

HARTSBURG-EMDEN CUSD NO. 21

SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Terry Wisniewski, Superintendent

On a personal note, as I enter my thirteenth (13th) and final year at Hartsburg-Emden School District, it continues to be an honor to serve in the capacity of Superintendent. I thank everyone (students, parents, board members, community members, and staff) for the relationships I have developed with you over the past thirteen (13) years. Like many others, I have always had a passion to be an Educator. I am lucky to be a part of this community and this profession. I have had a sense of personal fulfillment being part of the educational journey of students and staff in their continual growth. I have always had a desire to be a positive role model for students, educators, and the community, embodying the values of lifelong learning. The positive relationships with teachers, administrators, staff, and community, to create a supportive and cohesive educational community, has been a great aspiration. However, what has inspired me the most is the sense of comradery in being a member of the Stag Family. The feeling of belonging can contribute to a sense of identity, the Stag identity. Sharing common values, interests, or characteristics to help all of our students to develop a clearer sense of who they are, is an important part of the educational process. Having a connection to the school and community makes the investment of time and effort into many activities worthwhile. I am a firm believer that a strong sense of belonging can enhance an individual's overall happiness, mental health, and personal development. Building meaningful connections and relationships in various aspects of life is a critical component of life success and is something Hartsburg-Emden works to achieve with all our students.

As the school year officially gets underway, the first couple of weeks is often a time for us to get bugs worked out. Overall, we had a good week with routine items (buses, cafeteria, and other general routines). Most of you are aware, there is an educator shortage occurring. Over the past several years, educators have been leaving the field in greater numbers than those coming in. Many schools have gone to hiring provisional individuals and helping them get the proper license. Smaller rural schools seem to be bearing the brunt of this, as larger schools often pay more to attract educators. We believe we have some terrific additions to our

staff this year. Everyone is excited about the upcoming year. As we begin a new school year, we find teachers establishing school standards and rules. In the most successful classrooms, teachers have established specific routines for the children to follow. This means giving the children a specific place to find and keep materials, a set schedule for classroom instruction, etc. These routines, blended with the teacher's consistent standards, form a smooth running classroom where the children have the security of understanding their environment, producing a positive reinforced setting. Remember, the start of a school year is a fresh beginning filled with opportunities. Please stay connected with teachers to understand your child's progress and needs. Working together ensures a well-rounded educational experience. Remind your child that challenges are opportunities in disguise. Your unwavering support during tough times will help them overcome any obstacle. Celebrate your child's efforts as much as their achievements. Each step they take is a testament to their growth and determination. The Hartsburg-Emden Staff is looking forward to working with our students and to a terrific school year. Again, Welcome Back!!

Hartsburg-Emden C.U.S.D. #21/Mission Statement:

“Hartsburg-Emden Community Unit School District provides an empowering and collaborative environment allowing students to reach their full potential.”

Hartsburg-Emden C.U.S.D. #21/Vision Statement:

“Hartsburg-Emden School District will fulfill its responsibility to provide a nurturing environment that cultivates positive relationships and continual growth to ensure students achieve personal success”

SEPTEMBER BREAKFAST/LUNCH PRICES

Student Breakfast \$40.00

Student Reduced Breakfast \$6.00

Student Lunch \$56.05

Student Reduced Lunch \$7.60

Students at Hartsburg-Emden Jr./Sr. High School will need to pay for seconds. Entrées are \$1.00, vegetable/fruit/chips are \$.50, Italian Ice is \$.75 and milk is \$.50.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Cory Brown, Principal

Hello Hartem Families!

School is officially underway at Hartsburg-Emden. It has been great to see our staff come together to welcome back all of the students. It's been great seeing the students coming back and settling into our daily routines. Hopefully everyone survived the extreme heat and we can put that type of weather away for the year. I always look forward to September when the humidity drops and we have cooler afternoons.

Fall sports are getting underway! Junior High Softball and Baseball have very short seasons so please get out and check out some games. Their post season will begin in early September. High School Volleyball has just started and we had a great turnout for Meet the Stags. We were entertained by Hartem alumni in an Alumni game. There are a lot of past players that still look like they haven't lost a step. Season Passes are back this year. Adults are \$60. Students are \$20. Out of District seniors are \$20. Family passes are \$120 for families with 4 or less. Families with 5 or more people are \$160. These passes will need names so rotating 4 people per game is not an option. If you plan on coming to all the games, this is a great deal.

Here are some dates to keep in mind for September. September 4th is Labor Day. September 13th is a 2:00 dismissal. Sept 27th is an 11:30 dismissal for a school improvement day. This year's fall book fair is the week of Sept 25th. The week of September 18th will be Volleyball Homecoming.

I hope everyone is enjoying the last weeks of summer and if you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

WELCOME BACK!

Tanya Zerbonia, Dean of Students

As this blistering summer week ends, I am looking forward to some cooler weather and my favorite season - autumn. Volleyball, football and chili cook-offs are just a few of the wonderful things in this season. Students are settling into the school routine and it's time to get the cobwebs out of our summer brains.

This year, we are looking forward to adding at least one new activity for students to participate in: E-sports. Mr. Gardiner (HS English) will be in charge

of this activity and has already started recruiting students. E-sports stands for electronic sports and is a form of competition based around video games. There are many benefits to this type of competition including increased student participation, a sense of belonging which boosts mental health and social involvement which increases school spirit. Since this is an IHSA sport, the eligibility requirements will be in effect. This will be a great opportunity to get even more students involved at Hartem.

Our new staff is adding quite a bit of positive energy to the building. We have added both physics and extreme weather electives for upperclassmen. These are being taught by Mr. Hodel (Math) who was a physics major and certified storm chaser. Under Mr. Westen's guidance, the strength and conditioning class is working on ways to make their bodies stronger and more efficient. Exposure to classes like this can fuel a student's passion for learning and we are so lucky to be able to offer them. Let's go Stags!

LIBRARY NEWS

Nichole Folkman, Librarian

Donations:

Two community members donated books to the library over the summer. Thank you so much Jill Baker and Lori Cross!

Thank you Alpha Delta Kappa Mu Chapter Teacher Sorority for your donation of \$150 to the library!

Are you a former student of Mrs. Folkman's? Have you had a happy event in your life in the past year like a big job promotion, wedding, baby, earned a degree, etc? Please let me know at nfolkman@hartem.org. I'd love to be able to personally donate a book to the school library in your name.

Book Giveaways:

Books were available for free for the community during both the Locker Decoration Night and the Grade School Open House. I hope you were able to grab some wonderful titles! Books will also be available at both buildings during Parent-Teacher Conferences in October.

Scholastic Book Fair:

On September 25-29, we will have the Scholastic Book Fair at the grade school. The fair will be open both before and after school during drop-off and pick-up times. Also, we will be having Breakfast with Buddies at the grade school instead of a Family

Reading Night for only the fall book fair. In the spring, we will have the full Family Reading Night with the Book Fair. Breakfast with Buddies is a great opportunity for students to bring in a special adult to have breakfast with them— and the book fair will be open as well! Come take a look- we can't wait to see you all!

Yearbook Updates:

The 2022-2023 book will be here in September! We do not have the exact ship date yet, but we will put the information out on the school website and social media when we know. Graduates can contact Mrs. Folkman at nfolkman@hartem.org to arrange their yearbook pickup if they ordered one. There will be a few copies left for purchase for \$45 on a first come, first served basis.

Do you want the 2023-2024 yearbook? It will be \$35 for all of first semester. Go to <https://yearbookforever.com>. Search for our school and you can make your purchase there. If you'd rather order through the school, please send a check with your child to give to Mrs. Folkman. Personalization and other cool options are only available online. If you have any questions, please feel free to email Mrs. Folkman.

We also have a limited number of vintage yearbooks available. If you're looking for any particular year, please reach out to Mrs. Folkman and she'll check our inventory.

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Elizabeth Hilgert, Student Coordinator/Guidance Counselor

Welcome back! I am excited to see all of the students back to school and ready to start a fresh new school year. I look forward to a great year. Here are a few tips to help everyone kick off the new school year on the right foot:

- **Get Involved!** It is important for students to not only have consistent attendance at school, but also have an active role in their classes and school community. School is not just about academics. It is also about learning from and making the most of social and extracurricular experiences. Talk to your teachers about what opportunities are available.

- **Make the most of your study time!** Put those study halls to good use. It is far easier to keep up than to catch up. The brain tends to more easily retrieve information that has been learned

continuously rather than crammed in a few hours. If you devote thirty minutes every day to each subject, you will find yourself retaining information better.

- **Get to know your teachers and counselor!** Students who need help often do not ask for it or wait too long to get it. You will find that your teachers and counselor want to help you, but they cannot read your mind.

- **Keep a balance in your life!** School can be stressful and fast-paced at times. Taking care of yourself will help you through these times. Getting enough sleep each night, eating right, and spending some fun time with family and friends are key steps in staying physically healthy and mentally alert. All work and no play can make for an unhealthy student. Come see your counselor if you are feeling overwhelmed.

- **Set reasonable goals for yourself and periodically check your progress!** Take time now to determine what you want to accomplish this year. Tape your goals to the wall so you can remind yourself daily of what you hope to achieve. It works! Also, the Tyler portal is a great way to track your grades and see if you are missing anything. Make it a habit to check this often.

Important Reminders for High School Students

PSAT

The [PSAT/NMSQT](#) will be offered at HEHS on Wednesday, October 13, 2023. If any 10th or 11th grade student is interested in participating in this assessment, please contact Mrs. Hilgert to register by Friday, September 8, 2023. The cost to take this test is \$20. While this is not a required assessment, it is a great practice opportunity for the mandatory assessments in Spring 2024. In addition, juniors who complete the PSAT/NMSQT will have the opportunity to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship. (The Oct 12th PSAT/NMSQT administration is the only opportunity to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship.) Illinois will be administering the mandatory PSAT to all 9th and 10th grade students and mandatory SAT to all 11th grade students in the spring of 2024.

Planning Ahead

The 2023-2024 *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) will be available on October 1, 2023. Please note that submitting the FAFSA (or completing an opt-out waiver) is a graduation requirement! It is recommended to submit this application as soon as possible to ensure the best access to financial assistance. We will be planning another FAFSA Completion Workshop on Wednesday, October 18th at 6:00pm in the computer lab. Please mark your calendars.

HARTEM FFA

Sara Barton, Ag Teacher and FFA Advisor

The Hartem FFA had a busy summer! They showed animals at various fairs, attended the Illinois State FFA Convention, walked in the Emden Homecoming parade, served our annual chicken dinner at Emden homecoming, served a customer appreciation dinner for the Hartsburg Grain Elevator, and attended the Farm Progress Show. Coming up in September we have a Farm Bureau Young Leaders field trip, horse judging, and our annual mum sale! Watch the Hartem FFA Facebook page and the school website for information on when the mums arrive.

HARTEM BAND DEPARTMENT NEWS

Welcome back to school! This year, we are expected to have the largest band program in recent Hartsburg history, and are in need of instruments! Yes, it's that big! If you have an unused instrument you are looking to donate or sell, please contact Mr. Jonathan Popper at jpopper@hartem.org. The Hartsburg-Emden Music Department looks forward to a great year in music, and appreciate your time to read this article! We'll see you in October at the Emden Halloween Parade!

THANK YOU!!!

On behalf of Hartsburg-Emden C.U.S.D. #21, I wanted to express my gratitude for the generous donation from D & D Complete Sewer Services & Portables. The past few years they have donated a porta potty free of charge. I'd like to thank them for doing this. Their donation allows us a way to provide restroom facilities during practices and games at our baseball diamond. Again, we appreciate their support and look forward to seeing everyone at a baseball game.

HARTEM ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Matthew Stoltzenburg, Athletic Director

Welcome back to another year of Stags' athletics! School is back in session and so are our sports teams.

The junior high softball team is in midseason shape. Coach Awe and the girls are nearly ready to begin their postseason play. The girls start regional play on September 6th.

We have our own jr. high baseball team back this year with new coach John Bell at the helm. They will be in the Logan County Tournament the first week of September and begin their postseason on September 13th.

Our last fall sports team, the high school volleyball team, began their season on August 24 vs Dee-Mack. They will have home matches on September 5, 12, 18, and 21. The girls also travel to Mt. Pulaski for a tournament on September 15 + 16.

As a new school year starts, I would like to ask that all of us display a high level of sportsmanship. Let's make sure that we are cheering for our hard working coaches and players and not being negative towards the officials, coaches, fans, or players. Remember that we are role models for our student-athletes. A reminder that parents should make sure if your son/daughter is not riding the bus home, you have signed them out with the coach. If there are other arrangements, make sure the coach is aware of this and has written documentation of your plans. Good luck to everyone and let's have a great year. Go Stags!



SPANISH I

At the beginning of semester 1, Spanish 1 will be learning conversational Spanish and grammar. The first day of school the students will pick a Spanish name. They will then learn how to say every Spanish sound. Soon the students will be learning numbers, calendars, time, colors, etc.

SPANISH II

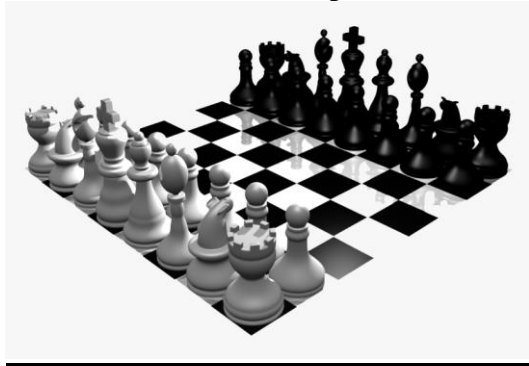
Students will begin with more advanced dialogue than they had last year. They will soon learn both the Preterite and Imperfect verb tenses to be able to read, write, and speak in the past tense.

SPANISH III AND SPANISH IV

Spanish 3 and 4 will share the same instructional hour. The students enrolled in the class have a lot of facility with the language. We will be speaking and writing short essays right away. Spanish 3 will finish all the grammar on www.studyspanish.com and Spanish 4 will be doing a special project on the country of El Salvador.

HARTEM-LINCOLN CHESS TEAM (COOP)

Hartem chess is excited to announce that we have formed a cooperative team for IHSA competition with Lincoln High School. Lincoln had an active club but did not compete scholastically in the IHSA. Hartem is losing several players to graduation. The IHSA only has one class in chess. Hartem played schools with enrollments as high as 4000 students. The coop will give both schools a chance to compete and have coaches with a lot of experience behind them. Kent Hieronymus is the head coach with 39 years of experience of coaching high school and jr. high chess. John Robinson is the high school assistant coach and the Hartem Jr. High head coach with 4 years of experience. Sally Aukamp is the sponsor for the Lincoln chess players and has 4 years of experience. Welcome Sally Aukamp and the Lincoln Chess Team to our coop!



EMDEN ELEMENTARY SEEKING GYM SHOES

Emden Elementary School needs some gym shoes for students. They could be new or gently used. We are searching for the following sizes:

- Kids – 11 – boy
- Kids – 11 – boy
- Kids – 13 – boy
- Kids – 13 – girl
- Kids – 2 – boy
- Kids – 3 – boy
- Kids – 3 – boy
- Adult – 7 – boy
- Adult – 8.5 – girl
- Adult – 9 – girl
- Adult – 10 – boy

If you have extra shoes to donate, please call our office (217-376-3151) to verify that we do still need that specific size! Thank you!

HSV B FUNDRAISING SUPPER

The High School Volleyball Team is hosting a FAT BOYS BBQ supper on Monday, October 2nd from 4:30-6:00. Meal tickets are \$8.00 and includes, PULLED PORK SANDWICH, BAKED BEANS, COLE SLAW, PEGGY'S PLACE HOMEMADE COOKIE, AND DRINK. Tickets will be sold by all the HSVB players and coaches. Tickets can be bought in advance or at the door, carry-outs are available. Thank you for continuing to support Hartem Volleyball!



SEPTEMBER 2023

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1 Picture Day @ JH/HS JHSB vs Tremont 4:30	2 JHBB @ LoCo Tourn TBA
3	4 No School	5 JHSB @ W-L 4:30 HSVB vs Lewistown 6:00	6 JHSB-1A Reg. TBA JHBB @ MWC 4:00 FFA Chapter Mtg @ Ag Shop 5:45	7 JHBB vs IC 4:30 *8th Grade Night*	8 JHBB @ Tri-City 4:30 FFA-Farm Bureau Field Trip 8:00-3:00	9 JHSB-1A Reg TBA JHBB vs CEL 11:00
10	11 JHSB-1A Reg TBA JHBB @ MP 4:30 HSVB @ Tremont 5:30	12 HSVB vs Athens 6:00	13 2:00 Dismissal Faculty Mtg. JHBB-1A Reg TBA	14	15 <i>Progress Rpts</i> HSVB @ MP Festival TBA	16 JHSB-1A Sect TBA JHBB-1A Reg TBA HSVB @ MP Fest. TBA
17	18 JHBB-1A Reg TBA HSVB vs W-L 6:00	19 Journalism Field Trip 8:00-3:15	20	21 HSVB vs MP 6:00 *Homecoming Game*	22 JHSB-1A State TBA	23 JHSB-1A State TBA JHBB-1A Sect TBA HSVB-HoCo Dance 7:30-9:30
24	25 HSVB @ IC 6:00 Fall Book Fair @ GS	26	27 Breakfast with Buddies @ GS 8:00-8:30 11:30 Dismissal SIP Day HSVB @ Routt 6:00	28	29 JHBB-1A State TBA	30 JHBB-1A State TBA

SEPTEMBER 2023

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
Breakfast Menu					1 Donut Fruit Juice	2
3	4 No School	5 Nutri grain bar Fruit Juice	6 Scrambled egg bowl Toast Fruit Juice	7 Brown sugar oatmeal Toast Fruit Juice	8 GS-Cereal, Toast, Fruit, Juice JH/HS-Danish apple claw, Fruit, Juice	9
10	11 Pancake & sausage On a stick Fruit Juice	12 Yogurt w/strawberries Toast Fruit Juice	13 Sausage patty Tri tater Toast Fruit Juice	14 Frittata cheese omelet Toast Fruit Juice	15 English muffin Fruit Juice	16
17	18 Waffles Sausage patty Fruit Juice	19 GS-Biscuit Egg & Sausage patty JH/HS-Assorted muffins Fruit Juice	20 Pop tart Fruit Juice	21 Biscuit with sausage gravy Fruit Juice	22 Fruit frudel Fruit Juice	23
24	25 Peanut butter & jelly uncrustable Fruit Juice	26 Coffee cake Fruit Juice	27 GS-Assorted muffins JH/HS-Biscuit Egg & Sausage patty Fruit Juice	28 Assorted cereal Toast Fruit Juice	29 French toast sticks Sausage links Fruit Juice	30

SEPTEMBER 2023

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
Lunch Menu					1 Assorted sandwiches Chips Fresh veggies Pears	2
3	4 No School	5 Hamburger on bun French fries Green beans Pudding Mixed fruit	6 Crispito w/cheese sauce Rice Refried beans Pineapple	7 BBQ Meatballs Mashed potatoes Corn Mandarin oranges	8 Sloppy joe on bun Nacho chips Cheese sauce Peas Peaches	9
10	11 BBQ Pork on bun Baked beans Cole slaw Applesauce	12 Walking taco Lettuce, cheese, salsa Corn Tiger bites w/icing Peaches	13 BBQ Rib on bun Potato smiles Green beans Pineapple	14 Chicken alfredo Breadstick Lettuce salad Peas Mixed fruit	15 Loaded nachos Lettuce, cheese, salsa Apricots	16
17	18 Chicken patty on bun French fries Carrots Mandarin oranges	19 Popcorn chicken Mashed potatoes w/gravy Corn Peas	20 Toasted ham & cheese Tater tots Green beans Cake w/strawberries Pineapple	21 Pig in a blanket Baked beans Pasta salad Applesauce	22 Chicken strips Macaroni & cheese Peas Peaches	23
24	25 Bosco sticks Marinara sauce Lettuce salad Mandarin oranges	26 Pork tenderloin on bun French fries Green beans Cookie Peaches	27 11:30 Dismissal SIP Day	27 Corn dog Soft pretzel w/cheese Carrots Peas	29 Texas toast pizza Lettuce salad Corn Pineapple	30

Hartsburg-Emden C.U.S.D. #21
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CLASS OF 2025 FUNDRAISER

The class of 2025 will be selling raffle tickets from September 9th-17 for a chance to win one of three different baskets. Raffle tickets will be \$5 each or 3 for \$10, and the winners will be announced/contacted Monday September 18th to pick up their prize basket from the high school.

- Basket #1: Coffee Basket: Ninja coffee maker, Boston's Best coffee, and Starbucks gift card
- Basket #2: Galaxy Tab A7 Lite tablet basket: Galaxy Tab A7 Lite tablet, Tablet case, and \$25 Google Play gift card
- Basket # 3: Fire HD8 tablet tablet basket: Fire HD8 tablet, tablet case, and \$25 Amazon gift card.

See a member of the class of 2025 to purchase your ticket for a chance to win!