

# HARTSBURG-EMDEN CUSD NO. 21

## OCTOBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

### FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Terry Wisniewski, Superintendent

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to present challenges none of us could have imagined just 8 months ago. We were forced to choose between a few restrictive options for re-opening school outlined by the State. These restrictions make it harder for teachers to teach and students to learn. As confirmed cases began to rise in Illinois and local counties, this has created a lot of anxiety within the Hartsburg-Emden School District. Our staff is doing everything they can to make our In-person Learning the best it possibly can be. However, information about COVID-19 changes regularly. The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is coming out with new updates as more questions come forward frequently. One day, they suggest we can make the determination (ex. a student has mild allergy symptoms) to keep the child in school, the next (they tell us) we cannot make that determination (and must have a medical professional's note as proof of the pre-existing condition). Teachers at first were essential employees and then they were non-essential, now they are back to essential. It is frustrating for everyone—families, teachers, administrators, and employers. In addition to worrying about everyone's health and safety, the inability to keep a consistent plan has strained nerves that are already on edge. I understand we are living in difficult times.

At the present moment, if you are aware of any underlying conditions (allergies, regular headaches, IBS, etc.) that may mirror COVID-19 symptoms, the State is requiring us to have a medical professional's note on file. Individuals still are not to be in school if they are exhibiting symptoms, but won't need to go tested each and every time they have a symptom (although, the latest guidelines suggest/recommend that you do test each time you exhibit a symptom . . . just to be safe). Also, the State requires, if one individual in the household is showing symptoms, no individuals in the household should be in school (so, everyone in the household needs to go home). However, a note from a medical professional (good for each semester) can give some flexibility with pre-existing conditions. We are allowed to make the determination if the symptoms are familiar to the individual or new (new symptom – medical attention

should be gotten immediately and the household sent home). Individuals who are experiencing symptoms that are determined to be an existing condition will be sent home until they are symptom free, but the rest of the household may stay in school. I do encourage everyone with pre-existing conditions that may mirror COVID-19 symptoms to get a medical professional's note and provide that information to the school.

A recent Wall Street Journal article indicated that 66% of students underperformed with Remote Learning. As high as 50% less learning occurred with Remote Learning vs. In-Person Learning. These numbers were worse among low-income, students with disabilities, and minorities. In-Person Learning is by far the best for most students; academically, socially, and emotionally. However, the risk of contracting/spreading COVID-19 continues to be a real concern for schools. During this pandemic, we need to be ready to shut down when an outbreak occurs. With current IDPH regulations, there is a real possibility that we may have enough individuals with symptoms (especially staff) that we need to close with short notice. I encourage you to have plans ready just in case we need to shut down at a moment's notice. Cold and flu season will also be upon us soon as well. If we close, our intent will be to re-open as soon as possible. Several schools in our region have already gone through this process. Our teachers received professional development and have been preparing students for this scenario. Remember, breakfast and lunches will be provided. You will need to call the school in the morning to order those meals (remember, these meals are free through December).

In conclusion, Hartsburg-Emden is doing all we can to keep our buildings safe for our students during this pandemic. The well-being of our students and staff is our number one priority. We continue to work on developing positive relationships with our students and help them deal with this pandemic while stressing the concepts of continual growth and maintaining their learning. We understand that students have left behind more than just their classes and academics as well. Sports and extra-curricular activities which students have strong interest can be additional cause for anxieties. We are doing what we can to provide support for students with what is happening in their lives, especially given the stress, fear and strains this pandemic has brought.

I encourage all parents/guardians to work with your child's teachers as much as possible.

As always, I appreciate the support you give our district, staff, and especially our students. It is the positive and ongoing partnership that makes Hartsburg-Emden a great place to be! Now, more than ever, it seems like the world could use a little more kindness (positivity).

### **THANK YOU HARTSBURG-EMDEN COMMUNITIES!!**

A big thanks to all those helping Hartsburg-Emden School District out during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Orvil Township donated \$5,000.
- The Lincoln Kiwanis Club donated \$250 to each school district in Logan County.
- A community member handmade and donated 250 masks . . . one for each student in the District . . . and a few extras.
- A community member is giving us free storage of a lot of items (extra desks tables, etc.).
- A couple of our local churches have donated many gift cards to help families in need.
- The Hartem Legacy Fund has provided us with some items to assist our teachers with In-Person & Remote Learning.

We **thank everyone** who has helped us out during this pandemic.



### **AMENDMENT TO THE CALENDAR**

We understand the holiday season is a time where many families gather and social activities increase. To avoid the possibility of students or staff being infected by the COVID-19 virus, Hartsburg-Emden will be Remote Learning from Thanksgiving to Christmas.



### **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

Jon Leslie, Principal

Welcome Back!!! I can hardly believe that we are already a month into the school year. The start of the school year is always an exciting time for everyone. Our students are now into a daily school routine and are ready to be challenged on a daily basis. This year has and will continue to present several challenges, but we will continue to do what we feel is best for students and staff.

We hired three new teachers this summer. Here is a quick rundown of our new faculty members.

Hannah Meece  
6-12 Special Education Teacher  
Eastern Illinois University  
1st Year Teacher



Jonathan Popper  
6-12 Band/Choir Teacher  
Illinois State University  
1st Year Teacher



Carter Collins  
7-12 Social Studies Teacher  
Illinois State University  
1st Year Teacher



We here at Hartem are very excited to be back and look forward to both the joys and challenges that are ahead. We want your child to be happy and successful here at Hartem, and you as a parent or guardian play a key role. I am free to discuss any suggestions or concerns that you may have.

We look forward to continuing to work together as a team to provide your child with the very best educational experience possible. Go Stags!!!

### **ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT**

Matt Stoltzenburg, Athletic Director

Welcome to a very unique year. This school year has begun and we luckily have a few teams in competition. The jr. high softball team has gotten to play some games and our hs golf team has had the chance to swing their clubs. We also now have a jh baseball coop with WLB and they have been competing as well.

The softball team will compete in a regional starting on September 24<sup>th</sup> at Pekin Rankin. Game time is 4:15. New coach Jay McAfee has been a helpful hand in filling this position. Good luck to Coach McAfee and the girls. The baseball team will be in regionals on September 21<sup>st</sup> against Springfield Christian at 4:00 in Springfield. Coach Robinson and the golf team recently competed in the Tomahawk Conference Meet on September 14<sup>th</sup> and will have a few matches sprinkled around competing in the ICAC Meet on September 21<sup>st</sup>. Good luck golfers.

With all of the different changes to, well everything, this year will be very fluid. We will keep you updated as we become informed through our governing bodies. Right now, we are looking to have all of our seasons in a modified format. There will not be any tournaments. There will most likely not be any fans for indoor sports. We are trying to meet all of these challenges and will do our best to keep you in the loop. With that being said, it is good to know we are moving in a positive direction and being able to give our kids the chance to play some sports.

The next sport to begin for us will be high school boys' basketball, which can start on November 16<sup>th</sup>. JHBK can start on January 4<sup>th</sup>. JHVB on January 11<sup>th</sup>. HSVB on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Newly changed HSBB can start on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

I hope to see all of you in the near future and stay safe. If you would like to see the latest from the IHSA and IESA, please visit their websites at [ihsa.org](http://ihsa.org) and [iesa.org](http://iesa.org).

### **LIBRARY NEWS**

Nichole Folkman, District Librarian

Please check out [www.stagsread.weebly.com](http://www.stagsread.weebly.com) for the School Library website and so many cool resources including how to get free, legal books to read online.

Donations:

**Andy Morgan and family-** *Series of Unfortunate Events, Dear America*, and many other various titles  
**Jake Klokkenga-** *Harry Potter* series

**Donors Choose** books were added to the catalog this summer and fall from projects for Monarch and Bluestem books as well as picture book biographies.

#### **Books donated by Nichole Folkman**

In memory of Lyndi Nicole Simer - *Hold Hands* by Sara Varon  
In honor of Sarah Mattson- *Douglas, You're a Genius* by Ged Anderson

In honor of Amara Wampler- *Yasmin the Zookeeper* by Saadia Faruqi

In honor of Drew Beightel- *Yasmin the Chef* by Saadia Faruqi

In honor of Eli Hartman- *I Wish You More* by Amy Krouse Rosenthal and Tom Lichtenheld

In honor of Tinley Tracey- *Josephine Baker* by Maria Isabel Sanchez Vegara

In honor of Clara List- *Women in Sports* by Rachel Ignatofsky

In honor of Jacob Bryant- *You Are My Friend* by Amiee Reid

In honor of Garret Schafer- *David Bowie* by Maria Isabel Sanchez Vegara

In memory of Thomas Schmidt, Sr.- *Always Remember* by Cece Meng

In honor of Korbyn Olson- *What if...* by Samantha Berger

In honor of Mavis Gass- *Cute as Axolotl* by Jess Keating

Also donated by Nichole Folkman

*Drawn Together* by Minh Lê

*Can I Be Your Dog?* by Troy Cummings

*Devils Within* by S.F. Henson

*My Papi Has a Motorcycle* by Isabel Quintero

*Under My Hijab* by Hena Khan

*The Ring and the Crown* by Melissa de la Cruz

*Sweep* by Jonathan Auxier

*Clean Getaway* By Nic Stone

*Dreamers* by Yuyu Morales

*Thank you, Omu!* By Oge Mora

*Planting Stories* by Anika Adlamuy Denise

*Chester Nez and the Unbreakable Code* by Joseph Bruchac

*The Truth About Hippos* by Maxwell Eaton III

*Infinite Hope* by Ashley Bryan

I am still catching up on 2020 events. If you are a former student of mine and got married, had a baby, or had some other wonderful event happen in 2020

or the end of 2019, please email me at [nfolkman@hartem.org](mailto:nfolkman@hartem.org). I want to honor you with a book in our school's library.

## **GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT**

Amanda Feltes, District Guidance Counselor

### **FAFSA (Mandatory for 12<sup>th</sup> grade students)**

- The Illinois State Board of Education has mandated that starting in school year 2020-21, to receive a diploma from a public high school a student must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®). The FAFSA opens for 2021-2022 applications on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. All seniors should submit their applications as soon as possible in order for the best opportunity for federal assistance. Many schools are asking students to have their FAFSA applications submitted by a priority deadline of November 15<sup>th</sup>. Many university scholarships may also fall under this date.
- Hartsburg-Emden High School will be hosting two separate virtual workshops to help families complete the 2021-2022 FAFSA. The first workshop will be held on **Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 – 6:45 pm** and will cover “**Creating an FSA ID**”. A FSA ID is required to electronically sign and transfer IRS income data to the FAFSA. The second workshop will be a **FAFSA Completion Workshop on Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00-7:30 pm**. All seniors and their parents are strongly encouraged to attend. Each workshop will be conducted online through Zoom. We will also have the computer lab open for families who would like to use one of our computers or would like in-person assistance. Families must follow appropriate social distancing guidelines if attending in-person. Please RSVP with Mrs. Feltes ([afeltes@hartem.org](mailto:afeltes@hartem.org)) or complete the registration form at <https://tinyurl.com/HEHSFAFSA> by Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup> to receive an invitation to the Zoom meeting.
- If you cannot attend the virtual workshop and still need assistance filing the FAFSA, you

can contact ISAC Representative, Melissa Van at [Melissa.Van@illinois.gov](mailto:Melissa.Van@illinois.gov) or (309) 434-0175 or Katy Reynolds, Logan County Education Coalition, at [execdireclcec@gmail.com](mailto:execdireclcec@gmail.com) or (217) 828-1050.

### **Remote Learning/Tutoring Resources**

- **Supporting your Student: A Parent's Guide to Remote Learning Webinar Series presented by The University of Illinois at Springfield.** Join the University of Illinois Springfield and the Office for Continuing and Professional Education for this free, informative webinar series designed to help parents help their children succeed in a remote learning environment. The next session is October 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 – 7:00 pm and will focus on “Finding Support When You Need It”. Visit <https://www.uis.edu/cape/parent-webinar-series/> for more information and to register.
- **Blackburn College** is offering free online video tutoring and mini-lessons for K-12 students. The education majors can provide tutoring for all elementary and middle school subjects and high school Math, Social Studies, English, and Spanish. Please contact Tracey Kreipe at [tracey.kreipe@blackburn.edu](mailto:tracey.kreipe@blackburn.edu) to hear more about the options and scheduling. Location does not matter because it will be online.
- The **SPARK Hub** provides training and resources for Illinois parents and caregivers as they support students with remote learning. The Learning Technology Center (LTC) is an Illinois State Board of Education program that supports all public K-12 districts, schools, and educators through technology initiatives, services, and professional learning opportunities. During this time of remote learning, they are providing specific resources to support parents and caregivers who have students that are remote learning. Visit <https://lrcillinois.org/services/spark/>

# OCTOBER

# 2020

<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 Golf-Boys Regional @ Coyote Creek 10:00	7 Golf-Girls Regional @ TBD  Parent-Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:00	8 Picture Retake Day  Parent-Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:00	9  <b>No School</b>	10
11	12  <b>No School</b>	13	14 SAT-Seniors 8:30	15	16	17
18	19 <i>Board Meeting 7:00</i>  FSA ID Workshop 6:00	20	21	22 FAFSA Completion Workshop 6:00	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 

# OCTOBER

# 2020

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>Breakfast Menu</b>	A variety of milk is available every day. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.			<b>1</b> Bagel w/cream cheese Mixed fruit Apple juice	<b>2</b> Chicken slider on biscuit Peaches Apple juice	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Trix yogurt Raisins Pears Orange juice	<b>6</b> Donut Applesauce Orange juice	<b>7</b> Nutri-grain bar Hard boiled egg Mandarin oranges Orange juice	<b>8</b> Warm breakfast bar Pears Orange juice	<b>9</b> <b>No School</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>No School</b>	<b>13</b> Egg patty on biscuit Pears Apple juice	<b>14</b> French toast Mixed fruit Apple juice	<b>15</b> Pop tart Cheese stick Applesauce Apple juice	<b>16</b> Pancakes Peaches Apple juice	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Waffles Applesauce Orange juice	<b>20</b> Breakfast pizza Apricots Orange juice	<b>21</b> Sausage patty Toast Tri tater Orange juice	<b>22</b> Breakfast cereal bar Peaches Orange juice	<b>23</b> Pancake & sausage On a stick Pineapple Orange juice	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Muffins Applesauce Apple juice	<b>27</b> Fruit frudel Pears Apple juice	<b>28</b> Frittata Mixed fruit Apple juice	<b>29</b> Peanut Butter & Jelly Jawich Peaches Apple juice	<b>30</b> Cereal cup Pineapple Apple juice	<b>31</b>

# OCTOBER

# 2020

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>Lunch Menu</b>	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 Chicken nuggets Bread Vegetables Peaches	2 Quesadilla pizza Salsa Lettuce salad Pears	3
4	5 Crispito w/cheese sauce Bread Cooked carrots Applesauce	6 Creamed chicken on biscuit Green beans Mandarin oranges Jello	7 Deli turkey wrap Sun chips Carrot/celery sticks Pears	8 Beef walking taco With Fritos/salsa Corn Peaches	9 <b>No School</b>	10
11	12 <b>No School</b>	13 Hamburger on bun Tri tater Peas Baked apples	14 Chili mac Cornbread muffins Green beans Mixed fruit	15 Hot dog on bun Baked beans Peaches Pudding	16 Deli turkey on bun Lettuce/tomatoes Corn Applesauce Cookie	17
18	19 Chicken patty on bun Macaroni & cheese Green beans Apricots	20 Opened-faced turkey sandwich Mashed potatoes w/gravy Peas Mixed fruit	21 Chicken fajita Refried beans Carrots Peaches Vanilla wafers	22 BBQ pulled pork Broccoli Tater tots Pineapple	23 Pizza Corn Garden salad Applesauce	24
25	26 Corn dog Nacho chips Bean dip Corn Pears	27 Chicken 'n' noodles Green beans Bread Mixed fruit	28 Hot ham & cheese on bun Tri tater Cooked carrots Peaches	29 Sloppy joe on bun French fries Lettuce salad Applesauce	30 Tenderloin on bun Peas Hard pretzels Pineapple	31

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