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ESKO, MN 55733

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Esko Community Education
Box 10, Esko, MN 55733

Esko's Corner

Connecting School and Community

Esko Public School District #99

Volume 17 Issue 2

October 2012

Big Band Dance

October 30

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Esko Cafeteria



\$5/person, \$20 max per family

Music by Esko's Jazz Band

Fun for the whole family!

*Come in costume - prizes
will be awarded!*

School Board Proposes 2 Referendum Questions

The Esko School Board brings two questions for the vote on November 6.

- Operating Levy
- Facilities Referendum

Please refer to pages 12 and 13

DON'T
FORGET TO
VOTE ON
November 6th



FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL

Sunday, October 28

3:00 - 5:00 pm

Esko Varsity Gym



FOR PRESCHOOL THROUGH GRADE 6

***YOU ARE WELCOME TO COME IN COSTUME!**

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Carnival Games | Crafts |
| Preschool Pumpkin Patch | Games |
| Giant Slide | Prizes |

Games Passes:

\$5.00

FOOD!

7-12th grade and parent volunteers are need to help with:
Games, Set-up, Decorating, Clean-up

We are also looking for **CAKE DONATIONS** for the Cakewalk
Contact Community Education at 879-4038

Events & Notices

◆ Bookmobile

Mondays, October 1, 22; November 12; December 3
Think-N-Play - 9:30 - 10:30 am
Tuesdays, October 16; November 6, 27; December 18
Esko School - 5:45 - 6:30 pm

◆ Census

Please help us keep our school census accurate. If you are new in the area or have recently had a child - please contact 879-4038 to have your children be put on our age 0-4 census. Thank you!

School Board Candidate Forum:

**Monday, October 22
7:00 pm
Esko Cafeteria**

Come meet your Esko School Board Candidates. There will be a time to ask question and hear from each candidate why they want to serve on the School Board.

Support Northern Harvest Food Bank

KIDS! Bring in your un-opened HALLOWEEN candy to North Country Dental Clinic in Cloquet!

For every POUND you turn in, our office will donate \$ 1.00/pound and then MATCH the total amount and give it all to the local chapter of the Northern Harvest Food Bank.

Candy donations will be collected on Thursday, November 1st from 8am-8pm at 716 14th street Cloquet (near Washington Elementary school).

We will have a TREAT for you!

Last year we collected over 200 POUNDS of candy! The candy was then brought to the Cloquet Armory where it was given to our troops who were deployed in harm's way. The chocolate went to the food shelf.

Over 540 meals were purchased by the food shelf for needy families in our area!

Come see what your neighbors are talking about.

Join Nextdoor Esko, the private website for your neighborhood.



To join, visit:
<https://esko.nextdoor.com/join>

Get to know your neighbors and what's going on in your community! Questions? Contact Christina in Community Education at 879-4038 or cwalther@esko.k12.mn.us.

Share this with a friend and join us online at esko.nextdoor.com/join

Publication Title - Esko's Corner; Statement of Frequency - Monthly (10 months)
Authorized Organization: Esko Community Education,
P.O. Box 10, 2 East Highway 61, Esko, MN 55733
Issue Number - One Front Cover
Articles and submissions may be sent to the Esko Community Ed. office or e-mailed to cwalther@esko.k12.mn.us. The deadline is the 8th of every month for the next month's issue. Articles may be edited for space and content. If you have questions, please call the Esko Community Education office at 879-4038. Visit the School Website: www.esko.k12.mn.us

ESKOMOS

100% Custom Apparel
Be Original. Create Your Own Gear.
NEW Online Shop!

\$10 off purchase

To Redeem:

1. Visit www.Shop.Mylocker.Net
 2. Enter locker number: du053
 3. Use promo code at checkout: MLLNK12
 4. Orders are shipped directly to your home
- Offer Expires: October 7, 2012**



MYLOCKER.NET
YOU DESIGN IT. WE MAKE IT. YOU WEAR IT.™

Exercise is good...for your pocketbook.

No doubt you have all heard of the numerous health benefits gained by participating in a regular exercise program. Did you know that exercise can actually save you money as well?

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, inactive adults have significantly higher direct medical costs than active adults, and the costs associated with physical inactivity increase with age. Statistics bear out that a person can save up to five dollars in healthcare costs for every dollar spent on wellness. If only our investment portfolios enjoyed those kinds of returns.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota completed a landmark study that found that people who went to a fitness center at least eight times a month had significantly lower healthcare costs than those who did not. These frequent fitness center users had:

- ✓ 39 % fewer visits to the Emergency Room
- ✓ 41% fewer hospital admissions
- ✓ 18% lower overall claims costs.

Statistics show that improving your health through exercise translates into real savings for you and your family.

Insurance companies are also starting to embrace the reality that exercise saves money. Most of the providers in the area, such as Blue Cross Blue Shield, Medica, HealthPartners and UCare, are working with fitness centers paying up to \$20 per person for a fitness center membership. This reimbursement will cover most of the \$24.58 it costs to purchase a single monthly membership at the Esko Fitness Center. The Esko Fitness Center also participates in the Silver Sneakers program that provides those 65 years of age and older with a free membership.

In these economically challenging times, we all are trying to find creative ways to stretch our dollars and trim our expenses. Statistics show that real savings can be realized by starting an exercise program and now with insurance companies paying for you to participate, it really makes financial sense, more than ever, to begin a program - today!

Redeem this coupon any time in October at the Esko Fitness Center and receive the rest of the month of October for free!

October Free!



Receive the rest of October free when you redeem this coupon.
879-7223

Offer valid for new members only.

Featuring...

A warm welcome to our new Esko Staff!

Josh Rye - School Psychologist. Josh comes to us from southern Minnesota, he is completing his PhD in Psychology this fall and has just moved to the area with his wife and twin boys.

Derek Anderson - Grade 3. Derek grew up in Cook, MN, attended CSS and graduated in May. This is Derek's first teaching position. Welcome to the world of education!

Samantha Battaglia - Grade 1.

Dawn Hallsten - Grade 3. Dawn grew up in Wisconsin, went to UWS and lives in Esko. She and her husband have two daughters, she taught 2nd grade for four years before coming here.

Front row:

Phyllis Sherman - Health Occupations. Phyllis is originally from Duluth. She spent 30 years in the Twin Cities and has now come back to the Northland. She has taught 6th grade in the past, and most recently has been teaching a nursing assistants program for the Red Cross. She has been an RN for 25 years.

Emily Michell - Family and Consumer Science (FACS). Emily has a teaching degree in Phy. Ed. She comes to us as a long term sub for this position. She has personal experience in the areas she is going to teach, although she is not licensed in this area. She is completing her Master's Degree in Educational Administration this fall.

Michelle Voigts - AM Kindergarten. Michelle is a native of Iowa, she has a major in Elem. Education and has been a long term sub for Kindergarten.



Esko Spanish Club Journeys to Costa Rica

On August 6, 2012, the Esko Community Spanish Club went to Costa Rica for nine days. We started in San José, then we went to La Fortuna where we saw an active volcano, kayaked, and hiked to the bottom of a waterfall where we swam in a pool of water at the bottom. Later that night, we went to a hot springs resort where the pools heated naturally by the volcano ranged from 90-114 degrees.

We visited a school where the children danced for us and the parents made arepas and pineapple jam. We brought/shared our culture with them and they with us. Then, we traveled to Monteverde where we planted trees in the rainforest, hiked in a cloud forest, and went on

zip lines across canyons 2.5 miles long all before lunch one day. We saw monkeys, crocodiles, various spiders, macaws, and many other animals. We used our Spanish, met kids from all across the U.S., learned about the culture, went up and down mountains on narrow little roads, swam in the ocean, and just had the best time!

On September 20th at 6:00 pm at Perkins in Cloquet, anyone interested in either traveling to Perú or Argentina are met to pick a trip and discuss details. We're going to try to travel again in July of 2013. You don't have to be a Spanish student to go although it is an educational tour. It's a community group so all are welcome.



Pictured left to right back row: Don Hanson, Tommy Diedrich, Cheryl Diedrich, Hunter Barto, Andy Wright, Al Wright, and Bobby Wright. In the front row are the Costa Rican children who danced for us.

Lion's Club Thank You

Thank you to all who attended and contributed to Esko Fun Day 2012! Big thank you to Pete Radosevich for sponsoring the Esko Marching Band!

Parade Winners

- 1st Esko Athletics
- 2nd Esko Band
- 3rd TOPS

Duck Down Finals

- 1st Betty Kinninan
- 2nd Don Johnson
- 3rd Shaun Marline (thank you for donating your winnings to Knowledge Bowl!)



THE MORE THEY BURN THE BETTER THEY LEARN



YOUR CHILD AMOUNT OF ACTIVITY VARIOUS ACTIVITIES ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Did you know that kids who are physically active get better grades?

Research shows that students who earn mostly **A**s are almost twice as likely to get regular physical activity than students who receive mostly **D**s and **F**s.

Physical activity can help students focus, improve behavior and boost positive attitudes. Do what you can to help your child be physically active, be it running, biking or swimming. Any type of physical activity is good, and 60 minutes a day is best. Their grades will thank you!



CDC. Physical Inactivity and Unhealthy Dietary Behaviors and Academic Achievement.

CDC. The association between school based physical activity, including physical education, and academic performance. Atlanta, GA, U.S. 2006. www.cdc.gov

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT MakingHealthEasier.org/BurnToLearn

Community Churches

Coming Soon to St. Matthew's!

October 4th at 5:30 p.m. -

Experience Recovery

What is Experience Recovery?

A group of adults that will meet every Thursday to get help with addictions through worship, small group Bible study, prayer, pot-luck dinners and friendly conversation with others. *Experience Recovery* is a safe place where addictions are broken and lives are changed by the power of Jesus Christ. Addiction is the state of being enslaved to a habit or practice or to something that is psychologically or physically habit-forming, to such an extent that its cessation causes severe trauma. Examples may include: shopping, drinking, drugs, work, computers (internet), gambling, codependency (need to be needed), coffee, sex, video games, and the list continues...

Where is Experience Recovery?

Experience Recovery will take place in the Family Life Center.

When Will Experience Recovery Start?

Experience Recovery will meet every Thursday at 5:30pm. The evening begins with pot-luck meal and then continues with a time for worship and small groups. The gathering concludes by 7:30 pm.

What about small children?

Please feel free to bring them along. We do have child care available during the meeting.

Esko Apostolic Lutheran Church

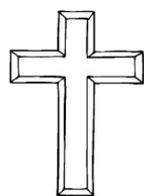
Fall Worship Schedule

Sundays

8:00 am	Worship Service – All Ages
9:00 am	Coffee & Fellowship
(3rd Sunday - Holy Communion)	
9:30 am	Worship Service – All Ages
10:45 am	Sunday School

Wednesday, October 3rd – Family Night Begins!

9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study
5:45 pm	Dinner
6:30 pm	Activities for all ages...



Kids for Jesus (Pre-School-2nd Grade)
Investigation Creation (3rd-5th Grade)
Jr. Youth (6th-8th Grade)
Sr. Youth (9th-12th Grade)
Adult Bible Study begins!

† Check out our Church website at www.eskoapostolic.org.

Please Come and Join Us.

Pastor Bruce Bergstedt
Pastor Nathan Juntunen

Community Hymn Fest

St. Matthews Lutheran Church
Esko, MN

October 7, 2012 - 4:00 pm
with

Dr. Jeffrey E. Burkart Organist/Pianist
&

The Esko Community Choir



Dr. Jeffrey E. Burkart
Festival Organist/Pianist/Choir Director
Professor of Educational Media/Communications, Emeritus
Artist in Residence, Director of Drama Ministry & Coordinator of Special Projects
Concordia University, St. Paul, MN

Dr. Burkart is this year's recipient of the Lutheran Education Association's *Christus Magister* (Teacher of Christ) Award. Since 1965 this most prestigious award has been given to Lutheran educators who have made significant contributions to Lutheran Education.

Burkart's children's book, *The Hidden Prince*, is one of four finalists in the 2012 Midwest Book Awards Children's Fiction category. Having served 32 years at Concordia University, St. Paul, MN, Dr. Burkart retired from full-time teaching and administrative work at Concordia University on July 1, 2009. He continues working half-time at CSP as Professor of Educational Communications/Media Emeritus, Artist in Residence, Director of Drama Ministry and special projects coordinator.



Sunday October 7th
Community Choir Practice

2:30 p.m.

Hymn Festival

4:00 p.m.



Join St. Matthews LELP for a Girls Night Out

St. Matthews Little Eskomos Lutheran Preschool invites you to join us for a night out with the girls. Come shop products from the Pampered Chef and Tastefully Simple. There will be an open house on Monday, October 22nd from 6:30-8:00 pm at St. Matthews Church in the Family Life Center.

On this night, you will get a chance to see products first hand, test them out, and sample a variety of snacks. Please spread the word about this event to all your friends and family. This will be a fun night to get out and socialize with the girls, have some yummy treats, do some shopping and maybe even a chance to get started on your Christmas shopping!

Contact either Jen PraChar (218-391-0503) or Andrea King (218-391-4214) for details.

TRUNK OR TREAT

ST. MATTHEWS LUTHERAN CHURCH
4 ELIZABETH AVENUE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31ST
5:00 – 6:00 PM

A safe and fun alternative for families with children! The parking lot will be lined with trunks ready to treat the kids. Fun, non-violent costumes are encouraged.



TRUNK LINE UP & DECORATING @ 4:30PM
This is a great opportunity for those who don't get many kids at home!
B&B WAGON will be there!
Proceeds benefit the Youth attending the 2013 National Youth Gathering.

Area Activities

Suicide Awareness Memorial Walk

DATE: Saturday, October 13, 2012

TIME: 9:30-11:15AM (Registration begins at 9:30AM at Bethesda, walk at 10AM)

START/FINISH: Bethesda Lutheran Church, Carlton, MN

WALK: Approx. 30 minutes (beginning and ending at Bethesda)

SPEAKER: Dr. Claudia Weber, Psychologist with UMD's Medical School

Come join us for our 4th Annual Carlton County Suicide Awareness Memorial Walk in memory of loved ones lost to suicide and for the awareness and education towards prevention. (This is not a fund-raiser)

Questions? Contact Meghann Condit at 218-879-4511

This event is funded, in part, under SAMHSA grant number 1U79SM060397-01.

Annual Carlton County Senior Health Fair
for 50+ Age Adults
October 6



Health Fair
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Lunch
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

St. Matthews Lutheran Church
4 Elizabeth Avenue
Esko, MN 55733

879-3510

FREE SCREENINGS:

Medication Review • Female Heel Bone Density
Assistive Devices • Balance Assessment • Blood Pressure
Memory Screening

Glucose & Cholesterol combined profile (fasting preferred) \$15

Flu Shots

Workshop by Sheriff Kelly Lake on Senior Scams, Identity Theft & Safety 10:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Helpful Exhibitors • FREE Lunch • Drawings

Sponsored by:

St. Matthews Lutheran Church

The Senior REPORTER

CMH Community Memorial Hospital
SHCC Sunnyside Health Care Center



Operation Community Connect

Tuesday, October 23
1:00pm - 4:00pm
Cloquet Armory

"Helping those living on less"

- ❖ Employment assistance
 - ❖ Information for all ages
 - ❖ Public Health information
 - ❖ Children's resources
 - ❖ Applications for services offered in Carlton County
 - ❖ Housing information & Applications
 - ❖ Domestic abuse advocacy
 - ❖ Nutrition/Food services
 - ❖ Legal Aid services
 - ❖ Veteran's services
 - ❖ Clothing/Supplies
 - ❖ <http://www.freephonemn.org>
 - ❖ And Much More!
- ☺ FREE meal served
 - ☺ FREE childcare during event
 - ☺ Gift cards to those in need
 - ☺ FREE transportation by Dial-a-Ride (within Cloquet/Carlton/FDL city limits) 879-9742
 - ☺ Transportation for rural areas available upon request

For more information or to arrange transportation to the event contact:
Donna LeKander, Carlton County Collaborative 218-878-2558

HEEBIE JEEBIES
FAMILY COMEDY MUSIC SHOW

FREE ADMISSION

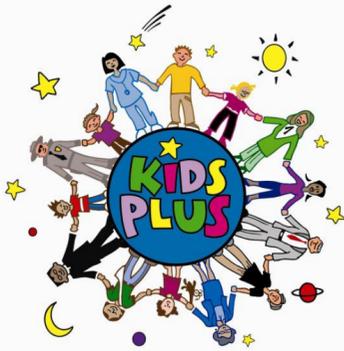
WITH GLEN EVERHART

GET READY TO LISTEN, LAUGH, SING, SHOUT, AND DANCE WITH CHILDREN'S MUSICIAN GLEN EVERHART. GLEN'S HILARIOUS SONGS AND MARVELOUS MUSICIANSHIP WILL WARM YOUR HEART AND MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE PART OF THE SHOW.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4
10:00 AM
CLOQUET PUBLIC LIBRARY

This project was funded in part or in whole with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Our Youth



Esko Community Education

Invites kids and parents to our

KIDS PLUS Kick-off Event!

For all students in grades 6-9

A light supper will be provided! Come and learn about our partnership with *Positive Energy Outdoors* and the exciting leadership opportunities available to students. Throughout the year, Kids Plus students will help plan class activities, lunch menus, community service events, and have the opportunity to participate in a variety of teambuilding and leadership trainings and activities.

Thursday, November 8
Esko Cafeteria - 6:00 - 7:30 pm



Junior Rotarians



Camp RYLA Esko seniors, Erika Olson and Korbyn Danielson receive recognition at Clouet Rotary luncheon on September 11.



Our Youth

ESKO HOCKEY FAMILY MEET AND GREET 2012

THURSDAY OCTOBER 11, 2012
5:30

The Esko Town Hall

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SUPPER,
MEETING OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS
AND MEETING OUR NEW PLAYERS!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU
ALL THERE!



Esko students march with pride to the Homecoming football game carrying their class banners.

Esko Educational Foundation's

Spaghetti Dinner

Tues., November 13

4:00-7:00 pm

Esko Cafeteria

Adults- \$6.00
Children under 10- \$3.00



Enjoy your dinner to the smooth sounds of
Esko High School's Jazz Band and Choir, while
helping to fund scholarships for deserving Esko Seniors!

DESTINATION IMAGINATION

Do you like to:

- *Write plays or songs?
- *Build and/or paint stage backgrounds?
- *Solve problems using your creativity and imagination?
- *Create and sew costumes?
- *Act in plays or skits?
- *Perform in front of audiences?
- *Work behind the scenes to direct a play?
- *Build mechanical "things"?

If you answered "yes" to any or all of these questions,
Destination Imagination may be for you!!

Destination Imagination is a creative problem-solving program that allows students in grades K-12 to work in teams of up to seven students developing a "solution" to a Challenge presented by the Destination Imagination organizers. Teams meet one time a week (more as the competition date approaches!) under the supervision of an adult "manager". The manager serves as a facilitator! The solution—from beginning to end—is up to the students on each team.

For answers to any questions, please contact Mrs. Bergstedt in
Room S230 or at 879-4673, Extension 230.



2012 Homecoming Court: Hannah Ward, Matt Tonner, Erika Olson, Kallyn Knutson, Erik Severson, Joey Johnson, Korrina Borash, Hillary Anderson, Riley Mudek, Wyatt Begay, Korbyn Danielson, Ben Hanson.
CONGRATULATIONS!

"Learn About 4-H" Night

Have you ever wondered what 4-H is? 4-H is learning new skills, developing leadership, increasing community involvement and having fun! If you would like to know more about 4-H, the Carlton County 4-H staff and youth are hosting "Learn About 4-H" night on Monday, October 15, 2012, from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at the Carlton County Transportation Building (1630 County Road 61). Several 4-H youth will be available to handout 4-H information, explain 4-H projects, and talk about their 4-H experiences.

Carlton County 4-H, a program of the University of Minnesota Extension, is open to all youth from Kindergarten to one year past grade 12. 4-H clubs and events are led by adult and youth volunteers. There are over 50 projects to sign up for in 4-H from learning about raising animals to shooting sports to youth leadership! Stop by to learn more about the opportunities 4-H has to offer!

For more information, please call the University of Minnesota Extension, Carlton County at 218-384-3511 or 1-800-862-3760, ext. 223.

Become a DESTINATION IMAGINATION Manager!

What does a DI manager do?

- ❖ Leads a team of up to seven students while they solve a creative problem.
- ❖ Meets once per week (more as competition approaches).
- ❖ Who does the work? The students do. You are the facilitator who knows the problem they are solving and helps them obtain the resources needed to accomplish the task.
- ❖ Sets up *Instant Challenges* for practice. These challenges teach students to take what life is handing them moment to moment.

For more information, please contact
Joyce Bergstedt at 879-4673, Extension 230.

Esko Students Get Together To Serve Their Community...GO ESKOMOS!



Esko Students are offering FREE carwashes on Saturdays through October (weather permitting) to show their ESKO PRIDE!



Esko Softball Team Thanks Dale Mattinen!

Thank you Mr. Mattinen for your donation of the pumpkins. We displayed them on a trailer during the Homecoming game "Pick a Pumpkin, Pick a Price". We're very grateful

for all the donations received for they will go towards equipment lost in the flood. Thanks also goes out to Darrell Johnson for the use of his trailer!

-Esko Softball Team

Wednesday, October 17, at 8:30 a.m.
(Make-up day will be October 26.)

ESKO HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2013 COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP

It's time again for the Esko High School Class of 2013 to do their annual volunteer service project. They will be performing community projects such as raking leaves, picking up garbage, or any other fall cleaning services. If you are interested in having this done at your home, please fill out the information below, cut out this ad, and send it to or drop it off at the high school office by October 12. If you have any questions related to the senior community project, please call.

Esko High School
2 East Highway 61, P.O. Box 10
Attn: Mrs. D. Ellefson
Esko, MN 55733
or call 218-879-4673 ext. #144

If you'd like to be put on the list, please fill out the following information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone#: _____

Work Needed: _____

Esko Adult Community Education Classes

55 Alive - first time class

Dates: 10/08/2012 5:00PM - 9:00PM - Esko Schools - S144
10/09/2012 5:00PM - 9:00PM - Esko Schools - S144

Cost: \$12 - AARP members/ \$14 non-members payable to instructor

Description: This is an eight hour course for those who have not taken the class before. You must pre-register and bring your membership card with you to class.

Driver's Ed.

Dates: 10/22/2012 3:15PM - 6:15PM - Esko Schools - S231
10/23/2012 3:15PM - 6:15PM - Esko Schools - S231
10/25/2012 3:15PM - 6:15PM - Esko Schools - S231
10/26/2012 3:15PM - 6:15PM - Esko Schools - S231
10/27/2012 8:30AM - 11:30AM - Esko Schools - S231
10/29/2012 3:15PM - 6:15PM - Esko Schools - S231
10/30/2012 3:15PM - 6:15PM - Esko Schools - S231
11/01/2012 3:15PM - 6:15PM - Esko Schools - S231
11/02/2012 3:15PM - 6:15PM - Esko Schools - S231
11/03/2012 8:30AM - 11:30AM - Esko Schools - S231

Cost: \$ 85.00

Description: This class provides students with a basic understanding of MN Traffic Safety laws, and the complexities of driving. It also gives participants information necessary for acquiring a MN Learners permit upon successful completion of the written exam. Students who were not born in Carlton County should begin to acquire their Certified Birth Certificate which is essential for taking the permit exam. Students should reach their 15th birthday by January 1. Priority will be given to current 15 year olds who attend Esko Public Schools. Students must attend all 30 hours of training (a make-up day will be available). You will need to sign up with a Driving School for behind the wheel lessons (at an additional cost) before the permit test.

Parents need to attend an informational meeting on the first day of class, Monday, October 22. Students will meet for class at 3:15 pm and parents are invited to join the students at 5:15 pm.

Zumba

Dates: 10/22/2012 6:00PM - 7:00PM - Esko Schools - Cafeteria
10/29/2012 6:00PM - 7:00PM - Esko Schools - Cafeteria
11/05/2012 6:00PM - 7:00PM - Esko Schools - Cafeteria
11/12/2012 6:00PM - 7:00PM - Esko Schools - Cafeteria
11/19/2012 6:00PM - 7:00PM - Esko Schools - Cafeteria
11/26/2012 6:00PM - 7:00PM - Esko Schools - Cafeteria

Instructor: Melinda Vandervierer

Cost: \$ 30.00

Description: The Zumba (one hour class) fitness cardio workout combines Latin rhythms and easy-to-follow moves that will make you forget you're even working out! Our goal is simple...we want you to be healthy, to love working out and to enjoy one exciting hour of calorie burning, body energizing movements meant to be enjoyed throughout your life at any age!

Zumba Gold

Dates: 10/22/2012 5:15PM - 6:00PM - Esko Schools - Cafeteria
10/29/2012 5:15PM - 6:00PM - Esko Schools - Cafeteria
11/05/2012 5:15PM - 6:00PM - Esko Schools - Cafeteria
11/12/2012 5:15PM - 6:00PM - Esko Schools - Cafeteria
11/19/2012 5:15PM - 6:00PM - Esko Schools - Cafeteria
11/26/2012 5:15PM - 6:00PM - Esko Schools - Cafeteria

Instructor: Melinda Vendervierer

Cost: \$ 30.00

Description: Zumba Gold (45 minutes) Enjoy the fun of Zumba with a class designed for those wanting a modified version of the most popular dance cardio workout! Zumba Gold is done at a lower intensity but has the same great music and Latin dance styles. Zumba Gold is very easy to follow which will appeal to participants of all ages.

Coming Soon!

Digital Camera classes!
Financial Info

Do you have a talent or skill to share? Consider teaching a Community Education class. Contact Christina at 879-4038 or cwalth@esko.k12.mn.us

Open Volleyball for Adults

Dates: 11/04/2012 4:00PM - 6:00PM - Esko Schools - Practice Gym
11/11/2012 4:00PM - 6:00PM - Esko Schools - Practice Gym
11/11/2012 4:00PM - 6:00PM - Esko Schools - Practice Gym
11/18/2012 4:00PM - 6:00PM - Esko Schools - Practice Gym

Cost: \$ 0.00

Description: Brenda and Todd VanDell will once again supervise this open gym time for Esko adults to play volleyball. There is no need to bring a team, just come and play with whoever shows up. Please come early to help set up, or stay through the clean-up.

Yoga

Dates: 11/20/2012 5:00PM - 6:00PM - Esko Schools - E270 Elem Music
11/27/2012 5:00PM - 6:00PM - Esko Schools - E270 Elem Music
12/04/2012 5:00PM - 6:00PM - Esko Schools - E270 ElemMusic
12/11/2012 5:00PM - 6:00PM - Esko Schools - E270 ElemMusic
12/18/2012 5:00PM - 6:00PM - Esko Schools - E270 Elem Music

Instructor: Carolyn Ripp

Cost: \$ 35.00

Description: This 5 week class will integrate the basic yoga postures, breathing techniques, and relaxation exercises, with an introduction to vinyasa (flow) yoga. Bring a Yoga mat.

Walking For Fitness

Dates: Monday - Friday; October - May

Time: 6:00-8:00 AM & 4:00 - 9:00 pm

Cost: \$ FREE

Description: The school building will be open again this year to allow for all Esko community members to walk inside during the darker and winter months on weekdays except on no school days. **You will need to register in the Community Education office to receive guidelines and a button to wear while you walk.**

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION

AEOA offers the following adult education courses:

- ESL
- GED
- College Prep
- Star Reading

Orientation for classes is the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 8:00 - 10:30 am

For more information contact AEOA at 879-5588.

Classes are located at 715 Cloquet Avenue, Cloquet.

Snowmobile Safety

Dates: 11/05/2012 6:30PM - 9:00PM - Esko Schools - S140
11/08/2012 6:30PM - 9:00PM - Esko Schools - S140
11/13/2012 6:30PM - 9:00PM - Esko Schools - S140
11/15/2012 6:30PM - 9:00PM - Esko Schools - S140

Cost: \$ 5.00 (plus \$5.00 to the DNR when you take your test)

Description: Traditional Classroom instruction: For this class, REGISTER ONLINE OR THROUGH ESKO COMMUNITY EDUCATION. This class, co-sponsored by Community Education and Wood City Riders is for students who must be at least 11 years old. They will earn their Snowmobile Certificate from the State of MN. You must attend all class sessions and the field test (December 15 - snow permitting). Parents are to attend the first 15 minutes of the first class to fill out forms and receive information. Parents are welcome to stay for any and all classes. Bring a self-addressed, stamped business size envelope to the first class. Direct any questions to Tim Carle at 218-269-2024. (Additional classes are available in Cloquet and Carlton in December. Call Community Education for more information).

Esko Adult Community Education Classes

Nurses Corner

Back to school also means back to the sniffles and sneezes. Between allergies and colds many people are feeling pretty miserable, but how to know if it's something more serious? Whooping cough (Pertussis) is spreading through the state. Over 3000 cases reported so far this year. Pertussis, or whooping cough, is a persistent cough illness. Anyone of any age can get pertussis. The first symptoms of pertussis are similar to a cold. After a week or two, the cough worsens and begins to occur in sudden, uncontrollable bursts. Persons with pertussis may seem well between coughing spells. The coughing spells become less frequent over time, but may continue for several weeks or months until the lungs heal. Vomiting can occur following coughing. Children may make high-pitched whooping sounds when gasping for breath after coughing. Pertussis bacteria are spread through droplets produced during coughing or sneezing. These droplets don't travel very far through the air and usually only infect persons nearby. Persons with pertussis can spread it to others in the first 3 weeks of coughing if not treated with antibiotics. After a person with pertussis has taken antibiotics for 5 days, he or she can no longer spread the disease. Although the cough can last longer than 3 weeks, a person is no longer contagious after the third week. Persons with pertussis should stay home from child care, school, work, and other activities until they have finished 5 days of antibiotics, unless they have already been coughing for 3 or more weeks. The best way to prevent pertussis is to be vaccinated. In addition to routine childhood immunizations, a pertussis vaccine booster shot is now recommended for adolescents and adults. Ask your healthcare provider for more information. Persons who have completed some or all of the recommended vaccinations for pertussis may still get pertussis disease, but will generally have a milder illness.

More Tips!

- Wash your hands often
- Stay at home if you are ill
- When coughing, cover your mouth with a tissue or cough into your sleeve
- Contact your healthcare provider if you develop pertussis-like symptoms or have been exposed to someone with pertussis.



SPECIAL OFFER EXCLUSIVELY FOR VETERANS: TAKE THE AARP DRIVER SAFETY CLASSROOM COURSE FOR FREE OR SAVE 50% ON THE ONLINE COURSE IN NOVEMBER.

At AARP Driver Safety, we appreciate your dedication and service to our country. That's why we're saying thanks by offering a **FREE classroom course** or **50% off the online course** to all military veterans and their dependents from November 1 through November 30, 2012.*

Since 1979, AARP Driver Safety has offered the nation's first and largest course for drivers 50+ and has helped millions of drivers stay in command of the road. You'll learn proven safety strategies to help maintain your confidence behind the wheel, so you can make new memories on the road. Plus, you could get a great discount on your car insurance!**

* This offer is available to all military personnel who serve or have served in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, National Guard/Reserves or Coast Guard. Dependents (including spouses/domestic partners, widows/widowers and children) are also eligible to take advantage of the promotion.
** Upon completion you may be eligible to receive an auto insurance discount. (Consult your agent for details).

READY TO SIGN UP? »

To locate a classroom course near you, call 866-238-9294 or visit www.aarp.org/veterans.

To sign up for the online course, visit www.aarpdriversafety.org and enter the promo code "VETERANS"

The AARP Driver Safety Veterans Promotion has been sponsored by The Hartford.

TOYOTA This program is supported by a generous grant from Toyota to AARP Foundation.

SPECIAL OFFER EXCLUSIVELY FOR VETERANS: FREE AARP DRIVER SAFETY CLASSROOM COURSE

Complete and present this coupon at time of registration or in the classroom.

NAME: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

BRANCH OF MILITARY SERVICE: _____

YEARS OF MILITARY SERVICE: _____ ARE YOU AN AARP MEMBER? YES NO

ARE YOU A DEPENDENT OF A MILITARY VETERAN? YES NO

This coupon is valid for a free classroom course taken between November 1 and November 30, 2012. Courses are available on a first come, first serve basis and may not be available in all areas. The State of New Mexico prohibits AARP from offering the course to participants under the age of 55. Offer is available to all U.S. military personnel and their dependents. D19720 VETVCL

Fall 2012 Cloquet Community Education Classes

Online registration:

CloquetCommunityEd.com

Old Log Theatre - The Perfect Wedding

a comedy by Robin Hawdon.

Gather your friends and hop on a motor coach bus for Old Log Theatre's "The Perfect Wedding." Lunch served and then watch the riotous comedy about a man who wakes up on the morning of his wedding with a dreadful hangover, a bump on his head and a stranger in his bed! A chain of comic disasters, lame excuses and false confessions, leave everyone in the wedding party hopelessly befuddled and the audience laughing. A nonstop delirious comedy and touching love story you won't want to miss! Cost includes performance ticket, lunch choice and transportation.

Tell us your lunch choice when registering for "The Perfect Wedding."

Choose one from the following menu:

- Lemon Artichoke Chicken Breast
- Smoked Windsor Pork Chop
- Walleye Pike Almondine
- Beef Stroganoff
- Vegetarian Lasagna

Thur, Nov 1, 8:30 am - 6:30 pm

Depart - Super One Back parking lot

\$58 Register by Oct 17

WHERE TO REGISTER: Please note the location of the class you are registering for and send it to the appropriate place with a check made out to the correct program!

ESKO
P.O. Box 10
Esko, MN 55720
Phone#: 879-4038

CLOQUET
509 Carlton Ave.
Cloquet, MN 55720
Phone#: 879-1261

CARLTON
P.O. Box 310
Carlton, MN 55718
Phone#: 384-4464

WRENSHALL
207 Pioneer Drive
Wrenshall, MN 55797
Phone#: 384-4274 ext. 1410

REGISTRATION/PARTICIPATION - ESKO COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Student's Name: _____

Grade: _____ Birthdate: _____

Class/Club Registering for: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____
Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Method of Payment: Check Cash Credit Card:
 VISA or MasterCard
Card #: _____
Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

Please return completed form to Esko Community Education.

After School Clubs

Savannah's Pottery – Halloween – Grades 1-6

Date: 10/15/2012 3:30PM - 4:30PM - Esko Schools - S101 Art

Instructor: Savannah's Pottery Staff

Cost: \$ 15.00

Description: SECOND CLASS OFFERED! Savannah's Pottery is back--just in time for Halloween! Students will paint a pumpkin figurine and then Savannah's Pottery will "fire" it and will be brought back to the school for your family to enjoy for Halloween!

Savannah's Pottery – Thanksgiving – Grades 1-6

Date: 11/12/2012 3:30PM - 4:30PM - Esko Schools - S101 Art

Sessions: 1

Cost: \$ 14.00

Description: SECOND CLASS OFFERED! Paint a leaf dish and use it during your Thanksgiving dinner! Get a little creative and paint it with different colors of green, red, yellow, and orange! Plate measures 4.75" x 6".

Holiday Centerpiece

Date: 11/14/2012 3:30PM - 4:30PM - Esko Schools - S101 Art

Instructor: Savannah's Pottery Staff

Cost: \$ 15.00

Description: **Time to make centerpieces for Breakfast with Santa!** Students will paint a 6 1/2" tall pottery Christmas tree. The Christmas Trees will then be used as centerpieces for our Breakfast with Santa and can be taken home if they come for breakfast, or picked up in the Community Ed office after the breakfast.

Savannah's Pottery

Date: 12/10/2012 3:30PM - 4:30PM - Esko Schools - S101 Art

Instructor: Michelle Roen

Cost: \$ 15.00

Description: Warm someone's heart this season with a hand painted Snowman Dish! The ceramic Snowman Dish makes a great spoon rest or plate for serving nuts! Measurements: 4" x 6" x .5"

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT ARE REQUIRED PRIOR TO CLASS START DATE. NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE TAKEN WITHOUT PAYMENT.



Did you know?

- This fall Esko already has 223 students enrolled in 11 different afterschool enrichment programs.
- We are serving on average of 70 kids per day in our Cool Kids afterschool care program.
- In 2011-2012 we served 696 students in over 45 different afterschool enrichment programs.

Thank you Esko community members! Your participation in teaching our young members of the community is making a difference!

Afterschool programs are a vital support for youth, families & communities. They keep kids safe, inspire them to learn and help working families. The engaging, hands-on experiences provided by afterschool program help youth develop the skills they need to succeed.

- Afterschool programs provide multiple benefits for youth, including improvements in children's personal, social and academic skills, as well as their self-esteem.
- Children in afterschool programs attend school more often and report higher aspirations for finishing school and going to college. Participants are 20 percent less likely to drop out and are 30 percent less likely to participate in criminal activities.
- Regular participation in high-quality afterschool programs is linked to significant gains in standardized test scores and work habits as well as reductions in behavior problems among disadvantaged students.

You can become involved, too! If you have a skill, talent, or interest to share – consider teaching an Afterschool Enrichment Class. We are always looking for new ideas! Contact Christina at 879-4038 or cwather@esko.k12.mn.us.

Elementary Cheer Clinic – Grades 1-6

Dates: 10/02/2012 3:30PM - 5:00PM - Esko Schools - Trophy Hallway

10/04/2012 3:30PM - 5:00PM - Esko Schools - Cafeteria

Esko Schools - Trophy Hallway

Cost: \$ 25.00

Description: Join the High School Cheerleaders for cheerleading practice! Students will practice after school for two days (Oct. 2nd and 4th from 3:30-5:00) and will perform during halftime of the Oct. 5th football game against Pine City at 7:00! Please note that the **football game location has been changed to the Cloquet High School Football Field** due to the conditions at our Esko home field. Please indicate t-shirt size when registering.

*You must pick up your child by 5:00 or they may be sent to Cool Kids with an added charge. If your child is walking home, please send a note giving them permission.

Coming Soon: Accelerated Reading - Watch for more info!



After School Club/Class Registration Form: Esko Community Education, P.O. Box 10, Esko, MN 55733

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Address: _____ City/Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

Club: _____ Cost: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____ Grade: _____

Additional Student:

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Club: _____ Cost: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____ Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Cell Phone: _____

T-shirt/shoe size (if applicable) _____

Any special needs? _____

Payment Type: _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Check # _____ Cash

Credit Card _____
MasterCard _____ VISA _____

Exp. Date: _____ 3 Digit Code _____

Authorized Signature: _____

To register online visit www.esko.k12.mn.us

You will be contacted only if a class is filled. Otherwise, consider yourself registered for the class. Make checks payable to Esko Cool Kids and mail to the above address or drop off at the office. Cancellation fee is \$1.00.

ECFE & School Readiness

ECFE Schedule for Fall 2012

Evening Adventures (Mixed ages)

When: **Mondays**

Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Nov. 12, 19, 26

Dec. 3, 10

Time: **6:15 – 7:30 pm**

Cost: \$45 per family

When: **Tuesdays -CLASS IS FULL!**

Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Nov. 13, 20, 27

Dec. 4, 11

Time: **6:15 – 7:30 pm**

Cost: \$45 per family

Enjoy playing and making fun crafts with your child(ren) while also meeting other families in your community. This class focuses on children ages Birth to five years. Older siblings are welcome. Fun for the whole family!

Tiny Tots (10 – 36 months)

When: **Tuesdays**

Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 ; Nov. 13, 20, 27; Dec. 4, 11

Time: **4:15 – 5:30 pm**

Cost: \$45

Enjoy one-on-one time with your toddler before attending a discussion about a variety of topics specific to a toddler's social, emotional and physical development. Children enjoy socializing under the supervision of an early childhood teacher.

Leap – N – Learn

For ages 3 to 5 years (Must be age 3 by Sept. 1st, 2012)

When: (Mondays & Fridays)

Sept. 24, 28

Oct. 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 26, 29

Nov. 2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 26, 30

Dec. 3, 7, 10

Time: **Mondays from 10:30am-Noon**

and

Fridays from 10:00am – Noon

Cost: \$90



This is a great time for children to gain pre-Kindergarten knowledge while parents are learning more about how to guide their child through these early learning experiences. Children will explore arts and crafts, introduction to basic concepts, music and movement, and large muscle activities. Class will meet 2 days a week for 1 1/2 hours on Mondays and 2 hours on Fridays. Mondays will include quality time between parent and child. Parents will also meet, with a licensed parent educator, to discuss parenting joys and concerns, as well as their child's social, emotional, and physical development. Fridays will be a day for parents to drop their child off for a more child/teacher learning experience. Must be potty trained to attend. Please call and ask for Shannon if you have any questions about this or any other issues.

“Men”tor Night

Kids...bring your favorite guy and join us for a night of fun!

For ages 3 years through 1st Grade

When: **Oct. 4: Ooey Gooey Fun**

Nov. 1: Holiday Fun

Dec. 6 (Theme to be determined)

Time: (Thursdays) **6:00 -7:00 pm**

Cost: **\$6.00 per class (1st child) \$3.00 per additional child**

This is a time for children and their Dad, Grandpa, Uncle or other special guy to enjoy activities together.

New Day With Baby

(For parents and their infants ages birth – 10 months)

When: **Nov. 12, 19, 26; Dec. 3**

Time: (Mondays) **4:45-5:45 pm**

Cost: **FREE**

Please register through Community Education Office by Friday, Nov. 9.

“Today, is a New Day with Baby. Wow! Has Life Changed. These sessions are intended to refresh, reflect and rejoice. It's a time to take a breath to sing songs, to share stories and to learn. Our group of parents and babies will celebrate all the joys and challenges. C'mon! New Day's are here for you and Baby.”

School Readiness Trike-A-Thon

3's: **October 15th**

4's: **October 16th**



**NO SCHOOL READINESS
October 18, 19 & 31**



ECFE CLASS FEES: Families pay what they can best afford. Those who are unable to pay are still welcome.

Annual Income	ECFE Fee/Semester
\$50,000 +	Full Price
\$30,000 - \$50,000	10% discount
\$10,000 - \$30,000	25% discount
under \$10,000	50% discount

Esko ECFE

Esko Community Education, P.O. Box, Esko, MN 55733

Class _____

Cost _____

Child's Name _____

Birthdate _____

Parent/Guardian's Name(s) _____

Address _____ City/ip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Email _____ Cell Phone _____

Please list any special needs or allergies: _____

Please make checks payable to Esko Community Education. Registrations can be dropped off in the Community Education office or mailed to the above address. You will need to register for each semester. Thank You!

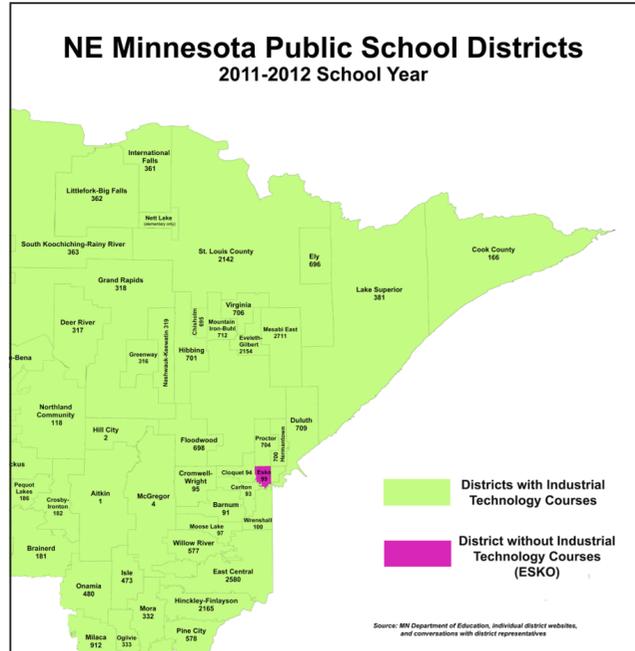
Total Enclosed _____ Check # _____

To register online visit www.esko.k12.mn.us

Esko Public Schools - Levy and Referendum Information

Question 1: Operating Levy

The School Board of Independent School District No. 99 (Esko) proposes to increase its general education revenue by \$341 per pupil unit. The proposed referendum revenue authorization would be applicable for 9 years. The additional revenue would be used to finance school operations.



What?

- Class sizes for 2013-2014 are targeted to increase. This levy would allow class sizes to remain at the current levels of: 22 students per class for grades K-1; 24 students for grades 2-3; 26 students for grades 4-6; 30-32 students per class for the high school.
- To maintain current elective classes in areas such as: Foreign Languages, Art, FACS, Business, & Music.
- To restore Industrial Technology courses. Esko is the ONLY school in all of NE Minnesota without an industrial technology program. Possible classes could include: Drafting, Principles of Engineering, Carpentry & Auto Diagnostics.

Why?

- State funding hasn't kept up with inflation - districts use operating levies to make up the difference.
- Over 90% of Minnesota communities support their school districts with operating levies averaging over \$900 per student. Esko is asking for your support at \$341 per student.
- Last Spring, the District cut over \$90,000 to programming and staff.
- The District is not able to provide the necessary electives and maintain class sizes without additional resources. Without increased revenues, more programs and staff may be reduced.

Did You Know?
 Of the 335 school districts in MN,
 Esko ranks 334 in revenue per student.

Public Meeting

October 4th Esko School Theater 7:00

Q & A

1. **When will these be voted on?**

The vote will take place at the general election which is on November 6, 2012.

2. **How did the District come to the \$341 number?**

The Business Office looked at long-term projections and determined that the current and future budget cannot meet our needs. This information was shared with the School Board and a community group that participated in some long range planning. The group recommended that the School Board should generate around \$350,000 per year to maintain current programming and class sizes and to add back an industrial tech program. The Board reviewed this and determined the District would need \$341 per student to meet these goals.

3. **Is \$341 the tax impact for my home or business?**

No, to determine your tax impact you will need to know your assessed value and put it into the calculator provided on our website or review the chart below.

4. **How can we generate \$341 per kid if I am paying less than that in taxes?**

The primary reason is that 29% of the \$341 is paid by the State through aid payments. The remaining portion is spread out over all of the taxable properties within the school district boundaries including businesses.

5. **Will I pay for an open enrolled student on this levy?**

No, the local taxes will only be paid on resident student numbers. However the State Aid portion (29%) will follow a non-resident student to the Esko School District. (See page ____ for more information on open enrollment.)

6. **When would the facilities be started, if approved by voters?**

The spring of 2013 will be the start time and it is anticipated that most of the project would be completed by the fall of 2013.

7. **Is this facilities project the same we saw a few years ago?**

NO! This plan cuts \$4 million from the previous plan. This was done in an effort to save the taxpayers money and to address only the most critical needs.

8. **When will the debt for the high school completed in 1998 be paid in full?**

The high school bonds will be paid in full in 2018.

9. **Have you looked for other sources of money?**

Yes! We have been looking at grants and have partnered with our youth sports organizations. All of the youth groups have committed their resources to the facilities plan and to help with some other projects not in the plan.

10. **Does the District plan include artificial turf?**

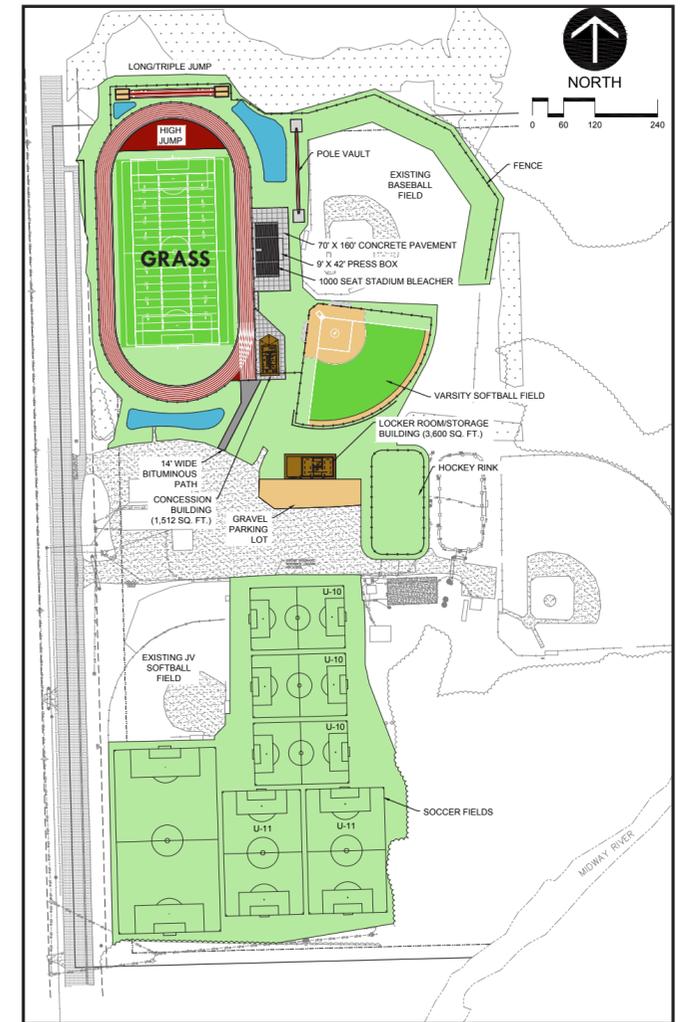
NO! The School Board did not include an artificial turf field. This was one area that was reduced from previous plans to lower costs. If artificial turf was to be added, funding would have to come from an outside source or group.

11. **How long will taxpayers be paying for the proposed facilities bond referendum?**

The proposed facilities plan bond would be paid in full in ten years.

Question 2: Proposed Athletic Facility Spaces

Be it resolved that the School Board of Independent School District No. 99 authorizes the issue of general obligation school bonds in the amount not to exceed \$2,700,000 to provide for the repair, renovation, equipping and construction of additions and improvements to the existing Esko Public Schools Athletic facilities.



What & Why?

- The current athletic complex lacks a usable track, bleachers, lights and restrooms. The baseball field and storage building along with the hockey shelter were all damaged in the flood and are also in terrible condition. All of these areas will be 40 years old next year and have either been removed or are in need of being removed.

This plan addresses the following needs:

- New football/soccer field and athletic track with handicap accessible bleachers.
- New track and field events including long/triple jump, pole vault, discus and shot-put.
- New concession building including public restrooms.
- Upgrade current JV baseball field and add a second field for girls softball.
- Allow the youth soccer association to develop some space to meet their field requirements.
- A locker room for football, soccer and youth hockey.

ESKO PRIDE How much will it cost us?

Question 1: New request of \$341 per pupil of referendum revenue
 (authorization for 9 years)

Market Value	Residential Homestead	
	Est. tax impact per year	Est. tax impact per month
\$25,000	\$17.73	\$1.48
\$35,000	\$24.83	\$2.07
\$50,000	\$35.46	\$2.96
\$75,000	\$53.20	\$4.43
\$100,000	\$70.93	\$5.91
\$125,000	\$88.66	\$7.39
\$150,000	\$106.39	\$8.87
\$175,000	\$124.13	\$10.34
\$200,000	\$141.86	\$11.82
\$225,000	\$159.59	\$13.30
\$250,000	\$177.32	\$14.78
\$300,000	\$212.79	\$17.73

Question 2: \$2.7 million school facilities bond referendum
 (payable over 10 years)

Market Value	Residential Homestead	
	Est. tax impact per year	Est. tax impact per month
\$50,000	\$8.28	\$0.69
\$75,000	\$12.43	\$1.04
\$100,000	\$19.81	\$1.65
\$125,000	\$27.34	\$2.28
\$150,000	\$34.86	\$2.91
\$175,000	\$42.39	\$3.53
\$200,000	\$49.91	\$4.16
\$225,000	\$57.44	\$4.79
\$250,000	\$64.96	\$5.41
\$275,000	\$72.49	\$6.04
\$300,000	\$80.01	\$6.67
\$500,000	\$138.06	\$11.51

Source: Northland Securities Annual Property Tax Impact Summary and Tax Payer Notice on Q1 + 2

Winterquist Elementary News

Elementary News

By Brian Harker



Upcoming Events

- October 4- Levy and Referendum Info Session- 7:00 pm in Theater
- October 8- PIE Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- October 17- Grandparents' Day 1:00 p.m.
- October 18, 19- No School for students and staff
- October 31- 3 Hour Early Release
- November 6- Be sure to Vote

Please Vote on November 6

On November 6th the Esko Community has a chance to support our students. As you have heard, there will be two questions on the ballot on November 6th that will drastically impact our schools. **Question #1** is the levy question requesting \$341 per pupil of revenue. We currently have no operating levy and are in financial jeopardy of continuing the strong academic experience at Esko Schools.

Potential impacts on Winterquist Elementary-

- Class sizes- Without this levy our class sizes will dramatically change. We could go from class sizes in the low 20's to well

over 30 students. A huge factor in the success of Winterquist Elementary and one of the most attractive aspects of our school has been the teacher to student ratio. The most credible research on the impact of class size (Student Teacher Achievement Ratio, STAR) states that students placed in smaller class sizes gain, on average, what is equivalent to an extra 3 months of education than that of a student placed in a class with a higher class size.

Question #2 is the \$2.7 million school facilities bond to improve the current sports facilities. We are hoping to provide a usable track, bleachers, lights and restrooms for our students, athletes and community members.

Potential impacts on Winterquist Elementary-

- Green space- those of you with students involved in youth activities understands the need of green space and additional fields. With this proposed project, the current football field and all space located inside the fence south of the parking lot will become green space for our youth program. Youth soccer, baseball, softball and other organizations will be gaining space that can accommodate all

activities.

- Hockey/Community Rink- With this plan another positive impact for our elementary students in an upgrade to our hockey building/community building. The shared locker room, storage and hockey building will provide a great place for our youth to spend the winter months skating with families and friends.

Twitter

Winterquist Elementary is now on Twitter! We will be using twitter to send out updates, reminders and to share the wonderful experiences happening here at school each day. You can find us by going to the following address <https://twitter.com/bjharker>

You don't need to have a Twitter account to watch for updates. Simply go to this web address to look for updates and news. If you do have a Twitter account, I encourage you to follow us.

Partners in Education (PIE)

If you are looking to get involved in a worthwhile organization that does wonderful things for the students in our building, then PIE is the group for you. Becoming a member is easy! If you are a parent of a child in Winterquist Elementary School, then you are already a member of

this group. Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 pm in the library. This is a great opportunity to get together with this progressive group to talk, discuss, and support the school experience at Winterquist Elementary. PIE continues to raise money each year to support and provide educational opportunities for our young learners. We hope to see you at the meetings.

Other Items

- Students are not allowed in the building before 7:45 a.m. or after 3:30 p.m. unless they are under direct supervision by a teacher or coach.**
- Please be sure to contact the school by 8:30 if your child is absent. Parents/guardians are required to inform the office of their child's absence and the reason. If they do not call the office we will contact them as a safety precaution. If we can't get an excuse for the absence it will turn into an unexcused absence.
- With fall fast approaching, the mornings are quite cool. Make sure to send along a jacket or sweatshirt with your child. They are outside on the playground to start the day.

Partners in Education Meeting Minutes -September



Partners In Education

- Welcome and introductions
- Business matters, treasurer's report, cookie dough fundraiser, and possible transportation fund (tabled till next meeting)
- New fundraising ideas for the year (Businesses donating certain amounts to PIE from their sales? Pending School Board approval)

- Encouraged teachers to request tangible items for their classrooms, above and beyond transportation cost for fieldtrips.
- Potluck meal planned for Teacher conferences on November 13th
- Approved teacher requests for Skate time rental for Phy-ed classes (\$825), and Transportation funds for the 5th grade trip to ELC(\$684.03)
- Esko schools now on Twitter. Follow events and activities happening at the school. Also discussed the upcoming Levy and providing child care at the next informative meeting on Oct 4th.

Upcoming events: Cookie dough fundraisers end September 24th.
Upcoming Meeting on Monday, October 8th at 6:30pm.

It's Harvest Time!

Several Grade 3 students helped harvest freshly grown vegetables from the Esko School Garden. Established in 2010, this garden is located on the school grounds outside of the District Office. A variety of veggies was brought down to the Cafeteria and enjoyed by all! A new favorite for many were the ground cherries.



Thank you, Kids!



Lincoln High School News

Esko High School News

By Greg Hexum



Esko High School Industrial Technology Program

I've received innumerable questions over the past several weeks about the upcoming Esko Schools Learning Levy and Referendum. One of the most common questions I get revolves around our lack of an industrial technology program. By now, you've heard that Esko hasn't had tech. ed. (shop) classes for the better part of a decade. And, yes, is true that every other high school in Northeastern Minnesota has this program, but so what? What are kids at other schools getting that Esko students aren't?

The answer, in short, is a lot.

21st Century industrial technology programs, like preceding "shop" programs still offer hands-on experiences for students in wood working, auto maintenance, metals, and electronics. These offerings are great for students, and if voters approve a learning levy in November, these courses will be available to Esko kids again, but 21st Century industrial technology programs go well beyond what you knew as "shop." Searching the course catalogues of the other 40 or so Northeastern Minnesota school districts, I've found dozens of courses that Esko students are missing out on. Listed are just a handful of the opportunities not available to Esko students:

- Principles of Engineering
- Digital Electronics
- Architectural Technology
- Pre-Engineering Drawing
- Introduction to Production/Manufacturing
- Computer-Aided Design
- 'Green' Architecture and Design

Happenings Books

The 2013 edition of the *Happenings Books* are on sale now. For over twenty-five years, the *Happenings* books have been the number one coupon book in Minnesota. Each book has hundreds of "2 for 1" and 50% off discounts at local and state restaurants, stores, and hotels.

Books are available in either Twin Port or Twin City editions. The purchase price is \$30.00 for the Twin Port edition and \$35.00 for the Twin City edition. To order a *Happenings* book, contact a member of the Esko National Honor Society, Mrs. M. Johnson (ext. 140), or the high school office today (879-4673).

THE SAVINGS NEVER STOP!

- BUY-ONE-GET-ONE FREE AND 50% DISCOUNTS
- ON-GOING DISCOUNTS ON DINING, SHOPPING
- ADDITIONAL COUPONS ON-LINE AT ENTERTAINMENT.COM
- TRAVEL SAVINGS ON AIRFARE, HOTELS, CAR RENTALS
- DISCOUNTS FOR ONLINE RETAILERS

- Auto Engineering and Super-mileage Vehicles
- Wood Productions and Woodworking
- Advanced Technology Production
- Robotics
- Landscape Design and Construction
- Consumer and Commercial Auto Care
- Architectural and Mechanical Drafting
- Industrial Maintenance
- Welding
- Carpentry/Construction Trades
- Furniture/Cabinet Making
- Woods Manufacturing
- Advanced Metals
- Small Engine Mechanics
- Auto Diagnostics
- Woodworking

Typing that makes me upset. While Esko High School students are amongst the most academically successful in the state, I know that a notable segment of our students are missing out on opportunities that could be better preparing them for 21st Century post-secondary education and careers.

In my interactions with regional business leaders and administrators at post-secondary technical institutions, I hear the same messages repeatedly. That is, Northeastern Minnesota industries can't fill their technical jobs. The candidates aren't skilled enough, motivated enough, lack basic academic knowledge, or aren't re-trainable. Esko High School has the kind of talent Northeastern Minnesota industries are looking for---our graduates are intelligent, driven, academically strong, and adaptable. Our graduates are flourishing in institutions of higher learning. But our kids who are interested in technical fields are two years behind their area peers.

I'd really like to see that change. If voters approve the levy in November, a hybrid industrial technology program would be reinstated and our kids will be better prepared for the 21st Century world.

Esko Student-Athletes

Esko High School is a great school. Yes, I have a bias, but almost every bit of data you can find about our school supports my claim. Other area educational leaders ask me what we do differently in Esko. I hear "What are you putting in the school lunches over there?" Others notice that we consistently excel in **academics, arts, and athletics**-- the high school trifecta.

One way I respond to the inquiries is that it is a district and staff priority to help Esko kids graduate as well-rounded people, ready for all of life's challenges. Well-roundedness doesn't happen by chance at EHS. Our excellence, in part, comes because we encourage and support students to get involved and stay involved in athletics, arts, clubs, student government, leadership committees, and volunteer organizations. When I say "student-athletes," I am talking about all kids who are involved in activities outside of the classroom. At our school the number of kids who get involved and stay involved is astronomical, and our data demonstrates that this is clear path to success. Did you know that the average Esko High School student-athlete has a grade point average 1 full point higher than their non-participating peers? Since I first started looking at this data ten years ago, that has been true. Esko students who participate in healthy extracurricular activities, stay engaged in academics. What's different about Esko High School? That's what. We as a school and community encourage and support well-roundedness.

This leads me to a brief message about our November referendum

regarding outdoor athletic facilities. Please realize that a vote for or against "sports" means something far greater than that. The vast majority of Esko students participate at some level in activities that rely on having appropriate athletic facilities. Their participation and the facilities don't just make them better athletes; first and foremost these things make them better students.

Conference Night Changes

The procedures for Esko High School conferences have been altered for 2012-2013. On October 11, conferences will take place by invite only. This evening is not for general student conferences. Rather, on this evening, teachers will hold scheduled conferences for those students who are demonstrating significant academic struggles. Parents will be contacted directly by Esko High School staff if or when a scheduled conference is deemed necessary. Teachers and parents will work together on this evening to support struggling students in a positive and proactive manner.

Traditional conferences for all parents will take place at the end of the first marking period on Tuesday November 13 and Thursday November 15 from 3:30 to 7:00 in the varsity gym. In this conference format, parents pick up their student's report card in the high school commons and spend approximately 5 minutes with each teacher to get progress reports.

To accommodate this positive change, EHS will host just one Spring conference night on April 2, 2013.

Contact Principal Hexum at 879-4673 with questions about this or other high school policy matters.

When do we meet?

Usually the 1st Monday of each month at 6:30 pm.

Coming meeting dates: Oct 1, Nov 12

Where do we meet? The Band Room

What do we do?

- We support Esko's music programs -- Choir and Band
- Provide 4 College Scholarships
- Organize Fine Arts awards night
- Purchase robes for the choir
- Purchase instruments and sound systems (Timpani)(Orff)(Marimba)
- Organize Big Band fundraisers
- We provide opportunities for music beyond what is available at school
- We manage the student trip funds
- Come to our meetings to stay informed about our music programs!!!

Thank you very much, Eric Brademan
Eric.G.Brademan@usps.gov
Phone: 218-741-4919



Superintendent's Update



Open Enrollment

By Aaron Fischer

Esko School is known for its excellence in education. Providing a high-quality education to all of our students is our first priority. While the majority of the student population is comprised of students who live within the Esko School District boundaries, some students attend our school through open enrollment.

The topic of open enrollment has repeatedly come up in recent discussions regarding the operating levy. There can be considerable confusion about the role open enrollment plays in our funding, our staffing, and our course offerings. Here are some facts that might clear up some misconceptions:

- There are currently 299 open enrolled students in the Esko School District.
- These 299 students generate just under \$2 million in revenue, which is equal to about 20% of the overall general fund budget.
- The tax payers in Esko would pay NO additional taxes for an operating levy because of the open enrollment students. A tax payer in Esko will pay only for a resident student.
- Roughly 1/3 of the new revenue generated by an operating levy comes to the District in the form of State Aid. While not generating any local levy revenue, open enrollment students generate State Aid through the basic formula allowance in the amount referred to above in the second bullet point.
- Esko only enrolls open enrollment students when there are spots open in our classes and closes open enrollment when a class or grade level is full.
- Currently Esko has frozen open enrollment and is keeping a waiting list for those wishing to come in when there is a spot open.

If Esko did not accept students through open enrollment it would be necessary to cut approximately two million dollars. Cutting \$2 million from the budget would cause significant hardships in many areas. Here is one example of what reducing the budget by \$2 million might look like:

- 6 less K-6 teachers
- 4 less high school teachers
- 3.5 less specialists (teachers)
- 2 less special education teachers
- 1 less administrator
- 2 less custodians
- 4 less paraprofessionals
- 2 less secretaries
- 50% of the sports programs.

As you can see a school district the size of Esko needs open enrollment to be able to support the programs needed for a quality education. There is no evidence to suggest that open enrollment has harmed the District financially. On the contrary, open enrollment and the state aid that follows these students are a big reason for the District's solvency over the last ten years.



Message From Our School Board

Esko School Board Update

The Esko Board of Education would like to provide some additional insights into the upcoming referendum and levy questions on the ballot in November.

As you are likely aware, the position of School Board member is an elected position. There are 6 board members on the Esko Board of Education. Your current Board, as well as those individuals who have graciously served in the past, take their roles very seriously. It is a Board's duty to work hard to ensure a quality education for our youth while meeting community expectations and State & Federal guidelines. In doing this, the board also insists upon fiscal responsibility, weighing all needs and expectations against our budget constraints.

The Esko Administration, as well as a number of community groups, are in the process of providing detailed data regarding our current operations and information of the two ballot questions. It is not our intent to re-iterate that information here, but rather ask that all community members read the information included elsewhere in this edition of the Esko Corner and ask questions if there is anything you would like more information on.

Your current Board of Education has reviewed our long term budget forecast against our current needs & future expectations and unanimously voted to move forward with two questions on the ballot in November. We believe this board and administration, as well as those that came before it, have done an exceptional job with the dollars they have had available from the Federal, State, and Local level. We also believe an informed Esko Community is necessary to continue to ensure Esko's ongoing success in the future.

Our decision to move forward with these two ballot questions has not come easily. We do understand times have been difficult for many. Your school has also felt the pinch for a number of years. With Board foresight and

community support, the district was able to build a fund balance a few years ago to help weather the anticipated years of minimal or flat funding. We have renegotiated many contracts, made cuts, and deferred items where practical. We are, however, facing a time where those deferrals cannot be sustained.

We feel it is our obligation to bring these two ballot questions forward at this time. We would like the community to know and understand what the district is facing, and the opportunity we have to make a difference for the future of our community. If we were not to act, we feel we are risking the quality of education we can provide our youth, and the future success of the Esko community in the long term.

We have brought ballot questions to you in the past. One for capital projects to improve our aging facilities at the north field site, and one for renewing an existing local referendum that was ending. Both questions failed at the time.

In light of our current situation and needs, we have decided to bring forth both ballot questions again. We have made very significant cuts in the capital expenditures at the north field site based on your input and feedback. This has greatly reduced the impact to the taxpayer. We have also reviewed our operating needs, and based on community feedback as well as Administration input, are bringing forth an Operating Referendum question supporting the district budget in a manner that enables us to continue to provide a quality education for our youth going forward.

We ask that you review the information that is being made available, ask questions, and discuss Esko's future among your family, friends, and neighbors. Esko has traditionally been a community that families want to live in and raise their children. We want to continue with that tradition, thank you for your continued support and involvement. It has been and continues to be your involvement that makes Esko special. Now and into the future.

Julian Bertogliat, Jeff Salo, Lynn McComber, Margaret Sunnarborg, Scott

Minnesota Department of Education

2012 School Finance Award

Presented to

Esko School District

In recognition of performance in financial management and timely submission of UFARS data and audited financial statement for FY 2011.

Tom Melcher
Thomas Melcher, Director
Division of School Finance

Minnesota Department of
Education

Audrey Bomstad
Audrey Bomstad, Manager
Financial Management

Esko School District Receives Financial Management Award

The Esko School District was awarded the School Finance Award for the Minnesota Department of Education. This is the fifth consecutive year that our Business Department has earned this award.

With her 33 years of school finance experience, Janet Halonen continues to manage a 12 million dollar budget flawlessly. Last year her budget was within .5% of the audit and received rave reviews for the attention to detail and accuracy from Eikill and Shilling Auditing Firm.

When you team her experience with a management team and School Board that value a quality education that maximizes the school resources, good things happen. In addition to winning a finance award our school was identified as a Reward School for our academic achievement.

Putting sound financial practices together with a strong educational vision leads to outstanding accomplishment.

Financial Help

These are two programs that may be an option for some families and individuals.

Market Value Exclusion on Homestead property of Disable Veterans, primary family caregivers and surviving spouses of veterans and service members.

This program provides a market value exclusion for property tax purposes for honorably discharged veterans with service connected disability of 70 percent or more. This does have provisions that would grant the help to family caregivers and surviving spouses. To gain more information on what the qualifications are and what level of exclusion you would be eligible for contact your County Assessor's Office.

Tax Deferral for Senior Citizens

This program allows people 65 or older to defer a portion of their homestead property taxes. If your income doesn't exceed \$60,000 in the calendar year you may be eligible. If you have any questions call (651) 556-4803

KIDS VOTING is back this year!

Watch for more info to come soon!



Esko Home Football Games @ Bromberg

The final home Varsity Football games of the season will be played at Bromberg Field in Cloquet.

October 5 - 7:00 pm
2 for 1 night

Each student or adult that comes to the Oct. 5 game wearing Blue & Gold can get two people in for the price of one!

October 17 - 6:00 pm

COME SUPPORT ESKO FOOTBALL!



Reward School



Minnesota Department of
Education

Meet The School Board Candidates



Julian “Bert” Bertogliat

Home Town: I was born in Waukeegan Il., graduated from High School on the Iron Range but after living here 43 years consider Esko my home town.

Occupation: Presently I am employed by the Minnesota State High School League as Executive Secretary of Region 7A. My work is to organize and run all the post season activities for the 56 schools from Pine City to International Falls and Duluth to Brainerd that compete in Region 7A of the MSHSL. These contests include all Fine Arts and Athletic Activities. Prior to this I was in education for 34 years as a science teacher and activities director.

Education: B.S. Degree in Biology and Geology at U.M.D. Masters program at U.W.S. in Science Education.

Family: My wife, Sharon, and I have been married 45 years and lived in Esko for 43 years. We have two sons who grew up and attended school in Esko. I now have grandchildren attending school in Esko.

Hobbies: I enjoy outdoor activities, hunting, fishing, gardening and all Esko sponsored activities. I also enjoy reading, cooking and playing the piano.

My first priority is to maintain the high quality of education in Esko. The high standards we have attained in Esko happened over many years, and we need to be progressive to maintain our position of leadership and to keep our hard working staff. I believe in a well rounded education experience for all students. Academics, Activities (athletic, fine arts, and academic), Social Skills and opportunities for Special Needs students are all very important in a quality educational system.

We are presently going through some hard times financially in our schools. State funding has not increased in years and does not look like it will increase in the near future. In order to add some electives that will enhance or curriculum and to maintain our high test scores, class sizes, and strong academic standing in the state and area, we need to find financial solutions.

I am concerned as we look toward the future, we continue to keep pace with technology and provide technical programming for students who are not college bound in addition to maintaining our high quality academic standards. I realize that most of our outside facilities are not adequate and need to be addressed. I am also aware of the impact schools have on the taxpayer and want to see tax money spent wisely. I would like to see a budget that puts our students first without over burdening the taxpayer.

Lastly, I am concerned about school security and student safety state wide, and would like to see a state wide plan developed to make all schools safer. As a local School District we should continue to monitor school safety and continue to make improvements to make our schools safer.



My name is Jeff Salo and I have worked at Sappi formerly Potlatch for the past 29 years. I am a precision sheeter operator, I run a machine that takes rolls of paper and then cuts them into sheet sizes that are then sent to the customer. I was a Union Officer serving Local 11-63 of the United Steel Workers for 12 years 6 of those years serving as vice president representing over 450 fellow union brothers and sisters. My wife of thirty years Cindy and I also have our own commercial cleaning business cleaning a variety of businesses in the Cloquet and Carlton area.

I am a graduate of Esko High School graduating in 1976; Cindy is also a graduate of Esko graduating in 1980. We are the proud parents of two daughters Danielle also a graduate from Esko who is now a sophomore at Texas A&M University working towards a goal of becoming a Physician’s Assistant and Hailey who is a Junior here at Esko.

I am currently serving my first term here on the Esko School Board, I have been the clerk for the past two years as well as being the lead negotiator for the board when we are negotiating contracts for our non certified staff, I’m also on the staff development committee as well as our Facilities committee. Presently I am serving a term on the Region Seven committee representing District 26 as a School Board member. I have been a registered. Track and Field with the Minnesota State High School League for 25 years. In my first term here on the Board I have learned a lot and continue to learn even more. We have been able to accomplish many things but we have also faced many challenges and I’m sure there will be more to come. As I said when I ran in 2008 I believe we need to continue and build on our strong traditions both academically and through our extracurricular activities. With the awesome staff that we have here in Esko I’m sure that we are continuing down that path. I still believe that there are some offerings that we need here such as getting Industrial Ed back into the building for those that would have that interest working in the industry I know there are shortages in some of these fields. I also believe in today’s world technology is an area that we will always need to stay on top of. I would like to see us be able to offer more college credits to our senior high student which is not only a benefit for the students it a huge cost savings for parents when they do go off college. We also need to be able to keep our class sizes down especially at the elementary level because if kids fall behind there I believe it makes it near impossible for them to get caught up and to succeed in later years. I also would like to see us set up a type of rotation for building and facility needs so we can keep on top of things before its too late and then everything falls apart at once. We did do this with our window projects by replacing them in stages and seems to have worked well. The challenge we have is to find the funding to be able to maintain what we presently have and then to add new programs. One thing I have learned in a big way is that we can’t count on money from the state but I still believe we need to keep on our legislators and let them know that education should be at the top of their priority list. The Board has tried to be fiscally responsible and I’m sure that will continue we need live within the parameters that the community tells us they want us to do but our kid’s and grandchildren’s future depend on all of us.

In closing I would again like to share with everyone a little more of my family history and our involvement in the Esko School District. My Grandmother Mae Johnson was a first grade teacher at the old Washington School she was also a past President of the Esko PTA. My mother Nina an Esko Alumnus was also a past president of PTA she was also co-chairperson of the Esko All-Class reunion back in the summer of 1976. Mom was also a cook here in the district for over 18 years serving as head cook for several of those years. My three older brothers are all graduates of Esko so were my aunt and uncle as well as their children. My wife Cindy worked as a PERA in the district for a few years and her family also attended Esko High School. So as some of you already know my Family’s history dates back to over 80 years within this district and I take a lot of pride in that and would like to continue to help this district improve even more into the future. It’s been an honor and a pleasure to serve the community and the school district these past 4 years and as a true Eskomo would be honored to be able to continue to serve another 4 years. Thank You



1. Tell us your occupation and describe what you do:

I work full time for the Minnesota Army National Guard. I am currently a Staff Sergeant and work in Logistics at the Cloquet National Guard Armory. My job entails inventory, maintenance and managing the yearly budget for clothing, food, parts and operating inventory within our unit. In April I returned from Kuwait after our latest deployment, a yearlong mission supporting the draw down in Iraq.

2. Tell us about your education:

I graduated from Cloquet Senior High in 1997. After that I briefly attended Fond Du Lac Community College before going on Active Duty with the National Guard. Currently I am enrolled as a full time student back in Fond Du Lac Community College. I would like to eventually complete my BA degree in History.

3. Tell us about your family:

I am married to my first love, Nikki Crotteau. We met in high school and have been together ever since, recently celebrating our 10 year anniversary in June! We have two little boys; Tally is 4 and Braelyn is 2.

4. Why do you want to be on the Esko School Board?

I have young children and I have friends with young children who will soon be attending Esko Schools. I see the youth in Esko every day and see how well Esko’s children are raised. This comes from the parents, but just as importantly it comes from the school and the community. I see many young people every day in the high school gym and you can see the pride they have in their school. This pride is infectious and I am proud of my community and our school. I want to help and I want to provide leadership and I want to ensure the success of our youth.

continued on next page

Meet The School Board Candidates

5. What is your vision for the Esko Public Schools, and how would you work toward this vision?

Above all Esko schools need to be a safe, welcoming environment where students may attend classes as peers and feel accepted and welcomed. Teachers and staff need to be models of exemplary behavior. They need to promote respect, integrity and strong desire for learning among both colleagues and students alike. Class size needs to be kept as low as possible and we cannot afford to lose our teachers who are already in the position and doing their jobs well. Academic standards need to be second to none. Teamwork, competition and motivation should be supported by first class extracurricular activities. The school needs to be supported by the community both by funding and volunteering as necessary and by parents willing to do their part to ensure the success of their children. The school needs both the operating levy and the general obligation for the new sports facilities passed. How can we possibly sit by and look at not only the state of our current damaged facilities, but the faces of our youth who use those facilities and not be motivated to support both of those questions on the November ballot? As a community we need to act on some of that respect and integrity we demand of our students and teachers and support them this fall.

6. Other things you would like to share:

Esko is my home and Esko’s schools will be my children’s schools. We are a great community and when we go out to vote in November, we need to remember that a vote for our school and a vote for youth is a vote for our community’s future.



1. Tell us your occupation and describe what you do:

I am an Electronics Technician Senior for Minnesota Power. I lead a group of electronic technicians that install and maintain communications and electronic systems throughout the 27,000 square mile Minnesota Power territory. I have worked at MP for just short of 29 years. My other jobs at MP have included being a Relay Technician and an Organization Development Consultant and Facilitator.

2. Tell us about your education:

I am a graduate of Morgan Park High School in Duluth and afterward received an Associate Degree from Northwestern Electronics. I regularly collect Continuing Education Credits and like to think of myself as a lifelong learner.

3. Tell us about your family:

My wife Julie and I have 2 sons, Scott who is a junior and Kevin is a freshman. Both attend Esko Public Schools. Julie has worked for the Essentia Health System for 25 years. We are very happy to have made Esko our home for over 27 years.

4. Why do you want to be on the Esko School Board?

I was a member of the Esko School Board for 4 years. With my technical background, I felt that I was able to offer a different point of view as well as help with new technologies that are so important to a student in this new age of learning. I believe that having children in the district keeps me connected with what’s happening at the school as well as a chance to interface with the teachers and other staff. Being an active member of the community helps me understand what is on the minds of my fellow community members. With those two factors in place, I feel that I can bring a balanced approach to the board.

5. What is your vision for the Esko Public Schools, and how would you work toward this vision?

Esko has always been a top rated school in the area. I would like to see this trend continue. Like most other districts, Esko Schools has fallen on hard times financially. If this trend continues, I fear that both educational and extracurricular programs including both the arts and sports, the things that create a well rounded student, will be cut and our children will suffer the consequences. Esko’s past and present school boards have always spent money wisely and have done what is best for the students. I believe that I once again can help the school not only survive, but to prosper.

6. Other things you would like to share:

I have always tried to be an active member of the community. I have been on numerous committees while on the school board including certified negotiations, wellness, policy, finance and continue to be on the technology committee. I have held the position of School Board Chair, both a member and Chair of the Esko Community Education Advisory Committee, and am a current Board Member of the Esko Education Foundation. I have also been an active member of the elementary parents group (PIE), helped build the Esko Community Garden as a member of the Esko Active Communities Coalition, and have been a participant in many of the focus groups that have been formed to help seek a vision for the district. I have never been afraid to roll up my sleeves or to get my hands dirty or to do whatever it takes to help our school and it’s students succeed. I would appreciate your vote on November 6th.



Tell us about yourself:

My name is Rick Liljegren and I have lived in Esko with my wife Mary for the past 34 years. We have built two log homes in Esko during that time, and moved into our current location along the Midway River in 2005. All three of our children graduated from Esko Schools and our two grandchildren are now attending. I have worked at Minnesota Power for over 36 years. During that time, I have worked as a power plant operator, operated the power grid as a system operator, managed our control center operations, and am currently overseeing our electric reliability compliance and operations training areas. I have experience in managing a multi-million dollar budget, ensuring staff is fully trained and have the tools and equipment necessary to operate the real-time electric system. I currently work to ensure that Minnesota Power meets all regulatory and reporting requirements related to the bulk electric system, as well as developing procedures and operating guidelines to ensure electric reliability and the safety of personnel.

Why do you want to be on the Esko School Board?

I have a sincere desire to contribute in a positive way to my community, and that it is a privilege to serve. I have been on the Esko School Board for the last 14 years. I believe my “no nonsense” operations background, as well as my experiences as a manager provide me with the skills needed to be a valued member of the Esko School Board. Whether it is hiring staff, providing tools and equipment, maintaining facilities and programs, developing sound procedures and guidelines, or putting together a budget, we must always do what is best for kids while at the same time minimizing the impact on the taxpayer. I feel a personal obligation to provide the very best we can within our means. In short, my life is invested here, and I want to see our school and community succeed.

What is your vision for the Esko Public School, and how would you work towards that vision?

My vision and goal is to provide a learning environment that prepares our students for opportunities after they graduate. To have and utilize technology wisely and appropriately in our classrooms, again to prepare and ensure our students have obtained the knowledge and experience they need to be successful after high school. My vision is to have a district with small class sizes that maximize learning and the amount of time a teacher can spend directly with each student. I continue to see a school where students are introduced to the varied opportunities open to them as future careers. I see a district that takes advantage of opportunities to partner with local colleges and business to provide our students with additional choices to obtain skills for the excellent jobs available in our region. I envision a district that continues to do what is necessary to attract and retain quality staff and administration for the benefit of our students. 20 years from now, I envision a school that is still known for high achievement, and a community that people still want to come to live and raise their families.

Other things you would like to share:

I believe Esko is a great community, with a huge potential for growth. I believe the Esko community is something special, and that the school is a significant part of what makes us successful. My main goal has been, and continues to be, to provide a quality education for our students. The Esko School District has some significant, but not insurmountable, challenges ahead. There has been a sustained period of minimal to flat funding, and all of our local referendums have expired. I have experienced tight budget constraints in the past, and feel I can provide support and insight as I work with my fellow board members to continue to provide our very best for students. I have served on this board when some very difficult financial decisions needed to be made in the past. We did what was necessary to meet budget and academic requirements then, and I am confident we will succeed in the future. Our most important future resource is our students. I am dedicated to doing all I can for kids, and want to see us continue to rank highly in academics and co-curricular activities, and am committed to applying myself to these goals.

Feel free to contact me with your comments and questions. I can be reached via email at rliljegren@esko.k12.mn.us or via phone at 879-1118.

The Esko Community is one of the best!

From Our School Board

Clerk's Minutes

The Esko Board of Education, Independent School District No. 99, Esko, Minnesota, held their regular Board meeting on Tuesday, July 24, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the board conference room.

Members present: Julian Bertogliat, Scott Powers, Rick Liljegen, Margaret Sunnarborg, Superintendent Fischer. Absent: Lynn McComber, Jeff Salo. Scott Powers appointed Clerk Pro Tem.

Call the Meeting to Order

Chairperson Julian Bertogliat called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Rick Liljegen, second by Scott Powers to approve the agenda as amended and remove item 5. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Moved by Rick Liljegen, second by Jeff Salo to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:

- Approve the minutes of the June 12, 2012 regular school board meeting.
- Approve the minutes of the June 19, 2012 work session and special board meeting.
- Approve the checks as follows:

Date	Check #s	Checks	Total
6/7/12	73351-73355		\$13,034.96
6/18/12	73356-73427		\$97,626.07
6/26/12	73358-73471		\$87,439.90
6/27/12	73472-73483		\$4,097.56
7/1/12	73484-73497		\$12,365.15
7/17/12*	73498-73519		\$40,484.19
7/24/12*	73520-73521		461.96
VOID 7/24/12*	73136		(\$109.00)
VOID 7/24/12*	73195		(\$117.00)
VOID 7/24/12*	73453		(\$710.04)

*= pending Treasurer's review

- Treasurer's Report – June 2012 prior to end of year adjustments

Payroll			
Date	Type	Check's	Grand Total
6/15/12	Regular		\$394,517.18
6/29/12	Regular		\$328,117.51

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Accept Letter of Resignation from Bus Driver Dean Krych

Moved by Scott Powers, second by Rick Liljegen to accept a letter of resignation by retirement from bus driver Dean Krych effective June 6, 2012, with thanks for his service to the District. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approval of Reduction in Paraprofessional Hours

Moved by Rick Liljegen, second by Scott Powers to approve a reduction in overall daily paraprofessional hours from 117 to 105 for 2012/13. This will result in the elimination of one paraprofessional position and the layoff of Carri Kaldahl. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Review of FY 2012 Cooperative Pairing/Sharing Statement from Cloquet Public Schools

Supt. Fischer reviewed with the Board the FY 2012 Cooperative Pairing/ Sharing Statement from Cloquet Public Schools.

Approve the 2012/13 Activities Handbook for 2012/13

Discussion was heard regarding the updated 2012/13 Activities Handbook. Moved by Rick Liljegen, second by Scott Powers to approve the 2012/13 Activities Handbook as discussed. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Discussion: Referendum Decisions Relating to Operations and Facilities

Supt. Fischer presented cost estimates from Larson Engineering regarding various building and field projects, along with various tax implications on varying levels of referendums. Discussion was also heard regarding possible collaboration with various local groups. The Board discussed various options. Members of the public that were in attendance were also asked for their comments.

Approval to Proceed with the Development, Design, and Implementation of a Facilities Improvement Project Consisting of Work Associated with Building a Football/Soccer Field, Track, and Related Areas

Moved by Scott Powers, second by Margaret Sunnarborg to direct administration to proceed with the development, design, and implementation of a facilities improvement project consisting of work associated with building a football/soccer field, track, and related areas. The Board directs administration and related parties to submit Review & Comment to the Minnesota Department of Education for the project as discussed for an amount up to \$2.8 million. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Authorize Administration to Call For Quotes – Bread & Milk Products

Moved by Scott Powers, second by Rick Liljegen to authorize administration to call for quotes for purchase and delivery of bread and milk products for the 2012/13 school year. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Set Food Service Pricing for 2012/13

Moved by Rick Liljegen, second by Scott Powers to set the food service

meal pricing for 2012/13 as follows: Elementary Lunch - \$1.90, Secondary Lunch - \$2.00, Reduced Price Lunch - \$.40, Adult Lunch - \$3.15, Ala Carte – per item cost, Student Breakfast - \$1.00, Adult Breakfast - \$1.55, Milk \$.30. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Authorize Administration to Call for Quotes - #1 and #2 Diesel Fuel, Gasoline, and Snowplowing

Moved by Rick Liljegen, second by Scott Powers to authorize administration to call for quotes on #1 and #2 diesel fuel, gasoline, and snowplowing for 2012/13. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve Fall Coaching Assignments

Moved by Scott Powers, second by Rick Liljegen to approve the FY13 fall coaching assignments as presented (copy on file in the office of the superintendent). Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Set Ticket/Pass Prices

Moved by Scott Powers, second by Rick Liljegen to set ticket/pass prices for FY13 as presented. Pricing is listed on the school website and available at the school. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Discussion: Security Cameras

Discussion was heard regarding security cameras at the school and at the bus garage. The Board directed administration to explore security camera updates/improvements to meet District needs.

Administrative Reports

Board Committee Reports

- Margaret Sunnarborg – Certified negotiations meetings, community meeting.
- Rick Liljegen – Certified negotiations meetings, community meeting, Esko Ed Foundation meeting.
- Julian Bertogliat – Certified negotiations meetings, work sessions.
- Scott Powers – Non-certified negotiations with AFSCME, work sessions.

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Aaron Fischer

- Supt. Fischer presented a need for an educational operating levy. He is recommending an amount of \$341/student as identified through the community group. This learning levy would impact as follows:

- \$341 per student – Learning Levy
 - Reduce class sizes to 22, 24, 26 and 30 as the targets
 - Reduce ticket prices
 - Reduce senior pass costs
 - Provide Industrial Technology classes that have been reduced
 - Invest in electronic curriculums and technology necessary for 21st century

- A Community planning session was set for Monday, July 30, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at the school.
- The District has identified over \$90,000 in flood damage to both equipment and building structures. Applications have been made to FEMA for assistance.
- Football and soccer will be played this year with an adjusted schedule. Soccer will be played at the same time as last year. There is a portable scoreboard that may be used. Portable power sources are being explored to power the existing scoreboard.
- Football games will be hosted at 4:00 p.m. on Fridays. There is concern regarding the last game due to the loss of daylight later in the season. Portable lighting is being explored as well as other possible solutions.
- Modifications to the lower level games had to be made and there will be more “away” games.
- The possibility of working the B & B Market to use their wagon is being explored for concessions if needed.
- Different options for announcing at games are being checked into.

Congratulations and Commendations

- Janet Halonen – The District received the School Finance Award from the MN Dept of Education for the fifth consecutive year.

Comunications

There will be a community planning session on July 30, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at the school.

Open Forum

Mr. Peterson and other parents of the Esko Hockey Association were in attendance to discuss the flood damage to their building. They are working with authorities to discover all the damage and options available to deal with the situation. The Association would like to meet with school officials to discuss future options.

Adjournment

There being no further business, moved by Scott Powers, second by Rick Liljegen to adjourn at 9:32 p.m. Motioned carried by unanimous vote. Scott Powers Clerk Pro Tem

School Board minutes cont. on next page

From Our School Board

The Esko Board of Education, Independent School District No. 99, Esko, Minnesota, held their regular Board meeting on Tuesday, August 21, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the board conference room.

Members present: Julian Bertogliat, Lynn McComber, Scott Phillip Powers, Rick Liljegen, Margaret Sunnarborg, Jeff Salo, and Superintendent Fischer. Absent: None.

Call the Meeting to Order

Chairperson Julian Bertogliat called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Rick Liljegen, second by Jeff Salo to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Moved by Rick Liljegen, second by Jeff Salo to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:

- Approve the minutes of the July 24, 2012 regular school board meeting.
- Approve checks as follows:

Date	Check #s	Total
7/17/2012	73498-73519	\$40,484.19
7/24/2012	73520-73521	\$461.96
7/24/2012	VOID 73136	(\$109.00)
7/24/2012	VOID 73195	(\$117.00)
7/24/2012	VOID 73453	(\$710.04)
7/27/2012	73522-73573	\$73,560.41
7/30/2012	73574	\$675.00
7/31/2012	73575-73577	\$11,985.17
8/1/2012	73578	\$5,500.00
8/9/2012	73579-73658	\$197,282.15
8/13/2012	73659-73664	\$19,920.10

- Donations/Grants received:

- Donation from Amber Berg in the amount of \$200.00 for education.
- Grant received from Northland Foundation in the amount of \$1,000 for Pre-K to Grade 3 Team Grant.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Fundraiser Requests

Football – Viking Tickets sale – due to timing issues, the superintendent approved this request prior to the August board meeting.

Baseball – B & B Wagon at the Spur on 9/21/2012.

Moved by Jeff Salo, second by Scott Powers to approve fundraisers as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Technology Report

The District Technology Coordinator, Lisa Donelson, reported to the Board with regard to technology updates that have taken place over the summer. Ms. Donelson explained the reasoning for changes and upgrades as well as some cost savings associated with some of the projects. These projects include a new internet filter, a new school website, a new school store, a new emergency calling system, Google Apps for Education, additional bandwidth, new switches, and iPads being integrated into the 4th grade curriculum. She also reported that she has been hosting staff development sessions to train and familiarize staff with the recent changes. She is also working with the fourth grade teaching team to integrate iPads into their classrooms.

Administrative Reports

Principals' Reports:

Elementary – Principal Brian Harker reported that elementary enrollment is currently at 655, up 18 from last spring. He reported that all new staff were hired before school was out last spring and they are looking forward to new staff inservice on Monday, August 27, 2012, with all staff back on Tuesday for inservice days.

High School – Principal Greg Hexum reported that currently the enrollment in the high school is at 588 students, up 32 from last spring. He also reported that the upcoming staff inservice days will be a combination of district initiatives plus mandatory trainings.

Board Committee Reports:

- Lynn McComber – two meetings with the community and Board working sessions.
- Margaret Sunnarborg – two meetings with the community and Board working sessions.
- Julian Bertogliat – Town Board meeting, two communications meetings with the community and Board working sessions.
- Jeff Salo – two meetings with the community, Board working sessions, and a phone meeting with AFSCME representative.
- Scott Powers – Economic Development Committee, two meetings with community, and Board working sessions.

Superintendent's Report

- This summer's window replacement project is now complete and went very well.
- The gymnasium floor has been sanded and the broken boards replaced. It is now being painted.
- The summer hallway tile replacement project is complete.

- The sidewalk has been replaced by the elementary entrance.
- We are hoping to secure an electrical power box to run the scoreboard at the football/soccer field.
- Football games are scheduled to be played at 4:00 p.m.
- B & B Market will allow the District to rent their wagon for concessions at football games.
- Quotes are being obtained for a portable announcing system.

Accept Letter of Resignation from Paulette Ditzler, FACS Teacher

Moved by Jeff Salo, second by Scott Powers to accept a letter of resignation from Paulette Ditzler, FACS teacher effective 7/27/2012. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Accept Letter of Resignation from Marilyn Slattengren, Health Occupations Teacher

Moved Jeff Salo, second by Scott Powers to accept a letter of resignation from Marilyn Slattengren, Health Occupations teacher effective 8/20/2012. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Hire of Phyllis Sherman

Moved by Rick Liljegen, second by Jeff Salo to approve the hire of Phyllis Sherman as Health Occupations teacher for 2012/2013 at BA Step 5, .52 f.t.e. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Hire of Emily Michell

Moved by Jeff Salo, second by Scott Powers to approve the hire of Emily Michell as FACS teacher, contingent upon her getting a variance from the MN Dept of Education on her licensure, at BA Step 1, 1.0 f.t.e. for the 2012/2013 school year. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approval of Transportation Fuel Provider for 2012/13

Moved by Rick Liljegen, second by Jeff Salo to approve Como Oil Company as the transportation fuel provider for 2012/2013 per the bid. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approval of Food Service Milk Provider for 2012/13

Moved by Scott Powers, second by Rick Liljegen to approve JACKS Hometown Dairy as the 2012/2013 food service milk provider per the bid received. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approval of Food Service Bread Provider for 2012/13

Moved by Jeff Salo, second by Scott Powers to approve Pan-O-Gold Baking as the 2012/13 food service bread provider per the bid received. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve Improvements to Existing Surveillance Systems

Moved by Rick Liljegen, second by Jeff Salo to approve proposals from Great Lakes Alarm for improvements to existing surveillance systems at the school building and bus garage as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approval to Purchase and Install Replacement Window Shades

Moved by Jeff Salo, second by Rick Liljegen to approve the purchase of replacement window shades from Bayview Upholstery per their proposal as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approval of 2012/2013 Handbooks

Moved by Scott Powers, second by Jeff Salo to approve the following handbooks for 2012/2013 as presented:

- Transportation Handbook
- Elementary Staff Handbook
- Elementary Student Handbook
- Paraprofessional Handbook
- High School Handbook

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Change the Pricing of Adult Lunch per State Mandated Minimum

Moved by Jeff Salo, second by Lynn McComber to change the price of the adult lunch to \$3.25 per the minimum amount mandated by the State of Minnesota. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Action: Approve the 2011/2012-2012/2013 AFSCME Working Agreement

Moved by Jeff Salo, second by Scott Powers to approve the renewal of the AFSCME Working Agreement with Custodians and Bus Drivers for 2011/2012 and 2012/2013 per the proposal presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Resolution Relating to Increasing the General Education Revenue

Moved by Scott Powers, second by Margaret Sunnarborg to approve a Resolution Relating to Increasing the General Education Revenue of the School District and Calling an Election Thereon. The School Board of Ind. School District No. 99 (Esko) proposes to increase its general education revenue by \$341 per pupil unit by ballot at the November 6, 2012 election. The proposed referendum revenue authorization would be applicable for 9 years unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law. The additional revenue will be used to finance school operations. (Copy of the resolution in its entirety is available in the office of the Superintendent.) Motion carried by unanimous vote.

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Around Town

MINUTES

TOWN BOARD MEETING

JULY 19, 2012

Present: Terry Hill, Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, David Sunnarborg, Peleski, David Pritchett Absent: Tony Compo

Chairperson Hill called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.

Janke made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting with one correction. Second by Sunnarborg. Motion carried.

Gerard made a motion to approve the vouchers in the amount of \$ 151,839.12 (Check #'s 37560-37609), to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$ 6,603.55. Second by Janke. Motion carried.

Fund balances and June receipts in the amount of \$ 30,752.49 were reviewed.

Bob Draeger from the Firefighters' Relief Association was present to inform the Board that the 2013 required contribution from the Town will be \$ 2,104. The Town currently levies \$ 8,000 for this contribution. The Relief Association members made the decision not to join the statewide volunteer firefighter retirement plan which is administered by PERA.

A list of election judges for the 2012 primary and general elections was presented by the Clerk. A motion was made by Sunnarborg with a second by Gerard to approve the list of election judges with one addition pending completion of the required training. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on crack filling on some of the paved roads. No action was taken.

Janke reported on small business loans that are available thru the Northland Foundation to assist businesses that had damage from the recent flooding.

The water at Northridge Park was tested by the State Health Department. The first test came back positive for bacteria. The water was treated a second time and tested again. That test came back negative. The water can now be used by those using the pavilion.

Hill and Janke reported on a recent meeting they attended at the Esko School to discuss programs and facilities.

Hill and Peleski reported on the FEMA kick-off meeting they attended in Barnum.

The new appliances and base cabinet have been installed at Northridge Park.

Janke and Sunnarborg reported on a neighbor dispute regarding inflow and infiltration. This is a civil issue.

Calcium Chloride has been applied for dust control.

Fire Chief Jeff Juntunen reported on a meeting he attended to discuss the changes that are required to the radio system. It was questioned whether the radios for the road crew would also have to be upgraded.

The Fire Department received a grant from FM Global in the amount of \$ 1,500 to go towards the purchase of a new projector and screen for the fire hall. This will be used for training.

A motion was made at 7:21 p.m. by Janke with a second by Sunnarborg to close the regular meeting to discuss personnel matters. Motion carried.

A motion was made at 8:15 p.m. by Sunnarborg with a second by Janke to reopen the regular meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:15 p.m. by Sunnarborg with a second by Janke. Motion carried.

AUGUST 2, 2012

Present: Terry Hill, Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, Tony Compo, Rhonda Peleski Absent: David Sunnarborg, David Pritchett

Chairperson Hill called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.

Janke made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Gerard. Motion carried.

Compo made a motion to approve the vouchers in the amount of \$ 26,645.60 (Check #'s 37610 - 37649) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$ 5,862.94. Second by Gerard. Motion carried.

Aaron Miller from Sinnott Blacktopping was present to discuss the road sign replacement program. The company has new equipment which will cut the cost for the installations. Since the Town experienced unexpected expenses from the flooding, the sign replacement program has been put on hold for this year. Sinnott will submit another quote for their services next year.

Discussion was held on the recent meeting that was held with the representatives from FEMA that will be working with Town staff.

Discussion was held on the route for this year's Esko parade. With

a lot of the freeway traffic being diverted thru the township on Highway 61, there are concerns with having enough law enforcement for traffic control. Hill will discuss this further with Officer Foldesi and the County Sheriff.

Janke updated the Board on the inflow and infiltration issue between neighbors. It is a civil matter and the Town is not involved.

Janke reported on the recent School Board meeting. School Board member Julian Bertogliat was also present to discuss the possibility of an operating referendum and a facilities referendum this fall. The School Board will have to look at making additional cuts to both programming and staff.

In addition to the operating needs, there is also a need to make improvements at the athletic fields.

The bleachers at the athletic field were condemned and had to be removed. The lights on the field were also taken down. Damage was sustained in the flooding including the hockey shelter, the scoreboard, fencing, the concession stand, and dugouts.

Hill reported on the recent Esko Community Development meeting. Two offers were made to purchase the former liquor store property. The current owners rejected both offers.

A motion was made at 7:00 p.m. by Janke with a second by Compo to close the meeting to discuss a personnel issue. Motion carried.

A motion was made at 7:15 p.m. by Janke with a second by Compo to reopen the meeting. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:15 p.m. by Gerard with a second by Compo. Motion carried.

AUGUST 16, 2012

Present: Terry Hill, Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, David Sunnarborg, Rhonda Peleski, David Pritchett Absent: Tony Compo

Chairperson Hill called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.

Gerard made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Janke. Motion carried.

Gerard made a motion to approve the vouchers in the amount of \$ 164,386.30 (Check #'s 37650 - 37693, Void Checks 37657 - 37661) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$ 4,837.63. Second by Sunnarborg. Motion carried.

Fund balances and receipts for the month of July in the amount of \$741,633.31 were reviewed.

An inquiry was made by Shafer Contracting regarding the possible short-term lease of four lots in the Business Park. They are the contractors currently working on the I-35 project. They'd like to set up a concrete crusher with direct access to the southbound lanes of the freeway. Discussion was held on hours of operation, use of the business park roads and restoration of the lots. Peleski will ask that they put together a written proposal for review.

The bridge on Anderson Road is again slated for replacement in 2012. Carlton County Transportation Department was having difficulty obtaining the required permits from the DNR so the project was to be pushed back for 2013 replacement. The permits are now in place and the project will be completed by October 1, 2012.

The 2013 levy which was approved at the 2012 Annual Meeting in March was reviewed. Until it's known whether the State of Minnesota will help with the costs not paid by FEMA for the June flood expenses, it's not known if any adjustments will be needed for 2013. This will be discussed further at the reconvened Annual Meeting on August 21.

Discussion was held on the prices the Town charges for bulk water. With so many contractors purchasing water from the Town for local projects, the current fees won't cover the water bills from the City of Cloquet. A motion was made by Sunnarborg with a second by Gerard to increase the amount charged for bulk water to \$ 4.00 per 1,000 gallons. Motion carried. This will be effective August 1, 2012. The previous amount charged was \$3.00 per 1,000 gallons.

A motion was made at 7:00 p.m. by Janke with a second by Gerard to close the meeting to discuss a personnel matter.

A motion was made at 7:20 p.m. by Janke with a second by Sunnarborg to reopen the regular meeting.

Discussion was held on two recent incidents in Thomson Township involving children being approached by strangers. No evidence was found in either case. Hill and Carlton County Sheriff Kelly Lake responded to citizen concerns.

Discussion was held on an anonymous letter received regarding the condition of the property at W. Highway 61 and Maki Road. This was referred to legal.

Discussion was held on the public use of roads in the business park. Since the roads are not complete until they are paved, there should be no

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Around Town

Esko Fire Department Awarded Community Partners Grant From MN Power

The Esko Fire/Rescue Department recently received a \$1,200.00 grant from MN Power. The money has been used to purchase water rescue equipment. Several times a year the Esko Fire/Rescue Department is called to water rescue situations along the St. Louis River, mostly in Jay Cook State Park. The equipment will greatly improve our ability to ensure safe and efficient operation along the water. We were able to purchase equipment to make up four (4) kits that can serve rescuers. Safety equipment for the members, and equipment to rescue those in need is included in the kits. We are in the process of learning techniques to aid us during rescue operations. The training eight (8) hours of training is being provided under a contract agreement with Lake Superior College Fire and Rescue

Training Center. The Carlton and Wrenshall Fire Departments have also been invited to share in the training. The cost of the training is being picked up by the state of Minnesota Fire Training Board.

During the recent flooding, MN Power played a critical role to ensure that we were updated on the situation as much as possible. They were also kind enough to provide pizza for our members and volunteer sand baggers one evening.

This cooperative attitude on behalf of MN Power demonstrated their strong commitment to continue to be partners in the community. Their involvement is a great example of the partnership between the private and public sector.



Jerry Frederick of Minnesota Power presents grant to Jeff Juntunen of the Esko Fire/Rescue Department.

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public use of the roads. This was referred to legal.

Gerard reported that the landscaping is complete around the "Welcome" sign.

Janke reported on the recent National Night Out.

Sunnarborg observed that there are cars parking on the south shoulder of Lincoln Lane. This shoulder was widened so there would be room to walk. Sunnarborg will request "no parking" signs to be installed by Carlton County.

Sunnarborg and Janke performed inflow and infiltration testing at RAM to see if there was groundwater entering the sanitary sewer. None of the dye added to the system was seen in the sewerline.

Sunnarborg received an estimate in the amount of \$ 10,000 from Sinnott Blacktopping for replacing a culvert and paving the railroad approaches at the area crossings. Sinnott has all of the required training from the railroad to work in the railroad right-of-ways.

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:00 p.m. by Sunnarborg with a second by Janke. Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,
Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer Terry Hill, Chairperson
Town of Thomson

Esko Fire Department to Bolster Fire Prevention Efforts with FM Global Grant

The Esko Fire Department has received a US\$1,500 fire prevention grant from FM Global, one of the world's largest commercial property insurers.

FM Global representative Troy Gist presented the award to **Chief Jeff Juntunen, 1st Assistant Chief Dale Lennartson and 2nd Assistant Chief Brent Pykkonen** during the Esko Fun Day in Northridge Park. The award will be used to assist with fire prevention activities in the community to help educate the community and reduce the number of fires. The department has purchase up to date audio visual equipment with the money.

Because fire continues to be the leading cause of property damage worldwide, during the past 35 years FM Global has contributed millions of dollars in fire prevention grants to fire service organizations around the globe. Locally, the company has awarded grants to a number of Minnesota-based organizations.

"At FM Global, we strongly believe the majority of property damage is preventable, not inevitable," said Michael Spaziani, manager of the fire prevention grant program. "Far too often, inadequate budgets prevent those organizations working to prevent fire from being as proactive as they would like to be. With additional financial support, grant recipients are actively helping to improve property risk in the communities they serve."

Through its Fire Prevention Grant Program, FM Global awards grants quarterly to fire departments-as well as national, state, regional, local and community organizations worldwide-that best demonstrate a need for funding, where dollars can have the most demonstrable impact on preventing fire, or mitigating the damage it can quickly cause.

To learn more about FM Global's Fire Prevention Grant Program, or to apply for a grant, please visit www.fmglobal.com/grants.

For more than 175 years, many of the world's largest organizations have turned to FM Global to develop cost-effective property insurance and engineering solutions to protect their business operations from fire, natural disasters and other types of property risk. With clients in more than 130 countries, FM Global ranks #572 among *FORTUNE* magazine's largest companies in America and is rated A+ (Superior) by A.M. Best and AA (Very Strong) by Fitch Ratings. The company has been named "Best Property Insurer in the World" by *Euromoney* magazine, "Best Global Property Insurer" by *Global Finance* magazine and was voted "Best Commercial Property Insurer" in *Business Insurance's* 2010 annual Readers Choice Awards.



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Resolution Calling A Special Election on the Issuance of General Obligation School Building Bonds

Moved by Scott Powers, second by Lynn McComber to approve a Resolution Calling a Special Election on the Issuance of General Obligation School Building Bonds of Independent School District No. 99 (Esko). The ballot question at the November 6, 2012 shall read: Shall Independent School District No. 99 (Esko), Minnesota, be authorized to issue its general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$2,700,000 to provide funds for the acquisition and betterment of public school sites and facilities, including athletic facilities? (Copy of the resolution in its entirety is available in the office of the Superintendent.) Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Congratulations and Commendations

- Lisa Donelson for all of the projects she has taken on and how well she gets the job done.
- The Community Education staff for their work on the Esko Fun Days Event.

Adjournment

There being no further business, moved by Jeff Salo, second by Rick Liljegen to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. Motioned carried by unanimous vote.
Jeff Salo, Clerk

School Lunch Menu

October 2012

Breakfast is served from 7:50 - 8:10 am
No Charging Meals

View student's meal accounts on Parent Portal www.esko.k12.mn.us

Alternate menu for grades 7-12 only. Subject to change.
Daily ala carte options available for grades 9-12.

School Lunch/Breakfast Prices:

Lunch:

Grades 1-6	\$1.90
Grade 7-12	\$2.00
Adults	\$3.25
Reduced Lunch	\$.40
Milk	\$.30

Breakfast:

Grades K-12	\$1.00
Adult	\$1.55
Reduced Breakfast	\$.00
Milk	\$.30

Please send check in an envelope labeled with exactly what is being purchased.

Lactose reduced milk will be provided to a student upon written request from a parent/guardian.



Attention: Peanut Butter Has Been Replaced

This year, the Esko Schools cafeteria has discontinued serving peanut butter! If you look at the menu, you will see SB & J, instead of PB & J, offered with bread items. The new product-SunButter*, is a peanut and tree-nut free natural sunflower spread. Even though it tastes like peanut butter, it is a seed butter that is made in the USA from specially roasted sunflower seeds. SunButter* products are completely peanut-free, tree-nut free, and gluten free. The spread is processed in a peanut-free & tree-nut free facility making it a great choice for people with peanut

October 2012				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Chicken Nuggets, Sweet Potato Fries, Dinner Roll/SB & J, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fresh Fruit, Milk. Alt: Soup/Sandwich	2 Polish/Bun, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Fresh Veggies, Strawberry Cup, Milk. Alt: Taco Salad Bar	3 Baked Ham Slice, Cheese Potatoes, Steamed Mixed Vegetables, Dinner Roll, Apple, Milk. Alt: Soup/Sandwich	4 "Lunch Brunch" Pancakes, Sausage Links, Tri Tater, Hard Boiled Egg, Baby Carrots, Applesauce, Milk. Alt: Quesadilla Pizza	5 Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza, Romaine Lettuce Salad, Celery Sticks/Dip, Fresh Fruit, Milk. Alt: Lasagne Roll Up
8 Mini Corn Dogs, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Breadstick, Fresh Veggies, Fresh Fruit, Milk. Alt: Soup/Sandwich	9 Hamburger/Bun, Cheese Slice, Lettuce/Tomato, Crinkle Cut Fries, Diced Peaches, Milk. Alt: Salad Bar	10 Chicken Wild Rice Soup, Turkey Sandwich, Crackers, Fresh Veggie Cup, Orange, Milk. Alt: Burger Bar	11 Egg Rolls, Fried Rice, Stir Fry Veggies, Pineapple Tidbits, Fortune Cookie, Milk. Alt: Soup/Sandwich	12 Pepperoni Pizza Sticks, Spring Salad Mix, Fresh Veggies/Dip, Fresh Fruit, Milk. Alt: Philly Sandwich
15 Chicken Drumsticks, Waffle Fries, Bread/SB & J, Fresh Veggies, Fresh Fruit, Milk. Alt: Soup/Sandwich	16 Hot Dog/Bun, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Chips, Veggie Cup, Mandarin Oranges, Milk. Alt: Chicken Fajitas	17 Turkey Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Steamed Mixed Veggies, Biscuits, Cranberry Sauce, Milk. Alt: Soup/Sandwich	18 NO SCHOOL	19 NO SCHOOL
22 Corn Dog, Baked Beans, Sweet Potato Puffs, Roll/SB & J, Fresh Fruit, Milk. Alt: Soup/Sandwich	23 Chicken Patty/Bun, Oven Baked Fries, Cheesy Broccoli, Peaches & Cream, Milk. Alt: Taco in a Bag	24 Chili, Garlic Cheese Bread, Carrots/Celery Sticks, Crackers, Apple, Milk. Alt: Pork Sandwich	25 Hot Ham & Cheese/Bun, Potato Smiles, Green Beans, Fruited Jello, Milk. Alt: Soup/Sandwich	26 Turkey Sub, Cheese Slice, Lettuce/Tomato, Pickle Spear, Cole Slaw, Fresh Fruit, Milk. Alt: Stuffed Crust Pizza
29 Shrimp Poppers, AuGratin Potatoes, Dinner Roll, Peas & Carrots, Fresh Fruit, Milk. Alt: Soup/Sandwich	30 Ribette/Bun, Crinkle Cut Sweet Potato Fries, Corn on the Cob, Fruit Sauce, Milk. Alt: Salad Bar	31 "Taco in a Bag" Chips/Meat/Cheese Lettuce/Tomato, Breadstick, Veggie Cup, Orange, Milk. NO ALTERNATE EARLY DISMISSAL		ALTERNATE LUNCH AVAILABLE FOR GRADES 7-12. SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

allergies or gluten intolerance. (One note of caution is that the product is made on equipment that processes soybeans). We started serving SunButter* last school year, since it is available as a USDA commodity, and the students like it! If you have any questions about this alternative to peanut butter, stop in or give us a call. You can also look this product up on their web site.

the engineering on the project is complete if anything changes in the future. The Town will keep them informed on any changes that take place in the Township involving commercial and residential developments.

Discussion was held on the 2013 levy that was approved at the March Annual Meeting. With the State approval to assist with the 25 % of the expenses incurred from the June flooding that are not paid by FEMA, the Town should be able to recoup a majority of what's been paid out. Discussion was held regarding the amount of time it will take to recover what's been paid so far. If reimbursements are not timely, the Town will have to look at the option of short term financing. No changes will be proposed in the total amount levied for 2013.

An update was given on the Anderson Road bridge replacement. Carlton County only received one bid for the project from Ulland Brothers. A preconstruction meeting is scheduled for Sept 17 at Carlton County.

Discussion was held on the Town taking over ownership of the roads in the Riverwood subdivision. Sunnarborg will work on this with the Road Foreman and the developers.

Gerard reported that he trimmed tree branches at the corner of Birch Drive and Kinnunen Road to improve visibility at that corner.

Hill reported on the recent Esko Community Development Corporation meeting.

Sunnarborg reported on the road and bridge projects. Temporary "no parking" signs were put up on Lincoln Lane. Korby Road blacktop was patched so further damage wouldn't be done to it by the I-35 contractor's trucks using it as a haul road.

Discussion was held on the traffic congestion at the Canosia Road, Thomson Road, and Highway 61 intersection. Solutions will continue to be looked for.

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:45 p.m. by Janke with a second by Gerard. Motion carried. Respectfully Submitted, Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer Terry Hill, Chairperson

Town of Thomson

TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 6, 2012

Present: Terry Hill, Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, David Sunnarborg, Tony Compo, Rhonda Peleski, Absent: David Pritchett

Chairperson Hill called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.

Janke made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 16, 2012 meeting. Second by Gerard. Motion carried.

Sunnarborg made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 28, 2012 special meeting with one correction. Second by Compo. Motion carried.

Gerard made a motion to approve the vouchers in the amount of \$ 61,057.78 (Check #'s 37694 - 37747) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$ 10,459.56. Second by Sunnarborg. Motion carried.

Dave Kult and Dave Valine were present from Minnesota Energy Resources Inc. to update the Board on the gas company's proposal to bring natural gas to the Township. Because of increased costs and not being able to get the financing that was hoped for, they are not moving ahead with the project at this time. However, all of the required permits are in place and