

# THE CALL



An Erie Community Unit School District #1 Publication



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## Board of Education ECUSD #1

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### Upcoming Meetings:

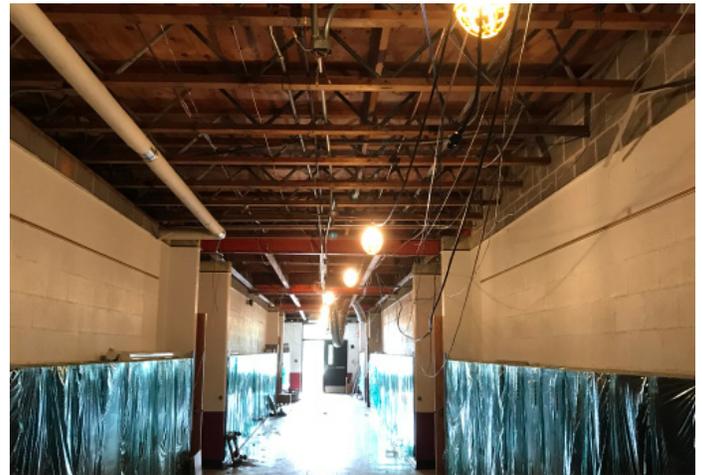
Tuesday, August 28 @ 6:30pm - HS Media Center  
 Tuesday, September 25 @ 6:30 pm - HS Media Center  
 Tuesday, October 23 @ 6:30 pm - HS Media Center

View agendas, minutes, and more at  
<http://www.ecusd.info/board-of-education>

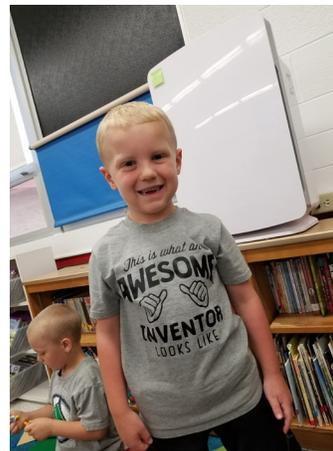


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 Erie Community Unit  
 School District #1

# features



**6** Middle School Construction Progress



**4** Summer Enrichment Fun



**8** EHS Lends A Hand

## THE CALL

An Erie Community Unit School District #1 Publication

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For more copies of *The Call*, contact the  
 ECUSD Unit Office

520 5th Ave - Erie, IL - 309.659.2239  
 To view online, visit our website at  
[www.ecusd.info/the-call-magazine](http://www.ecusd.info/the-call-magazine)



## A Fresh New Look

Welcome back to *The Call* and the 2018-2019 school year. My family and I are excited about joining the Community of Erie. It is an honor and a pleasure for me to serve this Community as the Superintendent of one of the best school districts in Illinois. My 22 years of combined experience as a special education teacher, athletic director, assistant principal, middle school principal, high school principal, and superintendent have been very educational and rewarding. I trust that the diverse experiences, professional skills, and common-sense approach that I have obtained and developed over the years will help me lead our excellent organization forward.

On a quick personal note...I get to share this new experience with my wife of 17 years, Jeanne, whom worked as a professional counselor for sixteen years before taking a break from her busy career to stay home and help raise our 5 children (Sydney-12, Mykala-10, Dane-8, Kyndra-6, and Aden-3). Our family has had the privilege of living in, and being active in, the community since late-April. The welcome that we have received has been tremendous. If we have not met already, we look forward to meeting you in the near future.

If you have driven by or walked around our campus this summer, you have probably noticed an extraordinary amount of work being done in many of our buildings. At the elementary school and annex, our amazing custodial staff has been busy cleaning and polishing everything in preparation for the new school year. At the middle school, we are continuing our multi-year efficiency program by installing new heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems. Work at the high school consists of the installation of new heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, as well as, the construction of a brand new parking lot on the southeast side of the building. This parking lot is being built in preparation for the groundbreaking of our high school addition on the northwest side of the building, which is set to begin in the late-summer or early-fall of 2018. In addition to these many projects, you will also see construction begin on our new restroom/locker room/storage facility that will be located between the middle school building and the football/track stadium.

In addition to these facility upgrades, our cooperative agreement with Prophetstown High School will go into full effect beginning with the 2018-2019 school year. We are excited about the expanded and improved opportunities, both academic and athletic, that this agreement will provide for the students of both high schools.

Academically, Erie CUSD1 offers one of the most robust and relevant curricular programs of any school district its size. Our course offerings and academic opportunities rival those found in school districts much larger than us. This advanced curriculum, coupled with some of the finest faculty and staff that you will ever find, allow us to provide a cutting-edge educational experience to our students.

In conclusion, we are truly blessed to have the educational programs and resources that we enjoy in Erie CUSD1. As a community, we need to continue to work together as we strive to align our curriculum, our facilities, and our many other resources over the coming months and years. Again, I am excited to be a part of the great things happening in Erie. If you would ever like to chat about anything, please do not hesitate to stop by and visit with me at the District Office, give me a call at 309.659.2239, or email me at mfelesena@ecusd.info.

## ECUSD DASHBOARD

### Total Fund Balances (End of Fiscal Year)

**FY'18 - \$14,836,000**

**FY'17 - \$13,206,000**

**FY'16 - \$12,419,000**

**FY'15 - \$10,818,000**

**FY'14 - \$11,379,000**



## Summer Enrichment Program Sets Students up for Success

-Kali Livengood, Erie Elementary Principal

Summer can bring along so many fun adventures, and our summer enrichment classes have lived up to the excitement again this year! Each year, the staff are encouraged to host various summer enrichment classes for our students. Across the district, there were over thirty classes offered to various ages of students. Here at the elementary, our students have been sewing, inventing, drawing and designing, running robotics and so much more!



For a full week in June, students were invited to take part in Camp Invention! This year we hosted 47 campers through a program created by the National Inventors Hall of Fame. Activities evolved around problem-solving skills and creative thinking, allowing students to analyze the health of their robotic pets, build modular mansions using alternative energy, work with magnetic slime, create paths for their obtibots to move safely, all while creating design after design of their own inventions! The week was jam packed with activities and excitement to keep the students active and learning.

Our summer enrichment courses are an exciting extension to the school year. Presenting these experiences to our students is a great way to keep them thinking and learning all summer long while making connections with staff and friends.



Although *The Call* comes to your doorstep each quarter, you can also find happenings of the elementary on our Facebook page, Erie Elementary, and through weekly highlights on our Elementary homepage at [www.ecusd.info/elementary-home](http://www.ecusd.info/elementary-home). Through these avenues, we share pictures, stories and highlights of all the neat stuff happening around the elementary like the events shared above.

# RtI Recap

-Kali Livengood, Erie Elementary Principal

**A**s the school year begins, it's important to understand various programs offered through the elementary. One of these programs is the RtI department. This department has three teachers comprised of multiple reading endorsements and elementary education degrees. They do benchmark testing three times per year, work with students in both small groups and one-on-one situations, coordinate and plan interventions with classroom teachers, create plans according to each individual student, regularly monitor students' progress, and do their best to make sure ALL of our students will be successful. They take their responsibilities very seriously, but they also have a lot of fun working with so many different students during the week!



Some can often feel very unsure of RtI, as it's not a term that you casually hear everyday. RtI stands for Response To Intervention, which simply means that a team of qualified teachers come together for students to provide interventions in reading and math. It's not meant to be a long term placement, nor should it be looked at as something negative. RtI is a very positive program within our elementary! Students will come to RtI when they need a simple boost. The team provides research-based materials and lessons that are targeted to students' specific needs. The ultimate goal is to have students graduate out of the program, and many, many times, this does happen!



We like to think of our RtI department as a ladder. This might seem like a very odd word to use when referring to RtI. What is a ladder for? A ladder lets us reach something when the item is not completely out of sight, but it is out of reach. We climb the ladder, we reach our item. Now, think of that ladder as the RtI department. Our students have a goal in sight, however, they cannot quite reach it without the ladder. The RtI teacher serves as the ladder! With the right steps and the assistance of the ladder (RtI teacher), the student can then reach his or her goal.

We are all part of this! Teachers work with teachers. Teachers work with students. Most importantly, teachers will work with parents to let our children know we believe in them, and they can do anything they put their minds to. We are a team, and together we will always make sure our students are given the tools to be successful! The RtI department is always open to conversations with parents/guardians regarding any questions about their department. Their emails are all listed on the website and they are always a simple email or phone call away.



*"I have a growth mindset. I am in charge of how smart I am because I can grow my brain, like a muscle by learning hard things. I can achieve anything with effort and the right strategies. And when I fail or make a mistake, it is a great thing because I can learn from them and I get better!"*

- U n k n o w n

# Response to Intervention



## Middle School Make-Over

-Keith Morgan, EMS Principal



# Erie Middle School



If you have driven past the middle school lately, you may have noticed all the dumpsters and storage pods in the parking lot. Construction has started on much needed updates to the heating and cooling system. Along with replacing the old pneumatic and heat pump systems, the entire building is being fitted with energy saving lighting. The old wall units located under the windows will be removed and all the drop ceilings are being replaced.

Everyone knows you never have enough storage. Now try to find storage for 23 classrooms, main office, library, bandroom, and 3 storage areas. Well we did it. The district custodial staff, summer student workers, and some other staff members made it happen and moved the building contents to the gym and locker rooms in just one day.

These improvements to the middle school is the first part of the Campus Improvement Plan. These improvements will aid the students in creating an optimal learning environment.

# MS Make-Over Snapshots



!! Improving the physical environment of the building also !!  
improves the learning environment for the students.  
-Keith Morgan, EMS Principal



## Community Support from EHS

-Tim McConnell, EHS Principal



EHS continues to promote the importance of our community while giving students the opportunity to build their skills in construction. This is a skill that will not only help them acquire another job in the future, but this is also a lifelong skill that will benefit their future as a whole.

During the 2nd semester, the Building Trades class assisted Joel Pappineau in the remodel of the old Shaheen's Grocery store into the new Village Office and Police Station. The new Village Office will have offices for the Village Clerk and Mayor, a conference room, file storage room, Police Station, multiple interview rooms and storage, as well as a place to park the Police vehicles.



The students did some minor demolition of old drywall and clean-up, along with securing the subfloor, building and erecting walls for the rooms. The building trade students also insulated and hung sheet rock, along with installing drop ceilings. This is a great project that will benefit the city of Erie for many years to come.

# Prep Prep Prep...

-Tim McConnell, EHS Principal



Erie High School continues to find ways to give our students more opportunities to improve and enhance. EHS created a new opportunity for students with an initiative called SAT Lab. All sophomore and junior students are invited to work on SAT practice tests and topics using Khan Academy ([khanacademy.org](http://khanacademy.org)).

While students work through these online SAT practice topics, content area teachers will be available to provide students with guidance, tips, advice, and strategies. One math teacher and one English teacher will be moving through the room, providing guided practice for students as sophomores continue preparing for the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMSQT/PSAT) on October 10. The SAT and PSAT both assess students in four categories: reading, writing and language, math without a calculator, and math with a calculator.



# Spring Athletics



- State Performances**
- Kyle Kruthoff- 1st Place class 1A Pole Vault
  - Garrett Passmore- 3rd Place class 1A Wrestling
  - 8th Grade Team- Class 8A runner-up
  - Kaden Jacobs- 1st place class 8A Pole Vault
  - Kolby Franks- 1st Place class 8A High Jump
  - 8th Grade 4x100 relay- 2nd Place class 8A
  - Parker Holdorff- 1st Place class 7A Pole Vault
  - Whitney Bramm- 4th Place class 1A pole vault



**FALL SPORTS**

Practice Start Dates

- HS Football- August 6
- MS Football-August 8
- HS Volleyball- August 8
- MS Volleyball- August 13
- Boys & Girls Golf- August 6
- HS Cross Country- August 8
- MS Cross Country- August 1

**MEET THE PANTHERS**  
August 17 @ Prophetstown

- Class of 2018 College Athletes**
- Whitney Bramm- St. Ambrose University
  - Garrett Passmore- University of Wisconsin-Platteville
  - Riley Redell- University of Wisconsin-Platteville
  - Madison Newton- Carl Sandburg College
- 1st Team All-Conference**
- Softball: Calisa Steel (P), Erica Thulen (In)
  - Girls Track: Whitney Bramm (Pole Vault)
  - Boys Track: Kyle Kruthoff (Pole Vault)



# SUMMER ENRICHMENT



## Retiring Staff

L to R: Matt Newton and Rick Temple.  
Not pictured: Carol Franks.



Certified Staff: Marty Felesena (Superintendent),  
Olivia Wickes (2nd Grade), Mariah Pratt (HS Eng),  
Paige Yarger (ES), Brad Tichler (MS Math),  
and Stephen Rudnicki (HS History).

Non-Certified Staff: Taylor Howard and Tiffany Vittori.

**POSTAL PATRON**  
**Erie, IL 61250**

# Dates to Remember...

8/7	New Student Registration 12:00 - 6:00 pm
8/8	Online Registration Ends
8/14	Teacher Inservice District Open House - ES 5:30 - 7 pm MS 6:00 - 7:30 pm HS 6:00 - 7:00 pm
8/14-8/17	Preschool Home Visits
8/15	Preschool Parent Meeting
8/16	First Day of Attendance Pre-K-12 Early Dismissal ES 1:50 MS 1:55 HS 2:00
8/17	Early Dismissal - ES 1:50 MS 1:55 HS 2:00 Meet the Panthers
8/28	Board of Education Meeting - 6:30 pm
8/29	Early Dismissal - ES 12:20 MS 12:25 HS 12:30
8/29	Preschool Home Visits
9/3	No School - Labor Day
9/17-22	Homecoming Week
9/25	Board of Education Meeting - 6:30 pm
9/26	Early Dismissal - ES 12:20 MS 12:25 HS 12:30
10/4-5	Parent Teacher Conferences
10/5	No School- Parent Teacher Conferences
10/8	No School - Columbus Day
10/23	Board of Education Meeting - 6:30 pm
10/31	Early Dismissal - ES 12:20 MS 12:25 HS 12:30