



Fall 2018

Dates to note:

August 23

New Family Orientation/
Tour for grades 1-5
3:00 - 4:00pm

August 29

EC Open House
4:30 - 6:00pm

September 4

First day of school!
Kindergarten Parents
Cheers and Tears

September 27

PTO Meeting

October 3

Skills classes field trip to
Eastman Nature Center

October 4

Grade 5 field trip to
Eastman Nature Center
Apex Fun Run

October 9

Kindness in Chalk

October 10

National Walk to School
Day

October 18 & 19

No School

October 23

Grade 1 field trip to
Eastman Nature Center

October 24,30 & Nov. 1

Parent/Teacher
Conferences

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Dear Elm Creek Families,

I am excited to start my fourth year as principal at Elm Creek Elementary. I am proud of all that has been accomplished over the last three years-validation as a Minnesota School of Excellence, increased reading and math state scores, partnerships developed with Eastman Nature Center and Lee Carlson, grants awarded for PBIS work, breakout boxes, Kindergarten embryology, buddy benches and social emotional learning curriculum, and traditions started such as the all school BBQ, school musical, kindness club, school newspaper club and Camp Baldwin. These opportunities are a result of our strong staff and community. Word must be getting out about the good things happening at Elm Creek because our enrollment is increasing. We are adding a section at third grade and fifth grade this school year.

Please join me in welcoming our new staff:

Wendy Ames- 0.6 Speech teacher

Ann Bordonaro- 0.3 Vocal Music teacher

Rachael Bushy- 1.0 Special Education Resource teacher

Tina Czech- 0.3 School Counselor

Jessica Ellingson- 0.5 Special Education Resource teacher/ 0.5 Behavior Intervention Teacher

Kelly Funfar-25 hour/week behavior support Educational Support Professional

Johnnie Gilbert- 20 hour/week behavior support Educational Support Professional

Margy Peterson- 1.0 SpEd Resource teacher (while Courtney Decowski is on leave)

Elizabeth Pim- 0.1 Orchestra teacher

Lynn Schulte-Instructional Coach

TBN- 0.2 DAPE teacher

TBN- Fifth grade teacher

TBN- Preschool teacher

Good news-our partnership with Lee Carlson Center is expanding. Krysta Palmer will be providing on-site, school-based therapy for interested families at Elm Creek full-time this year. Please call Krysta if this is a resource you would like to pursue for your child.

I am committed to ensuring your child experiences a safe, challenging and nurturing environment at Elm Creek Elementary. Please contact me if you have questions or concerns throughout the year. I am looking forward to seeing you during the Open House on Wednesday, August 29th from 4:30-6:00 p.m. I hope you enjoy the rest of the summer!

Sincerely,

Beth Ness

Principal, Elm Creek Elementary

Dates to note continued

October 30
Picture Day

November 6
No School

November 16
PTO Turkey Bingo

November 22 & 23
No School

November 30



First day of school is
Tuesday,
September 4th.

Students should
arrive to school by
8:40am but not
before 8:35am.

Breakfast student's
may enter door 12
at 8:30am

First bell rings at
8:40am

School begins at
8:50am

NEW FAMILY ORIENTATION/TOUR

If you enrolled a student in grades 1-5 over the summer at the Enrollment Center, please come to our new family orientation/tour
Thursday, August 23
3 - 4 PM

ELM CREEK OPEN HOUSE FOR ALL K - 5

Wednesday, August 29
4:30 - 6:00 PM
Teachers will email
classroom placement on
Tuesday, August 28th

At Open House:

- ⇒ Cashier available to put money into your child's lunch account, or avoid standing in line by paying online with Feepay or mailing a check to school.
- ⇒ Nurse available to discuss health concerns and to collect medications.
- ⇒ Bring in school supplies to leave in desks.
- ⇒ Purchase student planners, if needed. (grades 3-5 only - \$2.50 each, cash please)
- ⇒ Stop by the office for ParentVue information, if interested.
- ⇒ Visit Kidstop Room, if interested (now located in Room B-1)
- ⇒ PTO team available to share information.
- ⇒ Visit Community groups in the Cafeteria. Premiere Apparel will be here selling Elm Creek T-shirts.

What is ParentVue?

ParentVUE, is a web portal/mobile application that provides near real-time access to information regarding a student's academic experience. Attendance, school events and announcements, assignments and scores, final grades, messages from teachers, health records, demographic information, link to FeePay, link to student test history, alerts and reminders.

Please note that not all features are available at the Elementary level.

MEDICATION POLICY

All medication given at school will be dispensed by our nurse and must be in a prescription bottle with the written directions specified by the doctor. Medications and immunization updates may be dropped off with the nurse on Open House night. Minnesota law requires students be up-to-date with immunizations before the first day of school.

Please notify the Nurse of any food allergies.

BUSSERS/WALKERS/PARENT VEHICLES



Safety is our #1 concern!
Please follow parking lot rules/safety guidelines to ensure that students, staff and visitors are safe at Elm Creek.

Thank you!



The Elm Creek School Supply list is available on the Elm Creek school website.

The 2018-19 school year calendar is available on the district website.

Paper copies are available in the office.

WALKERS: Students are not to arrive **before 8:35 AM**. There is no supervision prior to that time. Students will enter the building at 8:40 AM. Students must cross with the patrols using designated walkways. There are no patrols on 99th Avenue by the path leading to school. No wheels allowed on the school grounds or inside the school. Bikes, roller blades, roller shoes, skateboards, and all other items with wheels may be confiscated until a parent is able to retrieve them.

BUS: Schedules are mailed from the Transportation Department in late August. Please remember that students are only allowed to ride on their designated bus. Please review the bus safety information with your child prior to the start of school. Riding the school bus is a privilege.

CAR: Students are to be dropped off and picked up in the front parking lot only. Children should enter and exit the vehicle using the curbside door. If you desire, you may park your vehicle in the parking lot, meet your child at their outside door, and escort them across the parking lot. At no time should children be walking through the parking lot unescorted. This is extremely important for the safety of each child. Maple Grove Police/Fire Department will ticket cars parked in the NO PARKING zones. Due to space limitations, cars must continue moving around the circle when dropping off or picking up.

Courtesy to pedestrians, Elm Creek families, staff, and busses is a top priority, providing safety to all.

Please yield to busses at the entrance to the school parking lot and let them in first. Thank you!



Student Entrances

KINDERGARTEN:

Door #13 - bussers

Door #14 - walkers & drop-offs

GRADES 1-3:

Door #1 - walkers, bussers & drop-offs

GRADES 4 & 5

Door #14 - walkers, drop-offs

Door #12 - bussers

All student walkers & pick ups exit through their grade level door.

No Wheels Policy

There is a "NO WHEELS on the SCHOOL GROUNDS" policy.

For safety reasons, if students ride a bike, scooter, skateboard, shoes with retractable wheels or Rollerblades to school, they must be off the "wheels" when they arrive on the school grounds.

Bike racks are provided for students who chose to ride their bikes to school.

Remember to lock up your bike.

Media Center News

Welcome back! We are looking forward to seeing students back in the library checking out books. All classrooms have a regular checkout time in the library each week and we are open daily for students to drop in to checkout books as well. Books are checked out for two weeks at a time and students will receive notices after that time if they still have their book and haven't renewed it. If there are any concerns, contact Mrs. Magnuson in the library. We want to help so students will continue to read.

3rd through 5th graders can read the Maud Hart Lovelace book nominees and earn an invitation to a year-end party. These books are nominated each year and are terrific stories for students to enjoy. You can find out more about them

here: <http://www.myrahome.org/mhl-nominees-2018-19.html>

Look forward to your students learning more about digital citizenship and safety this year. We will continue to learn more about coding, research and creating digital projects as well.

See you in the library!

The Elm Creek School Newsletter is published quarterly. It is communicated to all families through PeachJar and posted on the school website

School information is communicated to all families through PeachJar weekly.

If you prefer paper copies please contact the school office.



Check out the Elm Creek Apparel Store!

Elm Creek is once again offering school spirit wear through our on-line store offered by Premiere Apparel. Click on the link below to start shopping. The on-line store will close on September 21st. Orders will deliver to school mid-late October. Questions can be directed to Staci Jones in the school office.

<https://elmcreek.itemorder.com/sale>

Physical Education Tennis Shoes

For the safety of your child and all children, tennis shoes MUST be the type that either tie or have the two/three Velcro strips over the top of the shoe. Absolutely no slip-ons, zip-pers, or black sole shoes that leave marks on the floor.

Thank you!

Elm Creek Phone Numbers/Direct lines

MAIN OFFICE—763/425-0577
ATTENDANCE LINE REPORTING BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL—763/315-7692
ATTENDANCE REPORTING DURING SCHOOL—763/425-0577
BE-FOUR—763/315-7699
CASHIER—763/315-7695
FAX—763/315-7690
KIDSTOP PROGRAM—763/315-7353
MEDIA CENTER—763/315-7693
NURSE—763/315-7696
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR—763/315-7354

NEWS FROM THE EAGLES NEST CAFE

Dear Elm Creek Families,

We encourage you to apply for free or reduced lunch prices to see if you qualify. Applications are available on the district website and in the school office. The number of free and reduced students we have in our school determines a certain level of funding for our school. If you think you may qualify please take the time to fill out an application. The on-line application is quick and easy. Apply now using the link below.

<https://fma.district279.org/fma/>

Students who qualify for reduced-price school meals will receive free lunches and breakfasts. All kindergarten students qualify for free breakfasts.

Please note, online meal account payments may be made by using FeePay. If you do not have a FeePay account, visit the district website for instructions on how to set up an account or contact the school office for assistance.

When sending lunch money to school please put your child's name or lunch account number and room number on your check to avoid having the money credited to the wrong account. If you have more than one child at Elm Creek, you can write one check with a note as to how you would like the money divided

If you have questions, please contact the School Nutrition Cashier at your child's school.

Sincerely,
Wendy Isler—Cashier
Linda Munson—Food Service Manager

Do you qualify?

The number of free and reduced students we have in our school determines a certain level of funding for our school. If you think you may qualify please take the time to fill out an application.

On line applications are quick and easy. Paper applications are available in the office.



Visitors are always welcome to come eat lunch with the students. Please call the school office before 9:30am the day you are coming to sign up for lunch.

Adult \$3.75

Preschool visiting child \$3.00

First Day of School - Lunch Menu

Mini Chicken Corn Dogs
Sweet Potato Fries
Garlic Green Beans
Milk choices

Prices for school breakfast & lunch

Breakfast	\$1.55
Lunch	\$2.55
Extra milk	\$.50

Juice is available for an extra cost.

PTO News

Welcome back to another fantastic year at Elm Creek! We are looking forward to working with you to enhance learning and fun at Elm Creek! Remember, everyone is a part of PTO. Whether you hold a leadership or event coordinator position, support our fundraiser, volunteer at our events, attend meetings, or voice your opinions; you are a part of the PTO team!

Events (September - December 2018)

Tears & Cheers: Tuesday, September 4 (9am – 10am)

Families of Kindergartners - feeling a little anxious, excited, nervous, or relieved? Come shed some “tears” and shout a few “cheers” after you send your little one off to Kindergarten! This is a fantastic opportunity to meet and mingle with other Kindergarten families, learn about PTO, and hear from our wonderful principal. Light refreshments will be served, and plenty of tissues will be available!

PTO Meeting: September 27 (6:30pm – 7:30pm)

Do you want to be one of the first to hear about important news and upcoming events at school, have a voice in the activities and programs the EC PTO supports, and learn how the students and teachers benefit from the work of the PTO? Attend a PTO meeting for the wonderful opportunity to connect with other parents and work together to make good choices for the PTO and for Elm Creek Elementary.

Kindness in Chalk: October 9 (after school)

Help bring colorful words of joy and hope to the Elm Creek students by participating in the Kindness in Chalk event. It only takes one sidewalk and one message to bring one million smiles.

Scholastic Book Fair: October 24, 30 and November 1

Who doesn't love a few new books to read? The scholastic book fair allows families to purchase new titles while giving back to the school in the form of Scholastic dollars.

Turkey Bingo: November 16 (6pm – 8pm)

Turkey Bingo is a fun Elm Creek tradition that students and families look forward to every year. Join family and friends as you try your luck at winning a turkey!

Holiday Shoppe: December 12 and 14 (during school hours)

Our PTO elves and volunteers create handmade craft items for students to purchase at low cost to give as gifts. It is gratifying to see the joy on the faces of our students while they shop and see the pride they feel after they have purchased the hand picked items.

Fundraisers (September - December 2018)

Apex: September 24 - October 5

We are so excited to welcome the Apex team back to Elm Creek this year! Apex is the only major fundraiser for the entire 2018-2019 school year (which is awesome). We love the excitement, positive energy, and amazing character lessons the Apex team brings to Elm Creek.

Dine 2 Donate

Enjoy an amazing dinner out with your family while supporting Elm Creek. The following events have been scheduled and we are currently working with local restaurants to schedule more Dine 2 Donate nights:

- **September 11:** Red Savoy (4pm - 8pm)
- **ANY TIME:** Eat at Buffalo Wild Wings in Champlin and raise money for Elm Creek. Just let your server know you are with Elm Creek PTO.

Thank you for supporting Elm Creek PTO!