

November 2022

ELLCOTTVILLE

D I S T R I C T • N E W S L E T T E R

Volume 53, Issue 2



IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, Nov. 11, 2022

School Closed
Veteran's Day

Thursday, Nov. 17, 2022

Parent / Teacher Conferences
(1/2 day for students)

Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022

Parent / Teacher Conferences
(1/2 day for students)

Wednesday, Nov. 23, 2022 -

Sunday, Nov. 27, 2022

Thanksgiving Break -
No School

Friday, Dec. 23, 2022 -

Monday, January 2, 2023

Winter Recess - No School

Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2023

School Resumes

Monday, January 16, 2023

School Closed -

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Friday, Jan. 27, 2023

Rating Day - No School for students



Senior Citizen Luncheon

Any Ellicottville Central School District resident may participate.

The luncheon will be on **Monday, December 5th at 12:45pm.**

Please enter through the **back door** of the **High School** near the bus garage.

Call (716) 699-2316 ext. 1400 by Tuesday, November 22nd, to secure a spot.

We look forward to your participation.

A LESSON OUT OF THIS WORLD

In September, ECS had the opportunity to host the Star Lab provided by Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES. The Star Lab is a portable planetarium, which inflates to accommodate an entire class. Once inside, a projector displays a clear view of the night sky. BOCES facilitators Lance Feuchter and Kelli Grabowski, offered Pre-K through 2nd

Grade classes the opportunity to participate in activities inside the planetarium learning about various celestial subjects including: The Solar System, Moon Phases, and Constellations. The students greatly enjoyed taking a break from their daily lessons to take a 'field trip' to Outer Space by simply walking down the hall.



Changes

It is hard to believe that just one short month ago we were enjoying daily temperatures in the low 70's; and today, as I write this article, the leaves have changed colors or fallen, and there is a light dusting of snow on the trees a top the hills across the valley from my office. One might say it took time (one month) for this transformation to take place, while others will exclaim "they cannot believe how fast time is moving."

Parallel to these visible environmental changes are the changes that occur during a school year. Some of these changes are annual while others are new. For example, we are nearing the end of the "regular" fall season for sports and will change to the play-off season, and, as these seasons come to an end, we will switch over to winter sports and activities.

Academically, we have moved from the "1st day of school" to 5-week progress reports and report cards will be here before we know it. I realize that on one hand, a 10-week marking period seems like a long time, yet, on the other hand, it goes by way too quickly. Because of this, I strongly encourage parents to stay involved with their child's/children's progress and grades. Usually, a child's grades stay steady and there is constant and continued progress. However, at other times, a child's grades can change suddenly and drastically (much like the weather... today it is snowing and in 4 days the temperatures are predicted to be in the high 60's).

When these sudden and drastic academic changes happen, it is imperative that they are looked at to determine why this happened. Did the child: fail a test, miss an extended period of school, do exceptionally

well on a test, turn in missing assignments, fail to turn in a major assignment, etc.? While the change may be sudden, it can have a long-term impact on a student's marking period grade (either positive or negative). If the drastic change has a negative impact and becomes the "norm" for the child, the adults (parents, teachers, counselors, etc.) in the child's life MUST intervene to assist the child. Are additional support services needed? Does the student need more time/assistance at home to complete work? Is counseling needed to address emotional struggles the child may be experiencing? It is essential to explore the "why" behind the changes, and requires a focused team approach between the school and the child's home. There needs to be transparency, trust and open lines of communication.

At ECS we have dedicated a portion of the supplemental funds from the Government to combat and mitigate the effects that COVID has had on learning. We have increased efforts in benchmark testing, added software/programs to assess students' mental well-being, hired staff to address learning loss, worked with the Town of Ellicottville to start a SRO Program at the School, etc. We not only stand ready to help, we are trying to be proactive in our approach to help students emerge from the changes that COVID imposed on all of us as stronger and more resilient individuals.

At the same time, parents know their child best. Parents, if you see negative changes in your child's academics, health or mental well-being, do not hesitate to contact the school. And, likewise, if you see positive changes and/or continued success in your child's endeavors, we would most certainly like to know that as well. In the end, we are

here for ALL students and will do all we can to help!

Speaking of change, I would like to change the direction of this article. In just a few short weeks, Thanksgiving will be upon us. As we head into one of my favorite holidays, I believe we have much for which we can be grateful at the school. I'm especially thankful that we are returning to so many of our traditional activities, processes and procedures this year. Open house, concerts, sports, plays, parent/teacher conferences, etc. are all returning and it sure is nice to see everyone (students, parents, relatives, etc.) back in the building.

I'm optimistic that this trend will continue. While the COVID Pandemic may have permanently changed some parts of our lives, I believe many more of the changes are temporary in nature. Either way, I'm thankful that the ECS Community not only worked through all the changes we encountered the past 2.5 years, I'm impressed with the way it met the challenges head on and overcame obstacles to ensure the continued success of the students. And for this, I thank EVERYONE!

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, I hope that you are able to reflect on all the blessings in your lives. More importantly, I hope each of you are able to spend time with family and loved ones.

Happy Thanksgiving!



Bob Miller,
Superintendent

Miss Pepper had her 6th graders thinking outside the box with "Pringle Ringle"

The *Pringles Ringle* is an engineering challenge in which students create a ring using only Pringles chips, no tape or glue allowed! The challenge requires a lot of patience as well as careful and precise chip placement. Although, the hardest part of the challenge is not eating all the chips before finishing the ring! Students were challenged to consider factors, such as, gravity and frictional force.



Students were highly engaged and excited to take the experiment challenge home to

their families. What a great way to start science class this year!

Students – All Good Eggs – To Appear in Musical Version of Hans Christian Andersen’s Duck-Tale Honk! Jr. - November 9th - 10th

Ellicottville will be flocking to their Middle School Drama Club’s production of HONK! JR., a contemporary and comic re-telling of Hans Christian Andersen’s The Ugly Duckling. Based on the award-winning musical Honk! by George Stiles (composer) and Anthony Drewe (books and lyrics), HONK! JR is a witty and heartwarming show celebrating what makes each of us unique. “Plucked” as the 2000 Olivier Award’s “Best New Musical,” HONK! is inspirational in its message of acceptance and kindness.

Playbills will meet duck bills when HONK! JR. hatches at Ellicottville Central School on November 9 and 10 at 6:30 PM at “The Ward.” Tickets are \$5 at the door. Popcorn and “Wishes and Kisses” for the cast and crew will be sold at each performance.

HONK! JR. follows “Ugly,” (Whalyn Wyatt) who hatches looking quite a bit different from his darling duckling brothers and sisters (Cayda Kruszynski, Collin Weber, Nickolas Wedvik, McKenna Mendell) . The other animals on the farm are quick to notice, and despite his loving mother (Isabella Wilder)’s protective flapping, Ugly’s odd, gawky looks instantly incite prejudice from his family and neighbors. When Ugly is separated from the farm and pursued by a hungry Cat (Jadyn Nevins), he must find his way home. Along his harrowing yet hilarious journey he not only discovers his true beauty and glorious destiny, but also finds love and acceptance in all its forms.

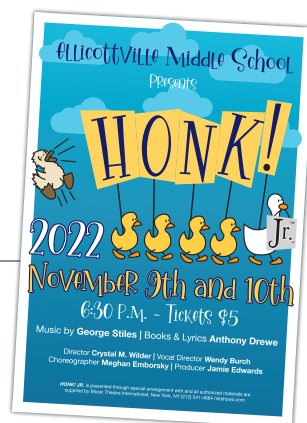
Filling out the feathery farmyard are: Drake the father duck (Dominic Tirado), Maureen and Henrietta the gossip hens (Kelsey Feldbauer, Isabella Czamara), Greylag the Goose (Reed Nazareth), helpful friend Dot (Abby Rust), an optimistic Bullfrog (Daniel Kruszynski), Penny the kind Swan (Gracie Griffith), Grace the queen of the duckyard (Juliana O’Connell), a hilarious Turkey (Jonah Mann), Jay Bird the journalist

(Audrey Meacham-Williams), and other fine friends, both feathered and flightless (Alison Antholzner, Ava Weber, Bre Byroads, Cooper Sciara, Dontae Nelthrope, Ella Weber, Elliot LoGiudice, Grayson McGonnell, Harlan Vassar, Kaegan Bauer, Marjorie Brown, Marshall DeChane, Nigel Poulin, and Timmy Green).

Keeping all the ducks in a row are Director Crystal M. Wilder, Vocal Director Wendy Burch, Choreographer

Meghan Emborsky, and Producer Jamie Edwards.

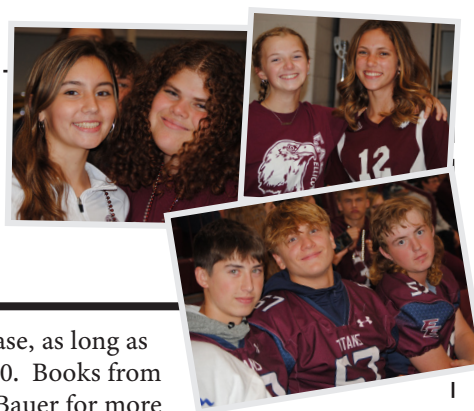
HONK! JR. is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized materials are supplied by Music Theatre International 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY, (212) 541-4684, mtishows.com.



Yearbook News

Old yearbooks are available for purchase, as long as supplies last. The 2022 yearbook is \$50. Books from previous years are \$10. Contact Mrs. Bauer for more details.

- There is an elementary yearbook. It is a PreK-5 pull-out of the regular yearbook. They are \$20. Contact Mrs. Bauer to reserve one. Previous years will not be available for the elementary yearbook.
- If you are a business that would like to do a business ad for the yearbook contact Mrs. Bauer.
- There will be an Easter candy fundraiser to help students earn credit toward a yearbook. You get \$1 credit for each item you sell. If you sell 30 items you get a free yearbook.



Child's Name: _____

Classroom teacher _____

Elementary yearbook (\$20) _____

Full yearbook (\$60) _____

****Make check payable to ECS Yearbook****

If you want more than one of either book,
please indicate number on the line

**TEACHERS, PLEASE RETURN TO
MRS. BAUER IN THE HIGH SCHOOL**

Ellicottville Central School
5873 Route 219
Ellicottville, NY 14731
www.ellicottvillecentral.com

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Mr. Robert Miller, Superintendent
Mr. Erich Ploetz, 6-12 Principal
Kathryn Mendell, Elementary Principal/Director of Curriculum

E Embracing
Change

C Celebrating
Success

S Surpassing
Expectations



WELCOME

Mrs. Krista Frank is joining us at ECS as a 5th grade teacher. Krista has taught Special Education for over 15 years in a variety of positions from Texas to New York, most recently at West Valley Central. She received her bachelor's degree from SUNY Fredonia and went on to receive her Masters in Curriculum and Instruction. Krista is from West Valley where she resides with her husband Brad and their three boys. They are a proud Military family. She loves cooking, photography, and being outdoors. Krista is happy to be a part of the ECS team and looking forward to a fantastic school year!



**Welcome New
Support Staff**

Lori Antholzner
Teacher Aide

Rick Balderas
Cleaner

Kathie Dudley
Teacher Aide

Barbara Hansen
School Nurse (LPN)

Sherry Harrington
Cafeteria Worker

MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

**holiday
concerts
coming up!**

December 7th – 6:30 PM District Wide Chorus Concert

3rd-5th Grade – *Wear something nice and festive.*

6th-8th Grade – *Black Pants, Black Shoes, & White Shirt*

9th-12th Grade – *Black Pants, Black Shoes, & Black Shirt*

December 14th – 6:30 PM District Wide Band Concert

6th & 7th Grade Band – *Black Pants, black shoes & White Shirt*

8th Grade Band – *Black Pants, black shoes & White Shirt*

HS Band – *Black Pants, black shoes & Black Shirt*

NHS/ECOLOGY CLUB

Poinsettia Sale!

Please help the National Honor Society and Ecology Club raise money by buying a poinsettia. It's a fantastic way to decorate for the holidays! THANK YOU!

Order forms can be found on the school website at:
www.ellicottvillecentral.com and the District's Facebook page.

Please place all orders by Tuesday, November 30th. Please make checks payable to Ellicottville Central School. Orders will be available to pick up at the high school on Wednesday, December 7th after 12 pm. Color choice will be subject to availability. Red may need to be substituted, depending upon demand.

Cost of Poinsettias = \$15 each



SRO Graham & Elliott