

HARTSBURG-EMDEN CUSD NO. 21

JANUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Terry Wisniewski, Superintendent

In October, I discussed the release of the PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) Exam for the State of Illinois. I went into detail about how the State has decided to add a fifth category called 'approaching expectations' category and arrange the benchmarks for each category with extremely high expectations. For students testing in the exceeds expectations category, the State averaged less than 4% of all students across grade levels. In Grade Schools (Grades 3-8), only an average of 33% of all students fell in the meets or exceeds expectations category. Now, when they say all students, that means all the students that tested. There were several exemptions made in which schools did not test or did not test certain grade levels. Therefore, Chicago Public Schools were able to score above the State average for the 1st time in many years. So, it is my understanding that the State average may be a little higher than it would have been if all students actually tested. As far as the benchmarking or cutoff scores, it is a little concerning to me that the State would deliberately set the expectations this high. The ISAT test, for many years, told parents and schools that about 75% of their students (in Grades 3-8) were meeting or exceeding expectations. In the last few years, the State changed the benchmarking to be close to 60% of students meeting or exceeding expectations. Now, under PARCC, it is at 33%. However, if you consider the 'approaching expectations' category, the State average is 61% - which is close to where the ISAT was for the meets or exceeds expectations category. So, the new 'approaching expectations' category took almost half of the students out of the meets or exceeds category.

As an educator, I support high standards and high expectations. I also believe you have to show students the learning targets and test them on those learning targets shown. Basically, I believe in assessment of learning. It is also important to remember that each child has certain talents and abilities which contribute to success outside a single day standardized exam. Students also develop at different rates. We need to assist each student to reach their fullest potential. I am not convinced the PARCC Exam does an effective job measuring the new State Standards (the Common Core Standards)

or what is being taught in classroom. Which is one of the reasons, I believe, they are changing the PARCC Exam after this initial year of testing. Yes, they are modifying the State Exam again. I also don't agree with the setting of benchmarks so high that they are telling parents and schools that only one-third of their students are meeting or exceeding expectations and that two-thirds of their students are not. We are talking about 8-14 year old children in most cases.

With all that said, every year the State releases testing results through the School Report Card. The ISAT's were always released in October. Due to technical difficulty and other circumstances, the PARCC results were released in late November. Many of you know that over the last several years, we've been working hard to improve our results here at Hartsburg-Emden School District. It has been no secret that our scores were very poor three years ago - close to the bottom in the State and surrounding schools. So, how did we do? This year our Grades 3-8 scored an overall average a 31% in the meets or exceeds category, 2% below the State average. If we add in the approaching expectations category, we were at 60% (1% below the State average) and we were 2% above the State in ELA (the Literacy portion of the exam). Half our classes in Grades 3-8 were above the State average. Again, I believe a State Average that is inflated this year, due to schools who opted out of taking the PARCC for various reasons this year. When compared other local schools (West Lincoln Broadwell, Chester East Lincoln, Lincoln District 27, Mt. Pulaski, Midwest Central, Illini Central, & Delavan) in Grades 3-8 and in the meets & exceeds categories, our student averages were 2nd to Delavan. So, we did relatively well when compared to several local schools. Three years ago, we were outscored by all these schools. So, we've made some progress. I believe we still have work to do. I am always looking for ways to get better and improve - our work is never done. We always have children who need nurturing and we need to assist them to reach their fullest potential. However, Hartsburg-Emden has moved in the right direction over the last three years and the staff deserves a lot of credit for buying in to our new Authentic Literacy Program and working diligently with all our students. I also would like to thank the parents, your support and assistance with your child's education is always needed.

My first semester as the Superintendent of the Hartsburg-Emden School District is coming to a close and it has been an honor to serve in this capacity. All-in-all, it has been a good transition and I do enjoy the position. I'm not sure being anything but an educator was a choice for me. It is where my passion lies. I thank everyone (Students, Parents, Board Members and Staff) for making this semester a successful one. I would like to finish by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I truly hope you enjoy the holidays. It is such a great time of the year. More people seem to be in great spirits. As each Christmas passes me, its meaning becomes deeper to me. The gifts I've been blessed with and the purpose of it all becomes much clearer. There are many times throughout the year I get busy and forget these things. It's nice to have a time of year to refocus and put things into perspective. I hope each and every one of you finds the joy in this season and are able to spend time with your families. Merry Christmas!!

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Jon Leslie, Principal

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I want to extend my warmest holiday wishes on to you and all of your family. I know that the holiday season can be very busy. Take a moment to relax and enjoy some time doing the things that matter the most.

Wow!!! Where did the first semester go? Here at Hartsburg-Emden, we continue to push our students so that they may reach higher expectations and stay competitive in this ever changing society. We are committed to continuing our Authentic Literacy Program. Literacy is one of the leading indicators of student success. Our teachers continue to implement more reading, discussing, and writing into their classes. Teachers will also begin to prepare for state PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) Test. This test will once again be given on-line and has several interactive parts. Testing is tentatively slated for April. More information will come home at a later date.

December has been a very busy month and January will prove to be as well. Mr. Pluhm and Mrs. Jordan put on two very impressive Christmas Concerts. It is fun to get to see our students show off their musical talents. They work hard on a daily basis. If you had the opportunity to witness the concerts, you know first-hand that the hard work has paid off. The first semester will be ending which means that final

exams will be taken by our high school students. Students, remember to get a good night's sleep and take time to have a good breakfast. Ms. Fanning and the FFA continue to represent the school well at their competitions. Scholastic bowl at the high school and junior high school level will also be competing 2nd semester. Our athletic teams have been and will continue to be busy. Jr. High Basketball and Cheerleading is well underway and Jr. High Volleyball will be starting games soon. High School Basketball and Cheerleading is underway as well. Our Varsity team will be competing in the Marseilles Holiday Tournament over Christmas Break. I invite you to come to one of our several scheduled activities in January. Our students and coaches always do their best to represent our community in an outstanding way.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Be safe, stay warm, and enjoy the Holiday Season!!! Go STAGS!!!



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Matt Stoltzenburg, Athletic Director

So long 2015, hello 2016. As we all dig into the holiday goodies and then try to work them off, let's try to keep up with our Stags. The junior high basketball team is preparing for their postseason tournaments, the high school basketball team is hitting their midseason stride, and the junior high volleyball teams are just getting started. The next few months are going to be very busy and very exciting.

The junior high basketball teams finish their regular seasons with away games on January 5th and 7th. The 7th grade team will then have their Logan County Tourney on January 9th and 14th, while the 8th grade will play on January 16th and 21st. Both tournaments will be at Lincoln College. The 7th graders then go into their regional on Saturday, January 23rd and the 8th graders start on the 30th.

The high school basketball team has home games on January 5th against new Tomahawk Conference member Athens and on January 19th against Greenview. The boys then participate in the Auburn / Springfield Lutheran tournaments for the varsity and jv teams January 23rd thru the 30th.

The junior high volleyball teams begin their season at home on January 11th against Decatur Our Lady of Lourdes. They also have home matches on January 12, 25, and 28. They will end the month by hosting a 7th grade round robin on January 23rd and play in the Mt. Pulaski 8th grade tourney on January 31th.

As you can see, the Hartem Stags are a busy group in '16. I hope everyone has a great holiday and if you get the chance, come see our great group of student-athletes and coaches as they continue to strive towards their championship goals.

COACHES VS. CANCER



Our high school basketball team is once again involved in the Coaches vs. Cancer Basketball Shoot-Out. Our game against Tremont on Tuesday, February 9th will be our fundraising game. We will be having a dinner, raffle and Luminaries to honor our loved ones. From now until January 22nd, we will also be selling t-shirts, with 100% of all proceeds going to the American Cancer Society. A t-shirt will be on display in the high school office if you would like to see what it looks like. Please have your order turned in by January 22nd so that we can get it delivered to you. T-shirt order forms and luminaria forms are included in the newsletter.

"FIT FOR HARTEM"



May Brooks, Junior High/Grade School PE Teacher

At the grade school "Fit For Hartem" student for December is Avery Rohlfs! Avery is a true example of sportsmanship, enthusiastic, and shows great respect towards everyone. When a team mate is down, Avery is always there to pick them pick! Congrats Avery!

At the junior high level "Fit For Hartem" student for December is Hattie Langley. Hattie brings a winning attitude, great sportsmanship and energetic enthusiasm to class every day. She is a true example of what "Fit For Hartem" truly means. Congrats Hattie!



FFA NEWS

Liz Fanning, FFA Sponsor

December kept the FFA busy. They participated in the Section 14 Dairy Judging CDE and placed 6th overall. Members set up and lighted trees in Whistle Stop Park after school. We had perfect weather for it!

January will be keeping us on our toes as well. The members will be competing in Parliamentary Procedure, Public Speaking, 212 Conference, and have speakers come to the classroom.

FFA is collecting water bottle caps, soda caps, medicine caps, and Gatorade caps. For every 1,000 caps collected a cancer patient receives a free treatment. These caps may be turned into Miss Fanning, any FFA member, or the office. Also, look for boxes the FFA has out at home games to throw caps in. The FFA is looking forward to what the New Year brings!



FFA CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

The Hartsburg-Emden FFA Auction is scheduled for March 12, 2016. Consignments are now being taken. Contact Betsy Pech at 217-737-7715 for more information.

JANUARY BREAKFAST & LUNCH COSTS

18 Student Breakfasts	@\$1.95	\$35.10
18 Reduced Student Breakfasts	@\$0.30	\$5.40
17 Student Lunches	@\$2.45	\$41.65
17 Reduced Student Lunches	@\$0.40	\$6.80

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 \$2.95.

SR. BETA CLUB

On Thursday, December 10, the Senior Beta Club participated in 2 service projects. The first project involved buying gifts for 17 people through different Angel Tree programs. In all, \$675 was collected to be spent for this. All 4 HS Classes, FFA, and Senior Beta Club donated money for this cause. We thank everyone for doing so and helping to make the holiday season better for these 17 kids and adults.

The second project involved the Senior Beta Club going to the First Presbyterian Church in Lincoln to help their members with their Head Start Shopping for Christmas. Groups of children ages 3-5 from the Lincoln Head Start program came to the church on that day to pick out presents for their parents. Our students interacted with these students and did all of the gift wrapping of the presents.



BAND AND CHOIR NEWS

Calob Pluhm, JH/HS Band and Choir Teacher

The Hartem bands and choirs will kick off our fundraiser on January 15th. This spring we will be working with Century Resources to provide you with a variety of products from which you may select to help support our music program. This fundraiser is geared toward acquiring exciting music for our students to perform as well as having the necessary maintenance performed on our school instruments. Thank you for your support and if you have any questions please email me at cpluhm@hartem.org.

JUNIOR HIGH STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Lynn Curry, JH Student Council Sponsor

In November, the Jr. High Student Council helped former Emden Elementary teacher, Marilyn Willmert, with a Veteran's Day project. Students in Logan County created cards for local veterans. The student council helped Mrs. Willmert fill approximately 100 bags with cards and candy that were distributed to veterans at a special dinner.

What an awesome way for our students to help honor our veterans!



The student council also sponsored an Ugly Sweater Contest for the teachers and staff in December as a fundraiser. WOW...there were some UGLY sweaters!



8TH GRADE CLASS FUNDRAISER

Lynn Curry, 8th Grade Class Sponsor

On **Thursday, January 7th**, the 8th grade class will be having a pulled pork dinner as a fundraiser before the junior high basketball game (8th grade night). The dinner will be served from 5-6:30 and the menu will be pulled pork sandwich, cheesy potatoes, green beans and Rice Krispy treat. Gina Horn, Emden Elementary head cook, will be doing the cooking. Each meal ticket will be \$7.00. See an 8th grader for a ticket or tickets will be available at the door the night of the dinner.

POST PROM COMMITTEE

Post Prom Committee

The Post Prom Committee would like to thank everyone who attended the Soup Luncheon, Tour of Homes, and Vendor/Holiday Craft Fair. It was a great success!!! A VERY special thank you goes out to Tammy Zinser for all of her hard work in putting it together. Our next fundraiser will be Trivia Night. This will be held at the Emden Community House on Saturday, February 6, 2016. See the flyer in this month's newsletter for more information!!

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Amanda Feltes, K-12 Guidance Counselor

Hartem is hosting a parent information night on Wednesday, January 13th from 5:30-7:00pm at the high school. Parents and students are invited to this event. Come to learn more about filing for FAFSA, financial preparation for college, and scholarships. This will be a great opportunity for any family who has a student preparing for college in the future. The FAFSA will be available on January 1st and typically needs to be completed by March. This event will allow families to ask any questions about filing FAFSA and other ways to save for college. Please join us!

Students-don't forget to use Career Cruising. It is online career guidance and planning system.

Students can use the site's tools to find the right college or career, explore education and training options, and build their own portfolio.

Site Username: cusd21

Site Password: stags

LIBRARY NEWS

Susan Wilson, Librarian

The Emden school received 2 books from Books Are Fun; "Santa in Illinois" and the "Marvel Encyclopedia. Each building has also received 2 copies of the newest "Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Old School."



DONUTS WITH DAD



GRANDPARENTS DAY 2015



JANUARY

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 No School	2
3	4 Teacher Institute	5 JHBK @ Dee-Mack 5:30 HSBK vs. Athens 6:00	6	7 JHBK vs. Cornerstone Christian Academy 6:00 (8 th Gr. Night) 8 th Grade Class Dinner @ HS Café 5-6:30	8 HSBK @ Mt. Pulaski 6:00	9 JHBK @ 7 th Grade Logan County Tournament @ Lincoln College TBA
10	11 JHVB vs. Our Lady of Lourdes (Decatur) 6:00	12 <i>HCC Mtg. @ GS Cafeteria 6:30</i> HSBK @ Havana 6:00 JHVB vs. Delavan 6:00	13 College Information Meeting for Parents @ HS Café 5:30-7:00	14 JHBK @ 7 th Grade Logan County Tournament @ Lincoln College TBA HS Scholastic Bowl @ Athens 5:00	15 HSBK @ Lewistown 6:00	16 JHBK @ 8 th Grade Logan County Tournament @ Lincoln College TBA
17	18 <i>Board Mtg. 7:00</i> No School	19 HSBK @ Greenview 6:00 JHVB @ Warrensburg-Latham 6:00	20	21 JHBK @ 8 th Grade Logan County Tournament @ Lincoln College TBA JHVB @ IC 6:00 HS Schol. Bowl @ 5:00	22 FFA-Young Leaders Conference @ Springfield TBA	23 HSBK @ Auburn/Spfld Lutheran Tourn. TBA JHBK-7A Reg. TBA JHVB-7 th Grade Round Robin-Host 8:00 FFA-Young Leaders Conf. @ Spfld TBA
24	25 HSBK @ Auburn/Spfld Lutheran Tourn TBA JHBK-7A Reg. TBA JHVB vs. Limestone Walters 6:00	26 HSBK @ Auburn/Spfld Lutheran Tourn. TBA JHVB @ CEL 6:00	27 HSBK @ Auburn/Spfld Lutheran Tourn. TBA 11:30 Dismissal SIP Day	28 HSBK @ Auburn/Spfld Lutheran Tourn. TBA JHBK-7A Reg. TBA JHVB vs. Bloomington Junior High 6:00 HS Schol Bowl @ MWC 5:00	29 HSBK @ Auburn/Spfld Lutheran Tourn. TBA FFA-212 Conf. TBA	30 HSBK @ Auburn/Spfld Lutheran Tourn. TBA JHBK-8A Reg. TBA JHVB @ MP 8A Tourn. TBA FFA-212 Conf. TBA
31						

JANUARY

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 No School	2
3	4 Teacher Institute	5 Cereal Bar Toast Sunset Juice Apple Juice	6 English Muffin Egg Patty Peaches Apple Juice	7 Pop Tart Toast Pears Apple Juice	8 Breakfast Pizza Applesauce Apple Juice	9
10	11 Trix Yogurt Toast Pineapple Orange Juice	12 French Toast Sticks Peaches Orange Juice	13 Sausage Bagel Pears Orange Juice	14 Sausage Patty Tri Tater Toast Orange Juice	15 Donut Toast Mandarin Oranges Orange Juice	16
17	18 No School	19 Peanut Butter & Jelly Jamwich Trail Mix Apple Juice	20 Waffles Syrup Pears Apple Juice	21 Nutri Grain Bar Toast Pineapple Apple Juice	22 Whole Wheat Biscuit Sausage Patty Peaches Apple Juice	23
24	25 Bagel Cream Cheese Applesauce Orange Juice	26 Pancake & Sausage On a Stick Pears Orange Juice	27 Apple or Cherry Frudel Cheese Stick Peaches Orange Juice	28 Egg & Cheese Taco Sunset Juice Orange Juice	29 Assorted Cereal Toast Apricots Orange Juice	30
31						

3rd Annual Hartem Post Prom Trivia Night!!!

When: Saturday, February 6th, 2016
Where: Emden Community House
Time: Doors open at 6:30
Event begins at 7:00

Come out to support the Post Prom Committee and put your knowledge to the test!!!

- \$100 for a team/table up to 10 people.
- Teams provide their own snacks.
- Must be 21 to participate.
- Cash bar will be open at 6:30 provided by the Stag R Inn.
- Cheats will be available for an additional fee.
- All proceeds will support the Hartem Post Prom.

Please call or text Britta Langley @ 217-314-9040 with any questions. Deadline to enter is February 1st, limited space is available.

You may also mail this entry to:

Britta Langley
PO Box 184
Hartsburg, IL 62643

Your name: _____

Team name: _____

of participants at your table: _____

Make checks payable to Hartem Post Prom. Thank you for your support!!!

Coaches vs Cancer Luminaria Order Form

You can honor a loved one at this years Coaches vs Cancer Basketball game. We will share in a special luminaria ceremony to remember those individuals who have been affected by cancer. Candles will be lit in honor or memory of our loved ones and, weather permitting, placed along the sidewalk at the High School. You are invited to support this effort by purchasing a luminaria in honor of a loved one who has been touched by cancer. Simply fill out the form and mail it to the address below. A minimum \$5 donation is requested please. Thank you for your support as we work to create a world where cancer no longer threatens those we love!

Luminaria Order Form

In Memory	In Honor	Name of Person Being Honored
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Of
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Of
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Of
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Of

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Coaches vs Cancer

Your Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Please mail this form and donation to:

Hartsburg-Emden CUSD #21

Attn: Coaches vs Cancer

400 W Front St., Hartsburg, IL 62643

Luminaria's will be set up in High School hallway if weather is bad.

JANUARY

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
Lunch Menu	A variety of milk is available every day. Chef salad and side salads are available every day at the high school. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.				1 No School	2
3	4 Teacher Institute	5 Pig In A Blanket Baked Beans Sun Chips Peaches Vanilla Wafers	6 Crispito Cooked Carrots Bread Pears Jello	7 Hamburger On Bun Tomato/Onion Slices Baked Fries Corn Applesauce	8 Chicken Nuggets Garden Salad Bread Peas Pineapple	9
10	11 BBQ Rib On Bun Broccoli Tri Tater Peaches	12 Chili With Crackers Carrot/Celery Sticks Pears Cinnamon Roll	13 Pork Tenderloin On Bun Sweet Potatoes Applesauce Cheese Stick	14 Beef Nuggets Green Beans Bread Mandarin Oranges	15 Chicken Wrap Lettuce/Cheese Nacho Chips Bean Salsa Mixed Fruit	16
17	18 No School	19 Chicken Patty On Bun Pasta Salad Baked Beans Pears	20 Spaghetti With Meat Sauce Breadsticks Green Beans Pineapple	21 Corn Dog Soft Pretzel Cooked Carrots Peaches	22 Pizza Romaine Salad Corn Applesauce	23
24	25 Toasted Cheese Sandwich Tomato Soup Mini Carrots Pears	26 Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes Gravy Green Beans Bread Peaches	27 11:30 Dismissal SIP Day	28 Sloppy Joe On Bun Tater Tots Mixed Vegetables Applesauce	29 Chicken Sticks Macaroni & Cheese Peas Apricots	30

The T-Shirt is black, Antler's are white, ribbon is Purple, and it says "Racking Up Points For a CURE" There will be a T-Shirt on display in the office if you would like to see it.

ENTER ORDER FORM

Please make checks payable to: Coaches vs Cancer

FOR

Coaches vs. Cancer
 Hartshorne-Pinden High School Basketball
 400 W Front St., Hartshorne II, 62543
 Diane Smart
 217-671-7276

JAN 22 2011
 Due Date

T-Shirt
 \$15.00
 \$18 for 2X and up

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	YOUTH		ADULT				SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS	PAID	
			S	M	S	M	L	XL			XXL
			Not available with design								

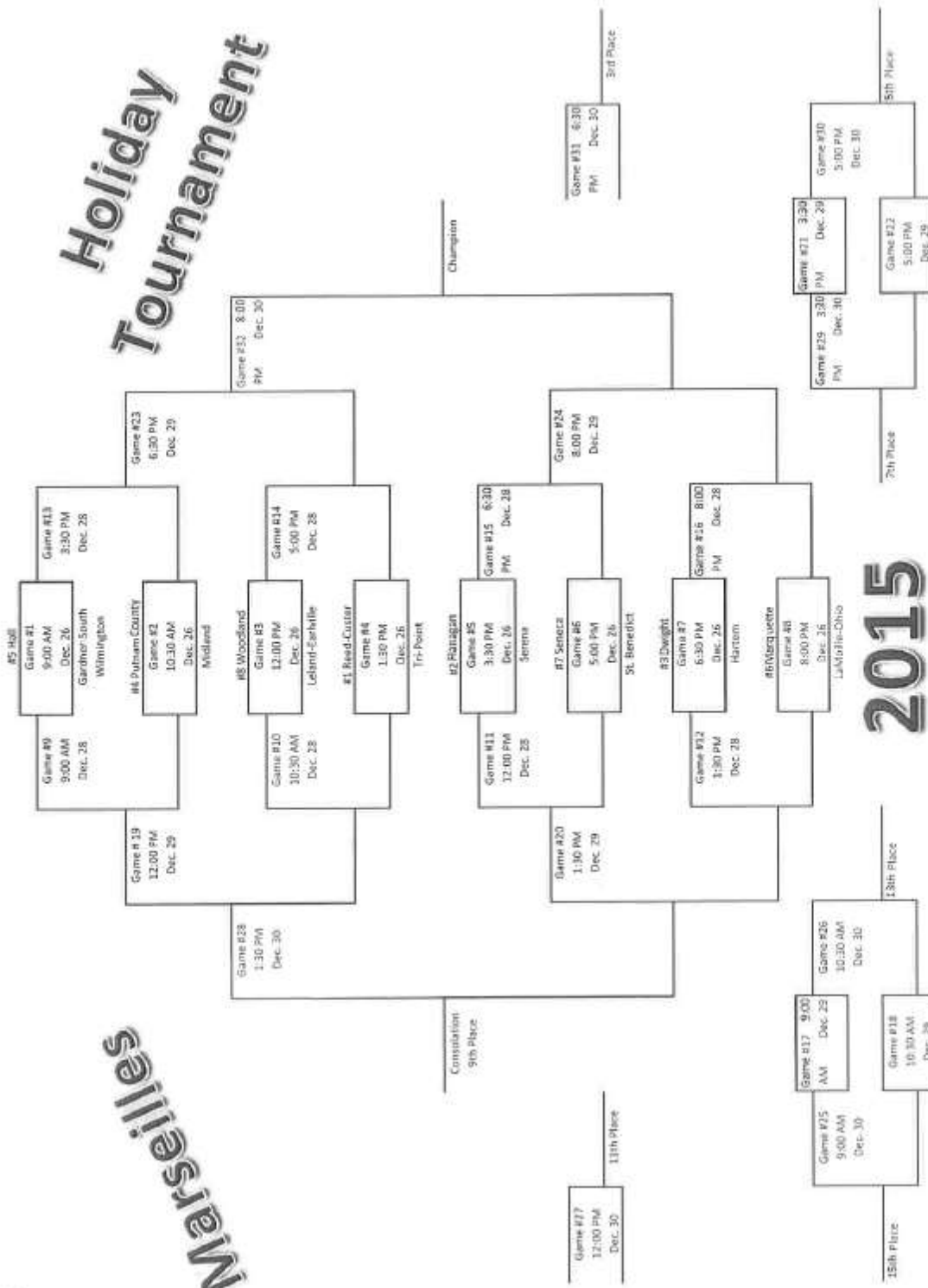
Youth M is 10-12 and Youth Large is 14-16 (Youth Sm is not available with this design)

Home team
is on top

Holiday Tournament

Marselles

2015



Champion

Competition
9th Place

15th Place

13th Place

15th Place

13th Place

9th Place

7th Place

5th Place

3rd Place

7th Grade Logan County Tournament

Saturday, January 9th & Thursday, January 14th
Higher seeded team is the home team and will wear white uniforms.
Trophies awarded for first and second place.



2016 Logan County 8th grade boys' basketball tournament

at Lincoln College
hosted by Hartsburg-Emden

Saturday, January 16:

10:00 – game 1 – (#4) Carroll vs (#5) HE

11:15 – game 2 – (#2) CEL vs (#3) MP

12:30 – game 3 – (#1) WLB vs winner of game 1

Thursday, January 21:

6:00 – game 4 (3rd/4th place game) – loser of game 2 vs loser of game 3

7:15 – game 5 (championship) – winner of game 2 vs winner of game 3

--- home team will be higher seed and wear white (please bring both unis)

--- admission prices: Adult - \$3.00

(K-8) and Seniors (62+) - \$2.00

---plaques are given to 1st and 2nd place teams

H.O.P.E. PROGRAM

Helping Others through Praise & Encouragement

St. Peter's Lutheran Church Women of the Word after school program began its year October 13, 2015. H.O.P.E. meets Tuesdays after school from 3:15 to 5:00. 21 (Kindergarten – 4th grade) children and 40 volunteers are participating this year. This program partners congregational and community members with individual children for reading and math practice. The volunteer listens to a child read in the sanctuary at their reading ability. For Math in Memorial Hall, the children are grouped working on Math fact games.

At snack time, the children have enjoyed decorating cookies with frosting & sprinkles, dipping apples and pretzels in caramel, marshmallow fluff, and nutella, decorating cupcakes with sprinkles and flags, and eating monster dirt pie with critters. Also, the children enjoyed sorting and grouping items in their Thanksgiving Snack Mix that reminded them of our nation's abundance, our freedom from sacrifice of others, the love of family and friends, and memories of others that came before us.

In December, the children decorated their ice cream cups & sugar cookies while they shared their favorite Christmas traditions and learned the candy cane story. Rudolph was also created and eaten! The kids enjoyed counting pretzel sticks and making shapes! While the children enjoy eating their snacks, Betty Gail reads a story each week. This year, she is sharing stories from "Jesus is Calling" Bible Storybook by Sarah Young. In the stories, Jesus is calling out to our hearts and as the children listen each week they hear his voice in the bible story. Through listening to his stories we hope the children have a better understanding of God's grand plan to send his Son, Jesus, to save his children and prepare a place for us in heaven. Each week, the children learn a bible verse from the storybook bible.

At craft time, the children helped pack 50 school kits for Lutheran World Relief. They gathered notebooks, rulers, scissors, pen and pencils, crayons, erasers, pencil sharpeners and placed items in a bag. The students enjoyed helping so other children around the world could have new school items like themselves. Some other projects, the HOPE students helped with were signing prayer cards and sending them to our veterans, and packing 12 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. They are learning to spread God's love with children in need. Hidden pictures pages, dot to dot activities and magnet take home crafts are also worked on. During December, the children decorated Christmas cards for shut-ins and area nursing homes.

During music time, the children are learning the hymn "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus", "I'm in the Lord's Army" and "One Way- God said to get to Heaven". Other songs enjoyed have been "Father Abraham" and "God Bless America". The children close their session with HOPE by giving Praise to God, singing the Doxology.

Everyone at HOPE experiences an attitude of appreciation and gratitude for God's love and gifts as we build new friendships and help one another. If you want to volunteer and get to know our youth, please contact St. Peter's Lutheran Church (217.376.3137) and leave your name and number. H.O.P.E. will resume session January 12 at 3:15. If your child attends this program, please check the schedule.





Hartsburg-Emden C.U.S.D. #21
400 West Front Street
Hartsburg, IL 62643

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Hartsburg, IL 62643
Presort Standard
Permit #001

BOXHOLDER

LOCAL