

HARTSBURG-EMDEN CUSD NO. 21

MAY 2022 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Terry Wisniewski, Superintendent

Another school year is passing us by. This past year certainly has been another one for the books. It has been a very taxing year for everyone. I am glad to see we are moving back to some kind of normalcy.

Outside social distancing recommendations, we continue to disinfect nightly. We also focus on making events as safe and memorable as possible for our students. As superintendent, I continue to put an emphasis on the schools Mission Statement. It states:

“Hartsburg-Emden Community Unit School District provides an empowering and collaborative environment allowing students to reach their full potential.” This mission remains the foundation for us establishing and maintaining a quality education for our students. An important part of students reaching their full potential is continual growth and improvement. It is my belief that perfection is something we strive to get closer to each year. I am also hopeful we can instill in all our students the mindset of continual growth/improvement, so they can become the best version of themselves. We all actually need to continue to work to be the best version of ourselves as possible. Too many people fall short of their full potential because they mistakenly fall into the wrong mindset. I firmly believe our students need to be independent critical thinkers and that they all have the ability to reach their goals as they journey through life. Hartsburg-Emden strives to do our best to ensure that we provide the students with the tools to allow them to reach their wishes. I truly believe Hartem is a special place (unique). We look to see the ability and individuality in each student, and assist them in growth. Many other schools struggle with this concept, but at Hartem, it is what we do well.

As an administrator, I have attempted to avoid speaking about politics publicly. I know some people are very emotional over it and have very strong feelings one way or the other. Recently I had a discussion about branding . . . and part of the discussion was mottos/slogans. From a political prospective, I have always loved hearing the mottos/slogans that come out to entice voters. Joe Biden – “Build Back Better” / Donald Trump – “Make America Great Again” / Barack Obama – “Yes We Can” / George W. Bush – “Compassionate

Conservatism” / Bill Clinton – “Building a Bridge to the 21st Century” these are all simple messages to help gain backing. Many years ago, when I was a much younger man, I recall hearing President Bush’s “Compassionate Conservatism” comments and simply being bewildered. Compassion for others, treating people with dignity and respect, and do unto other as you would have done onto you, were some of the core values my parents raised me to have. The mere fact that being compassionate made a presidential motto/slogan just shocked me to the core, that there was this perception that one political party was more compassionate, and that the other needed to combat that perception.

Today, the concept of being compassionate still seems to be very relevant. Individuals may have strong political views one way or the other and often those views are strongly rooted in a fixed mindset. As a former Advanced Placement (A.P.) Statistics Teacher, we discussed bias quite often. Confirmation bias is the tendency to interpret new evidence/data to confirm ones existing beliefs or theories. This form of bias usually happens when someone has a fixed mindset. Generally, I am much a people-person, enjoy getting to know individuals, their beliefs, and how they formulated them. Being respectful and compassionate, allows one to really get to know someone well. Over the past couple of years, I have begun to wonder about the compassion and respect people show (or don’t show) to each other. We have gone through a challenging time. Historically speaking, we have gone through many challenges, some we have handled quite successfully and other not so much. We may not always agree how to deal with challenges, but the way we treat each other is important when moving forward. I hope we can all find our way to be respectful of each other. Some antonyms are for compassionate are: unfeeling, unsympathetic, and cold-hearted. A world with compassion removed is indeed concerning. Compassion vs. Insensitivity / Tolerance vs. Intolerance / Kindness vs. Hatred / Politeness vs. Cruelty; are all choices we need to make. The attitudes we raise our kids with will have strong consequences on the future. At Hartsburg-Emden, we ask students to think about others and to treat them as you wish to be treated. Everyone needs to know that the way we treat others (even those we disagree with) matters. Hartsburg-Emden encourages students to develop positive relationships and to be respectful of others, which is a good reminder for everyone.

Again, the last 2+ years have truly been unprecedented times. A commitment to our District, students, and community; has been shown by our entire staff. In conclusion, I would like to **THANK** the entire staff: Teachers, Support Staff, and Principal; for always looking out for our students. I wish everyone a Happy **Teacher Appreciation Week** (May 2nd – May 6th)!! I hope you enjoy your first week of May.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES & SPORTS

Terry Wisniewski, Superintendent

Extra-curricular Activities and Sports are topics near and dear to my heart. I tell every coach I interview or talk to that extra-curricular activities and sports are an extension of the classroom. The lessons learned in them are extremely important in a person's life and cannot be taught in a classroom setting. I cannot overemphasize the importance for the overall development of students that extra-curricular activities and sports have. When students participate in activities outside the classroom, they develop as a well-rounded individual. They also help tremendously with social and emotional coping skills.

Over the past 11 years, I have done everything in my power to see that students get to participate in activities. We started a Girls' High School Basketball co-op with Mt. Pulaski, so one girl could play; a Boys' Soccer Co-op with Olympia, so one boy could play. Not having anyone, we started a Girls and Boys Swimming/Diving co-op with Olympia, which nobody has participated. I've looked for as many opportunities for students to be a part of something as I can. The same is true for dual credit courses or any other course a student is interested. We have offered French, Physics, Statistics, Speech, Introduction to Computers, Introduction to Humanities, and additional coursework that students wanted to take that we do not offer in our regular curriculum to meet individual student goals (some as High School offerings/some as Dual Credit through Heartland). Hartsburg-Emden has put our students at the top of our priority and does what we can for them.

As far as extras, as a small school, students get to participate. Our students are not cut from baseball, softball, basketball, volleyball, or any other activity. They have tremendous opportunities here to participate in whatever they desire. That does not happen in many schools and is what makes

Hartsburg-Emden a special place. We are truly a 'gem' when compared to other school districts. Research shows that students who participate in extra activities get better grades. This is because of the skills they learn from participating in different activities. Students learn to manage time, organizational skills, improved self-confidence, and learn to express themselves in a better way. Students also avoid getting in trouble when they are involved. Extra-curricular activities enrich the lives of not just the students, but their families and our communities. Everyone seems to develop a sense of pride when seeing our students in Hartem uniform. Again, I cannot overstate the benefits.

In small rural schools, when they begin to lose sports, like we have, it brings a disconnect between the community and the school, which usually results in the beginning of the end of a small school before consolidation. Since I have been at Hartsburg-Emden, we lost High School Girls Softball and Junior High Baseball. We are now in jeopardy of losing Junior High Girls Softball and High School Boys Baseball. This would mean that we could be down to only a few sports left. The Board of Education and I have worked diligently over the past eight (8) years to ensure our District is in a sound financial position for years to come. However, the lack of students that participate and/or being a part of our extra-curricular activities, is a big concern. More and more students just are not participating and we have been in a position of not being able to field teams. We continue to encourage them. I am now asking that all parents/guardians to help join us in our effort to keep our programs here at Hartem. The Board and I have also done everything we can to hire good coaches and we will continue to support our programs as long as we can, but we need students to participate.

Recently, we added Ron Spencer (a Hartem alumnus and veteran basketball coach with much success, including a High School Girls Basketball State Championship) to our Junior High Basketball program. He is asking that all parents of boys currently in grades 4-7 and any parent of a girl interested in playing on our boys team to come to an informative meeting on **May 10th at 7:00pm** at the Jr./Sr. High School. We also had a meeting where we discussed our program with students as well, but we still ask that you bring your child to this meeting. He will discuss the program and the benefits for your child participating.

Mr. Brown and myself are also available to discuss any of our extra-curricular activities. Please call us at the school and we would be happy to talk with you. Hartsburg-Emden CUSD #21 has been committed to providing the best possible education so that all students can reach their fullest potential (as stated in our Mission Statement). Athletics and extra-curricular activities is a huge part of what makes that happen. Again, I ask all parents/guardians to help join us in our effort to keep these programs in our school and keep what makes us special.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Cory Brown, Principal

Hopefully this newsletter finds you through the changing season and weather. It has been a windy spring so far. I hope the moisture stays in the ground long enough to combine with the warm weather so we have a good morel season. I look forward to running around the woods soon with my kids and fishing for Crappie with the warmer weather ahead.

Baseball got to play two games at unique stadiums this last month. They played a game at the home field for Illinois Wesleyan University and the Peoria Chiefs home Field. That was a great experience for the team. The baseball team starts their post season on May 16th. Good Luck to Coach McAfee and the boys

Junior High track has been able to get a couple meets this year. Weather has not cooperated on a couple occasions. Coach Collins and Coach Gilmore hope to push students to personal records and hardware in the upcoming postseason! Good luck Track Team. The Bass fishing team also has their post season events this month. Good luck to them!

The Spring Concert will be held on May 4th. Please come out and see what Mr. Popper and Mrs. Jordan have been working with the students to present. It will be an entertaining night for the whole family. For the month of March, the Students of the Month were Jay Marcum (9th grade) and Eva Sanders (5th grade). Here are some comments from the staff members that nominated them. "Jay works hard every day to do well and continues to improve." "Eva brings a positive attitude to school every day and is a hard worker." Congratulations to both students!

Here are some dates of interest coming up. Saturday, April 30th will be Prom. The Grand March will start at 5:30 at the High School and Prom will follow at the Emden Community House at 6:30. There is a 2 pm dismissal on May 4th. High School graduation will be at 3pm on Saturday, May 14th. Thursday, May 19th, is eighth grade promotion. The Spring Sports Awards are May 23rd. High School finals will take place on May 24th and 25th. May 25th is the last day for student attendance!

This year has flown by so quickly. I can't believe that students are going to be done in a month. I have really enjoyed being the Principal this year and look forward to working all summer to make next year even better. Thank you very much for letting me be part of your lives and your students' lives. I'd like to thank all the employees in the district for a great year. Thank you teachers for all the hours of planning, teaching, grading, and communicating with families over the past year. Thank you to the Custodians, Bus Drivers, Kitchen Staff, and Office Staff for everything that you do and the hard work you put in every day. Thank you to Mr. Wisniewski for his hours of hard work and showing me the ropes. Thank you to all the parents for your hard work you do behind the scenes. Lastly, thank you to all the community members for their support. This is a great community and I'm very proud to be a part of it.

HARTEM FFA HAPPENINGS

Sara Barton, FFA Advisor

The Hartem FFA will be holding their annual Greenhouse Plant Sale on Saturday, May 7th from 8:30am-11am at the high school greenhouse. We will be selling a variety of annual flowers. The horticulture class and FFA members have been hard at work in the greenhouse this spring and would love for you to come out and support our program by purchasing our beautiful plants! Friday, May 6th the Hartem FFA will be hosting an "Ag Day" for the whole district! Students will get to interact with a petting zoo, learn about tractor safety, and more! Our calendar year will wrap up with our Chapter Banquet on Thursday, May 12th in the High School Cafeteria at 7pm. FFA students and parents are all invited.



CATCH PROGRAM

As part of our CATCH (Coordinated Approach to Child Health) program, Hartem Junior High students had a fun learning experience on April 7th. Our district works closely with Abraham Memorial Hospital to provide our students with age appropriate lessons regarding healthy choices. In April, The Exercise Club from Lincoln College came to review CATCH lessons and to play a variety of learning games that had our students up and moving. Many students won fun prizes and enjoyed their time with Maggie and Brian from Lincoln College. In addition, students had the opportunity to use the Spin Bike. What a fun way to incorporate exercise and art!



The Lincoln College Exercise club went to the Grade School Thursday, April 28th to spend the afternoon with all of Miss Brooks' PE classes. They talked about healthy choices and played some CATCH activities with the students. We will post pictures of the event on our website. Also, the first week of May the Spin Art Bike will be at the Grade School. It has been a few years since we have had it and we couldn't be more excited. The Spin Art Bike is a fun way to talk about healthy habits while we get them moving and spinning with creativity! Then May 13th we will end the year with a CATCH FUN RUN. We will have more details available soon. Keep an eye out for more information and on our website for pictures of all these activities. Remember: **Eat more GO food than SLOW food, and more SLOW food than WHOA food.**

HARTEM ALUMNI BANQUET

After a 2-year absence, the 93rd Annual Alumni Banquet of Hartsburg-Emden High School will begin at 6:30 pm on June 11, 2022, at the Emden Community House in Emden, Illinois. Invitations to the banquet will be sent out the first week of May. Anyone who did not receive an invitation but would like to attend the banquet may send a request via email to coach_spencer@hotmail.com.

Anniversary classes being honored this year include: 1942, 1947, 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002, 2007, 2012, 2017. We will also be inviting back members of the Class of 2020, 2021 and of course 2022 for their official induction into the Hartsburg-Emden Alumni Association.

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 Ron Spencer, 8923 Blooming Grove Rd, Bloomington, IL 61705 or email to coach_spencer@hotmail.com.

Due to the rising costs of the Alumni Banquet, the Association will be accepting donations to help with the cost of the event and to continue funding the Alumni Scholarship. Donations are payable to the Hartem Alumni Association and may be sent to Ron Spencer, 8923 Blooming Grove Rd, Bloomington, IL 61705.

We will also need help this year setting up tables and chairs. This only takes about an hour the night before the banquet and an hour after the banquet. If you can volunteer a small amount of your time, please email coach_spencer@hotmail.com.

EMDEN ELEMENTARY KIDS CHALLENGE

Thank you to everyone who donated to the students of Emden Elementary School in our fundraiser for the American Heart Association! As a school we collected:

\$6,232.25

Our fundraiser ran for three weeks and ended with a Jump Rope Event on Friday April 8th before we left for Spring Break! Thanks to all the volunteers that helped make the day so much fun and for supporting such a great cause!

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Amanda Feltes, Guidance Counselor

It's hard to believe that May is here. We're in the final stretch of the year and summer is just around the corner. However, students please don't forget that there's still one more month left of the school year. Continue to work hard in this last month and don't let grades or attendance slip. Be sure to talk to your teachers about your grades and anything you are struggling with. There's still time to bring up grades and end the semester strong.

The CEO students recently participated in the Midland National Pitch Competition where they videoed their business pitch and competed against CEO Students from across the country. We are excited to share that Faith Sanders from Hartsburg Emden and her business, In Stitches With Love, ranked in the Top 30 Students in the nation, received one of 12 honorable mentions, and was highlighted by Midland Institute for Entrepreneurship. Congratulations Faith!

To the Class of 2022: In a few short weeks, you will walk across that stage and complete your high school career. To say that I am proud of you all for reaching this accomplishment is an understatement. Graduation marks a significant achievement that you should all be very proud of. I have seen so much personal growth among all of you. I am so excited for the opportunities that you will encounter from this point on. Education does not stop at graduation. Opportunities to learn will be present in every experience and with every person you will meet. Make the most of the next few years and don't be afraid to take a step out of your comfort zone. Wherever life takes you next, I wish you all the best of luck in each endeavor. CONGRATULATIONS!

*Class of
2022*

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Matthew Stoltzenburg, Athletic Director

The weather is finally warming up and the Stags' are trying to do the same as our spring seasons come down the home stretch. The junior high track teams are in the Logan County Conference Meet at LCHS on April 27. They will participate in the sectional on May 7.

The baseball team is also trying to gain some momentum heading into the postseason. The boys will have their last home game on May 10th against Lincoln JV. Their regional runs May 16 – 21.

The bass fishing team will compete in sectionals on May 5th and hopefully reach the state tournament on May 20 + 21.

Spring Sports Awards Night will be on Monday, May 23 at 5:30 in the high school gym. We will be honoring the junior high track teams, the high school baseball team, and the high school bass fishing squad. We will also recognize our coop teams. Hope to see everyone there.

As we come to a close on the 2021-2022 athletic year, I would once again like to thank all the student-athletes, their parents, our coaches, the administration, our school board, and both communities of Hartsburg and Emden for their efforts in making our school and its athletic programs successful. It has been a unique experience these past couple of years and hopefully we starting to see a bit of normalcy coming back.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



LIBRARY NEWS

Nichole Folkman, Librarian

Donations

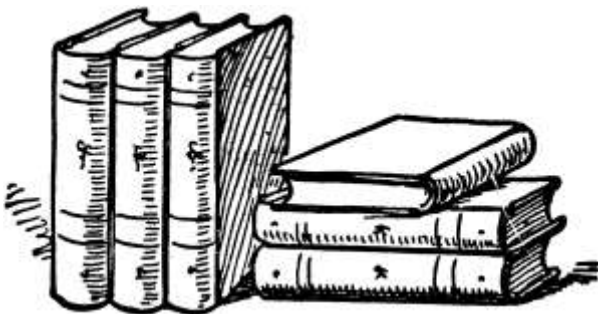
Brinley Balance- Junie B Jones #20

Kylee Eads- numerous books

\$25 from the family of Effie Rademaker

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, through the United Way of Logan County, was awarded two grants recently– Illinois Prairie Community Foundation and Eaton Charitable Foundation. This ensures the continued support of this program in Hartsburg-Emden and throughout Logan County. **If you have a child under the age of 5**, you can sign your child up for a free book delivered every single month! Go to imaginationlibrary.com to sign up. **If you have a PO Box address**, please make sure to give them your PO Box.

Summer Library in a bag is happening at the grade school! Thanks to a grant from First Book, I have a new program this year called Summer Library in a Bag. All grade school students will get a bag of books (that they get to keep!) as well as fun do-it-yourself activities (some self-guided, some with a friend or grown-up) that they can do this summer at their leisure. Mrs. Feltes is also including some great resources for families in the bag as well. Summer is a really busy time, but these books and activities will be great for going outside, taking in the car, or just to help with the "I'm bored" complaints you might get! At the junior high/ high school, many books will also be distributed, too, with some great family resources as well.



JH/HS YEARBOOK

The 2022 yearbook is here! There are a limited number of 2022 left for \$45 each.

You may also pre-order the 2023 book. Before spring break it is \$35. After spring break it is \$40. If you wait until next year, it'll be \$45 if there are any leftover.

Contact Mrs. Folkman at nfolkman@hartem.org to order any of these yearbooks OR to see if we have an extra copy of any year you might be interested in buying. We do have some vintage books available.

HARTEM BAND/CHOIR NEWS

Please join the bands and choirs of Hartsburg-Emden for our 2022 spring concert. It will take place at 6:30PM in the Jr. Sr. High School Gym. Hear from the Jr. High Chorus, Jr. High Band, High School Chorus, and High School band, as well as a surprise performance at the end! We hope that you can join us!

DRIVERS ED INFORMATION

May Brooks, Instructor

Any parent of a student who has taken Drivers Education this school year who needs a Illinois GDL Parent-Teen Driving Guide? This guide has valuable lessons and driving logs needed to help your child become a safe and experienced driver. The driving log (40 hours of day driving & 10 hours of night driving) is required in order for your child to obtain their license. Your child was given one at the conclusion of the classroom part of Drivers Education. Please email me at mbrooks@hartem.org if you need an additional one.



KIDS HEART CHALLENGE



MAY

2022

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1	2 JHTRK @ MWC 4:00 HSBB @ PORTA 4:30	3 JHTRK @ Greenview 4:00 HSBB vs Edinburg 4:30 *Sr. Night*	4 2:00 Dismissal Faculty Mtg. JH/HS Band and Choir Concert @ HS Gym 6:30	5 HSBB vs Heyworth 4:30 Bass-Sect TBA	6 FFA-Ag Day and Petting Zoo 1:00-3:00 HSBB vs IB 4:30	7 JHTRK-Sectionals @ WLB 9:00 FFA-Plant Sale 8:30- 11:00
8	9 HSBB vs Delavan 4:30	10 HSBB vs Lincoln (JV) 4:30 JHBK-Parent/Player Meeting @ HS 7:00	11	12 FFA-Chapter Banquet @ HS Café 7:00	13 JHTRK-State @ Eastside Center 9:00 CATCH Fun Run @ GS 2:15	14 JHTRK-State @ Eastside Center 9:00 Graduation @ HS 3:00
15	16 Board Mtg. 7:00 HSBB-1A Reg. TBA 6 th -8 th grade Field Day 12:00-3:10	17 HSBB-1A Reg. TBA 8 th grade field trip 7:45am-10:00pm	18 HSBB-1A Reg. TBA	19 8 th grade Promotion @ HS 7:00 HSBB-1A Reg. TBA	20 BASS-State TBA	21 HSBB-1A Reg. TBA BASS-State TBA
22	23 Spring Sports Awards @ HS Gym 5:30	24 2:00 Dismissal HS Finals	25 Last Day for Students! 2:00 Dismissal HS Finals HSBB-1A Sect. TBA	26 Teacher Institute HSBB-1A Sect. TBA	27	28 HSBB-1A Sect. TBA
29	30 HSBB-1A Supersect. TBA	31				

MAY

2022

<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	2 English muffin Apricots Apple juice	3 Yogurt parfait Toast Peaches Apple juice	4 Pancake & sausage on a stick Mixed fruit Apple juice	5 Oatmeal Toast Pears Apple juice	6 Assorted cereal Toast Pineapple Apple juice	7
8	9 Nutri-grain bar Mixed fruit Cherry juice	10 Frittata cheese omelet Toast Mandarin oranges Cherry juice	11 Sausage patty Tri tater Toast Apricots Cherry juice	12 Biscuit w/sausage gravy Peaches Cherry juice	13 Donut Pineapple Cherry juice	14
15	16 Pop tart Peaches Orange juice	17 Breakfast cinnamon cookie Applesauce Orange juice	18 Biscuit w/egg patty Sausage patty Pears Orange juice	19 Pancakes Sausage patty Mixed fruit Orange juice	20 Peanut butter and Jelly uncrustable Mandarin oranges Orange juice	21
22	23 Cook's Choice	24 Cook's Choice	25 Cook's Choice	26	27	28
29	30	31				

MAY**2022**

<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	2 Sloppy joe on bun Nacho chips w/cheese Carrots Pears	3 Chicken alfredo Breadstick Lettuce salad Peas Mandarin oranges	4 Hot dog on bun Baked beans Chips Cottage cheese Applesauce	5 Chicken fajita Salsa/sour cream Lettuce Corn Peaches	6 Hamburger on bun French fries Green beans Pineapple	7	
8	9 Loaded tater tot bowl Peas Apricots	10 Country fried steak Mashed potatoes/gravy Corn Peaches	11 Crispito w/cheese sauce Salsa/sour cream Carrots Mandarin oranges	12 Bosco sticks Marinara sauce Green beans Pineapple	13 BBQ pulled pork on bun Cole slaw Baked beans Pears	14	
15	16 Pork tenderloin on bun French fries Green beans Pears	17 Nacho supreme Lettuce/salsa/sour cream Applesauce	18 Chicken day Macaroni & cheese Peas Peaches	19 Assorted sandwiches Chips Carrots Mandarin oranges	20 Pizza Lettuce salad Corn Pineapple	21	
22	23 Toasted ham & cheese Potato smiles Corn Peaches	24 Fair Day Corn dog Vinegar fries Funnel cake Lemonade shake-up Italian ice	25 Sub sandwich Chips Fresh veggies Applesauce Cookies	26	27	28	
29	30	31					

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