



Elmwood Park CUSD 401

Elm Middle School News

March, 2011

Important Upcoming Dates

- 3/4: PAT Dance
- 3/11: End of 3rd quarter
- 3/25: Institute Day—No School
- 3/28—4/1: Spring Break
- 4/7: 3rd quarter Awards Assembly

Elm Science Club competes at Argonne National Lab

A team of five Elm Science Club members (Ryan Capule, Justin Mann, David Kotarba, David Forenda, and Chris Coronado) participated on February 5 in the Science Bowl competition hosted by Argonne National Laboratory, coached by their Science Club sponsor, Mr. Mrkvicka. According to the coordinator of the competition, “Eleven teams competed in this fast-paced Jeopardy-style competition where students answer either multiple-choice or

short-answer questions relating to science and math.” The winning team (Wright Middle School of Lincolnshire) will go on to the National Science Bowl in Washington, D.C. in April. The February 5 regional included 70 coaches and team members, 26 volunteers from Argonne Lab, and 140 guests. This was Elm’s first foray into Science Bowl competition, and Coach Mrkvicka said, “Everyone had a great time, including me, and they’re jazzed about doing it again next year. We now know what to expect.”



Triton College summer programs for students

Triton College offers a wide variety of summer enrichment programs for kids ranging in age from 2 through 16. General youth programs include programs in Beginning Piano, Violin, and Rhythm, Beginning Mandarin Chinese for Children and Parents, Beginning Spanish, Red Cross Swim, Parent/Tot Swim, Children’s Beginning Golf, Math Help and Reading Help.

Week –long youth programs include The Actor’s Clinic—Triton’s Junior Theater, The Science Experiment, Little Gardeners, Fun with Jewelry Making, Soccer Champs, Spanish I, and Basketball Pros.

Camp Triton offers week-long classes in Computer Detectives, Lego Robotics, Video Game Designers for Teens, Digital Photography and

Editing with Adobe Photoshop Elements, and Video Game Designers for Kids.

The week-long “Science Experiment” class for ages 8 to 11 is a new offering this year, as is Video Game Designers classes (kids class is for ages 8 to 11 and the teen class is for ages 12 to 16). Also new this year is the Digital Photography and Editing class.

Details are available in the printed program overview sent home with paper version of this newsletter. The document is also on the Elm Middle School web page, or contact Triton College for more specific details about the individual programs.

Elm Middle School focuses on bullying education and prevention

In November, the entire student body of Elm was asked to “Stand Up To Bullying,” signing an anti-bullying pledge, and wearing pink (See photo at right). This month, the education continues and will focus on the bystander—the person who stands silently by and observes bullying behavior but does not try to stop it. We are educating all Elm students about how to stand up to bullying and to speak up for the victims and targets of bullying behaviors. This is part of our PBIS program this spring.



Elm News in Brief

Important announcement about payment plans for school fees from District Office:

Payment Plan Participants: The deadline to close out your payment plan for 2010-2011 is April 29, 2011. Effective April 30, 2011 an additional 40% will be added all outstanding balances. If you have any questions please call Cheryl McCarthy at 708-583-5842.

Elm PAT News: Tickets for the PAT-sponsored 8th Grade Dinner Dance go on sale this month. PAT members will be collecting payments outside the cafeteria on these days: March 23, March 24, April 6, and April 7.

Dinner Dance costs \$60 and will be held on Friday, May 13th. Dinner Dance forms went home with students, and they are also available on the Elm Middle School website.

Seeking parent volunteers: We are seeking parent volunteers who can be available for the whole school day on Tuesday, May 24th to assist us with a new school activity: Circus Day. 8th graders will be trained in a variety of skills, and then will be coached and assisted as they prepare to perform a show for our guest audience: our district’s kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd graders. Students will be coached in small

groups and each group will have adult coordinators. Elm staff, District 401 staff, and parents (you, we hope!) will work with the students, led by professionals from Circamongus. We know that the performance will be a great treat for the young students, who always love an opportunity to see the big kids in action. Please contact Dr. Porreca if you are available.

Elmwood Park Early Childhood Center Pre-school Screening: All EP residents who will be 3, 4, or 5 by September 1 may register on March 22 and 23 from 8:00 a.m.—2:45 p.m. Call 583-5867 for an appointment.

Elm Middle School Information

Elm Middle School
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Elmwood Park, Illinois

Phone: 708-452-3550

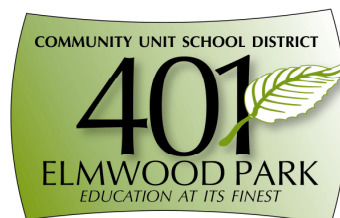
Fax: 708-452-0662

Principal’s e-mail:

We’re on the web at:

www.epcusd401.org/elm/

Dr. Kathleen Porreca, Principal
Adam Parisi, Assistant Principal



Elm’s Mission Statement

The faculty, staff, students, parents, and community of Elm Middle School are devoted to academic excellence.

In addition, we feel it is important for students to develop a sense of self-esteem and confidence in order to further ensure success in high school and to enable them to make the correct decisions that will guide them later in life.

We believe in: