

Dear Community Members:

The second semester begins today, and it marks the official mid-way point in the year.

These are tough days for kids with the weather and constantly changing schedules, not to mention the gray cloudy skies day in and day out. The days are still short, and everyone starts to get on edge a little. Please be positive and supportive of your kids and encourage them to dig down and keep at it. The days are getting longer, and in a few weeks we will start to see some signs of a break in the weather...we hope! Life and school are hard at this time of year, but it also gives us the chance to grow if we can persevere and keep pushing ahead!

I have a few items for you this week.

FIRST EXTERIOR RENDERING

We have our first real rendering of the main entry to the new elementary school as seen from the front on Sugar Ridge Road. The parking is not exactly what is proposed as the bus drop-off will be in the front of the building, so the visitor parking will be different than what you see here. However, it does give you a feel for things. We are expecting a corrected version and some classroom shots sometime late next week, and we will share them with you.

We will have this and another shot from the front at the basketball game tonight. They are in the trophy case in case you are interested. I will be at the game if you have questions or comments.

REPORT CARD DATA

As I mentioned earlier this month, there is going to be a 2 phase release to the Report Card information released by the Ohio Department of Education. In the first release there was graduation data, K-3 literacy, and Prepared for Success. Here is a little information on each.

Graduation Rate – We received an A for our Graduation Rate for students in 4 years and an A for the 5 year rate. There are two indicators, because the state is interested in how districts help students who do not make the mark within four years. There are students who in the past may have needed to pick-up an area on the Ohio Graduation Test. We often times will tutor students in the summer after their graduation and see them pass a test then. Regardless, we have always done well in this area and hope to continue.

K-3 Literacy – We received a rating of “NR” which means Not Rated. This is due to the numbers of students who did not require reading intervention. If the threshold is below 5%, then you do not receive an official rating.

The rating looks at students who are identified as needing intervention based on diagnostic test administered at the beginning of each year. They are looking to make sure that if you have a student identified in 1st grade as not being on track, you get them on track by the beginning of 2nd grade.

If we had been rated, we would have received a B and been at the higher end of that category. It appears that we do very well with our younger students and have moderate success as they move towards 3rd grade. We will need to learn more about the pool of students and what we had in place as far as interventions were concerned.

Prepared for Success – In this area district receive data, but no grade, for ACT, SAT, AP, Dual Enrollment, and IB participation and success for the 137 students in the Class of 2014. We also receive information on students who receive an Industry-Recognized Credential. Let me break this down further.

- **ACT Information** – 85 of 137 or 62% of our seniors in 2014 took and ACT test, and 39 of them earned scores that are considered “remediation free”. The state wants to make sure that kids are prepared to succeed in college and ready to take credit bearing classes when they arrive. A great deal of money gets spent each year on remedial college classes that students must take, but do not directly go towards a degree. The remediation free score changes from test to test. English – 18, Math – 22, Reading – 21.
 - For this year it looks like 88 of 133 took the ACT 66%, and 43 earned the “remediation free” score to this point in the year.
- **Dual Enrollment** – Eastwood had 26 seniors in the Class of 2014 earn at least 3 college credits. This year the number is 41, and we will be adding classes for next year that will improve those numbers going forward.
- **Honors Diploma** – The Honors Diploma is granted to students who take a certain course load including upper level math, science and social studies classes along with foreign language. There is also a minimum GPA of 3.5. There are also points for ACT score. Eastwood had 25 students in 2014 earn an Honors Diploma. Students who earn the diploma receive a designation on their diploma, but nothing else.
- **Industry Credential** – Students who attend Penta can receive an Industry Recognized Credential which demonstrates mastery of a series of criteria. There were 11 seniors in 2014 who received the credential.
- **Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Programs** – Eastwood does not have AP or IB. We instead have focused on having students receive College Credit through Findlay and BGSU for courses taught in the building.

There will be more to come in February on the Report Card including achievement rates for the new assessments. All in all, we will do reasonably well on the achievement tests, but we will miss one indicator. We should get As or Bs on all of the achievement ratings. We will see where the rest of the data shakes out.

SHARING HANDS MEAL OPEN TO ALL!

Sharing Hands will serve their monthly free meal for January on Monday, January 25, 2016, at the American Legion Post, #240, 335 Park Drive, Luckey, from 5:30-6:30. On the menu for the January meal is lasagna, garlic bread, salad, desserts, and beverages. Carry-out meals are available as well as home-delivered meals. For home delivery, call Tresa Witker at [419 308-0536](tel:4193080536) or the Legion Hall at [419 833-3581](tel:4198333581) by 6:00 pm on the evening of the meal. **If Eastwood Schools are closed due to inclement weather, the meal will be canceled. Everyone is invited!**

EASTWOOD YOUTH BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL REGISTRATION

It is a little hard to believe when you look outside, but registration for youth baseball and softball is now open! There is an attached document that will help you with the online registration process.

That is it for this week. Best wishes and GO EAGLES!!