



DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



MAR/APR 26 | OPPORTUNITY BLOOMS



Letter from the Superintendent's Office

As we start to enter our spring season, it has been a joy to see how "Opportunity Blooms" across our Ellsworth School Department. This month's newsletter is a testament to the incredible return on investment our community provides for its students. From the record-breaking success of our 3rd Annual Family STEM Night, drawing over 425 participants, to the 50 medals brought home by our HCTC students from the SkillsUSA State Conference, our schools are vibrant hubs of growth and achievement. We see individual grit in milestones like EHS Senior Jovin Pesek's 100th career wrestling win and the professional heights reached by students like Lily Alley, who earned her US Coast Guard Master 100 Tons license while still in high school.

These opportunities are made possible by the unwavering support of our citizens. As we begin to approach the June budget vote, we invite you to see these stories not just as accolades, but as the tangible value your investment brings to our city. Whether it is our student-created Earth Day flags flying on Main Street or the group of local businesses that raised over \$7,000 in gift baskets to honor our retiring teachers, the partnership between our schools and the community is our greatest strength. Your support in June directly sustains the specialized programs, dedicated faculty, and extracurricular opportunities that allow every Ellsworth student to reach its full potential.



Sincerely,

Amy J. Boles
Superintendent of Schools



3RD ANNUAL FAMILY STEM NIGHT ROCKS EEMS!

Family STEM Night returned for the 3rd straight year this past week – and it was a smash hit!

With over 425 students and family members from around the area joined by 30 community partners, our 3rd annual event filled both gyms, the hallways, and the cafeteria at EEMS – and we even had a HUGE General Dynamics Bath Iron Works experience parked right out front!



Throughout the night, the gym and classrooms were transformed into a sprawling laboratory where the next generation of engineers, biologists, and tech leaders got to test their skills. Whether it was the precision work of biomedical pipetting, the high-flying physics of stomp rockets, or even the culinary science of local mussels, there was an incredible sense of wonder in every corner of the building. The initiative is part of the [STEM WorkForce Ready 2030](#) vision, and the ESD has a dedicated team focused on integrating computer science and real-world career exposure into all of our curriculum. Thank you to them for hosting such a wonderful event – for the third time!

This success was a true team effort, bridging our entire school community from EEMS and EHS and our STEM faculty there, and several HCTC programs even had tables set up for attendees to interact with! Thank you to our staff and student volunteers, wonderful community partners, and amazing guests who made year three the best year yet!

Head to our website for our full story on our amazing time at Family STEM Night! You'll find a link to our full photo album – and click the video above to relive all the fun!

[READ MORE](#)





Local Businesses Team Up to Honor Retiring Teachers – and they brought lunch!

In Ellsworth, community support isn't just a concept—it's a tradition. For the sixth year running, a dedicated coalition of local businesses fueled the Ellsworth School Department's March Professional Development Day with a full lunch spread for the entire staff. But this year, these community partners took their gratitude a step further, honoring all of our end-of-year retirees with a massive send-off that truly shows what our educators mean to this town!

Nine local businesses in total all joined forces this year to present our staff with another beautiful lunch spread of Pat's Pizza and fresh dessert, but they took their appreciation to another level this time around. To celebrate seven of our outgoing teachers who are retiring after tremendous careers this coming summer, our group of local heroes helped gather donations and presented each staff member with a gift basket – totalling about \$1,100 of goods in each basket! In total, 18 of our amazing local partners chipped in to send-off our teachers in terrific fashion.

What began in 2021 as a simple question of how to help during a difficult time has snowballed into a major community movement. The “Core Four” sponsors—Bar Harbor Bank & Trust, NAPA Coastal Auto Parts, Stanley Subaru, and Jordan Fernald Funeral Homes—remain the engine of the event, but their enthusiasm has proven contagious. As the list of contributors grows each year, it “fuels the fire” for others to join in, turning a small gesture of thanks into a district-wide celebration of service. They even came back a week later to provide our HCTC staff with lunch while they were busy crushing it at SkillsUSA!

Check out our full story for an interview with one of our amazing partners, a list of our retiring staff, and more photos from an amazing March Professional Development day!

READ MORE



HCTC's 'Skills' on full display at State Conference!



We are SO proud of all of our HCTC students and staff for another tremendous showing at the 2026 SkillsUSA Maine State Leadership & Skills Conference! Our school sent just over 80 competitors to Bangor – and 50 of them came back with medals around their necks!!

It was an incredible evening celebrating the remarkable achievements of our students! We are constantly inspired by your dedication and hard work. A sincere thank you to our exceptional HCTC educators—your guidance, mentorship, and expertise are the foundation of our students' success. We truly couldn't do what we do without your tireless commitment!

Every year, our students make us all proud when they take the stage in the state competition, and this year was no different. 17 of our medalists came home with Gold around their necks – a testament to every program at our school!

We've got a handful of students that will head to Atlanta in June for the National Competition – just like last year – and we'll be sure to keep everyone updated with all the medals we fly back with, too!



We've got our full list of medal winners, along with photos of them on stage winning awards & of them in action at SkillsUSA – head to our website to check it out!



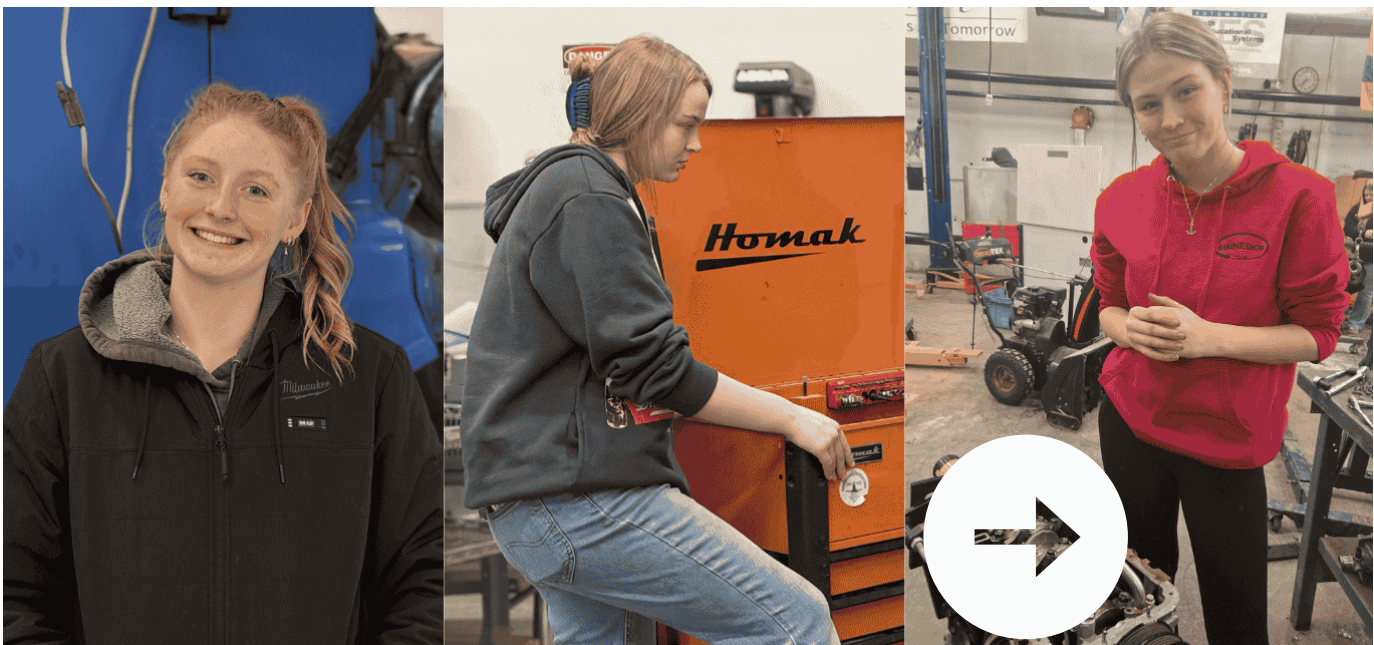
THE STUDENT HUB

Women in Trades Month: The Next Generation Is Already Here!

As Women in Trades Month wraps up, we're celebrating these three trailblazers in our Diesel and Automotive Tech programs at HCTC! Whether they are on the water or under a hood, these ladies are breaking barriers and showing everyone exactly what they're capable of.

Lily Alley, Lily Michaud-Kidder, and Sadie Howes are all crushing it in their respective programs! Alley, a senior Diesel student from EHS, earned a major operating license from the U.S Coast Guard after completing the "Upgrade OUPV to Master 100 Tons" course in January! She's been working on the water since she was 13 and has a ton of experience doing trade work well before that! Michaud-Kidder, also a senior from EHS but working in the Automotive Tech program, has pretty much been working in the garage her whole life. She spends four days a week interning with John Deere, and will bring a ton of valuable experience into the workforce! Howes is also an Automotive student, and a senior from Bucksport. She grew up working in her father's shop, and LOVES showing that she can do everything the boys in the garage can do – in fact, all three of them love that!

Read our full feature for Women in Trades Month by clicking the photo below!



THE STUDENT HUB

EHS Senior Wrestler cashes in on career milestone

When EHS Senior Wrestling Captain Jovin Pesek won his third match of the day at the Class B North Regional Tournament this year, he was certain of one thing – he had just qualified for the state tournament at the 138-lb weight class.

What he didn't know was that he had also just reached a career milestone that many high school grapplers dream of the minute they strap on the headgear for the first time: his 100th victory.

"I had no idea that I was at 99," Jovin admitted. "I knew I was close, though. I was pretty happy when my coaches stood up and looked at my mother, and then I looked up, and there was just everybody in the stands with the 100 wins poster. They happened to be right directly in front of the mat, so that was pretty great."

Jovin's career began six years ago wrestling in middle school but for the last four years, Jovin has been a staple of the grit and toughness taught each day throughout the season – right here in the EHS cafeteria after school.

"Like my coaches say, football is a contact sport, soccer is a contact sport, wrestling is a combat sport. I think that's what makes it so special, is that it's physically and mentally draining – a lot more than other sports. And you're a team, and you can thank your practice partner and everyone for success, but you're the one on the mat. When you're on the mat at a meet it's all about you but when you're at home practicing it's all about the team."

With his 100th win secured and his name now etched alongside the program's greats, Jovin's career serves as a reminder of what the Eagles value most: grit, growth, and putting the team above the individual.



Check out our full story to hear more Jovin reflect on his shining moment on the mat and his tremendous career with the Eagles!

[READ MORE](#)



THE STUDENT HUB

EHS Senior Kaylee Bagley wins 2026 MPA Principal's Award!

Congratulations to Ellsworth High School Senior Kaylee Bagley on recently being selected to receive the MPA's 2026 Principal's Award for Ellsworth High School!

This award, sponsored by the Maine Principals' Association, is given in recognition of a high school senior's academic achievement and citizenship. Kaylee has been a tremendous student in and out of the classroom – and has received Highest Honors every quarter she's been in high school!

Click the photo below to read more about Kaylee and what makes her our 2026 Award Winner!



Congratulations are also in order for EHS and HCTC Senior Anthony Kimball! Anthony is HCTC's Student of the Year and will be recognized at the MACTE 2026 Student of the Year Banquet.

Anthony is a three-year HCTC student and has been a cornerstone of our Culinary Arts program his entire time here! He has earned medals at both the ProStart Culinary Maine State (2024) and the SkillsUSA Restaurant Service Competition (2026), and will be continuing his pursuit of a culinary career at the prestigious Culinary Institute of America in New York next year!

Click the photo above to read more about Anthony and the impact he has had on his teachers, classmates, and the entire HCTC kitchen!

THE STUDENT HUB

Student Artwork Taking over Main Street!

We are thrilled to announce that student-created Earth Day flags are officially flying across the city through May 1st. This project was a true community collaboration, as students from both Ellsworth Elementary-Middle School and Ellsworth High School spent weeks brainstorming, designing, and painting these one-of-a-kind flags!

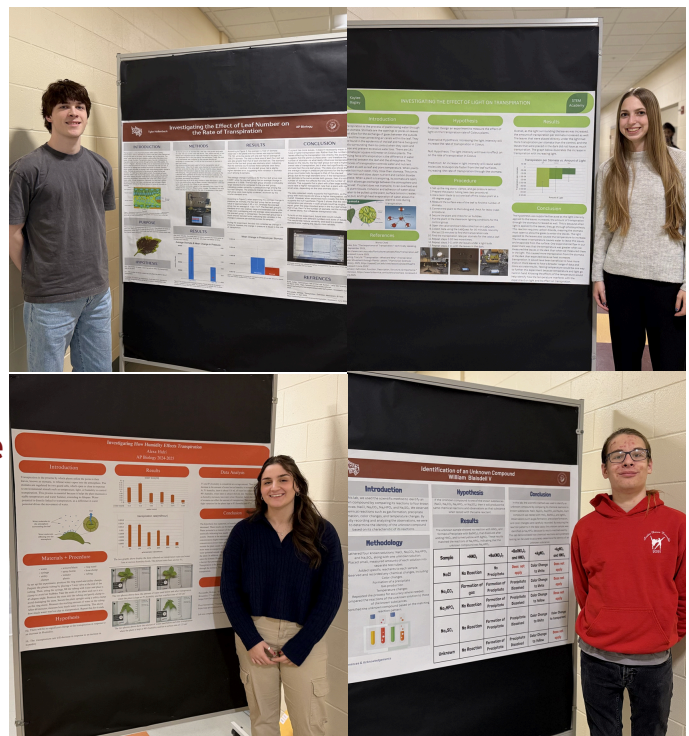


The City of Ellsworth's Parks and Recreation Department was instrumental in the experience – providing us the support and the materials, and making sure our student artists have their talent on full display for all of the city's visitors to see! Check out our full story, and find a link to the photo album on our website!

STEM Academy Senior Symposium!

We are incredibly proud of these students for putting on our first-ever STEM Academy Senior Symposium. Our four seniors—Tyler, Kaylee, Alexa, and William—officially presented the results of the many hours they spent designing, testing, and analyzing their own original experiments.

Moving beyond the classroom, these students shared their findings with the community for the first time during our Family STEM Night! During the poster sessions, they walked attendees through their data, discussed their professional internships, and answered questions regarding their research process. It was a meaningful opportunity for the seniors to move their work into a public forum!



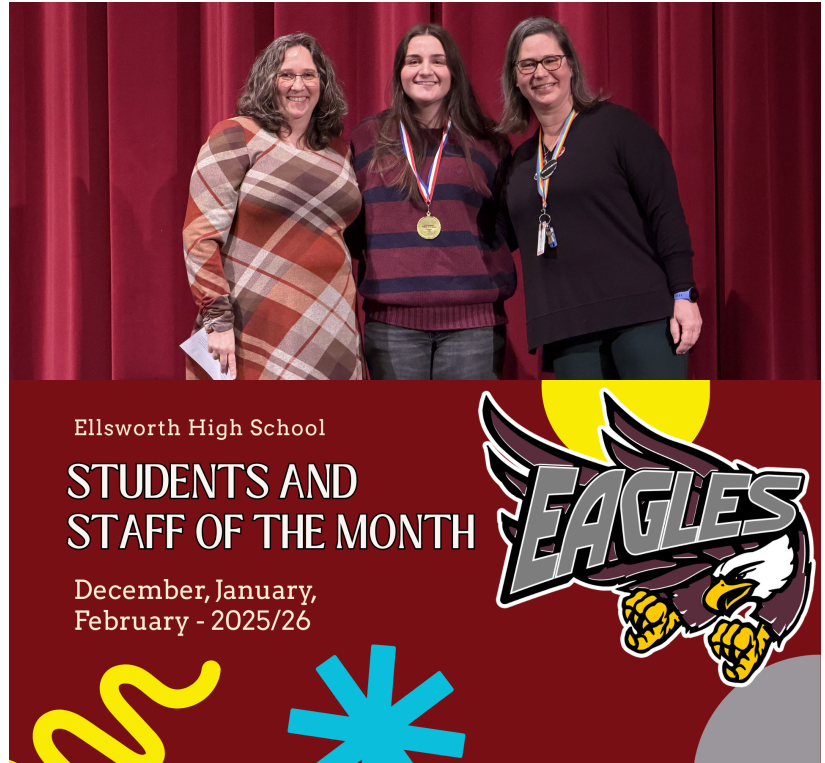
THE STUDENT HUB

EHS Celebrates More Students of the Month!

We're proud to recognize the outstanding students and staff members who were selected as our December, January, and February honorees.

These individuals go above and beyond in their classrooms, their programs, and our school community — and we're excited to celebrate their hard work and leadership!

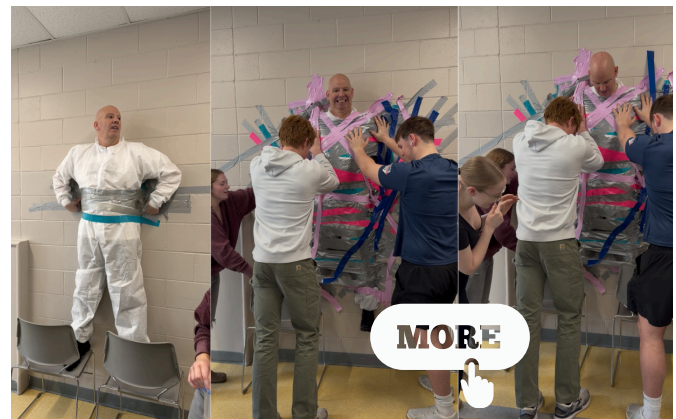
Click the bottom picture to find our list and photos of Students of the Month, STEM Students of the Month, VPA Students of the Month, Rachel's Challenge Students of the Month, Humanities Students of the Month, and our Staff of the Month! You guys rocked – thanks for keeping the energy warm all winter long!!



Principal Clifford found himself in quite the Sticky Situation!

It's not every day you get to 'stick it' to your principal, but EHS students got that exact experience this month!

It was all for a good cause, too – and our “Tape the Principal” fundraiser brought in nearly \$300, all for our Class of 2027! Thank you to our ever-so-gracious principal, Mr. Clifford, for being a great sport and taking part in what was surely a memorable day for our students! For a small donation per strip of tape, students were able to contribute to the colorful duct tape masterpiece.



By the end of the lunch block, Mr. Clifford was (almost!) suspended inches off the ground, sporting a new outfit, made of a nice mix of silver, pink, and blue tape!

Thanks to everyone who made this a memorable lunch break that showcased the strong sense of community and school spirit at EHS. And we can't thank Mr. Clifford enough for an awesome time! Head to our website for more!!

THE STUDENT HUB

Show Choir brings home the hardware!

We are so incredibly proud of the *Ellsworth High School Show Choir* for their performance at the State Jazz Festival this March! Not only did the group take home a Silver rating, but the talent in this entire crew is officially off the charts!

Finley Harmon took home the Outstanding Musicianship Award for her killer rendition of "Maps" – Postmodern Jukebox style!

ALL of our soloists received a "1" rating for their individual performances. Shoutout to Jovi Nightingale, Ella Johnston, Juliette Hiatt, Lexi Elliott, Jeremiah Hardie, Lucia DiLena, Zoey Macomber, Isabella Ipe, Ash Blair, and Claire Malcom!

Click for more photos – and a link to a video of their performance!



CLICK HERE

Another Jazz Night Success at EHS!

This month, we hosted another annual Jazz Night at EHS, and once again it was another huge success!

We heard from our EHS Show Choir, EEMS Show Choir, EHS Jazz Band, and EEMS Jazz band – but that wasn't all!

This year, we had two special performances by two of our junior VPA Academy Students, Boris Felix and Harper Turner – and they were fantastic. Boris took the pop vibes of Corinne Bailey Rae's Put Your Records On and completely reimagined it for a jazz combo, and Harper actually composed her own piece, Custodians to the Office!

Both performances were fantastic, and a true representation of the strength of our music programs.

Thank you to everyone who came by to support our middle and high school musicians – and we love putting our talents on full display!! Click the photos for more pictures!



THE STUDENT HUB

EHS Welcomes hundreds at 8th

Grade Open House!

Huge thank you to the nearly 300 prospective students and families who joined us for our 8th Grade Open House this month!

We loved meeting our future Eagles and showing off what makes our school and community so special.

A massive shoutout to our incredible staff and students who stayed late to play some music, lead tours, answer questions, and welcome our newest neighbors with open arms. We couldn't have done it without you!



Portland Shakespeare Company visits Middle School classes!

The Portland Shakespeare Company spent another day in Ellsworth this year – visiting our 7th and 8th grade classes! This year, they put on the play “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” after dazzling us with Hamlet last spring.

After putting on the show at EHS, the cast and crew ventured across the street for a few hours of amazing workshops with our students!

It was awesome seeing some of our kids inspired by the art of theater – and it was great seeing their creativity on display during the workshops!



Pre-K Penny Drive

Congratulations to our awesome Pre-K team who presented a check worth nearly \$300 to Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry this month!

They raised ALL that money for an awesome cause through their February Penny Drive! Thank you to Mr. Cushing from EEMS and Loaves & Fishes for stopping by – and to everyone who helped out with the fundraiser! What an awesome opportunity for our youngest kids to get their first taste of community support!



THE STUDENT HUB

Pre-K/Kindergarten Registration

We are so excited to begin welcoming our future Pre-K and Kindergarten students! Registration is officially open, and we can't wait to meet the newest members of our school community!

We have updates to our Pre-K program, and you can find everything you need and more information on our registration page!

Click the photo below to head right there and get started – we can't wait!



EAGLES AT SCHOLAR-ATHLETE LUNCHEON!

Congratulations to Dawson Curtis, Tyler Hollenback, Kaylee Bagley, and Whitney Jordan, who were selected to represent Ellsworth High School at today's PVC Scholar-Athlete Luncheon. One of the highlights is at the end of the luncheon 12 students are randomly selected for a \$1000 Joe Paul Scholarship – and Tyler was randomly selected to received the last scholarship!



Bee Bots and Integers

Seventh graders in Mrs. Trowbridge's math class took integers off the page and onto the floor! Using a giant number line and Bee Bots they coded themselves, students practiced moving between positive and negative numbers in an awesome hands-on way. Shoutout to our tech integrator Ms. Libby for stopping by, and for Mrs. Trowbridge for always finding fun new ways for our students to learn!!



School Board heads to Augusta!

This month, our School Board Chairperson, Paul Markosian, and Vice Chairperson Kelly McKenney went down to Augusta for the Maine School Boards Association Advocacy Day!

The two got to meet with state leaders, including our local rep Nicole Grohoski, about legislative policies - including funding for school renovations and more!



We love seeing our board members in action, championing for a better future for our schools! Thanks Paul and Kelly for all that you do for Ellsworth School Department!



THE STUDENT HUB

**EXTRA!
EXTRA!**

Issue No. 7

Eagle Eyes

March 2026

EAGLE EYES

Mr. Lowell and his English 101 class have been hard at work all year – and the second edition of “Eagle Eyes” is now out!

Issue No. 7

Eagle Eyes

March 2026

SPORTS: PITCHER JACKSON BARRY PREPARES FOR HIS SENIOR SEASON

Issue No. 7

Eagle Eyes

March 2026

OPINION: CELLPHONE USE SHOULD BE LIMITED DURING CLASS

Unlike the first issue, which focused on breaking news, this issue focuses on editorials, or opinion writing! – click to check out the whole project!!

Issue No. 7

Eagle Eyes

March 2026

OPINION: IS HOMEWORK REALLY EFFECTIVE?

MORE



Issue No. 7

Eagle Eyes

March 2026

OPINION: PROPOSED LAW WOULD NEGATIVELY IMPACT LOBSTER FISHING INDUSTRY

Issue No. 7

Eagle Eyes

March 2026

OPINION: FIX FRIDAY LUNCHES FOR HCTC STUDENTS

Congrats to our March "High Five Award" winners!!

Let's give a big "High Five" to Brenda Frost and Jessica Lewis! These two were honored at our March board meeting with another round of High Five Award recognitions this year.

These staff members were chosen for their extraordinary dedication, their above-and-beyond compassion, and the impact they've had and continue to have on our students and community. Read more about their stories and don't forget to submit your nomination – just hit the link below!

CLICK HERE



More Hardware for Mrs. Mason!



Congratulations To our Business Leadership & Hospitality Instructor and SkillsUSA Advisor, Tara Mason, for being recognized as the 2026 SkillsUSA Advisor of the Year – not too long after being named the 2025 Maine CTE Educator of the Year!

Tara goes above and beyond to support students and instructors in preparing for their competitions. Plans and organizes all the logistics for our chapter with Co Advisor Allen Smith so everyone knows the two day plan ahead of time. Attention to detail, organized, and puts the required time in to do things right. All this to say: well deserved, Mrs. Mason! We are so lucky to have your leadership at HCTC!

The Bulletin Board



OVER \$1,000 IN PRIZES




Grill & Chill Spring Raffle

Benefits going towards:
HCTC SkillsUSA Expenses



DRAWING HELD MAY 17, 2026 DURING THE BOGGY BROOK 5K

*Each ticket is \$10

WINNER RECEIVES A WEBER GRILL & ACCESSORIES, YETI COOLER & YETI CUP

SCAN HERE TO PURCHASE!

Spring Sports are here!

Do you have everything you need for baseball, softball, outdoor track & field, or tennis?

Click the Eagle to head to our Athletics page to get caught up!

Sponsored by:
EHS National Science Honor Society



Mad Scientist Scramble

Sunday, April 12th

Fun Run @ 8:30 (\$10)
5k Race @ 9:30 (\$20)

Location: Ellsworth High School
24 Lejok St, Ellsworth, ME



Scan the QR code to register for the race.

First 15 to register get a free t-shirt!

Proceeds will be donated to the
YMCA Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehab Program



macreviva
2nd Annual!



CALL (207) 669-6446 FOR DETAILS



FREE E-WASTE RECYCLING WEEK

April 6 - 11 14 State St
11 - 3 Daily Ellsworth

ACCEPTED ITEMS	NOT ACCEPTED ITEMS <small>includes but not limited to</small>
Laptop Computers	Printers
Desktop Computers	Household Appliances
Computer Monitors*	Televisions
Tablets & Smartphones	Hazardous Waste
Accessories & Cables	Smoke Detectors
Gaming Consoles	

For Earth Day 2026, MacRevival is offering **free recycling and secure data destruction** for unwanted personal electronics.
* CRT monitors require a \$10 recycling fee.

CLICK HERE TO READ OUR APRIL MONTHLY ATTENDANCE NEWSLETTER!



BOGGY BROOK 5K

THE BOGGY BROOK 5K REGISTRATION LINK IS OPEN!

- [HTTPS://WWW.RUNREG.COM/BOGGY-BROOK-5K2026](https://www.runreg.com/boggy-brook-5k2026)
- NOT ABLE TO JOIN US? YOU CAN STILL DONATE USING THE LINK ABOVE OR THE QR CODE BELOW!
- THE FIRST 50 REGISTRANTS WILL RECEIVE A FREE RACE T-SHIRT!

Join us May 17, 2026

Start Time 9:00AM
Day of registration starts at 8:00AM



Scan here to register




PROM 2026

A Night In Paris

MAY 2, 2026
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
IN EHS GYMNASIUM

JUNIOR & SENIORS ONLY UNLESS INVITED

Join Us

Prom Attire Drive

We'll be collecting gently used Prom Attire:

February - March

Drop-off items such as:

- ✓ Dresses
- ✓ Suits
- ✓ Shoes

Donated prom attire will be available for high schoolers to shop:

April 4 & 11 | 9 AM-12 PM

Machias Savings Bank
93 High St
Ellsworth, ME 04605

Member FDIC



Want to work for an awesome department with great people?

Good news: **We're hiring!**
We've got open positions for several roles.

Click on our logo above to check out our employment page and find your best fit!

PARENT LINKS

[District Calendar](#)

[Infinite Campus](#)

[Bus Schedules](#)

[Lunch Menu \(EHS\)](#)

[Lunch Menu \(EEMS\)](#)

[Tech Help](#)



SPORTS LINKS

**EHS
ATHLETICS**

**EEMS
ACTIVITIES**

MPA

HELP!

Ellsworth School Department needs YOUR help!

We are looking to boost our storytelling and shine a light on all of the fun, positive things happening in our schools every day!

Know of a student, teacher, or anyone else who deserves a bit of spotlight? Fill out one of our "Good News, Ellsworth!" Submission forms and let us know about it!

GOOD NEWS, ELLSWORTH!

APRIL DATES

APRIL 8

ESD Music Night - EHS Auditorium

APRIL 12

"Mad Scientist Fun Run" - by EHS NSHS

APRIL 13-17

EEMS Spirit Week

APRIL 16

EEMS Music Makers Concert

APRIL 20

No School - Patriots' Day

APRIL 21-24

No School - April Vacation



Ellsworth School Dept.

Superintendent:
Amy Boles

Asst. Superintendent:
Nicole Chan

Central Office:
207-664-7100



Ellsworth High School

Principal:
Dan Clifford

Asst. Principal:
Rebecca Wright

Main Office:
207-667-4722



**Ellsworth Elementary/
Middle School**

Principal:
April Clifford

Asst. Principal:
V. Alvelo
M. Wibberly
L. Corson

Main Office:
207-667-6241

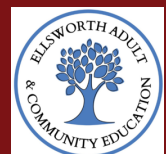


Hancock County Tech. Center

Director:
Bill Tracy

Administrative Asst.
Elizabeth Conners

Main Office:
207-667-9729



Ellsworth Adult Education

Director:
Ann Sargent

Administrative Asst.
Michelle Dawson

Main Office:
207-664-7110