



# November 2018 Eisenhower Express

And Remember Eisenhower...  
Be Kids of Good Character and...



## School Principal News!

~Mr. Ferguson

Dear Parents,

November greetings to you from everyone at Eisenhower! This month brings us to the end of the first trimester with one-third of the school year almost completed. That's hard to believe! Report cards will be finalized with up-to-date info and comments to reflect student progress for the 1st trimester. You may review the progress at any time on Infinite Campus but the comments will be "finalized/updated" by Tuesday, November 20.

We are thankful for another successful round of Parent/Teacher/Student conferences and I thank you all for your partnership with us so that we can best help your child(ren). We had 99% participation for the fall conferences! Thank you for making conferences a priority and for our strong collaboration to ensure we are all working together on behalf of the students. Mark your calendars for February 12-14, 2019 when we will again meet with you for spring conferences.

The month of October saw our annual PTO sponsored Walk-a-thon! Eisenhower families and friends again went above and beyond with hard work and generosity by organizing a successful and fundraiser with donations over \$17,000 for Eisenhower and YOUR children! Your generosity and the generosity of the friends, families, and neighbors who donated is much appreciated! All of the money raised stays right here at Eisenhower and goes towards fulfilling the mission of the PTO and Eisenhower. This year the money will be put towards an outdoor pavilion, a Gaga Ball pit (which will be installed by a former Eisenhower student for his Eagle Scout project), classroom supplies, and field trip funding among other things. Thank you to everyone and especially the Eisenhower PTO volunteers!

A special event this month is that we will be celebrating 50 years of Eisenhower! That's right, Eisenhower was built in 1968 so that makes us 50 years old this year. We will be celebrating this special occasion with a "birthday party" on Friday, November 16. We have scheduled special activities for our student body in the morning and we'll have additional events for the broader community in the afternoon from 1:30-3:00 in the large gym. Previous students, staff, and anyone else in the Dubuque community is invited to attend. We'll share the contents of the time capsule, watch a special video from our school-wide outdoor picture, hear from some special speakers, listen to a song from the Eisenhower choir, and provide tours of our building. Let us know if you are interested in attending!

Reminder that Wednesday, November 21 is a non-school day for students but teachers will have a professional development session in the morning. The weather already feels like winter is right around the corner so thank you for making sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. We go out for recess each day that it isn't raining or below 0 degrees and we don't want any of our students getting cold or sick due to not being dressed for the weather. Thanks for your help with that!

Have a great month of November!

Sincerely,

Andy Ferguson, Principal

## **School Counselor News!**

~Mrs. Klein

It is hard to believe that November is here already and the coming of winter is close-at-hand. This month's guidance theme is: "Feelings/Thankfulness." Students will have an opportunity to expand their "feeling" vocabulary so that they can learn how to better express their thoughts/emotions rather than "bottling them up inside of themselves." When we keep our negative feelings to ourselves, we can become more easily frustrated about the little things. Our stress becomes magnified, and we may take it out on others through ranting and raving and displaced anger. Learning how to "vent" calmly and to talk it out with someone who will listen and who will care about us can make all the difference in diffusing the emotions that come with our daily lives. We are better able to think and to cope in healthy ways. We are better able to solve problems taking the time to look at them through multiple perspectives. We are better able to find comfort and purpose as we work to live more peacefully within our families.

In addition to "feelings" and healthy coping skills, students will also spend some time thinking of all that they are thankful for within their families, their friends, and their school. "Thankfulness" is also the emotion that helps each of us find satisfaction and happiness. We find our "inner peace" when we take the time to acknowledge all of the people and the things for which we are thankful. Just remember to repeat our thankfulness as often as needed and continue it throughout our lifetimes.

With the coming of Thanksgiving, we are all thankful to you for sending your beloved children to Eisenhower.

## **School Nurse News**

~Mrs. Ernzen

Hello families!

Sorry that I haven't had any information in the past couple of news letters, but the beginning of the year has been quite busy with the implementation of the district's new computer system. Change is always good, but sometimes a little messy, and this change is no exception. The "messiness" for those of us in the health office comes from the fact that any previous data that had been entered on your child is no longer accessible. Everything has been "saved" somewhere, but we do not have easy access to that information. With that being said, know that you may be hearing from me through the year as we work to be sure all significant health information is entered into your child's electronic health file.

If you have had your child come home saying that the nurse had them playing a computer game, don't be alarmed. This is part of our district's new program for vision screening. The program is called EyeSpy 20/20. The kids go on a treasure hunt by matching letters or shapes along the way. This program is screening the vision for distance and is based on a pass/fail system. Students in every grade level will be screened. My plan is to have all of the screenings completed by the end of November. If your child does not pass the screening, you will be informed of this and a vision referral will be sent home. Just an FYI--this is only a screening and does not take the place of an eye examination by an eye care professional. Please know that if your child is in need of an exam or glasses, and you do not have insurance to cover the cost, there are funds that can be used. Since 80% of learning occurs visually, making sure our students can see is of prime importance and we are here to support you in helping your child have the best vision possible! If you would like to see a short demonstration of the program, you can access this at <https://www.visionquest2020.org/secure/flow/index.html>

Feel free to contact me at school at any time at 552-3484 or by email [pernzen@dbqschools.org](mailto:pernzen@dbqschools.org).



Last month we had our annual Walk-A-Thon fundraiser and it was a huge success! This year we raised a total over **\$17,650!** Thank you to all of the students, families, staff and local businesses for all of your amazing support! We have some very exciting news that a former Eisenhower student will be installing our new Gaga Pit as his Eagle Scout project. Watch for it out on the playground very soon!

On Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, we had Robert Felderman of General Bob Photography come out and take some areal photos of the school and all of the students and staff as a part of Eisenhower's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! We can't wait to be able to share them with you! Thank you to all the students and staff for being so patient during the process. It's not an easy task to line 600+ people up in the shape of a giant E!

We would like to thank these "Friend of Eisenhower" business sponsorships for supporting Eisenhower Elementary School with their generous donations.

- Tracy Export, Inc.
- Asbury Plaza Hyvee
- Lincoln Financial Group
- Becker & Becker Stone

We would also like to say "Thank You" to these businesses for donating numerous prizes for the prize assembly. Be sure to get out and support these local businesses!

- Phoenix Movie Theater
- Skate Country
- Justice
- River Lights Book Store
- Loras College
- Ice Cream U Scream
- Falbo Bros Pizza
- Sam's Club
- Culver's
- McDonald's
- Dubuque Leisure Services
- Chick-fil-A
- Creative Adventure Lab
- Derby Grange
- Comic World and Games
- Donut Boy
- Big Apple Bagels
- Happy Joe's
- Freddie's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers
- Dairy Queen/Kwik Stop
- Vertical Jump
- Frosted and Filled
- Grand Harbor Resort

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)

- November 1<sup>st</sup>- Splash Bash
- November 20<sup>th</sup>- Wendy's Night

**Our next PTO meeting will be Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM 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!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [bridget\\_ott@hotmail.com](mailto:bridget_ott@hotmail.com).

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

<b>NOVEMBER 1</b>	<b>SPLASH BASH AT GRAND HARBOR 4-8 PM</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 4</b>	<b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME-TURN CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 9</b>	<b>9:45 PICTURE RETAKE</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 12</b>	<b>PTO MEETING @6:30 PM IN LIBRARY</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 14</b>	<b>ADOPT-A-MUSICIAN (4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE)</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 16</b>	<b>FIRST TRIMESTER ENDS</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 16</b>	<b>50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF EISENHOWER SCHOOL-FAMILY GROUP AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 20</b>	<b>5:00-7:00 PM WENDY'S NIGHT</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 21,22,23</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL-THANKSGIVING</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 26-30</b>	<b>PTO FOOD DRIVE</b>
<b>DECEMBER 6</b>	<b>PTO SPONSORED SKATE NIGHT 6-8 PM</b>
<b>DECEMBER 24-JANUARY 2</b>	<b>WINTER BREAK</b>