

HARTSBURG-EMDEN CUSD NO. 21

JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Terry Wisniewski, Superintendent

At the beginning of the school year, I discussed with our staff the importance of relationships. I requested that Hartsburg-Emden CUSD #21 Schools be committed to creating and maintaining positive, mutually beneficial relationships with our students, families, staff, and community. I often tell students that relationships with other people will bring you the greatest joy in your life and will bring you the greatest sorrow/grief.

On a personal note, another semester as the Superintendent of the Hartsburg-Emden School District is ending and it continues to be an honor to serve in this capacity. I thank everyone (students, parents, board members, and staff) for the relationships I have developed with you over the past ten years. It is hard to believe I have been in the district for a decade. All-in-all, I truly enjoy our students, the school, the community, and the work. It also means a lot to me that my own son loves being a Hartem Stag and takes a lot of pride in attending Hartsburg-Emden and the relationships he has here. Being an Educator has always been my passion. I value the Continual Growth Mindset (one of the pillars of our belief statements) that education provides. I am always looking for ways to improve both personally and professionally. Being a life-long learner, having the desire to learn and grow, is particularly important to me.

I do believe that our staff continues to work to develop professional and positive relationships with our students, parents, and community ensures that we are able to support the needs of our children (and their families). We are always available to you. I encourage everyone to be open to the idea of reaching out to our teachers/staff. Our staff is here for service. There is a strong belief in giving every student the tools necessary to be successful in life. We do our best to provide positive relationships with our kids to meet that goal. Having positive relationships are important because they help children develop independence, self-esteem, and well-being. Children want and need positive, loving/caring relationships with the people closest to them. Students learn better from teachers who they feel have their best interest at heart. As you may expect, the opposite is also true. The strongest

driver of low well-being is where children experience weak, uncaring (even negative) relationships. It is also important that we have high standards and high expectations for our kids. I believe we have to show students the learning targets and test them on those learning standards. When students have positive relationships and have high expectations that are shown to them, they are more capable of meeting those expectations.

At this point in time, I remain hopeful we can stay with In-Person Learning throughout the second semester. Hopefully we will see the numbers to continue to drop and the vaccinations help put us on a path to normalcy. I will continue to follow the guidelines put out by all the organizations while considering the safety and welfare of our entire district. If you wish to change your child's status, please call the Main Office and let us know. Remote Learning students will be asked to commit until the end of the 3rd quarter. At that point, I am hopeful the standards will be such that we can accommodate more students. Although national numbers seem to be going up, Illinois numbers have slowly started to come back down. Again, as soon as I determine that the risk factors are too high, I will let you know. With that said, I ask that everyone please keep us informed. If your child has tested and/or is sick, they need to stay home until he/she is cleared. I am confident that if we work together, we can keep everyone safe and continue with In-Person Learning.

Lastly, I would like to finish by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!! With the holidays here, I hope you are able to enjoy all the gifts you've been blessed with. Please keep in mind those who are less fortunate or may be missing someone this time of year. A heartfelt inquiry can go a long way to comfort someone. 'Tis the season to be generous and my God bless you.

RESUMING IN-PERSON LEARNING

Any caregiver who chose full time Remote Learning for their child first semester and wishes to resume In-Person Learning second semester, **must** call the main office by January 4th to let us know your child will be changing to In-Person Learning. Please let us know if you will need transportation as our buses are close to capacity. If you chose to stay on a Remote platform, we are asking you to commit to such for the entire 3rd quarter. We will reassess at that point in time.

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.

Over the past couple of weeks, I have witnessed first-hand what it means to live in a small supportive community. I would like to personally thank everyone that has lent a helping hand to families in need over this Holiday Season.

Looking ahead to the coming weeks, we will begin our second semester (3rd Quarter) on January 5th, 2021. Report cards for the first semester and 2nd quarter will be mailed out shortly after we get back from Christmas break. Parents, please help your children get back into the school routine as we look to begin the second half of our year.

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

Go STAGS!!!

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Amanda Feltes, District Guidance Counselor

Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and is ready to jump into second semester. The start of a new semester seems to be a time for both a renewal of the old and a look forward to the new. For all of us, it should be a time that we reflect on what we did well in the previous semester and to make attempts to better ourselves for the second semester. It is very important that despite some dark and cold weather in the winter months that we start the second semester with enthusiasm and a strong sense of purpose. It is expected that Hartsburg-Emden students continue to set goals and establish sound practices to help them achieve those goals.

Believing you have potential is a small part of the challenge. The hard work of realizing your potential starts with setting goals. In the New Year goal setting typically takes the form of New Year's Resolutions. As we all know, sticking to these resolutions can be difficult. Students are no different than us when it comes to setting and achieving goals. Here are some suggestions that are proven successful in helping people achieve the goals they set:

- Focus on one resolution or goal

- Break the goal into small manageable steps
- Share your goal with a friend who can support and hold you accountable
- Celebrate the small successes and milestones
- Focus your thinking on the new behavior and what that looks like—retraining your brain is key
- Focus on the present—what is the thing you can do now or today to work toward accomplishing the goal
- Do not live in the past or the future—you can only control what you do right now

Most of all, good luck in the New Year. I know that 2020 was a difficult year for everyone. I hope that you can reflect on all that was in 2020, so that in 2021 you can look forward with confidence about what you want to accomplish in this new year.

The spring semester is a busy time for students. Students will be selecting classes for next year, taking standardized tests including the Illinois Assessment for Readiness (formerly PARCC), PSAT, SAT, and the Illinois Science Assessment, and meeting daily demands of classes and programs in which they are involved. Each day provides an opportunity for students to improve and take advantage of the educational opportunities at HEHS. Students should utilize every opportunity to get the help needed for grade improvement. We strongly encourage parents to contact your student's teachers and to track student progress with the Tyler system.

21-22 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 21-22), you **MUST** complete a Heartland application by **April 15** and ACCUPLACER Assessment (or submit a qualifying score) by **April 30** in order to be eligible to enroll in the course. Students can submit qualifying ACT or PSAT/SAT scores in place of the ACCUPLACER. See Mrs. Feltes for details.

JANUARY

2021

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	All events and activities are subject to change pending announcements from Governor Pritzker.				1 No School	2
3	4 Teacher Institute	5	6	7	8 HSBK vs Mt. Pulaski 6:00	9
10	11	12 HSBK vs Havana 6:00	13	14 Chess vs Central Catholic 4:00	15 HSBK @ Lewistown 6:00	16
17	18 No School JHBK @ Carroll Catholic 6:00	19 JHBK vs Greenview 6:00	20	21 Chess-TBD	22	23
24	25 <i>Board Mtg 7:00</i> JHBK vs WLB 6:00	26 JHBK @ Rankin 5:00	27 11:30 Dismissal SIP Day	28	29 HSBK vs Tri-City 6:00	30 HSBK @ W-L 6:00
31						

JANUARY

2021

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
Breakfast Menu	A variety of milk is available every day. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.				1 No School	2
3	4 Teacher Institute Assorted cereal Fruit cup Apple juice	5 Bagel w/ cream cheese Fruit cup Apple juice	6 Donut Apricots Apple juice	7 Fruit frudel Applesauce Apple juice	8 Peanut Butter & Jelly jamwich Peaches Apple juice	9
10	11 Pop tart Mandarin oranges Orange juice	12 Biscuits & gravy Peaches Orange juice	13 Nutri-grain bar Mixed fruit Orange juice	14 Breakfast burrito Mandarin oranges Orange juice	15 Mini waffles Applesauce Orange juice	16
17	18 No School	19 Warm breakfast bar Applesauce Apple juice	20 Pancakes Pears Apple juice	21 Cereal bar Mixed fruit Apple juice	22 Breakfast pizza Applesauce Apple juice	23
24	25 Trix yogurt Raisins Peaches Orange juice	26 Muffins Applesauce Orange juice	27 Egg patty on biscuit Mixed fruit Orange juice	28 French toast Peaches Orange juice	29 Frittata Fruit cup Orange juice	30
31						

JANUARY

2021

<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 Corn dog Soft pretzel rod w/cheese Green beans Apricots	5 Chicken fajita Refried beans Cooked carrots Jello Pineapple	6 Cheeseburger on bun French fries Corn Applesauce	7 Deli turkey wrap w/lettuce Sun chips Mixed veggies Peaches	8 BBQ rib on bun Broccoli Tri-tater Mandarin oranges	9
10	11 Chicken nuggets Macaroni & cheese Peas Peaches	12 Pig in a blanket Baked beans Cottage cheese Mixed fruit	13 Crispito w/cheese sauce Mixed veggies Bread Mandarin oranges	14 Beef walking taco w/Fritos Lettuce/salsa Corn Applesauce	15 Pizza Lettuce salad Peas Pears Pudding	16
17	18 No School	19 Toasted cheese sandwich Tomato soup Mini carrots/celery Pears	20 Chicken & noodles Green beans Bread Mixed fruit	21 Beef tater tot casserole Corn Bread Applesauce	22 Pork tenderloin on bun Broccoli Peaches Cookie	23
24	25 Grilled chicken wrap Carrots Applesauce Cookie	26 BBQ pulled pork on bun Green beans Mixed fruit	27 11:30 Dismissal SIP Day Meatball sub Scalloped potatoes Peas Apricots	28 Ham pony shoe w/cheese sauce Garden salad Corn Peaches	29 Sloppy joe on bun Mixed vegetables Pears	30
31						

Hartsburg-Emden C.U.S.D. #21
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Hartsburg, IL 62643

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POSTAL CUSTOMER

LIBRARY NEWS

Nichole Folkman, District Librarian

Have you been enjoying the read-alouds and activities online? You can access them at www.tinyurl.com/HartemLibrary or your students have access through Google Classroom. These will stay up until the publishers start normal copyright restrictions again. (They are being a little extra lenient right now to accommodate remote and hybrid learning.) You can also get access to lots of cool activities and boredom busters at the library website at www.stagsread.weebly.com.

Donations

\$100- Sons of the American Legion used for nonfiction country books

\$50 from Tom and Mary Anderson in memory of Thomas Schmidt, Sr. used for nonfiction graphic novels about scientists

Thank you for your support through the Virtual Book Fair! Every single purchase helps get books for the kids at our school.

Grants

- Voya Unsung Heroes Grant in the amount of \$12,000 to supplement and create community reading programs through #StagsRead
- Back to Books Grant in the amount of \$4,900 to purchase books to support #PostcardFieldTrip for K-12
- PNC Grant in the amount of \$657 to buy Monarch books for K-2