



## A note from Principal Ben Dallman... PRIDE, Respect, and Responsibility



Dear Roosevelt Families!

I hope you enjoyed your Thanksgiving holiday together with family and friends. In addition to working hard and making academic strides in the classroom, our students have had the opportunity to get involved in many other ways at Roosevelt Elementary. Some of the November activities included our student-led Veterans Day Program, multiple After School Clubs, North High School's Wrestling Clinic, North High School Symphony/Orchestra concert, DeLong Middle School Choir & Orchestra concert, and DeLong Middle School's Eight Grade Band performance!

### Upcoming in December:

- Along with supporting the academic needs of our students, we are also supporting our student's social-emotional learning needs each day. After focusing on *respect*, *responsibility*, and *gratitude* to begin the school year, we have now shifted our focus to developing better *empathy*. We define *empathy* as *the ability to understand and connect to the feelings of another*. More information and ideas you may use to reinforce *empathy* from home can be found in your child's folder this week.
- Beginning this **Thursday (December 7)**, students will be invited to join staff in their 12-Days Before Break activities with the following dress-up days.
  - ❖ **Thursday, Dec 7:** **Favorite Hoodie and Jeans Day:** Let them wear jeans!
  - ❖ **Friday, Dec 8:** **Festive Vest or Footwear:** Wear your most festive vest or footwear!
  - ❖ **Monday, Dec 11:** **You're Flann-tastic!** Sport your favorite flannel shirt!
  - ❖ **Thursday, Dec 14:** **Where are Mini-Pawz and the two Elves on the Shelves?** Find all 3 for a special prize!
  - ❖ **Monday, Dec 18:** **Whimsical Sweater/Hat Day:** The more ridiculous the better!
  - ❖ **Thursday, Dec 21:** **Cozy Clothes Day:** Dress for comfort as we reach the end of the week!
- Our PTA will be hosting our ninth annual *Holiday Workshop* after school this **Thursday (December 7)** from 3:35-4:30pm for students who have pre-registered. Thank you to the many family members who have volunteered to help run this fun event! There will be free quilts available from Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Roosevelt ornaments being sold by our PTA and a free will Bake Sale. If you would like to contribute to the Bake Sale please drop items off in the office on the morning of Thursday, December 7. If you would like to purchase a Roosevelt ornament or be offered a quilt, please come at 4:30 pm or email Mrs. Rud.

- Saturday, **December 2** was *National Special Education Day!* Related to Special Education programming, *S.E.N.S.E.* is a school/parent group comprised of Eau Claire families, caregivers, staff, and administration who network, support, and collaborate ways to best meet student needs. SENSE stands for *Supportive Education, Networking, Strength, & Engagement*, and was previously known in our district as *SEPTA*, or the *Special Education Parent Teacher Association*. SENSE held their most recent monthly on November 14 with a focus on the topic “Managing for the Holidays.” On October 9, SENSE virtually hosted guest speaker Ryan Wexelblatt (aka the ADHD Dude) who shared in intriguing message about executive functioning. You may view a recording of that presentation here: [Ryan Wexelblatt presentation](#). You can learn more about SENSE by viewing their [SENSE Special Education PTO Facebook page](#) and can access helpful resources found in the [ECASD Family Engagement Newsletter](#).

- Over the past two years, our *Roosevelt Neighborhood Playground Taskforce* has raised over \$80,000. With the first phase of our two-phase project installed last summer, our goal is to raise the remaining \$30K-\$40K by this summer to install phase two! If interested in sharing with neighbors, businesses, and community members, please share this [Roosevelt Community Playground Fundraising letter](#) where you may also find more information.

Related to our playground updating project, *Scheels* is donating \$100,000 to Eau Claire’s favorite non-profit local organizations who do incredible work in our community. If willing, please consider nominating our *Roosevelt Neighborhood Playground Taskforce/PTA* using this [SCHEELS 2023 Giving Campaign nomination link](#). Thank you!



Tuesday, **December 19** is the date of our next PTA meeting from **6:00-7:30 pm**. PTA meetings generally focus on PTA specific times for the first half of the meeting before shifting our focus to Playground fundraising topics with the time remaining. All Roosevelt families are welcome to attend either or both meetings to ask questions, provided suggestions, and offer support. We plan to meet in person in our library with a virtual option also available. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please email our PTA at [roosevelt.pta.eauclaire@gmail.com](mailto:roosevelt.pta.eauclaire@gmail.com). You may access the agenda and virtual meeting links below:

- [Roosevelt PTA Meeting link \(6:00-7:30pm\)](#)
- [Roosevelt PTA Agenda 2023-2024.docx](#)

- Roosevelt Elementary School will be celebrating our *Holiday Sing* on Friday, December 22 from 3:00-3:20 pm. Because of limited space, we are unable to open this event for guests to attend in person. This program will be live streamed and recorded for you to view at your family’s convenience during or after the program. A virtual link will be shared with families leading up to the event.

With just a few weeks of school before winter break, many families will be packing their bags and getting ready to visit family and friends. Travelling long distances with young children can sometimes be a challenge and there are a few phrases that we hear over and over. “*Are we there yet?*”, “*I need to go to the bathroom!*”, and “*when are we going to get there?*”

Nevertheless, traveling with young kids can also be a great time for some fun learning activities. Learning activities are a great way to pass the time and to squeeze in a little bit of exercise for the brain along the way.

Below is a short list of ideas to get you started:

- **License Plate Map**—Have your children see how many different license plates they can find from other states. Print off a map of the United States and color in the state when they see that license plate.
- **ABC Hunt**—Have your children search license plates, billboards, and road signs for the letters of the alphabet. The challenge is to find the letters in alphabetical order.
- **Crayons without the Mess**—Parents can only crawl in the back seat so many times to pick up the red crayon that was dropped. To keep the crayons from falling, use a key ring, some yarn, and a dozen crayons to ensure the crayons are never lost. Simply tie one end of each piece of yarn to the keychain and the other end of each piece to a crayon and let them color away!
- **You count it, You keep it**—If you receive change (coins only) on your trip, tell them, “If you can count it, you can keep it.” With younger children if they can count how many coins they received correctly, they could keep the coins. As they get older, the rules change. They can count how many of each coin (quarter, nickel, dime, and penny) and when they get even older, they need to count how many cents received. If they’re right, they get to keep the coins.
- **I’m Going on a Trip**—The first person starts out by saying, “I’m going on a trip and I’m bringing a \_\_\_\_\_.” He/she fills in the blank with a word that starts with A. The next person says, “I’m going on a trip and I’m bringing a \_\_\_\_\_” His/her word must start with a B. This can go through the whole alphabet. For older children, they can add on their item AND lists all the things everyone else has said.
- **Read, Read, Read**—It’s always a safe bet to travel with books and read in the car unless, of course, your child gets carsick!

Thank you for taking an active role in your child’s education. As you enjoy the upcoming holiday season, you may find several opportunities for your child to share with you what they are learning. Whether it is reading a shopping list, measuring ingredients for a recipe, or enjoying a good book with you...thank you for the important time you spend learning with your child. If you are traveling this holiday-season, may you have safe (and peaceful) travels. Happy Holidays to you and your family and I look forward to continuing our work together in 2024!

Sincerely,

*Ben Dallman*

Principal  
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*“Collectively committed to educating our Roosevelt community in a safe, nurturing, and responsive environment.”* 

**Si desea que alguien le traduzca esta carta o si tiene preguntas,  
llame a Kresly Rodriguez-Martinez al 715-852-4246.**

**Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais tsab ntawv no ua lus Hmoob, hu xov tooj rau koj tus me nyuam lub tsev kawm ntawv  
Kong Moua (715-852-4758) los sis hu rau Bliia Schwahn (715-852-6764).**



Dear ECASD Families:

Throughout the school year, there are times when schools must close for weather and other emergencies. Below are the Eau Claire Area School District Emergency School Closing Procedures for this school year.

### TYPES OF SCHOOL CLOSURES

The district has three types of school closures: cancellation, two-hour delay, and early release.

**Cancellation:** School is canceled for the entire school day, communicated as close as possible to 6 am.

- The school buildings are closed.
- No classes and no virtual instruction (except by EC Virtual School)
- After school activities may resume based on improving weather conditions. This will be communicated by the athletic departments.
- Public use of buildings will be decided by noon and communicated on the Buildings and Grounds webpage.

**Two-Hour Delay:** The school day starts two hours later than normally scheduled, communicated as close as possible to 6 am.

- Buses will run two hours behind their normal schedule.
- Cold breakfast will be served.
- School lunch will be served at or near the normally scheduled times.
- After school activities and afternoon public use of buildings may still occur.

**Early Release:** The school day will end two or three hours early.

- Lunch is at or near the normally scheduled time.
- After school activities and public use of buildings are canceled.

### 2023-2024 CANCELLATIONS (NEW PROCEDURES, PLEASE READ!)

Wisconsin has established the number of required instructional minutes at each grade level (4K, Kindergarten to Grade 5, and Grade 6-12). Each level has a different number of required instructional minutes, so inclement weather procedures will vary by grade level to ensure the ECASD meets state requirements. **This may mean that elementary schools are closed while our middle and high schools have virtual learning days.** Each level has a different number of instructional minutes built in that exceeds the requirement. Once those additional minutes have been used due to school closures, that level will switch to a Virtual Learning Day in cases of inclement weather. This switch may happen at different times in the year based on when the additional instructional time has been exhausted. Below is the list of additional time built in at each level – when this time has been used, that level will switch to Virtual Learning in cases of inclement weather or other school closures.

Grade Level and School Type	Additional instructional time in the year that can be used for school closures (When this time has been used, the level will switch to Virtual Learning Days.)
Early Learning/HeadStart/4K Prairie Ridge and Community sites	Approximately <b>4 half days</b> of additional instructional time
Elementary Schools Kindergarten through Grade 5	Approximately <b>7 days</b> of additional instructional time