

1990 - Pre-Consolidation

- First meeting of Elmwood-Murdock Board of Education held on February 14, 1990.
- Student Councils at both Elmwood and Murdock are directed to complete survey regarding school name, school colors and school mascot.
- April 17, 1990, Board determines Elmwood-Murdock to be official name of district. Vote to establish school colors as black and white fails. Second motion to adopt school colors of black/white/silver and mascot of "Knights" passes on 6-0 vote.
- Dan Novak selected as first Activities Director for district.
- May 14, 1990, Mr. Jim Putman, Superintendent of the Bridgeport Public Schools, is hired as first Superintendent of Elmwood-Murdock School District.

1990-91

- August 22, 1990, is first day of school for the Elmwood-Murdock School District.
- Administration for first day of school is Mr. Jim Putman, Superintendent; Mr. Dan Novak, 9-12 Principal and Activities Director; Mr. Dale Hall, 6-8 Principal and Mr. Bruce Friedrich, K-5 Principal.
- First School Board comprised of John Miller, Jim Hoyt, Bob Rikli, Doug Smith, Rick Clements and Jim Wolcott are sworn in.
- K-5 elementary and 9-12 high school located in Murdock with a K-5 elementary and 6-8 middle school located in Elmwood.
- Elmwood-Murdock Booster Club formed.
- Honor Roll trips to Valentino's sponsored by American Exchange and Corn Growers State Banks are started.
- Class of 1991 is first graduating class of Elmwood-Murdock High School with graduation held on Friday, May 10 with 18 graduates awarded diplomas. Michelle Armes becomes first Elmwood-Murdock graduate to receive a diploma.
- District sells all remaining electric and manual typewriters.
- Three students qualify for National FBLA competition.
- "S.O.S." formed as parent support group for elementary students.
- James Smith becomes first Regent Scholarship winner in school history.

1991-1992

- First day of school is August 26 with two weeks of early releases scheduled to address heat due to facilities lacking air conditioning.
- Boys' Golf offered as spring sport for first time.
- District forms first "Crisis Intervention Team" to address emergencies involving students and staff.
- "Middle School Madness" formed as parent support group for middle school students.
- Dena Rueter selected as First Team All-State in Volleyball. First All-State selection in any sport in school history.

- Elmwood-Murdock joins Doane College to form first on-site based Master's Degree Program in Curriculum & Instruction in the State of Nebraska.
- Christine Gilbert selected as Regent Scholar.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins District Speech Contest with 15 students qualifying for State Speech Meet.
- Mrs. Pam Wright selected 1992 "Home Economics Teacher of the Year."
- Tim Dill becomes first State Track qualifier from Elmwood-Murdock School District.

1992-1993

- Governor Ben Nelson speaks at "Elmwood-Murdock 2000" program on September 8, 1992.
- School adopts District Mission Statement for "Elmwood-Murdock 2000" initiative which states the mission of the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools is to **"Empower ALL Students To Achieve Success."**
- Elmwood-Murdock forms anti-drug organization "Kids Learning About Safe Habits." (K.L.A.S.H.) composed of high school students who present "safe habit" programs to district students.
- For first time in school history, the Elmwood-Murdock Football Team qualifies for State Football playoffs where they lose to Louisville in the first round.
- Elmwood-Murdock Marching Band performs in first "Star City Parade" in December in Lincoln.
- Elmwood-Murdock Board approves "Americans With Disability Act" (ADA) implementation plan as required by federal law.
- Elmwood-Murdock Board approves first "Crisis Response Manual" in order to direct staff and students in how to respond to various crisis situations that may arise in the district.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins 2nd Place in Class C at UNL Math Day competition.
- Board votes to move all but two home basketball games to Murdock instead of splitting games between the Elmwood and Murdock School sites.
- "D.A.R.E." program instituted in the Elmwood-Murdock School District.
- Elmwood-Murdock orders first "Elmwood-Murdock" uniforms for use during the 1993-1994 season.
- Scoliosis screening provided for middle school students for the first time.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins ECNC Conference Speech Meet.
- Ryan Rikli receives Regent Scholarship.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins 1993 ECNC Quiz Bowl Championship.
- Ryan Rikli named "Mr. FBLA" at State FBLA Convention.
- Elmwood-Murdock Family Learning Center opens in June.

1993-1994

- "Critical Issues" and "American Experience" are offered as required courses for the first time.
- Mr. Kurk Shrader receives "BEST" Business Teacher Award from Nebraska Department of Education for third consecutive year.

- Nebraska State Legislature requires all schools to document all class time missed due to school activities.
- First computer generated report cards sent home to parents.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins Class D Championship at UNL Math Quiz Bowl.
- One-Act Play wins ECNC Conference Championship.
- "Before and After School Day Care" starts at Elmwood School site on January 10, 1994.
- Elmwood-Murdock implements required "Multi-Culture Education" program as required by Nebraska Department of Education.
- Board and administration attend workshop in Omaha to learn about Internet and how it may be used in classrooms.
- Elmwood-Murdock Board of Education approves establishment of the Elmwood-Murdock "Wall of Excellence."
- County-wide Board Meeting held to introduce Board members to the Internet computer communications system.
- Dale Hall resigns as Middle School Principal.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins first ECNC Speech Meet.
- "Knightstars" youth basketball program formed and holds first tournament.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins ECNC Quiz Bowl.

1994-1995

- Bruce Friedrich assumes dual role of Elementary Principal and Middle School Principal.
- Admission prices for varsity activities set at \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for students.
- State Law no longer allows firearms on school grounds.
- Elmwood-Murdock hosts state's largest indoor track meet at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.
- Elmwood-Murdock receives 20 federal surplus computers from NASA.
- Schools required to provide abortion notifications to students for first time.
- Elmwood-Murdock suffers \$187,000 reduction in State Aid due to reclassification of land by the Nebraska Department of Revenue.
- Mr. Novak heads up committee to move ECNC Volleyball and Basketball Tournaments to a centralized location.
- FBLA holds first "Career Fair" for Elmwood-Murdock students.
- Board decides to move all home basketball games to the Murdock School site for the 1995-1996 school year.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins first place in Class C Quiz Bowl at UNL Math Day.
- For first time in school history, the Elmwood-Murdock One Act Play, "Fire In The Hole," qualifies for State One-Act Play Competition in Norfolk.
- Job interviews become part of "Critical Issues" and become a graduation requirement.
- Cheerleaders hold Elementary Cheer Camp for first time.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins ECNC Speech Championship.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins District Speech Contest and qualifies 13 students for State Speech Meet where they finish in 7th place. Tracy Platt wins State Championship in Class C for Entertainment Speaking.

- Eight Elmwood-Murdock students qualify for National Future Business Leaders of America Competition to be held in Orlando, Florida in July.
- German Club schedules annual "Duetchfest" for Saturday, April 22.
- Kurk Shrader selected as Peter Kiewit Foundation "Teacher Achievement Award" which goes to top 20 teachers in state.
- Board approves resolution asking the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District to postpone decision on development of an area recreational lake until further study can be completed on impact this project will have on school district. Recreational lake is never built.
- To address the expanded role of technology, the Board approves creation of position for .50 FTE Technology Coordinator for district.
- Board votes to not add any additional NSAA activities at this time.
- Mr. Jim Cox hired as school district's first Technology Coordinator.
- Boys' Golf Team wins District Championship and finishes as State Runner-Up in Class C2 at State Golf Meet.

1995-1996

- Coca-Cola donates two new scoreboards for new gym at Murdock.
- Wiring of school buildings to allow for Internet access begins.
- Elmwood-Murdock football team finishes season 6-3, which ties for best record in school history.
- Erin Johnson and Jason Platt selected for All-State Band.
- Elmwood-Murdock hosts assembly to discuss the issue of "Sexual Harassment."
- New federal law requires drug and alcohol testing of bus drivers.
- Booster Club sponsors and pays for Perfect Attendance Luncheons at McDonald's on semester basis.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins ECNC Conference One-Act Play Competition.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins District One Act-Play Competition and finishes 6th at State Play Competition.
- FBLA challenges students to collect 650 pounds of food for local pantry in return for early dismissal for Christmas Vacation. Students exceed amount of challenge and school is dismissed at 2:30 p.m.
- Post Holiday Basketball Tournament rescheduled due to conflict with Nebraska playing Florida in Fiesta Bowl for National Championship.
- Curt Backemeyer appointed Assistant Athletic Director for Middle School.
- Board is informed that NSAA passed a resolution calling for a "Moratorium" on school use and school activities for five days during the Christmas Break.
- Middle School Choir sings National Anthem at UNL women's basketball game on February 23.
- Michael Mortensen, son of Gary and Joyce Mortensen, receives appointment to U.S. Military Academy at West Point.
- "Redbook Magazine" selects **Elmwood-Murdock as one of the nation's top high schools for "Overall Excellence."** Nebraska State Legislature adopts proclamation recognizing Elmwood-Murdock as one of nation's top high schools.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins ECNC Conference Speech Championship.

- Elmwood-Murdock holds Booster Club Invitational Indoor Track Meet at the Bob Devaney Sports Center with 26 teams participating making it the largest high school indoor track meet in state history.
- German Club hosts "Deuschfest 96" on Saturday, March 30, 1996.
- Special Meeting held on April 3, 1996, to discuss financial challenges facing district due to changes in state funding of schools. Board directs administration to find \$70,000 to \$90,000 in proposed budget cuts for the 1996-1997 school year.
- Mr. Kurk Shrader recognized as "Business Educator of the Year in the State of Nebraska."
- Elmwood-Murdock wins District Speech Meet and qualifies 14 students for State Competition where the team finished in 3rd place in Class C. Shaun Custard won a state championship in his event.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins ECNC Quiz Bowl Championship.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins 1st Place at Peru State Quiz Bowl contest.
- Elmwood-Murdock qualifies six students for National FBLA Contest to be held in Washington D.C. in July.
- For the first time in school history, both the Band and Chorus receive Superior Ratings at the District Music Contest.
- Nine members of the boys' and girls' track team qualify for the State Track Meet.
- Boys' Golf Team qualifies for State Golf Meet.
- Board approves all day - alternate day Kindergarten schedule at both elementary sites.
- Mr. Kevin Wingard hired to serve as High School Principal and Elementary Principal at the Murdock School site for the 1996-1997 school year.
- Board approves Elmwood Fire department request to use school grounds at Elmwood for a circus.
- April 29, 1996, Mr. Dan Novak is hired as the Superintendent of the Elmwood-Murdock School District starting on July 1, 1996.
- Laura Smith and Justin Clements win 1st Place at FBLA Nationals in the area of "American Enterprise Project."

1996-1997

- Mr. Novak recommends move to full-day, every-day combined Kindergarten at Murdock starting with the 1996-97 school year. Board approves recommendation.
- Patrons make donations to Elmwood-Murdock Education Foundation in order to maintain bus trips for Honor Roll and Perfect Attendance luncheons.
- District contracts with Mr. Pat Geary, ESU#3 Consultant, to develop Strategic Plan for reconfiguration of the Elmwood-Murdock School District in order to assist in addressing financial needs of district.
- District receives grant to connect Murdock School site to Internet.
- S.O.S. purchases playground equipment for Elmwood School site.
- Board approves policy and belief statements to address future budget cuts.
- Board approves instituting Breakfast Program in district to start on January 14, 1997.
- Board appoints 35 district patrons to serve on task force to develop recommendations for reconfiguration of the district.

- Board approves resolution to allow Elmwood-Murdock to participate in Distance Learning Network.
- Superintendent Novak forms Calendar Committee comprised of teachers, parents, patrons and school administrators to advise Superintendent on development of school calendar for upcoming school year.
- District begins to develop strategies to address new state law which sets a \$1.10 levy limit on property taxes.
- District starts "Most Improved" program in order to recognize students.
- Board receives report from Strategic Planning Committee on options for reconfiguration of district. Committee recommends option which places K-6 at Elmwood School site and 7-12 at Murdock School site.
- Girls' basketball team qualifies for State Tourney for first time in school history. Lose to eventual State Champion Sandy Creek in first round.
- Speech Team wins ECNC Conference Championship.
- Academic Decathlon wins State Championship in small school division.
- Board approves reconfiguration plan at March 10, 1997, Board Meeting which has all K-6 students attending the Elmwood School site and all 7-12 students attending the Murdock School site effective with the start of the 1997-98 school year.
- Board looks at budget challenges as a result of changes in state law regarding school spending. Board decides to make following cuts to address financial challenges. Eliminate two teaching positions at the elementary school, eliminate Senior, Junior and Sophomore Class Sponsors along with Spring Play Sponsor. eliminate full-time kindergarten aide, eliminate full-time special education aide, reduce elementary teacher aide time to 12 hours per week, eliminate evening athletic shuttle, eliminate hiring additional summer custodial help, eliminate stipend for A+ Technology Team members, eliminate regular season travel for cheerleaders, reduce evening custodial hours by two hours per day, reduce support for National FBLA and Speech competitions, reduce employee lunch support and reduce district support for yearbook. Budget cuts total over \$200,000.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins State Class C2 State Speech Championship for first State Championship in school history.
- Mr. Tim Allemang hired to replace Mr. Wingard as 7-12 Principal for the 1997-98 school year.
- State Fire Marshall directs installation of sprinkler system in Elmwood School building at a cost of over \$80,000.
- District to experience a reduction in State Aid of \$300,000 due to changes in state funding laws. This is in addition to the \$200,000 of cuts which were previously authorized.

1997-1998

- First Day of School is Wednesday, August 20, 1997, with 401 students enrolled K-12.
- Board directs Superintendent to develop "Timeline for Exceeding \$1.10 Levy Limit."
- Board directs Jim Cox, Technology Coordinator, to begin work on designing a "District Webpage."
- At the January 12, 1998, Board Meeting, a recommendation was made to hold "Levy Override Election" to exceed \$1.10 levy limit.

- Special Board Meeting held on February 25, 1998, to discuss holding a special election to exceed the \$1.10 levy limit. Board decides to hold Special Election on Tuesday, April 7, 1998, to allow the maximum levy lid to not exceed \$1.25 cents for the next three fiscal years.
- Speech Team wins ECNC Conference Speech Championship.
- Boys' basketball team qualifies for State Tournament for first time in school history. Lose to eventual State Champion Randolph in first round.
- Speech Team wins 2nd State Class C2 Speech Championship.
- Levy Override to exceed \$1.10 levy limit passes with 60% approval of voters in March.
- Graduation of the Class of 1998 is held on Sunday, May 17, 1998, with 31 students graduating.
- Board determines no further financial support will be provided to yearbook, lunch program or national competitions as spending cuts to address financial challenges.
- Board directs Superintendent to complete feasibility study regarding the implementation of a satellite lunch program.

1998-1999

- Board approves building of new kitchen at the Murdock School site for the implementation of a "satellite" lunch program.
- State Department of Education adopts State Standards in language arts, math, science and social studies. Schools will need to start testing students in language arts and math and report test results to Nebraska Department of Education during the 1999-2000 school year.
- Long distance learning classroom established to offer German and Animal Science classes to students.
- "Six Traits Writing Program" implemented district-wide for the teaching of writing in the Elmwood-Murdock School District.
- Steve Backemeyer, Jesse Rust and Kris Daharsh win election to serve on Board of Education.
- Board approves request by Argonne Environmental Testing to drill test well on school grounds for measuring ground water contaminants.
- Students collected 1500 food items for Cass County Food Bank which results in early dismissal for Christmas vacation.
- "Safety Committee" created to address safety issues related to facilities and grounds owned by the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools.
- February 1999, Board accepts bid for building of new kitchen at Murdock School site.
- Board approves "limited" Sunday activity practice policy which allows Sunday practices prior to conference, district and state contests.
- For the first time, Elmwood-Murdock takes Spring Breaks during Thursday and Friday of girls' and boys' State Basketball Tournaments.
- Elmwood-Murdock finishes as State Runner-Up in Class C2 State Speech Meet.
- Graduation of the Class of 1999 is held on Sunday, May 16, 1999, with 32 students graduating.
- Board approves purchase of 41 iMAC Apple Computers for a total cost of \$55,000.
- Mandy Bornemeier places 4th in the 200 meter dash at the State Track meet at Omaha Burke.
- Rachel Klemme and Mandy Bornemeier selected as "Believers & Achievers" by the Nebraska School Activities Association.

- State Law requires district to publish a newsletter which includes a Rule 10 Compliance Report on an annual basis.

1999-2000

- S.O.S. donates 18 fans to elementary to help in hot weather.
- Elmwood-Murdock holds teacher in-service days to discuss "Differentiated Education" instructional methods in the Elmwood-Murdock School District.
- Nebraska School Activities Association begins scheduling of all games for high school football teams in the state.
- Elmwood-Murdock Marching Band, under the direction of Mr. Phil Goddard, places 2nd at Apple Jack Parade.
- Wyoming Street in Murdock, from the spur to the school, is asphalted making for a much better drive to school.
- Board approves "TeamMates Mentoring" program for the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools.
- Football team finishes 4-5 with first round loss to Shelby-Rising City in state playoffs.
- With the death of Board President Bob Rosenow, the Board appoints Diann Stille to fill vacancy.
- Elmwood-Murdock begins development of "district webpage."
- Elmwood-Murdock wins District Speech Contest and qualifies nine students for State Meet.
- Elmwood-Murdock adds Girls' Golf to district extra-curricular activities program for the Fall of 2000.
- Elmwood-Murdock is State Runner-Up in Class C2 State Speech.
- Booster Club purchases industrialized fan in order to help cool Murdock gymnasium.
- Dutch Rikli, long time announcer, clock operator and active supporter of Murdock and Elmwood-Murdock activities retires after 50 years of service to district and is honored at Athletic Banquet.
- Mrs. Balke, Family and Consumer Science teacher, takes Foods class to Minneapolis for chef school presentation.
- Graduation is held on Sunday, May 14, 2000, with 27 seniors graduating in the Class of 2000.
- Board approves bid for installation of fire suppression (sprinkler) system at the Elmwood School site.
- Mr. Paul Dwyer hired for the 2000-2001 school year as school district's first full-time Technology Coordinator.
- Wireless Internet system to connect Elmwood and Murdock School sites is installed.
- School-Community Committee meets to discuss promoting planned growth in the district.

2000-2001

- School starts on Friday, August 18, 2000, with an total enrollment of 386 students.
- Kitchen remodel moves along with purchase and installation of all new equipment completed for start of school year. School readies for implementation of satellite lunch program in the Fall of 2001.

- Board adopts newly created "Nebraska State Technology Standards" for students in grades K-12.
- State law requires all staff assigned to dispense medications be trained by school nurse. Only those staff members trained can dispense medications to students.
- Visitation team, under the direction of the Nebraska Department of Education, visits Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools as part of school accreditation process. Elmwood-Murdock found to be in full compliance with state accreditation standards.
- Board votes to hold "Levy Override Election" Tuesday, March 6, 2001, in order to override \$1.05 levy limit for the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 school years.
- Board approves removal of all existing asbestos floor tile from Murdock School site.
- Elmwood-Murdock football team completes first perfect regular season in school history. Team ends season 9-1 after a 19-13 overtime loss to #1 East Butler in first round of state playoffs.
- Joyce Vogt, Teresa Pegler and Diann Stille are elected to the Board of Education.
- Board approves first "Temporary Early Retirement Incentive Program" in school history.
- First "District Report Card" sent to all district patrons.
- School district begins placing school closing information on district website.
- FBLA/FCCLA sponsors a "Career Day" for elementary students.
- Elmwood-Murdock boys' basketball team finishes as Runner-Up in Class C2 in State Basketball Tourney losing in the finals to Laurel-Concord.
- Elmwood-Murdock selected as 2001 Class C2 Sportsmanship Award winner at state boys basketball tourney.
- Schools days lengthened starting on Monday, March 5, 2001, to make-up for lost school time due to inclement weather.
- Elmwood-Murdock adopts Internet Safety Policy as required by law.
- First "All-Stars" celebration is held for 6th graders in the Elmwood-Murdock School District. Program is designed to build character and responsibility in students in order to assist students in avoiding high risk behaviors.
- Elmwood-Murdock holds first "Intruder in the Building Drill." Drill held to deal with the possibility of having an intruder in the building.
- 29 students in the Class of 2001. First Saturday graduation ceremony in school history.
- Andy Rorie becomes first male track participant to score in State Track Meet by finishing in 6th place on Class C Long Jump.
- Boys' Golf Team qualifies for State Golf Meet and finishes 13th in Class C.
- Six students from Elmwood-Murdock qualify for Nationals representing our local FBLA organization with eight students qualifying for Nationals representing our local FCCLA organization.

2001-2002

- 2001-2002 school year starts on Thursday, August 16, 2001, with 390 students enrolled.
- Board approves revised "School Improvement Plan" with goals of improving reading and technology skills.
- For first time, Cass/Douglas Health Department offers schools screening for asthma.

- FBLA and FCCLA co-sponsor "Learn and Serve Project" entitled S.A.F.A.R.I. for elementary students.
- Elmwood-Murdock implements SIMMS computerized attendance program.
- GREAT implemented as gang resistance education assistance training for students. Program provided by the Cass County Sheriff's Department.
- Elmwood-Murdock FBLA works with Nebraska Department of Roads to get Highway 34 between Highway 1 and the Cass County Line named in honor of Bess Streeter Aldrich.
- Football team ends season 10-1 losing to Pender in the quarterfinal of the State Football Playoffs.
- District purchases 20 iBook computer cart for elementary to serve as mobile computer classroom.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins ECNC Girls' Basketball Tournament defeating Palmyra.
- Scott Ronhovde wins Cass County Spelling Bee.
- Coop comprised of students representing Elmwood-Murdock and Palmyra qualify for State Livestock Judging Competition after winning district competition.
- Football team holds 1st Fish Fry Fundraiser.
- Twenty-eight students graduate as members of the Class of 2002 on Saturday, May 11, 2002.
- Board raises admission prices for sporting events to \$4.00 for adults and \$3.00 for students starting with the 2002-2003 school year.

2002-2003

- "PowerSchool" student information management system is implemented for use at the start of the school year.
- "Teen Time" student advisement program introduced into the junior high school.
- District begins implementation of "No Child Left Behind" education policy as authorized by President Bush.
- Elmwood-Murdock installs first internal and external camera security system in school buildings and on school grounds.
- "Youth-To-Spain" organization meets to plan trip to Spain in summer 2003.
- Elmwood-Murdock football team qualifies for State Football Playoffs. End season 10-1 losing to Fremont Bergan 19-13 in State Quarterfinals.
- Veterans Day programs held at both school sites for first time.
- Steve Backemeyer, Jesse Rust and Vince Barnes win Board elections.
- Elmwood-Murdock administration meets with Elmwood Rescue to discuss procedures to be followed in case of a bus emergency.
- District enrollment reaches 411.
- Board approves holding "Levy Override Election" on March 18, 2003, to exceed \$1.05 levy limit for the 2003-2004, 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 school years. Election passes with 60% approval of voters.
- Elmwood-Murdock offers on-site John Baylor ACT Test Preparation classes for first time.
- Girls win second consecutive ECNC Conference Basketball Tournament.
- For first time in school history, both girls' and boys' basketball teams qualify for the State Basketball Tourney in the same school year.

- Elmwood-Murdock wins ECNC Quiz Bowl competition.
- Post Prom goes to "Worlds of Fun" in Kansas City.
- Student Council ties yellow ribbons around trees in front of school buildings to show support for troops fighting in Iraq.
- Seven students qualify for National FBLA Competition in Dallas, Texas.
- Elementary holds end of year "Talent Show" for first time.
- Graduation held on Saturday, May 17, 2003, with 27 students graduating.
- Elmwood-Murdock increases mathematics and English requirements for graduation effective with the graduating class of 2007.
- Mr. Schmale serves as assistant coach for South Team in 2003 Shrine Bowl. Joe Vice represents Elmwood-Murdock as a player in the 2003 Shrine Bowl.

2003-2004

- Omaha World Herald article published Sunday, September 21, 2003, indicates of the 25 Class C schools on which data was gathered, freshman students from Elmwood-Murdock attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln had highest grade point averages and lowest percentage placed on academic probation.
- Elmwood-Murdock "Bullying Committee" formed to develop goals and plans for addressing bullying in school.
- Elmwood-Murdock football team qualifies for State Playoffs and loses to West Point Central Catholic 20-15 to finish season 8-2. Seniors end four year career with overall record of 37-5.
- Board of Education approves band to participate in "2004 Worlds of Fun Festival of Bands" at Worlds of Fun in Kansas City.
- Elmwood-Murdock Elementary holds first Science Fair.
- Elmwood-Murdock boys win ECNC Conference Basketball Tourney.
- Elmwood-Murdock and Palmyra cooperative Livestock Judging Team qualifies for state competition.
- Elmwood-Murdock girls' and boys' basketball teams both qualify for the 2004 State Basketball Tournaments.
- Seven students qualify for National FBLA competition to be held in Denver, Colorado.
- Tornado hits Murdock on Saturday, May 22, 2004, causing considerable roof damage and loss of electricity for a 48 hour period. The Norris Public School south of Lincoln is totally destroyed by this storm. Also, the village of Hallam is destroyed by storm.
- Brandon Minch places 5th in shot put at State Track Meet.
- Jason Zoz represents Elmwood-Murdock at State Golf Meet in Lincoln.
- FBLA provides support for renovation of Grand Army of Republic Hall in Elmwood which is dedicated on Tuesday, May 25, 2004.
- Magnum Builders install standing seam metal roofs over both the Elmwood and Murdock gyms.
- Choir receives Superior Rating at District Music Contest at Nebraska City.
- Graduation held on Saturday, May 15, 2004, with 27 students graduating.
- Sergeant Jase Blunt makes presentation to 7-12 student body regarding experience in serving in the Iraq War.

- Last student day for the 2003-2004 school year held on May 26, 2004.
- Elmwood-Murdock Marching Band performs in Murdock 4th of July Parade for first time since consolidation in 1990.
- Elmwood-Murdock begins fundraising for building of new weight room.

2004-2005

- First day of school held on Wednesday, August 18, 2004, with total K-12 enrollment of 431 students.
- EPA and USDA drill well for school to use for scientific irrigation study.
- Barrel roof above old gym is replaced using a standing seam metal roof.
- Elmwood-Murdock adopts set of "competencies" which need to be met in order to graduate from high school. These competencies are in addition to the credit hours needed.
- Elmwood-Murdock qualifies for 2004 State Volleyball Tournament, loses to West Point Central Catholic in first round and ends season 23-11.
- Elmwood-Murdock qualifies for State Football Playoffs and loses in semifinals to Stanton to end season 9-3.
- Elmwood-Murdock vs. Louisville Boys' Basketball Game at Murdock with all tickets pre-sold due to crowd expected to be in attendance being much larger than capacity of gym.
- Board approves bid for building School/Community Fitness Center at Murdock.
- Six students represent Elmwood-Murdock at State Speech Contest.
- Elementary pilots writing program entitled "Writing without Tears" to determine viability as writing curriculum for elementary students in district.
- Graduation held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 14, 2005, with 26 students graduating.
- Work begins June 1, 2005, on building of the new School/Community Fitness Center.

2005-2006

- First day of school held on Monday, August 22, 2005, with record 436 students enrolled in grades K-12.
- Elmwood-Murdock experiences first "bomb scare" in October 2005.
- District receives donation of \$50,000 from Straws Charitable Foundation in memory of Ellen (Gakemeier) Swarts who served as the first female in schools in Nebraska while serving as the Superintendent of the Murdock Public Schools. With this donation, the district received over \$300,000 in contributions which allowed for the building of the School/Community Fitness Center without the use of tax dollars.
- Grand Opening of School/Community Fitness Center held on Sunday, October 23, 2005.
- School takes conservation measures to address increased fuel costs due to Hurricane Katrina.
- "Renovation and Expansion Steering Committee" for the purpose of discussing renovation and expansion of the elementary school site in Elmwood is formed and meets for the first time. Plans put on hold as district faces funding challenges which will require Levy Override Election.

- Representatives of the Nebraska Department of Education conducted Rule 10 School Accreditation visit and found Elmwood-Murdock Public School to meet all accreditation standards.
- Elmwood-Murdock football team ends season 8-1 after a 29-28 first round loss to West Point Central Catholic in playoffs.
- Schools allowed to play Pre-season basketball Jamborees exhibition games with money going to the Hurricane Katrina Fund.
- Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools enter into agreement with Village of Elmwood to build two additional ball fields on west end of school property.
- Board approves resolution to approve holding "Levy Override Election" to exceed the \$1.05 levy limit for the 2006-2007, 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 school years. "Levy Override Election" passed with a 60% approval rating and this will be the fourth successful "Levy Override Election" in school history.
- Elmwood-Murdock and Ashland-Greenwood enter into cooperative sponsorship of Girls' Golf for the 2006-2007 school year.
- Elmwood-Murdock staff participates in "McDonald's McTeacher's Night" as a fundraiser at the Lincoln McDonald's located at 5800 Old Cheney Road.
- Elementary Spring Concert postponed and re-scheduled due to inclement weather.
- Concert Band and Chorus receive ratings of "I" at District Music Contest.
- Administration attends county meeting to discuss addressing possibility of an outbreak of an "avian flu pandemic."
- Class of 2006 graduate on Saturday, May 13, 2006, with 26 students graduating.
- A record 19 students represent the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools at the National FBLA Conference held in Nashville, Tennessee.

2006-2007

- Vince Barnes resigns from Board of Education and Dave Oehlerking selected to fill vacancy.
- K-12 enrollment of 456 is a record for the Elmwood-Murdock School District.
- Board discusses conducting a feasibility study for renovation and expansion of school buildings in district.
- Elmwood-Murdock defeats Mead to win ECNC Conference Volleyball Championship.
- Elmwood-Murdock football team loses 13-10 to Howells in State Football Playoffs to end season 8-2.
- Dave Oehlerking, Steve Backemeyer and Jesse Rust win re-election to school board.
- Mr. Corey O'Brien, Nebraska Assistant Attorney General, makes presentations to students, staff and parents on "Internet Safety" with special emphasis on avoiding sexual predators on the Internet.
- Elmwood-Murdock plays Louisville in the 3rd annual Omaha Basketball Shootout at the Qwest (Century Link) Center on Saturday, February 10, 2007.
- Elmwood-Murdock approves formation of Fellowship of Christian Athletes Organization.
- Elmwood-Murdock defeats Louisville 51-48 to win 2007 ECNC Conference Boys Basketball Tournament.

- Jake Vavak wins 2007 Cass County Spelling Bee representing the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools.
- Fourteen students earn recognition as members of Class C All-State Band.
- Four students qualify for State Speech Meet.
- Elmwood-Murdock and Weeping Water begin discussions on hiring a Curriculum Coordinator to serve the two districts in meeting state and federal requirements regarding testing.
- Concert Band, Jazz Band and Chorus all receive Superior Ratings at District Music Contest at Nebraska City.
- Kevin Zoz wins 2007 ECNC Conference Golf Meet at Crooked Creek Golf Course.
- 13 students from Elmwood-Murdock qualify for the National FBLA Conference to be held in Chicago in June.
- Graduation held on Saturday, May 12, 2007, with 31 students graduating in the Class of 2007.
- Elmwood-Murdock Boys' Golf Team qualifies for 2007 Boys' State Golf Meet.
- Coach Dave Novak selected as Assistant Coach of the Year by the Nebraska Coaches Association.
- Mrs. Heidi Zierott hired as district's first Curriculum Coordinator starting with the 2007-2008 school year. She will serve both the Elmwood-Murdock and Weeping Water School Districts.
- Board discusses proposed timeline for holding Bond Election for renovation and expansion of the Elmwood and Murdock School buildings.

2007-2008

- First day of 2007-2008 school year held on Monday, August 20, 2007, with 439 students grades K-12 in attendance.
- Board of Education holds Special Meetings on Thursday, September 6, 2007, and Monday, October 8, 2007, to discuss proposed building renovation and expansion.
- Board of Education approves calling for a Bond Election on March 11, 2008, in the amount of \$8.9 million for renovation and expansion of the Elmwood and Murdock School buildings.
- Board selects ARCHI+ETC. as architect firm to oversee expansion and renovation project in district. Rick Hawks selected as lead architect for project.
- Elmwood-Murdock Marching Band takes 1st Place in the 2007 AppleJack Parade at Nebraska City.
- Elmwood-Murdock defeats #1 rated Howells in State Football Playoffs, but loses to eventual State Champion Wakefield in the quarterfinals to finish season.
- Elmwood-Murdock girls and boys basketball teams win ECNC Conference Basketball Championships.
- Both the girls' and boys' basketball teams qualify for the 2008 State Tournament. The boys defeat Grand Island Central Catholic in the State Championship game at the Bob Devaney Sports Center and become the 2008 Class C2 State Champions.
- Administration and Board address use of cell phones in school by students during school hours.
- \$8.9 million bond proposal for renovation and expansion of Elmwood and Murdock school facilities passes in March Bond Election.

- School administration meets with Village of Elmwood to discuss the "Rural Alternative Energy Act" and the potential of utilizing electrical energy from wind turbines for use by school and village.
- "Groundbreaking Ceremonies" for building projects held at the Elmwood and Murdock School sites on Monday, May 19, 2008. State Senator Dave Pankonin of Louisville participates in ceremonies.
- Graduation of the Class of 2008 held on Saturday, May 10, 2008, with 38 students graduating.
- Board increases admission fees for athletic contests to \$5.00 for adults and \$4.00 for students grades K-12.
- Seventeen students represent the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools at the National FBLA Conference held in Atlanta, Georgia. Kurk Shrader receives 25 year sponsorship recognition at National Conference.

2008-2009

- Elmwood-Murdock Marching Band places 1st in AppleJack Parade for the second consecutive year.
- District initiates use of "Global Connect" communication system to contact students, staff and parents in regards to inclement weather issues and emergency issues related to school.
- Mark Luetchens, Diann Stille and Kathy Frahm win school board elections.
- Elmwood-Murdock Public School mourns the loss of three students; Tyler Eggert, A.J. Washington and Dillon Synovec, who are killed in a tragic auto accident on October 26.
- Elmwood-Murdock qualifies for State Football Playoffs with loss to eventual state champion Fremont Bergan 18-7 in semi-final round of Class C2 State Playoffs. The Knights end 11-1.
- School deals with "bomb threat" prior to Thanksgiving Break.
- School mourns the loss of Kitchen Manager Connie Bolles in December.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins 2009 ECNC Conference Basketball Tournament defeating Mead 46-40 in the championship contest.
- Elmwood-Murdock Boys' Basketball Team qualifies for 2009 State Tournament where they are defeated by Fremont Bergan in the first round of tournament play.
- Elmwood-Murdock signs contract with the Nebraska Department of Corrections for the building of all furniture and cabinetry for the remodeled school buildings.
- Graduation of 26 students of the Class of 2009 was held on Saturday, May 9, 2009.
- School districts in Nebraska and across the nation receive "Federal Stimulus Funds" to help address fiscal issues related to economic collapse.
- Marcus Winter becomes first National Merit Scholarship recipient in school history. Marcus is also recognized at reception held by Governor Dave Heinemann for receiving a perfect ACT score of 36.
- Elmwood-Murdock Concert Band and Chorus receive Superior ratings at District Music Contest held at Nebraska City.
- Elmwood-Murdock Boys' Track team has most successful showing at State Track Meet in school history finishing in 10th Place with 24.5 points. 1600 Meter Relay team of Sam Burtch, Lance Stephen, Jon Luetchens and Nate Hohman place 1st in Class C. Sam Burtch places 2nd in

Class C in 400 Meter Dash and 3200 Meter Relay team of Sam Burtch, Lance Stephen, Jon Luetchens and Tyler Schmale finish 3rd in Class C.

- Tragedy strikes the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools as Jake Ita is killed in auto accident on May 30, 2009.

- Twenty students represent the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools at the National FBLA Conference held in Anaheim, California.

2009-2010

- 2009-2010 school year starts with 409 students enrolled in grades K-12.

- Elmwood-Murdock Marching Band wins 1st place in AppleJack Parade held in Nebraska City.

- Band begins fundraising for trip to Washington D.C. during Memorial Day weekend in May 2010.

- Elmwood-Murdock Marching Band places 2nd in Class C at 2009 Harvest of Harmony Parade in Grand Island.

- Elmwood-Murdock is defeated by #1 ranked and eventual State Class C2 Champion Ponca in the quarterfinals of the State Football Playoffs.

- "Ribbon Cutting & Dedication Ceremony" for newly renovated and expanded school buildings is held at Murdock School site on Sunday, November 22, 2009.

- Elementary Student Council holds fundraiser and raises over \$1,000 to help with relief efforts toward the victims of the earthquake in Haiti.

- Elmwood-Murdock Girls' Basketball Team defeats East Butler 32-28 to win 2010 ECNC Conference Basketball Tourney.

- Jeb Vavak wins 2010 Cass County Spelling Bee.

- Elmwood-Murdock Girls' Basketball Team qualifies for 2010 State Class C2 State Basketball Tournament and enter tourney with a record of 24-0. Elmwood-Murdock defeats Blue Hill on a "buzzer beater" by Erika Stubbendeck. Elmwood-Murdock loses to eventual state champion Sandy Creek in the semi-finals and to West Point Central Catholic in the consolation game to end the season 24-2.

- Eight Elmwood-Murdock band members selected to Class C All-State Band.

- School Board approves starting "Pre-School" for the 2010-2011 school year.

- Elmwood-Murdock FCCLA starts holding Red Cross Blood Drives at Murdock School site.

- Griffin Havorka named National Merit Scholarship Finalist and one of eight students in State of Nebraska to score a perfect score of 36 on ACT Test.

- District receives funding for snow removal and roof repairs as a result of Federal Government declaring a "Snow Emergency" for Cass County for the historical levels of snow which fell between December 22, 2009, and January 8, 2010.

- Elmwood-Murdock Boys' Track Team wins ECNC Conference Track Championship for first time in school history.

- Board accepts \$15,000 from Oxbow Animal Health (John and Pat Miller) for the purchase and creation of "Oxbow Animal Heath Early Childhood Playground" at the Elmwood School site.

- Graduation is held on Saturday, May 15, 2010, with 28 students graduating in the Class of 2010.

- Elmwood-Murdock Marching Band participates in Memorial Day Parade in Washington D.C. Elmwood-Murdock adult and student representatives are given opportunity to lay a wreath at a "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier" on Memorial Day. Superintendent Novak selected as one of the community members for the laying of the wreath.
- Elmwood-Murdock Boys' Track Team finishes 6th scoring 29 points in the 2010 Class C State Track Meet. Sam Burtch finishes 1st in the Class C 800 Meter Run and 2nd in the 400 Meter Dash. 1600 Meter Relay Team comprised of Sam Burtch, Lance Steffen, Philip Hohman and Jordan Steffen finish in 2nd place.
- Cody Behling represents Elmwood-Murdock in the 2010 State Golf Meet.
- Fifteen students represent the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools at the National FBLA Conference held in Nashville, Tennessee.
- Two students represent Elmwood-Murdock at the National FCCLA Conference held in Chicago, Illinois.

2010-2011

- Elmwood-Murdock "Pre-School Program" starts with 16 three year old students and 15 four year old students.
- Elmwood-Murdock becomes one of the first schools in the state to participate in the "ImPACT Concussion Program" which tests kids to set baseline information in addressing concussions.
- Elmwood-Murdock Football Team qualifies for State Football Playoffs. Elmwood-Murdock defeated by Fremont Bergan in quarterfinal round.
- Elmwood-Murdock purchases house owned by Miriam Carter, directly across street from school in Murdock, for the purpose of creating additional parking space for the district.
- Elmwood-Murdock Marching Band wins 1st place at AppleJack Parade in Nebraska City and ties for 2nd out of 93 bands in the Harvest of Harmony Parade in Grand Island.
- Board approves resolution calling for the issuance of "Build America Bonds" in the amount of \$860,000 for building and site improvements. These low interest bonds are being made to public institutions through the federal government as a way to stimulate the stagnant economy.
- School Board approves adding Boys' and Girls' Cross Country to extra-curricular activities offered by the Elmwood-Murdock School District for the 2011-2012 school year.
- Board approves purchase and installation of new bleachers for new gym at Murdock School site.
- Elmwood-Murdock Board decides not to re-instate cheerleading as a school sponsored activity, but approves recognition of the "Elmwood-Murdock Spirit Squad" to cheer at athletic contests as a non-school sponsored club activity.
- Elmwood-Murdock girls defeated Yutan in double overtime in the ECNC Conference Basketball Tourney.
- Elmwood-Murdock becomes member of "Southeast Nebraska Career Academy Partnership" under the direction of Southeast Community College which allows high school students to take college classes on site at a reduced cost to students.
- Elmwood-Murdock has eleven students selected for Class C All-State Band.

- Graduation for the Class of 2011 was held on Saturday, May 14, 2011, with 37 students graduating.
- Elmwood-Murdock Boys' Track team finishes in 6th place in Class C with 29 points at the 2011 State Track Meet. Sam Burtch was the Class C State Champion in the 800 Meters and finished 2nd in the 400 Meters. The 3200 Meter Relay Team comprised of Sam Burtch, Jordan Steffen, Cody Brown and Tanner Justesen finished in 1st Place. Erika Stubbendeck finished in 5th Place in the Long Jump in Class C at the State Track Meet.
- Elmwood-Murdock Boys' Golf Team qualifies for the 2011 State Golf Meet.
- Superintendent Dan Novak recognized as Region II Superintendent of the Year by the Nebraska Association of School Administrators.
- Thirteen students travel to Orlando, Florida to represent the Elmwood-Murdock FBLA at the National Conference.

2011-2012

- Booster Club hosts first "Booster Club Blastoff" on Thursday, August 18, 2011, with former Nebraska football player and Cornhusker broadcaster Matt Davison serving as featured speaker.
- School district adopts "Positive Behavior Systems"(PBS) as central theme for setting behavior expectations for students in the district.
- Elementary participates in "Project READERS" in cooperation with the University of Nebraska - Lincoln to assist students to utilize data in developing interventions to support students in the area of reading.
- Alyssa Brown represents the Elmwood-Murdock Cross Country Team at the 2011 State Cross Country Meet held in Kearney and becomes first state cross country qualifier in school history.
- Elmwood-Murdock Marching Band finishes 2nd in AppleJack Parade and 4th in the Harvest of Harmony Parade.
- Elmwood-Murdock Volleyball Team qualifies for 2011 State Volleyball Tourney in Hastings. Elmwood-Murdock loses in first round to eventual state champion Lutheran High Northeast to finish season 28-8.
- Elmwood-Murdock Football Team qualifies for State Football Playoffs and is defeated by Tri-County in 2nd round to finish season 8-2.
- Elmwood-Murdock begins review of K-6 Language Arts Curriculum and will make decision to adopt "Reading Street" as the K-6 Language Arts Curriculum.
- Elmwood-Murdock finishes 4th in state Class C2 on State Reading Assessments after finishing 5th in 2010-2011.
- Nebraska Department of Education reports that the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools has the lowest per pupil cost of all schools in East Central Nebraska Conference and one of the lowest per pupil costs for all Class C schools in Nebraska.
- Christmas Food Drive raises \$1,200 for local food pantry along with 1,000 food items at the elementary school and \$2,100 at the junior-senior high school.
- Elementary collects 130 coats for donation to the Peoples City Mission in Lincoln.

- Elmwood-Murdock Education Foundation purchases house in Elmwood in order to allow students to get experience in remodeling. Students finish remodel project in the summer and house is immediately sold. Industrial Technology teacher Don Brother directs project.
- Elmwood-Murdock School Board re-finances bonds issued in 2008 in order to take advantage of lower interest rates and save the district taxpayers \$1,000,000 in total project costs.
- Activities Director Dan Novak recognized as Region II Activities Director of the Year at awards banquet held at the Champions Club in Lincoln.
- Nebraska Game and Parks Commission provides "Outdoor Education Day" at the elementary school.
- Twelve students qualify to represent the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools at the National FBLA Conference to be held in San Antonio, Texas in June 2012.
- Class of 2012 graduates on Saturday, May 12, 2012, with 33 students graduating.
- Elmwood-Murdock Concert Band and Chorus receive Superior ratings from all judges at District Music Contest.
- Elmwood-Murdock band travels to Worlds of Fun to perform in a judged competition.
- Boys' Golf Team competes in 2012 State Golf Meet and finishes tied for 7th in the team standings. Jake Kuhlman medals at the state meet finishing in 10th place.
- Elmwood-Murdock receives grant from Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality to pay for 25% of cost of purchase and installation of rubber playground surface at Elmwood.
- Elmwood-Murdock purchases new scoreboards for new gym in Murdock. One of the scoreboards has an LED messaging system which can be used for a wide variety of messaging during activities.
- The Nebraska Department of Education releases report which shows Elmwood-Murdock finished 4th in Class C on the State Writing Assessments.
- Board decides to add Cross Country to extra-curricular offerings for junior high students starting with the 2012-2013 school year.

2012-2013

- Former Nebraska Football Coach and Athletic Director Dr. Tom Osborne is guest speaker for 2012 "Booster Club Blastoff" held on Wednesday, August 22, 2012.
- Elmwood-Murdock Football Team loses 18-7 to Ponca in 1st round of State Football Playoffs to end season 7-2.
- Trevor Lockman becomes first male to represent Elmwood-Murdock at State Cross Country Meet.
- Elmwood-Murdock addresses a few scattered cases of Pertussis "Whooping Cough" during the winter months.
- Elmwood-Murdock offers John Baylor ACT Test Prep Program free of charge.
- Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools makes presentation on School Safety at the 2012 Nebraska State School Boards Convention.
- Mark Luetchens, Kathy Frahm and Diann Stille win Board elections.
- Mrs. Heidi Zierott appointed Student Services Director (Guidance Counselor, Curriculum Coordinator and Special Education Director) starting with the 2013-2014 school year.

- Elementary Student Council sponsors "Pennies for Patients" fundraiser to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Foundation. Students raise \$2,000 for foundation through this fundraiser.
- Board approves band trip to "World's of Fun" in May 2013.
- "Remembering our Fallen," a photo display which commemorates the 80 Nebraska soldiers who have given their lives in the "War on Terror" while serving in Afghanistan and Iraq, is displayed in the commons area at Murdock from March 11 through March 15, 2013.
- Elmwood-Murdock becomes regional "E-COMPASS" test site for those taking entrance exams to Southeast Community College.
- Elmwood-Murdock has eight students selected for Class C All-State Band.
- Nebraska Games and Parks Commission sponsors "Outdoor Education Day" at Elmwood School site on Thursday, May 23, 2013.
- Graduation for the Class of 2013 held on Saturday, May 11, 2013, with 31 students graduating.
- Board approves allowing Club Dance Team to practice and perform at selected school activities starting with the 2013-2014 school year.
- School Board and administration spend great deal of time addressing the "Affordable Healthcare Act" which is passed by Congress.
- Sixteen students qualify for National FBLA Conference to be held in Anaheim, California in late June and early July 2013.

2013-2014

- **Elmwood-Murdock recognized as 2014 "BEST" High School by "U.S. News & World Report"** magazine.
- Elmwood-Murdock selected to hold Homecoming Pep Rally at Gateway Mall on Wednesday, October 16, 2013.
- Elmwood-Murdock recognized as being in top 10% of schools in state in regards to overall school safety and loss control.
- Jordan Larson, UNL Volleyball Player and member of U.S. Olympic Team speaks at "Booster Club Blastoff" on Wednesday, August 21, 2013.
- District adopts "A.L.I.C.E." Program (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter and Escape) to address intruders in the building.
- Elmwood-Murdock Marching Band places 1st in AppleJack Parade held in Nebraska City.
- Once again, Elmwood-Murdock offers John Baylor ACT Test Prep to students free of charge.
- Elmwood-Murdock qualifies for State Football Playoffs and is defeated by Centennial in first round to end season 5-4.
- For the second year in a row, Trevor Lockman represents Elmwood-Murdock at State Cross Country Meet.
- Elmwood-Murdock begins process of aligning Social Studies Curriculum with the Nebraska State Social Studies Standards.
- Board approves band trip to Disneyworld in Orlando, Florida in May 2014.
- Aaron Spracklin selected by the Nebraska School Activities Association to sing the National Anthem at State Diving Championships.
- Eleven students selected to represent Elmwood-Murdock on Class C All-State Band.

- Graduation of the Class of 2014 was held on Saturday, May 10, 2014, with 31 students graduating.
- Trevor Lockman finishes in 6th place in the 3200 Meter Run at the 2014 State Track Meet.
- Board approves 1:1 computer initiative for students in grades 9-12 for implementation with the 2015-2016 school year.
- Mr. Kurk Shrader, Business Teacher, selected as the 2014 Nebraska Career Education Adviser of the Year by the Nebraska Department of Education.
- Twenty students representing the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools attend the National FBLA Conference in Nashville, Tennessee.
- Three students represent the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools at the National FCCLA Conference held in San Antonio, Texas.
- Three students selected to represent the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools at the National Skills USA Conference in Kansas City.
- Post office to cut offices hours and Elmwood and Murdock as cost saving measure by U.S. Postal Service.
- Board sets lunch prices for the 2014-2015 school year at \$2.60 for students grades K-6 and \$2.90 for students grades 7-12. Milk price set at 40 cents per carton.

2014-2015

- In accordance with State Law, Elmwood-Murdock forms "Concussion Management Team" to address issues with students who suffer concussions during school year.
- Nebraska State Treasurer Don Stenberg is guest speaker as the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools institute "Everfi Financial Literacy Program" as part of curriculum.
- Professional Development for 2014-2015 school year focuses on implementation for 1:1 computer initiative for grades 9-12 during the 2014-2015 school year.
- "Booster Club Blastoff" held on Thursday, August 21, 2014, with Nebraska Men's Basketball Assistant Coach Kenya Hunter serving as guest speaker.
- 40 students enrolled in dual credit college courses through SENCAP Career Academy Program.
- Board approves purchase of \$25,000 of equipment to upgrade School/Community Fitness Center.
- Legal Counsel, Karen Haase, makes presentation to students and staff regarding appropriate uses of social media.
- Elmwood-Murdock Volleyball Team qualifies for 2014 State Volleyball Tourney and are defeated in first round match to Hastings St. Cecilia.
- Elmwood-Murdock deals with significant outbreak of Pertussis (Whooping Cough) through fall and winter.
- Elementary Student Council holds fundraiser for Down's Syndrome research and raises \$600.
- To learn more about the Native American Culture, the elementary holds a "Native Pride Assembly."
- Elmwood-Murdock Marching Band places 1st at AppleJack Parade.
- Once again, Elmwood-Murdock hosts Homecoming Pep Rally at Gateway Mall in Lincoln on Wednesday. October 15, 2014.

- Student assembly held for students grades 7-12 regarding the dangers of tobacco use with special emphasis on the dangers of chewing tobacco.
- For first time in school history, Boys' Cross Country Team qualifies for State Cross Country Meet and finish in 10th place. Trevor Lockman medals at state meet finishing in 6th place.
- Governor Dave Heinemann reports that Elmwood-Murdock ranked #1 in the state in Class C2 in Science based on state testing results.
- Ashtyn Cooper selected by the Nebraska School Activities Association to sing National Anthem at State Volleyball Tournament.
- Trevor Lockman selected as one of ten finalists for 2014 Wendy's High School Heisman Award for the State of Nebraska.
- School district hosts School/Community Visioning Meeting to discuss development of pro-active growth plan for district. Ad Hoc Committee comprised of representatives of the school district, villages of Elmwood and Murdock, Elmwood-Merchants Association, and business leaders from the district.
- Brenna Backemeyer wins 2015 Class C2 State Speech Championship for Persuasive Speaking.
- District decides to start "Transition Program" for Special Education students for the 2015-2016 school year in order to improve transition from school to work for these students.
- Sixth Grade Quiz Bowl Team wins Cass County Quiz Bowl Championship.
- Ten students represent Elmwood-Murdock on Class C All-State Band.
- High School Chorus receives Superior rating from all judges at District Music Contest held in Nebraska City.
- In May, Board approves purchase of 155 Mac Book Air 5 computers for students for 1:1 computer initiative to be implemented with the start of the 2015-2016 school year.
- A record 58 students enroll for nine dual college credit courses offered on-site for the 2015-2016 school year.
- Gary Ritnour, Amelia Guenther and Laura Fortney become first recipients in district history of Susan Thompson Buffet Scholarships.
- S.O.S. raises over \$6,000 to help support elementary school in sponsoring annual Spring Carnival.
- Representatives of Educational Service Unit #3 provide demonstrations to students on drones and the many uses for drones.
- Graduation of the Class of 2015, the 25th Graduating Class in Elmwood-Murdock School History, was held on Saturday, May 9, 2015, with 34 students graduating. When Paige Vogler received diploma at the end of the roll call, she becomes the 714th graduate in the 25 year history of the Elmwood-Murdock School District.
- Eighteen students qualify for National FBLA Conference to be held in Chicago, Illinois.
- Three students qualify for National FCCLA Conference to be held in Washington D.C.

2015-2016

- Elmwood-Murdock starts 26th school year with first day of school on Tuesday, August 18, 2015, with 407 students enrolled in grades K-12. For the first time in district history the Pre-school program for 3 and 4 year olds is full with the maximum of 20 students in each group.

- Elmwood-Murdock implements "Vision 2015" which is the 1:1 computer initiative for students in grades 9-12 by providing each student a Mac Air Laptop computer.
- Olympic bobsledder Curtis Tomasevic is the guest speaker at the "Booster Blast-Off" on Thursday, August 20, 2015.
- 64 students enroll in college credit courses through SENCAP program.
- As part of "Vision 2015" students in grades 5 through 8 are provided individual Chrome books for use in school.
- Homecoming and the 25th Reunion of the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools was held on the weekend of October 9, 2015.
- Elmwood-Murdock qualifies for the State Football Playoffs with a 6-3 record and lose in first round to Battle Creek.
- Mrs. Tennal resigns as Head Volleyball Coach and is replaced by Mrs. Nichole Justesen.
- Tyler Oehlerking and Callie Zeorian crowned Homecoming King and Queen for 2015.
- Miguel Rikli and Thomas Hynes qualify to represent the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools in the State Cross Country Meet held at Kearney.
- Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools signs contract with "STRIV-TV" to live stream school activities via the Internet.
- Mr. Dan Novak submits resignation for purpose of retirement at the December 2015 Board Meeting with an effective date of June 30, 2017.
- The Nebraska Department of Education recognizes the Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools as one of the top 15% of all schools in the State of Nebraska.
- At the December Board Meeting, the Board discussed the eligibility of transgender students in NSAA activities as it is one of the main issues to be addressed by the Nebraska School Activities Association this year.
- Ashtyn Cooper selected by the Nebraska School Activities Association to sing National Anthem at 2016 State Baseball Finals.
- Elmwood-Murdock defeats Johnson County Central to win 2016 ECNC Conference Boys Basketball Championship.
- Elmwood-Murdock approves contract for installation of epoxy flooring in all locker rooms, showers and coaches rooms at Murdock School site.
- Elmwood-Murdock purchases SectorNow interactive data collection system for district use.
- School district purchases first "drone" for use by teachers and students.
- Mrs. Diane Maly and Mr. Kurk Shrader submit resignations for the purpose of retirement at the end of the 2015-2016 school year. Mrs. Maly has served the Elmwood and Elmwood-Murdock School Districts for 33 years with Mr. Shrader serving the Elmwood and Elmwood-Murdock School Districts for 30 years.
- Elmwood-Murdock defeats Humboldt-Table Rock at Nebraska City in the District Final to qualify for the 2016 State Boys Basketball Tournament.
- Elmwood-Murdock opens the 2016 State Basketball Tourney with a convincing win over Southern Valley. In the Semi-Finals Elmwood-Murdock defeats defending State Champion Winnebago to end Winnebago's 50 game winning streak. Over 8,000 fans attended the semi-finals game at the Devaney Sports Center to witness Elmwood-Murdock upset Winnebago. In the finals at the Pinnacle Bank Arena, Elmwood-Murdock lost a hard fought battle with Hastings

St. Celia in the Class C2 State Championship game to finish as the 2016 State Class C2 Boys Basketball Runner-up.

-Elmwood-Murdock qualified 22 students for National FBLA, 5 students for National FCCLA and 1 student for Skills USA Nationals. This was a record number of students from Elmwood-Murdock who qualified for national competition in the three career education programs.

-Ella Zierott, 5th Grade Student, wins 2016 Elementary Geography Bee. Kaitlynn Ashlock, 6th Grade Student, wins 2016 Elementary Spelling Bee. Carlos Stevens, 8th Grade Student, wins Junior High Spelling Bee. Gus Pope, 7th Grade Student, qualifies for State Geography Bee.

- School Board holds Public Meeting on March 21, 2016, to discuss status of Athletic Facilities in the Elmwood-Murdock School District.

-A record 39 Kindergarten students register for Kindergarten for the 2016-2017 school year.

-Zach Dwyer, Caleb Marlatt and Thomas Hynes qualify for the 2016 State Track Meet. Zach and Caleb qualify in the Shot Put while Thomas qualifies in the 3200 Meter Run.

-School has to bring drinking water to the Murdock School site for most of the month of May due to E-coli contamination in the Murdock water supply.

-Elmwood-Murdock recognized as 2016 "Best High School" by "U.S. News & World Report's" magazine. This is the second time in the past three years the district has received this recognition.

-School closed on Thursday, April 21, 2016, to allow all Pk-12 staff members to attend Nebraska Educational Technology Association (NETA) Conference in Omaha.

-Board selects Nebraska School Boards Association to conduct search for Superintendent to replace Mr. Novak upon his retirement.

-Both the Concert Band and Mixed Chorus receive Superior ratings from all three judges at Districts and receive a plaque for their performances.

-Graduation of the Class of 2016, 26th graduating class in school history, was held on Saturday, May 14, 2016, with 36 graduates receiving diplomas. Callie Zeorian was the Valedictorian with Kara Zimmerman being the Salutatorian.

-The final school day for the 2015-2016 school year was held on Tuesday, May 24, 2016.

2016-2017

-Mr. Novak receives the "Gessford/Baker" outstanding superintendent award for proactive use of legal counsel.

-Boys' Basketball team qualifies for the state tournament. Ponca beat the Knights in the semi-finals and Hastings St. Cecilia beats the Knights on a last second half court shot in the consolation game.

-The Elmwood-Murdock School District received a "4" rating, which is the highest Aquestt rating given by the Nebraska Department of Education.

-The Elmwood-Murdock Wall of Fame was officially renamed the "Daniel Novak Wall of Fame".

-Graduation of the Class of 2017, the 27th Graduating Class in Elmwood-Murdock School History, was held on Saturday, May 13, 2017, with 27 students receiving their diplomas.

- Four track athletes qualified for the State Track Meet; Carter Bornemeier placed 6th in the 400 Meter Dash and Caleb Marlatt placed 8th in the Shot Put.

- The Elmwood-Murdock Golf Team placed 3rd in Districts and qualified for the State Golf Championship.
- Four students qualify for the National FBLA Conference in Anaheim, CA.
- Three students qualify for the National SkillsUSA Conference in Nashville, TN.
- One student qualified for the National FCCLA Conference in Nashville, TN.
- Mr. Novak retired from the Elmwood-Murdock School District on June 30, 2017.

2017-2018

- Ryan Knippelmeyer became the third Superintendent in the history of the Elmwood-Murdock Consolidated School District, beginning on July 1, 2017.
- District updates school webpage and implements a mobile app and LiveFeed to communicate the happenings within the district.
- For the first time in school district history, we have three sections of Kindergarten with a total of 48 students in Kindergarten.
- 53 preschools were enrolled in our 3 and 4-year-old preschool.
- The school board approved changing football classification and to begin playing 8-man football in 2018.
- The Elmwood-Murdock One-Act team, under the leadership of Mrs. Keri Hogue, placed 2nd in the District One-Act competition in November 2017.
- Mr. Schmale, Mrs. Wray, Mrs. Colbert, and Mrs. Cook announced their retirements at the end of the 2017-2018 school year.
- Elmwood-Murdock Marching Band places 1st at AppleJack Parade.
- The Elmwood-Murdock Boy's Basketball Team qualifies with a wildcard for the 2018 Boy's State Basketball Tournament. In an exciting game, the Knights were defeated by BRLD in the first round of state, in Overtime, 48-47.
- Elmwood-Murdock wins the Sportsmanship Award at the Class C-2 Boy's State Basketball Tournament.
- Molly Feile competes at the State Speech Competition on March 22, 2018.
- Caleb Marlatt becomes a member of the Wall of Fame by receiving 1st Team All-State Football recognition in the Omaha World Herald, Lincoln Journal Star and Huskerland Prep Report.
- State Track – Eight athletes competed in the 2018 State Track Meet. Carter Bornemeier placed 4th in the Class C 200 and 400 Meter Dash.
- State Golf – For the third year in a row, the boy's golf team qualifies for the State Golf Championships. The golf team members competing included; Zach Rust, Riley Backemeyer, Nolan Langfeldt, Nick Langfeldt, and Wes Dreamer and they brought home the State Runner-up Trophy.
- Graduation of the class of 2018, the 28th Graduating class of Elmwood-Murdock, was held on Saturday, May 12, 2018, with 36 students receiving diplomas. Over the past 28 years, 813 students have received diplomas from Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools.
- Nine students qualify for the National FBLA Conference in Baltimore, MD.
- One student qualified for the National FCCLA Conference in Atlanta, GA.
- One student qualified for the National SkillsUSA Conference in Louisville, KY.