

## OUR MISSION

The mission of Eleanor Roosevelt Middle School is to develop respectful, responsible learners through a rigorous curriculum in a caring, diverse community.

# ELEANOR ROOSEVELT REPORT

MIDDLE SCHOOL

VOLUME 24 | ISSUE 6 | FEBRUARY 2025

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## OUR NEWSLETTER

The Roosevelt Report is sponsored by the ERMS PTO and the ERMS Staff. In future issues we hope to bring you important information about events and activities at ERMS.

## OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

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## NOTES FROM MR. JOHLL

Dear Roosevelt Families,

As we continue with the month of February, I want to express my gratitude for your continued support of the learning that happens here at Roosevelt. Thank you for being an integral part of that success. Here are a few items of information to share this month:

**ATTENDANCE** | We have some good news to share from our review of attendance data at the end of last month. Attendance at school is critically important for middle school students as it fosters consistent learning and academic progress. It helps students develop essential social skills, build relationships with peers and teachers, and engage in school activities that contribute to their overall development. Attending school regularly prepares them for the future. Satisfactory attendance is defined by the state as being under 10% days absent. At the end of January, 87% of our students met this criterion, a five percent increase from the same time last year, and a ten percent increase from two years ago. Thank you for ensuring that your child is attending school consistently!

**NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK** | The first week of this month we took time to celebrate the work of our three counselors here at Roosevelt. National School Counseling Week highlights the tremendous impact school counselors have in helping students achieve school success and plan for their future. Our school counselors help students examine their abilities, strengths, interests, and talents. They work in partnership with families on the challenges students face in today's world; and they work with teachers to provide them with opportunities to realize their potential and to set healthy, realistic, and optimistic aspirations for the future. Thank you to Mrs. Glennon, Mrs. Kaiser, and Mrs. Elliott for all they do!

**CELLPHONE POLICY REFRESHER** | Thank you for completing the cellphone

**CONTINUED ▶**

## FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

ERMS Houses each have their own Instagram accounts. On a computer type in the following website and add the house user name after the "/" without the "@" symbol. Go to:

Instagram.com/\_\_\_\_\_

### OR

via the free Instagram app, create an account if you don't already have one, then search for the user name listed below. Make sure to include the "@" symbol.

### THEN

Make sure to click "FOLLOW" on each of the pages.

## HOUSE INSTAGRAM USER NAMES

### HOUSE 6-1

@erms6.1

### HOUSE 6-2

@erms6\_2

### HOUSE 6-3

@ermshouse6\_3

### HOUSE 7-2

@7.2raptors

### HOUSE 7-3

@ermshouse73

### HOUSE 8-1

@mskresshistory

@msyagerscience

@mrscummingsmath

@mspociask\_ela

### HOUSE 8-2

@erms\_82

@Mrs\_Norby

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survey sent out by the school district. The Dubuque Community School District Cell Phone Advisory Committee has been studying our cellphone policies since the start of the year and will be using their findings, in conjunction with the survey results, to update our school policies.

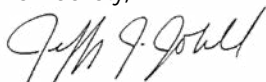
As a reminder, Roosevelt Middle School Policy continues to be that students are to place cellphones in their lockers or book bags upon arrival to school. Phones are turned off or on silent mode, and not to be used throughout the school day, including during passing times. We ask that parents utilize our office staff to communicate any messages that cannot wait until the end of the school day. If you ever need to speak with your child during the school day, we are happy to call them to the office and accommodate this need. The goal of our policy is to set students up for success in classes while also ensuring that our parents can reach them in cases of immediate need.

**SODA, ENERGY DRINKS, COFFEE REMINDER** | Please remind your child(ren) to not bring soda, energy drinks or coffee with them to school in the morning. We have noticed an increase in the number of students arriving in the morning with one of these items that are not allowed at school. Thanks for your help with this.

**END OF TRIMESTER REMINDER** | Our second trimester will end on February 28th. Please continue to monitor your child(ren)'s academic progress in Infinite Campus and Canvas. Now is a great time to evaluate their current standing and set goals for a successful end to the trimester!

**MARCH PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT CONFERENCES** | Information about our second round of conferences will be sent out next week via Parent Square. As we did last fall, the first two nights of conferences will be held virtually using Microsoft Teams. Thursday will be reserved for in-person conferences at Roosevelt. The conference dates are Thursday, March 6, Wednesday, March 12, and Thursday, March 13.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey J. Johll, Principal

## ERMS ATTENDANCE PROCEDURE

If your child(ren) will be out for an extended period of time for a non-illness reason such as a family trip, we ask that you please provide notification to the office a minimum of one week in advance of the first day of absence. There are three options for communicating this with the main office:

1. You can send a note with your child, OR
2. You can call the attendance line at 563-552-5012, OR
3. You can send an email to [ermsattendance@dbqschools.org](mailto:ermsattendance@dbqschools.org)

*Please include the student name, the dates of the absence and the reason. The student will then receive a letter from the Main Office to be reviewed by each of their teachers so that they are informed of the dates.*

### ERMS Attendance procedure for pick up during school hours...

**Option 1 (Best procedure for your convenience):** Send a note with your student in the morning.

— The note should include: student's name, pick-up time, reason for leaving

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## ADDITIONAL ERMS INSTAGRAM USER NAMES

Therapy Dog Layla  
@alaylaaday

Library  
@ermslibrary

Mrs. Glennon, Counselor  
@mrsglennonerms

Ms. Montana, Student Needs  
Facilitator  
@msmontanaerms

Ms. Putchio, Instructional Coach  
@msputchio

Ms. Lucas, Health and Wellness  
@lucaswellness1002

Orchestra  
@erms.orch

FAME  
@erms.fame

## MEDICAL APPOINTMENT TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to **medical** appointments is available through RTA transportation bus and funded by United Way Dubuque.

For more information please contact Roosevelt School Nurse:

**Katie Vogt**  
**PH: 563-552-5016**  
**FAX: 552-5001**

## FOLLOW US ON :

**School:**  
<https://tinyurl.com/ERMSonFB>

**PTO:**  
[www.facebook.com/PTOERMS](http://www.facebook.com/PTOERMS)

early, and parent's signature.

- The student should bring that note to the main office first thing in the morning. He or she will be given a pass out of class in exchange for the note.
- Then your student will meet you at the east door by the flag pole and can come out when you pull up to the curb.

**Option 2:** If you know in advance that your child will miss school you can send an email to **ermsattendance@dbqschools.org**. Please include your child's name, pick-up time and reason for leaving early.

If you need to pick up your student due to a last-minute situation, call the attendance line at **552-5012**. If we received the information through a phone call, then you have to meet your student in the building. When picking up your student, you will need to enter the building through the door by the flag pole. Then check in with the secretary at the window. **Please notify us as early in the day as possible so that we can better serve you.**

## NURSES NOTES

*Submitted by: Katie Vogt, RN*

Students must visit the nurse before contacting home for an illness. If a student calls/texts/emails without visiting the nurse it will be an unexcused absence.

**Reminder to keep your student home from school 24 hours after vomiting or fever.**

## PBIS PAGE

*Submitted by: the PBIS Leadership Team*

After winter break each house analyzed behavior referral data to determine what they needed to reteach and how. All students had reviews of what it looks like to be **Respectful, Responsible, and Resourceful** (the 3Rs) in certain areas of the building.

Students came out in full force for our February PBIS events:

**6th grade – Hungry Hungry Hippos**  
**7th grade – Kickball**  
**8th grade – Volleyball**

Our March event will be **trivia** for all three grades—time to study up!

We look forward to our second Raptor Recognition Rally, which will take place on February 25th. Families will receive an invitation if their child is being recognized as a Raptor Rave or as a recipient of the Positive Impact Award for their leadership in an activity.

As the trimester ends in late February, we will plan our referral incentive for students who had zero or few referrals during second trimester, and those who had more referrals will have a reteaching lesson.

We are constantly looking for fun ways to celebrate the positive contributions our students and staff are making to build a community and climate conducive for learning. Thank you to parents for reinforcing the 3Rs at home.

## ACTIVITIES OFFICE

*Submitted by: Mark Lawler, Assistant Principal/Activities Director*

Dance/Cheer and Boys Basketball are both wrapping up as we close out February. We have seen a lot of close games and some great dance performances and cheering.

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## CONTACTS

### Main Office: 552-5000

Principal: Mr. Jeff Johl

Business Manager/Principal's  
Secretary: Mrs. Jordan Coleman

### Activities Office: 552-5010

Assistant Principal/Athletic  
Director: Mr. Mark Lawler

Assistant Principal's Secretary/  
Activities: Mrs. Tiffany Amico

### Attendance Office: 552-5012

Assistant Principal: Mrs. Bobbie  
Jones

Attendance/Assistant Principal's  
Secretary: Mrs. Amanda Herrig

### Health Office: 552-5016

Nurse: Mrs. Katie Vogt  
Health Para: Mrs. LaKesha Rea

### Guidance Office: 552-5013

Grade 6: Mrs. Casie Kaiser  
Grade 7: Mrs. Amy Glennon  
Grade 8: Mrs. Kerry Elliott

Records/Counselors Secretary:  
Ms. Mo Dietzel

### DCSD Anonymous Tip Line: 552-3075

## FOLLOW US ON :

### School:

<https://tinyurl.com/ERMsonFB>

### PTO:

[www.facebook.com/PTOERMS](http://www.facebook.com/PTOERMS)

FAME cast is well on their way to some strong rehearsals, and many of the crews are already making plans and preparations.

We have had many fun LEAP activities going on, like cooking, Michaelangelo ceiling tile painting, and robotics. We also have another round of D&D coming up.

Our FIRST Tech Challenge teams are still competing, and our successful Math Counts advanced to state and Science Bowl placed third at their state competition. Many fantastic teams are doing outstanding work, and we are so proud of our students!

## MUSIC: ORCHESTRA

*Submitted by: Natalie Backes, ERMS Orchestra Director*

Congratulations to the following students for their acceptance into the Kennedy Honors Orchestra Festival!

8th Graders: Stella Siegert (cello), Alex Goldsmith (double bass), Natalie Peyton (viola) and Zygmund Reisch (cello)

7th Graders: Harper Francois (violin 2), Daniel Moore (double bass), Lauren Roach (double bass) and Hailey Petersen (viola)

6th Graders: Fiona Schreyer (viola)

The festival will be held at John F. Kennedy High School in Cedar Rapids on March 8th for grades 6th through 9th.



## SCIENCE BOWL EARNS 3RD PLACE

*Submitted by: Wendy Winger, 6th Grade Science Teacher, Science Bowl Coach*

ERMS students competed in the Iowa Science Bowl state competition at Iowa State University in Ames on Saturday, February 8th. The National Science Bowl is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy. The competition tests teams knowledge of life science, physical science, earth and space science, energy, mathematics and general science.

There were 28 teams competing at the event. In the morning round, the ERMS team finished 4-1. They then went into a tie-breaker round along with five other teams to determine who would move on to compete in the next round of competition. Only 8 teams advanced to the second round in the afternoon.

The second round was double-elimination. We were awarded the 3rd place trophy. Overall, our team answered 250 questions in science and math.

The students that represented our school were Joah Breitbach (8th), Kartik Chugh (8th), Will Davis (8th), Ben Kluesner (8th), and Charlie Pfab-Thumser (7th).



How it started.



How it ended—3rd Place!

## ACTIVITIES OFFICE CONTACTS

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the following staff in the Activities Office:

**Mr. Lawler**

mlawler@dbqschools.org

**Mrs. Amico**

tamico@dbqschools.org

**Ms. Montana**

dmontana@dbqschools.org

## PHYSICAL PACKET

Visit the page below to download the complete packet under "Athletics"

<https://www.dbqschools.org/parents/quick-links/forms/>

## LEAP INFORMATION

Visit the LEAP page to view upcoming events. Students will either be given a permission form to take home or can pick one up from the Activities Office.

<https://roosevelt.dbqschools.org/activities/leap/>

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**PTO:**

[www.facebook.com/PTOERMS](http://www.facebook.com/PTOERMS)

# FIRST TECH CHALLENGE: FURTHERING STEAM & WORKING AS A TEAM

*Submitted by: Melissa Sendt, 7th Grade Science Teacher, FTC Coach*

## Snowy STEAM Night Reflections

On January 24th, the Roosevelt FTC Robotics teams hosted a STEAM night with winter-themed activities. There were 94 people in attendance for an exciting evening filled with unique experiences and enjoyable memories. Guests built igloos and learned the power of shapes. We reused bottles for our highest rated activity, "snowstorm" sensory bottles. Visitors enjoyed hot cocoa in between activities.

## Successful Fundraiser

On January 28th team members worked at Culver's to raise funds for the Roosevelt FTC teams. This was their final fundraiser of the season. Together, the teams have raised around \$4,750 this year. Some of which has been used to fund transportation for all three DCSD middle school teams (2-Roosevelt and 1-Washington) to go to a fourth league meet this year.

## Tour at Rite Hite

Our Roosevelt FTC Robotics teams visited Rite Hite to learn about their product design, creation, and prototyping processes. We focused on safety throughout the experience. Nathan and Bri guided us through the work area, design, creation, and testing stages, while Tony and Jamal mentored us in the final stages of product development. Rite Hite featured seven of their products: dock seals, dock shelters, dock doors, seal doors, temperature doors, screen doors, and wash-down doors. Thanks to the Rite Hite team for sharing their time and expertise with us!

## Last League Meet → Off to the Tournament

The Robo Raptors and Royal Robots FIRST Tech Challenge teams had their last league meet on January 29th at Pleasant Valley High School.

Now, they are gearing up for the league tournament in Bettendorf which is the state qualifying event of the season. There they will present their engineering portfolios to judges and have their final matches of the season. Let's cheer them on as they showcase their innovative designs and teamwork. Best of luck to both teams! Congratulations on your hard work this season.

## ERMS PTO UPDATES

As we wrap up February and head into March, we have volunteer opportunities, spirit nights and a few meetings left before the end of the year. Please lend an extra hand if you are able and make sure to join us at our meetings. We welcome your feedback and ideas to help support our students and make it a great year!



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## PTO BOARD

Jeff Johl, School Principal  
Bobbie Jones, Asst. Principal  
Mark Lawler, Asst. Principal

## 2024-25 OFFICERS

### President:

Brenda Nank  
ERMSPTO@yahoo.com

### Vice-President:

Open Position

### Treasurer:

Tammy Rausch  
trausch2@yahoo.com

### Secretary:

Angela Pickel

## 2024-25 COMMITTEES

### Sports/Activity Booster:

Mark Lawler  
mlawler@dbqschools.org

### Apparel:

Lynn Valley  
lynn.valley11@gmail.com

### Communications:

Kimberly Davis  
kmdavis@gmail.com

### Events:

Open Position

### Fundraising:

Open Position

### Hospitality:

Open Position

## NEXT PTO MEETING

**Our next meeting is March 6th at 6:00 p.m.** Please follow us on Facebook (see link below) to stay up-to-date with new info and events.



@ermsptodbq



@PTOERMS

**FOLLOW US ON**  :

### School:

<https://tinyurl.com/ERMSonFB>

**Volunteer Opportunities** | Toward the end of February we will be sending out a SignUp Genius for conference meal donations to support our teachers as they stay late to meet with ERMS families. Please watch our social media and your email for that communication.

Also upcoming is our final dance of the school year, which will be held on Friday, March 21st. We will have volunteer opportunities available for ticket sales, concessions and chaperoning. Keep an eye out for updates on that as well.

**SPIRIT NIGHT** | Each month our PTO partners with a local business to host an ERMS Spirit Night. It's a great way to support our school while grabbing a great meal for the family. **February's Spirit Night at Pancheros has been rescheduled to Wednesday, March 19th. See below for details.**

**ERMS APPAREL STORE** | Now open! Check it out and make sure to place your order by Friday, February 28th! Thank you for supporting our school!




SHOP AT:

<https://tinyurl.com/ERMSSpring05SpiritWear>

**PTO MEETINGS** | Join our next meeting on **Thursday, March 6th at 6 p.m.** in the school library. With only three meetings left of the school year, we are going to be discussing and filling cabinet and committee positions. It's great time to get a feel for what the PTO does and get connected for next year! Block out your calendar with all of our meetings dates: **April 3, 2025 and May 1, 2025.**

**WEDNESDAY,  
MARCH 19  
4:00-CLOSE  
4840 Asbury Road**

**JOIN US FOR  
ROOSEVELT PTO  
SPIRIT NIGHT**




**PANCHEROS®**  
MEXICAN GRILL

★

**QUESO FOR A CAUSE**

Support our school by eating out at Pancheros at 4840 Asbury Road during the above date and time and Pancheros **will donate 10% of our sales, from 4:00 p.m. to close, back to Roosevelt PTO to benefit our school!**





# ELEANOR ROOSEVELT MIDDLE SCHOOL

## MARCH 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 LEAP Dungeons & Dragons	4 LEAP Dungeons & Dragons LEAP Girls Coding & Engineering Yearbook Pictures	5 LEAP Dungeons & Dragons 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball Pictures	6 Parent/Teacher Conferences 3PM	7 Music Day! Roosevelt Night @ Dubuque Fighting Saints	8 Kennedy Honors Orchestra
9	10 LEAP Dungeons & Dragons	11 LEAP Dungeons & Dragons	12 Parent/Teacher Conferences 3PM	13 NO SCHOOL Parent/Teacher Conferences 7:30AM	14 NO SCHOOL	15
16	17 Activities Grade Check LEAP Dungeons & Dragons District Band Festival - Hempstead	18 Introduce A Girl to Engineering District Orchestra Festival - Hempstead	19 District Choral Festival - Hempstead	20 Tornado Drill	21 Battle of the Books Spring Dance	22
23	24 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Track Begins LEAP Book Club District Band Festival - Senior	25 District Orchestra Festival - Senior	26	27 District Choral Festival – Senior Track Pictures	28 Loras Honor Band	29
30	31					

## DISTRICT INFORMATION

### SAFE ZONE

This school is free of harassment, bullying and discrimination. The Anti-Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination Assurance Statement and School Board Policies #1001/#1005 is available at The Forum, 2300 Chaney Road, Dubuque, Iowa 52001. Questions can be directed to 552-3000.

### LUNCH MENU HOTLINE

Call the lunch menu hotline for the DCSD menu of the day at 552-3250. NSF CHECKS (NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS) There is a \$20.00 charge for all NSF checks per DCSD guidelines.

### ABSENCE PROCEDURES

When a student is absent from school, the parent or guardian should call the Attendance Office (563-552-5012) before 9:00 a.m. Please be sure to give your name, student name and reason for the absence. If you prefer send us an email to [ERMSAttendance@dbqschools.org](mailto:ERMSAttendance@dbqschools.org).

### PAY STUDENT FEES ONLINE

Parents, can pay student fees and deposit breakfast/lunch money into your child's meal account by using the Infinite Campus website or app under "My Accounts".

### WEATHER HOTLINE

The Dubuque Community School District has a "Weather Hotline." When school may be closed due to inclement weather, individuals may call 552-3035 for school district updates. In addition, YOU CAN NOW press "1" for athletic contest changes and press "2" for fine arts activity changes. You can also sign up for Iowa School Alerts at: <https://schoolalerts.iowa.gov>