



January 2019 Eisenhower Express

And Remember Eisenhower...
Be Kids of Good Character and...
YOU ARE AWESOME!



School Principal News!

~Mr. Ferguson

Everyone at Eisenhower wishes you all a very Happy New Year. I hope the holiday season was all that you hoped it would be.

We are glad to be back in a routine at school with a renewed focus on learning and helping your child meet their full potential. We are squarely in the middle of the second trimester and the teachers are helping the students meet the core standards being presented this trimester. Thank you for all you do at home to support school by helping your child get a good night sleep, preparing them for a good day at school, and supporting them with homework support or skill practice in the evening.

It seems hard to believe, but we will be looking forward to sharing student progress at our spring conferences coming up next month already! Spring conferences will be held in the evening on Tuesday, February 12 and Wednesday, February 13 and then during the morning and early afternoon hours on Thursday, February 14. The online conference scheduling site will be open for families to sign up for conferences starting on Monday, January 14. The conference scheduling site will be open from January 14-25. This is open slightly earlier than in the past but we wanted families to have ample time to select a time that works best for your family and then time to adjust work schedules if necessary.

Since we are finally experiencing winter weather, I know that the student drop area has gotten busier and more congested. I annually take the opportunity in this edition of the Express to review our morning drop-off routines for the upper parking lot off Spring Valley. (Recall our lower parking lot is for bus and daycare van drop off and pick up only.) I know that more students are driven to school during the winter months and I'm very aware of the long lines of cars waiting to get into and out of our parking lot each morning between 8:15-8:30. If we ALL follow the expectations, it can make the process go better for everyone involved. While we certainly want things to go smoothly for everyone and allow families to get through the drop off line as quickly as possible, student safety is our main concern so please **DRIVE SLOWLY** at all times on school property and on the streets immediately around Eisenhower. Our crossing guards and parking lot supervisors are trying to help things run as smoothly as possible and keep everyone safe so please follow their directions at all times. Here are a few helpful tips about our morning procedures that will help **EVERYONE** if we can ALL please follow them:

- When you enter the parking lot, pull up as far as possible to the car in front of you. Follow the directions of the parking lot supervisors and **DO NOT HAVE YOUR CHILD EXIT** the vehicle until you are at least up past the "drop off" sign.
- It may be necessary to sometimes do a "double line" in order to get left turning traffic off the street and to allow a better flow of traffic away from school on Spring Valley. If this is necessary, please only do so at the direction of the crossing guards and then kindly merge into one lane as you drive up to the drop off area. The second lane should not be used as an express lane or "through lane".
- Students should have their winter gear on and their book bags ready so they can quickly exit the vehicle on the right side of the vehicle onto the sidewalk and not out into potential traffic.
- When preparing to exit, students should have everything ready to go so they can exit the vehicle quickly and safely. Please practice this with your child(ren) so they can do this quickly and independently without the parent needing to also get out of the vehicle (with possible exception for some of our preschool and kindergarten students). This is also not the time for extended hugs, kisses, and long "good-byes". ☺
- As soon as your child has safely exited your vehicle, please be ready to move along and exit our parking lot via the lower driveway area onto Spring Valley.
- If you need to walk your child into school or take longer with morning drop off, please pull around and utilize one of the parking spaces in our lot.
- By having everyone follow these expectations, we hope to make your drop-off time as efficient and safe as possible for everyone. Thank you for showing patience and courtesy to other drivers, patrol helpers, and parking lot supervisors and being a good role model for our students.

The month of January gives us a full calendar of activities. Our PTO has scheduled a special "Eisenhower Night at Verticle Jump Park". Tickets are offered at a reduced rate for Eisenhower families with a portion of the ticket sales going back to our PTO where the money supports the school and student activities. That event takes place on Thursday, January 31 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. which is an ideal night to get out since the following day, February 1 is a non-school day for students. Look for this flyer in your child's take home folder.

We continue to do all that we can to ensure that "Everything is AWESOME" at Eisenhower and we look forward to an outstanding 2019! Thanks for your support and partnership in your child's education!

Andy Ferguson

School Counselor News!

~Mrs. Klein

Dear Parents,

As we begin 2019, our lives and reality can bring on many things. Some of these can be an absolute joy to behold and others can cause significant emotional challenges and difficulty. During this month of January, students will be learning about the guidance theme of, "Life Changes/Happy Memories." Many of our Eisenhower students have already faced an event that has caused them unwanted change and/or loss. When something happens to someone or something we love, we can feel the onset of grief as we can be pulled into an emotional cycle. The various stages of grief include: shock/disbelief, sadness, anger, bargaining, possible despair or depression, and finally acceptance. Students will learn about the need for healthy coping skills that come from talking, crying, and working through our thoughts and feelings in a private setting—taking the time to heal and to recover. As we let go and move on, we are also achieving our own "resiliency" to survive and gain strength holding onto our happy memories throughout our lifetimes.

Wishing you the very best in the New Year!

Mrs. Klein

School Nurse News

~Mrs. Ernzen

From the Nurse

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday break. It is good to be together with family and friends, however this is also a time to be exposed to more germs that could cause illness. The key to this is not to avoid gatherings, but rather to use good hand washing frequently and reminding adults and kids to cover their cough. In schools, students learn to cough into their elbow. This prevents the germ-carrying small droplets from being spread into the air by providing a barrier, plus the hands are not the recipient of the droplet containing germs.

As for hand washing, frequent and vigorous are two terms that are associated with the most effective hand washing. Have children wet their hands first, then apply soap and scrub their hands by rubbing them together not only on the palms, but also getting between the fingers and on the backs of their hands. Having them sing the *ABCs* through or *Happy Birthday* twice while they are scrubbing provides for an effective length of time. Thoroughly rinsing the hands afterwards is a must since the germs are trapped in the soap and must be rinsed off with the soap lather. Drying hands well after washing helps them from becoming chapped.

Another tip in keeping the spread of germs to a minimum are to discard used tissues in the garbage. Using hand sanitizers when soap and water aren't available is also effective. The down side of sanitizers is that they contain alcohol and are more drying to the skin. In addition, they tend to diminish the "good" bacteria that resides on our skin normally to help protect it from outside invading bacteria that could cause infections.

Hope these tips help in making your 2019 a little healthier!

Trish Ernzen, RN
Eisenhower School Nurse
Phone: 563.552.3484
Fax: 563.552.3501



Happy New Year Eisenhower Families!

Please consider joining us for our next PTO meeting on **January 14th**, at 6:30 in the library. Free childcare will be provided. Every parent/guardian and Eisenhower employee is automatically a part of the PTO and we would love to have you join us. We are always looking for new ideas and suggestions to help improve our school!

Thank you to everyone who ordered Eisenhower apparel, we can't wait to see everyone dressed up in their new gear! The PTO has a few extra t-shirts in select sizes on hand if you would like to purchase one. Please contact Bridget Ott at bridget_ott@hotmail.com to check for availability and sizes. We will not be doing another apparel order until next school year.

Thank you to everyone who donated items or their time for the Eisenhower Staff Holiday breakfast last month. The staff was so appreciative!

We will be hosting a family movie night in the Eisenhower gym on Friday, **January 25th** at 6:30 pm. This is a FREE family event for all Eisenhower families to attend. This is NOT a drop-off event, your child(ren) must have adult supervision throughout the evening.

A flyer will be coming home soon in your child's mailbag with more information.

We have a few events coming up this month that helps support our school. We hope to see you there and thank you for your continuing support!

(Watch for further details in your child's mailbag)

January 15th- Wendy's Night

January 25th- Movie night in Eisenhower Gym

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at bridget_ott@hotmail.com.

Thank you,

Bridget Ott

PTO President

2019-2020 Open Enrollment application dates

- Secondary (grades 6-12) applications become available: January 15, 2019
- Deadline for applying for secondary open enrollment: March 1, 2019

Form will be available online only.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

JANUARY 11 & 14	FAST TESTING AT EISENHOWER
JANUARY 14	PTO MEETING IN LIBRARY @ 6:30 PM
JANUARY 15	YOGA DAY IN CLASSROOMS
JANUARY 15	5-7 PM WENDY'S NIGHT
JANUARY 18	EAGLE WATCH 5 TH GRADE FIELD TRIP 11:15-2:30 PM
JANUARY 21	NO SCHOOL MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY
JANUARY 24	KIDS ON THE BLOCK FOR KINDERGARTEN @ 2:00 IN SMALL GYM
JANUARY 25	6:30-8:30 PM MOVIE NIGHT IN EISENHOWER GYM SPONSORED BY PTO
JANUARY 22	WINTER MAP TESTING OPENS
JANUARY 29	NAEP TESTING (4 TH GRADE ONLY)

LOOKING AHEAD

FEBRUARY 4	7:00 AM PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION
FEBRUARY 21	PTO SPONSORED SPLASH BASH