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# EMS PARENT NEWSLETTER

January 11, 2018

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Ellington Middle School - 46 Middle Butcher Road - Ellington, CT 06029 - (860) 896-2339 [EMS Website](#)

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## Mark Your Calendar

### January

- 12 **No School - Teacher Prof. Learning**
  - 15 **No School - Martin Luther King Day**
  - 18 **Mid-Winter Festival of Arts 6:00 pm - Gymnasium**
  - 19 **School Dance 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm - Gymnasium**
  - 22 **The ZONE - Session 2 Begins**
  - 26 **EHS Student Orientation**
  - 29 **PTO Meeting - 7:00 pm Media Center**
  - 30 **Acoustic Festival - 7:00 pm Cafeteria**
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### Mid-Winter Festival of Arts

Come one! Come all!... to the Mid-Winter Festival of Arts on Thursday, January 18th, featuring the EMS grade 7 and 8 Choruses, EMS Vocal Ensemble and the EMS Visual Artists. The festivities begin at 6:00 pm with an Art Walk. At 6:45, there will be an induction ceremony of the EMS Chapter of the National Junior Art Honor Society. To make the evening complete, our Winter Chorus Concert will begin at 7:00 p.m. This is an evening of student creation that you will not want to miss!

### Snowball Bash!

- The next Student Council dance will take place on Friday, January 19th from 7-9:30PM in the gymnasium.
- Dance tickets will be sold between January 9th and 18th during all lunch waves. Tickets are \$5 each or \$4 with a Student Society band.
- Students can choose to wear either casual blue and white or formal attire to the dance.
- The snow date is the following Friday evening (January 26th).
- Snacks will be provided.
- The dance will be done in conjunction with the EHS/EMS Coat Drive. If a student brings in a coat to the ticket booth during lunch between January 9th and January 18th, they will get a free Dum-Dum Pop and will have an opportunity to win a free dance ticket!



### DON'T MISS THE PARENT DANCE NIGHT FILM SERIES!

#### *Screenagers: Growing up in the Digital Age*

*Friday January 19th,  
7:15-9:15 pm - EMS Library*

Screenagers is an in-depth documentary film produced by physician Delaney Ruston. The film examines the impact of screen time on children and offers practical strategies for parents managing their child's digital world. Join us as we watch and discuss the film together!

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### Student Council Meetings

All meetings are held after school in the library until 3:15 pm.

- February 7th
  - April 18th
  - May 16th
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### Ellington Gallery Night

Ellington Gallery Night will be held on Saturday, February 10th from 4-7pm at the Ellington Senior Center. Students who wish to participate in this event should bring their artwork to Mrs. Griffin by February 2nd. You may also submit your artwork directly to Rise Above using the information from the flyer.

## School Counseling Corner

Mindfulness opportunity for our middle school students:

Youth and Family Services is offering a course to help teach our middle school students to find balance, calm and resilience. The course is called "Plant the Seeds of Mindfulness" and it will be taught by Diane Lasher-Penti, LMFT. The fee for students to participate is \$25.00 for 6 nights (1/17, 1/31, 2/7, 2/21, 3/7, and 3/21) of fun, creativity and hands on instruction. For more information, please contact Diane Lasher-Penti at Youth and Family Services 860-870-3130.

## The Zone

The second session of The Zone After School Program for the 2017-2018 school year is available for sign ups! This winter session will run **January 22<sup>th</sup> through March 9, 2018**. The choices include podcasting, [tennis](#), Magic the Gathering, and many other fun activities. This program is a great way for students to learn new skills, have fun in a positive environment, and meet new friends that enjoy the same sports, academics, activities and interests. We went digital. Here is [the link to the sign-up form](#) that has all the information in a linked handout. Please make checks payable to EMS. **The deadline for sign-ups and payment is January 22nd.**



## Fill our Makerspace Instead of your Recycle Bin

Donate to the EMS Makerspace!

Do you have a hobby that was started but didn't quite catch on or you don't do anymore? Scrapbooking? Knitting? Sewing? LEGO? We'll take your unwanted supplies!

Here is a link to the full list of supplies we are hoping to collect. <https://goo.gl/6qtasP> If you have any of these items that you no longer need, please consider donating to the school. You can send donated items in with your child and please attach a note that says the items are for the Makerspace. If you have any questions, please contact [Lisa Polack](#). Thank you for your support!



## EHS Parent Orientation

*February 6, 2018 - 6:00pm*

Attention Eighth Grade Parents:

The annual EHS Parent Orientation for the class of 2022 will be held on Tuesday, February 6th from 6:00-8:00 pm at EHS. This is a great opportunity to get a preview of the high school, meet EHS staff members, and ask questions. We encourage all parents to attend! Please contact the EHS Counseling Department should you have any questions.

## EHS Student Orientation

*Friday January 26, 2018 - 10:30am*

Attention Eighth Grade Parents:

Due to several snow days, the original 8<sup>th</sup> grade orientation date of Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> has been moved to Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. The annual EHS Student Orientation for the class of 2022 will now be held on Friday, January 26th from 10:30 am - 1:30 pm at EHS. During the orientation, students will meet with EHS staff and students to hear more about their upcoming high school experience. Topics include: navigating the hallways, course selection, extracurricular activities, and more! During the orientation, students will also receive a copy of the 2018-2019 Program of Studies to bring home and begin thinking about the courses they'd like to take next year. Students will eat lunch at EHS that day, so they should either bring a bagged lunch or \$3.00 (cash only) to purchase lunch at the high school. Please note, students cannot use their school lunch accounts to purchase lunch that day. The cafeteria menu for that day is posted on the EHS Food Services section of the Ellington Schools website. Please contact your child's school counselor should you have any questions.



## Girls Ice Hockey

Attention: All parents who have girls who play ice hockey!

New this year! A Girls High School Hockey Varsity Co-op Team has been formed for Suffield/Ellington/Enfield. Any middle school/high school girls who are currently playing ice hockey, please have your parent(s) email Tracy Lupone (team manager) at [tracyandjoe@gmail.com](mailto:tracyandjoe@gmail.com). The Girls Varsity Team is gathering a list of names of FUTURE players. Please provide the following information in your e-mail: Player Name, Town, Current School, Current Grade, Hockey Position and Current Hockey Team. We are excited about this new sports opportunity!



## Box Tops for Education

At this point in the school year we have earned a little over \$100 via the BoxTops for Education program. Keep cutting and sending in your boxtops-your help is greatly appreciated!

A reminder that Ellington Middle School participates in the Box Tops for Education program. Send your box tops in with your child so that EMS can collect the money. This money funds programs that are important to our school including the purchase of technology for students and teachers. The program runs all year long and we accept box tops from the partial list of products below. If you have any questions, please contact the school.

Nature Valley Cereals  
Land O Lakes Dairy Products  
Boise Polaris Printer Paper  
Annie's Products (including organic)  
Pillsbury Products  
Lysol Disinfecting Wipes  
AND MANY OTHER PRODUCTS



Clipart from

<https://goo.gl/fzmZxr>  
<https://goo.gl/vGigsT>  
<https://goo.gl/QimRH1>  
<https://goo.gl/t7EP57>

<https://goo.gl/wyxmZY>  
<https://goo.gl/4P2T8n>  
<https://goo.gl/QxuJMA>  
<https://goo.gl/4sz21J>

## 2017 EMS Food Drive

Congratulations to all students it was a very successful food drive. Ellington Middle School students collected over 900 items for the Crystal Lake food pantry. The winning homerooms were Mr. Curtis for 7th grade, and Ms. Roy for 8th grade. Thank you all to who participated.





# Call for Artists

Showcase Your Artwork!

Local artists of all ages, using any medium, are invited to display their art at our 4th annual community-wide Gallery Night. This night will include art displays, live music and refreshments.

**Gallery**  
night

Saturday, February 10th

4pm-7pm

Ellington Senior Center

(40 Maple Street)

Interested artists should contact Tin, Gallery Night Chairperson, at [EllingtonGalleryNight@gmail.com](mailto:EllingtonGalleryNight@gmail.com)

This free event is hosted by **Rise Above**, a Youth Services student leadership group.

[youth.ellington-ct.gov](http://youth.ellington-ct.gov) 860-870-3130