

Greetings Elmwood Community,

Happy Spring. Hard to believe that May is right around the corner. The year is going so fast. As most of you saw, last Wednesday, we had a student who distributed some inappropriate writings that brought us some concern. I want to use this time to thank the students who turned over the documents to us and to all the students we called to the office who willingly gave us the information we needed. School safety is built upon the saying **“See Something, Say Something!”**. I am proud of our students taking ownership in all that we do here on campus. Way to go!!!

1. April was Distracted Driving Month. It is important that we talk with our young drivers on the dangers of distracted driving. Here is a great poster that stresses many of the key points.



## Distracted Driving Awareness Month 2022

April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month. This event is intended to raise awareness about the dangers of distracted driving and encourage motorists to reduce distractions behind the wheel.

You can play your part this month (and every month) by following these steps to avoid distractions while you drive—keeping both yourself and others safe on the road.

- **Put away your phone.** Be sure to silence your phone and store it in a location that is out of reach while driving to lower the temptation to check it.
- **Plan your trip before you leave.** Program your GPS prior to hitting the road to get familiar with your journey and feel confident in your route.
- **Don't fumble with your playlist.** Select a radio station or plug in a predetermined playlist before driving to limit music adjustments behind the wheel.
- **Secure passengers.** Ensure any child passengers are properly situated in car seats (if needed) with seat belts securely fastened. Keep pets stationary in the back seat.
- **Store possessions appropriately.** Make sure to store any items in your vehicle securely to keep them from moving around during your journey. Refrain from reaching for items that shift as you drive until you are safely parked.
- **Avoid multitasking.** The road should be your sole focus while driving. Never complete additional tasks—such as eating or personal grooming—behind the wheel.
- **Set expectations.** Ask anyone riding in your vehicle to stay still in their seats and keep distracting conversations to a minimum.

For additional driver safety guidance and auto insurance solutions, contact us today.



- The High School Drama Department performed Shrek the Musical during the past month. The cast included students from both the middle and high school. The students did a phenomenal job and I cannot say enough about how impressed I was with the play. Congratulations to Director Chrissy Rohrs on an outstanding production this year.





3. Here is an opportunity for our high school students to work along Deputy Thompson as an Explorer sponsored by the Wood County Sheriff's Office. The Wood County Explorer Post is an extension of the Boy Scouts and is chartered under the Erie Shores Council Division. The Explorer Post trains young adults in several different areas of law enforcement, including but not limited to traffic control, laws of arrest, and proper communication skills. The Explorer Post is composed of young adults that are between the ages of 15 and 21 years of age. Currently they have approximately 20 members in their post. For anyone who may be interested in a career in law enforcement, this is a great opportunity to gain some of the skills necessary and to get a better understanding of what law enforcement is all about. Even if you want to do something different with your future, the post is a great tool to build skills needed in many different jobs. The Explorers Post meets twice a month and is also directly involved in many events throughout the year. If interested, see Deputy Thompson for any questions and the application process.



#### 4. USDA Going Back to full pay next year for school lunches and breakfasts

We are being told by the federal government that next year, the universal free lunch/breakfast program will go back to the old program where everyone is full pay unless you submit a free/reduced lunch application. The new application will come out for families starting around July 1<sup>st</sup>, and this is the earliest we can accept the applications for next year. Families who get free lunches, also get a portion of their school fees waived. If your family income is such that paying for your child's meals is a concern, please make sure you apply for free or reduced meals. If you do not put an application in, you will be full pay and we limit how far a child is allowed to go into debt. If you have questions, please let us know and we will do our best to answer them. Things with the federal government are changing quickly and this is the latest information we have been given.

Here are a few upcoming events for students and/or family that you may want to be aware of:

- Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup> HS Choir, Disney Concert at 7 PM
- Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> Prom
- Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> Election Day
- Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> Elmwood Board of Education
- Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> Kindergarten Graduation at 6 PM
- Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> Spring Arts Festival
- Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> HS Awards and Scholarship Night
- Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> Graduation at 2 PM
- Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> Elementary Awards Day
- Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> Elementary Field Day
- Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup> Currently scheduled last day for students

**“Cherish your visions and your dreams as they are the children of your soul, the blueprints of your ultimate achievements.” – Napoleon Hill**

Tony Borton, Superintendent