

HARTSBURG-EMDEN CUSD NO. 21

JUNE 2024 NEWSLETTER



**SUMMER OFFICE HOURS BEGIN FRIDAY MAY 31ST
FROM 7:30AM-1:00PM**

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Cory Brown, Principal

Hello Hartem Families!

The school year is over and it went very quick. We have had a really great year and some great weather. Hopefully the students will get some time to get out and enjoy the outdoors before the school year starts back up in July

As part of my summer work this year, I'm hoping to add the ability to do electronic payments and online registration on teacherease. As soon as we think we are ready, we'll send out a notification to let you know that has been accomplished.

Just a few pieces of advice as the summer is getting underway. I say some of these things every year but I do because I personally and professionally believe that it is important for kids to be successful. As we get closer to the beginning of the school year, try to start getting students into the routine of getting up the time they would for school. This will help reset their circadian rhythms to the school year and prevent issues when school arrives.

I feel very strongly that some of the issues that we face as a society are correlated to a quiet epidemic called electronics addiction. School aged children are using a large amount of their free time on electronics with social media and video games. It is very important to monitor children's screen time and the types of activities they are doing on them. A new responsibility for parents in the 21st Century is to protect their children from the bad side of technology and the internet. I would suggest finding reputable research and suggestions on how to go about protecting your kids.

Hopefully everyone has a great and relaxing summer. We will be open most of the summer with the office being closed the week of July 4th. We look forward to welcoming Mr. Yurko and his leadership moving into the next year.

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

DEAN OF STUDENTS MESSAGE

Tanya Zerbonia, Dean of Students

Schools out for the Summer! Here's hoping everyone has a safe, relaxing and enjoyable summer.

I want to thank everyone in the Hartsburg - Emden Community for five great years. The students here have been wonderful and I appreciate the support of parents along the way. My decision to leave was not easy but I desired more free time than this job allows. I will miss the students and friends I have made along the way. Change is never easy. Some students have struggled with this change and I have promised that I will be around. Expect to see me at some games next year. Until then, help our students relax, slow down and enjoy the change of pace. Go STAGS!!!!

LIBRARY NEWS

Nichole Folkman, Librarian

Summer Reading

The importance of summer reading cannot be overstated. Summer reading is good for a student's enjoyment of reading, their reading stamina, fluency, comprehension, knowledge, and more. It helps students avoid the "summer slide" and allows them to continue to learn. **It is vital that you encourage your children to read and to support them in their reading choices.** Do they want to read magazines? Help them find ones they love. Do they want to read comics and graphic novels? Amazing! There are so many great ones out there! (And did you know that comics/ graphic novels actually require MORE work from the brain than reading just words on a page? There are also tons of great nonfiction graphic novels and comics!) Do they want to read a favorite series again? Perfect! Do you listen to audiobooks together in the car on your travels? Fantastic! Reading takes many forms and remember— **ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION IS FOR THEM TO SEE YOU READING, TOO!** (The same reading rules apply to you, too— read what you LOVE in whatever

format you love to read! Audiobooks, ebooks, comics, magazines, etc– it all counts!)

There are also lots of great subscription boxes out there that pair books with activities or little gifts to open alongside reading the books.

Summer Book “Swap”

Do you have books your kids (or you) have grown out of? Do you need to replenish your book supply? You can do BOTH or even just one or the other at the book “swap” this summer during the Emden Homecoming garage sales! If you want to donate books, please drop them off at the Emden Elementary School Gym on July 17 from 4-6PM or July 18 from 9-11AM. Books in good condition for all ages will be accepted.

“Shopping” for new books will be open July 20 from 8AM-3PM and July 21 from 8AM-noon. **You do not need to have donated books to take new books. ALL BOOKS ARE FREE.** Come and pick out whatever books you’d like for yourself, your kids, your grandkids, etc. All are welcome. (Monetary donations will be accepted– but not required! The money will be used to supplement the school library budget.)

Donations

Two boxes of books given by **Lee and Angela Reiners** in memory of **Ruth and Cleo Reiners** who had ten kids who are alumni of the Hartem schools. For 47 years there was at least one Reiners child in school!

Instructions Not Included- in honor of Spencer Davis’ journalistic accomplishments in 2024

Nature’s Treasures- in honor of the marriage of Patti and Thomas Schonauer

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Elizabeth Hilgert, Student Coordinator/Guidance Counselor

Summer is finally here, and it is time to make the most of it! We all know how easy it can be for our children’s brains to slip into hibernation mode during the summer break. Rest assured, with a little guidance and encouragement, we can ensure that they stay sharp and ready to tackle the new school year head-on. After all, learning does not take a vacation! This summer, let’s encourage students to explore new hobbies, dive into captivating books, and build on the knowledge they gained during the school year. Here

are some suggestions to make the most of the summer break:

- **Keep a Journal:** Encourage your child to keep a journal to document their summer adventures and create lasting memories.
- **Limit Screen Time:** Put the screens away and encourage them to read, read, read! Whether it is fiction, non-fiction, mysteries, or poetry, reading is a fantastic way to keep the mind engaged.
- **Stay Active:** Summer is the perfect time to get outdoors and get moving. Encourage your child to stay active by going for walks, bike rides, or participating in sports activities.
- **College Visits:** All incoming juniors and seniors in high school, should consider making college visits a priority. This is an excellent opportunity for them to explore potential schools and finalize their college applications.
- **Get Creative:** Encourage students to explore their creative side through art, music, or baking. Whether it is painting, playing an instrument, writing songs, or experimenting in the kitchen, creativity knows no bounds!
- **Develop Responsibility:** Help your child build responsible behavior by taking on a part-time job, completing outdoor projects like gardening, or volunteering for community service. These activities not only keep them busy but also teach valuable life skills.
- **Explore Local Attractions:** Make summer outings fun by exploring local museums, historical sites, and zoos. These adventures not only provide entertainment but also offer valuable learning experiences.

Remember, it does not matter what activities your child chooses to pursue this summer, as long as they stay active and engaged. Let’s work together to keep our children’s brains from hibernating and make this summer one to remember!

HARTEM ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Ron Spencer, Athletic Director

Reminder to all parents of athletes interested in going out for a sport during the 2024-2025 school year to please get your physical updated this summer or before your season begins. An updated physical will need to be on file in the school office to participate. Jr. high baseball and softball players/parents, please pay attention to the school social media sites, local online 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. Jr. high softball can start practice on 7/29/24 and jr. high baseball can start on 8/5/24. Most of our fall high school sports/co-ops can start practice on 8/12/24. Go Stags!



HARTEM FFA

Sara Barton

Hartem FFA had a busy month of May! On Friday, May 3rd the Hartem FFA hosted an "Ag Day" for the whole district! Students interacted with animals at the petting zoo, learned about tractor safety, and created a craft. We hosted our annual Chapter Banquet on Wednesday, May 1st where FFA members were congratulated on all of their accomplishments for the year. Coming up in the month of June we will be volunteering at the annual Hartem Alumni Banquet on June 8th and we will also be attending Illinois State FFA Convention in Springfield on June 11th-13th.

Hartem PE

Shane Westen, PE teacher

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We're thrilled to continue fostering a culture of health and active participation in our Physical Education program.

Starting this year, students must wear the Hartem Physical Education Shirt, black shorts, and clean gym shoes for PE classes. Older Hartem PE shirts are acceptable.

We'll prioritize outdoor activities whenever possible and solid color gray or black long sleeve/ long pants activewear for cooler weather is an acceptable addition to the uniform.

Please note that Crocs, Dudes, or sandals are not adequate footwear.

For those in need of new PE shirts, we will be facilitating the ordering process during registration.

Thank you for your support!

Spanish

Kent Hieronymus

A big change for the incoming Freshmen is that the state of Illinois is requiring all Freshmen to take two years of a world language. Here at Hartem that language is Spanish. All students must pass their Spanish classes in order to graduate. That makes for two good size Spanish 1 classes next year and then a large Spanish 2 class their second year.

Mr. Hieronymus is a very experienced Spanish teacher with an excellent national rating as an Advanced Placement grader of the national AP Spanish exam. Mr. Hieronymus received a M.A. in Spanish and French at Illinois State University. This will be his sixth year at Hartem after a good career at Olympia High School. He really enjoys his classes at Hartem and is looking forward to next year.

Hartem Lincoln Chess Coop

Kent Hieronymus

The Hartem and Lincoln Chess Coop was a very big success this year. The two schools blended together to make a competitive team. We had 17 students in total on the team. We should have a larger and competitive team next year. Hartem will have six freshmen who have experience in Jr. High Chess. Lincoln will have another five or six freshmen to round out the team.

From last year's team we will have three seniors returning, two juniors, five sophomores and the incoming freshmen. We may have more players join to give chess a try. There usually are a few new players every year.

Next year will be the third year of the Mid Central Illinois Chess League. The teams are: Hartem-Lincoln, Greenview, Franklin, Notre Dame LaSalette, Moline, Olympia, and AC Central. We will probably add at least one school out of the following schools: Petersburg Porta, Cornerstone Academy, and Christian Life Academy.

JUNE 2024

<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 FFA-Volunteer @ Hartem Alumni Association 6:00
9	10	11 Illinois State FFA Convention @ 11:00am	12 Illinois State FFA Convention @ 11:00am	13 Illinois State FFA Convention @ 11:00am	14	15 Hartsburg Founder's Day Celebration
16	17	18	19 Office Closed	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

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