



# Elmwood Local Schools

## “From the Desk of the Superintendent”

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### Community Update and Elmwood Tidbits:

Thanksgiving is over and we are now heading into the Christmas Season. This time of year is really busy as we focus on wrapping up the first semester here at school, getting winter sports underway, and finally preparing for the upcoming holidays. No matter how hectic it can become, my wish for you is to slow down and enjoy this special time of year. Our staff and students have really worked hard collecting food items and toiletries to help those in our community who needs a helping hand this holiday season. We take pride in helping others and teaching our students to look beyond themselves and focus on the community around them.



The State Board of Education announced the Momentum Award winners for this year. I am excited to pass along that our Middle School has earned the award again this year (based on the 2016-2017 report card). Elmwood Middle School is one of three schools statewide who has earned this award three years in a row (and every year since it was started). I am extremely proud of the staff and students who continue to get it done and make sure all students are growing educationally. I want to give them a big public congratulation on a job well done. According to ODE the following is a description of the criteria to earn this prestigious award:

Any Ohio school or district is eligible for the [Momentum Award](#) if it receives straight A's on all Value-Added measures on the report card. The school or district must have at least two Value-Added subgroups of students, which include gifted, lowest 20 percent in achievement and students with disabilities.



The High School's National Honor Society Induction Ceremony was held on Thursday, November 16, 2017. The thirteen current members help induct twenty-seven new members. The ceremony was completely led by the current members. It was a great showcase of the talent that these young adults display. The group is led by advisor Erin Shaffer. I want to thank her for her leadership to this organization. The picture shows the complete group after the ceremony. National Honor Society members are selected based on the individual student's contributions to the school and community in the areas of Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character.

As the cases of influenza are on the rise, the Wood County Health Department released the following statement that I am sharing. For more information about the flu, visit [http://woodcountyhealth.org/nursing/flu\\_faq.html](http://woodcountyhealth.org/nursing/flu_faq.html)



Nov. 14, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Influenza cases increasing in Wood County**  
*Health department emphasizes flu shots, prevention tips*

**BOWLING GREEN** — People are becoming sick with influenza, a disease most people can avoid by getting a flu shot and using basic prevention tips.

Every flu season is different, and the flu can affect people differently. Millions of people get the flu each year, while hundreds of thousands of people are hospitalized and thousands more die from flu-related causes.

Flu season typically lasts until April or May. Now is a good time to get a flu shot if you haven't already, because they take about two weeks to become effective.

The flu vaccine does not cause influenza, which is a contagious respiratory illness that infects the nose, throat and lungs, rather than a stomach illness. Some people may experience short-term symptoms like drowsiness or nausea after receiving a flu shot. The CDC recommends that anyone over 6 months of age get a flu shot, with the exception of those with certain medical conditions.

Most people can get a flu shot simply by walking into their pharmacy, and Wood County Health District offers them to clients of its Community Health and Wellness Center. Children over 6 months are supposed to receive a flu shot but should see their primary care provider first. Wood County Health District will give flu shots to children 18 or under if their provider does not offer them.

Frequent handwashing is one of the best ways to avoid acquiring or transmitting any illness, including influenza. Also make sure to disinfect surfaces at home and at work, cough and sneeze into your sleeve, and avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.



The Elmwood High School National Honor Society is sponsoring an American Red Cross blood drive on Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. We would like to invite members of the community to participate in this event. Appointments are available from 8:45 am – 12:45 pm. Please call Jill Peters in the Elmwood High School office (419-655-2583 Ext. 326) to schedule an appointment if you wish to donate. You may also email Erin Shaffer, [shafe@elmwoodschoools.org](mailto:shafe@elmwoodschoools.org), to schedule an appointment. Thank you!



The High School Quiz Bowl Team competed in the BGSU's Brain Game Competition in early November. You will be able to watch the taping of this competition on WBGU (Channel 27) on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 9 PM. You will have to watch the competition to see how our team did.



On Wednesday November, 15<sup>th</sup> the High School Science Club held their monthly meeting, but this time with an exciting guest! Meteorologist Ryan Wichman from WTOL News Channel 11 joined the Science Club to “nerd out” about all things weather. Mrs. Heiss, Science Club Advisor, and Angela Snyder, Science Club President, contacted Ryan through e-mail to set up the meeting and he was more than happy to come stop by.

During the meeting students listened, laughed, and learned about the ins and outs of Broadcast Meteorology. Students showed a strong fascination as Wichman spoke of what he called his “younger years” of storm chasing. The students were in awe while learning about Wichman’s close encounter with an EF3 tornado that blew out all the windows of his friend’s Jeep. “We were stuck” he explained while drawing a map of the Tornado’s path on the Smart Board in Mrs. Heiss’s classroom.

During the informal visit, Wichman also taught students some basic safety measures to take during thunderstorms and debunked some myths. The students learned that when in a mild thunderstorm, the safest place to be is in your car, if you’re unable to find shelter. Also, if you find yourself “in the middle of a cornfield, you know, because there aren’t many around here” you should crouch down in a “catcher’s position” on the balls of your feet to make the least amount of contact with the ground.

Overall, the Science Club was very thankful and felt privileged to have Wichman take the time from his busy schedule to travel down to EHS and chat with our students. As an afterthought, we are expected to have an “average” winter, which may be a little more “wet” than usual.

## Upcoming Events:

December 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, Santa's Secret Shop in the Elementary

Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, Red Cross Blood Drive at the High School

Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Music Performance at 6:30 PM in CC Auditorium

Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, HS Choir's Madrigal Dinner at 5 PM, presale tickets required

Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, Elmwood Board of Education Meeting at 6 PM

Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, DARE Graduation for 5<sup>th</sup> Graders at 1 PM in the CC Auditorium

Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, Band's Holiday Concert at 7 PM

December 21<sup>st</sup> - January 3<sup>rd</sup>, Winter Break, No School

Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, Elmwood FFA Alumni Toy Show in the Community Center

Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, Elmwood Board of Education Meeting at 6 PM

Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, Martin Luther King Day, No School

Thursday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, Two Hour Delay for teacher inservice

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