



Elmwood Local Schools

“From the Desk of the Superintendent”

December 14, 2018

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Community Update and Elmwood Tidbits:



Credit: <http://cdn01.dailycaller.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Merry-Christmas-Shutterstock-Alhovik.jpg>

It is almost Christmas time and I want to take a minute to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and best of luck in the New Year. This is a magical time of year, and the students are very excited. The teachers always need to work a little harder with the students to keep them focused during this time of year. The anticipation and excitement is a lot for our students, and to be honest the staff also. I believe everyone enjoys this time of year. It holds a special place for me and my family. Christmas break begins when school is let out on Friday, December 21st and students will return to school on Monday, January 7th. During Christmas break, the front offices will be closed except for Friday, January 4th. The Board/Central Office will be sporadically open to accommodate the holidays and vacations that are scheduled. Please call before you make the trip out to make sure someone is here that can assist you. Likewise, Central Office is open with most staff on Friday, January 4th.

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, you can email me or call when March arrives to verify the date. I will also keep you updated in my future newsletters.

Winter has arrived, the temps are dropping and the flakes are flying. This time of year also creates many challenges when it comes to getting students safely to and from school and their related activities. Many times winter weather puts us in a no-win situation. The snow does not always cooperate when it falls and creates timing issues for the school. In addition, forecasts can be wrong. All of this makes it tough to handle weather delays and closings. We try to error on the side of caution, but we also need to get to school as well. Winter weather can change throughout the day. Make sure you talk with your young drivers about road conditions and how they can vary from one mile to the next. They need to learn to drive defensively and be prepared for the changing road conditions. Finally, make sure your young drivers know that I would rather have them slow down and arrive late but safe to school. We do not want anyone to drive in an unsafe manner because they are running behind.



Reading tutors are needed for Project M.O.R.E. (Mentoring in Ohio for Reading Excellence). We are looking for any age, retired, or someone who works from home and has a little time to spare. The commitment is 2 hours a week and if you are willing to help out it would be appreciated. The hours would be from 9:15-11:15, or 1:00-3:00. We are in great need for the month of January especially, so even if you could commit to this month only it would be helpful. If you are willing to volunteer, or know someone who is, they should contact Deb Troyer by calling the school and having it transferred to #253 or e-mail her at troyd@elmls.net.



If you know of anyone in need of winter coats, hats, or gloves, please have them call the Central Office at 419-655-2583 X 4 and we can help. Our students held a Share the Warmth drive and we have lots of coats, hats, and gloves to give away for free to anyone who asks.



The picture shows our Elmwood FFA Parliamentary Procedure team getting ready to do a presentation for the Elmwood Board of Education last month. After this, the group participated and won the District competition. They will now move onto the State competition for FFA.



Students district-wide were busy collecting items for the Annual Holiday Food Drive that benefited 30 families in our community. Elmwood staff members generously donated hams or monetary funds to purchase enough for every family's holiday meal. The Elmwood FFA also donated fruit baskets for each family. To help keep all the items organized for the families, BG Meijer and Special Tee Ink donated paper and cloth bags. In addition, local Elmwood businesses and community members gave monetary donations to help supplement items still needed.

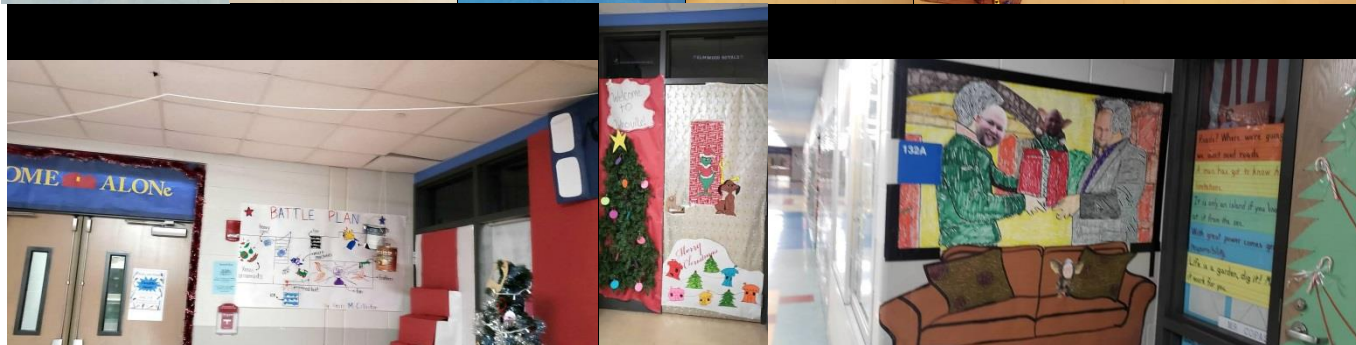
A huge thank you to all Elmwood students, staff, community members, and businesses that helped make this year's food drive possible. No one person can make this community service project a success. We live in a wonderful community that always steps up to help our own in need. It's good to be a Royal from Elmwood.

A special thank you for each of the following donors:

Portage Center Arbor No.524
 Stearns & Hammer Attorneys at Law
 John and Kayla Irwin
 B. Hill'z Excavating Inc.

Cora and Ryan Lee
 Jim Palmer Excavating
 Benschoter Hay and Straw LLC
 Waldock Tax & Accounting Service
 Gary and Marlene Reynolds
 Lloyd A. Miller

The High School had a Christmas door decorating contest. The theme was Favorite Holiday Movies. Here are most of the entries to help put you in the holiday spirit as you try to identify the Christmas movie involved.



Upcoming Events:

Monday, December 17th, MS Band Concert in CC Auditorium at 7 PM

Tuesday, December 18th, 5th Grade DARE Graduation in CC Auditorium at 1 PM

December 22nd until January 6th, Christmas Break, NO SCHOOL

Monday, January 7th, School resumes

Monday, January 7th, Elmwood Board of Education meeting at 6 PM in MS Media Center

Monday, January 21st, NO SCHOOL, MLK Holiday

Elmwood Local Schools 419-655-2583

Superintendent (Option 4)
Tony Borton
bortt@elmwoodschoos.org

Treasurer (Option 5)
LuAnn Vanek
vanel@elmwoodschoos.org

Follow me on Twitter: @Elmwood_Supt

Elmwood Board of Education Members:
Brian King, President
Melanie Davis
Ryan Lee
Debbie Reynolds, VP
Kristen Endicott

Visit our Webpage: <http://www.elmwood.k12.oh.us>

Elementary (Option 1)

Gary Dulle, Principal
dullg@elmwoodschoos.org

Middle School (Option 2)

Roger Frank, Principal
franr@elmwoodschoos.org

High School (Option 3)

Tom Bentley, Principal
bentley@elmwoodschoos.org

Transportation (Option 4)

Laurie Lee, Supervisor
leel@elmwoodschoos.org

Building & Grounds (Extension 376)

Gregg Abke, Supervisor
abkeg@elmwoodschoos.org

Cafeteria/Food Services (Extension 332)

Terry Rothenbuhler, Supervisor
rotht@elmwoodschoos.org