



Elmwood Happenings 6/24/2024

Greetings Elmwood Community,

Summer is underway, and it has been a hot one. Central Office is busy planning for the next school year. Our office is open Monday through Thursday if you have any questions or need help. This is the last newsletter until the new school year starts. Enjoy your summer.

1. **Hydroponic growing comes to EMS Science classrooms!**

The Middle School science department recently purchased a hydroponic grower unit with grant funds from Northwestern Water and Sewer District. Students in Mrs. Smith's 4th quarter Environmental Science elective were the first to try it out. They started the seeds out in a covered tray in the classroom, transplanted the small sprouts in pods to the grower, and monitored the nutrient and pH levels of the water in the system over the course of about 5 weeks. They learned how to harvest and process the lettuce at the end of the growing cycle. The students harvested a little over 16 pounds of lettuce in their first attempt at growing hydroponically. A salad bar was served to the entire 7th grade student body with plenty to share amongst middle school teachers and the Environmental Science elective course. Several students commented on the amazing quality of the lettuce that was grown and many said it tasted better than any store-bought lettuce they had previously! The hydroponic unit will be rotated around the science department so that each teacher can use the grower for a quarter within their classroom.





2. This year's Spring Arts Festival was another great success showcasing hundreds of students' works produced throughout the school year. The high school art program had over 60 first, second, and third place ribbons that were awarded. Two students were given the best of show, and they are Mary Deitrich (painting) and Olivia Stone (dog).



It's been another great year in the middle school art room, as outstanding student artwork was displayed at this year's Spring Arts Festival! Congratulations to all the winners. The middle school Best of Show this year was awarded to Allison Linthicum (7th) for her two-dimensional digital vector portrait and to Myria Sharninghouse (8th) for her three-dimensional sculpture.



3. Elmwood Local Schools Receives National Recognition from Project Lead The Way for Commitment to Empowering Students

We were recently notified that we have been recognized as a 2023-24 Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Distinguished High School and Distinguished Gateway Middle School. Our high school is one of just a few hundred high schools across the U.S. to receive this honor for providing broad access to transformative learning experiences for students through PLTW Engineering. In addition, this honor is given to a select number of middle schools across the U.S. for the same criteria for grades 6-8 STEM curriculum. Project Lead the Way is a national nonprofit organization that serves millions of PreK-12 students and teachers in over 12,200 schools across the U.S, aiming to make every student in every grade STEM successful.

“We are honored to recognize Elmwood Local Schools for their commitment to providing students with exceptional educational experiences while ensuring equitable access to PLTW programs,” said Dr. David Dimmett, PLTW President and CEO. “We congratulate them on this achievement and celebrate their dedication to empowering students with the knowledge and skills to succeed, not only in STEM subjects, but also preparing them for future careers and life outside of the classroom.” There are over 220 high school across the state of Ohio and Elmwood is one of 12 to earn the recognition of being a Distinguished High School. This is the fourth consecutive year Elmwood High School has earned this recognition. Of the over 330 middle schools across the state, Elmwood also is one of 12 to earn the Distinguished Gateway Recognition. This is the sixth consecutive year that Elmwood Middle School has earned this recognition. PLTW high school and middle school programs prepare today’s students for the careers of tomorrow, by not only incorporating STEM skills into their learning but building students’ collaboration, teamwork and communication skills so they can be ready for whatever path they take



4. The 2023-24 Yearbook Staff currently achieved the "Bronze Level" in the National Yearbook Program of Excellence! They are very close to achieving the gold level.

They have also achieved other milestones throughout the school year including the following badges:

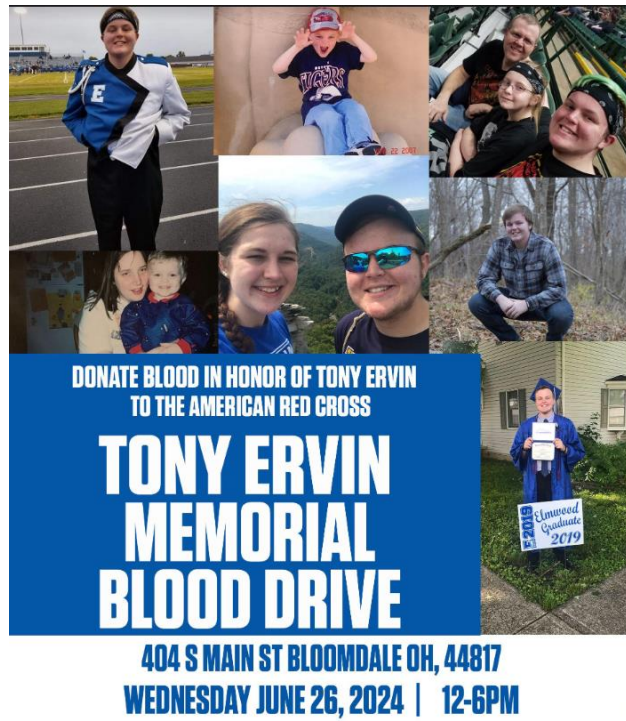
- "Enroll With It" Badge** (Enrollment number has been updated)
- "Gotcha Covered" Badge** (Cover and end sheet specifications submitted on time)
- "Buzz Builder" Badge** (3 Plan and Promote Emails sent)
- "Sales Guru" Badge** (Halfway to meeting sales goal)
- "Commanding Coverage" Badge** (A student has been covered in the book at least 3 times)
- "You're In the Book" Badge** ("In the Book" Flyers have been created)
- "Follow the Ladder" Badge** (Page deadlines have been sent)
- "One Down" Badge** (First page has been submitted)
- "List Maker" Badge** (Student list has been updated)

They were working on the final four badges as the year ended.



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

- Wednesday, June 26th Tony Ervin Memorial Blood Drive in Bloomdale, OH



Tony Borton, Superintendent

