When people return to EHS the first word is “Wow!” The look is brand new as you can see in the before and after photos. It’s exciting to have added classroom space as well as hallways and an additional set of stairs. The flow, both moving people and air, is greatly improved. All the hallways connect so there are very few areas that will require students to back track to get to their next class. The spaciousness is obvious the minute you enter the main entrance. When you go past the Administration area towards the Library and see the hallway with openings to the upstairs, you’ll know why everything feels different. Natural light splashes throughout the building and for those of us who were once upon a time “cave dwellers” the transformation to the “new” EHS is inspiring. Wildcat Day will be a great opportunity to see students enjoy the hard work and dedication of every single school district employee who packed and moved, and packed and moved, some of you a third time, searched for parking, walked long distances, voted yes while campaigning the bond enthusiastically, all as we continued providing outstanding education and customer service. Our students and our community thanks you, as does all of Douglas County. During the last three years our construction projects have had a huge impact on the economy of Douglas County. We will all benefit from that economic boost. We look forward to what Eastmont’s construction projects have contributed to 2014. If you haven’t stopped by and visited EHS, do so. You’ll be happy and proud that your vote made a significant difference in an old and well used facility. It’s now new again and it looks and feels great! Please remember to share in our community’s pride at the Board Meeting on September 22, 2014 for the official ribbon cutting ceremony with student led building tours to follow.
Dear Eastmont Community,

September 3rd is the start of the new school year. It also brings to closure three major construction projects that were initiated in 2010 when voters passed a construction bond to modernize Grant Elementary, Sterling Intermediate, and Eastmont High School.

These three projects will have been completed on-time and on-budget. We greatly thank our community and our staff for making this happen and appreciate everyone’s patience during the construction process. The schools have turned out beautiful and will serve Eastmont School District for many years.

Please know we hope to bring a proposal to Eastmont voters fall 2016 that will continue this work and modernize Cascade, Kenroy, and Lee. There may also be other projects at Rock Island Elementary, the District’s transportation and maintenance center, and some smaller repairs.

Congratulations and thanks to all those who made this happen! This includes our voters, the many local and regional businesses and skilled workers who spent time on our projects, and employees and students who were moved or disrupted during this time.

Sincerely,
Garn Christensen
Superintendent

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Focus on Construction

The 2014-15 school year gets started September 3rd. Even though the world is different than when we may have gone to school, the recipe for student success remains the same:

• A good night’s rest the night before a school day
• Nutritious meals and snacks
• Caring and supportive adults who ask about school work and future plans
• A quiet and orderly place for a student to do homework

Research on success at school is wide-ranging, yet two things stand out.

First, good attendance is critical. Those students who miss less than one day per month graduate at higher rates than those with high levels of absences.

Second, students who read at least 20 minutes every day are far more likely to graduate from high school than those who do not read. The numbers for both high school and college graduation rates go up significantly as an individual’s reading ability increases.

Parents need to read daily to young children, implement nightly reading as they get older, and read in front of your children so they see it as something important. A weekly trip to our local libraries or bookstore to let a young person self-select their own reading materials is always helpful at developing strong readers.

My hope is for a safe, positive, and productive 2014-15 school year. Please do not hesitate to call my office if you have a suggestion on what we can do better or hear of something that concerns you.

Best regards,
Garn Christensen
Superintendent

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Eastmont employees and construction workers work hard the first week of August getting EHS ready to go.
By Matthew Ockinga, Staff writer

This is not your parent’s Eastmont High School. Even a 2014 EHS graduate would feel alien wandering around their revamped alma mater. Yes, it still sits at 955 3rd St. NE, but other than the address few similarities remain between the old Eastmont High School and the new building which has undergone a phoenix-like rebirth over months and months of construction. The impressive remodel is the long-awaited result of the $30.8 million Facility Improvement Bond passed by voters in November of 2010. “It’s the same footprint, but everything’s in a different spot,” second-year principal Lance Noell said. “I can’t wait for the kids to get here. I’m so excited just to get going.”

A quick glance from the newly paved parking lot at the state-of-the-art facility shows the high school’s extreme makeover. A tall and spacious entrance welcomes students into a building which looks like it would fit nicely on a collegiate campus.

“It has more of a college feel,” said construction worker Lee Everhart. “I think it’s going to create a happy environment for everyone.”

A remodel is just what EHS needed. The former school, built in 1977, had a myriad of construction and space issues that challenged both students and faculty alike. At the time of the bond vote in 2010, the roof was outdated, pipes were leaking and the electrical system had major deficiencies and overloaded circuits.

Then there was the space problem. Since real estate at the old building was at a premium, some teachers had to instruct in glorified closets or old offices which led to poor ventilation, uncomfortable temperatures and circuit breakers that would go off during class. Last year, EHS staff and social workers had to work around classrooms that were completed sections of the new building, such as P.E., CTE labs and the business department, and portables at the newly remodeled Sterling. Now they have all the room they need to thrive during the school year. “Our students and teachers have room to teach and learn,” Noell said. “They can focus on their kids and their teaching, otherwise you’re worrying about popping a breaker or, ‘It’s hot!’”

Students and faculty will be treated to a spacious layout which features a lot more windows and natural light, especially on the east wing of the building. Catwalks on the second story connect classrooms to each other. Extra staircases have been added to help with student traffic flow. Other features included a refurbished auditorium, an auxiliary gym, bigger administrative offices and an impressive weight room upstairs with a cardio facility. Besides the remodel, the bond also included new equipment. Eastmont now has a new chair and desk for every student. About 64 new computers will be integrated into the classrooms. The gym features a new set of bleachers and almost all of the equipment in the athletic facilities are new.

While reveling in the shiny new facility with all its proverbial bells and whistles, Noell was appreciative of the voters who sacrificed to pass the bond. As the skipper of the “new” Eastmont High School, he was visibly ready to set sail on the building’s maiden voyage.

“It’s humbling. I’m honored. Your high school is the flagship of the District,” Noell said. “Nothing beats a good teacher. If you give a good teacher good equipment it makes them that much better. The facility’s not the most important. It’s the people. But you have great kids and great teacher and give them this? Wow.”

As for Everhart, as his two-year journey winds down, he looks forward to seeing his Eastmont High School experience come full circle. “In the end just to stand back and look at something like this and say, ‘I made it happen,’” he said. “I can’t wait for my kids to come up to school here. I’m excited to see them go to the school that I put a lot of hard work into.”

For Everhart, Eastmont High School has been a family affair. An Eastmont School District lifer, he graduated as a Wildcat in 2002 preceding his three siblings and following his parents. Everhart began working construction in 2003 and earned his commercial license in 2006. In addition to Eastmont High School, the bond also included massive improvements of Sterling Intermediate School and Grant Elementary, the latter Everhart attended in the 1990s. He recalled feeling surreal excitement upon learning that he would be working on two of his former schools. “It was awesome,” Everhart said. He remembered saying to himself, “I can’t believe this. I haven’t been here (Grant) in years. To remodel schools you spent nine years of your education in is pretty neat.”
Printed on the next two pages are the Eastmont School District morning pick-up times and locations. Locate the school your child is attending (see CODE below). Find the bus stop that is nearest to your home. It is the assigned stop where your child will be picked up and dropped off.

School bus stop information can also be retrieved from the district website at www.eastmont206.org. Click on Transportation. Type in “green” for both the name and password. Follow the three steps:

1. Select your grade level.
2. Put in your street address.
3. Find transportation info.

### CASCADE

**ROUTE CODES**

**GRAY ELEPHANT**

7:44 am Eastmont High School

7:54 am 2306 Hemdon Dr

7:56 am 2315 Cascade Ave

7:58 am Fancher Heights Blvd @ Twin Peaks Wk

8:00 am Fancher Heights Blvd @ Grand Ave

8:01 am Fancher Heights Blvd @ Polkwood Dr

8:10 am Cascade Elementary School

**BLUE BIRD**

7:51 am Fancher Hts @ Bellanca

7:54 am 2575 Aviation Dr

7:56 am 2561 Aviation Dr

7:58 am Aviation Dr @ Fancher Field Rd

7:59 am Fancher Field Rd @ Pratt Dr

8:00 am Fancher Field Rd @ Badger Dr

8:02 am Badger Mountain Rd @ Plateau Dr

8:15 am Cascade Elementary School

**ROCK ISLAND**

**ROUTE CODES**

**BAKERS BREAD**

7:35 am Sunset Hwy @ Blue Grade Rd

7:41 am SR 297 @ Bakers Breads

7:41 am 13250 US 2/97 Hwy

7:46 am SR 297 @ Longview Rd

7:47 am SR 297 @ Willow Dr

7:54 am 13141 US 2/97 Hwy

7:58 am 4906 NW Cascade Ave

8:00 am NW Cascade Ave @ 13th St NE

8:02 am 4204 NW Cascade Ave

8:03 am NW Cascade Ave @ Mcculley Ct

8:03 am NW Cascade Ave @ 33rd St NW

8:05 am 3956 NE Blarney Rd

8:06 am 3095 NE Vista Del Rey Dr

8:07 am Blue Rock Dr @ NE 40th Ct NE

8:09 am 4107 Rock Rd

8:10 am 4039 Buecker Dr NE

8:11 am 4054 Buecker Dr

8:11 am 4041 Buecker Dr

8:13 am 3824 SUNSET HAY

8:19 am Cascade Elementary School

### CASCADE/LEW

**ROUTE CODES**

**GREEN DUCK**

7:44 am Eastmont Ave @ 19th St NE

7:45 am Eastmont Ave @ Valley View Blvd

7:49 am Canyon Hills Dr @ Canyon Ct

7:50 am Canyon Hills Dr @ Whidbey Dr

7:51 am Canyon Hills Dr @ Prattie Dr

7:52 am Canyon Hills Dr @ Combine St

7:54 am 2304 Wildwood Dr

7:54 am Spring Wheat Rd @ Seminole Loop

7:55 am Whidbey Dr @ Harvestor Loop

7:57 am 1255 Whidbey Rd

7:58 am 1256 Whidley Dr

8:01 am 6043 Ski View Dr

8:03 am Cascade Elementary School

8:16 am Robert E Lee Elementary School

**ORANGE TANG**

7:48 am 19th St NE @ 33rd St NW

7:50 am 2017 NW Cascade Ave

7:53 am NW Cascade Ave @ Lloyd FW NW

7:54 am NW Cascade Ave @ 34th St NW

7:55 am NW Cascade Ave @ 29th St NW

7:57 am NW Cascade Ave @ 31st St NW

7:57 am NW Cascade Ave @ 2nd St NW

7:59 am 370th St NW @ Ashworth Pl

8:00 am 37th St NW @ Almed Pl

### EHS/EAHS/ECPS

#### 2014-2015 MORNING BUS RUNS

**EHS:** Eastmont High School

**EJHS:** Eastmont Junior High School

**CPIS:** Clovis Point Intermediate School

**SIS:** Sterling Middle School

**CAS:** Cascade Elementary School

**NOTE:** Due to funding changes, Choice Students and students within one (1) mile of school are not assigned to a bus. For more information at 884-4621 with any questions.

#### KENROY/GRANT

**ROUTE CODES**

**RED CHICKEN**

7:43 am 105 NW Cascade Ave

7:44 am 320 N Perry Ave

7:49 am 5th St NE @ N 1st St NE

7:54 am 3rd St NE @ N Nebraska Ave

7:55 am 3rd St NE @ N Newton Ave

7:56 am 3rd St NE @ N Nile Ave

7:57 am N Nile Ave @ 4th St NE

7:57 am N Nile Ave @ 5th St NE

7:58 am 2605 8th St NE

7:59 am 3000 8th St NE

8:00 am 825 N Stark Ave

8:01 am 991 N Stark Ave

8:02 am 10th St NE @ N Nile Ave

8:03 am 8th St NE @ N Manchester Pl

8:04 am 8th St NE @ Mount Joy Sq

8:05 am 8th St NE @ Melbourne Cir

8:06 am Kenroy Elementary School

8:12 am Ulysses S Grant Elementary School

**ROUTE CODES**

**SILVER EAGLE**

8:04 am NW Cascade Ave

8:08 am Cascade Elementary School

8:17 am Robert E Lee Elementary School

**SILVER SHOVEL**

8:08 am S 33rd St NW

8:03 am 3555 Cascade Ave

8:08 am Cascade Elementary School

8:17 am Robert E Lee Elementary School

**ROCK ISLAND**

**ROUTE CODES**

**GREEN TURTLE**

7:59 am Rock Island Rd @ Mackenzie Ln

7:59 am Rock Island Rd @ Q S Mama Ln

8:00 am 3956 NE Blarney Rd

8:01 am Rock Island Rd @ Marigold Ln

8:02 am Rock Island Rd @ N Nile Ave

8:03 am 2500 10th St NE

8:08 am SR 297 @ S Tyee Ave

8:10 am Rock Island Rd @ Q Quincy Ave

8:11 am Rock Island Rd @ S Pearl Ave

8:12 am S Pearl Ave @ Gracia Ln

8:13 am Acimal Way @ Aspens Shores Dr

8:20 am Rock Island Elementary School

**ROCK ISLAND**

**ROUTE CODES**

**PURPLE BUTTERFLY**

7:30 am Kenroy Elementary School

7:37 am 2820 Grant Rd

7:37 am 3010 Grant Rd

7:39 am Airway SE @ S Roland Ave

7:40 am 2844 S.of 297 Hwy

7:47 am 2910 8th St SE

7:51 am 2720 8th St SE

7:54 am 3906 S of 297 Hwy

7:56 am 6500 S Van Wyk Ave

7:59 am 5371 8th St SE

8:00 am 4504 SW Hardridge Rd

8:00 am 5620 Batt Romero Rd

8:02 am Batt Romero Rd @ Woodstone Ln

8:11 am Rock Island Rd @ Sartege Dr

8:13 am Rock Island Rd @ Pecore Ln

8:14 am 1631 Riverside Dr

8:15 am 5380 Riverside Dr

8:16 am 5501 Riverside Dr

8:16 am 5000 Riverside Dr

8:19 am Rock Island Elementary School

### CPIS

**ROUTE CODES**

8:00 am N Grover Pl @ N Garden Plz

7:04 am 10th St NE @ NW Iowa Ave

7:05 am 10th St NE @ N Jennifer Ln

7:07 am Kenroy Elementary School

7:15 am 97 Eastmont Ave

7:17 am 7th St SE @ 1st St NE

7:23 am Clovis Point Intermediate School

### August 2014
Focus on Food Service

August 2014

EASTMONT FOOD SERVICE WELCOMES BACK STUDENTS!

FREE/REDUCED MEAL APPLICATIONS

All households are required to fill out a new application each year. Students receiving meal benefits last year must complete a new application for the new school year. Without a new application, students will continue to receive the same benefit only until October.

Tips for filling out the application:
1. Make sure all student information is complete including the student income section. Please indicate $0 if there is no student income to report.
2. Make sure to provide all household members and their income.
3. Make sure to sign your application at the bottom.

Not following these tips may result in an incomplete application that will delay approval for your student. Applications that are not complete will be mailed back so that additional required information can be provided.

We work as fast as we can to get the applications approved, but please remember we have up to 10 days once your application is received. Once the application is processed, a letter is sent home that notifies the family of the approval or denial.

Students will need to pay full price for all meals while the application is being approved. Please make sure to send money with your student for meals or a sack lunch for them to eat until you have received notification of approval status.

Meal prices for the 2014 - 2015 school year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Grades K - 12</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BREAKFAST FULL PRICE</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REDUCED PRICE BREAKFAST</td>
<td>NO CHARGE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELEMENTARY LUNCH FULL PRICE</td>
<td>(Grades K – 5)</td>
<td>$2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECONDARY LUNCH FULL PRICE</td>
<td>(Grades 6 – 12)</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REDUCED PRICE LUNCH GRADES K-3</td>
<td>NO CHARGE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REDUCED PRICE LUNCH GRADES 4 - 12</td>
<td>$0.40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MILK ONLY FOR ALL STUDENTS</td>
<td>$0.30</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

MySchoolBucks.com provides a convenient and secure online meal payment option. Information on creating an account for your student’s meal management can be found at www.eastmont206.org, then click on “Food Service”.

Fruits and Vegetables at Rock Island Elementary

Does your child know what romenescas is? What is an aprium? Or a pluot? This year students at Rock Island Elementary School will discover, taste, and learn about these vegetables and fruits. The school has been awarded the USDA Fresh Fruits and Vegetable Grant. This grant provides all students at Rock Island with an afternoon snack of fresh fruit and/or fresh vegetables.

Students and their teachers are encouraged to taste and discover various vegetables and fruits throughout the school year. Studies have shown that students who are part of this program are likely to eat 25% more fruits and vegetables in their diet than students who have not participated. We think this is a great way to teach healthy eating habits that can impact these students for life.

Pass the vegetables, please!

Photos in the newsletter by Reilly Kneedler.

Student Dress Code

Understanding socially appropriate dress is fundamental to a student’s future employment success. In support of the transition from child to young adult, and in recognition of growing gang related behaviors and dress, the following attire related rules are in place beginning August 2013.

A = Allowed  N = Not Allowed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Level/Age Appropriate</th>
<th>K</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
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<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Long pants including sweatpants                            A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Shirts and shorts that extend to mid-thigh.                  A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>3. Shirts with necklines no lower than a straight line between underarms A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Skivvies with small symbols and shoulder straps a minimum width of 3 student fingers A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Shirts that display the midriff                                N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Alcohol, drug, or weapon related words, art, or symbols       N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
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<td>N</td>
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<td>7. Nonathletic shoes in PE/recess or barefoot                     N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
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<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Gang affiliated clothing, piercing, tattoos, jewelry, and hair styles as recognized by law enforcement N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Hats, sunglasses, or bandanas (other than with an order from a medical doctor) worn or displayed inside the building N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Mesh/sheer or clothing with large holes unless approved clothing underneath N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
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<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Pants worn below the top of the buttocks                      N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Skelewear/funwear worn in place of, or on top of, regular clothing, and long duster/trench style coats N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Violent, hate, or harassing related words, art, or symbols    N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. Color-dyed hair                                                 A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>15. Visible piercings other than earrings                         A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

a. Jewelry and piercings must be removed to participate in PE/athletic activities if required by teacher/coach.
b. All new team, club, and activity uniforms must be consistent with Eastmont colors of red and Columbia blue, meet league standards, and be approved by the coach/advisor, athletic director, and principal.
c. Grades 6-12 PE uniform requirements are minimal and shall consist of red shorts, grey t-shirt, and grey sweatpants. Logos are not required, although any uniforms sold in the District will have only an “Eastmont” logo. PE loaner uniforms will be provided if requested by a parent.

The dress code procedure will be reviewed with all building staff on a yearly basis. If the student’s dress or grooming is objectionable under these provisions, the principal will request the student to make appropriate corrections. If the student refuses, the principal will take appropriate corrective action including disciplinary action for a dress code violation. Principals may grant exceptions for occasional special events and activities.

Students who violate provisions of the dress code relating to extracurricular activities may be excluded from the extracurricular activity until proper attire is worn.

- breakast full price
- reduced price breakfast
- elementary lunch full price (grades k – 5)
- secondary lunch full price (grades 6 – 12)
- reduced price lunch grades k-3
- reduced price lunch grades 4 - 12
- milk only for all students

Money with your student for meals or a sack lunch for them to eat until you have received notification of approval status.

Meal prices for the 2014 - 2015 school year

- Breakfast full price
- Reduced price breakfast
- Elementary lunch full price (grades k – 5)
- Secondary lunch full price (grades 6 – 12)
- Reduced price lunch grades k-3
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Photos in the newsletter by Reilly Kneedler.
Dear Parents and Students,

Safety is one of our district’s top priorities and to help safeguard our school community, we’ve taken an important step that I want to share with you. You and your child can easily report tips on bullying, harassment, drugs, vandalism or any safety issue you’re concerned about through SafeSchools Alert. When you submit a tip, be sure to use our district’s identification code: 1069.

Every tip SafeSchools Alert receives about our district is immediately logged in the system and our administration is notified so that they can investigate and take appropriate action. And, tips may also be submitted anonymously if you prefer.

Together, using SafeSchools Alert, we can make our district a safer place to work and learn! Thanks in advance for your support.

If you have any questions, please contact Vicki Trainor, Executive Director of Human Resources, 884-7169.

Sincerely,

Garn Christensen
Superintendent

2014-2015 REQUIRED ANNUAL NOTIFICATIONS

Title I, Part A – Annual Parent Notification

Title I, Part A is a federal program that provides financial support to schools to help disadvantaged and low performing students so that all children meet challenging state academic standards. Eastmont follows the Schoolwide process giving our seven funded schools flexibility to serve all students who demonstrate a need for support.

Parent Involvement

We know that family involvement in a child’s education is a greater predictor of academic success than whether or not that family is affluent or poor. It is also evident that students whose families take an active interest in their school life are more likely to attend school regularly, pass their classes, enroll in higher-level programs, and go on to higher education or a technical career.

School-Parent Compact: The Compact is an annual agreement between the parent, student, and school regarding the joint responsibilities in helping each student find success. These documents are completed each Fall during Parent Conferences. For more information, please visit: www.eastmont206.org.

Student Academic Achievement Reports

Each year a school that receives Title I, Part A funds must provide parents with an individual student report informing them on their child’s level of academic achievement on the State’s assessment in at least reading, language arts, and math.

District and School Report Card - How are we doing?

The District and School Report Card provides the following information on public schools and districts in Washington State: Student Achievement, Student Demographics, and Staff Information. For more information, please visit: reportcard.asp.k12.wa.us.

Parents Right to Know - Highly Qualified Staff

Parents of children in schools that receive Title I, Part A funding have the right to request and receive information about the professional qualifications of teachers and instructional paraprofessionals in their building. For more information, please visit: www.k12.wa.us/TitleI/FamilyInvolvement/default.aspx

Have a Complaint that Needs to be Resolved?

Any individual or organization may file a signed, written complaint if it believes the state, a local school district, an educational service district, or other sub-grantee has violated one or more requirements of federal statutes or regulations or state regulations that apply to a federal program. For more information, please visit: http://www.k12.wa.us/TitleI/CitizenComplaint.aspx

Late Start Mondays

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<tr>
<th>Schools</th>
<th>Monday Schedule</th>
<th>Tuesday – Friday Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cascade</td>
<td>9:25 – 10:10</td>
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<td>Grant</td>
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<td>Kenroy</td>
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<td>Lee</td>
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<td>Rock Island</td>
<td>9:25 – 10:10</td>
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<td>Sterling K-4</td>
<td>9:25 – 10:10</td>
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<td>Intermediate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clovis Point</td>
<td>8:45 – 2:30</td>
<td>7:45 – 2:30</td>
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<td>Sterling 5–7</td>
<td>8:45 – 2:30</td>
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<td>Junior High</td>
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<td>Eastmont Junior High</td>
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<td>High School</td>
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<td>Eastmont High School</td>
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Annual Notification Eastmont Highly Capable Program

Any person, (including a parent, guardian, teacher, or student) may nominate a student for Eastmont’s Highly Capable Program. It provides students of high academic and intellectual ability an opportunity to explore concepts in greater depth and further develop their intellectual thinking and creativity. To participate in the Highly Capable Program, students must meet very rigorous criteria and be selected by their school’s multidisciplinary team.

To make a nomination, complete the Highly Capable Program Nomination Form available at www.eastmont206.org or at your student’s school. In nominations should be returned to the student’s school by September 30 of the current school year.

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Summer School
Lots of Learning for the Students
And Experience for the Teachers, too

By Matthew Ockinga, Staff writer

Summer school. It sharpens skills. It builds confidence. It improves performance. Oh, and it’s great for new teachers, too.

Hundreds of students, as well as a pair of rookie teachers, received the rewards of the Eastmont School District’s 2014 summer school session. Approximately 54 students went to Rock Island Academy of Learning while another 145 gathered at Grant Elementary School. Both programs lasted five weeks, Monday through Thursday and were designed for students in grades 1-4 to gain intensive help in reading, writing and math. “It helps them to stay where they are or give them a better base,” said Holly Cornbluh, lead teacher at the Grant program. “Every day they get that extra attention.”

At Grant, two fresh-faced newbies had a unique chance to jumpstart their careers this summer in a somewhat low key environment before the chaos of the regular school year. Incoming first grade teachers Travis Kane and Joel Barnes taught under the tutelage of seasoned veterans Tracy Thompson and Jane Spry, both first grade teachers at Lee. “Of all my summer schools that I have done, this was probably the best. The four of us just worked together so well and we complemented each other,” said Spry. “Travis and Joel really wanted hands-on teaching experience before fall, so summer school worked perfect. They were both so nice and they’d bring us coffee in the morning to say thank you.”

Both men were thankful to be able to hone their skills. They also benefited from previously working together. The two subbed together once and had attending training together in Seattle earlier in the year. They also have something in common, which Kane appreciates. “Especially as a male - there are not too many first grade male teachers and having somebody else that is going through that process with you is just really helpful,” Kane said.

For the students, summer school started out with sack breakfasts, and then teachers rotated their students through various stations every 20-25 minutes. Reading and math skills were emphasized strongly during these sessions, some of which took place in computer labs. For the first few days of the summer session, Spry and Thompson took the lead while Barnes and Kane observed. Then it was time for the guys to get their feet wet. “I knew I’d be able to have a lot more time for the guys to get their feet wet. I feel like that was an absolute Godsend,” Kane said. “The ones I liked had eyeballs on the socks so I told the kids that he always had his eyes on them.”

Students were tested in reading, writing and math both before and after the summer session. The results showed that the extra schooling paid academic dividends. “Most of the kids I believe were able to maintain or make increases,” Spry said. “I think the summer school program is just crucial for those kids. It gets them into a routine and they don’t get out of practice. It’s kind of like riding a bike.”

The same can be said for the teachers. “When I tell somebody that I did summer school for kindergarten to first grade, I feel like that was an absolute Godsend right there,” said Kane, who will teach at Kenmy. “It helped me to see my strengths with those kids but also the things that I really need to improve on.”

Barnes thrilled his students by wearing an odd pair of socks every day. One pair of socks was decorated with tacos while another featured mustaches. “He has ugly socks every day,” Kane said. “The ones I liked had eyeballs on the socks so I told the kids that he always had his eyes on them.”

Spry and Thompson, who have over five decades of teaching experience combined, praised the young men for how they related to the students and were happy pass on some advice. “Classroom management is the most important thing and once you get the kids managed and under control then the teaching and learning will happen,” Thompson said. But teaching is more than managing behavior and providing instruction and assessment. Good teachers have to be approachable to their students and usually have a strong sense of humor.

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