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 7 | MARCH 2025

THIS ISSUE

Notes from Mr. Johll.....1-2
Attendance Procedure.....3
PBIS Page.....3
Activities Office..... 4
Special Olympics..... 4
Friends of Homacho..... 4
FIRST Tech Challenge..... 5-6
FAME 6
PTO Updates 6
April Calendar.....7
District Information.....7

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

Hy-Vee EMPLOYEE OWNED
origin design
EBLYONS Nature Center

NOTES FROM MR. JOHLL

Dear Roosevelt Families,

I hope this newsletter finds your family enjoying this warm and beautiful March weather. Below are a few important pieces of information to share with our families as we end this month and quickly approach April.

UNPLUGGED DAY | Are you aware that there is a national 'Unplugged Day' happening this year on April 17. Our district will be participating in this day. As you know, we have students place their cell phones in their lockers or book bags from the start of the school day until dismissal, so we are "unplugged" from cell phones every day at Roosevelt. With that said, we will have announcements at school, and information will be shared on monitors about the importance of unplugging from time to time. We will encourage students (and adults) to disconnect from digital devices and reconnect with the world around them—and the importance of doing so as much as possible each day! In today's technology-driven society, we are often glued to our screens. Without the constant distraction of phones, we might find more time to focus on hobbies, reading, or simply enjoying the quiet moments of life.

ISASP | In April we will be administering the annual Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP) tests. These are standardized assessments that have been developed by Iowa Testing Programs at the University of Iowa. These REQUIRED tests have been developed specifically for students in our state. They are directly aligned with the Iowa Core standards in reading, math, and science. The information gleaned from these tests provide teachers, students, and parents, with a clear and accurate assessment of learning as it relates to those core standards. Therefore, these tests are very important in helping your child(ren) with their growth in learning here at Roosevelt. Your words of encouragement and your help in promoting the importance of these test is very much needed and appreciated.

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

CONTINUED ▸

Again, this year the Iowa tests will be done completely online. Students will use their school issued laptops to take the tests on our secure server network. Students will take the test in the morning. More information will be coming in a Parent Square message, but here are the dates for testing:

Tuesday, April 1 . . . . . 8th Grade Science
Wednesday, April 2 . . . . . Reading
Tuesday, April 8 . . . . . Language and Writing
Wednesday, April 9 . . . . . Math

ID AND LANYARD | Does your child still have her/his school issued student identification (ID) card and lanyard? To provide a safe learning environment for all students at Roosevelt, we do require our students to wear their ID in a visible way at school. (This is true for all secondary schools in Dubuque.) As we continue with the third trimester of the school year, we are beginning to see an increase in the number of students without an identification card. Please remind your child(ren) that wearing the ID card in a visible way is an important part of our safety plan at Roosevelt. It's also important for checking out library books, purchasing school lunches, purchasing tickets for dances or PBIS events, etc. If your child(ren) needs a replacement card, please ask them to come to the main office to purchase a new one. The cost for a new ID card is $3.00. We also sell lanyards for $2.00, if one is needed.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES | Thank you to everyone that attended our second round of parent-teacher conferences this month. We appreciate you taking the time to learn about what is happening here at school. We know that these conversations will help promote learning success.

RESILIENCE | Finally, I want to share with you a powerful website that I have used as an educator and parent, focused on the importance of building resiliency from the American Psychological Association (APA). It is a favorite website and I like to share it with others. As you know, resiliency is the ability to adapt positively when faced with difficult situations, adversity, or even failure. It's the ability to effectively work through tough times. We strive to help students build this ability here at Roosevelt. Within this website, you will find a great article, "Resilience Guide for Parents and Teachers." In the article, the APA provides ten tips that can help develop resilience in our middle school students. They are:

1. Make connections
2. Help your child by having them help others
3. Maintain a daily routine
4. Take a break
5. Teach your child self-care
6. Move toward your goals
7. Nurture a positive self-view
8. Keep things in perspective and maintain a hopeful outlook
9. Look for opportunities for self-discovery
10. Accept that change is a part of living

Each of these ten tips has wonderful suggestions that go with them in the article. There is also a section in the article devoted to middle school students. I particularly like the information shared about reinforcing the importance of empathy. If you would like to review this website and the article, here is a link to learn more about this topic: **https://www.apa.org/topics/resilience**
I hope you have a wonderful March!

Sincerely,

Jeffrey J. Johll, Principal

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

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

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 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.**

PBIS PAGE

Submitted by: the PBIS Leadership Team

What was the original color of Coca-Cola? Which came first? Barbie or Hot Wheels? If you knew the answer to those questions you would have been a whiz at our March PBIS Trivia. This year we had nearly 90 teams sign up across grades 6-8. Students were quizzed over their knowledge of mascots, logos and random useless trivia. In addition to trivia, students participated in a house activity day and referral incentive day. Students with multiple referrals during the 2nd trimester received reteaching about the 3R's.

We have several more events coming up during March. To celebrate the opening day of the MLB season we are hosting a raffle for autographed pictures of Cubs pitcher, Colin Rea. March Madness is upon us and that means students are able to fill out men's and women's NCAA brackets and see how they stack up against their peers in determining this year's NCAA Champions. The April PBIS event will be the highly anticipated dodge ball.

We have analyzed referral data and during April and May, our focus will be on following directions and accepting feedback respectfully. So many of our students do that every day and we are grateful for that. With ongoing lessons throughout the rest of the year, we hope to reduce the number of referrals for defiance and disrespect. It should make for a great last couple months of the school year. We appreciate your support with the 3Rs and similar expectations at home.

CONTACTS

Main Office: 552-5000
Principal: Mr. Jeff Johll

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

ACTIVITIES OFFICE

Submitted by: Mark Lawler, Assistant Principal/Activities Director

SPORTS | 6th Grade Basketball went well, as students received instructions for drills, practices, and also got to play in scrimmages. The next season for 6th grade will be in May–football or volleyball. 7th and 8th grade track begins March 24 and we are hoping for good spring weather to have all of our meets.

PERFORMING ARTS | FAME is in full preparation mode for the performance at the end of April.

STATE COMPETITIONS | The Science Bowl team placed 3rd in the state out of 28 teams. The FTC (FIRST Tech Challenge) team Robo Raptors did well at state, going 6-0 in the first part of the weekend and placing 2nd out of 36 teams in their division before beginning the tournament. Math Counts competes at state at the end of March.

We may have a couple more LEAP activities coming up this spring, so keep an eye on the announcements for those. Our Raptors are doing a great job staying involved in school activities and having fun with friends!

SPECIAL OLYMPICS: BASKETBALL

Submitted by: Mr. Paca, Eleanor Roosevelt Special Olympics coach

On Thursday, March 20th, students from Eleanor Roosevelt participated in a basketball skills event at Hempstead High School. Everyone did a great job at the dribbling, passing, and shooting the ball. The following students participated in the day: Gavyn Boen, Jace Oberman, Franklin Trilk, Elliot Waters, Eli Drake, Madilyn Klapatauskas, Loagan Ellis, Shawn Hillard, Brysen Imbus, Ryder Hoffmann, Brandon Bush, Matthew Shaw, Nathan Drake, Bailey Wilds, Owen Fecht, Remington Hall, Harmony English, Carter Korth, Carter Cocayne and Scarlett Foster. A special thanks to the life skills and PLP teachers plus staff for your help!

FRIENDS OF HOMACHO

Submitted by: Maureen Bortscheller, 7th Grade Social Studies Teacher

The shoes arrived in village of Homacho Ethiopia, Africa! Mr. Koppes and his organization Friends of Homacho said that all of the shoes donated by our Roosevelt family were selected within hours of arriving. Way to go Raptors in becoming global citizens!

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

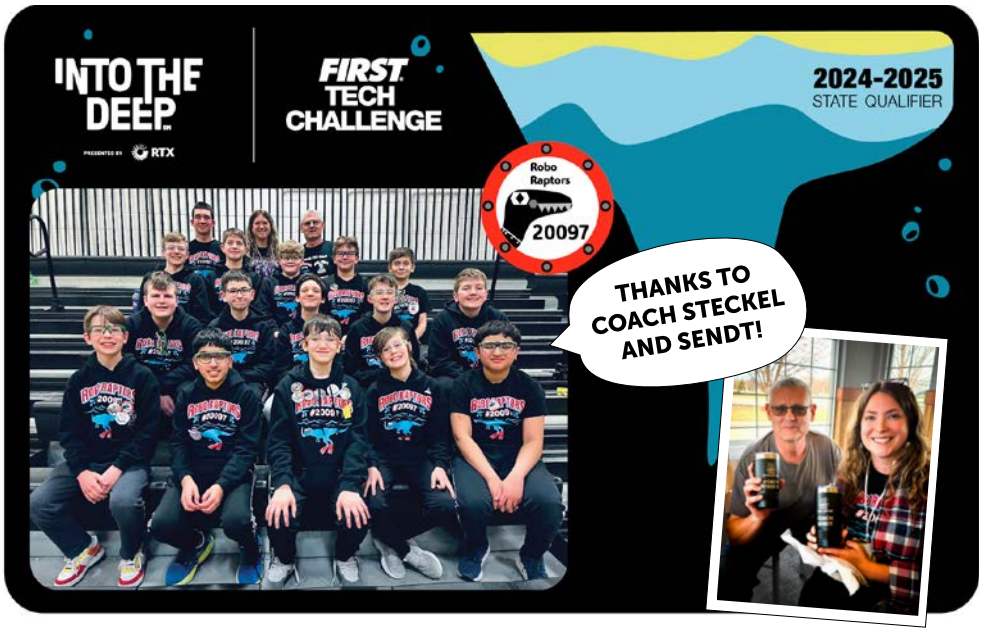
Visit the LEAP page to view upcoming events. Students will either be given a permission form to take home or can pick one up from the Activities Office.

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

FOLLOW US ON :

School:
https://tinyurl.com/ERMSonFB

PTO:
www.facebook.com/PTOERMS



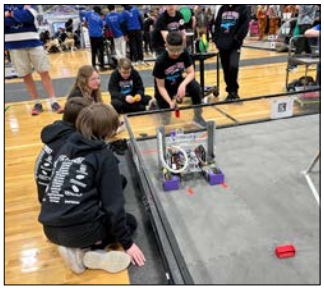
Team members from front to back, left to right: Otis Haynes, Kartik Chugh, Charlie Duve, Cale Thomas, Neal Patel, Joah Breitbach, Charlie Pfab-Thumser, Silas Herber, Chase Thomas, Elijah Hoover, Zenner Ellerbeck, Colin Lawler, Liam McDonald, Ben Kluesner and William Davis

FTC: STATE COMPETITORS

On Friday, February 28th and Saturday, March 1st, our FTC team, the Robo Raptors competed at the FIRST Tech Challenge Iowa Championship held at the Xtream Arena and Green State Family Fieldhouse in Coralville, IA.

A total of 72 teams converged for the robotics competition from across Iowa. The majority of teams were comprised of high school students. Less than 10 of those competing were middle schools teams, including our Robo Raptors!

Robo Raptor Booth



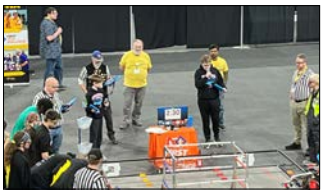
Practice Field Session

Checking the robot coding.

HOW IT WORKS | Each team competing must host a team booth, present an Engineering Portfolio, complete a Judges Review and compete in Robot Matches. The robotic matches are divided into two divisions (Gold and Black) where teams must each compete in six Qualifier Matches, then the top teams participate in Alliance Selections and then in double elimination playoff matches. The wining alliances from each division playoffs then proceed to the final championship match to determine who will advance to represent Iowa in the worlds competition.

Drive team—ready to compete!

The Robo Raptors received their highest marks ever on their engineering portfolio and had a great review with the judges. They were able to clearly communication their engineering design process, team dynamics, outreach activities, what they learned throughout the season and much more. Two of our Robo Raptors were also invited to emcee on the big stage during the state Qualifier Matches.



Robo Raptors as emcees.

CONTINUED

PTO BOARD

Jeff Johll, 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
kmadavis@gmail.com

Events:
Open Position

Fundraising:
Open Position

Hospitality:
Open Position

NEXT PTO MEETING

Our next meeting is April 3rd 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 :

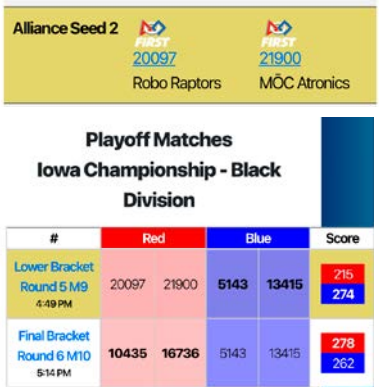
School:
https://tinyurl.com/ERMSonFB

The Robo Raptors finished Qualifier Matches in 2nd place in the Black Division! As second seed for the Alliance Selection, they invited their preferred team, the MOC-Atronics from Orange City, IA, to join them in double eliminations. In the playoffs, the Robo Raptors and their alliance competed well and were knocked out in the second to last round of matches.

We're so proud of how well everyone did, from all the prepping, setting up and running the booth, answering judges questions, competing in matches and all the behind-the-scenes work!

Way to go Robo Raptors!!!

Overall, the event was an excellent experience for the whole team and the energy radiating from the participants and crowd was exciting. Also, a big **THANK YOU** goes to the families for their support this season.



Alliance Seed 2	20097 Robo Raptors	21900 MÔC Atronics

Playoff Matches
Iowa Championship - Black Division

#	Red		Blue		Score
Lower Bracket Round 5 M9 4:49 PM	20097	21900	5143	13415	215 / 274
Final Bracket Round 6 M10 5:14 PM	10435	16736	5143	13415	278 / 262

Robo Raptors with their biggest fans.

FAME: SHOWTIMES SET

Submitted by: Michelle Blanchard, FAME Program and Stage Director

Mark your calendars! We have dates for our FAME production of *The Lightning Thief; The Percy Jackson Musical* (Theater for Young Audiences Edition).

Dates: Thursday, April 24th, 7:00 p.m.
Friday, April 25th, 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 26th, 7:00 p.m. (understudy performance)
Sunday, April 27th, 2:00 p.m.

Tickets will be $12 each. Ticket purchasing link coming soon!

ERMS PTO UPDATES

PTO MEETINGS | Join our next meeting on **Thursday, April 3th at 6 p.m.** in the school library. With only two 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! Also, Make sure to mark your calendar for our last meeting on **May 1, 2025.**

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT MIDDLE SCHOOL
APRIL 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 ISASP Reading	3 PTO Meeting 6pm	4	5
6	7 Activities Grade Check Boys Track @ HHS 4pm	8 ISASP Language and Writing	9 ISASP Math	10 Girls Track @ HHS 4pm **6th Grade Orientation 6:00-7:15**	11 Music Day Boys Track @ WD 4pm	12
13	14	15 Boys and Girls Track @ Dalzell 4:30pm	16	17	18 NO SCHOOL	19
20 Easter	21 NO SCHOOL	22 Activities Grade Check Girls Track @ HHS 4pm	23	24 MUSICAL 7PM	25 MUSICAL 7PM	26 MUSICAL 7PM
27 MUSICAL 2PM	28 Boys Track @ HHS 4pm	29	30 District Battle of the Books			

DISTRICT INFORMATION

SAFE ZONE
This school is free of harassment, bullying and discrimination. The Anti-Harassment/Bullying/ Discrimination Assurance Statement and School Board Policys #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**.

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**