

EISD Update

2017-2018 School Calendar Approved



The Eustace ISD School Board approved the 2017-2018 school calendar at the regular board meeting in February. The 2017-2018 calendar will be somewhat different from the current calendar. Since Eustace ISD is now a District of Innovation, one of the exemptions from current law that is in our plan is the school start date. We will be able to start school at a date earlier than the last Monday in August.

There will be a total of 174 instructional days that meet the requirement to provide 75,600 minutes of instruction in a school year. There will be 81 instructional days in the first semester and 93 instructional days in the second semester. The 2017-2018 calendar includes the following:

August 7- 15 —Staff Work Days and Staff Development Days
 August 16—First Day of Classes
 September 4—Labor Day Holiday
 October 9—Holiday
 November 17—Early Out Day
 November 20—24 Thanksgiving Holi-

days
 December 14 & 15—Early Out Days
 December 15—End of First Semester
 December 18-January 1—Christmas Holidays
 January 2—Staff Workday (No classes for students)
 January 3—Start of Second Semester
 January 15—Holiday
 February 19—Holiday
 March 9—Early Release
 March 12—16—Spring Break
 March 30—Good Friday Holiday
 April 20—Holiday
 May 23 & 24—Early Release Days
 May 24—End of Second Semester (Last Day of Classes)
 May 25—Work Day
 May 26—Graduation

Because of the new requirement of 75,600 minutes instead of days, extra time has been built into the calendar to account for bad weather days.

March 2017

News Briefs

- *March 6—10—Spring Break*
- *March 11—UIL One Act Play Contest in Winona*
- *March 12—Daylight Savings Time Begins*
- *March 20—Board Meeting—HS Library—7:00*
- *March—21—Kindergarten Reading Night*
- *March 22—MS Track Pictures*
- *March 28—2nd Grade Family Reading Night*

STAAR Testing

The first portion of the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) and End of Course (EOC) testing will begin Tuesday, March 28th. The English I and English II end of course tests are a combined reading and writing exam given in one day with a five hour time limit. Writing for grades 4 & 7 is also a one day test and has a four hour time limit, as does math and reading for 5 & 8.

Additional subjects are tested in May. EOC for Algebra I, Biology and US History will be the week of May 1-5. STAAR test for Reading and Math for 3-4 and 6-7, Science for 5 & 8 and 8th grade Social Studies will be the week of May 8-12.

A Summer retest for those needing the final opportunity to meet promotion require-

ments for grades 5 and 8 will be the week of June 19-22. Retest for any End of Course test will also be that same week in June rather than July as in the past.

STAAR TESTING

Tues., March 28th Writing grades 4 & 7
 Math grades 5 & 8
 English I
 Wed., March 29th Reading grades 5 & 8
 Thurs., March 30th English II

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Intermediate News

February offered extra activities for students: Reeve Rascals with pizza at Ken’s Pizza and then fun playing at Kiwana Park in Athens. Also, 3rd and 4th grade celebrated Valentine’s Day with classroom parties. Then, Right Choice Snow Cones and Perfect Attendance drinks were given to students who earned the reward.

We celebrated Random Acts of Kindness Week, beginning on February 20th. Performing Random Acts of Kindness (RAK) occurs when we go beyond what is expected of us and reach out to help another. Our counselor, Mrs. McDonald, showed a video to illustrate how kindness may come back full circle. Students and staff were encouraged to look for opportunities to show that we care. Students who completed a RAK Board put their names in a drawing at the end of the week. “Secret Service” agents, students who are “experts” in being kind, helped Mrs. McDonald create and decorate a Kindness bulletin board with helping hands and caring hearts. Also, Mrs. McDonald shared what it means to be kind, to have empathy, to show appreciation, and to make and keep friends.

We celebrated our fundraiser with a ride on a Party Bus and pizza at CiCi’s. Students who sold at least 15 items earned the trip! It was an exciting lunch ride for 62 of our students.

Students will be given the opportunity to learn about Eddie the Eagle, a GunSafe program. This is a gun accident prevention presentation that seeks to help parents, community, and educators navigate a topic paramount to children’s safety.

Students have taken their first Benchmark STAAR practice tests. The teachers have used the results from those benchmarks to set up our afterschool tutoring. Afterschool tutoring started Tuesday, February 7th, and it will continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:18-4:15 PM until Thursday, May 4th.

Upcoming events:

- March 28 STAAR 4th Grade Writing Test / 5th Grade Math Test
- March 29 STAAR 5th Reading Test



Random Acts of Kindness Week



Party Bus to CiCi’s

Enrollment Update (3-1-2017)

Primary Campus		Intermediate Campus		Middle School		High School	
PK	79	3	129	6	112	9	127
K	108	4	115	7	100	10	108
1	112	5	108	8	136	11	103
2	109	Total	352	Total	348	12	102
Total	408					Total	440

Total District Enrollment—1548
Enrollment Year Ago—1545

High School News

BAND: Eighteen band students participated in the Region 3 Solo & Ensemble competition in North Garland, Saturday, Feb. 4th. Haley Willbanks on a marimba solo, a flute trio consisting of Eryne Meroney, Ashton Milner, and Christine Holler and a Baritone trio consisting of Nathan Carter, Hazel Whatley and Luke Mitchell qualified for the State competition to be held in May on Memorial Day Weekend at Hendrickson HS in Austin. The Solo and Ensemble competition is divided into three classifications with a class 1 being music on a college level of difficulty. Solos and ensemble must be a class 1 and achieve a 1st division rating in order to qualify for State competition. Nathan Carter also earned a 1st division on his class 1 solo. Other participants include Gracie Woodland, Sean Holler, Tommy Maloney, Dawson McGee, Daniel Stout, James Blaylock, Trey Washington, Justin Legel, Noah Johnson, Ashlee Shieberl, JoGail Holcombe, Jorgann Holgeron, Katelynn Morse, and Bailee Barber.

BOOK CLUB: Book Club is meeting on March 16th to discuss *The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger. This American classic is well-loved by teens and adults, and many students have expressed interest and delight in the novel. After discussing *The Catcher in the Rye*, Book Club members will receive a copy of *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card, a science fiction novel set in the future and features America battling an alien race. In this young adult literature, the future depends on genius kid Ender Wiggin.

FFA: Youth Fort Worth Rabbit Show: Jaci Gray led the show team with a Reserve Grand Champion Harlequin. Bucky Womble won first place with his Jr. Red Mini Rex Doe, and Best of Variety with the same rabbit. Caityln Huffman won third place with her Jr. Otter Mini Rex Buck. Jaymie Duke won first place with her Sr. Lionhead Doe. Samantha Phillips, and Casie, and Calie Spivey showed various breeds of rabbits and placed within the top 5 of each class.

THEATER: The following information is for

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Primary News

February VIP Champions

Kindergarten- Kenzie Miller and Remmington Spivey; First grade- Sofia Romero, Khloie Loper, and Kyleigh Fisk; Second grade- Kimberly Mixon, Sophie Ferrell, Erin Marable, and Miles Morton.

Second Grade News

The second graders had a successful field trip to the Children's Theater Center in Dallas to watch "Junie B. Jones is not a Crook". Mrs. Sutton's class had read the book the week prior to the trip. All of the second graders are big fans of the Junie B. Jones books written by Barbara Park.

Music and Art News

Mrs. Pharmakis and Mrs. Crow are starting a Ninja Recorder Program with their second grade students in Music/Art. The students will be working towards getting different colored ribbons for their recorders as they progress in their playing ability. We hope to be able to have a small performance at the end of the year. Speaking of performances, the second graders will also be getting ready for their Music Program E-I-E-I-Oops on April 11. First Graders and Kindergartners are learning to read musical notes and play instruments. We are also having fun learning about Pablo Picasso and creating art with our Craypas.

Early Childhood News

Early Childhood had Family Reading Night on the 23rd where we decorated Clifford dogs and performed 5 Little Monkey's Jumping on the Bed for our parents. Ms. Adams read a Clifford book for everyone and each student received a free book.

Red Cross Penny March

The primary students broke their own record this year by donating \$744.60 to the American Red Cross! The children had first used these pennies with activities celebrating the 100th Day of School! Later on February 3rd, the students marched through the hallway and donated their change to this great group of volunteers. It is always nice to have Mr. Mike Ferguson from the Red Cross at the Primary to accept the children's donations. Both Mr. Ferguson and Mrs. Sowers would like to thank each Primary teacher for their support of the American Red Cross, but more importantly for helping teach our little guys the importance of helping others. Congratulations to the First Grade for raising the most money - \$292.04! They won a popcorn party for their efforts and the teachers had a dessert celebration in the lounge for their help! Also, Chase Foster was presented a soccer ball for having the largest donation. He donated 10,000 pennies! Everyone's generosity is appreciated!

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Upcoming field trips

The Kindergarten classes will be going to the Caldwell Zoo in Tyler for their field trip on Thursday, March 2nd and PPCD and LID classes are also going to the Caldwell Zoo, but on Friday, March 3rd. Spring is in the air!

Rotary Book Give-away

On February 14th, EVERY Primary student was able to choose a FREE book to take home, courtesy of the Rotary Club of Cedar Creek Lake. We are very thankful and fortunate to have the Rotary Club support reading in our district. The next book giveaway will be April 27th.

Spring Book Fair

Mark your calendar. The Spring Book Fair is April 3-7. Information will be going home with students after Spring Break.



2nd Graders Field Trip



Middle School News

Spelling Bee

Naveah Sanchez, winner of the Henderson County Spelling Bee, will be participating in the Regional Bee in Dallas on Saturday, March 4, 2017. The Bee will air on WFAA at a later date. We really appreciate Naveah representing Eustace Middle School and the entire district. Good luck, Naveah!!

Art

This year the 9th Annual Art Show will be held on April 27th, Thursday, from 4-6. All Fine Arts will be represented at the show this year. The Band will bring ensembles and Theater will be performing skits. I am very excited to see all the performances and show off all the fantastic art students have been busy creating this year.

This will be Nate Holland's last year to provide guitar music for your enjoyment, he will be a High School Freshman next year. We will have cookies and soda refreshments. There will be two sections of Art. View Only and the For Sale by Donation sections. All donations are used to purchase supplies for next year's art.

Remember you can sneak a preview of the Middle School's wonderful art on Artsonia.com. Parents, you can order your budding artist's work to be applied to numerous items directly from Artsonia! Email me for your secure code.

Incentive Trip

The next counselor's field trip will be in April, after the 5th six weeks. To qualify, you will need: a 90 or higher grade in ALL classes for the 5th Six weeks, only excused absences since the beginning of the year, and no discipline referrals in the Skyward system.

Immunizations

Now that we've begun the second semester, it is a good time to encourage the parents of our 6th grade students to go ahead and think about getting immunizations. Students entering the 7th grade have several immunizations they are required to have. They are required to have received a 2nd dose of the varicella vaccine (chicken pox), a meningococcal vaccine, and a Tdap vaccine (or adult tetanus). This is a requirement by the state of Texas for all 7th graders. Remember, 7th grade students will not be able to attend school if they have not had these vaccines. Each year we have had numerous students that we have had to send home the first day of school because they did not have their immunizations up to date. It is best to go ahead and take care of this early. Frequently, those that wait until the last minute have a hard time being able to schedule appointments with Dr.'s offices and clinics. Once your child has had the immunizations, please send records to the office so we can update their file.

Free Breakfast and Lunch

Eustace Primary, Intermediate, and Middle School are continuing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs for School 2016-2017. Schools that participate in CEP provide healthy breakfasts

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and lunches each day at no charge for ALL students enrolled in that CEP school during the 2016-2017 School Year.

Stay Informed

Aside from our monthly updates there are a variety of ways you can keep up with EMS!

Like us @ [facebook.com/EustaceMiddleSchool](https://www.facebook.com/EustaceMiddleSchool)

Follow us @ twitter.com/EustaceMS

And Read the Bulldog Buzz written by our students: [Bulldog Buzz](#)

Students of the Month and Employee of the Month

The Students of the Month and Employee of the Month are chosen by the faculty at EMS. These individuals are polite, respectful people who go above and beyond every day. They set the example for everyone around them and show us what it means to be Bulldog Proud!

6th Grade: Emma Bell and Andrew Cox

7th Grade: Kayla Fruean and Collin Maddock

8th Grade: Rubi Bailey and Cade Adair

Employee of the Month: Drew McDonald

Important Dates

March 3rd: MS Cheer Tryouts

March 14th: MS Track @ Eustace

March 20th: MS Track @ Kemp

March 22nd: MS Track Pictures

March 27th: MS Track @ Eustace

March 28th: 7th grade Writing STAAR, 8th grade Math STAAR

March 29th: 8th grade Reading STAAR



Early Childhood Reading Night



2017 FFA Chili Cook Off Winners

Promotion Requirements

Students in grades 5 & 8 must once again pass both the STAAR reading test and STAAR math test as one of their promotion requirements. The first administration for these tests will be March 28th & 29th. The second testing opportunities will be May 8th for 5 & 8 math and May 9th for 5 & 8 reading. For any students still needing to meet the promotion requirement, summer school will be provided. It is imperative that students attend summer school if they do not pass either the first or second administration. **The law states that students who do not pass the third administration and who DID NOT attend summer school shall not be promoted.** The third and final testing opportunity will be Tues. June 20th for 5 & 8 math and Wed. June 21st for 5 & 8 reading.

Don't Forget to
"Spring Forward"!!
Daylight Savings
Time Starts
March 13.

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anyone that has family or friends wanting to attend the **UIL One Act Play District Contest in Winona this year on March 11, 2017.**

Parents and friends are invited to attend for free to see all plays competing in the contest.

Directions: Travel Time 1 Hr. 9 mins.

Eustace High School

318 Farm to Market 316 South, Eustace, TX 75124, Eustace, TX 75124

Get on I-20 E in Van Zandt County from FM316 and TX-198 N

32 min (25.1 mi)

Follow I-20 E to TX-155 N in Smith County. Take exit 567 from I-20 E

32 min (38.8 mi)

Continue on TX-155 N. Drive to Wildcat Dr. in Winona

6 min (4.2 mi)

Winona High School - 611 Wildcat Dr, Winona, TX 75792

March 11, 2017

UIL District One Act Play Contest

Performance Order:

Mineola	10:00 A.M.
Edgewood	11:00 A.M.
Alba-Golden	12:00 P.M.
Scurry-Rosser	1:00 P.M.
Quitman	2:00 P.M.
Eustace	3:00 P.M.
Kemp	4:00 P.M.
Grand Saline	5:00 P.M.

There will be a panel of 3 judges this year. Awards and critiques from the judges for each school will following the final performance around 7:00 PM.

NHS: The National Honor Society held it's first dance on February 11th in the HS cafeteria. Several students attended, and all had a wonderful time dancing the night away. We are currently planning for the NHS Banquet in May for members and their families.

SPANISH CLUB: The Medieval Times trip that was originally scheduled for February 24th has been rescheduled for May 9th. All students who paid prior to the deadline will still be eligible to attend. No new students will be added to the list.

UIL: The UIL Academic team will be competing at District in Grand Saline March 21-22. We hope to bring home several medals and advance to Regionals. Regionals will be held at Tyler Junior College. Also, some of our students will be competing for a chance to represent Eustace High School

in The Four Way Test on March 24, 2017. They will have an opportunity to win a \$1,000, \$750.00, or \$500.00 scholarship from The Cedar Creek Lake Rotary Club.

CHEER: Eustace High School cheerleaders are gearing up for the 2017-2018 try-outs. A portion of the cheerleaders have chosen to attend private lessons with a few of the Trinity Valley Cheerleaders in order to better their skills on stunting. February 27-March 2 practices are being held after school in order to prepare for try-outs. Try-outs will be held on March 3 to determine the team for the upcoming year. March 21, the cheerleaders will be fitted for camp clothing as well as uniforms.

SOFTBALL: The Lady Bulldogs Softball team is off to a great start. They went 3-2 in the TASO tournament in Whitehouse this past weekend. The ladies lost the first game to Cayuga 5 to 1, but bounced back in the second game against Troup, winning 8 to 3. In the last game, the Lady Bulldogs defeated T K Gorman 15 to 0. On the last day of the TASO tournament, the Lady Bulldogs split two games. First up was Kerens, which they defeated 8-2. The ladies put a great battle but came up a little short in a 4 to 2 loss against Teague. Coach Tardiff was very proud of our effort in the TASO tournament. The Lady Bulldogs will be back in action the first week of March in the Mildred Tournament and will start district play at home against Mineola on Friday, March 3rd at 6:00.

BASEBALL: The 2017 baseball season has started. The varsity just completed the Eustace Tournament and went 2-2. In March, the varsity will compete in the Grand Saline Tournament, and then the Wills Point Tournament. We will begin district play on March 24 at home vs. Mineola. The JV season is just getting started. Both of our JV's will be in action starting in March.

TRACK: The 2017 track season is in full swing, and the Eustace Bulldogs boys team have had a good start. On Feb. 23, the boys team participated in the annual Eustace Bulldog Invitational with the varsity team finishing 2nd overall. The 4x100 relay and 4x400 relay teams finishing 2nd and the 4x200 relay won gold. The JV boys team finished 4th overall with the 4x400 relay finishing 2nd by a narrow margin. There is a full schedule of meets ahead for all runners and field event participants for the months of March and April. Keep a look out for great things to come.

Bulldog Proud!