

Greetings Elmwood Community,

Last week, and so far this week, we are seeing a large increase in students who are positive and those who need to be quarantined due to COVID. Please remember to keep your child home if they have any symptoms at all. Even a simple runny nose can be COVID. Again, our positive cases are almost daily, therefore, I have not been sending out the community email on this. I think our community knows the spread is heavy right now and understands that it is also going to be in our schools.

1. The January Board of Education organizational and regular meeting takes place tomorrow at 4:30 PM in the auditoria.
2. I would like to send a huge congratulations to our district Treasurer, LuAnn Vanek, who retired January 1st. She has been the district treasurer since March of 2009. I want to wish her the best in her retirement. In addition, I would like to welcome our new Treasurer, Jenalee Niese. Jenalee is excited to be here and willing to answer any question you may have on our district finances.



3. A shout out to the Elmwood Middle School Student Council kids who worked hard before Christmas break to go shopping, wrapping, and helping prepare food and gifts for three families that were chosen to be helped out during the holiday season. All three families picked up their food/gifts and were extremely grateful for the support that the students showed them.
4. So many teachers are using technology in their classrooms and lessons for a good portion of the time. I thought it would be beneficial to share a fact sheet that we sent out to families on how to keep your child safe while using the internet. Finally, another reminder that we are offering an internet safety presentation for parents on Wednesday, January 26th from 6-8 PM. Our

presenter will tell you about dangerous apps and websites and how to stay on top of your child's internet use. Here are the great tips referenced below:

- A. Create rules at home for internet/device use and monitor your child's online activity.
- B. Keep the device in a common area where the device can be monitored.
- C. Never post or trade personal information or pictures.
 - a. Personal information includes: phone number, address, social security number, passwords, birth date, school names, driver's license, etc...
- D. School devices have chat rooms blocked; keep an eye on your child's personal devices for chat rooms/forums.
- E. Talk to your child about never meeting anyone they met online in-person and avoid talking with people they do not know.
- F. Spend time on the internet with your child. Know their preferred destinations and their passwords.
- G. Discuss online strangers with your child, especially if your child utilizes a cell phone, tablet, or other personal devices. Discuss the risks and dangers of internet predators.
- H. Emails, Phishing, and Malware: be aware of opening suspicious emails, especially emails from unknown people. Clicking on links or downloading attachments can infect your device with a virus, subject you to fraud, malware, or a scam. As a side note, middle and elementary students are unable to receive emails from outside our district.

Please remember that there is no school on Monday, January 17th. This is for the MLK Holiday.

Tony Borton, Superintendent