

HARTSBURG-EMDEN CUSD NO. 21

APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Terry Wisniewski, Superintendent

Students across the State, as well as those here at Hartsburg-Emden CUSD #21, have been busy preparing and taking the State assessments over the last several weeks. In addition to the local formative assessment we use to make instructional decisions (AIMSweb Plus), districts are also required to administer the IAR (Illinois Assessment of Readiness) Exam again. This year is one of the rare times they have not made changes in the previous years' test. In my career at Hartem, went from ISAT to several years with PARCC, which had changes most of those years. Now we've been with the IAR which has also had changes in the majority of the years we have been administering it. I am personally not opposed to changes in the assessment, if there is a valid reason for them. In my opinion, the modifications of Illinois Standards and continued professional development go much further to improve our educational system than the modifications of an exam. It just seems to me, that it would be more worth our energy and resources to focus on the items that have the largest impact on improved education. Regardless, all grade levels will continue to take the same exams they took last year, including the science exam for grades 5 and 8. The preliminary results should come in over the summer with official results coming in October, over a half year later. In the meantime, Hartsburg-Emden CUSD #21 will stay focused on improving instruction to do what's best for students. We ask our students to do their best at everything: Basketball, Volleyball, Scholastic Bowl, Testing, etc. We ask our parents and caregivers to please encourage your son/daughter to show what they know, not just on the test, but each and every day. Stress the importance of learning and doing their best on everything. The staff at Hartsburg Emden always appreciates the support we get from our parents. Thank you!

Hartsburg-Emden CUSD #21 values providing the highest-quality education for our students, while maintaining financial stability. We value our partnership between parents, staff, School Board, and the community in supporting the aspirations of every child we serve. So, our school budget is more than just a spreadsheet, but a very real resource that translates into excellent teachers and licensed paraprofessionals, quality curriculum and instruction

materials, essential technology, clean facilities, fully-equipped buildings, safe and secure classrooms, bussing, food services, and so much more. A school budget is not limited to the specific school year dates. Rather, planning for the next school year budget is beginning now, while we are in the middle of teaching and learning this school year. Much depends on a variety of external factors, including anticipated funding from the State. Next year school districts will no longer receive any ARP (America Rescue Plan) funds, which mostly came to us through ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) Grants. Many school districts in Illinois will be grappling with how to adjust for the loss of these revenues. Rather than focus on this uncertainty, Hartsburg-Emden School District, employed sound principals in using these funds fully anticipating these funds would go away and looked to avert any major issues for our future budgets. In 2012, my second year at Hartem, we started the year with 3.05% of expenditures left as a fund balance for our Education Fund. Next year, we will have 109.10% of expenditures left as a fund balance for our Education Fund. That means we have over a full year of expenditures to work with in our Education Fund. In addition, for all the Funds (which there are 9 specific funds for specific use . . . the Education Fund is biggest . . . about two-thirds of all expenditures), we will have roughly 110% of all expenditures left as all fund balances for all our Funds (which was about 35% in 2012). In addition, we also managed to accomplish some much-needed upgrades on the Emden Elementary Playground and the High School Ag Shop. As a district, I believe we are in a good position moving forward.

In conclusion, I hope everyone has a great Spring. Spring seems to be nature's way of reminding us that even after the coldest and darkest days, warmth and growth are just around the corner. I hope the beauty of Spring inspires you with positivity, hope, and endless possibilities. Embracing the warmth of the sun, the scent of fresh flowers, and the joy of longer days, always fills me with optimism and hope for the future. Go Stags!!

APRIL BREAKFAST/LUNCH PRICES

Student Breakfast \$40.00

Student Reduced Breakfast \$6.00

Student Lunch \$56.05

Student Reduced Lunch \$7.60

Students at Hartsburg-Emden Jr./Sr. High School will need to pay for seconds. Entrées are \$1.00, vegetable/fruit/chips are \$.50, Italian Ice is \$.75 and milk is \$.50.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Cory Brown, Principal

Hello Hartem Families!

I can't complain about the mild winter that we had. There were a few days lately that I was tempted to ride the motorcycle into school but thought it might still be a little cool in the morning. I've gotten the chance to have some fires in the backyard so I am glad to be back outside. I'm looking forward to more hunting and crappie fishing soon. For me, a morels and fish dinner is the official end of winter.

Coach Awe and the Softball team are off and going for the season. Coach Awe is really excited with the talent that the team has this year. Take a look at the calendar and catch a home game soon. This year's baseball season will be a co-op with Illini Central. We have a couple students that are playing on the team this year. Take a look at the Illini Central Calendar to see when you can catch a game. We also have a student running track with the Delavan co-op team. We wish Emma Eeten luck in her upcoming track season.

Junior High Volleyball had a great season. Seventh grade didn't make it out of regionals but the 8th grade team won a regional championship. The team looks to build on some of the wins next season.

The Junior High Track Team has started practicing and is looking for a strong season. The team numbers look to be stronger than in years past. The coaches are excited to start competition and see if they can break any records. A big local tournament is the Logan County Conference Meet at Lincoln High School on April 24th.

For the month of March, the Students of the Month were Ellie Klokkenga (10th grade) and MacKenna Dellow (6th grade). Here are some comments from the staff members that nominated them. "MacKenna is the kindest person. She is a dedicated and

hardworking student." One teacher said this about Ellie, "Shows leadership in FFA and takes pride in all of her work. She is always striving to improve and learn and others in the school look up to her as a role model.

Here are some dates of interest for April. School will resume from spring break on April 2nd. The SAT will be April 10th for Juniors. PSAT for sophomores is April 17th and PSAT for freshmen is April 18th. SAT and PSAT tests this year will be administered on the computer. The last SIP day will be on April 24th. The Grand March and Junior-Senior Prom will be on April 27th. Grand March is at 5:00pm.

We are going to be transitioning away from the phone calls on SchoolMessenger. Please make sure that you have enrolled into the method of communication that you wish to be contacted by TeacherEase. TeacherEase can communicate via text, email, phone, or notification on the app. An easy way to set these notifications is on the app.

The end of the year is quickly approaching! We have many things to be proud of for the year but we are not done yet. Before you know it, 8th grade promotion and senior graduation will be here. We look forward to ending the year strong!

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.



DEAN OF STUDENTS MESSAGE

Tanya Zerbonia, Dean of Students

Happy Easter and Happy Spring Break! I know everyone is looking forward to a week of some extra time before the craziness of the end of the school year begins.

While the seniors are on their Class Trip, we will have a solar eclipse. Hartsburg is set to have 95.87% obscuration. This is the last solar eclipse in our area for a long, long time. We are planning on bringing some of the elementary students over to the Jr/Sr High School to do projects and experiments with the junior high and high school students. We have ordered special solar eclipse glasses for all students. They will monitor temperature and wind speed and build pin-hole projectors and cameras. The final details are being nailed down but it should be a fun and educational afternoon for all the students. Let's hope for no cloud coverage.

The fourth quarter will have officially started before break. The administrative team is still ironing out all of the neat bells and whistles that TeacherEase has in order to make it work best for us. Two of the latest changes we have made allow us to send emails home for behavior / discipline logs and to do SchoolReach via email, text or phone call. TeacherEase has an app for phones too!

Enjoy the break! If you are fortunate enough to be going on a trip for Spring Break - safe travels. If you are staying home, let's hope for great weather!

LIBRARY NEWS

Nichole Folkman, Librarian

Book Fair

As I'm writing this, it is the first day of Book Fair! We are looking forward to an amazing week celebrating books and helping to fund classroom libraries in our school. Watch this space next month for an update on how it went!

Donations

Please remember that I am VERY behind but will continue updating each month! Some of these are going to be from up to 2 years ago (or more??) Please reach out to Mrs. Folkman if you are a former student of hers and you have a happy life event to share! Mrs. Folkman wants to honor that happy event with a book in the school library! (nfolkman@hartem.org)

Mrs. Folkman

One Girl in All the World in honor of Victoria Aveyard's marriage

Yearbook News

Make sure to order your 2023-2024 yearbook before Spring Break to save! Yearbooks are \$40 until Spring Break, but will be \$45 afterwards. You can contact

Mrs. Folkman nfolkman@hartem.org to purchase a book OR order online from www.yearbookforever.com.

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Elizabeth Hilgert, Student Coordinator/Guidance Counselor

This is typically a very busy time of year in the schools. It is the final crunch before the end of the semester. There are about 8 more weeks of school left in the school year, and with that comes the excitement and anticipation of summer.

State testing continues this month. Students should be finished with IAR by now with the exception of a few make-up tests. In addition, students in 8th grade will be taking the Illinois Science Assessment on April 9th, 10th and 11th.

PSAT/SAT

Juniors will take the SAT on **Wednesday, April 10th**. Sophomores will take the PSAT 10 on **Wednesday, April 17th** and freshmen will take the PSAT 8/9 on **Thursday, April 18th**. These assessments will begin promptly at 8:30 am. It is EXTREMELY important that students are in attendance on the day they are assigned to test. Please plan appointments around this date. Late arrival will not be allowed after the test begins. Please encourage students to put their best effort forward on this assessment.

I encourage all of our students to get an adequate amount of sleep and a healthy breakfast on test day so that they are in the best mindset. Testing is always a stressful time, but I am confident that our students will do great

FRESHMAN ORIENTATION

There will be a Freshman Orientation held on April 18th at 6:00 pm in the high school computer lab. Current 8th grade students and a parent are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting. Students will have an opportunity to choose their 2024-2025 classes during this meeting. We will also cover an overview of required courses for graduation, grading scales, and highlights of elective offerings.

8TH GRADE – REAL WORLD

The 8th Grade class will be participating in a *Welcome to the Real World* activity during the month of April. The University of Illinois 4-H will be conducting this event. This is designed as a series of learning activities that culminate in a simulation experience in which they will choose a post-

graduation path and make a series of related “real world” decisions. The 8th graders will explore careers; investigate how these career choices can be influenced by education and other factors. They will make consumer choices related to future independent living, learn skills needed to manage their finances and evaluate their success in managing their monthly income and expenses and explore alternatives to balance a budget.

24-25 CLASS SCHEDULES

High school students should have turned in their schedule requests for the 24-25 school year by this point. However, if any student has not turned in a schedule request yet, please do so as soon as possible. Students should be checking with me to determine requirements towards graduation and assistance in choosing the most challenging and appropriate classes for the upcoming year(s). As always, if you have any questions regarding scheduling, grades, state tests, or graduation requirements, please see Ms. Hilgert.

HARTEM ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Matthew Stoltzenburg, Athletic Director

A big thanks to all of those who helped with the home basketball and volleyball games this past winter. I know it’s a lot of time and energy. We received many compliments (again) on how well our games run and how nice our facilities are. Your time and effort is greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to all our winter sports teams and coaches on their continued successes.

Our Winter Sports Awards was on Tuesday, March 19th and we honored these teams: JHBK, JHCH, HSBK, HSCH, JH + HS chess, HSSC, and JHVB. The month of April is filled with high school baseball (coop w/ IC) and softball games as well as JH and HS (coop w/ Delavan) track meets. Let’s enjoy some spring weather while cheering on those Stags.



HARTEM FFA

Sara Barton

This March, Hartem FFA had a St. Patrick's Day themed chapter meeting where we made green slime and played BINGO. Also, Ashlyn Duvall participated in the Job Interview CDE at New Berlin High School.

We will be having our annual greenhouse plant sale on Saturday, April 20th from 8:30am-11am. The sale will happen in the greenhouse. We will have petunias, geraniums, calibrochas, and coleus.

It is that time of year to host our annual end of the year Chapter FFA Banquet. This year it will be hosted at the Emden Community House on Wednesday, May 1st. The FFA chapter will provide fried chicken, dessert, and drinks. We ask that those attending bring a side dish to share. There will be a flyer in the back of the newsletter with RSVP details.

Upcoming Events:

April 10th - District Parliamentary Procedure Contest at WIU

April 11th- Livestock Judging CDE at Taylorville

April 20th - Greenhouse plant sale

April 23rd - Section 14 Banquet at Pleasant Plains

May 1st - Chapter FFA Banquet at Emden Community House

May 3rd - Ag Day

Senior Beta Club

John Robinson

The Senior Beta Club is sponsoring a Blood Drive with Impact Blood on Tuesday, April 9th from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm in the HS Gym. Walk-ins are welcome. If you would like to schedule an appointment, you can do it on the Impact Blood App, go to the Sr. Beta page on the Hartem Website, or contact Mr. Robinson or any Sr. Beta member.

JH/HS Spring Concert

Jon Popper, Music Teacher

Hartem Bands and Choirs Spring Concert

April 25, 2024 @ 6:30PM in the Jr. Sr. High School Gym.

Please join the bands and choirs of Hartsburg-Emden for our 2024 spring concert. It will take place at 6:30PM in the Jr. Sr. High School Gym. Hear from the Jr. High Chorus, Jr. High Band, High School Chorus, and High School band, as well as a

surprise performance at the end! We hope that you can join us!

Esports

Eric Gardiner

We are excited to share that we are heading into the final spring season of esports. Our students will be engaged in playing Apex during these last few weeks of the academic year. Following the Spring break, we are planning to extend our esports program to Junior High students. When students come back from the break, there will be an announcement regarding an after-school informational meeting for Junior High students who are interested in joining esports. This year has been truly amazing for esports, and it has been a pleasure to launch the program here at Hartem. A big thank you to all the students who have been a part of it this year; I am eagerly looking forward to continuing the program with many of you next year.

In addition, to help us build our esports program here at Hartem, I have posted a few Donors Choose projects that will help us acquire the needed technology to grow our program. You can view the details of each project by going to the following links:

- https://www.donorschoose.org/project/esports-2/8259606/?utm_source=dc&utm_medium=directlink&utm_campaign=teacherhub&utm_term=teacher_6852978&rf=directlink-dc-2024-03-teacherhub-teacher_6852978&challengeid=21500634
- https://www.donorschoose.org/project/esports-3/8259622/?utm_source=dc&utm_medium=directlink&utm_campaign=teacherhub&utm_term=teacher_6852978&rf=directlink-dc-2024-03-teacherhub-teacher_6852978&challengeid=21500634
- https://www.donorschoose.org/project/esports-1/8259116/?utm_source=dc&utm_medium=directlink&utm_campaign=teacherhub&utm_term=teacher_6852978&rf=directlink-dc-2024-03-teacherhub-teacher_6852978&challengeid=21500634

Class of 2026

Jenn Hayes, Co-Sponsor

Class of 2026 Fundraiser

****HOG RAFFLE****

FILL YOUR FREEZER FOR THE Summer Cook-Outs!!

The Class of 2026 is selling raffle tickets! The winner will win ½ a hog for your freezer to be picked up at the ATLANTA LOCKER the week of May 20th-24th. All processing is paid in full. All you need to do is pick it up. Cuts include pork chops, bacon, sausage, roast, and more. Tickets \$5.00 each or (3) tickets for \$10. We will be officially selling them May 5th –May 19th (2) Names will be Drawn Monday May 20th ! Help Support the Class of 2026 and fill your freezer for all those Summer Cook-Outs!

Alumni Banquet

Ron Spencer

The 95th* Annual Hartsburg-Emden High School Alumni Banquet will begin at 6:30pm on June 8, 2024. This year the banquet will be held at the Community House in Emden, Illinois. The banquet will be catered by the Dovetail Inn. Invitations to the banquet will be sent out in early May. Anyone who does not receive an invitation, but would like to attend the banquet... may send a request via email to Ron Spencer at coach_spencer@hotmail.com or FB IM.

Anniversary classes being honored this year include: 1949, 1954, 1959, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004, 2009, 2014, 2019 and the Senior Class of 2024. All HARTEM Alumni are welcome to join us regardless of anniversary year!

The winner of the “Wall of Fame” award will be selected and announced at the banquet. This year the award will be represented in the category of Distinguished Alumni. Please mail nomination letters to Ron Spencer, 8923 Blooming Grove Road, Bloomington, IL 61705.

I could use some officer help for the 2024 banquet in the following roles: Secretary and Corresponding Secretary. If you are willing to help, please let me know. Also, if you have a desire to lead our association in 2025, I am sure our alumni would love someone else leading the 96th banquet in 2025. Again, please reach out if you are interested.

Prom

Eric Gardiner, Co-Sponsor

Exciting news! The Class of 2025 is getting ready for Prom night with this year's theme being "Casino Royale". Students and their dates planning on attending prom we invite to join us for a glamorous evening. The event will kick off with the Grand March at 5 PM at the high school, followed by dinner and Prom at 100 N. Third St in Hartsburg.

For dinner, Juniors, Seniors, and their dates will be treated to a delicious Chinese buffet courtesy of Chi Family Restaurant in Lincoln. Capture your special moments with photos taken by Mike Biezer during both the Grand March and Prom, with the photos being made available to all students. The night's entertainment will be provided by DJ Dylan Duvall.

Prom tickets and invitations will be distributed to Juniors and Seniors during the week of April 15th at no cost, thanks to the generous support of Post Prom. The Junior class is eagerly looking forward to hosting a memorable and enjoyable Prom night. We can't wait to see all the students dressed in their finest Prom attire.

REMINDERS!!!

- No School March 25th-April 1st! Spring/Easter Break!
- Grand March for Prom is April 25th @ HS Gym 5:00
- Anyone 14 and up interested in participating in Hoops for St. Jude will be held Monday April 1st @ Olympia High School. \$20 entry fee! See flyer for details!



PROM



APRIL 2024

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1 NO SCHOOL	2 HSSB vs Delavan 4:30	3	4	5 Junior Class Field Trip @ U of I Engineering Open House 8:00-3:00	6
7	8	9 Sr. Beta Club Blood Drive @ HS Gym 9:00- 2:00 ISAC Workshop HHSB vs IVC 4:30	10 2:00 Dismissal Faculty Meeting SAT Testing FFA Parli Pro	11 Jr. and Sr. Beta Club Induction Ceremony @ HS Café 5:30 FFA Livestock Judging	12 HSSB @ MWC 4:30	13 HSSB @ Pleasant Plains TBA JHTRK @ Olympia 10:00am Pickleball Tournament @ Emden Pickle Ball Courts 9:00am
14	15 JHTRK @ Havana 4:00	16 HSSB @ Clinton 4:30 JHTRK @ IC 4:00	17 Spanish Class Field Trip @ El Maz Sophomore PSAT Testing	18 HSSB vs IB 4:30 Freshman Orientation @ HS Computer Lab 6:00 Freshmen PSAT Testing	19 Qtr. 4 Pro. Rpt Cards	20 FFA Plant Sale 8:30am-11:00am
21	22 JHTRK @ IC 4:00	23 HSSB @ Tri-City 4:30 FFA Section 14 Banquet	24 11:30 Dismissal SIP DAY JHTRK @ LoCo Conf. Meet @ LCHS 9:00am	25 JH/HS Spring Concert @ HS Gym 6:00	26	27 JHTRK @ PORTA 9:00am Grand March for Prom @ HS Gym 5:00 Prom Night Post Prom @ HS
28	29 HSSB vs Edinburg 4:30 *Sr. Night* JHTRK @ MWC 4:00	30 JHTRK @ Greenview 4:00				

APRIL 2024

<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 Poptart Fruit Juice	3 French toast sticks Sausage links Fruit Juice	4 Assorted muffins Fruit Juice	5 Egg bites Tri-tater Toast Fruit Juice	6
7	8 Fruit frudel Fruit Juice	9 Yogurt w/strawberries Toast Fruit Juice	10 Frittata omelet Toast Fruit Juice	11 Waffles Sausage patty Fruit Juice	12 English muffins Fruit Juice	13
14	15 Nutri-grain bar Fruit Juice	16 Bagel w/cream cheese Fruit Juice	17 Sausage patty Tri-tater Toast Fruit Juice	18 Coffee cake Fruit Juice	19 JH/HS-Brown sugar cinnamon oatmeal GS-Breakfast pizza Toast Fruit Juice	20
21	22 Pancake and sausage on a stick Fruit Juice	23 Assorted cereal Toast Fruit Juice	24 Uncrustable Fruit Juice	25 Breakfast cookies Fruit Juice	26 Donuts Fruit Juice	27
28	29 Mini pancake bits Fruit Juice	30 Biscuit Sausage patty Egg patty Fruit Juice				

APRIL 2024

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
Lunch Menu	1 NO SCHOOL	2 Hamburger on bun French fries Cottage cheese Applesauce	3 Loaded mac & cheese w/ Ham/chicken/pork/bacon Sour cream/ranch/BBQ GS-Peas Peaches	4 Cream chicken on biscuit Green beans Pineapple	5 Corn dog Soft pretzels w/cheese sauce Carrots Pears	6
7	8 Turkey/ham & cheese wrap Chips Lettuce Pasta salad Peaches	9 Spaghetti w/meat sauce Green beans Lettuce salad Breadsticks Pineapple	10 Crispitos w/cheese sauce Mix Veggies Rice Refried beans Mandarin oranges	11 JH/HS-Chili mac Cornbread muffins GS-Walking tacos Green beans Mix fruit	12 Pizza Lettuce salad Pineapple Cookies	13
14	15 Sloppy joe Nacho chips w/cheese Sour cream/salsa Lettuce Applesauce	16 Chicken alfredo Peas Lettuce salad Breadstick Pears	17 Hot dog on bun Chips Bake beans Pasta salad Peaches Rice krispy treats	18 Pizza burger Tater tots Corn Mandarin oranges	19 JH/HS-Bake potato bar Broccoli w/cheese Apricots Cake w/strawberries GS-Chicken patty on bun Roasted potatoes w/bacon bits Cottage cheese Strawberries and cupcake	20
21	22 BBQ rib on bun Potato smiles Green beans Mandarin oranges	23 JH/HS-Salisbury steak GS-Chicken strips Mashed potatoes Corn Dinner roll Mix fruit	24 11:30 Dismissal	25 Orange or popcorn chicken Rice Mix veggies Egg rolls Peaches	26 Italian sub sandwich Chips Fresh veggies Pasta salad Pineapple Cookies	27
28	29 Pork tenderloin on bun French fries Peaches	30 JH/HS-Ham/hamburger ponyshoe French fries w/cheese sauce GS-Loaded nachos Cheese sauce Pineapple Pudding w/vanilla waffers				

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