

HARTSBURG-EMDEN CUSD NO. 21 DECEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Terry Wisniewski, Superintendent

As many of you have heard, the State of Illinois has only passed a 'stop gap budget'. So, what does this mean? This stop gap budget ends on December 31st. The goal was to get Illinois through the election. Well, Illinois experienced no real change in the November election, despite the efforts of Governor Bruce Rauner to bring one about. Rauner invested millions of dollars into republican legislative races with little to show. The House Representatives saw a net gain of three (3) seats for the Republicans and the Senate saw a net gain of two (2) seats for the Republicans. That means House Speaker Michael Madigan and Senate President John Cullerton will still have strong majorities in both chambers of the legislature. So, any hopes that somehow the Democrats stronghold would be greatly weakened in order to get the governors 'Turnaround Agenda' passed has been dismissed. There will likely be another standoff. There is a large belief that we are back to talks about some sort of grand package deal of bills with little happening during the veto session or the lame duck session in January. The new congress will be seated in mid-January. The School Funding Reform Commission that Rauner created last year does not submit its recommendations until February 1. Even though several legislatures are calling to work together now to fix the States issues, the current general consensus is that nothing is likely to happen until March or April. That means we could go for a few months with no State budget again (Education was funded for the year). At this point (unfortunately), we'll just have to wait and see what comes forward.

As for Hartsburg-Emden, the Board continues to be focused on fiscal responsibility, professional development, and student achievement. Many tough choices need to be made in these uncertain times. However, we have seen an increasing quality instruction in the classroom, school pride, and student achievement. The results of our scores show a second year of remarkable increases. Hartsburg-Emden Elementary and Unit District students show a larger percentage of students meeting or exceeding the State standards than any school district adjacent to us. Our Elementary Building (3-5) scored about 9% above the State average while we scored about 5% above the State average as a district.

This goal is to continue to improve and make the educational experience here at Hartsburg-Emden the best it can be for all students.

I hope everyone enjoyed the 4 F's of Thanksgiving (Friends, Family, Food, & Football). I would be remiss if I did not thank all the individuals who help make our school district a great place!! The local churches and alumni, and community members have given donations to our school. The amount we've received for various causes is the most I've seen in recent years (around five thousand dollars). In the current financial climate, I am aware that these donations may not necessarily be easy. Several of our community members do this annually and request not to be recognized (wish it to be confidential). So I will just give a general . . . **Thank You** to everyone who has helped us out with their donations. In addition, the Hartem Community Club does a terrific job providing us with activities and resources. The support we receive from our community cannot be understated. Being a Hartsburg-Emden Stag is a powerful thing; and your support is critical in the production of the next generation. Thanks again!!

DECEMBER BREAKFAST & LUNCH COSTS

15 Student Breakfasts	@\$2.00	\$30.00
15 Reduced Student Breakfasts	@\$0.35	\$5.25
15 Student Lunches	@\$2.55	\$38.25
15 Reduced Student Lunches	@\$0.50	\$7.50

Students at Hartsburg will need to pay for seconds. Entrées are \$.90, vegetable/fruit are \$.50 and milk is \$.40. Seconds need to be paid for at the time they are served. Adult lunches purchased are \$3.05. You can check your student's meal account balance using the Parent Portal. Contact Erika at the high school if you need assistance in accessing this information.

FFA NEWS

Elizabeth Fanning, FFA Sponsor

The FFA had members participate in the Agronomy CDE and the 212 and 360 Leadership Conferences. At these conferences students are developing leadership skills that they will use throughout their life.

We will be putting up the Christmas Trees at the beginning of December. We will be doing our Canned Food Drive in the Spring this year due to date changes with conferences we participate in.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Jon Leslie, Principal

Happy Holidays!!! By the time that this publication reaches you, Thanksgiving will be over and the Christmas Season will be well on its way. To me, the Holiday Season is a time of year in which we have the opportunity to bless and show our love for others. One way that we can do this in the school community is showing support for one another. We have many school activities going on in the month of December. I urge you to come to a few.

Beginning this past November, students, teachers and parents across Illinois started to have the opportunity to participate in the fourth annual statewide Illinois 5Essentials Survey. This survey is designed to generate a detailed picture of the inner workings of your child's school. As a parent, this opportunity will allow you to share your thoughts on the important elements of school effectiveness in a survey about your child's school. In the very near future, you will receive a mailing explaining this in more detail along with how to take part in the survey.

Before I get into what has been going on in our school and some of the upcoming events, I wanted to remind people about our Twitter and Facebook pages. They are updated regularly with current and future school announcements. Since it is December, we can start to expect some inclement weather. Emergency closings can be found on the all of our media pages. In addition, you will also receive an automated telephone message (School Reach). If you have not been receiving School Reach messages throughout this school year, please contact the district office as soon as possible.

Since our last newsletter, many awesome events have happened in our schools. Our Varsity Volleyball Team finished a good season! We are proud of you. We also had a wonderful Veterans Day Program at our Elementary School. Thank you to JoEllen Westen for all of your planning, and thank you to all of our Veterans for service to our country. We had Red Ribbon Week at the end of October. Red Ribbon Week is a drug awareness and prevention campaign. We as educators do what we can to educate and help keep your child safe from drugs and alcohol. Parents, if you haven't already done so, talk to your child about drug and alcohol prevention. It is a conversation worth having.

Our basketball seasons have already begun. Our junior high team has already competed in several games. Recently we had Meet the Stags. We had team introductions, music from our pep band under the direction of Mr. Calob Pluhm, routines from our cheerleaders, and then a scrimmage of our high school boys' basketball teams. The night ended with a very competitive alumni game which is always fun to watch.

The month of December has many more activities ahead including both an Elementary Christmas Program and Junior/Senior High School Christmas Concert. Please check the rest of this newsletter and our calendar for a complete list of happenings at our schools.

Students, let's finish the first semester strong. We only have a few short weeks before we are halfway done with the 2016-2017 school year. Parents, please remember that you can check your child's progress on our Tyler Information System. If you need help in accessing the program, contact our District Office.

I would like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday Season. GO STAGS!!!

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL RAFFLE

The HS basketball team will be raffling off 4 cash prize winners every home game this year. We will raffle off a \$100, \$75, \$50 and \$25 winner each game. In order to enter for your chance to win, purchase a raffle ticket from any of the players or coaches on the team. Once you purchase a ticket you are entered to win for every home game (you can win multiple times). Do not need to be present to win. If not present, winners will receive half of prize won. Want to purchase or have questions about the raffle, please contact Coach Jason Garber at 217-737-4914.

"FIT FOR HARTEM"

The junior high "Fit For Hartem" student for November is Lily Barry. Lily brings energized sportsmanship, energy, positive attitude, and eagerness to help fellow class mates and teachers in class every day. She is a true example of what "Fit For Hartem" means. Congrats Lily! Ms. Brooks would like to congratulate this student and thank her for what she brings and gives every day!

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Matt Stoltzenburg, Athletic Director

Ho, Ho, Ho, and away we go. I hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving and is ready for a lot of basketball and the start of volleyball. December and January will be a busy couple months with the junior high basketball teams in midseason form, and the high school basketball teams getting their seasons underway.

The junior high squads have home games this month on Dec 1, 6, and 12. Their 8th grade night will be on January 3rd against DeeMack. Coach Rademaker and the boys will begin their end of season tournaments starting with the Logan County tourneys on Jan 7 + 12 (7th), and Jan 14 + 19 (8th). Their regionals begin on Jan 21.

The high school boys started their season in the EPG Thanksgiving Tournament. They have their first home game on December 13th against Dee-Mack. From there, Coach Garber, Coach Bolen, and their squads are headed to the Marseilles Holiday Tournament from December 26 - 29. They then have home games on Jan 6, 10, and 13 before playing in the Auburn / Springfield Lutheran tournament at the end of the month.

Coach Hayes and the junior high girls are beginning their volleyball season as well. The girls start their season on January 9th in Decatur and will have home matches on Jan 12, 17, 19, 24, and 30. The 7th graders will be in a round robin tournament in Limestone on Jan 21, while the 8th graders go to Mt. Pulaski on Jan 28.

I hope everyone enjoys a safe and happy holiday season. Let's give our teams as much support as we can while they continue to work hard and represent Hartsburg-Emden.



BAND NEWS

Calob Pluhm, 6th-12th Band/Choir Director

Winter Concert - Please join us for the 6-12 Band and Chorus concert on December 2 at 7:00 in the high school gymnasium.

Fundraiser - The bands and choirs are having a fundraiser from November 27th through December 10th. This fundraiser is all online and there are a variety of products to choose from. Products ship right to your door just days after ordering, so there is no long wait for your purchase to arrive. Just visit the website below and be sure to give your student seller credit at checkout. Together we can provide better resources and an improved learning environment for our students, thank you for your support!

www.pepperfundraising.com/program/hartemmusic

Practice, Practice, Practice!!! - Parents this is a reminder and plea to keep your students practicing their instruments. I hear again and again from students, that they are too busy to practice, but remember practicing is their homework. If for even just 10 minutes before dinner every day, you and your student will notice great gains in their playing the more time they put into it. I am sure that all teachers will agree with me that homework is an essential part of student growth, and music is no different.

ISO Performance - A giant thank you to the Hartem Community Club for giving our 6th and 7th grade students the opportunity to see the Illinois Symphony Orchestra. Comments of "Next year I want to play the bassoon!", "What is that giant instrument in the back?" and even "Mr. Pluhm, that guy is gonna show you up!" left me assured that our students had a worth-while experience. Thanks again!

Pep Band - Our band did an excellent job at Meet the Stags and they are looking forward to doing it again! Our next pep band performance will be at the next home game on December 13, 2016.



JUNIOR HIGH STUDENT COUNCIL

Lynn Curry, Sponsor

One of the main goals of Junior High Student Council is to be involved in community service projects. The students have completed two such projects for the months of October and November. Members of the Junior High Student Council are Prescott Davis, Cassie Crabtree, Blake Martin, Jenna Benner, Aylvia Gannon, Grace Beekman, Lanie Hamilton and Connor Zinser (8th Grade Class President).

In October, the student council sponsored "Socktober". Students in grades 6-8 collected **198** pairs of new socks to donate to a local shelter. The sixth grade class collected the most with a whopping 155 pairs of socks and earned a class movie and snacks. Way to go, sixth graders!!



In November, The Junior High Student Council helped with a Veterans Day service project for the month of November. Mrs. Willmert, retired fourth grade teacher, asked the students from the Logan County schools to make cards for Veterans. Our student council assisted Mrs. Willmert in making "mail call" bags filled with cards made by local students. The "mail call" bags were distributed to Veterans at the **Logan County Veterans Celebration Dinner** held on November, 13th. The Veterans were overjoyed with the "mail" they received thanking them for their service.

In December, The **Humane Society of Logan County** will be the focus of our December community service project. You will find a Fetch List in this month's newsletter. The JH student council is asking for donations that will benefit the Humane Society and make Christmas a little brighter for our furry friends. Items need to be to the grade school or high school building by **Thursday, December 15th**. Again...look for the Fetch List in the newsletter or visit Humane Society of Logan County website for more information at www.hsclincoln.org.

HARTEM SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Laura Simonton, Social Studies Teacher

Happy Holidays from the Hartem Social Studies Department! World History recently teamed up with Ms. Cook's chemistry students for a STEM project creating bricks similar to those used in ancient civilizations. The two winning students from each section were Nate and Olivia. Olivia's brick held almost 400 pounds of weight! This project tested their abilities to research, design and create a brick to withstand certain criteria that the bricks would have been put under as a building material. The students braved chilly temperatures to test the bricks outside and had assistance from the ag class in the weight testing. Great job done by the students!

The 7th graders completed their Wax Museum at Family reading night and did an amazing job! Their hard work researching, writing and creating their characters could be seen as they recited their speeches and brought to life historical figures. 8th grade is wrapping up their unit on the Civil War and gave presentations on key events of the war. We have been learning about the war also from a teenager's perspective and how all ages participated in the war. United States history gave class presentations on the Revolutionary War in which students made artifacts for class activities.

The whole school voted for president and overwhelmingly chose Donald Trump. The voter turn-out was over 85% and students and staff alike enjoyed the opportunity to have their opinion count. There was a candidate informational board in the hallway including candidate biographies and information. Sally Turner, the Logan County Clerk came to speak with the High School US history class as well on the importance of voting and the election process.



LABELS FOR EDUCATION

The "Labels for Education" program is coming to an end – but we still have time to collect labels! Please, be on the lookout for participating labels and send them in to either building!



DECEMBER

2016

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
School Calendar				1 JHBK vs. WLB 6:00	2 FFA-Dairy Foods @ AC Central 3:15 HS Christmas Program @ HS Gym 7:00pm	3 HSBK @ Warrensburg-Latham 6:00
4	5	6 JHBK vs. Greenview 6:00 HSBK @ Illini Central 6:00	7	8 JHBK @ IC 6:00	9 Donuts with Dad @ GS Caf� 7:50-8:20 Volleyball Overnight Slumber Camp @ GS 4pm-6:30am Saturday	10
11	12 JHBK vs. CEL 6:00	13 JHBK @ South Pekin 5:00 HSBK vs. Dee-Mack 6:00	14	15 Elementary Christmas Program @ HS Gym 6:30	16	17 HSBK @ Delavan 5:00
18	19 Board Mtg. 7:00	20 K-5 th grade movie field trip @ Arlee Theater 8:30 2:00 Dismissal High School Finals	21 2:00 Dismissal High School Finals	22 Christmas Break Begins	23	24
25 	26 HSBK @ Marseilles Holiday Tourn. TBA No School	27 HSBK @ Marseilles Holiday Tourn. TBA No School	28 HSBK @ Marseilles Holiday Tourn. TBA No School	29 HSBK @ Marseilles Holiday Tourn. TBA No School	30 No School	31 

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Amanda Feltes, K-12 Guidance Counselor

It's hard to believe that December is already here! In a few short weeks, winter break will be upon us.

Although this time of year can be filled with many fun events, it can also be stressful and it's even more important to practice good self-care. Take care of yourself with these tips from the American Heart Association:

1. Positive Self-Talk

We all talk to ourselves; sometimes we talk out loud but usually we keep self-talk in our heads. Self-talk can be positive ("I can do this" or "Things will work out") or negative ("I'll never get well" or "I'm so stupid"). Negative self-talk increases stress. Positive self-talk helps you calm down and control stress. With practice, you can learn to turn negative thoughts into positive ones.

2. Emergency Stress Stoppers

There are many stressful situations— at work, at home, on the road, and in public places. We may feel stress because of too much work, poor communication, and everyday hassles like standing in line. You may need different emergency stress stoppers for different situations and sometimes it helps to combine them. • Count to 10 before you speak • Take three to five deep breaths • Walk away from the stressful situation & handle it later • Don't be afraid to say "I'm sorry" if you make a mistake

3. Finding Pleasure

When stress makes you feel bad, do something that makes you feel good. Doing things you enjoy is a natural way to fight off stress. Try to do at least one thing you enjoy every day for 15 minutes • Take up a hobby, new or old • Read a favorite book, short story, magazine, or newspaper • Have coffee or a meal with friends • Exercise and/or Listen to music

4. Daily Relaxation

Relaxation is more than sitting in your favorite chair watching TV. To relieve stress, relaxation should calm the tension in your mind and body. Some good forms of relaxation are yoga, tai chi (a series of slow, graceful movements) and meditation. Like most skills, relaxation takes practice. Deep breathing is a form of relaxation you can learn and practice at home.

I hope our Seniors use this break as a time to work on scholarships and any last-minute college applications. The earlier a college receives an application, the more favorably it is generally viewed. Most colleges also practice what is known as "Rolling Admissions," meaning that they process applications as they are received, so those applying early often find out much sooner about their admissions status. This can be a big advantage later when having to make a final decision about where you'll attend in the fall. The bottom line – it pays to apply to colleges early. It's also important to remember that students must submit a transcript request form for each college they have applied to. Winter break is a perfect time for Juniors to be practicing for the SAT, researching colleges, careers, and setting goals for after high school. I suggest that students use their winter break very wisely! Juniors who took the PSAT in October should be receiving their score reports sometime this month. Students can access their scores online through a College Board account. Additionally, students can link their scores to Khan Academy for personalized SAT test prep. I will be walking students through how to complete this once scores are available. Any Junior student who did not take the PSAT can still gain access to personalized SAT prep through College Board and Khan Academy by taking a few quizzes. As always, any student or parent with questions is encouraged to contact Mrs. Feltes at (217) 642-5244.

Dual-Credit Courses

Are you interested in taking college classes while still in high school? Dual credit is an opportunity for students in grades 11-12 to take classes in high school and one or more college level classes on an online university. Dual credit courses are a great opportunity to receive extra high school credit AND earn college credit towards Gen. Eds. The courses that will be offered next year are: **ENGLISH 101** (Critical Reading & Writing) and **ENGLISH 102** (Multimodal Composition).

Qualifications:

If you are interested in taking a Dual Credit course next year (AY 17-18), you MUST complete a Heartland application by Jan. 31 and ACCUPLACER Assessment (or submit a qualifying score) by March 31 in order to be eligible to enroll in the course. Students can submit qualifying ACT, SAT, or PARCC scores in place of the ACCUPLACER. See Mrs. Feltes for details.

JUNIOR HIGH SPEECH

Jessica Hartman, JH Speech Coach

This year's speech season was short but eventful. We had six students, four 6th graders and two 8th graders, competing in a total of three events.

William Wisniewski performed a monologue. Abby Montgomery and Dani Phillips performed a duet. Jonelle Baker, Lanie Hamilton, Violet Merz, and Abby Montgomery did a small group performance. We began our practices in September and students participated in two competitions in October.

Our first competition was the Logan County Speech Contest at Zion Lutheran School in Lincoln. This was on October 1st and was an excellent introduction to speech competitions for our new competitors. Our small group received a 3rd place and the duet received a 2nd place. William Wisniewski, for his monologue, received a 1st place ranking as well as Judge's Choice, meaning he was the judge's favorite performance of the entire day. At our second competition, for the IESA, both our small group and duet received a 2nd place ranking and William again received a first place. This speech season was very enjoyable and it was wonderful to see the students grow and improve in their performance skills. We are all looking forward to another great season next fall!

LIBRARY NEWS

Susan Wilson, Librarian

Mrs. Nichole Folkman, senior English teacher, donated the book, "I Survived: 5 Epic Disaster True Stories" to the grade school. Mrs. Mary Lou Klokkenga donated the John Deere book, "All Around the Farm" to Emden. Mr. and Mrs. Don Asher are donating the book, "Big Red and the Little Bitty Wolf: a Story About Bullying," which is currently on order and will be received soon. The book gift is in memory of Mrs. Gladys Aper.

HARTEM POST PROM

Post Prom Committee

Trivia Night will be on Saturday, January 28th. Mr. Robinson and Mrs. Folkman are working hard to create exciting and new categories for this year's event. It will be held again at the Community House in Emden. Please call Nora Phillips at 217-671-4567 if you are interested in purchasing a table. It is \$100.00 for a table up to ten players.

**TRIVIA
NIGHT**

GRADE SCHOOL CATCH MVP STUDENT

FOR OCTOBER

November CATCH MVP student of the month is Braden Schleder. Braden is energetic, has a positive attitude, great sportsmanship and his eagerness to participate is what makes him the November CATCH MVP student of the month. Congrats Braden! Thank you for being you!

DONUTS WITH DAD

Emden Elementary would like to invite all the Dads (grandads, uncles, or moms) to come join your child(ren) for breakfast **Friday, December 9th 7:50am-8:20am** in the Grade School Cafeteria. There will be a variety of donuts, coffee, milk, and juice for everyone to enjoy! So please come and make some great memories this December!

ELEMENTARY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The K-5 Elementary Christmas Program will be December 15, 2016 @ 6:30 in the Hartsburg Gym. Students need to meet in the cafeteria no later than 6:15 p.m. to get lined up and ready for the program. Immediately following the program we will have a special guest visiting. We have been working on some great Christmas songs and can't wait to share them with everyone. If you need a little dose of Christmas spirit, please plan on attending our Program. Also, the Junior High Student Council will be at the Christmas program collecting donations (check out the Fetch List in the newsletter) for the Humane Society of Logan County. Check out the Fetch List in the newsletter and help out a great cause!!



BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

THANK YOU to everyone that saved General Mills Box Tops. The first redemption deadline for the 2016-2017 school year is over. Thanks to you, we collected **3219** box tops and will receive a check in December for **\$321.90** for our school. Please keep saving box tops for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year, but remember that each box top has an expiration date. Box tops can be turned in any time at the grade school or high school office. **We really appreciate your support!!!**



DECEMBER

A variety of milk is available every day.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
Breakfast Menu				1 Biscuit Sausage patty Pineapple Orange juice	2 Cheese omelet Toast Mandarin oranges Orange juice	3
4	5 Cereal bar Toast Cherry star juice Apple juice	6 Pancake & sausage On a stick Peaches Apple juice	7 English muffin Egg patty Pineapple Apple juice	8 Waffles Applesauce Apple juice	9 Donut Mixed fruit Apple juice	10
11	12 Pancakes Pears Orange juice	13 Peanut butter & Jelly jamwich Banana Orange juice	14 Assorted muffins Fruit Orange juice	15 Breakfast pizza Apricots Orange juice	16 Assorted cereal Pears Orange juice	17
18	19 Scrambled eggs Toast Pineapple Apple juice	20 French toast sticks Peaches Apple juice	21 Fruit frudel Cheese stick Mandarin oranges Apple juice	22 No School	23 No School	24
25 	26 No School	27 No School	28 No School	29 No School	30 No School	31 

HARTEM YEARBOOKS

I am on a mission to collect and maintain a complete library of HARTEM Antlers (Yearbooks) for the HARTEM Alumni Association. The very first HARTEM Antler was published in 1935 with Beulah Gilchrist Schmidt serving as the first student editor. During the month of November I was able to add yearbooks from 1936, 1946 and 1967. I have been overwhelmed by the generosity of the HARTEM faithful and your help in meeting my goal. I have been able to collect 61 yearbooks since announcing this effort on behalf of the Alumni Association. I still need your help!! If you have inherited any yearbooks from the years listed below and not sure what to do with them, the alumni association would love to be their caretaker. We still need one copy of the following years: 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1949, 1950, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1975, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 2001. Prior to the Antler (1935), if you have any school related artifacts, we would be interested in those as well. I have also collected a variety of school related pictures dating back to the 1920's and other Stag related items. I usually post one or two of these treasures on Facebook every couple of weeks. Feel free to friend me on Facebook to keep up with the latest finds. If you have antlers from the years listed or other school district artifacts you would like to donate to the association, please contact Ron Spencer by email at coach_spencer@hotmail.com or phone/text [309-838-0360](tel:309-838-0360).

A very special thanks for the following HARTEM supporters for their donations: Ruby Harmsen ('39), Beulah Gilchrist Schmidt ('35) Estate, Pat Sparks, Gary Rademaker ('58), Brad Lessen ('82) & Betty Jo Reiners Lessen ('83), Greg Phillips ('89), Sarah Rayburn McCree ('00), Shauna Fletcher Wetherell ('97), Bob Cross ('54), Emden Historical Society, Lee West ('55), Anna Detmers West ('55), Diana Reiners Walsh ('65), Bill Detmers ('58), Diane Smith Detmers ('58), Rudy Klokkenga ('65), Dan Underwood ('68)

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