



VIKING NAVIGATOR

EVERGREEN LOCAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT

PLANNING STRATEGICALLY

Today's workforce and career opportunities are ever changing. In order to best prepare Evergreen's students for life outside of the classroom, school leaders continue to evaluate students' educational experiences and course offerings. In addition, facilities must be assessed in order to assure students are learning in the most favorable environment possible while preparing them for their future careers. Evergreen Local Schools is seeking community member feedback on its academic programming and facilities.

"Technology, robotics, business, manufacturing, agriculture, banking...so much has changed, there are opportunities today that did not exist 20 years ago, and as a school and community, we must lay the ground work for our students to be successful when they walk out our doors," explained Mr. Eric Smola, superintendent. "Education can't remain the same and we cannot do it alone; we need input from our community on how to move forward," he adds.

Two of the goals outlined in the District's strategic plan, *The Viking Compass*, are strictly centered on academics and facilities. These specific goals are:

- Achieve academic excellence and maximize student development.
- Provide optimal learning environments for the education of our students.

According to Smola, to tackle these goals, the first step is surveying community members, parents, focus groups, staff, and students to gauge improvement priorities. Based on the feedback, a project plan will be developed and communicated.

"We fully understand all program and facility improvements require appropriate financial commitments and taxpayer backing," Smola said. "We need everyone to complete the survey and put our students' educational needs first," he added. The survey can be found on the District webpage at www.evgvikings.org. The survey will close February 29, 2024.



FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

By Eric J. Smola, Superintendent



As part of our ongoing strategic plan, we continue to evaluate our academic programs as well as our buildings and facilities. It is our job to best prepare our students for life in the most conducive surroundings as possible.

The Evergreen community takes great pride in its school facilities. The current elementary school was built in 2005, the high school in 2001, and the middle school in 1967. The District works hard to maintain these buildings at the lowest cost to taxpayers. Most recently, the elementary roof has been replaced, the elementary and high school buildings have been upgraded with LED lights, HVAC updates have been completed, security measures and cameras have been added throughout campus, the all-weather track has been reconditioned, and turf has been installed at Pifer Field.

Your feedback is essential as we explore the next areas to address to ensure we are providing the best possible education for our students. Please complete the survey on the District website and help us set the course for the future of Evergreen Local Schools. Thank you.

BOARD MEMBERS

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- Jason Miller - Vice-President
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- Rusty Carr
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- Don Smith
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BOARD OF EDUCATION NEWS

The Evergreen Board of Education (BOE) welcomed its newest member, Rusty Carr. The meeting on January 8, 2024 marked the beginning of his four-year term. He replaces Zach Murry.



According to Carr, he decided to run for a seat on the board because, “I have the support of my family, friends, and many Evergreen community members. I have always loved Evergreen and have voiced my opinions for what I believe in when asked, and now as a member of the BOE, maybe I can bring some new ideas to help keep Evergreen building for the future.”

Another factor that went into Rusty’s decision to run for the board is to continue his family’s legacy. “My grandfather Glenwood “Doc” Carr served on the Lyons Board of Education before Evergreen was built, then he served on the Four County Board of Education, so serving our schools has always run in my family,” he explained.

Carr is a 1997 graduate of Evergreen High School and currently lives in Metamora. He has been employed by Yark Automotive for the past 21 years. He currently works in the Jeep retail parts department. Outside of work, he loves attending sporting events and coaching youth sports. He has kept the scorebook for the EHS boys basketball teams for 26 years. Carr also enjoys spending time with friends and family, often playing board and card games, and supporting the Country Charm Cafe.

“Thank you to the community for giving me this opportunity to represent the Evergreen Local School District for the next four years and beyond,” Carr stated.

Also reelected to the Evergreen BOE is Nora Kiefer. She begins her third term as a board member and her seventh year serving as the BOE president. “The students and the quality of their educational experience has and always will be my number one priority,” Kiefer states.



Special thanks to all of Evergreen’s BOE members for their dedication and service to the District (L to R): Don Smith, Nora Kiefer, Jason Miller, Matt Vaculik, and Rusty Carr for serving Evergreen Local Schools.



NEW VIKING FAMILY MEMBERS



▲ **Michelle Paulson**
EES Intervention Specialist

▼ **Elani Guyton**
EES Paraprofessional



▲ **Dawn Cundick**
Bus Driver

▼ **Taylor Miller**
Bus Driver



GRANTS AWARDED

Evergreen has recently been awarded three significant grants. In order to be awarded grant money, Evergreen completes a rigorous and competitive application process. Grants are in addition to any state, federal, or local funding.

- \$5,000 Ohio STEM Learning Network (OSLN) Classroom Grant Program, funded by Battelle, to expand our STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) learning projects. Two 3-D printers will be purchased to foster student creativity, technology and problem solving skills.
- \$30,000 Officer School Safety Grant will be used to purchase new digital radios for the District’s transportation fleet.
- The remaining \$20,025 from the Ohio K-12 Safety Grant will enable the District to purchase 33 new handheld digital radios to increase campus safety and instantaneous communications.
- \$5,000 Sources of Strength, Prevention First, Ohio Grant will enhance the District’s student social and emotional support system. This grant includes additional Sources of Strength implementation, advanced training, and extra resources.



TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE



On Monday, April 8, 2024, a total solar eclipse will cross North America, passing from southern Texas through Maine. The path of the eclipse will pass over most of Ohio. Evergreen Schools is located on the northern limit of the total eclipse.

The Ohio Emergency Management team expects thousands of visitors to swamp the area in order to experience this unique opportunity. The last totality in Ohio occurred in 1806. The entire eclipse process will take several hours, but the period of totality will be relatively short, under five minutes. It will get dark and the temperature is expected to drop.

“Due to the potential of heavy traffic conditions, limited cell phone service, and large number of visitors to our area, Fulton County schools (including Evergreen) have decided to close school and cancel all after school activities on April 8,” explains Mr. Eric Smola. “We have been advised that if school is in session and there is an emergency, there is no guarantee emergency services could actually make it here. We can’t take that chance,” he added.

Solar eclipses occur when the moon casts its shadow on the Earth as it passes between the Earth and the Sun. A total solar eclipse occurs when the moon appears to totally obscure the Sun. According to the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, the next total solar eclipse that can be seen from the contiguous United States will be on August 23, 2044. Go to ema.ohio.gov for more information.



Total Solar Eclipse Path through Ohio
April 8, 2024



HAPPY RETIREMENT!



Terri Burgess
Bus Driver

31 years of service to
Evergreen Local Schools



“I am going to miss the students so much,” says Terri Burgess as she talks about ending her career as an Evergreen bus driver. She parked her bus for the last time on December 22, 2023 after delivering students to and from school for 31 years. “Evergreen has been such a big part of my life, it will be strange not to pull onto campus every day,” she said. As her retirement begins, she is looking forward to traveling, camping, and completing some refinishing projects. “I am going to continue enjoying my life to the fullest,” she added.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

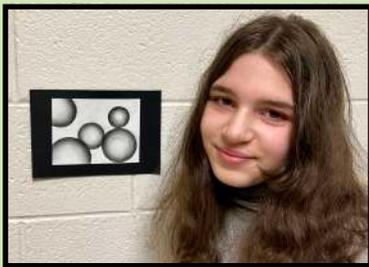
Kindergarten registration for the 2024-2025 school year will be open February 5 through March 15. To begin the process, a parent must access FinalForms on the Evergreen website at evgvikings.org. Once the online registration is complete and submitted, a screening appointment will be confirmed. Screenings will take place April 2, 3, 4 and 5.

EMS ARTISTS OF THE WEEK

The following EMS students have been named Artist of the Week.



▲ Callen Willey, Cityscape



▲ Deanna Zuccarell, Shaded Spheres



▲ Emma Hummel, Clay Bell



▲ Keira Myers, Zombie Hand

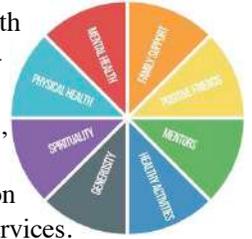


▲ Dominic Bender, Zombie Hand

STUDENT SUPPORTS

Evergreen's major focus, as detailed in its strategic plan, is to increase and improve student supports. Listed are the increased aids the District has implemented:

- Since August, Evergreen has implemented the Sources of Strength curriculum for grades K-12. This program supports student well-being, strengthens youth-adult connectedness, enhances positive student coping behavior, reduces the risk of suicide and violence, reduces bullying behavior, and increases school belonging and resilience. Funding has been provided through the CARES Act on behalf of the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services.
- In January, Evergreen began utilizing Zearn Math which provides digital math lessons with built-in differentiated support when students need it. This platform is provided by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce.
- All students will have free 24/7 access to Varsity Tutors, via their Clever portal beginning in February. This program provides on-demand tutoring, live small group classes, SAT & ACT prep classes, celebrity-led star course classes, college and career readiness courses, essay review, and enrichment classes. Varsity Tutors will continue through the 2026-2027 school year at no cost to the District or families.
- Evergreen has partnered with RFS Behavioral Health (T.A.C.K.L.E.) to provide social and emotional support services to Evergreen students in grades K-8. Beginning in mid-January, a therapeutic behavior specialist is available daily. Students are also able to receive counseling services from a dedicated licensed therapist on campus. These services are provided without any financial cost to the District. RFS is the most widely utilized clinical school-based program in Northwest Ohio, serving over 87 schools and 15 districts, and five counties.



PHYSICS PROJECT

This fall, Mr. Lutheran's high school physics class engineered a trebuchet, a type of catapult that was used during medieval times to hurtle large stones. Students were able to practice motion equations and transfer of energy concepts. According to Mr. Lutheran, students were also able to use practical applications including using power tools, measuring, and following concept drawings. Once constructed, students launched softballs and pumpkins to validate their engineering project.



TEXAS BOUND

After completing a vigorous application process, Taylor Johnson (gr. 11) and Jessica Campbell (gr. 12) have been selected to attend the National FFA Next Generation Conference in Ag Communications. Less than 100 FFA members are chosen from across the country to attend the early March conference in Dallas, Texas.



▲ Taylor Johnson



▲ Jessica Campbell

FIFTH GRADE IS ON THE MOVE

Evergreen's fifth grade will be moving to the EMS building when school opens in August 2024. This move will alleviate overcrowding in the elementary school while teaming up the fifth and sixth grades to allow for more age-appropriate programming and educational opportunities. For the past year-and-a-half, administrators and grade-level teams have been planning for a successful transition by focusing on building utilization, instructional planning, staffing, furniture needs, and team building. Following is an update regarding the upcoming move:

- Fifth grade classrooms will be predominantly in the upstairs west hallway. Eighth grade classrooms will be housed on the first floor.
- Fifth grade will operate on an 8-period day just as grades 6-8. Math and ELA will have double periods.
- Four electives will be offered to fifth grade students (music, art, physical education, and STEAM).
- While fifth grade students will not have recess, they will have access to downtime. The EMS tech center is in the process of being renovated into a student lounge outfitted with flexible seating, couches, a ping pong table, foosball table, board games, and a Wii exercise room. A new exterior door that opens into the courtyard has been installed which will allow students to enjoy some outdoor activities including a new gaga ball pit.
- To fully kickoff the 2024-2025 new fifth and sixth grade experience, an orientation event will be implemented in August as well as a ROW program specifically designed for the fifth and sixth grade.



PRESCHOOL TAKES FLIGHT

Mrs. Call's preschool class learned about transportation. Thank you Justin Kreischer for the tour of the 180th Fighter Wing!



FRESHMAN VOLLEYBALL CHAMPS



The freshman volleyball team ended their season with a first place finish at the NWOAL tournament! Their final record for the season was 9-8. Congratulations Sylvie Abec, Isla Beroske, Marlee Brubaker, Eloise Daugherty, Leah Elliott, Avery Emmitt, Adrian Krupinski, Leah McVey, Kennedy Peebles, Jaylin Prayter, Isabella Salazar, Braelyn Taylor, and Lauren Valentine. The team is coached by Mollie Youtzy.

MORE EMS ARTISTS



▲ Max Sheets, Linoleum Print



▲ Hayden Bryan, Linoleum Print



▲ Michael Saeger, Linoleum Print



▲ Izzy Bonaminio, Slab Structure



▲ Martin Patek, Digital Surrealism



▲ Emerie Schmidlin & Lucia Abec, Stella's Circles

100 WINS!

Congratulations senior wrestlers (L to R) Brodie Setmire, Grant Richardson, and Jack Stubleski on 100 career wins this season!



COLLEGE-BOUND ATHLETES

Macy Chamberlin, gr. 12, has officially signed a National Letter of Intent to participate in athletics at the collegiate level. Macy has committed to Penn State University where she will be a member of the Nittany Lions women's softball team. She is joined by her parents, Keri and Shane Chamberlin and her brother Maddux.



Tyson Woodring, gr. 12, has also signed a National Letter of Intent and has committed to playing soccer and studying at the University of Findlay. He is joined by his parents, Todd and Anna Woodring.



EHS FALL SPORTS WRAP-UP

VARSITY FOOTBALL

- Record: 4-6, 2-5 in NWOAL
- Riley Dunbar named 2nd Team NWOAL Wide Receiver & 2nd Team All-District
- Alex Mossing named NWOAL HM Special Teams & 2nd Team All-District Kicker
- Grant Richardson named 2nd Team NWOAL Offensive Tackle and Defensive End & 2nd Team All-District Defensive Line
- Colton Robertson named HM NWOAL Wide Receiver, 2nd Team NWOAL Defensive Back & HM All-District
- Max Mossing 2nd Team NWOAL Running Back and HM Special Teams
- Mason Emmitt named HM NWOAL Offensive Tackle
- Joe Okos named HM NWOAL Guard & HM Defensive Line
- Robert Pennington named HM NWOAL Guard & 2nd Team Defensive Line
- Austin Burghardt named HM NWOAL Center
- Jesse Spradlin HM NWOAL Wide Receiver & HM Defensive Back
- Will Ruetz named HM NWOAL Defensive Back
- Ryder Hudik named HM NWOAL Defensive Back
- Layne Vance named HM NWOAL Defensive End
- JJ Johnson named HM NWOAL Linebacker
- Trevor Johnson named HM NWOAL Linebacker

FALL SPORTSMANSHIP

Congratulations to seniors Brodie Setmire and Molly Jo Daugherty for being named the EHS Fall Sportsmanship winners!



GIRLS SOCCER

- Record: 15-2-2, 4-1-1 NWOAL
- 2023 Sectional Champs!
- Most wins in a season
- Most assists in a season - 53
- Most goals in a season - 67
- Raegan Radel named 1st Team NWOAL, 1st Team All-District & 2nd Team All State ▶
- Lydia Gleckler named 1st team NWOAL & 2nd Team All-District
- Brooklyn Camacho named 2nd Team NWOAL & HM All-District
- Kara Huntzinger named HM NWOAL & HM All-District
- Hannah Wilson & Kyla Risner each named HM NWOAL



VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

- Record: 11-11, 4-3 in NWOAL
- Lyla Nash named 1st Team NWOAL & 2nd Team District 7
- Molly Jo Daugherty named 2nd Team NWOAL
- Haley Johnson named HM NWOAL

BOYS GOLF

- Record: 2-9, 1-6 NWOAL
- 6th Place in NWOAL Tournament
- Brady Kanneman & Cory Kanneman each named HM NWOAL

GIRLS GOLF

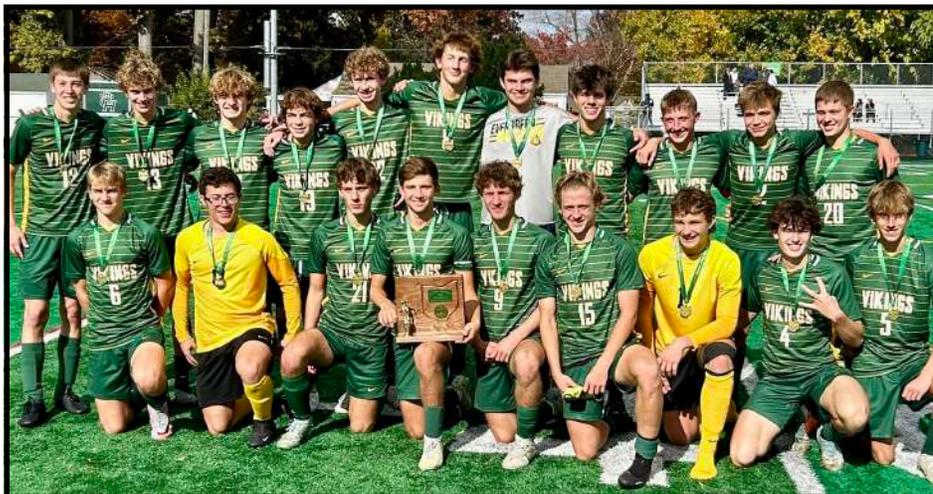
- Ashlynn Luttrell named HM NWOAL
- Katie Hoffman named HM NWOAL
- Sofia Rodriguez named HM NWOAL

CROSS COUNTRY

- Isaac Sheets advanced to the OHSAA Regional meet and named HM NWOAL
- Jayden Harmon named HM NWOAL
- Micah Vivian named HM NWOAL

HM=Honorable Mention

CONGRATULATIONS!



Boys Soccer Champions!

BOYS SOCCER

- Record: 18-2-1, 6-0-0 NWOAL
- District Champions!
- Sectional Champions!
- NWOAL Champions!
- Tyson Woodring named Offensive Player-of-the Year NWOAL, Player of the Year NWO-District Division III & 1st Team All-Ohio
- Nick Rosinski named 1st Team NWOAL & 1st Team All-District
- Riley Dunbar named 2nd Team NWOAL & 2nd Team All-District
- Alex Mossing named 2nd Team NWOAL & HM All-District
- Brady Kanneman named 2nd Team NWOAL
- Brodie Setmire named HM NWOAL

The EHS boys soccer team secured its first NWOAL title, with a perfect 6-0 record, and earned Evergreen's first boys conference title in any fall sport since football in 1984. This is the fifth year the boys soccer program has been recognized as an Evergreen sanctioned sport. Way to go Vikings!

Team members are (*top photo, L to R*): Standing: Alex Fritsch, John Herman, Gavin Raby, Jake Farley, Breyden Hoffman, Riley Dunbar, Elijah Hernandez, Lannegan Smallman, Brodie Setmire, Blake Fisher & Sean Rafferty

Kneeling: Evan Grasser, Hayden Smallman, Cory Kanneman, Tyson Woodring, Brady Kanneman, Nick Rosinski, Alex Mossing, Konner Sanford & Jayden Harmon

The Vikings are coached by Dave Skoczyn, David Skoczyn II, and Michela Krieger.

◀ *Tyson Woodring named NWOAL Offense Player of Year, D-III Player of the Year & 1st Team All-Ohio!*



EMS FALL SPORTS

EMS Volleyball

- 7th Gr. Record: 3-7, 2-5 NWOAL
- 8th Gr. Record: 6-5, 4-3 NWOAL

EMS Football

- 7th Gr. Record: 0-7, 0-6 NWOAL
- 8th Gr. Record: 1-7, 1-6 NWOAL

7/8th Grade Cross Country

- Runners consistently achieved personal records throughout the season.
- Emerie Schmidlin set a new school record for the 3200 meter at 12:46. She also placed second at the NWOAL League Championship.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **No School for Students**
February 16, Professional Day
- **No School - Presidents Day**
February 19
- **EHS Choir & Band Concert**
March 4 at 7:00 pm in EMS gym
- **Preschool Developmental Screening** March 5 at Delta Church of Christ
- **No School - Spring Break**
March 11-15
- **No School** March 29 & April 1
- **No School** April 8 - Solar Eclipse
- **Just Desserts**
April 13 at 7:00 pm in EMS gym
Tickets available soon
- **District Art Show** April 26
4:00-8:00 pm in EHS gym
Showcasing artwork from students in Kinderstart through grade 12
- **FFA Spring Banquet** April 20
- **EHS Band & Choir Concert**
May 8 at 7:00 pm in EMS gym
- **EMS Band & Choir Concert**
May 13 at 7:00 pm in EMS gym



EMS & THE AMAZING SHAKE

EMS students are participating in a new program this year, The Amazing Shake. The year-long program focuses on students developing professional skills for life, including manners, respect, multi-tasking, eye contact, holding a conversation, and how to conduct themselves in a professional environment. This program is inspired by the National Amazing Shake Competition hosted by the Ron Clark Academy in Atlanta, Georgia.

“For years, businesses have been telling schools that young employees lack the ‘soft’ skills necessary to survive in the workplace,” explained Mr. Lucas Burkholder, EMS principal. “This program teaches our students the importance of being able to communicate, the value of a good handshake and a smile, how to properly get their point across, and the ability to conduct themselves with confidence and poise in any given situation,” he added.

This spring, seventh grade students will demonstrate their Amazing Shake skills by working their way through “The Gauntlet” competition, a series of stations which will put their abilities to the test. The top 10 students will move on and attend Worthington Industries for a day where they will show off their skills and compete for the top spot.

“We look forward to crowning the EMS Amazing Shake Champion in April!” Mr. Burkholder said.



Jeffrey Burnep and Ms. Yoder practice the art of a solid handshake.



Students participate in a simulated restaurant setting to practice manners & conversation.



Tyler Manz & Braxton Hudik practice their persuasive skills in front of a panel of judges.



Evergreen Local School District
14544 County Road 6
Metamora, OH 43540

The Community Bulletin Board

- Evergreen Board of Education Meetings: February 20, March 18 & April 15 at 6:00 pm in the EHS media center. See agendas and summaries at www.evgvikings.org.
- Tickets are on sale for Dueling Pianos on February 17 at the Bunker Bar & Banquet Hall. This fundraiser replaces the Music Boosters Reverse Raffle. To purchase tickets, contact Amy Fox at 419-377-0882.
- Village of Metamora Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for March 23. Rain date is March 24.
- Free screenings are available for children 0-5 years to check growth and development for those living in Fulton County. Evergreen's Preschool Team will be at the March 25 screening at the Delta Church of Christ. Other dates are available. See the District website for more information.
- EHS Just Desserts is April 13 at 7:00 pm in the EMS gym. Chorale members will perform a variety of songs via solos, duets, and small groups. The Jazz Band will also perform. Intermission includes a dessert bar. Tickets will go on sale soon.
- Evergreen's District Art Show will showcase student artwork in kindergarten through grade 12. The free event takes place April 26 from 4:00-8:00 pm in the EHS gym and will include a scavenger hunt, lego table, face painting, and more.
- St. Mary's Catholic War Vets and Auxiliary is sponsoring a \$1,000 scholarship. All 2024 graduating seniors living in the Evergreen School District are eligible to apply, including private and home school students, or have a family member in the CWV. Essays must be turned in to the EHS counseling office by April 19, 2024. For an application, contact cpinkelman@evgvikings.org.