

HARTSBURG-EMDEN CUSD NO. 21

MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Terry Wisniewski, Superintendent

As I look back on closing out almost a decade at Hartsburg-Emden School District (closing out my 9th year – and look forward to my 10th). I recall State Testing changes. In 2010 we had the ISAT and about 87% of students in the State were considered to be performing at Grade Level. The State felt that was too high of a number. So, they simply raised the cutoff scores to a level where only about 33% of students would now be considered at Grade Level. This was done to prepare schools for the new “Common Core Standards” and PARCC test. This new test was to be more comparable to what other industrialized counties were doing for Grade Level results. About 33% of all Seniors would go onto a university and are successful freshman year. There was a feeling that should be somewhere around the Grade Level for all students (again, what many other counties have done). The PARCC test was also to be an online assessment that would give schools with quicker results (not the 6 months later results) that would help schools fill some possible holes. Then the writers of the test and the programmers of the PARCC test had a falling out. Now we have the IAR (Illinois Assessment of Readiness) and we are still waiting 6 months for the results. High Schools have switched from using the ACT to using the SAT. The whole thing can be very frustrating. One can lose perspective quickly when the emphasis is all about the test, especially when there have been so many changes. Yes, the test remains important and I want our students take the testing seriously and demonstrate what they know. That is the big value for us. As a district, we do look at the data to help determine some (not all) of our students’ needs. It gives us a piece of data, as to the big picture. The last several years, Hartsburg-Emden students have been performing quite well when compared to State averages and other area schools, especially with our K-8 literacy component. Math has taken quite a jump over the last few years as well in that comparison. Again, for me, those comparisons are a big value of the testing. That is why I ask that you please continue to encourage our students to do their very best on the State testing.

Hartsburg-Emden CUSD #21 values providing the highest-quality education for our students, and we are always looking for ways to improve. It is nice to say, our scores have been good for several years now. But we do not want to just be satisfied being above the State average or better than many other area schools with our overall State scores, we want to raise individuals who will continue on growing and developing after they leave Hartsburg-Emden. We want our students reaching their very best. One of the most important items in someone achieving their goals in life is to learn to monitor their mindset and its impact on performance, relationships and everyone around them. Helen Keller once said, “Life is a daring adventure or nothing at all”. A positive attitude and continual growth mindset governs the way students perceive the world and the way the world perceives them. Students who realize their mindset (or attitude) choose to respond to challenges or failure in a positive and productive way. People with the fixed mindset look at failure as a quitting point, assuming they have reached their potential, which is often not the case. To me, there is nothing more frustrating than to see someone ‘give up’ when faced with a challenge or failure. It truly is such a waste of (what I know to be) their potential. However, it is very difficult to convince students that their biggest constraint is their own attitude or mindset. This goes for athletics as well as academics. So, we continue to keep stressing that to them. “Believe you can and you’re halfway there.” – Theodore Roosevelt.

We need to continue to pay very close attention to what is happening in Springfield as we have already begun changes school policy and rules to become compliant with new State Law. We remain hopeful that politicians in Springfield will make the right decisions for our State and school age children. Regardless, as a district, we can assure you that we will continue to strive to do what is best for the students of Hartsburg-Emden. We will work to meet State requirements while doing what is best for all kids, allowing them to reach their full potential.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Jon Leslie, Principal

The end of our third quarter is quickly approaching which signifies the beginning of the end of year activities. Hopefully the weather breaks and we stay away from the winter pattern.

During next month, our students will begin to take the Illinois Assessment of Readiness Tests. This will be the second year for these state mandated exams that took the place of the PARCC exams. The testing period will last approximately 3-4 weeks. I would just like to remind parents that the IAR Tests are for students in grades 3-8. Students will be tested on their proficiency in Reading and Mathematics. I ask you to encourage your child(ren) to take full advantage of this opportunity to demonstrate all they have learned. We want all of our students to do their best! Our high school students in grades 9-11 will take part in either the PSAT or SAT during the month of April. Information will come home to families. Testing can be a stressful time for students. On test days, make sure they get a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast. The teachers have spent a lot of time preparing them for the tests this year and really want them to do their best. The teachers have a lot of confidence in our students and are hoping for positive results.

February was a very busy month here at Hartem. Our Junior High School Basketball Teams had successful seasons. Our 7th graders won the sectional and competed at State and our 8th graders were regional champions. I would like to thank and congratulate our coaches, all of the players, and all of the cheerleaders for a great season. Our Jr. High Volleyball team will be beginning the State Series soon. Good luck to them in the post season. Our High School Scholastic Bowl Team has been competing this past month along with our Jr. High Scholastic Bowl Team. The FFA added even more excitement to our month of February by celebrating National FFA week the last week of February. Finally, I would like to thank Ms. Blackwell, our Choir, and our Pep Band. They have performed at several of our Varsity Basketball Games this year and have done a nice job.

As our Principal, it is always great to look into the stands and see all of the fan support that we have for our young men and women competing. I encourage all of you to attend as many activities as you can.

As always, please continue to represent Hartem in a positive way.

HARTEM FFA

Sara Barton, Ag Teacher and FFA Advisor

The Hartem FFA Chapter had a fun February! On February 7th and 8th, two Hartem FFA members attended the 212 Conference in Decatur where they developed leadership skills and networked with other FFA members from around the state. The Hartem FFA also celebrated National FFA Week at the end of February, where students participated in dress up days, played agriculturally-relevant games, and attended an assembly at the end of the week.

Upcoming Events:

March 6th - Women Changing the Face of Agriculture Conference in Decatur

March 11th - Parliamentary Procedure Contest

March 13th - Livestock Judging Contest

March 28th - Dairy Judging Contest

If you ordered strawberries, the tentative delivery date will be the first full week of March. You will be contacted for more information if you have ordered strawberries. Please try to check on the Hartem website, our Hartem FFA Facebook page, or contact Ms. Barton for information on the delivery date (sbarton@hartem.org).

MARCH BREAKFAST/LUNCH PRICES

21 Student Breakfasts	@\$2.00	\$42.00
21 Reduced Student Breakfasts	@\$0.30	\$6.30
20 Student Lunches	@\$2.75	\$55.00
20 Reduced Student Lunches	@\$0.40	\$8.00

Students at Hartsburg will need to pay for seconds. Entrées are \$.90, vegetable/fruit are \$.50 and milk is \$.40. Seconds need to be paid for at the time they are served. Adult lunches purchased are \$3.25.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

PLEASE keep saving Box Tops and send them into either school office **BEFORE** they expire! Every unexpired box top sent in will benefit our school!!!!



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GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Amanda Feltes, K-12 Counselor

This time of year is always busy at the school as students are selecting classes for the next school year and preparing for state testing. By now, students should have submitted to me their course selections for the 2020-2021 school year. If your child has not yet brought this form home for you to sign, please remind them to complete it. There will be a few new classes offered next year. In the science department, Chemistry II, Environmental Science, and Forensic Science will be added to the rotation as year-long classes. In addition, Mythology will be offered next year as an English elective. Mythology will be a one semester course. You can view the course descriptions for each course in the 20-21 Curriculum Guide at hartemcounseling.weebly.com/course-selection. If students are interested in taking any of these courses but did not list them on their preference forms, please contact me.

There will be a **Freshman Orientation** held on Thursday, March 26th 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 2020-2021 classes during this meeting. We will also cover an overview of required courses for graduation, grading scales, and highlights of elective offerings.

March also marks the start of testing season for schools. Testing for the **Illinois Assessment of Readiness** (formerly PARCC) will begin on March 11th. Students in 3rd-8th grade will be participating in IAR testing. Additionally, students in 5th grade, 8th grade, and 11th grade will take the **Illinois Science Assessment** during the week of Mar 23-27. Students in 11th grade will also be required to take the **SAT** on April 14th. This will be administered off-site again this year at the Hartsburg Legion. Please keep an eye out for more information about the test day. Illinois has mandated that all students in 9th and 10th grade must take the PSAT on April 15th or 16th. Freshman will take the **PSAT 8/9** on April 16th and sophomores will take the **PSAT 10** on April 15th. Students can prepare for the PSAT and/or SAT by accessing practice materials at www.collegeboard.org or <https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>. If you have any questions about any of the mandatory standardized tests, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Testing for the State tests are important for your student's success. Because of this, testing can be very stressful. Here are some ways you can help minimize stress and maximize their performance throughout the testing process:

- DO make sure your child completes homework assignments and class projects. Because tests reflect overall achievement, the more effort your child puts into learning, the more likely he/she will do well on tests.
- DO make sure your child gets a good night's sleep, eats a healthy breakfast, and gets to school on time on the morning of the test.
- DO encourage your child to think positive thoughts about their performance on the test. For example, "I am going to ace this test!"
- DO support your child. Praise him/her for what he/she does well. When students feel good about themselves, they will do their best.

Finally, seniors are reminded to check the counseling webpage weekly as many new scholarship applications continue to arrive! Several local scholarships set deadlines during the spring semester. Don't miss out on an opportunity to gain some financial assistance for college. As always, if you have any questions regarding scheduling, grades, or graduation requirements, please see your counselor. Best of luck in this final stretch of the year!

JH TRACK & FIELD

Junior High Track and Field season is fast approaching! We will be having our parent meeting at 4:00 on Monday, March 9 in the high school cafeteria. It will be a brief meeting to discuss the season schedule and expectations. Any parent with a student interested in participating is asked to attend this meeting. We look forward to seeing you there!



HARTSBURG-EMDEN ALUMNI BANQUET

The 93rd Annual Alumni Banquet of Hartsburg-Emden High School will begin at 6:30 pm on June 13, 2020, at the Emden Community House in Emden, Illinois. Invitations to the banquet will be sent out in early May. Anyone who did not receive an invitation but would like to attend the banquet may send a request via email to Ginnifer (Sparks) Smith at ginnifer.smith@gmail.com.

Anniversary classes being honored this year include: 1935, 1940, 1945, 1950, 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015 and the Senior Class of 2020. If you are a member of one of these classes and want to insure you are on the mailing list, please email your address to Ginnifer (Sparks) Smith at ginnifer.smith@gmail.com. All HARTEM graduates are welcome to attend. The Alumni Committee will be researching addresses with the help of members from each anniversary class.

The winner of the "Wall of Fame" award will be selected and announced at the banquet. This year's award will be represented in the category of "Service to the District." Please mail nomination letters to Ginnifer (Sparks) Smith at 252 W. 2nd Street, El Paso, IL 61738 or email to ginnifer.smith@gmail.com.

Officers of the 2020 Alumni Association are Ginnifer Sparks Smith ('00), President; Ron Spencer ('89), Vice-President; Greg Phillips ('89), Treasurer; Carole Metz Knipp ('62), Jillyn Cross Thornton ('08), Corresponding Secretaries; Amy Luken Leesman ('00), Recording Secretary.

ORANGE CRUSH MINI VOLLEYBALL

Practices will start the week of March 24th – 28th. Schedules will be coming out soon. If you have not turned in your registration forms, please contact Coach Hayes.



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Matthew Stoltzenburg, Athletic Director

The first month of 2020 has seen a lot of basketball and the start of volleyball.

The 7th grade team recently finished 2nd in the Logan County Tournament. Both junior high basketball teams will begin regionals at the end of January / start of February. Coach Whitted and Coach Cross are looking for a solid postseason run.

The high school basketball teams are in the second half of their seasons. The boys will have home games on Feb 4, 11, and their Senior Night on the 21st against Heyworth. Coach Wright and the varsity team will then start regionals on February 24th. Coach Wolpert and the fr/so team will be in our 68th Annual Frosh Tourney starting on February 29th.

The junior high volleyball teams have begun their season and hope to continue their success in the month of February. They will have home matches on February 6, 8, 18 (from the 17th), and their eighth grade night on the 27th against Olympia.

Good luck to all our coaches and players. Hopefully all our fans will try to get out and support their hard work. A big thanks to all those who donated to Junior Aper's fund and the family. New helmets have been purchased and more improvements are on the way.

CARDBOARD RECYCLING

Cardboard has reached a low. It now is costing the school around \$10.00 each time we take the trailer to be emptied. When Cardboard was at it high, we made around \$40.00 per trailer. The sole purpose of recycling cardboard was not just to make money for the FFA. Recycling helps reduce waste. We would have continued to do it, even if we made no money. However, it is hard to justify it when you have to pay them to take it. Therefore, we are discontinuing our cardboard recycling at this point. The trailer has a lock and a note on the back of it. We appreciate everyone using our service. There is an anticipation that the cost will go back up this summer. If that happens, we would be happy to resume our service.

EMDEN ELEMENTARY'S 100 DAY COLLECTION

We are a small district with big hearts!!

Day 100 is a big celebration for our elementary school. Our students dress-up like they are 100 years old. They have a 100 day activity assembly where the children build a 100 cup tower, make a picture with 100 pattern blocks, make a 100 domino design, build with 100 Legos and a few other 100 day activities. This year, we wanted to make 100 Day more about how we can help others and teach our children about giving back. We decided to set a goal of collecting 100 items to those in need. I contacted Patti Becker of the Logan County United Way and asked how we could help families in Logan County. Pattie then contacted non-profit organizations around the Lincoln area and they responded with the items they needed the most. After getting the word out to our families, the donations started coming in.

Emden Elementary School and Hartsburg-Emden Senior Beta Club donated items, and our teachers, students, and parents went well above that goal! Some of the items donated were much-needed items such as diapers, hats, gloves, socks, toiletry items, and school supplies.

The items were distributed to the Salvation Army for the Army Veterans living there (or for use in the future), Christian Child Care to be used by the children there and Fostering Grace, which provides items for kids newly placed in Foster Care in Logan County, the Pregnancy Resources Center to be used by new moms and families, and to Community Action Partnership of Central Illinois where they will use many of the items in their food pantry or shop where they raise money.

A big thank you to our teachers, students, and their parents for all of their donations. We have a wonderful community here at Hartsburg-Emden!



FAMILY READING NIGHT

Hartsburg-Emden do you like to read and take a safari through the jungle? Come explore with us at Family Reading Night 2020!

We are excited to announce Family Reading Night for 2020. We are set to roar into reading on Thursday, March 19, 2020 from 6:00 – 8:00 at Emden Elementary. We will be on safari during a reading time with family. Bring your favorite books, stuffed animal, and blanket to enjoy some family reading time. We will be sharing a healthy jungle snack. We will have some other tree swinging activities too.

There will be a jeep ride through the book fair for you to purchase some great new books for the kids. There will also be a Teen/Adult book swap happening for any of our older guests that want to look at swapping a few books they are done with for a few new titles to read. If anyone has books that they would like to donate to the Teen/Adult book swap, please drop books off at the grade school by Wednesday, March 18, 2020.

Come share your love of Reading and the animals of the jungle with us on Family Reading Night 2020!



LIBRARY NEWS

It's Book Fair time! Check the calendar for dates and times. And did you know you can shop online? If you can't be there or if you're a relative who lives far away, you can buy books online (check www.hartem.org or our social media for the link) and the books will be shipped (for free!) to the school.

Non-fiction books are what's new this month in the library. Thanks to earlier donations, we were able to buy some new animal books, a lot of the Who Was/ Is books (i.e. Who was Frida Kahlo, Who Was Jesse Owens, and many more) as well as some of the non-fiction companions to the well-loved Magic Treehouse series. We also had a Donors Choose project funded for a few dozen picture book biographies about scientists, inventors, activists, politicians, artists, and more.

Did you know that Jeopardy champion James Holzhauer used children's non-fiction books to study for his appearances on Jeopardy? There are so many amazing books out there. Take some time to sit down with your child and read together, even if they can read on their own. Read with them, talk with them, let them see you reading.

Please check at home to see if you have any library books. Many books at both buildings are outstanding.

Donation:

Abraham Lincoln by Caroline Crosson Gilpin donated by Lincoln Woman's Club Arts Committee

March

2020

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1	2 No School HSBK-Host Fresh/Soph Tourn 6:00 JHVB-7A Reg. TBA	3 HSBK-1A Sect. TBA JHVB-7A Reg. TBA	4 HSBK-1A Sect. TBA JHVB-7A Reg. TBA	5 HSBK-Host Fresh/Soph Tourn 6:00 JHVB-7A Reg. TBA	6 <i>Qtr 3 Report Cards</i> HSBK-1A Sect. TBA FFA-Women Changing the Face of Ag 7:15am JH Sch Bowl @ Zion Lutheran 4:00	7 HSBK-Host Fresh/Soph Tourn 9:00 JHVB-8A Reg. TBA
8	9 JHVB-7A Sect. TBA JH Track Parent Meeting @ HS Cafeteria 4:00	10 HSBK-1A Supersect. TBA JHVB- Host 8A Reg. TBA JH Sch Bowl @ WLB 4:00	11 JHVB-Host 8A Reg. TBA FFA-Parliamentary Procedure@ MP 3:50 JH Sch Bowl @ CEL 4:00	12 JHVB-Host 8A Reg. TBA	13 HSBK-1A State TBA FFA-Livestock Judging @ Chandlerville 7:30am JHVB-7A State TBA	14 HSBK-1A State TBA JHVB-7A State TBA
15	16 <i>Board Mtg 7:00</i> JHVB-8A Sect. TBA HSBB @ Roanoke- Benson 4:30	17 Beta Club Induction Ceremony @ HS Café 5:30	18 Sr. Beta Club Blood Drive @ HS Gym 9:00-2:00	19 JH Sch Bowl @ WLB 4:00 Family Reading Night @ GS 6:00	20 <i>Sr. Trip</i> JHVB-8A State TBA 4 th Grade Grit Expo Field Trip 8:30-11:00	21 <i>Sr. Trip</i> JHVB-8A State TBA
22 <i>Sr. Trip</i>	23 HSBB vs Midland 4:30	24 11:30 Dismissal SIP Day Logan County Music Festival-Host 7:00	25 JH Sch Bowl @ Greenview 4:00	26 Spring Pictures @ GS 9:00 Preschool Screenings @ GS 2:00-7:00 HSBB vs Dee-Mack 4:30 Freshmen Orientation @ HS Comp Lab 6:00	27 HSBB @ Lewistown 4:30	28
29	30 JH Sch Bowl @ PORTA 5:00	31 Winter Sports Awards @ HS Gym 6:00				

March 2020

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 Breakfast Menu	2 No School	3 Pancakes Cherry star juice Apple juice	4 Warm breakfast bar *NEW* Applesauce Apple juice	5 Scrambled eggs Toast Pears Apple juice	6 Chicken slider on biscuit Mixed fruit Apple juice	7
8	9 Bagel Cream cheese Apricots Orange juice	10 English muffin w/ Egg patty Applesauce Orange juice	11 Sausage patty Toast Apricots Orange juice	12 Assorted cereal Pineapple Orange juice	13 Sausage gravy w/biscuit Pineapple Orange juice	14
15	16 Nutri-grain bar Toast Peaches Apple juice	17 Pancake & sausage On a stick Mixed fruit Apple juice	18 Breakfast pizza Pineapple Apple juice	19 Fruit frudel Cheese stick Pears Apple juice	20 Breakfast burrito Peaches Apple juice	21
22	23 Peanut butter & Jelly jamwich Applesauce Orange juice	24 Cook's Choice	25 French toast Mandarin oranges Orange juice	26 Frittata Toast Peaches Orange juice	27 Waffles Applesauce Orange juice	28
29	30 Pop tart Toast Pineapple Apple juice	31 Assorted muffins Mixed fruit Apple juice				

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

March 2020

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 Lunch Menu	2 No School	3 Corn dog Soft pretzel w/cheese Mixed vegetables Applesauce	4 Beef nacho supreme Lettuce/tomatoes Corn Jello Pears	5 Country fried steak Mashed potatoes w/gravy Green beans Mixed fruit	6 Deli sub sandwich Cottage cheese Baked beans Apricots	7
8	9 Crispito w/cheese sauce Cooked carrots Bread Applesauce Graham cracker	10 Hot dog on bun Fresh veggies w/dip Hard pretzels Apricots	11 Spaghetti w/meat sauce French bread Green beans Pineapple	12 Chicken nuggets Macaroni & cheese Peas Mandarin oranges	13 Pork tenderloin on bun Tomato/onion slices Corn Peaches	14
15	16 Cheesy breadsticks Marinara sauce Peas Lettuce salad Mixed fruit	17 Sloppy joe on bun French fries Pineapple Mixed vegetables	18 Chicken fajita Refried beans Tortilla chips Corn Pears	19 Chili mac Green beans Bread Peaches	20 Pizza Lettuce salad Carrot sticks Applesauce	21
22	23 Hamburger on bun Potato smiles Cooked carrots Mandarin oranges	24 11:30 Dismissal SIP Day	25 Chicken patty on bun Broccoli Peaches Cake	26 Walking taco w/Doritos Corn Shredded cheese Applesauce	27 Assorted sandwiches Peas Sun chips Mixed fruit	28
29	30 Quesadilla pizza w/salsa Corn Lettuce salad Pineapple	31 Chili w/crackers Carrot & celery sticks Pears Cinnamon roll				

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.

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

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POSTAL CUSTOMER

Set up an eWallet for your student!



No cash on hand the day of your Scholastic Book Fair? No worries – our school offers Book Fair eWallet as a digital payment option.

Simply set up a free account and have funds immediately available for your student to shop the Book Fair. Safe and secure – it's easy shopping with Book Fair eWallet.

How it works:



To get started, visit our school's Book Fair homepage:
[INSERT URL HERE]

