

Eau Claire Area School District E-Newsletter

May/June 2015

District News May/June 2015

Welcome to the Eau Claire Area School District's electronic newsletter. Parents will automatically receive a link to our newsletter toward the end of each month. Others may subscribe to our newsletter to receive the latest news from our district delivered directly to your email address. Please direct comments about our newsletter to Teri Piper Thompson at 715-852-4907 or via email at tpiperthompson@ecasd.k12.wi.us.



Summer Board Meetings



Regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Education are typically held the first and third Monday of the month at 7 pm. These meetings are held in the Board Room of the Administration Building at 500 Main Street. All meetings are open to the public except the closed session portion of the meeting. Minutes, meeting agendas, supporting documents and board committee information can be found on the district's web site at www.ecasd.us under Board of Education.

Upcoming board meetings are June 1 and July 20 at 7 pm. If you are unable to attend, watch our board meetings LIVE ONLINE at [Board Live Stream](#).



Good News from our Eau Claire Schools!

- Congratulations to the **Memorial and North** math teams for their excellent finish in the 33rd Annual Mathematics Meet for high school students held at UWEC this spring. The **Memorial** team, Electric Flux, took first place in the AAA large school division. Team members are Diane Hu, Billy Jang, Josh Gilbertstadt, Adam Nijahwan, Kate Tana and Kenny Tana and advisor Deb Smieja. The **North** team, the North I, took second place in the same division with members Jeremiah Buenger, Cory Bunich, Josie Kajer, Megan Mundan, Drake Sarkauskas and Janessa Wiese and advisor Pam Christensen. Josh Gilbertstadt was the 1st place individual winner and Jeremiah Buenger was the 2nd place individual winner in Class AAA.
- **North High** students Alyssa Becker, Mariah Kewin and Taylor Endel won the State Skills USA championship this spring in Madison with their Promotional Bulletin Board project. Victor Lokken from **Memorial High** placed second for CO2 Dragsters at the championship.
- **Memorial High** student Hannah Gilbertstadt was recognized as a Best High School Jazz Vocalist in the nation by Downbeat magazine in its June Student Awards issue.
- Several **North and Memorial** students were honored at the Wisconsin School Music Association State Solo and Ensemble

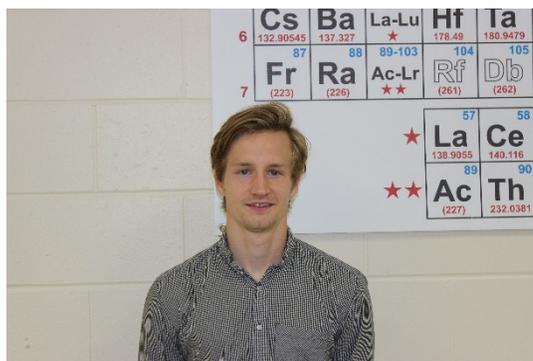
Festival with Exemplary Soloist Awards. Congratulations to North student Hayden Guckenber (French horn) and Memorial students Greta Kernkamp (alto), Katey Lace (piano), Jordyn Leonauskas (music theater), Matthew Martinez (piano), Katherine Seeger (violin) and Miranda Severin (saxophone).

- The **2015 Memorial Girls Swim and Dive Team** has been recognized by the National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association of American as Scholar Team Award-Gold Level for having a cumulative GPA of 3.76. Seniors receiving All-American Scholar status are Paige Bernhardt, Mikela Edmonds, Sarah Manz, Anna Perry and Miranda Severin.
- The **North Boys Basketball Team** earned 3rd team Academic All-State recognition from the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association for the 2014-2015 season. Team members are Jeremy Danielson, Max DeGrasse, Ben Hanson, Carter Holden, Matt Kent, Lukas Lanners, Adam LaRock, Steve Luther, Ashton Miloszewicz, Braeden Neyens, Drew Ohms, Matt Tolan and Austin Werdin.
- Several **North High** freshmen in Raina Pfundheller's Enriched English class had their original poetry selected, recorded and presented during the Hands of Peace arts presentation in May. Congratulations to Jayce Fisher, Garrett Flynn, Gryphon Guyant, Emily Knusta, Nhara Lartey, Molly Olson, Savannah Osterude, Mattea Peplinski, Abby Shipman, Makenna Sonsalla and Alina Xiong. Students from this class also were winners in the UWEC Sigma Tau Delta writing contest. Ninth grade prose winners were Emily Knusta and Savannah Osterude and ninth grade poetry winners were Pa Zong Xiong and Nhara Lartey.
- **North High** junior Sam Kroll won the teen division in the 63kg weight class at the 2015 USA Power Lifting Men's and Women's Championships in San Antonio. She has been invited to be part of Team USA and compete in the 2015 World Championships in Prague at the end of the summer.

Getting to Know Us—A Staff Snapshot

When most of us think of teachers, we think of them in a specific classroom in one school. For Scott Hayden, a first-year science teacher in the district and an elite runner, it's not quite so simple.

Hayden "runs" between two buildings teaching one high school biology class at North High School, one 7th grade science class and one 8th grade science class at DeLong Middle School. His day looks a bit different than a typical classroom teacher. Says Hayden, "Every day I come into DeLong early to observe veteran science teacher Jeremy Traynor during his 2nd period 8th grade science class. I do this to learn from the best and improve my own teaching. Then I typically prep for an hour before going over to North to teach my Biology class. After that, I come back to DeLong to eat lunch with the science department before teaching 7th and 8th grade sciences during 6th and 7th hours. After the school day, I either supervise a computer lab or volunteer my time with the Eau Claire Memorial track program." He finds the traveling a bit of a challenge. Hayden says, "Because I'm not in a building for a whole day, it's difficult to give extra time to students who seek me out for help. I also teach three different classes once per day. Typically during a day of teaching you get to run through lessons a few times, reflect and improve each hour."



But Hayden loves the collaboration with colleagues at both North and DeLong. He gives a special shout-out to the DeLong science department. He says, "They are willing and able to help me become a better teacher and go out of their way to help. I very much enjoy the process of making our students more scientifically literate in a society that needs people who are. The main purpose of my class is to create critical thinkers who are on the way to become more self-confident and self-actualized."

Hayden has rave reviews for the Eau Claire Area School District as well. "We have a very special school district that invests in our students. So many teachers are here early, here late and here on the weekends trying to give every student every advantage possible for post-secondary success. I am both proud and humbled by the people that I work with."



Foundation Focus: Presenting Grants!



Michelle Olson's classroom at Northstar Middle School received a big check from the ECPSF and shared high interest/emerging reader books. The students suggested the topics and titles and Olson submitted a grant for the ECPSF Winter Grant Cycle. Her proposal made an excellent case for the need for interesting and age appropriate books to encourage reading for students learning English as a second language.

Fall semester will bring changes and an important event. Mary Beth Kelley Lowe will be stepping down as Executive Director of the Foundation in August. She and her husband are planning retirement to northern Michigan near family, Lake Michigan and their granddaughter. The ECPSF Search Committee is seeking applications for this terrific, part-time position. If you know anyone who would be interested, please refer them to www.ecpsfound.org or Like us on Facebook.



Business leaders are planning an exciting event to honor and celebrate the great education that is provided by each school in the district. The Golden Apple Award event on November 12, 2015, will feature awards made to each school. Details will be coming your way in late August.

High School Graduations are Almost Here!



Just a reminder that **Memorial High School's** graduation is Tuesday, June 9, at 7 pm at Zorn Arena on the UW-Eau Claire campus and **North High School's** graduation is Wednesday, June 10, at 7 pm in the North High School gym.

Our congratulations to both the Class of 2015 Old Abes and the Class of 2015 Huskies. We are so proud of you all and wish you the best as you move forward!

