

October - November 2011

ELLICOTTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL

Volume 42 Issue 2



It's the Season for ... PUMPKINVILLE



The Pre K students enjoyed a beautiful fall day at Pumpkinville. After reading all about apples and pumpkins, the students were able to take a tractor ride to the pumpkin patch to choose the perfect pumpkin. Students were also able to feed the animals, have a snack of apple cider and pumpkin donuts, and choose and purchase apples to make applesauce in class. Many parents, younger siblings, and grandparents joined us, too. What a great day!



New School Year: **NEW CHANGES & INITIATIVES**

By Mark J. Ward, Superintendent

With the school year nearly two months old it is a good time to reflect on some of the changes and initiatives this year that will be affecting our school and students:

Race To The Top (RTTT)

This Federal program designed to help fund educational changes across the United States has created more change than most initiatives have in the past twenty years. Since the grant involved large sums of money, States were very anxious to secure the funding. The program is tied to an "investment in change," a bold commitment to educational reform. While New York State was not funded in the first round, word was received in August 2010 that New York State was awarded \$700,000,000 that would be available over the next five years. There are a variety of requirements that came along with the money, highlighted by a teacher and principal evaluation system tied to student testing performance. Other requirements included the addition of 200 more Charter Schools, building data systems that measure student growth and success and the adoption of standards and assessments designed to assure student success in college and the workplace.

Over the past three years, we have placed a heavy emphasis on data and this is exactly where we need to be as we examine student and program performance. This kind of analysis will allow us to adjust and monitor instruction and concentrate on what is working!

While our school district is only scheduled to receive \$17,000 from the RTTT funding, we believe that through professional development, implementation of the Core curriculum and a focus on students, that student performance and teacher effectiveness will continue to improve.

ECS like all other schools across the State is working on the "details" that go along with this commitment. Teachers and administration will be working on the development of a new evaluation system that will shift the focus from the teacher to the student relying heavily on evidence. At this time, we look at this as a "process" that we have to work together to get in place.

Bullying

The District will continue to place a great deal of emphasis on this troubling topic that has gained national attention. There are a number of programs and initiatives in place with others planned. Mr. Miller communicated a number of our initiatives last month in the September Newsletter and we are continuing to work on the adoption of a district program. We are also exploring the possibility of establishing a link on our website where students or parents could anonymously report incidents.

Bullying is a very real and serious act of persistent aggression that can be verbal, physical or written. It may be done by a peer or group of peers from a position of strength or power in an effort to hurt the victim. Our district is committed to educating our students on this topic so that they will have a clear understanding

of what is and is not acceptable. We pledge to create a healthy climate that embraces differences while building strong relationships among students, staff and families.

Financial Outlook

With the economy still struggling to recover, the financial outlook for the District is cloudy at best. With the passing of the tax cap that limits tax levy increases to 2% and no projected increase in state aid; the revenue side of the budget does not look good. Unless the State gives the school districts some "real" funding relief from State mandates, it will be very difficult to bridge the gap without reducing expenditures. Over the past three years we have steadily reduced staff and tightened the operation to the point that there are not many options left.

Student Performance

While 2011 provided some excellent testing results for the district, it is a new year with many challenges and opportunities for our students and staff. It is not about what you did yesterday rather what are you doing today!

Our staff is working hard to incorporate new changes to the Core Curriculum so that our students will be ready to meet the changing demands that the New York State Education Department has implemented. We will continue to examine, reflect and interpret our individual and collective test results in an effort to refine instruction and improve student achievement. Continuous improvement is a goal we establish not only for our students but for our school district.

Fall Sports

As we begin to close the door on fall sports several of the varsity teams are entering playoffs while the modified and JV teams will be ending their seasons. The countless hours that our coaches spend with our students are a great tribute to their commitment to our young people. Parents are also to be congratulated for your support of your children and the many sacrifices that go into attending games, late suppers and schedules that constantly need to be rearranged!

While winning is certainly part of competing in interscholastic sports, there are many other lifetime values that make sports an important part of the schools educational mission. Athletics offer our students an opportunity to grow and develop physically, mentally and emotionally. The lessons that sports offer provide some of the most often mentioned 21st century skills that our students need today. Working for a common cause (project), teamwork, dealing with success and failure, and goal setting are just a few of the skills that come to mind.

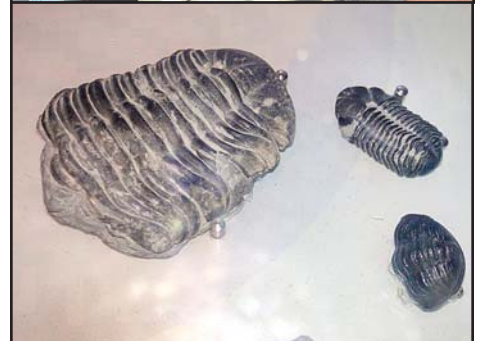
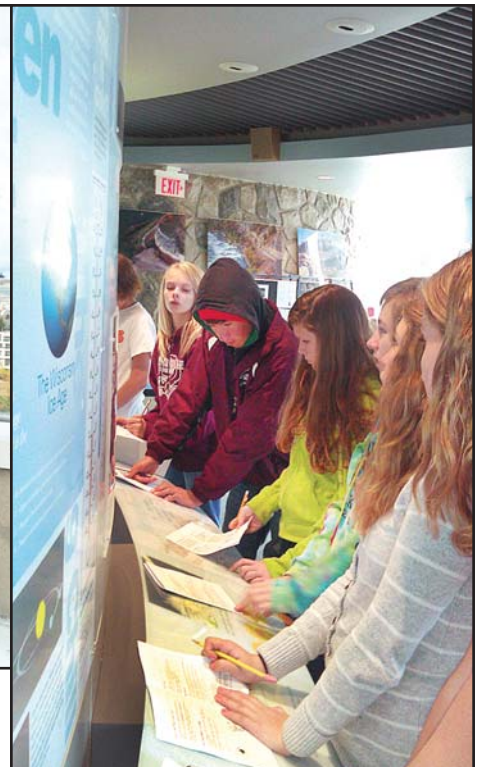
We want to thank all of our student-athletes for their willingness to participate. Learning to juggle your schedule, maintain good attendance and keep up with your school work is all part of learning one of the most important qualities that will follow you through life ... time management!



AWESOME DAY FOR SCIENCE



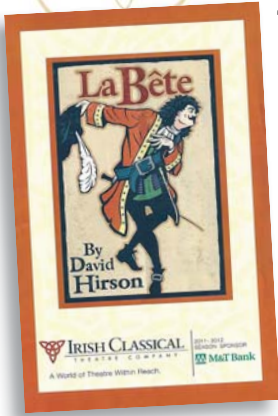
On October 13th, Ms. Brierton's Earth Science and Pre-Biology classes took a field trip to the north towns to visit the Niagara Discovery Museum, Niagara Falls and to the Penn Dixie Fossil Site in Hamburg, NY. Students collected various fossil specimens endemic to the region 380 million years ago including brachiopods, crinoids, horn corals and trilobites. The Earth Science students toured the Discovery Museum and took a nature walk along the Niagara escarpment. Pre-Biology students visited the Niagara Aquarium where they were able to observe the displays and hold living marine organisms.



Foreign Language Club ATTENDS LA BÊTE

On September 28, thirty-nine members of the Foreign Language Club, Mrs. Eddy and Mme Whistler, attended a performance of *La Bête*, at The Irish Classical Theatre in the Theater District of Buffalo. The Irish Classical Theatre is one of the cultural jewels of Buffalo, winning awards each year for its performances and actors. The play *La Bête*, is situated in 17th century France during the period of the great playwright Molière. The students were treated to a hilarious performance by local actors with national acclaim. After the play, the club members lunched next door at the Bijou Grill, a favorite spot for theater goers in downtown Buffalo.

The Foreign Language Club is open to students grades 9-12. The club's next endeavor will be raising funds for an international organization helping the less advantaged around the globe.



A LA FRANCAISE

French 1 students (*above left*) presented in French, their “Moi” posters to their classmates. Students used pictures of their families and friends to show and tell about their activities, hobbies, family members, and pets. It is always fun to get to know each other a little better. The students were very proud of their really great posters.

As a final activity for a unit on the cinema in France, French 3 students created their own movie posters (*above right*). Students researched the title of their movie in French and used their new French vocabulary on their creations. Going to the movies in France is a very popular past time for French teenagers. They truly enjoy American action films and animated films, as these genres are not common in the French film industry. We have some very gifted young artists at ECS.



BOARD EXPLORING SALE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

By Mark J. Ward,
Superintendent

The Board of Education is exploring the possible future sale of school district property that we have owned since the District purchased the school site from the Murphy's in the early 1950's. The District currently owns about 154 acres which includes the school, athletic fields, all areas that are mowed and roughly 95 acres of woodland.

The former "Murphy Farm" was developed into what old timers call the "new school" in 1960. Over the years the District has had the woodlands managed and last harvested the timber in 2007. In 1983, a six acre section of the school property was sold to Win-Sum Ski Corporation so they could expand the golf course to 18 holes. Part of this land also provides the access road that leads to the SnowPine development.

The vast majority of the land is adjacent to Holiday Valley with the land forming a "bowl" that is southwest of Cindy's and Morning Star lifts. There is also a 5+ acre portion of the property that overlooks the golf course (par 3 -5th hole and tee box area and fairway approaching the 6th hole). This land is located to the east (right side) side of the road that goes up to SnowPine .

As we are faced with reductions in state aid, a tax cap limiting property taxes and rising costs for just about everything else; the Board believes it is fiscally prudent to explore the value and options we have with this property. We will keep everyone informed as we move forward.

WELCOME ABOARD

Cathy Dunkleman is a 1986 graduate of ECS and went on to receive her AAS (Medical Assistant Degree) from Alfred State College. She started substituting at ECS in 2004 and was hired in September 2011 to a part-time teacher aide position, serving primarily in the high school library. She is married to Daniel Dunkleman and they live on Peth Road in Great Valley with their two sons Nathan and Nolan.



Cathy Dunkleman

We are pleased to be able to welcome Diana Olson to the ECS staff as a full-time probationary elementary teacher. Diana is teaching kindergarten. During the past two school years Diana has worked part-time as an Ameri-Corp Worker and AIS specialist. She is a 2001 graduate of ECS with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and a Master's in Childhood Literacy from St. Bonaventure University. She currently resides in Great Valley.



Diana Olson

FOND FAREWELL

After nearly thirty years of service to the school district Sharon has decided to retire. She was originally hired as a substitute cafeteria worker and teacher aide and became full-time in 1987. Most students will remember Mrs. Friel in the high school library where she spent most of her time for the past twenty five years! Those who remember her best noted that she was strict but fair ... playing no favorites! We wish her the best in retirement. She will now have time to travel, spend time with family and friends, and do the things working every day does not allow.



Sharon Friel

ATTENTION CRAFTERS!

Crafters are wanted for our second annual Ellicottville Central School PTO Craft show on **December 17th, 2011!**

Bring your hand-crafted items to sell.



If you are interested in purchasing a space please contact Vicky Williams at 699-2316 or 257-9176.



Grades 3-8 ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

Starting in April 2012, students in grades 3-8 throughout New York State will once again be taking various State Assessments in ELA, Mathematics, and Science.

The schedule of these exams will be:

3-8 English Language Arts (ELA)

- Tuesday, April 17th
- Wednesday, April 18th

3-8 Mathematics *

- Monday, April 23rd
- Tuesday, April 24th

* Please note that accelerated 7th grade students will take the 7th grade math assessment.

* Please note that accelerated 8th grade students will take the 8th grade math assessment.

4th and 8th Grade Science *

- Written Assessment: Monday June 4th
- Performance Assessment: Wednesday, May 23rd – Friday, June 1st (Exact days TBD)

* Please note that accelerated 7th grade students will take the 8th grade science assessment.

* Please note that accelerated 8th grade students will **not** take the 8th grade science assessment.

As parents, you can play an important role in helping children prepare for these tests. One way to assist with preparation is to ensure that your child / children have a good night's sleep and breakfast each morning, as these can increase attention. Additional ways to assist with preparation are to encourage your child to read the tests carefully, and to talk with them to ease any apprehension they may have.

If you would like more information about these assessments, you may contact the school to pick up informational materials.



ENGLISH STUDENTS AT WORK

Alexis Woodin and Zach Logel are pictured working on an English project in Ms. Kleiderlein's class.

YEARBOOK NEWS

The yearbook will be here before you know it. Did these pictures make the cut? Reserve a yearbook and you'll get to find out.

- You need to put at least \$10 down to reserve a yearbook. Make checks payable to ECS yearbook and see Mrs. Bauer.
- There will be a grades 6-12 fundraiser. Each item you sell will give you \$1 credit toward the yearbook. If you sell 30 items you receive a free yearbook. The fundraiser will be selling Easter candy.
- You may purchase old yearbooks while supplies last. 2011's book is \$30. Books from previous years are \$10 apiece, while supplies last.
- If you are a local business interested in putting a business ad in the yearbook you can contact Mrs. Bauer for more details.



Soccer Summary: GIRLS' VARSITY TEAM

**By Coach
Mary Neilon**

This season ECS is a member of the Chautauqua Cattaraugus Athletic Association league (CCAA Division III). Maple Grove, Chautauqua Lake, and Franklinville are Class C teams in our division. The Class D schools are Panama and Pine Valley, North Collins and West Valley.

Action began with a league game versus Franklinville in early September for the Girls Varsity Soccer team.

The Lady Eagles defeated the Lady Panthers 5-0. Next up was the Olean Tournament on Sept. 8 and 10. ECS lost to Olean in the opening round, 1-0. In the consolation match the team beat Jamestown 5-0.

Over the course of the next 11 league games the Lady Eagles only allowed 3 goals and scored 49 goals. Playoffs begin in late October.

The team consists of seniors Katie Andera, Falcia Elom, Ashley Golley,



Through the month of October the JV and Varsity Girls' Soccer Teams will be wearing pink pre-game warm-up t-shirts (and pink socks for home games) to help show their support for breast cancer research. The fundraising event for Susan G. Komen For the Cure Foundation is called "Pink the Field." Girls' soccer teams, coaches, and fans from Sections 5 and 6 are participating.

Kaitlyn Riethmiller, Clare Toner, Paige Wyatt and Courtney Wilson. Juniors are Alyssa Costello, Rachel McMahon-Eagan and Caitlin Toth. Our sophomores are Becca Golley, Hailey Musall, Julia Schwartz, Emily Uhrinek, Sam Uhrinek, Elizabeth Wendel, and Sarah Wojtowicz. Freshwomen are Hannah Doro and Becca Hagon. Rounding out the squad is eighth

grader Morgan Zlockie. Our managers are Lisa Krotz, Evelyn Cortez, and Cam Musall.

The girls' soccer website for section 6 (and section 5) is nysgirlssoccer.com. Team schedules, rosters, stats, and directions to game sites can be viewed on this website.

Soccer Summary: BOYS' JV TEAM

By Coach Chris Keenan

The Boy's JV Soccer team has had a David vs. Goliath type season with the Eagles in the role of David throughout the entire season. As we are the only "D" school in the area with a JV team our boys spent the season competing with Schools like Olean, Springville, Southwestern and Allegany. Despite the differences in size, our boys progressed throughout the year and improved in every aspect of the

game. The biggest obstacle was mentally believing in themselves as individuals and as a team and as the season continued, they showed improvements in these areas as well.

The team consisted of the following players; our only Junior was Kris Sanders, we had 8 Sophomores which included; John Alzate, David Toner, Andrew Hauber, Noah Butler, Nick Butler, Liam O'Rourke, Chris Wojtowicz and Phillip Kurtis. The

team was balanced out with the addition of 5 Freshmen composed of Alex Paddock, Patrick Robinson, Patrick McMahon-Eagan, Aidan Wilson and Dominic Campbell.

We hope that these players will work hard during the off-season and continue to push the boys soccer program forward. Thanks to all the parents for allowing me the opportunity to work with these boys in a coaching setting.



Team-Building on a SKY HIGH ADVENTURE

With the help of the Ellicottville Pharmacy and Holiday Valley, the Ellicottville Boys' Varsity Soccer team had the opportunity to hone their team building skills at the Sky High Adventure Park at Holiday Valley.

On August 31st, the team got together and pushed themselves through the different levels of the adventure park. Each player found themselves in a different sort of battle – not over a soccer ball as they have had so many times – but over their fear of making a mistake. Some realized that even when you make a mistake, someone (or something like a harness) is there to help you get back on your feet. They learned that sometimes you just have to trust and take a chance.

These 29 young men learned many other things on this day. They learned that sometimes you push yourself through one obstacle just to find another waiting for you. They learned that sometimes you react and sometimes you need to think before you react. They learned the importance of cheering each other on. They learned how to help each other. And, they learned what a great place they live in.

Thanks again to the Ellicottville Pharmacy and Holiday Valley for giving the ECS Boys Soccer Team a day they will never forget.



THANK YOU AND BEST WISHES!

It is with regret that we announce the resignation of Board President, Mary Ellen Campbell, effective November 1, 2011. Mary Ellen and her husband Jim will be moving to Medford, Oregon as Jim has an exciting career opportunity in forest management. This move also allows Mary Ellen and Jim to reconnect with Jim's family. Mary Ellen will continue to pursue her career in Physical Therapy.

Mary Ellen was first appointed to the Board on August 13, 2002, filling the unexpired term of Diane Althans. She was then elected to two five year terms serving from July 1, 2003 - November 1, 2011. The last term is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2013.

On behalf of the ECS Board of Education and the entire "school community" we want to thank you for your dedication to making our school a better place for our children. Your concern for improvement, belief in high standards and leadership will all be missed. May your westward move be filled with happiness, success and new experiences!



Mary Ellen Campbell

Forms Available for ECS SKI CLUB 2011-12

Forms are now available in the ECS High School Office and may be filled out and returned to the ECS High School Office with the full payment. All checks should be made out to Win-Sum Ski Corporation. Applications not turned in to ECS will not be available for ECS Club rates. Students applying for combo passes who are not in the lesson portion of the ski program must still go through the school in order to receive the ECS combo pass rate. All combo pass pictures must be paid for in advance with the receipt initialed by Mr. Robert Miller. Registration for any of the plans must take place at ECS first. Please fill out the paperwork in advance. Mrs. Jackie Paddock in the high school office will handle processing of applications.

Plan I - \$64

Thursday night lift and lesson with a bonus day in March! (*Student owned equipment*)

Plan II (Ski) - \$109

8 weekly lessons and ski equipment rental package for Thursday nights, with a bonus day in March!

Plan III (Snowboard) - \$121

8 weekly lessons and snowboard equipment rental package for Thursday nights, with a bonus day in March!

Plan IV - \$200

Combo Pass with unlimited day and night skiing, includes 8 Thursday night lessons (*Student owned equipment*)

**** Unlimited ski and snowboard rentals are available at an additional cost \$58 for skis and \$70 for snowboards.**

Registration forms are available in school at the elementary and high school offices.

If there are any students interested in helping to organize a ski trip, contact Mr. Hall before December 1, 2011.

ECS Student Council 2011 Citrus Sale

SEEDLESS GRAPEFRUIT

PINK

Large: 4/5 Bu.Box 32-48

\$25.00

Small: 2/5 Bu.Box 16-24

\$18.00



JUICY ORANGES

NAVEL

HAMLIN

Large: 4/5 Bu. Box 80-125

\$25.00

\$25.00

Small: 2/5 Bu. Box 40-64

\$18.00

\$18.00



MIXED BOX

Small: 2/5 Bu. 8-9 Pink Grapefruit & 12-15 Navel Oranges \$20.00

*** Regardless of the number in the box, the weight in the box is approximately the same for all the sizes of fruit. ***

**CONTACT ANY STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBER OR MAIL YOUR ORDER TO:
ELLCOTTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL- ATTN: STUDENT COUNCIL**

Name: _____ Total of Order: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (home) _____ (work) _____

(cell) _____

Circle any of the above fruit you wish to order. Money must accompany order. Please make checks available to Ellicottville Central School.

**ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2011
DELIVERY APPROXIMATELY DECEMBER 19TH, 2011**



ANIMALS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

To help maintain safe and healthy conditions for the students, staff and visitors to the Ellicottville Central School District, it shall be a violation of district policy for any individual to bring a dog or any other animal to any athletic or extra-curricular events.

If warranted, the District may call the appropriate Animal Control Agency.

- Animals may be permitted in the schools for instructional purposes. It is the principal's responsibility to ensure that there is an appropriate educational purpose if any animal is housed in a classroom. Animals are not to be transported on school buses.
- School staff will be responsible for the proper control of animals brought to school for instructional purposes and the principal will be responsible for insuring the effective protection of children when animals are in the school.
- In addition, those individual with disabilities that require the assistance of an animal, such as a seeing eye dog, shall be exempt from the terms of this policy.
- Also, under certain circumstances, police and other emergency services may require the presence of animals in performing their duties (such as bomb or drug searches). This decision will be made on a case-by-case basis as determined by the responding agency.
- This policy will be disseminated to the community and school personnel through normal channels of communication.
- **This policy will go into effect January 1, 2012.**

Approved by the ECS Board of Education: Tuesday, September 27, 2011

High School News from the GUIDANCE OFFICE

SAT TEST DATE

December 3rd
January 28th

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

November 8th
December 30th

ACT TEST DATE

December 10th
April 14th

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

November 4th
March 9th

Registration materials are available in the Guidance Office or you can register on-line for the SAT at www.collegeboard.org and for the ACT at www.actstudent.org. The registration fees are \$49.00 for the SAT and \$34 for the ACT. I would recommend taking both tests as they test different material and most colleges will accept either test.

FREE SAT HELP

There are two great websites that offers students free SAT help:
www.ineedapencil.com and www.march2success.com

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Seniors should be actively working on college applications, be sure to check application deadlines for the colleges you are applying to! Stop in the Guidance Office if you need assistance with your applications.

Colleges use some, if not all, of the information listed below when determining whether or not to accept an applicant. Individual colleges, however, differ in how they evaluate this information. For example, one college may place a great deal of importance on test scores; another college may not.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Grade Point Average(GPA) | 5. Recommendations |
| 2. Class Rank | 6. Activities/Awards |
| 3. Strength of Subjects | 7. Personal Essays |
| 4. ACT/SAT Score | 8. Interviews |

SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH

Check out these websites below to find scholarships for free:
www.schoolsoup.com, www.collegeboard.com and www.fastweb.com

These sites will require a short questionnaire to find out more about you then they will provide you with a list of all of the scholarships that you qualify for. Beware of scholarship searches that require a fee!

School Calendar Reminders

Thursday, November 10, 2011

Parent/Teacher Conferences - Noon dismissal
1/2 day of school for Grades K-12 (NO PM PreK)

Friday, November 11, 2011

Veteran's Day - School Closed

Tuesday, November 22, 2011

Parent/Teacher Conferences - Noon dismissal
1/2 day of school for Grades K-12 (NO PM PreK)

November 23-25, 2011

Thanksgiving Break - School Closed



Class of 2014 Poinsettia Sale

Please help the Class of 2014 raise money by buying a poinsettia. What better way to decorate for the holidays than with poinsettias.

Please mail the following order form with money to:
Sophomore Class Advisor
Ellicottville Central School
5873 Rt. 219
Ellicottville, NY 14731

Please place all orders by Friday, November 18th.
Cost of Poinsettias are \$12.50 each. Make checks payable to Ellicottville Central School.
We will do our best to honor your request for specific colors, but it is up to the availability of the greenhouse when the order is placed.

Customer Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Poinsettias (Indicate Quantity):

Red: _____

White: _____

Pink: _____

Marble (red/white): _____



Orders can be picked up at the high school on Tuesday, Nov. 29th after 12 p.m.

Project Christmas:

CARING FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

Project Christmas started back in the early 1960's and through the combined efforts of Ellicottville Central School employees and community members it continues to provide an "extra touch" at Christmas time for many of our local families. This "partnership" between the school and community will provide food, gifts, necessities and support to more than 65 families and 40 senior citizens who live in our community.

The program spends between \$5,000 to \$6,000 annually, and the generous support residents and seasonal visitors provide by taking "gift tags" from one of the gift trees throughout the community located at Ellicottville Pharmacy, M & T Bank, Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Five Star Bank and Eddy's Restaurant.

Students in grades K-12 also get involved by bringing in non-perishable food items with juniors and seniors also involved with the delivery.

With the difficult economic troubles we are facing and many families struggling to get by, the need for help throughout our community is even greater. Project Christmas is once again accepting donations; if you are able to contribute please consider making a donation. Your support will directly help those in need in our own community.

Monetary donations can be made out to "Project Christmas" and mailed to:

Ellicottville Central School
ATTN: Diana Golley, School Nurse
5873 Route 219
Ellicottville, New York 14731.

If you have any questions regarding the program please call Nurse Golley at 699-2318.

Your generous support in the past has helped to keep this program alive. Please help make the Christmas Season more special for members of our community.

Thank you!

Who needs a flu vaccine?

Even healthy people can get the flu, and it can be serious.
Everyone 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine. **This means you.**
This season, protect yourself—and those around you—by getting a flu vaccine.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

THE FLU ENDS WITH U

For more information, visit: www.flu.gov



Ellicottville Central School
5873 Route 219
Ellicottville, NY 14731
www.eville.wnyric.org

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ORGANIZATION

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ECRWSS

Board Members

Mrs. Mary Ellen Campbell, President
Mr. James Wiley, Vice President
Mr. Carl Calarco
Mr. Steve Crowley
Mr. Lynn Eddy
Mrs. Connie Hellwig
Mr. Roger Spell

Or CURRENT RESIDENT

POSTAL PATRON

Administration

Mr. Mark J. Ward, Superintendent / Business Administrator
Mr. Robert Miller, 6-12 Principal
Mrs. Connie Poulin, Pre K-5 Principal / CSE-CPSE Chairperson



E - Embracing Change
C - Celebrating Success
S - Surpassing Expectations



Third-Graders Take a **WALK WITH NATURE**

On September 16th, Mrs. Woodarek's 3rd Grade, Miss Olson's Kindergarten, and Mr. Wilson's Kindergarten took a nature walk. Third Graders were partnered-up with the Kindergarteners for an adventure in the woods behind the school. They had a great time looking for fossils, crayfish, salamanders, and other wonders of nature. The trip was so successful that the teachers hope to take three more nature walks throughout the school year so the children can explore the seasonal changes. Great job kids!