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Eagle Tales

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Message from Mrs. Faley

As previously announced, after serving as an educator for thirty years, six at Elgin Elementary, I'll be retiring on June 30th of this year. Like most educators, I became a teacher, because I wanted to make a difference in the lives of children.

In some schools, this is difficult for educators to do, often due to circumstances beyond their control, including large class sizes or lack of parent involvement. At Elgin School, we are so fortunate to have a supportive community, engaged parents, small class sizes, and dedicated staff members; everything needed to have a positive impact on the students we serve.

While there have been challenges over the past six years, including COVID-19, I'll always be thankful for having had the opportunity to serve as the Superintendent/Principal of Elgin Elementary. Thank you for entrusting me with your children. It has been a pleasure to watch them grow!



Sign up for important updates from Elgin School.


Get information for Elgin School right on your phone—text or handheld.

Pick a way to receive messages for Elgin School

1 If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, check your text messages and go to the following text:

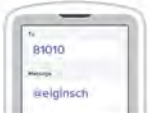
Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind! You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.



2 If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message designator to the number: 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting designator to 1420-437-0100.



1. Required text: 81010 (per carrier)

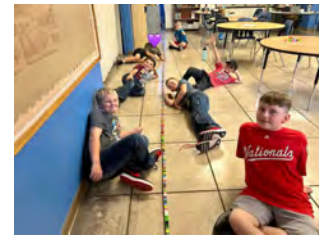
Don't have a mobile phone? Go to tmd.at/elginsch on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.



4th Grade News

By Alicyn Morrell-Schnurr

From planting, to building, to running a small business, these fourth graders have built and created an immense amount of skills within themselves and within their peers inside and outside the classroom. Skills that are not only foundationally academic, but also skills that include building character, responsibility, leadership, and working cooperatively with others to be successful in all that they do.



Our Fourth Grade Eagles have been working so very hard since their first day of school. At the beginning of the year, students learned all about how to plant and care for a sunflower. Each student was responsible for caring for their sunflower daily. This included watering, providing their flowers with fresh air and sunlight, while also keeping a tracker journal of their sunflowers progress.

Towards the middle of the year, it was very apparent that these busy bodies needed lots of movement and hands - on learning activities to keep them engaged and interested in specific topics. The students absolutely love to work with their hands and put their best efforts to make learning as fun as possible. We also love to incorporate building into all that we do! Almost every unit we complete somehow turns its way into a project that requires students to build a model demonstrating their comprehension of what they have learned. For example, we just wrapped up our unit of "Types of Energy," this led to students creating models of their custom built robots that contain specific types of energy.

A memory we will all never forget will be our Backout Restaurant Day. The fourth graders worked so hard for several weeks to put together and build their very own restaurant all on their own. Each student had a specific job that needed to be done in order to ensure that all of their customers (Kindergarten - 3rd Grade) were satisfied. And let me tell you, they definitely rocked it! They got 5 star ratings from ALL of their customers.



I cannot express how smart, kind hearted, and amazing the fourth grade kiddos are. They will ALL do great things and I am proud to be their teacher for their 4th grade year!

Thank you!

*Elgin School would like to take this opportunity to say thank you
to our wonderful, caring, and supportive volunteers!*

2023-2024 Volunteers

Anita Barkley
Erin Blevins
Fred Bohm-Ragasa
Hazel Bohm-Ragasa
Jessica Carter
Jaimee Cass
Mary Claflin
Birttany Battle
Nathan Battle
Ben Beal
Lindsey Beal
Lacy Beyer
Ginny Cosby
Lindsay Davis
Harry Dotson
Stephanie Fennell
Tony Fennell
Tina Fredrickson
Chris Gummo
Melissa Gummo

Cheyenne Harper
BJ Hintsala
Jim Koweek
Linda Kramer
Mindy La Reau, RN
Kathryn Leas
Josh Leavitt
Robin Mejia
Jessica Orona
Jan Scott, RN
Allan Stephens
Lena Stephens
Lindsay Taylor
Josh Taylor
Aaron Thomas
Megan Thomas
Nancy Webster
Carrie White Lumia
Michelle White

Special Thanks

Elgin Community Club
Firesky Farms
Mountain Empire Rotary
National Bank – Sonoita
Patagonia Creek Preserve
Patriot Printing Southern Arizona
Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office
Sonoita-Elgin Fire Department
UA Family Resource Center & Michelle Fajardo
US Border Patrol – Sonoita Station

We value all of our volunteers and community partners, please accept our apologies if we have missed anyone.

Notes from the Nurse

Returning for the 2024-2025 School Year

Summertime is a great time to get immunization updates and sports physicals done. Call now for an appointment at your doctor's office, or clinic. Availability fills up fast.



Immunizations: Some can be done at the same place sports physicals are provided, but not all. Call ahead and ask if both can be provided together this summer.

6th Grade Students, as well as those who will be turning 11 or 12 before July 23rd, 2024 will need:

- (1) Tdap booster or similar depending on your pediatrician's recommendation
- (1) Meningococcal (MCV) dose

ALL K-8 Grade Students need:

- (1) Dose of Varicella (or Doctor's note confirming having contracted a case of the chicken pox). If your child's first dose was given at 13 years of age or older, they will need a 2nd one.

<https://www.azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/immunization/school-childcare/school-immunization-requirements.pdf>

Immunization Exemptions: Please contact the nurse, Kathe Prentice, RN at (520) 455-5514 or email kprentice@elgink12.com



Sports Physicals:

These can be obtained from your pediatrician, or other place of choice using their form, or the form below. Getting them turned in at the beginning of August will cover your child for the entire school year. Those who are not up to date on immunizations can attend practice, but will not be able to play in games until caught up.

<https://www.elgink12.com/Athletics>

Home School Sports Participants: All of the above pertains, including proof of immunizations.

Dental Hygiene Team

Tooth B.U.D.D.S. came to Elgin School last week. They are a dental hygiene educational team who traveled from Safford, AZ, to provide individualized classroom education to all of the grades. Their program is funded through grants for rural communities. We were very lucky to have them come to Elgin, as they generally only cover Graham and Greenlee counties. They provided a free water bottle, toothbrush, and toothpaste to all students, along with discussions on how to properly care for teeth and gums. Hopefully, we can get them to come next year to provide dental screenings, dental cleanings, fluoride treatments, and sealants **free of charge** in our school setting next year. If you are interested, please let the school nurse know. Parental permission forms must be filled out for this service. They did a fantastic job!



ToothBUDDS.org

Eagle Eye - Student of the Week

Recognizing elementary students who practice good character and citizenship



Elgin Eagle Athletics

Any student participating in athletics for the 2024-25 school year will need a current athletic physical on file. Physicals are good for one year. Athletic Physical forms can be found on our website at <https://www.elgink12.com/Athletics>. Printed forms are also available in the office. Please contact Coach Harper at (520) 455-5514 or dharper@elgink12.com for more information.

MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE

Save the Date!

Elgin School's Missoula Children's Theatre Residency

December 9th-14th

The performance will be held on Saturday, December 14th at 6:00 PM




Elgin School Library

2023-24 End of Year Procedures

- All books are due back to the Library on or before Friday, May 10th
- The Library will be closed May 13th-24th for inventory

Contact Mrs. Whittington with any questions at jwhittington@elgink12.com or (520) 455-5514, ext. 108





Mary Faley
Superintendent/Principal
6 Years of Service



Annette Koweek
Middle School Science
School Nurse
School Counselor
20 Years of Service



Linnette Weisel
Special Services Para-Professional
24 Years of Service

wishing
you 
ALL THE BEST



Neal Ryan,
Middle School Social Studies
4 Years of Service

**Thank you for
your dedication
to the students of
Elgin School.
Good luck, you
will be missed!**

Elgin School Burger Burn

**Friday, May 3rd
4:30-6:00 PM**

Please join us for our annual Burger Burn!

This is our day to say "Thank You" to the students, parents, and community members of Elgin & Sonoita for all of your support this year!

Complimentary Hot Dogs & Hamburgers will be served! We will have game booths and a bouncy house as well!



Farewell & Welcome

Please join us as we say thank you and farewell to our retiring and departing staff members, Mary Faley, Annette Koweek, Linnette Weisel, and Neal Ryan. Also help us welcome our new Superintendent/Principal, Dan Erickson and our new science teacher, Richard Graeme.



Daniel Erickson is a lifelong public school educator with over 28 years of distinguished service. He has over 20 years of administrative experience, including three years as the Superintendent of Schools. As a site leader, he led two campuses to increased student achievement as well as alignment of programs to meet student needs. As the Director of Advanced Learning in the second largest school district in Arizona, he earned his district placement on the AP College Board Honor Roll, by increasing the number of students taking Advanced Placement classes. He also served students at all 89 campuses and collaborated on the development of Governing Board policy recommendations. He has created new teacher and administrator evaluation protocols and currently mentors three new superintendents from across the state of Arizona in partnership with Grand Canyon University.

Mr. Erickson believes in and practices Servant Leadership as his approach to working with his team members to provide excellence in education every day. He believes that relationships are at the heart of all we do in education.

Mr. Erickson received his Bachelor of Science degree from the State University of New York College at Fredonia in elementary education with a specific focus on early childhood education. He has a master's degree in Educational Leadership from Northern Arizona University. He is honored and humbled to join the Sonoita Elementary School District team. He and his wife, Michele, have been married for 23 years and have two children who both attend the University of Arizona.



Richard Graeme – Middle School Science



I was born in Bisbee, Arizona as the elder of identical twins. Initially, I worked as an underground miner to pay for a degree in mining engineering. During a down turn in the mining industry, I was teaching college mineralogy classes and discovered I loved teaching. So, I reassessed my career path and decided to become an elementary school teacher.

In 1999, after student teaching kindergarten, I started as a 5th grade teacher at Huachuca City Elementary after 5 years I moved to Joyce Clark Middle School where I have spent most of my years in education. In this time, I have taught 6th, 7th, and 8th grade science and 6th grade social studies and 5th and 6th grade self-contained classrooms.

Outside of the classroom I actively research mineralogy and have authored and co-authored several books in science and history. Also, I have worked on several museum mineralogy displays. Including at the Smithsonian and the latest at the Alfie Norville Gem & Mineral Museum. Although, I have traveled in Europe and South America, I am partial to Africa. There I spent time in classrooms in Ghana and South Africa. I also examined an exciting adult education program at the East Driefontein mine in Gauteng, South Africa. Equatorial Africa is a wonderful place.

My children are all adults, with my eldest son is a Chief Petty Officer in the Navy, a daughter is an elementary teacher and the youngest son is a business major in college. Lisa my wonderful wife, is a STEM teacher on Ft Huachuca. I am fortunate to have one granddaughter.

Jen Cranston – Middle School Social Studies



Jen Cranston has been teaching Language Arts and Social Studies for 28 years: every grade from 6-12. She's a National Board certified teacher with a Master's degree in elementary literacy. After a stint teaching high school English, including dual enrollment college classes, she recently came back to middle school and is loving the energy and potential of middle schoolers.

Jen's current school district is in rural Washington state, right along the "other border" with Canada. She and her husband are moving to a new house in Patagonia. They're excited to move to Arizona, where Jen's father lives, and with their son attending the University of Arizona.

When Jen's not teaching, she likes to knit, spin yarn, and ride her bicycle. She's looking forward to joining the Elgin school community and teaching 6-8 Social Studies.

Elgin School PTC

Upcoming Events:
May 8th 7:30 AM
 Monthly Meeting - Conference Room



2024
Elgin School GRADUATION Dates

8th Grade
 Wednesday, May 22nd
 6:00 PM

Kindergarten
 Thursday, May 23rd
 1:15 PM

Elgin School PTC Spirit Wear



Hat - \$20.00
 Beanie - \$15.00
 Ear Warmer - \$15.00

Payment via:
 Venmo
 Cash
 Check payable to Elgin School PTC



school
FIELD DAY

Tuesday, May 21st
1:00-2:45 PM

Water Games & More!
Each student should bring their own reusable water bottle, towel, and change of clothes.
 towels and clothes will not be available from the office.

Childfind Screenings

If you have concerns about your child's development from ages 3 to 21 years of age in these areas:

- VISION/HEARING * SPEECH/LANGUAGE * THINKING SKILLS
 PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT * BEHAVIOR *
 NORMAL DEVELOPMENT**

Your school's CHILDFIND can help – with a free screening, and if needed, referral for diagnostic evaluation and/or early intervention programs (birth to three). If you have any concerns about your child's development, certain benefits are available through your local school district.

Screenings are available **by appointment**. To schedule your appointment or for more information please contact:
 Christine Clouse– Student Services
 455-5514 cclouse@elgink12.com

Elgin School Calendar 2024-25

Normal School Hours:

7:55 AM-3:00 PM

Early Dismissal: 1:15 PM

Special Event Dismissal: 11:30 AM

July							3
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31				

August							22
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
				1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

September							18
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30						

October							18
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		1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31			

November							15
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

December							15
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30	31					

January							19
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30	31		

February							19
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
						1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28		

March							16
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
						1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						

April							20
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30				

May							17
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

- Teacher & Staff In-Service
- First & Last Days
- Vacation - No School
- Early Release
- Special Event Release

- July 23rd-26th Faculty & Staff School Year Prep
- July 29th First Day - Students
- Aug. 2nd Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Aug. 9th Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Aug. 16th Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Aug. 23rd Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Aug. 30th Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Sept. 2nd Labor Day - No School
- Sept. 6th Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Sept. 12th Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service**
- Sept. 13th & 16th Fair Days - No School
- Sept. 20th Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Sept. 27th Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Oct. 4th Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Oct. 11th Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Oct. 14th-18th Fall Break - No School
- Oct. 25th Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Nov. 1st Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Nov. 8th Special Event Dismissal @ 11:30 AM**
- Nov. 11th Veterans Day - No School
- Nov. 15th Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Nov. 22nd Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Nov. 25th-29th Thanksgiving Break - No School
- Dec. 6th Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Dec. 13th Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Dec. 20th Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Dec. 23rd-Jan. 3rd Winter Break - No School
- Jan. 6th Students Return
- Jan. 10th Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service
- Jan. 17th Dismissal @ 1:15 PM - In-Service

Cafeteria Connection

Connecting you to your child's school lunchroom



MILK MATTERS: Navigating USDA Requirements in School Meals

Our school meal program strives to provide the best nutrition for our students. Let's dive into the world of dairy and understand the requirements set for fluid milk in school breakfast and lunch.



WHY MILK MATTERS

Milk is more than just a beverage; it's a powerhouse of essential nutrients crucial for growing bodies. From calcium and vitamin D to protein and potassium, milk offers a myriad of health benefits, supporting bone health, muscle function, and overall growth.

MEETING USDA STANDARDS

Our school breakfast and lunch programs adhere to the latest USDA guidelines when it comes to fluid milk. Current rules state that schools are required to offer only fat-free (unflavored or flavored) and low-fat (unflavored or flavored) milk options. This ensures that our students receive the nutritional benefits of milk without unnecessary added fats.

ENCOURAGING MILK CONSUMPTION

Parents, we encourage you to reinforce the importance of milk consumption with your children, both at school and at home. Whether it's enjoying a glass of milk with dinner or incorporating milk into snacks, every sip contributes to their overall health and well-being.

What About Milk Substitutes?

A common request we receive from parents revolves around milk substitutes such as lactose-free or non-dairy milks (soy, rice, coconut, almond). For students with a disability such as a food allergy, we require a written medical statement from a licensed physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice nurse to make a substitution.

Requests based on taste preferences, religious, moral, or health concerns do not qualify as a disability. In these cases, we may offer lactose-free milk or non-dairy milk at our discretion that meets the USDA nutrition standards for milk substitutions.





Sonoita School District Elgin School Summer Office Hours



May 28th - June 28th	Available by Appointment
July 1st-5th	District Closed
July 8th-19th	Available by Appointment
July 22nd-26th	TBD

Call or email to schedule an appointment:
(520) 455-5514, ext 300
mpaul@elgink12.com



Save the Date!



**Elgin School
Meet the
Teacher Night!**

Thursday, July 25th
5:30-7:00 PM

- Find your classroom
- Meet your teacher
- Buy spirit wear and sign up for the PTC (Parent-Teacher Club)
- Turn in paperwork
- Athletic Information