



Elmwood Local Schools

“From the Desk of the Superintendent”

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Volume 3, Number 6

Community Update and Elmwood Tidbits:

Winter has arrived and we are starting to have old man winter bring us the cold and the snow. So far this year, we have closed school three times and a handful of two hour delays. I will continue to do my best to make the call by 5:30 AM, but there are some mornings I may wait to see if conditions are changing or not. Please understand that calling delays and cancellations is one of the most difficult parts of my job. I always keep kids safety in mind with the understanding that we want students in session when it is safe to do so. Finally, parents always have the final say, if you disagree with my decision, then you can keep your kids home, but make sure to call the office and let them know why they are not in school.

As a reminder, every year we are required to have an annual update of our special education program for our parents and community. This event always happens at the March Board meeting. As of right now, that date is Monday, March 11th at 6 PM. With conflicts, this date is subject to change as we get closer to March. If this meeting is something that interests you, please email me or call when March arrives to verify the date.



Last semester, the high school quiz bowl team traveled to Lima to participate in the WTLW winter tournament. The episode will air on WTLW in February. Students in the first picture competing were Dylan Gheen, Karson Palmer, Tad Fawcett, and Lizzie Hardy. The second picture shows the whole team. The two who did not compete on this day were Abbi Lee and Kaylie Kingery. Then in December, the high school quiz bowl team went to Toledo to participate in NBC 24's Academic Challenge. The team played Perrysburg and the episode will air in March.



In November, first graders visited the Little Red Schoolhouse on the campus of Bowling Green State University. After experiencing what a day of school was like in the 1800's, students were able to compare school life long ago to school life today. Many students dressed in clothing from the late 1800's and packed lunches containing food from that era. The Schoolhouse is originally from Norwalk, Ohio and was moved to BGSU in 1976.



These pictures are from the 4th grade music program. The program was under the direction of Mrs. Beth Perez. The 4th graders rocked out to the theme of "Dancing Through the Decades." They took a musical journey from the 50's through the 80's with songs like "At the Hop", "Twist and Shout", "Down at the Twist and Shout", "YMCA", "We Got the Beat", and "Footloose." Elvis even made a brief appearance to dance during the "Jailhouse Rock" performance.



The 8th grade choir had a fun cultural event this past semester. With their choir teacher, Ms. Rohrs, they attended "West Side Story" with included live orchestral accompaniment by the Toledo Symphony Orchestra (TSO). The 8th graders were excited to see their group's name on the big screen before the event started. Each year the 8th grade choir students study Leonard Bernstein's *West Side Story*. A huge thanks to the Music Boosters for assisting the students with the purchase of tickets.



What does your student want to do when they grow up? Today, more than ever, Elmwood graduates have options and are prepared to follow whatever path they choose. We live in a community that provides our students access to amazing career opportunities within just a few miles. Our business and industry partners are looking for employees with a desire to learn and grow.

Students at Elmwood have a tremendous advantage over our neighbors and here's why...Career Tech Education. Students can choose from programs on our campus that include a suite of Engineering courses or Agriculture Education options that are second to none. We also offer electives in Family and Consumer Science along with Business and Accounting courses. In addition to our on campus selection, Elmwood students can take advantage of world class career training through Penta Career Center. At Penta, Elmwood students can choose from twenty-seven program options. Each of these career programs focus on preparing students for immediate employment and further education/training. Elmwood students are currently taking advantage of college credit options, advanced career courses that include simultaneous academic credit, and earning business and industry credentials. Our students who take advantage of what Penta offers are ready to take advantage of the in-demand and high paying jobs that are available today. Elmwood is committed to providing an education that provides all of our students with the skills necessary to follow any path they choose. The traditional "college prep" curriculum that we grew up with has transitioned into "career prep" curriculum. Students and parents are encouraged to spend more time discussing future career goals and the path that is required to get there. Parents should ask questions like: "If you want to be _____, what education or training is required?" "How many jobs in that career are available in NW Ohio?" "What is the earning potential if you choose that path?" We know that students are worried about leaving friends and don't apply to Penta. We encourage parents to help their children make responsible decisions and have all of the facts about the choices available whether they are thinking about on campus programing or options at Penta.

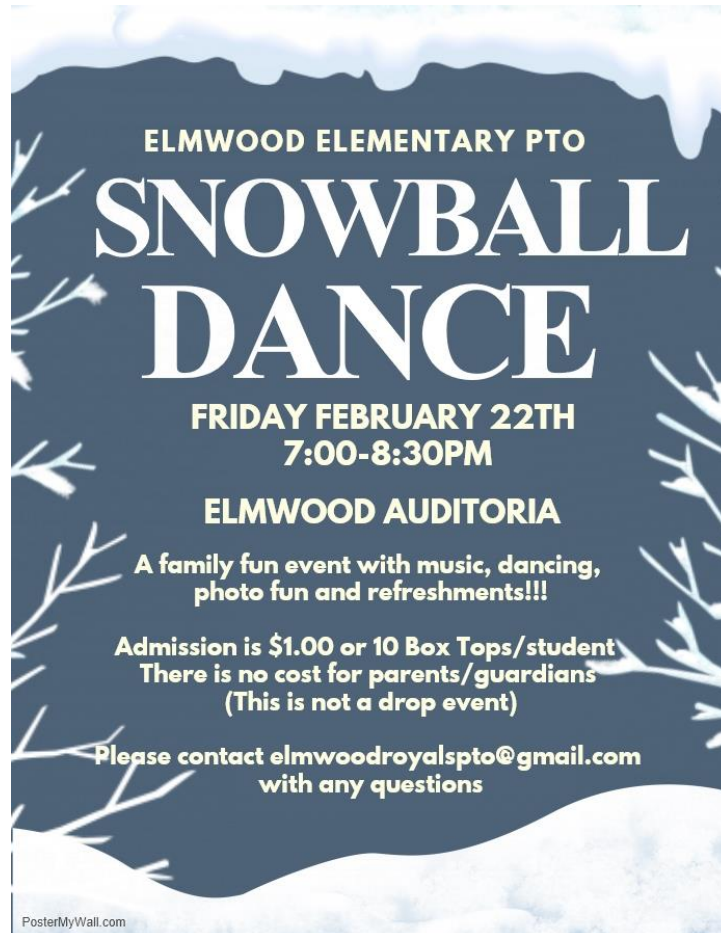
When students graduate from Elmwood and Penta with skills to enter the work force, they are well prepared and earn a good wage without the debt that comes along with attending college. It's important to remember that students who attend Penta do not lose their home school affiliation and are just as prepared to attend the college of their choice. They are still Elmwood graduates and earn a diploma from Elmwood. The Ohio Department of Education recently released a video to share the importance of career education. To watch the video, click on the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kaDHdntqlv8>. For more information about program choices available at Penta please visit: <http://www.pentacareercenter.org/ProgramChoices.aspx>



I am very proud to announce that for the fourth year in a row, Elmwood Middle School has been selected for the Ohio Department of Education's MOMENTUM AWARD! Out of the thousands of school buildings in the state of Ohio, only 226 buildings earned this award. To achieve this award, you had to earn all A's on all of the value-added components for their performance during state testing in the spring of 2018. Additionally, the middle school is one of only three buildings in the whole state that has earned this award all four years that it has been in existence! After receiving this award, we also got notified by the Education Department that we were also awarded the Overall "A" Award for our report card. These recognitions are a credit to our amazing staff, students, and families, not to mention the positive relationships we have with all stakeholders. I want to thank all of you for your efforts in making Elmwood Middle School a special place to be!



The next BoxTops competition is on for our elementary students. It goes from February 4th until May 17th. “Let’s Slime our SRO Deputy Thompson”. For every 10 BoxTops turned in, the student will receive one entry in a contest to win a Kalahari gift card (valued at \$300). In addition, the class who turns in the most gets to *slime* Deputy Thompson.



Upcoming Events:

Monday, January 28th, College Credit Plus meeting at 7 PM in the Auditoria

Tuesday, February 5th, Elementary Spring Picture Day through Lifetouch

Monday, February 11th, Elmwood Board of Education meeting at 6 PM in the MS Library

Monday, February 18th, No School-President’s Day

Friday, February 22nd, Elementary PTO Snowball Dance 7-8:30 PM in the Auditoria

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