

HARTSBURG-EMDEN CUSD NO. 21

MARCH 2023 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Terry Wisniewski, Superintendent

The year 2022-2023 has been challenging on many fronts. The ongoing political vitriol across the nation has been exhausting and troubling, as trust in our political system seems to be eroding. Several societal factors with people of strong opinions about them are debated (often not in a very positive way). As I reflect on the last three (3) years (through the COVID-19 pandemic, the fallout of it, societal turmoil, and the loss of three students) being part of the Hartsburg-Emden School District and the community it serves has been a personally and professionally affirming experience. As I look at what we have done, more than ever, I am thankful for who we are and what we represent (that has not changed). We have a diverse and incredibly talented community of faculty, staff, and students who share a commitment to promote academic and inclusive excellence in all aspects of everything we do. There were many difficult days and many frustrating experiences (some of the greatest challenges in my 28+ years as an educator), but we are fortunate to have such exceptional educators, leaders, students, and people in our community who are connected to the Hartsburg-Emden School District.

I do feel I am fortunate to be the Superintendent and thank all of you for supporting our faculty, staff, and students as we continue to live out our mission to “provides an empowering and collaborative environment allowing students to reach their full potential.” If we simply concentrate on the tasks-at-hand, without worrying about the obstacles, we gain control over the situation. Many challenges seem enormous and harsh, but if we remain centered and full of awareness of our school and community, I firmly believe, we will continue to raise students who are successful and caring community members. I have to admit, I often struggle from time-to-time, with challenges faced in the last 3 years. I think we all have. Having faith, family, and friends (what I call the 3 Fs), is key to getting through it. Hartsburg-Emden C.U.S.D. #21 may not be perfect, but we face our challenges head-on together to move past them and improve. We work every day to meet our goals and we continually improve.

Hartsburg-Emden has earned a reputation for academic excellence, opportunities for students to participate in almost any extracurricular-activity (we need most of them to do so), and being a caring environment. Beyond the classroom, we provide for all students. As an educational leader, I value the educational process

(in and out of the classroom), and I have been committed to building upon our current practices to ensure that all students have opportunities to explore their interests and see what excites their passions. I will always seek opportunities to advance the work of the school district. I have always believed that I am a ‘servant leader’ who is empowered by the District to do what is best for our students. Again, after almost 12 years in the District, I still am amazed as I watched our students, families, and employees pivot when needed and continue to persevere. I have repeatedly seen there is nothing we cannot accomplish when we work together. In addition, there are a number of indicators on the Illinois Report Card, which show continued growth within a number of areas. Half our students in Grades 3-8 that took the State Assessment (Illinois Assessment for Readiness, IAR) learned from a first-year teacher (in addition to having a first-year principal), we continued to show growth during a time of challenge (we didn’t miss a beat). It cannot be stressed enough that the district’s successes could not be achieved without the diligence and effectiveness of the staff. Regardless of the reader’s opinion of the nature of the Illinois Report Card or the data held within (as it is really a one day snapshot of everything we do), Hartsburg-Emden has shown meaningful growth during a period of significant challenges and that could not have been achieved without the hard work and leadership of the district’s employees, as well as the hard work of our students.

In conclusion, Spring begins on March 20th. I look forward to some nice days and being outside again.

Until next month . . . Go Stags!!

ORANGE CRUSH-MINI VOLLEYBALL

Practices will start the week of March 20th – 24th. Schedules will be coming out soon. If you have not turned in your registration forms, please contact Coach Hayes!!!



JUNIOR HIGH BASKETBALL PLAYER/PARENT MEETING

We will have a player/parent meeting after the winter awards banquet on March 21st for all current 4th-7th graders interested in playing Jr. High Basketball next school year. This meeting will cover our summer basketball schedule. We will meet in the cafeteria at the conclusion of the banquet.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Cory Brown, Principal

Hello Hartem Families!

February was a pretty mild winter month. I don't think I'm ready to call Winter over quite yet though. March is always a crazy month for extreme weather. We can have 60's one day and winter storms the next day. We will keep an eye to the sky in the hopes that we don't have any large amounts of snow or ice.

The High School boys basketball season has come to an end but they have a lot of accomplishments to be proud of. Chess didn't make it State this year but they, too, have many things to be proud of. Junior High Basketball also ended their season this month and showed some improvements this year. Good luck and thank you to all the seniors and 8th grade students that will be moving on to their next chapter. Junior High Volleyball is ready for the post season and looking to make a deep run in the State Series. Baseball is just around the corner. Coach McAfee and team are looking forward to getting outside and start swinging the bats. The Baseball home opener is March 24th. Softball is looking forward to restarting the spring as well. Coach Awe and the team are ready to get started. Softball home opener is March 20th.

For the month of March, the Students of the Month were Abby Newlun and Ashlyn Duvall. Both students were nominated and voted for by the Jr/Sr High Teachers. This is what some teachers had to say about each of them. "Abby is a conscientious student who is always going the extra mile to learn more about topics we are discussing in class." Here is what a teacher had to say about Ashlyn. "She is involved in a lot of different activities here, including yearbook and CEO. Gets her work done in time and is responsible." Congratulations to both students!

Here are some dates of interest for March. March 1st will be a 2:00 dismissal for all students. March 15th is the Beta Club Induction Ceremony. March 22nd is the Preschool Screening. Spring Break will start the first week of April. We look forward to seeing everyone at our events and hope this finds you well. It will be nice to get a lot of daylight back this month. We will get back about 3 minutes a day all month. We look forward to our outside events and hope the weather cooperates to see everyone. If

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

LIBRARY NEWS

Nichole Folkman, Librarian

Book Fair

Please join us for the Book Fair at the grade school from Mar. 6-10. Students and the community can shop each day during drop-off and pick-up times and also on Wednesday, Mar. 8 during Family Reading Night. Don't want to send cash with your student? You can set up an eWallet on the Scholastic website. This acts like a gift card for them to use at the Book Fair. You can share it with family and have them contribute as well. Any unused money on the eWallet can be used at the next book fair next fall or online through the Scholastic website.

Readers Choice

Students have been avidly reading the Monarch, Bluestem, Rebecca Caudill, and Lincoln books for the 2023 list. We will be voting by the middle of this month to share our votes with the votes from other students across the state. We can't wait to hear which books win! By the time this newsletter is out, the 2024 lists will all be public and we will start stocking the school libraries with the new titles and reading and sharing those books. The 2024 Lincoln Award list is especially special this year since our very own **Cloe O'Donogue** was a teen reading panelist to help create the list. Cloe was selected from dozens of teens across the state who applied. She read 10 books from the list of 75 and spent a whole day in an online meeting helping select the final list of 20 along with other teens as well as librarians and teachers from across the state. Another special note on the Reader Choice lists, this summer I [Mrs. Folkman] was appointed the Co-Chair of Readers Choice for the state of Illinois. Recently, my co-chair resigned and by the time this newsletter comes out, I will officially be the Chair of Readers Choice for Illinois, managing the Monarch, Bluestem, and Lincoln for the whole state.

Pre-order the 2023 yearbook now!

Please contact Mrs. Folkman to pre-order the 2023 yearbook! The price is \$35 for March, then it will go up to \$40 for April and May, finally landing on the final price of \$45 once summer break hits. Get the best price now!

If you're looking for the 2022 yearbook or anything older, email Mrs. Folkman at nfolkman@hartem.org She will check to see if we have it in stock.

CONGRATULATIONS STUDENTS OF THE MONTH!



EUCHRE TOURNAMENT NIGHT

The Class of 2026 is hosting a Euchre Tournery FUNDRAISER at the Emden Community House on Saturday, April 22nd with a 6:00pm start time. Doors open at 5:30pm. Cost is \$25 a person. Players can sign up as singles or in pairs. Need a babysitter? The freshman students (along with some freshman parents) are having a Parent's Night Out at the Emden Grade at the same time – so you can drop your kiddos off at the Grade School and head over to the Community House for a fun night of Euchre! Save the date! Registration date is Friday April 7th. Any Questions?!?!
Email: jrobinson@hartem.org or jhayes@hartem.org

BREAKFAST/LUNCH PRICES FOR MARCH

Student Breakfast \$46.00
Student Reduced Breakfast \$6.90
Student Lunch \$65.55
Student Reduced Lunch \$9.20
Students at Hartsburg-Emden Jr./Sr. High School will need to pay for seconds. Entrées are \$.90, vegetable/fruit/chips are \$.50, Italian Ice are \$.75 and milk is \$.40.

FFA NEWS

Sara Barton, FFA Advisor

This February Hartem FFA held their annual strawberry sale, made Valentines Day cards for Emden elementary, and participated in National FFA Week with dress up days, lunch time activities, and an assembly. Thank you to all who purchased strawberries!

Upcoming dates for March:

*Poultry CDE at A-C Central - March 1st

*Public Speaking CDE at New Berlin - March 15th

*Dairy Judging CDE - March 18th

*Agorama at Franklin - March 30th

HARTEM ALUMNI BANQUET

The 94th Annual Hartsburg-Emden High School Alumni Banquet will begin at 6:30pm on June 10, 2023. This year the banquet will be held at the Community House in Emden, Illinois. The banquet will be catered by the Stag-R-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 you may call/text him at 309-838-0360.

Anniversary classes being honored this year include: 1943, 1948, 1953, 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008, 2013, 2018 and the Senior Class of 2023. Any HARTEM Alumni is welcome to join us!

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 Athletics. Please mail nomination letters to Ron Spencer, 8923 Blooming Grove Road, Bloomington, IL 61705.

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Elizabeth Hilgert, Student Coordinator/Guidance Counselor

Time is flying and it is hard to believe we will be entering the last quarter of the school year this month. Scheduling for the upcoming year will be happening in the very near future. It is time to start thinking about what classes you are interested in for the 2023- 2024 school year.

There will be a Freshman Orientation held on Thursday, April 13th 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 2023-2024 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 will begin in March. Students in 3rd – 8th grade will be participating in IAR testing. Grades 3-5th will begin the IAR the week of March 13th and grades 6th-8th will begin the week of March 20th.

Additionally, students in 5th grade, 8th grade, and 11th grade will take the Illinois Science Assessment. The juniors will take the ISA (Illinois Science Assessment) on March 30th and the 5th and 8th graders will take it on April 13th. Students in 11th grade will also be required to take the SAT on April 12th. 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 take the PSAT. Freshman will take the PSAT 8/9 on April 20th and sophomores will take the PSAT 10 on April 19th. Students can prepare for the PSAT and/or SAT by accessing practice materials at <https://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 is 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.

23-24 DUAL-CREDIT COURSES

Are you interested in taking college classes while still in high school? Dual credit is an opportunity for students in grades 11th – 12th 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: **ENGL 101:**

Critical Reading and Writing, ENGL 102: Multimodal Composition and SCED 105: Life Success.

Qualifications:

If you are interested in taking a Dual Credit course next year (AY 23-24), you MUST complete a Heartland application by **April 1st** and ACCUPLACER Assessment (or submit a qualifying score) by **April 30th** 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. H for details. Please note: There is a \$200 registration fee for each dual credit class.

HARTEM ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Matthew Stoltzenburg, Athletic Director

March Madness is here, which means lots of basketball and hopefully some spring weather. Coach Neaville, Coach Sherwood, and the boys finished their varsity season in the regional at the end of February. The coaches and the boys worked hard during the long season and fought until the end. The 70th Annual Hartsburg-Emden Fresh/Soph Tournament will be on February 25 + 27, March 2 + 4.

Coach Hayes and the girls will also be participating in postseason play. The 7th grade regional is the first week of March and the 8th grade regional will be the second week. We will host the both regionals on and the 7th grade sectional.

I know it's hard to believe, but the spring sports are beginning their seasons. Coach McAfee and the high school baseball boys can begin practice on February 27th and have their first home game on March 17 against Edinburg. We also have our high school softball team back after many years co-oping with Delavan. Steve Awe will lead our girls and their first home game is on March 20.

The junior high track teams can begin practicing on February 27th. We are still looking for track coaches to help this spring. Anyone interested should contact Mr. Brown and Mr. Wisniewski.

As we start to thaw out from this cold winter, let's get out and support our student-athletes the best we can. Go Stags!



MARCH 2023

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1 2:00 Dismissal Faculty Mtg. HSBK-Sect. TBA JHVB-7A Reg. TBA FFA-Poultry CDE @ A-C Central	2 HSBK-Host Fr/So Tourn TBA JHVB-7A Reg. TBA	3 HSBK-Sect. TBA	4 HSBK-Host Fr/So Tourn TBA JHVB-8A Reg. TBA Post Prom Trivia Night @ Emden Comm. House 7:00
5	6 HS Sch Bowl-Reg @ New Berlin 4:30 JHVB-7A Sect. TBA Book Fair @ GS	7 HSBK-Supersect. TBA JHVB-8A Reg. TBA Book Fair @ GS	8 JHVB-8A Reg. TBA Book Fair @ GS Family Reading Night @ GS 6:00	9 JHVB-8A Reg. TBA Book Fair @ GS	10 <i>Qtr 3 Rpt Card</i> HSBK-State TBA JHVB-7A State TBA Book Fair @ GS	11 HSBK-State TBA JHVB-7A State TBA
12	13 JHVB-8A Sect. TBA	14 HSBB @ Roanoke 4:30	15 Beta Club Induction @ HS Gym 5:30 FFA-Public Speaking @ New Berlin	16 Host Logan County Music Festival	17 JHVB-8A State TBA HSBB vs Edinburg 4:30	18 JHVB-8A State TBA FFA-Dairy Judging
19	20 <i>Board Mtg 7:00</i> HSBB @ Midland 4:30 HSSB vs Lewistown 4:30	21 Sr. Beta Club Blood Drive @ HS 9-2 Winter Sports Awards @ HS Gym 6:00 JHBK-4th-7th grade parent/player mtg after awards @ HS Cafeteria	22	23 Host Logan County Music Festival HSBB @ Dee-Mack 4:30 HSSB @ Auburn 4:30	24 HSBB vs Lewistown 4:30	25 Senior Trip
26 Senior Trip	27 Senior Trip	28 Senior Trip	29	30 HSBB @ Athens 4:30 FFA-Agorama @ Franklin	31 HSBB vs Havana 4:30	

MARCH 2023

<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 Waffles Sausage links Fruit Cherry juice	2 Sausage patty Tri tater Toast Fruit Cherry juice	3 Fruit frudel Fruit Cherry juice	4
5	6 Frittata omelet or Cheese omelet Toast Fruit Apple juice	7 Biscuit Sausage patty Egg patty Fruit Apple juice	8 Breakfast pizza Fruit Apple juice	9 Scrambled egg bowl Toast Fruit Apple juice	10 Breakfast cookie Fruit Apple juice	11
12	13 Pop tart Fruit Orange juice	14 French toast sticks Sausage links Fruit Orange juice	15 Assorted muffins Fruit Orange juice	16 Mini pancake bites Fruit Orange juice	17 Peanut butter and Jelly uncrustable Fruit Orange juice	18
19	20 Pancake & sausage on a stick Fruit Cherry juice	21 Cinnamon coffee cake Fruit Cherry juice	22 Bagel w/cream cheese Fruit Cherry juice	23 GS-Cereal bar JH/HS-Danish apple claw Fruit Cherry juice	24 Assorted cereal Toast Fruit Cherry juice	25
26	27 Nutri-grain bar Fruit Apple juice	28 GS-Yogurt JH/HS- Cinnamon and Brown sugar oatmeal Toast Fruit Apple juice	29 Biscuit Sausage gravy Fruit Apple juice	30 Pancakes Sausage patty Fruit Apple juice	31 Donut Fruit Apple juice	

MARCH 2023

<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 everyday. Chef salad and peanut butter sandwiches are available every day at the high school. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.		1 Chicken alfredo Lettuce salad Peas Breadstick Peaches	2 Popcorn chicken Mashed potatoes/gravy Corn Mixed fruit	3 Cheese quesadilla pizza Sour cream/salsa Lettuce salad Pineapple	4
5	6 Toasted ham & cheese Potato smiles Broccoli w/cheese Peaches	7 Hamburger stroganoff Green beans Mandarin oranges Jello	8 Hamburger on bun French fries Peas Applesauce Cake w/strawberries	9 Spaghetti w/meat sauce Green beans Lettuce salad French bread Apricots	10 GS -Fish shapes and corn JH/HS -Loaded tater tots Cheese sauce/sour cream Carrots Pears	11
12	13 Sloppy joe on bun Nacho chips/cheese sauce Carrots Mixed fruit	14 Salisbury steak Mashed potatoes/gravy Corn Roll Pineapple	15 Pork tenderloin on bun French fries Green beans Pears	16 Chicken strips Macaroni & cheese Peas Cottage cheese Applesauce Cookie	17 Bosco sticks Marinara sauce Carrots Peaches St. Patrick's Day dessert	18
19	20 Chicken patty on bun French fries Carrots Pears	21 <i>First Day Of Spring</i> Corn dog Vinegar fries Funnel cake Lemonade Frozen ice	22 Crispito w/cheese sauce Refried beans Rice Mixed vegetables Peaches	23 Lasagna casserole Green beans Lettuce salad Breadstick Pineapple	24 Toasted cheese sandwich Tomato soup or chicken Noodle soup Fresh veggies Mandarin oranges	25
26	27 GS -Pulled pork nachos Carrots/cottage cheese JH/HS -Pulled pork on bun Baked beans Cole slaw Applesauce	28 Walking taco Corn Apricots Teddy grahams	29 GS -Chicken noodle soup JH/HS -Chili or chicken Noodle soup Fresh veggies Peaches Cinnamon roll	30 BBQ rib on bun Potato smiles Green beans Mandarin oranges	31 GS -Fish shapes and salad JH/HS -Taco or pulled Pork loaded nachos Corn Mixed fruit	

Hartsburg-Emden C.U.S.D. #21
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POSTAL CUSTOMER

Support Hartem Post Prom

Come out and eat at the Stag-R-Inn

All day March 3rd

A portion of the food proceeds will be
donated to Hartem Post Prom!