

## ELEMENTARY VIRTUAL CONNECTION

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



#### Writing for Success

In our current age of high tech and e-mails, I still get excited by the occasional handwritten note that makes its way to my mailbox – the postal mailbox that is. While our options and modes of communication have changed dramatically over the years, it is still essential to teach our students writing. In fact, they will learn to write to many audiences, for many purposes, for many reasons. They will learn to think, organize and communicate in all content areas by evaluating, editing, revising and rewriting their work. In the end, they will be far better prepared than students in the past to address the lifelong skills needed in an information-age of literate citizens.

What can you do to support your child's writing? Here are some tips parents can use to encourage the reluctant writer and help their children develop the habit of writing (taken from Douglas Reeves, "Reason to Write: Help your Child Succeed in School and in Life Through Better Reasoning and Clear Communication").

#### **Maintain a well-stocked supply cabinet.**

Paper (lined and unlined), pencils, pens, poster boards, graph paper, and colored paper should be on hand and easy to find. Let your child pick out some special paper that can be used for party invitations, notes, or special projects. Have pencils of varying thickness and pens of different colors.

#### **Give your child a diary or journal.**

Diary writing is often personal and should remain private unless the child chooses to share their thoughts. The purpose of this gift is to convey the importance and power of committing thoughts to paper. Over time, this gift can become an annual tradition given for each birthday or a specific holiday.

#### **Give your child personalized stationery.**

This gift can lead to the gentle requirement of having children write thank you notes as well as the tradition of weekly letters to grandparents, other relatives, and friends. Be sure to enclose a gift of stamps perhaps bearing a special image that is special or unique to your child's interests.

#### **Write notes to your child and encourage him/her to write to you.**

Leave a note in your child's lunchbox or backpack. Leave a notepad by the door or phone with an expectation that everyone will write messages for each other. Some of these may be for safety or to pass along scheduling information, but they can also be for fun. Make it a family tradition to make some of the birthday and holiday cards filling them with personal messages.

#### **Keep a family bulletin board.**

Have you outgrown your refrigerator? Perhaps a bulletin board, or some cork tiles, would serve as a great place to display your child's writing. It is especially fun to notice how the writing changes from year to year and from the beginning to the end of the year. You can never encourage or reward your child's good work enough!

#### **Immerse your child in the great writing of others.**

Your child will learn much about good writing by reading the work of others. Continuing to read daily not only strengthens reading skills... but, writing skills, as well.

We look forward to continuing to work with you for the success of your children. Please feel free to contact me with any questions by calling 715-852-3070 or by email at [lschlichting@ecasd.us](mailto:lschlichting@ecasd.us).

Partnering with you,

Laura Schlichting, Elementary Virtual Program Administrator



### **Important Message for Families of Students in Grades 3-5**

Students across Wisconsin are preparing for the Forward Exam, this spring. Unlike our other assessments, virtual students will need to go to a school building to take these tests. More information regarding location, time, transportation, etc. will be shared in the next few weeks. However, please put the following date(s) on your calendar for this in-person obligation.

***Save the date:***

**Grade 5**      **Wednesday, March 24 for all Cohort C students**

**Grade 4**      **Two Wednesdays: April 7 and April 14 for all Cohort C students**

**Grade 3**      **Wednesday, April 21 for Cohort C students from the following home schools:**

Flynn, Lakeshore, Manz, Putnam Heights, and Sherman

**Wednesday, April 28 for Cohort C students from the following home schools:**

Longfellow, Locust Lane, Meadowview, Montessori, Northwoods, Roosevelt, and

Sam Davey



### **FAMILY-TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Please sign up for your conference time through Microsoft Bookings. Information about this sign-up process has been shared by your child(ren)'s teacher. Please contact your child(ren)'s teacher if you have any questions.



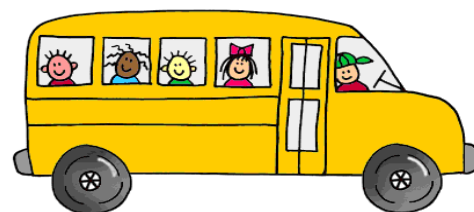
#### **Upcoming Dates:**

Fri., Feb. 12 and Feb. 26: Materials Pick-up at Home Schools

(Please note a change in pick-up times for Putnam Heights: 7:45- 8:30 am (same as it was) AND 4:00 - 4:30 pm (new time). Please drive up to Door 1/Main Entrance and please stay in car.)

**Curbside Meal Pick-Up at Schools:****8:30-10:00am Monday - Friday:****Delong Middle School:** Enter from Moholt Drive. Door #7**Northstar Middle School:** Staff parking lot. Near door #5**South Middle School:** Enter Mitscher Ave. Door #7**Memorial High School:** Keith Street. Door # 4**North High School:** Main Parking Lot. Door #1, under the Huskie**4:30-6:00pm Monday - Friday:****Memorial High School:** Keith Street. Door # 4**Meals on Yellow Wheels Monday - Friday**

ECASD and Student Transit are excited to announce the Meals on Yellow Wheels Program is starting again effective Wednesday, September 16. Please see the estimated time and locations below where meals can be picked up. A Child aged 18 years or under, or a parent/guardian of one must pick up the bags, just like the to-go pick-up at the secondary schools. This program will continue to be free until June 30, 2021.

**Bus #1**Sundet Park 10:50 -11:00 am **4703 Robin Rd.**Hope Lutheran Church 11:10-11:20 am **2226 Eddy Ln**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church 11:30-11:40 am **601 Fall St**Spirit Lutheran Church 11:50 am-12:00 pm **1310 Main St****Bus #2**Pablo Center 10:50-11:00 am **128 Graham Ave**Boys and Girls Club 11:10-11:20 am **1005 Oxford Ave**Peace Lutheran Church 11:30-11:40 am **501 E Fillmore Ave**Prairie Park sub development 11:55 am-12:05 pm **Prairie Park Dr****Bus #3**Sunset @ Fairmont 10:45-10:55 am **Corner of Sunset Dr and Fairmont Ave**Indoor Sports Center 11:05-11:15 am **3456 Craig Rd**Pine Edge Trailer Park 11:25-11:35 am **Mitchell Rd**Mary Pl @ Renee Dr 11:50 am-12:00 pm **Corner of Mary Pl and Renee Dr.**