

January 2015

ELLICOTTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL

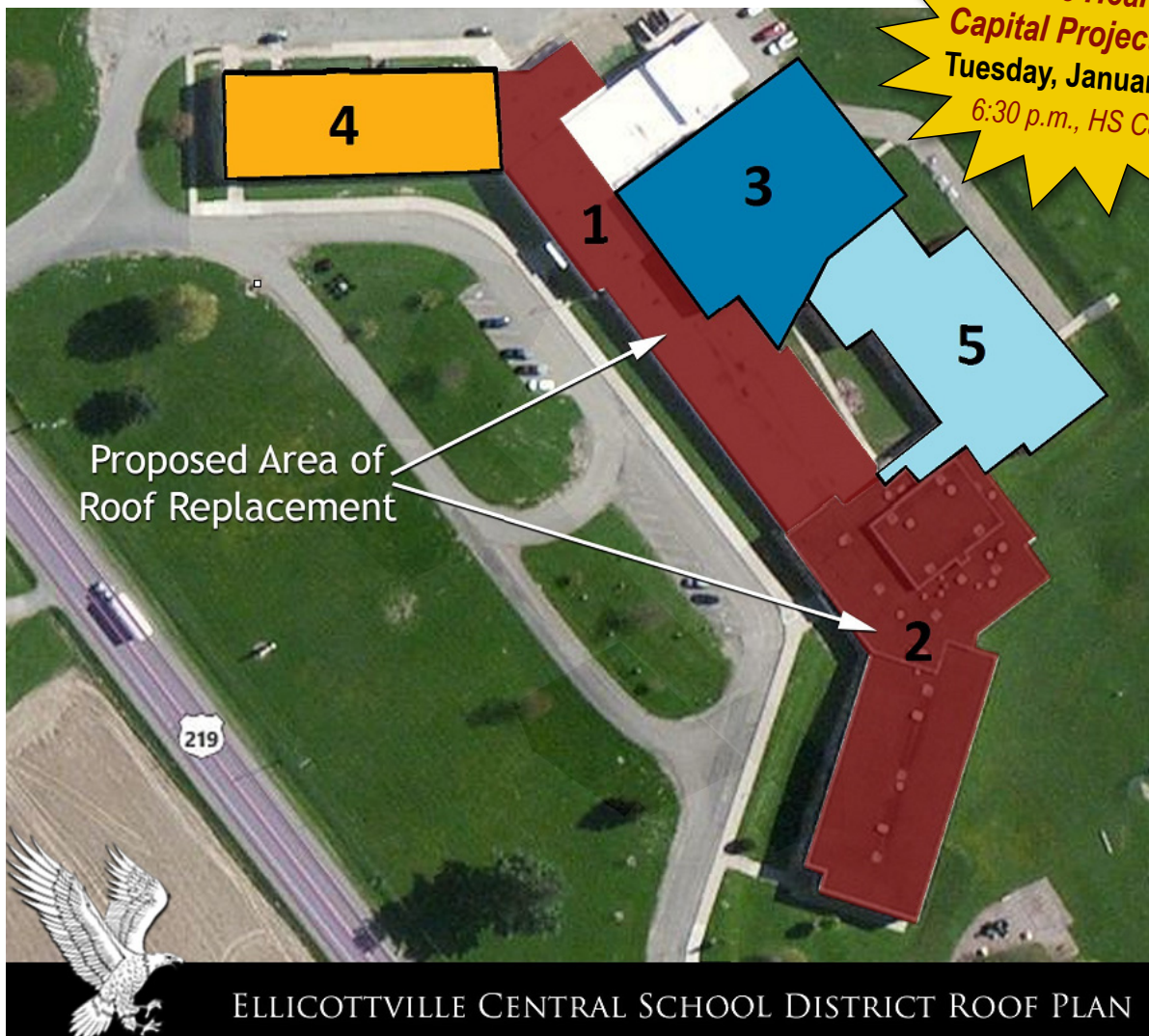
Volume 45, Issue 4



Capital Project Vote

Wednesday, January 21st 1 to 8 p.m.

Public Hearing
Capital Project Vote
Tuesday, January 13th
6:30 p.m., HS Cafe.



This aerial view of the school defines the area that the capital project will address.

- #1 Hallway stretching from the main parking lot to the district offices and 10 classrooms from the original 1960 building
- #2 Elementary wing built in 1988
- #3 Encompasses construction for the current capital project
- #4 Represents the high school renovations completed in 2005
- #5 Covers the 2003 middle school addition

Breaking Down Proposed Capital Project

Majority of Cost Allocated to Roof Repair

By Mark J. Ward, Superintendent

On Wednesday, January 21, voters will be asked to approve a \$925,000 capital project to repair and upgrade the majority of the surface area of the school roof. The picture on the front page of this newsletter outlines the roof sections that will be addressed. The blue section of the roof is the new gymnasium multi-purpose room, band room, chorus room, stage and fitness room that are currently under construction.

Like any homeowner, there are some things that require immediate attention and some things that can be put off. Sometimes they are classified as needs and wants. With respect to this project, we believe it falls directly into the category of “needs” and, quite frankly, we have probably put it off too long.

Time and weather conditions have taken us to the point where we must now address specific areas of the roof in an effort to preserve and protect our investment. The left section of the roof covers the area that will be upgraded and improved (as part of the current capital project) during the summer of 2015, so it is important that we make sure the roof does not leak. We plan to do a PVC restoration which will apply a fluid and a new membrane over the existing roof.

The section to the right side of the picture is the elementary wing that was opened in 1988. It has the original roof still in place so we have truly got our money’s worth. This is a “built up” roof and we plan to do a three-ply restoration; which will re-

saturate it and add new gravel.

The overall roof project will be addressing over 50,000 square feet of surface area and will include replacing any wet insulation, dress flashings and will carry a fifteen year warranty. It will be a good long term investment that will protect the building, intra-structure and improvements that will be completed during the summer of 2015.

The district is also exploring the K-Solar Program in an effort to generate energy savings. Roof repairs will be needed to qualify for the energy savings. Please see the article on page five (5) for further explanation.

Safety Issues Will be Addressed

The original capital project that was approved in March 2013 included a new south entrance that was designed to provide improved safety as well as being energy efficient. With project bids running higher than expected due to the dramatic building boom in the Buffalo area, we were forced to drop this from the current project. The Board of Education felt that this improvement was extremely important and have included the funds needed to complete this portion of the original project in the January 21 vote.

A drawing of the entrance is included below that will give you a better idea of what it would look like. The new glass and brick enclosure on the south side of the building (large parking lot) will allow students to gather and be able to see approaching vehicles. The area will extend out from the present building 17’ x 17’ and



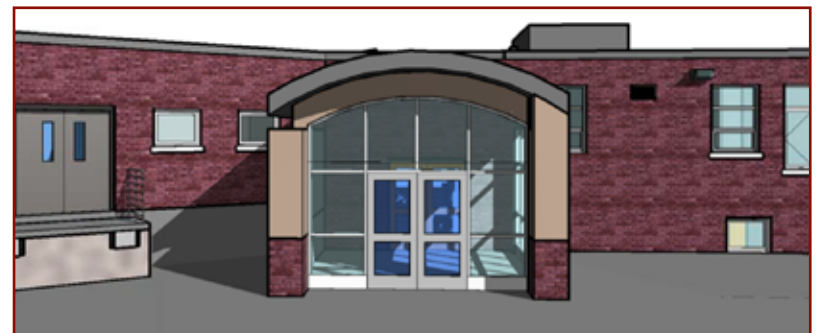
Existing Vestibule Entrance



New Vestibule - 3D View 1



Existing Library Window Feature



New Vestibule - 3D View 2





AVERAGE COST TO TAXPAYER

16 Year Maturity Schedule for \$925,000 Capital Project

Full Value	SENIOR / STAR \$65,300 Equalized Value Exemption		WITH STAR \$30,000 Equalized Value Exemption		NO STAR	
	Income Restrictions*		Primary Residence		Non-Primary Residence	
	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	ANNUAL	MONTHLY
\$70,000	\$ --	\$ --	\$2.00	\$0.17	\$3.00	\$0.25
\$80,000	\$1.00	\$0.08	\$2.00	\$0.17	\$3.00	\$0.25
\$90,000	\$1.00	\$0.08	\$2.00	\$0.17	\$4.00	\$0.33
\$100,000	\$1.00	\$0.08	\$3.00	\$0.25	\$4.00	\$0.33
\$110,000	\$2.00	\$0.17	\$3.00	\$0.25	\$4.00	\$0.33
\$120,000	\$2.00	\$0.17	\$4.00	\$0.33	\$5.00	\$0.42
\$130,000	\$3.00	\$0.25	\$4.00	\$0.33	\$5.00	\$0.42

Breaking Down Capital Project ... (continued)

will have two sets of double doors that will address both safety and energy. The rounded arch is designed to match the high school library window on the front of the building.

A new camera system for security will be included to improve our ability to monitor and control access to the building. While this is a side entrance to the school, in reality, it is the most often used entrance for students, staff, visitors and people attending athletic events, concerts and other events held at the school.

Sound System Upgrades Included

Again, the original project included a state-of-the-art sound system that would be required in the new performance facility that is currently under construction. With the bids running high, there were certain parts of the project that we had to include and others that we could scale back or eliminate. While the new areas do have sound capabilities, it is nowhere near that level that is needed in a facility of this size. We believe that it is necessary to restore the original plans for our sound system and the money to support this is included in this project.

Average Cost to Taxpayer ... Very Small

The \$925,000 capital project will carry with it a very modest increase in taxes based on estimates provided by Bernard P. Donegan, Inc. the District's financial advisors. Using a bonding rate of 4% (which is likely high) the local cost of the project will

be around \$23,000 the first year and will average around \$34,000/year for the sixteen year maturity schedule.

The District does plan to blend the borrowing for this project with the current capital project which could generate additional savings and lower our projections. The low interest rates that the Federal Reserve has maintained plus the success of the stock market are factors that should have a positive impact on the borrowing rates that we will be able to obtain. We hope this favorable economic climate will continue until the final borrowing is secured in 2016.

The table above will give you a better idea of the impact the project will have on the average taxpayer. **A taxpayer with a home assessed at \$100,000 with STAR will only see a \$3.00 increase, while someone with Senior STAR would see a yearly increase of \$1.00.**

The District is running these improvements through a capital project in order to receive state aid. For our District that means for every dollar we spend the State will cover 65.1 cents. Continuing to make repairs on the roof or buy equipment and make improvements without receiving this kind of aid would make no sense as we would receive no state aid. That is why the Board of Education determined that the best way to approach this would be to seek voter approval and bond the work over sixteen years while receiving State aid on the entire expenditure.

CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES TO TAKE SHAPE



Concrete pillars are pictured for the new stage.



Crews back fill foundations for new locker rooms.



December 30th - Crane arrives at ECS!!



Looking at new stage from courtyard... foreground will be new band room.



New rear exit to gym takes shape looking across from what will be the new fitness room.



Old band room on left (which will become a fitness room) looking toward new band room.

District Explores Benefits of 'Going Solar'

By Mark J. Ward,
Superintendent

One of the goals of Governor Cuomo's NY-Sun initiative is to help schools statewide to reduce energy costs by making solar power more affordable. Through a joint effort of NYSERDA, New York Power Authority, New York State Education Department and NY-Sun; districts are being encouraged to have the New York Power Authority (NYPA) perform a site assessment report to determine if our facilities are suitable for solar energy.

The District has recently received a site assessment and it was determined that our building was suitable for Photovoltaic (PV) solar panels. However, since the majority of the roof is 20 years old with no warranty, there is not sufficient roof life remaining to support a new PV system. Since the program will involve the installation of solar panels on the roof, we must have a roof that meets

their specifications. They have recommended that we re-do our roof in order to qualify for an energy project.

Based on the technical review, solar production can offset 53% of the school's annual energy usage. The cumulative electric bill savings over the solar PV system lifetime (20 years) is estimated to be over \$180,000. While these numbers are just preliminary estimates, they will be positively impacted by the fact they were based on the building prior to the removal and construction of the new gym and multi-purpose facility.

In order to be eligible for the energy savings, the District will have to make improvements to the present roof. The planned capital project that involves re-doing over 50,000 square feet of the roof will make us eligible for additional energy savings. While we do have to spend money, it is a good long term investment that will protect our facilities and generate energy savings.

MORE CONSTRUCTION PHOTOS



LEFT: Old Glory flies majestically over the construction site.



RIGHT: Forms being removed for new gym foundation.

BELOW: The covered area is the old corridor to gym and cafeteria. Wall to the left is the inside wall of the "old gym."





Kindergartners Show Generosity & Citizenship

Congratulations to our Kindergarten students! They demonstrated the character traits of generosity and citizenship by collecting \$106.50 worth of pennies for Project Christmas. Not only was this a great opportunity for our Little Eagles to help their community, it was also an excellent academic learning experience. The children were able to improve their math skills while counting pennies by ones and by tens. Mr. Wilson and Mrs. Woodarek are proud of all of you!

YEARBOOK NEWS

Do these pictures make the cut? Reserve a yearbook and you'll find out in June.

- You may purchase old yearbooks while supplies last. 2014's book is \$30. Books from previous years are \$10 each, while supplies last.
- Yearbooks are \$60 and you must reserve one by May 31st in order to guarantee you get one. Otherwise you'll only be able to get one if we have any left after all reserved ones have had a chance to be claimed. To reserve one you need to put at least \$10 down. See Mrs. Bauer for details.
- We will be selling Easter candy for the fundraiser. If you sell 30 items you'll get a free yearbook. Otherwise, for each item you sell you get \$1 off the cost of the book. Plus, selling candy automatically reserves a book for you.



Ugly Sweaters Galore!

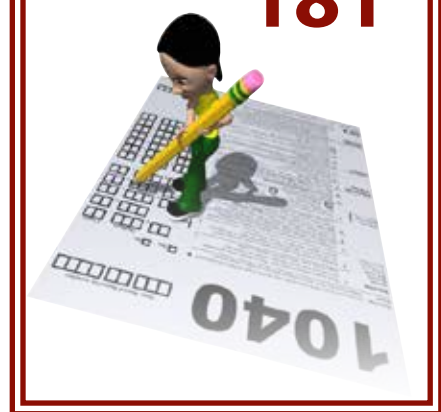


On Tuesday, December 16th, students and staff participated in an "Ugly Christmas Sweater/Shirt Day" with proceeds benefiting Project Christmas. The event raised \$462. Thank you to all who participated.



Ellicottville Central School Income Tax Code:


181



1st Quarter High Honor Roll

- Grade 7 - Samantha Van Wicklin
- Grade 9 - Mitchell Sexton
- Grade 12 – Molly Woodarek

(Sincere apologies to the above students whose names were omitted from the 1st Quarter High Honor Roll listing in the December District Newsletter.)



ECS Walking Program in Full Swing

Ellicottville Central School will host a Walk Program for community members December 1st thru April 23rd. The building will be open Monday – Thursday from 6-9 pm (when school is in session). Community members are asked to check-in each time they walk at the High School back parking lot entrance.



Sharing the Holiday *SPIRIT*

ECS hosted its annual Senior Citizen Dinner on December 4th. It was wonderful to see so many of our community members come out to celebrate the holidays with us!



Guidance Office Reminders for Parents and Students

SAT TEST DATE

March 14th
May 2nd
June 6th

SAT REGISTRATION DEADLINE

February 13th
April 6th
May 8th

ACT TEST DATE

April 18th
June 13th

ACT REGISTRATION DEADLINE

March 13th
May 8th

Registration materials are available in the Guidance Office or you can register on-line for the SAT at www.collegeboard.com and for the ACT at www.actstudent.org. The registration fees are \$52.50 for the SAT and \$38 for the ACT. It is recommended to take both, as they test different material.

Juniors should plan to take these tests in the spring of their Junior year.

FINANCIAL AID NIGHT AT ECS

January 14th @ 7:00 pm High School Library

The Director of Financial Aid, Troy Martin, Director of Financial Aid, from St. Bonaventure University, will be at ECS to present on the Financial Aid Process as well as to answer questions of interested parents of juniors and seniors.

FAFSA FORMS!

Parents of Seniors, this is the form you need to complete to apply for financial aid for college. You can complete it on-line @ www.fafsa.ed.gov.

The paper FAFSA is no longer available at the Guidance Office. If you would like to file a paper FAFSA you may call the Information Center at 1-800-4-FED-AID and request an application be mailed to you. Please keep in mind: Filing on-line can be faster than paper registration, Online help is available for each question, and FAFSA on the web has an automatic edit check that finds errors on your application and prompts you to fix them. Filing on-line is free and secure, but be sure you file at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Some websites with similar names charge a fee to submit your application, please avoid these!

ECS REGENTS EXAMS: JANUARY 2015

JANUARY 26 MONDAY	JANUARY 27 TUESDAY	JANUARY 28 WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 29 THURSDAY
8:15 a.m.	8:15 a.m.	8:15 a.m.	8:15 a.m.
Living Environment RE in English Language Arts (Common Core) RCT in Global Studies*	RE in Global History & Geography RCT in Writing	RE in U.S. History & Government Geometry RCT in Science*	Algebra 2/Trigonometry RCT in U.S. History & Government*
12:15 p.m.	12:15 p.m.	12:15 p.m.	
Comprehensive English RE in Algebra I (Common Core)	Integrated Algebra RCT in Mathematics*	Earth Science Chemistry RCT in Reading	

Uniform Admission Deadlines Morning = 10:00 a.m. Afternoon = 2:00 p.m.



Above is ECS student Andrew Quinn.

Career Tech Corner

The juniors in the Criminal Justice class at the Ellicottville Career and Technical Education Center go through six weeks of training to learn about Blood Alcohol Content (BAC), absorption, probable cause and officer safety among other aspects of patrol. The students train with fully equipped duty belts that include handcuffs, flashlights and a training sidearm. The patrol unit culminates with a simulated DWI Field Sobriety Check and Felony stop utilizing a local patrol car.



ECS students taking part in training were (above, right) Austin Bishop and (below right) Jasmine Valentine.



February 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 - Class of 2016 Camation Sale - Winter Weekend Activities	3 - Homework Club	4 - Homework Club	5 - Ski Club	6 - 2:00 pm Winter Weekend Pep Assembly	7 - 8:00 pm Winter Weekend Dance
8	9	10 - 9 am to 2 pm NHS Blood Drive - 7:30 pm Board of Education Meeting (HS Library) - Homework Club	11 - Homework Club	12 - Ski Club	13 - 6:00 pm Class of 2019 MS Valentine's Day Dance	14
15	16 - School Closed - President's Day - 7:00 pm Sports Boosters Meeting	17 - Winter Recess	18 - Winter Recess	19 - Winter Recess	20 - Winter Recess	21
22	23 - Class of 2016 Yankee Candle Sale	24 - 7:30 pm Board of Education Meeting (HS Library) - Homework Club	25 - Homework Club	26 - Eagle Time - 2nd Grade "Perseverance" - Ski Club	27 - All County 1 @ Hinsdale	28 - All County 1 @ Hinsdale

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 - ESPRA Book Sale	3 - 7:00 pm MS/HS Pops Concert (at Salamanca HS) - Homework Club	4 - Homework Club	5 - Ski Club	6 - All County 2 @ Allegany-Limestone	7 - All County 2 @ Allegany-Limestone
8	9 - 5:30 pm Winter Sports Banquet	10 - 7:30 pm Board of Education Meeting (HS Library) - Budget Work Session	11 - 12:00 pm 1/2 Day for grades K-5 Parent/Teacher Conference - Homework Club	12 - Ski Club	13	14 - Odyssey of the Mind Competition
15 - 6:00 pm ECS NHS Induction	16 - Class of 2017 Seed Sale - 7:00 pm Sports Boosters Meeting HS Cafeteria	17 - Homework Club	18 - 3:00 pm Spring Sports Pictures - Homework Club	19 - Ski Club	20	21
22	23	24 - 7:30 pm Board of Education Meeting (HS Library) - Homework Club	25 - Homework Club	26	27	28
29	30 - Spring Recess	31 - Spring Recess				



2nd Graders Learn About Chinese Culture

By Tammy Peters, 2nd Grade Teacher

As part of the new Common Core, a unit about Ancient Chinese Civilizations is included in the Listening/Learning Domains for Grade 2. Students in my class learned about the landscape of China, common crops that are grown there, various religions, well-known Chinese landmarks and famous leaders. During an observation with Mrs. Poulin, we discussed the Chinese New Year and compared/contrasted it to our own New Year celebrations.

During a conversation with our speech teacher, Mrs. Alessi, I found out that she had just recently traveled to China, and was also going to be hosting a student from China who is currently studying at Penn State University. We made arrangements for Mrs. Alessi and this young lady to come in on two different occasions so that we could hear more about their experiences with what we had just learned about. We were able to see some of the many pictures that she had taken while traveling, the currency that is used in China, as well as decorations that are displayed during festivals and celebrations there. We even got the opportunity to try a bite of “moon cakes,” a pommelo, and an Asian pear.

When we had a chance to meet the exchange student, we learned even more about the lifestyles of the Chinese culture. Cornelia is the English name that she has chosen for herself. It comes from the name of a character in a book she had read. In her country, her first name is: Zixuan



and her last name is: Zhao. In China they put their last name first, so she is always listed as Zhao Zixuan. She is studying economics at Penn State and will be there for 3 years. Her home is in Beijing, China.

We would like to extend many thanks to both Mrs. Alessi and Zhao Zixuan for the new schema that they brought to our learning. I am positive that my students will remember this experience for a very long time!



Ellicottville Central School
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www.eville.wnyric.org

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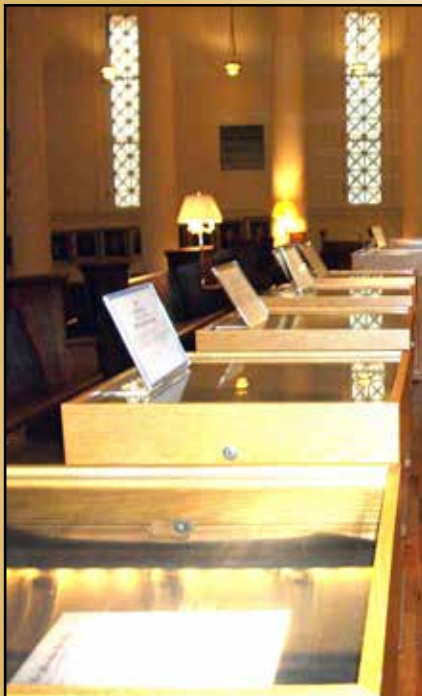
ECRWSS

POSTAL PATRON

Or CURRENT RESIDENT



E - Embracing Change
C - Celebrating Success
S - Surpassing Expectations



Literary Club Tours Manuscript Museum

On Friday, December 12, a group of high school students took a tour of some literary highlights in Buffalo. On the agenda was the Karpeles Manuscript Museum on the corner of North and Elmwood. The current display featured old baseball artifacts. Students had the opportunity to see Babe Ruth's original contracts from the Boston Red Sox, as well as the New York Yankees. They also saw the first baseball card ever manufactured. A good time was had by all.