

HARTSBURG-EMDEN CUSD NO. 21

JUNE 2021 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Terry Wisniewski, Superintendent

It's hard to believe that this school year has come to an end. I certainly can say this has been one of the most challenging years in my 25+ years in education. The COVID-19 pandemic made it a trying year for almost everyone. My deepest sympathies go to those who suffered loss during this time. I am hopeful that on the other side of this storm (the pandemic) are brighter days ahead. Often out of suffering emerges a stronger soul, character that is seared with scars is devolved and refined. Hartsburg-Emden School district and the community is one and I have found the support for our school district enormous. I also believe that goes both ways. I would like to thank all the parents, community members, Board members, staff, and students for making this year that was full of masks, social distancing, quarantines, contact tracing, disinfecting, remote learning, and ever-changing procedures/guidelines, bearable. I can assure you, we continued to take strides towards meeting our goals and continually improve to make our school district the best it can possibly be, in spite of all the obstacles. Keeping and maintaining a continual growth mindset, making each year better than the last one, and pushing, was not an easy task. It is important to be steadfast to your principles when everything seems to be going wrong and keep chugging forward. "In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing" Theodore Roosevelt. I truly believe that tomorrow is another day and I believe in the future of Hartsburg-Emden School District.

The State of Illinois has been discussing the concepts of school consolidation again. The age-old question, is bigger better? For most of us at Hartsburg-Emden, we appreciate the opportunities a smaller school district offers to our students. The difference between large schools vs. small schools is really more noticeable at the High School level. Grade Schools typically focus on the basics no matter where you are. A good K-8 program can be big or small. Again, Hartsburg-Emden's 3-8 students have done well for many years on the IAR (Illinois Assessment for Readiness) test in reading, consistently scoring 5%-15% above the State average. Our High School Students placed 2nd in

this year's Academic Challenge (the old WYSE - Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering) competition. Our students actually outscored most of the larger schools as well. It is great to see our students achieving at such a competitive level. However, I would like to discuss the social benefits I believe a small school offers that larger schools cannot offer. Every student can belong to any sport or club (extra-curricular) activity they wish. There are no cuts or any limits to what they want to experience. This is a tremendous benefit of small schools. Another benefit is that everyone knows everyone. The level of investment into the system is greatly amplified when you know people you are providing services to. It truly becomes a school community. Thoughtfulness, gratitude, inspiration, and respect seem to be much more widespread because of the tightness of the school. I know many of you already know and understand the benefits of being a part of a small tight-knit group that develop into live-long bonds, but the State is looking to reduce the number of school districts by 25% to start, I felt the need to discuss the benefits.

I hope everyone enjoys his or her summer. Take time to enjoy the little things in life, because many times we look back and realize they were the big things. A grateful heart will allow you to see the good in what is currently going on in your life. Life can be difficult at times. However, getting through the tough times in life can be just a little bit easier when you simply realize the importance, beauty, and miracle of life. Please take time and enjoy your summer.

Finally, Ruth Coers, Bus Driver for 26 years is retiring. The School Board officially approved her retirement at the May 2021 School Board Meeting. Ruth will be greatly missed and we wish her the best of luck in her retirement.



HAPPY Retirement!

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Jon Leslie, Principal

It is hard to believe that this school year has come to an end. The second semester in particular has really flown by. I want to take the opportunity to congratulate our Class of 2021 Graduates. It was a pleasure to work with this class for the past four years. I have no doubt that they will be successful in whatever it is that they decide to do.

Congratulations to our 8th graders on their promotion. Promotion signifies a beginning rather than an end. I am confident that our 8th graders are ready to begin what will undoubtedly be a successful high school career. All of our students should be commended for the adjustments and sacrifices that they made this year. Regardless of all of the changes, our students did their best day after day, week after week, and month after month. Kudos to all of you! Students, enjoy your summer. You have worked hard this year. Please take some time to relax. I want to wish all of you a happy, relaxing, and safe summer.

This year has, without a doubt, posed many challenges for students, families, and educators. With that being said, I firmly believe that we have learned many valuable things that we can carry forward with us.

On a personal level, I would like to send my sincerest appreciation to our students, parents, and coworkers for your support over the past six years. As I start the next chapter of my career, I will take many fond memories with me. Thank you, Hartsburg-Emden Family!

ATTENTION HARTEM ALUMNI!

Due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and social distancing recommendations surrounding it, the Hartsburg-Emden Alumni Association has chosen to hold off on this year's annual banquet.

The health and safety of our alumni is and will always be our biggest priority. For that reason, we've made the difficult decision to cancel this year's alumni banquet. We will miss seeing everyone once again, but look forward to seeing you all, healthy and safe, next year. Save the date for June 11, 2022!

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

District Office Summer hours will be Monday-Friday 8:00am-1:00pm. Regular office hours will resume on Monday, August 2nd.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year will be Monday, July 19th 12:00pm-7:00pm and Tuesday, July 20th 9:00am-2:00pm.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Matt Stoltzenburg, Athletic Director

Congratulations to all of this year's seniors as they embark on a new adventure in their lives. I wish them all well and it was a pleasure watching them grow up before our eyes.

I would like to say thanks again to all those who helped make our athletic teams a success this past year. Among the throngs of people who ensure our success are the school board, administration, cooks, janitors, secretaries, teachers, game helpers, coaches, players, parents, and the two communities of Hartsburg + Emden. Thanks again.

This is a reminder to all those who are interested in going out for any sports teams next year that you will need an **updated physical** before participating. PLEASE try to remember to get this taken care of before your season begins. I would highly recommend doing this during the summer months so you'll be good for all of next year.

Also, for junior high baseball and softball players, please pay attention to the papers and our school website for announcements regarding the start of your seasons. Both teams will begin practice and games before school starts in the fall. Have a great summer break!

FFA NEWS

The Hartem FFA Chapter elected our new 2021-2022 Officer Team.

President: Jonathan Wright

VP: Wyatt Leinenbach

Secretary: Garrett Hopkins

Treasurer: Jace Whitted

Reporter: Cloee O'Donoghue

Sentinel: Mason Farris

Historian: Lexi Becker

Thank you to everyone who came out and supported our greenhouse sale! Have a wonderful summer and we will see you in September for our annual mum sale.



GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Amanda Feltes, District Guidance Counselor

Learning doesn't stop just because it is summer vacation! Take this summer as an opportunity to discover hobbies, read new books, and expand on the different things your student learned during the last school year. Here are some ideas to keep skills up during break:

- Keep a journal on vacation. Encourage your student to document any trips you take as a family. This will give you and your child a lasting memory.
- Get creative. Take a trip to the craft store or bake some delicious treats. Give your child a chance to explore more interests.
- Build responsible behavior. Summer is a good time to complete outdoor projects. Have to paint the fence, clean a closet or tackle an organization project? Planting something in the garden? Give your child the chance to work hard and develop responsible behaviors, even during the summer months.
- Find math everywhere. Have your child count the change for you at the store, see if they can find fractions around the house, and challenge your child to find math in unlikely places.
- Explore local attractions- but make it fun. Look into exploring local museums, historical sites and the zoos. Make up a

scavenger hunt so that your child has to find specific items or words.

It is not too soon to be thinking about summer opportunities for enrichment, career exploration or registering for programs offered at nearby colleges. When planning a summer vacation, be sure to take advantage of visiting the colleges that are along the way or are in the vicinity of your vacation destination. Colleges are always very inviting to parents and prospective students. To make the most of your visits, you may want to schedule a tour ahead of time.

Career Exploration

Check out the Illinois Career Information System at <https://portal.ilcicis.intocareers.org/>. It is an online career guidance and planning system. Students can set up their own accounts to use the sites tools to find the right career, explore education and training options, and build their own portfolio. Now is a great time to check out this program and get some career ideas and plans!

ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT

This is to inform all parents and staff of the status of our schools' asbestos management plan. As required, our buildings were initially inspected for asbestos. Our inspection was conducted on October 16, 1988. The AHERA law requires that a visual surveillance of asbestos containing areas be completed every six months, and a re-inspection conducted every three years. The inspection/management plan is available for public review in the Hartsburg High School office. Please contact Terry Wisniewski with any questions.

WHISTLE STOP LIBRARY

Whistle Stop Library will host a summer library program this year, beginning June 3rd from 2:00-5:00 and continuing each Thursday in June. The program will be outside, weather permitting (inside in case of rain).

June 3rd-Woodworking Kits

June 10th-Playdough or Clay Modeling/Slime

June 17th-Comic book heroes

June 24th-Bean bag competition

This is a free program with treats and supplies provided, also great books for summer reading are available. Masks will be available! For more information call LaDonna Gass at 217-737-8029.

EYE, DENTAL, AND PHYSICAL EXAMS AND IMMUNIZATIONS

Erika Sanders, District Secretary

Physical exams are a STATE REQUIREMENT of all Kindergarten, 6th and 9th graders. Also, all Kindergarten, 6th, 9th and 12th graders are required to have their immunization records up to date and a copy **MUST** be turned in to the office. The Logan County Health Department offers the booster immunizations and lead screenings. Please call them for an appointment at 735-2317. The State of Illinois also requires that all children entering Kindergarten, 2nd, and 6th grades to have a dental examination. The examination must be completed between May 15, 2021 and May 15, 2022. Proof of examination is due no later than May 15, 2022. All Kindergarten students and any student new to an Illinois school will be required to have a vision screening. The examination must be completed within the past 12 months. Proof of examination is due no later than October 15, 2021.

Students participating in sports and cheerleading must have a physical on file in the office before their sport's program begins. A sports physical is good for one calendar year. Please remember that junior high softball starts in July and junior high baseball and high school golf and volleyball start at the beginning of August and physicals need to be on file **BEFORE** they may practice or tryout. If you have any questions, please call Erika at the high school 642-5244.

YEARBOOK NEWS

We are always looking for copies of older yearbooks. Any that we do not have a staff copy of (or our staff copy is in bad shape) get kept by the school, any extras are made available to the public in exchange for a donation to the yearbook program. If you are looking for any particular year(s), please let us know.

2021 yearbooks are available for pre-order. You can order online from www.jostens.com or through the school- just contact Mrs. Folkman. They are \$40 now and will be \$45 next year if there are any left over. We are down to just a couple more 2020, if you need one. They are \$45. First paid, first served.

JUNIOR HIGH SPEECH TEAM

The Hartem Junior High Speech Team held a Speech Showcase on May 11th. Normally the team competes against other teams at two events where they are judged and rated on their performance. However, due to Covid restrictions, the team held a showcase instead. The girls performed their skits that they have spent several months memorizing and perfecting for family and friends.. Then, the girls performed improv. They were given a random place, person and object to use with their improv and had 1-2 minutes to plan. The team did a fantastic job with all of their performances. The team also hopes to perform for the grade school students before the end of the school year.

Team members are:

Sixth Grade-Emma Eeten

Seventh Grade- Alayna Briggs, Celia Cross, Gabby Duvall and Ellie Klokkenga



WIFFLE BALL TOURNAMENT

Please join us for a Wiffle Ball Tournament hosted by St. Peter's Youth to celebrate 150 years of Emden! The tournament will take place on Saturday, July 17th & Sunday, July 18th at Luther Field in Emden. **Teams will consist of a maximum of 6 people and the cost per team is \$50.** All players on the roster may bat, but only 4 can play on the field at a time. We invite anyone junior high age and older to put a team together! At this time, we are planning a double elimination tournament. The winning team will receive a monetary prize. Please consider putting a team together, or just come out to cheer everyone on! Like the "Celebrating 150 Years of Emden" Facebook page for a registration form and more information on the Wiffle Ball Tournament, and to see what other events will be happening that weekend! Contact Kelsi Meeker (217-737-3776 or kmeeker527@gmail.com) for more information about the Wiffle Ball Tournament.

JUNE

2021

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<p>All events and activities are subject to change during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.</p>						
		1 HSBB @ Illini Bluffs 4:30	2 <i>Qtr 4/Sem 2 Rpt Cards</i>	3 Teacher Institute	4 Teacher Institute	5
6	7 District Office Summer Hours Begin Mon-Fri 8:00-1:00	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Session 1 Summer School @ Emden 8:15-1:30	15 Session 1 Summer School @ Emden 8:15-1:30	16 Session 1 Summer School @ Emden 8:15-1:30	17 Session 1 Summer School @ Emden 8:15-1:30	18	19 Hartsburg's 150 th Celebration Parade 11:30
20	21 Session 1 Summer School @ Emden 8:15-1:30	22 Session 1 Summer School @ Emden 8:15-1:30	23 Session 1 Summer School @ Emden 8:15-1:30	24 Session 1 Summer School @ Emden 8:15-1:30	25	26
27	28	29	30			

JUNE

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 Cook's Choice	2 Cook's Choice	3 Teacher Institute	4 Teacher Institute	5
Lunch Menu		1 Cook's Choice	2 Cook's Choice	3 Teacher Institute	4 Teacher Institute	5



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

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POSTAL CUSTOMER

LIBRARY NEWS

Thank you to the Rotary Club of Lincoln for donating money to buy books for the kindergarten class. Each kindergarten student got a book from the book fair from their donation. Buying these books from the Book Fair allowed us to earn more credit to get more books for the classroom libraries, too! Thank you to Charlise Leesman who donated money to buy books in memory of her mother, Effie Rademaker. The PNC grant Mrs. Folkman won has arrived and the Monarch books for 2022 have arrived! We had enough to get 2 copies of each book on the list and some left over to buy copies of some of the books for giveaways/ raffles next year!

Folkman Donations

Emmeline Pankhurst by Lisbeth Kaiser in honor of Fletcher Coers

Muhammad Ali by Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara in honor of Maverick Matheny

Thanku: Poems of Gratitude edited by Miranda Paul in honor of Kristyn Taylor and John Metz

L.M. Montgomery by Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara in honor of Shay Lynne Designe

Class Act by Jerry Craft

Postcard Field Trip

This year through our books we have explored parts of the United States and the world. We have learned about scientists, agriculturalists, environmentalists, inventors, engineers, architects, musicians, athletes, and so much more. Next year we will continue this project and study countries of the world that we learned about in the Summer Olympics. We will learn about places, people, and cultures, and specific people who have helped change the world through history and the present: scientists, agriculturalists, etc as mentioned above. We will also use our Monarch and Bluestem books to help us explore the world.