) - Homework Club	10 - Homework Club	11	12	13
14	15 - School Closed - President's Day	16 - Winter Recess	17 - Winter Recess	18 - Winter Recess	19 - Winter Recess	20
21	22 - Class of 2017 Candy Bar Sale - Homework Club	23 - Homework Club	24 - Homework Club	25 - Eagle Time - 2nd Grade hosting "Perseverance"	26 - All County #1 @ Franklinville	27 - All County #1 @ Franklinville
28 - Homework Club - 3:15 pm, Public Hearing Smart School Bond Act, HS Library	29					

ELICOTTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL

March 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 - 7:30 pm ECS Board of Education Meeting (HS Library) - Homework Club	2 - Homework Club	3 - 7:00 pm Pops Concert	4	5
6	7 - Foreign Language Week - Homework Club	8 - 7:30 pm ECS Board of Education Meeting (Budget Work Session - HS Library) - Homework Club	9 - 12:00 pm 1/2 day of school for grades K-5 - Parent/Teacher Conferences	10 - 5:00 pm OM Performance - 7:00 pm Musical	11 - 7:00 pm Musical	12 - Regional OM Competition at Randolph - 7:00 pm Musical
13	14 - 5:30 pm Winter Sports Banquet - Homework Club	15 - 3 pm Spring Sports Pictures - 7:30 pm ECS Board of Education Meeting (Budget Work Session - HS Library) - Homework Club	16 - Homework Club	17 - Spring Recess - School Closed	18 - Spring Recess - School Closed	19 - Spring Recess - School Closed
20	21 - Spring Recess - School Closed	22 - Spring Recess - School Closed	23 - Spring Recess - School Closed	24 - Spring Recess - School Closed	25 - Spring Recess - School Closed	26
27	28 - Spring Recess - School Closed	29 - Homework Club	30	31 - Homework Club	1 - All County #2 @ Cattaraugus-Little Valley	2 - All County #2 @ Cattaraugus-Little Valley - OM State Competition at Binghamton



Reflecting on Lessons Beyond the Classroom

By Bob Miller, MS/HS Principal

The adults that surround children's lives fill a number of different roles. The roles include, but are not limited to: guidance, provider, support, coach, educator, etc. It is this last role that I would like to focus on in this article, but I would like to focus on it from a different perspective. We know that schools are places where "education" takes place. Curriculum, textbooks, teachers, etc. ensure that students are learning.

But ... what about the education of students beyond the classroom and the normal school day? We all know that a child's education is so much more than just homework, studying and tests. It also includes things such as social skills, sportsmanship, respect and the ability to appreciate things that are different. These are attributes that cannot always be taught through books, and, in fact, they are often more effectively taught through modeling and demonstration.

Well, over the years I have seen these lessons taught to varying degrees and feel that it is only appropriate and just to address some concerns that I have either witnessed and/or have been communicated to me. I realize that sharing these concerns does risk offending some, but feel that not addressing them at all would be wrong.

The lessons that I think we can all share in teaching students are as follows, and, it is by no means all inclusive.

- **Hats** – Removing one's hat while inside has always been seen as a sign of respect, and, as such, we have worked hard with students to do so. Overall students have

responded well to our efforts; needing only occasional reminders at various times. Imagine our (school staff) frustration then when at concerts, awards banquets, basketball games, etc. parents do not remove their hats... even when they see school staff asking kids to take their hats off...even when they are sitting at a table eating.

- **Concert Etiquette** – In addition to removing hats, as already mentioned, concert etiquette should also include remaining for an entire concert. We have split Elementary and MS/HS concerts into different nights and have worked hard to limit concerts to about 1 hour in length. Another important aspect to concert etiquette is having children sit and watch the concert from chairs. We look to parents to assist with this and not allow children to roam about the building and in and out of the concert venue which can be distracting to the students that are performing and/or parents that are trying to watch their children perform.
- **Awards Banquets** – This area of concern is really a combination of the two previous concerns. Hats should be removed. We ask that parents ask their child/children to do so, and they should do so as well. Perhaps more frustrating at awards banquets is scenarios where parents will leave as soon as their child/children have received their award or recognition. All students being recognized at a banquet have worked hard for their honors and deserve the mutual respect of each other regardless of when they are recognized during the event.



First Grade Classes Show Generosity During Holidays

First Grade classes learned all about Generosity in the month of December. Students in Mrs. Bower, Mrs. Keller, and Mr. Smith's classes took a field trip to the Absolut Care Nursing Home in Salamanca, NY and discovered how they could be generous with their time and their talents. They chose books to read to the residents and decorated wreaths to

give as gifts. They also sang Christmas carols. The residents of the nursing home enjoyed listening to the students read. The visit lifted everyone's spirits and helped get children and senior citizens alike into the holiday spirit!



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E - Embracing Change
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District Facilities Offer Convenient Way to Get Fit

Board of Education Opens Fitness Room to Public

In an effort to promote health and wellness, the ECS Board has opened up the use of the new Fitness Room to parents and family members of students who attend ECS as well as District community members! Students will also be able to use the facility based on community interest.

The state-of-the-art facility has the following equipment available for use: Cardio Equipment: 3 Virtual Reality Bikes, 1 Elliptical, 1 Adaptive Motion Trainer, 2 Treadmills. Vitality Strength Circuit: Lat Pulldown/Seated Row, Leg Press, Leg Curl/Leg Extension, Multi Press, Dual Pulley System. Freeweight: 2 Power Lift Combo Racks w/4 stations, Full Dumbbell Rack (heavy and light), Full Bom Per Rack for Olympic Lifts. Extra: Weighted Battle Ropes (Heavy/Light Bands), Multi Height Box Jumps, Slam Balls, Wall Balls, Full Set Body Bars

Fitness Room Hours

- Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 4:00-7:00 PM
- Tuesday & Friday 6:00-7:30 AM

Program runs when school is in session.

The District will provide supervision. Specific Regulations/Rules may be picked up in the MS/HS School Office or the District Office.

Walking Program Available at ECS

Ellicottville Central School will host a Walk Program for community members November 30th thru April 21st. The building will be open Monday – Thursday from 6-9 pm (when school is in session). Community members are asked to check-in each time they walk at the High School back parking lot entrance.