

HARTSBURG-EMDEN CUSD NO. 21

MAY 2020 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Terry Wisniewski, Superintendent

Another school year has passed us by. This is one for the books. As far as Graduation, Promotion, Prom, and Senior Trip, we are looking at having those in June. We remain hopeful that some type of ease on the Stay at Home Order will occur. We feel it is important to have some type of event for our students. So, we are planning for the following:

Promotion . . . Thursday, June 18th @ 7:00pm

Prom . . . Friday, June 19th

Graduation . . . Sunday, June 21st @ 3:00pm

Senior Trip . . . TBD (To Be Determined)

We are anticipating some type of restrictions as far as group size. We will conduct those events accordingly. So, they may not look like they normally do. We are focused on making these events a safe and memorable activity for our students. We felt it was important to set the dates. We will determine the format as we see how things unfold and get that information out to parents as quickly as possible. I have provided a calendar that shows how we'll close out the year with our Remote Learning Plan. Please look at that calendar to see how we'll be wrapping things up for the quarter.

At this point, we are looking at some staffing changes for next school year. Mrs. Simonton (Jr./Sr. High School History) and Mrs. Hartman (6th Grade and 7th Grade Math/Science/Social Studies) will both be leaving us. Mrs. Simonton is moving to South Carolina and Mrs. Hartman is taking some time to be a mother. We wish them both well. Betty Jo Lessen is officially retiring from her position as Emden Elementary Head Cook. Betty Jo has agreed to continue subbing as a cook for us. Good luck in retirement.

Our Remote Learning was forced upon us very quickly. We had to adjust quickly. The staff and students were exposed to advancing technology that is out there. We had a lot of on the job training as we went. Zoom, Google Classrooms, and other online formats are all being used. We have attempted to use a lot of different tools to reach our students. A survey revealed 15 homes without internet. The District quickly purchased 17 hotspots

to provide homes without internet access. Verizon Wireless is providing unlimited data for these homes during this time. We know many parents and guardians have really stepped up to help their children continue learning in this environment. Communication has never been so important. We truly appreciate all the effort and time that everyone has put in to making the 4th Quarter at Hartem a of development.

In conclusion, I understand that I ask a lot of the staff here at Hartem, to keep striving for perfection, reflection, self-improvement, make us better each day/week/month/year. Teacher Appreciation week is always the first week of May. So, this is a very fitting time to say 'THANK YOU' to the Hartem Teachers, Staff, and principal (Mr. Leslie). I would also like to send thanks to everyone who helps makes Hartsburg-Emden School District a great place for our students. It is a lot of work and includes many stakeholders; parents, alumni, community members, and local businesses. Everyone's assistance helps our district to be a special place. I would also like to send thanks to the Hartsburg-Emden School Board for supporting our school and having the best interest of our community and students at the center of their service. These have truly been unprecedented times and the commitment to our District shows. Again, a big thanks to the entire Hartem Teachers, Staff and Principal, which is always looking for ways to improve and make our district a better place for our students. Happy Teacher Appreciation Week to everyone!!

Congratulations to the following Employees:

25 years of service to Hartsburg- Emden

- Ruth Coers
- Jennifer Hayes

20 years of service to Hartsburg- Emden

- Matt Stoltzenburg

5 years of service to Hartsburg- Emden

- Amanda Feltes
- Jon Leslie

Receiving Tenure this year

- Carrie Nevius
- Laura Simonton

Retiring

- Betty Jo Lessen

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Jon Leslie, Principal

Welcome to May. As our school year nears its end, things are getting busier than ever. With that being said, I would like to thank all of the students, parents, teachers, staff members and volunteers that assist in our daily operations and activities especially during these trying times. It's amazing to see people step up time after time again whenever help is needed

Students, there are only a few short weeks of school left. Please remember to check out our remote learning plan found on our website. It has the guidelines regarding the grading of work. Every single day matters. You have worked too hard to let your grades slip. Do your best and achieve. If you are struggling with anything, please let your teachers know. You are more than capable. Finish the year strong.

To The Class of 2020:

You have only a couple weeks remaining until the end of your high school careers. It's amazing how fast the years in high school go. It almost seems as if each year of high school goes just a bit quicker than the year before. You have worked very hard to get to this point in your life, but this is really just the beginning. Take advantage of every opportunity that comes your way. Mistakes are going to happen, but do not be afraid to make them. Use them to your advantage by making them learning experiences. Never be afraid to take risks and in doing so, chase your dreams. I know that there is a lot of uncertainty in our lives right now. I know that you have been shortchanged with the end of your senior year. I am confident that you will take lessons from all of this and apply it making you a stronger person in the process. Best of luck to you in all that you do.

Go Stags!!!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

Registration for the 2020-2021 school year will be Monday, July 20th 12:00pm-7:00pm and Tuesday, July 21st 9:00am-2:00pm.

KINDERGARTEN FALL 2020

If your child will be 5 years old before September 1, 2020, he/she will be eligible to register for kindergarten. If you have any concerns about starting your child in kindergarten, please call the school 217-376-3151. We can help you determine if your child is really ready for kindergarten. **School registration** for the 2020-2021 school year will be **Monday, July 20th 12:00-7:00 p.m. and Tuesday, July 21st 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** at the high school office in Hartsburg. Fees must be paid at this time and you must bring your child's certified birth certificate from the County Clerk (hospital certificate is not acceptable) and social security number. Your child will need to have a physical (dated after 8-19-19), up-to-date immunizations, lead screening, and eye exam **prior** to the first day of school. He/she will also need a dental exam before May 15, 2021. Pre-registration forms have been sent to families with a Kindergartener starting this fall. If you didn't receive this form in the mail, please contact the school (217-376-3151) and one will be mailed to you.

A grade school open house will be scheduled before school starts in August to visit the classroom and bring school supplies. More information will be sent closer to the beginning of school. We are looking forward to meeting our new students and parents.

Job Posting

**Assistant Cook/Dishwasher
Hartsburg-Emden Grade School (a.k.a. Emden Elementary)**

Wanted: Hartsburg-Emden CUSD # 21 is seeking an assistant cook/dishwasher for our Elementary School. Work day is 5.5 hours per day (8:00am to 1:30pm) with a beginning salary between \$10.50/hour. Position starts at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year. Please contact Terry Wisniewski, Superintendent at twisniewski@hartem.org or 217-642-5244 if you are interested. Applications can be downloaded from the district website at <http://hartem.org> or picked up in the Main Office at the Jr./Sr. High School Building.

Application deadline: **June 12, 2020.**

EMDEN ALUMNI BANQUET

Attention Hartem Alumni!

This year marks the first time in its 92-year history, that the Hartsburg-Emden Alumni Banquet has been cancelled. The decision was necessary amid the uncertainties of the COVID-19 pandemic affecting not just the area, but the state as a whole. Given the extended stay at home orders through May, uncertainty of future restrictions on large gatherings, and the age of our membership, exercising an abundance of caution was the wisest choice. This is a challenging time for our country and our community, and our primary concern is for the safety of all of our alumni. We will miss seeing everyone this year, but look forward to seeing you all, healthy and safe, next year. Save the date for June 12, 2021!



GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Amanda Feltes, K-12 Counselor

We continue to wade through uncharted waters as we are in a time of uncertainty. Many of us are looking for answers, but for now, we are hoping we can provide you with some resources and encouragement to make the most of what we are dealing with and take joy in the little things! The news of schools closing in IL for the remainder of the year has brought on many disappointments. As adults, we've had plenty of chances to process disappointment but for our kids, they may be experiencing some strong emotions. This disappointment may manifest in different ways, but here are a few tips that can help kids manage disappointment.

1. **Listen & Validate:** We can't change the stay at home order, but what you can do is listen to and acknowledge children's frustration and disappointment. Ask them what is most disappointing to them and don't judge their reactions. Encourage them for how they are handling this situation.
2. **Explain That This Is Not Forever:** While it may feel like it's never going to end, this is only temporary. We will go back to school; we will see each other again. Share a time

that you felt uncertainty, how you handled it, and how it ended.

3. **Seek Solutions:** Yes, things will be different right now. You may not get to celebrate your birthday in the same way or play that spring sport. But, you can find alternative ways to celebrate. Host a virtual party. Use this time to practice sports skills at home. Encourage kids to talk to their friends about what they are going through. They're not alone in these feelings.
4. **Give Them a Sense of Control:** We've all lost a sense of control in this pandemic. Schools closed, vacations or family events cancelled, celebrations postponed... But, we do have control over how we view our days and choose to cope. Create a schedule with your child and let them choose how to spend their free time. Or, you can choose one day a week for your child to plan a certain activity that the family must do together. Maybe plan a virtual vacation and allow your child to choose the location. Make sure to model your coping skills and help your child to find ones that work well for them.

To the Class of 2020:

This is not the way you expected to end your Senior year. You should have been walking across the stage this month, receiving your diplomas. It's okay to grieve your senior year. This wasn't how it was meant to be. Nonetheless, your accomplishments will not go unnoticed. We will still have a chance to celebrate you and this significant milestone. It may be at a later date and it may look a little different, but that does not minimize the importance. You will come out of this stronger. We are so proud of you!



May

2020

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |

May 2020

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|--|------------|
| Breakfast Menu | | | | | 1 Bagel w/ cream cheese Pineapple | 2 |
| 3 | 4 Mini pancakes Pears | 5 Sausage patty Tri tater Applesauce | 6 Trix yogurt Peaches | 7 Breakfast pizza Pineapple | 8 Cereal Mandarin oranges | 9 |
| 10 | 11 Pop tart Mixed fruit | 12 Cereal bar Cheese stick Peaches | 13 Pancake & sausage On a stick Pears | 14 Biscuit Egg patty Mandarin oranges | 15 Muffins Juice cup | 16 |
| 17 | 18 French toast Applesauce | 19 Nutri-grain bar Boiled egg Pineapple | 20 Fruit frudel Pears | 21 Waffles Mandarin oranges | 22 Frittata Peaches Pancakes Mixed Fruit | 23 |
| 24 | 25 No School Memorial Day | 26 4 meals provided For the week | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |

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

May 2020

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
|-------------------|---|---|--|---|--|------------|
| Lunch Menu | | | | | 1 Quesadilla pizza w/salsa Corn Pears Sidekick | 2 |
| 3 | 4 Crispito w/ cheese sauce Mixed vegetables Bread Applesauce | 5 Chicken strips Potato salad Peaches Graham cracker | 6 Spaghetti with Meat sauce Green beans Breadstick Pineapple | 7 Popcorn chicken Potatoes Corn Mandarin oranges | 8 Breaded fish square on bun Peas Macaroni & cheese Mixed fruit | 9 |
| 10 | 11 Pork tenderloin on bun Oven potatoes Green beans Peaches | 12 Beef walking taco Cheese/sour cream Corn Peas | 13 Chicken nuggets Broccoli Bread Mandarin oranges | 14 Deli sub sandwich Cole slaw Sun chips Juice bar | 15 Pizza Carrots/celery Applesauce Trail mix | 16 |
| 17 | 18 Cheesy breadstick Marinara sauce Corn Peas | 19 Soft shell taco Cheese/salsa Cooked carrots Pineapple | 20 Hamburger on bun Nacho chips Bean dip Mixed vegetables Mandarin oranges | 21 Meatloaf Peas Bread Peaches Pudding | 22 Chicken patty on bun Green beans Cottage cheese Mixed fruit Pork BBQ rib on bun Oven potatoes Green beans Sidekick | 23 |
| 24 | 25 <p style="text-align: center;">No School Memorial Day</p> | 26 4 meals provided For the week | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |

Hartsburg-Emden C.U.S.D. #21
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