

East Elementary

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Parent Newsletter

VISION

Ballard empowers all learners.

MISSION

The Ballard Community School District will educate the whole child, providing the essential knowledge and skills necessary to be a successful and responsible citizen in the 21st Century.



Dear Ballard East Families:

East Elementary has had another great start to the school year. It has definitely been a different beginning of the year for all of us. FAST testing is completed and teachers are working with students to help close the gap due to not being in school for a longer period of time. Please tell your children to keep working hard and to keep reading. They are doing wonderful!

As I was meeting with our student council this week, I reminded the kids that school is important and our teachers and parents expect them to work hard at school, but we also need to make sure we are making school fun. We have decided to plan fun activities for our students.

We are planning dress-up days for the week of October 5th-9th (next week). They are as follows:

- Monday, October 5th - Hat day**
- Tuesday, October 6th - Class Colors**
- Wednesday, October 7th - Wacky Sock Wednesday**
- Thursday, October 8th - Favorite Team Day**
- Friday, October 9th - Ballard Spirit and Ballard Mask Day**

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We are still planning out Fall Parties and how that will look. Teachers will send out information out as soon as things are completed: Fall Parties will be 1:30pm on October 30th. This will be a student only event.

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Thank you for wonderful parent support at East Elementary. Our PTO is planning a different kind of fundraiser this year called **Raise Craze**. Please see the attached videos to find out more about this PTO fundraising event:

<https://vimeo.com/103130774>

<https://vimeo.com/228265712>

This fundraiser will help funding for our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), Playground needs, Field Trips and author visits, as well as other educational activities, being brought to our school. This will be a wonderful thing for our students now and in the future. Dates and more information will be shared from the PTO as we get closer to the event!

We want to continue the open lines of communication and welcome feedback from parents at any time. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher or myself during the year if you have questions or concerns about your child. Thank you for being an active part of your child's education. Together we will make a difference!

Mr. Michael Manock, Principal

Dates to Remember:

Dress up Week Oct. 5-Oct 9

No School Oct. 12
Teacher In-Service

Picture Retake Oct. 15

Parent-Teacher Conferences Nov. 2-Nov 6

PTO Fundraiser Oct 5-Oct 23



Clothes Pantry

For the past fourteen years the guidance department at Ballard East Elementary has maintained a “clothes pantry” that has provided students with emergency articles of clothing at school. The building also supports families by providing winter weather clothing to less fortunate students whose families cannot afford these winter weather items. We also collaborate with the Huxley Community Clothes Pantry to meet the needs of our buildings’ families as well as the needs of families throughout the Ballard communities. Both of these programs rely entirely on donations from the public. Listed below are items we are running low on or we are completely out of:

- youth sweatpants (sizes 4-18) **(this is an item we are desperately in short supply of)**
- winter boots (especially small sizes)
- gloves/mittens
- winter coats (especially girl’s medium to large sizes)
- snow pants
- gym shoes
- boys and girls under clothes/socks (new)
- youth sized t-shirts

We ask that your donations be clean and in good condition (no rips, tears or holes). It is all right if the items are used or slightly worn. Donations can be brought to room 144 at Ballard East Elementary or dropped off at 420 Park Street, Cambridge, if the school is not open. If you are cleaning out closets or looking to free up space in the basement, this is a super opportunity to help some less fortunate kids. These donated items will directly support children and families in the Ballard communities. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Michael Macki at Ballard East Elementary School. Thank you and we look forward to your donations.

office: (515)220-4306 ext. 4144

cell: (515)509-7911

Student Council Dress up Days - Next Week (Oct 5-9)

*No face paint or hair dye

Monday: Hat Day

Tuesday: Class Colors

3rd-White, 4th-Red, 5th-Blue

Wednesday: Crazy Socks Day

Thursday: Team Day

Friday: Spirit Day



Elementary PTO

Unique Fundraising That Gives
Back: RAISE CRAZE OCT. 5th – 23rd

FAR FROM YOUR TRADITIONAL FUNDRAISER

[HTTPS://RAISECRAZE.COM/](https://raisecraze.com/)

PTO will be sending out information soon !!!

Ballard East Student Council Gets Underway for the 2020-2021 School Year

The Ballard East Student Council consists of 15 to 20 fifth grade students that have demonstrated an interest in student government, completed a rigorous application process and were selected to serve as student council representatives for the entire school year. The organization takes on several service learning opportunities every year. These opportunities serve as a great platform for our young people to learn how to organize and run community events while helping those in our communities who are a little less fortunate. Student council also sponsors ways to celebrate all the wonderful things that are happening at Ballard East. The student council will organize a spirit week, promote the new PTO fundraiser, assist with building-wide events, collaborate with the United States Marine Corps in the Toys for Tots campaign and assist with clothes and food pantry operations. Ballard East Student Council is a full functioning student leadership organization that provides real student leadership at Ballard East Elementary School. This year's student council representatives are :

**Kallie Fulkerson
Afton Holmes
Nora Showman
Liam Caligiuri
Marley Gatchel
Amelia Moss
Emefa Van Loo
Rilynn Nehring
Kaia Thorson**

**Ella Wiechmann
Libby Cleveland
Allison Kuhn
Anna Philgreen
Sadie Ruby
Jada Conrad
Hannah Shank
Kade Devries**

If you have any questions about Ballard East's Student Council program please feel free to contact Melissa Lee, Taylor Tuerler or Michael Macki at Ballard East Elementary School.



Ballard East Counselor's Corner: Helping Students Cope with Traumatic Times

The beginning of this school year has presented a very wide range of challenges for our students as they resume school activities. Students have a new set of experiences that are having a negative impact on their mental health. These new experiences have created traumatic memories that, when triggered, can prevent young people from performing at school, getting along with friends, functioning as part of a family, and simply living a happy, normal life. Experiences related to health concerns, food insecurity, physical isolation, issues in the home, social justice concerns, and the derecho in early August have our students coping with far more stress than in years past. Here are six quick tips on helping your student cope with this stress as we begin the school year:

- Help your child feel safe
- Be calm when you are with your children
- Establish and maintain routines
- Help young people develop healthy, productive habits
- Make sure your children are getting the opportunity to have fun and enjoy life
- Take advantage of opportunities for honest, open and direct communication with your child
- LISTEN to what your children are saying and respond appropriately

This list is certainly not all inclusive when it comes to all the ways we can help our children cope with the impact of stress and trauma in their lives. We also must be mindful of our own stress and trauma load and practice appropriate self-help measures to maintain our own mental health. There are many resources available online and, in the community, to help us assist young people during this difficult time. If you or your child are struggling with stress or coping with trauma feel free to contact Michael Macki at Ballard East Elementary. Get outside and enjoy the fall weather. Stay healthy and safe my friends.