PRINCIPALLY SPEAKING

February 2026

NEWS AND NOTES FROM EISENHOWER HIGH SCHOOL

CELEBRATING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION



February is Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month, and at EHS, we are proud to highlight the role CTE plays in preparing our students for success both in college and in careers. Career and Technical Education programs give students hands on, real world learning experiences that connect classroom instruction to future opportunities. Through CTE, students at EHS explore career pathways, earn industry recognized credentials, develop technical and employability skills, and gain a deeper understanding of how their learning applies beyond high school.

CTE is about options. Whether a student plans to attend a four-year university, community college, technical school, enlist in the military, or enter the workforce directly, CTE provides relevant skills that open doors. Employers consistently tell us they value problem solving, teamwork, communication and adaptability, all of which are skills intentionally built into our CTE courses.

I am grateful to our outstanding CTE teachers, counselors, and community partners who make these opportunities possible. As we celebrate CTE Month, I encourage families to talk with students about their interests and explore the many opportunities available through our CTE programs. At EHS, we are committed to preparing every student for a successful future, and Career and Technical Education is a vital part of that mission.

USD 265 CTE Pathways

Biomedical
Business Finance – Accounting
Corrections, Security, Law - Law Enforcement
Corrections, Security, Law – Pre-Law
Digital Media
Early Childhood Development and Services
Engineering and Applied Mathematics
Family, Community, and Consumer Services
Fashion, Apparel, and Interior Design
Graphic Design
Health Sciences
Marketing
Automotive Technology
Programming and Software Development
Restaurant and Event Management
Teaching/Training
Web and Digital Communications

ESPORTS RACES TO THIRD STATE



Our EHS Mario Kart Team made state and school history with a 3rd place finish at the first ever KSHSAA State Esports Championships held in Olathe!



Team members Wilson Barlow, Max Barlow, Owen Schroeder, Jake Schroeder and Zach Wolf, under the direction of sponsors Damien Hays and Graham Ratzlaff, competed in the regular season and qualified for the State tournament. This was the first year for eSports to be a sanctioned KSHSAA activity. Way to go guys!

SELF CARE STATION

On January 30, EHS Ambassadors and Counselors hosted a Self-Care Station that was available to all students throughout the day. Students were invited to stop by and take advantage of a variety of free items, including snacks, drink mixes, fidgets, lotions, motivational stickers, squishy animals and so much more. This station was made possible thanks to the incredible generosity of our teachers, students and families. Thank you for your donations and continued support of our school community.



We offer the Self-Care Station because this time of year can be especially challenging. Statistically, it's one of the most difficult periods for mental health: the weather is cold, it gets dark early, and many are coming off the high of the holidays along with added stress and financial strain. Our goal is to remind students to pause, take care of themselves and know they are not alone. Tiger Nation is full of people who care, who are ready to listen, and who want to support you. Remember to keep going, you matter, and you are supported.



LAST CALL TO ORDER 2026 YEARBOOKS

The 2026 Echo Yearbook (Volume 15) is moving into its final production phase. March 1 is the deadline for ordering. This includes all sales—both yearbooks and senior ads—will permanently close on March 1st. No orders can be accepted after this date.

Secure your copy at: yearbookforever.com

Senior Families – The deadline to celebrate your Senior with a personalized ad has been extended to March 1st. Spaces are filled on a first come, first served basis.

Questions? Email Ms. Robinson at srobinson@goddardusd.com.

REGIONAL CHAMPIONS



The EHS Speech and Debate Team competed at the KSHSAA Regional 4-Speaker tournament hosted at Maize South and finished with a 7-1 record and a Regional Championship! The team continued on to 5A State in Lawrence and finished 4th. Congratulations to: Abram Peine, Jeffrey McCullough, Emma Bruce, Colm Power and Nolan Gragg.

TIGERS ON THE MAT





The Tigers wrestling teams are building momentum this season, with performances that showcase their hard work, resilience, and growth on the mat. They continue to represent EHS with pride and determination. Join us for a home dual on February 5 and help create an electric atmosphere as our wrestlers compete in front of a home crowd. Let's pack the gym and support our Tigers!



CTSO SPOTLIGHT: HOSA

Each of our Career Pathways at EHS have a Career and Technical Student Organization associated with the pathway. Our most recently added CTSO, Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA), is one of the fastest growing clubs at EHS. HOSA is designed for students interested in health care and biomedical sciences. The HOSA national organization is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this year. Under the guidance of sponsor Catherine LaFever, it is quickly growing here in our building. Ms. LaFever began sponsoring HOSA in the fall of 2024, with about 12 students signed up. In just a year, membership has already doubled, reflecting the enthusiasm and interest students have in healthcare related careers.

HOSA offers students opportunities to develop skills and explore careers through both academic and hands on competitions. Students can test their knowledge in areas such as biotechnology, chemistry, and health sciences, or showcase practical skills like CPR, life saving techniques, or teamwork in problem solving challenges. These experiences not only strengthen classroom learning but also give students a chance to apply real world health care skills.

In addition to competitions, HOSA members actively serve the school and the community. In addition to helping with activities, students will also attend the state leadership conference to build leadership skills and connect with peers across the state of Kansas. LaFever has also seen strong leadership emerge among HOSA members. Students are stepping into officer roles, representing the club at conferences, and encouraging their peers to get involved. “Competitions have been a big growth point,” she notes. “It’s inspiring to watch students gain confidence and step into leadership roles.”

Thank you, Ms. LaFever, for providing such a great opportunity for our students!





RESEARCH IN ACTION - SCIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

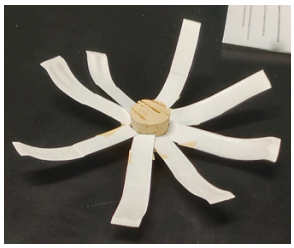


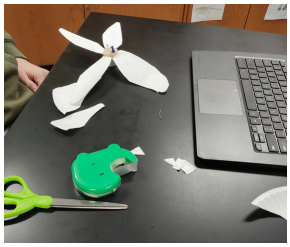
Honors Biology students looked at different human blood sample slides. They had the task of comparing healthy blood to two samples of diseased blood (malaria and sickle cell) and recording observations. Ultimately leading them to "diagnose" the patients based on their observations and information given.

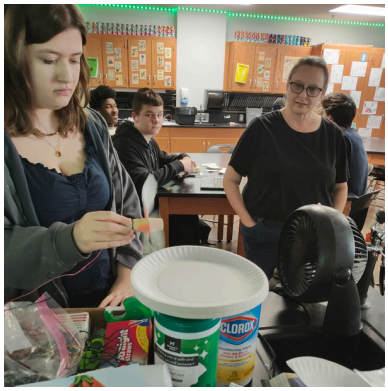




Ecology students are designing and testing different designs of wind turbines at the end of a unit of study on renewable energy









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