

# GOOD NEWSLETTER



## Closing Another Chapter

As the school year comes to a close, there is so much to celebrate! Our students continue to amaze us with their talents, creativity, and kindness for others. This year even brought an eclipse that offered a science lesson for all of our students.

This newsletter only highlights a small number of the many accomplishments of our students and staff members. However, we hope this edition allows you to enjoy the good news in our district as part of our school community.



# BOARD BROADCAST

Mission: East Peoria Elementary District 86 is dedicated to continually improving achievement of all students.

## New Business and Action Items

### APPROVALS

- Tentative Amended Budget FY 23-24
- Return to Learning Plan
- Second Step Program Purchase
- Existing E-rate Management Services
- Wayfinder Software and Services
- Estimate from OSCAR Telecom, Inc. for Bus Camera Additions
- Payment Application for Wilson School roof project
- Agreement with ProCare Therapy for Speech Services for 24-25 School Year

## Other Business/Information

- Mr. Warner discussed the CEP Food Service option with the board
- Internet Safety Policies were reviewed
- Mr. Warner gave a 24-25 Staffing Update
- Mr. Fraas shared proposed changes to the student handbook
- REMINDER- 8th Grade Promotion is May 23, 2024 at 6:30 pm

**Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting:  
Thursday, June 20, 2024**

**Welcome to the District!**

**STEPHANIE LEAFGREEN**  
Secretary at Wilson School

**KELSEY GAWEL**  
Language Arts Teacher at CJHS

**PAIGE WALKER**  
Volunteer Cheer Coach

## **Board Members**

**Mr. Eric Duckworth**  
Board President  
duckworthe@epd86.org

**Mr. Jason Cowen**  
Board Vice President  
cowenj@epd86.org

**Mrs. Connie Ennis**  
Board Secretary  
ennisc@epd86.org

**Mr. Chad Cunningham**  
Board Member  
cunninghamc@epd86.org

**Mrs. Patty Mingus**  
Board Member  
mingusp@epd86.org

**Mr. Chris Tapp**  
Board Member  
tappc@epd86.org

**Mr. Nick Fidler**  
Board Member  
fidlern@epd86.org

## Spring Testing Results

Our students recently completed their Spring Diagnostic Testing. Students take the i-Ready test in both reading and mathematics three times each year. Our Spring results showed an incredible amount of growth by our students!

### Reading

Students On or Above Grade Level Increase from Fall  
+25%

Students who met their Growth Goal  
59%

### Math

Students On or Above Grade Level Increase from Fall  
+28%

Students who met their Growth Goal  
56%



# A LOOK INSIDE THE SCHOOLS

## Communication on the Playground

Glendale's playground has a new addition: a core communication board! Thanks to the generosity of the District 86 Foundation, and the help of the district maintenance department, Glendale was able to purchase and install a beautiful core communication board. The kids were drawn to it immediately! The board has picture symbols for words that might commonly be needed while out on the playground: words like play, run, swing, slide, your turn, my turn, equipment, etc. There are also words such as help, drink, too hot, too cold, all done, etc. The idea for the board is to assist students who may have needs with expressive or receptive communication. Glendale has already seen the board fostering connections between the students in our regular education and special education classes. Hopefully this continues to serve as a great way to promote communication and inclusion amongst all of our students!



## 100 DAYS OLDER, 101 DAYS SMARTER

It is not a secret that students grow and change throughout the school year. However, the 100th day of school at Armstrong looked like 100 years had gone by. Students dressed like they were 100 years old to celebrate the 100th day milestone. The 101st day went straight to the dogs as the students traded in their canes for 101 spots. We will keep an eye on these students as they continue to grow!



# A LOOK INSIDE THE SCHOOLS

## Students, Squid, and Science

Eighth grade science students had the opportunity to showcase their dissection skills and squid knowledge while visiting Lincoln, Bolin, and Glendale. The science students were able to do a live dissection, share interesting facts about squid, and allow the elementary students an opportunity to touch the squid, while wearing gloves. It was a great experience for all of the students!



## Badminton Champions

CJHS completed their singles badminton tournament and crowned a school champion. Winners from each academic team across the grade levels faced off in a double-elimination tournament.

Congratulations to the following students:

1st Place- Addison Duncheon    2nd Place- Eli Martin  
3rd Place- Weston McConkey



The teachers at Shute School hope you had a wonderful Presidents' Day!



# A LOOK INSIDE THE SCHOOLS

## Once a Karcher Kid, Always a Karcher Kid

Ms. Jan Karcher began her teaching career in East Peoria in 1972 and retired in 2006. During her tenure as a classroom teacher, her students were affectionately known as "Karcher Kids." Ms. Karcher had an incredible impact on numerous Karcher Kids, some who grew up to be employees of East Peoria Elementary School District 86, such as Mrs. Dearing. However, retirement was not an ending for Ms. Karcher; it was only a new beginning. Since that time Ms. Karcher has been a frequent substitute in multiple buildings. She has formed relationships amongst numerous students, families and staff members. As she closes out this school year as a long-term substitute for a second grade classroom, she is finishing 51 years of service in East Peoria District 86. We are incredibly thankful for Ms. Karcher's dedication and her love for her Karcher Kids.



## Mystery Readers Visit Kindergarten Classroom

Mrs. Lohnes and her kindergarten students welcomed mystery readers into their classroom. The guests, including Superintendent Mr. Ingold, Board Member Mrs. Ennis, and Associate Superintendent Mr. Warner, enjoyed sharing a story with the students and participating in a question and answer session.



# A LOOK INSIDE THE SCHOOLS



## History Brought to Life

The 5th grade students at Bolin School were able to bring history to life during their annual Wax Museum. Students spent over a month researching historical figures and their contributions to society. The students then presented their research as the historical figure. Guests enjoyed the presentations and learned so much from our students!



## May Day

Lincoln students in Mrs. Lee's Intervention and Guided Reading Groups planted sunflower seeds and ladybug blends on May Day. The students have been learning about different types of flowers throughout the last couple of months. They really enjoyed getting their hands dirty and watching their hard work grow. Students had the option to take their flowers home or hand them out to a staff member in the building.





# A LOOK INSIDE THE SCHOOLS



## KidWind Renewable Energy Challenge

Mr. Cordell's Class had the opportunity to put their engineering skills to the test by designing and testing wind turbines for the KidWind Challenge at Heartland Community College. The KidWind Challenge is a hands-on design celebration that engages students through the lens of wind and solar energy. Student teams designed, constructed, and tested small scale wind turbines and solar structures at the event. These events are held throughout the world!



## Chirp, Chirp

Chirping can be heard through the halls at many East Peoria schools this Spring. Students waited with great anticipation for the first signs of a crack in an egg. Once hatched, students learned about taking care of the chicks and the nutrients they need to survive.





## A LOOK INSIDE THE SCHOOLS



## STUDENT TALENT CELEBRATED AT THE MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL

**The annual Music and Arts Festival showcased the many talents of the students in district 86 on May 4, 2024. Audience members enjoyed music from Glendale, Lincoln, Bolin, and CJHS chorus students and junior high band members. In addition, art projects were put on display from students across the district. A special thanks goes to the teachers who made this event a success for our district! We can't wait to see what next year brings!**





# PROUD EPD 86 MOMENTS

## Symphonic Band Earns Top Rating

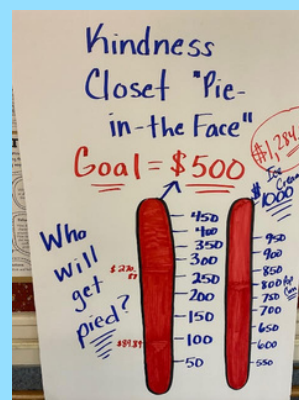
Congratulations to the 7th and 8th Grade Symphonic Band. The band received the top rating of 'Superior' at the Six Flags Great America Music Festival.



## Spirit Club Shows Kindness

The Bolin Spirit Club had a "Pie-in-the-Face" Coin Collection to raise money for the district's Kindness Closet on April 22nd-26th. Collection jars were in the cafeteria at lunch, and the jars had pictures of Spirit Club members and school staff on them. The top 6 jars that raised the most money got a PIE IN THE FACE on Friday, May 10th at our assembly.

Bolin students raised \$1,277.49 for the district Kindness Closet! On Monday, May 6th, Spirit Club members went to CJHS to help the Kindness Closet Committee pack over 150 care packages for our district students in grades Kindergarten - 5th grade. It was a great week of empathy, caring, and kindness at Bolin School!



# PROUD EPD 86 MOMENTS

## Wildcat Award Winners



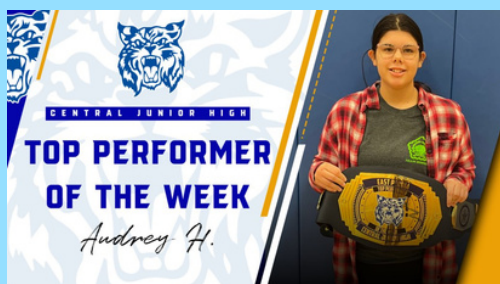
Avery was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 30.



Addison was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 30.



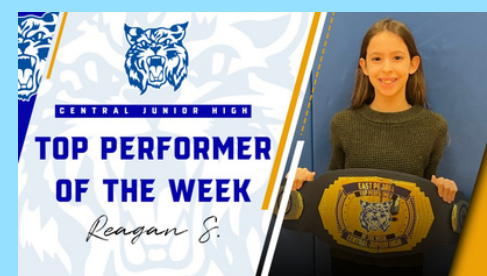
Hailey was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 30.



Audrey was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 30.



Jocelyn was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 31.



Reagan was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 31.



Carter was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 31.



Kenley was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 31.

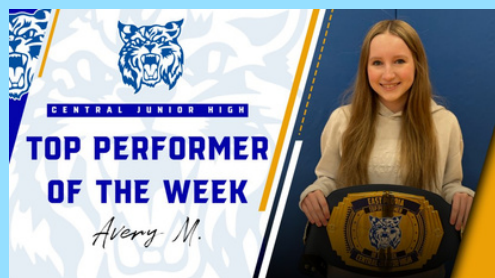


Peyton was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 31.



# PROUD EPD 86 MOMENTS

## Wildcat Award Winners



Avery was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 32.



Khloe was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 32.



Ethan was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 32.



Champ was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 33.



Wrestlers Gabe, Trevor, Jesus, Jayvion, Elijah, Preston, and Roosevelt were selected as top performers for IESA Week 34.



Gabe, Trevor, Jesus, and Roosevelt were selected as top performers for IESA Week 35.



Adelyn was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 35.



Brynley was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 35.



Kyler was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 35.

# PROUD EPD 86 MOMENTS

## Wildcat Award Winners



Evan was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 36.



Turner was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 36.



Sam was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 36.



Maggie was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 37.



Grant was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 37.



Lilly was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 38



Fleur was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 38.



Russell was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 38.



Reagan was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 38.



# PROUD EPD 86 MOMENTS

## Wildcat Award Winners



Trinity was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 39.



Addie was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 39.



Michael was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 39.



Kai was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 39.



Madi was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 40.



Carter was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 40.



Lydia was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 40.



Grant was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 40.



James was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 40.

# PROUD EPD 86 MOMENTS

## Wildcat Award Winners



Callyn was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 41.



Cooper was selected as a top performer for IESA Week 41.



Clayton, Kai, AJ, and Chris were selected as top performers after qualifying for the state track meet.

## Celebrating Excellence



**Congratulations to Central Junior High School students Jocelyn Skaggs and Rylan Wertz. The two students were chosen to attend the IPA Student Recognition Breakfast.**



## Lincoln Lions Roar

**Congratulations to Piper Franklin and Carlos Lopez! The two Lincoln students were recognized at the CIV IPA Student Recognition Breakfast on May 6, 2024. Both of the students consistently show Lincoln ROAR values and are great role models for their peers.**



# PROUD EPD 86 MOMENTS

## THIS AND THAT



**Chick-fil-a participated in Teacher Appreciation Week by donating food to the staff members at Armstrong School and Bolin School.**



## **Congratulations!**

**Staff members Cara Heinemann (4th grade teacher at Lincoln) and Eric Payne (District Computer/Network Technician) were engaged over Spring Break. The two are planning an October wedding!**



# ECLIPSE- APRIL 8, 2024





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# PICTURE PERFECT

