



ELLSWORTH ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL

Ellsworth Elementary/Middle School
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Erica Gabbianelli – M.S. Principal
Cathy Lewis– E.S. Principal
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September 5, 2019.

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members:

This school year is off to a great start. We've welcomed many new students and staff into our EEMS Family. In an effort to create a K-8 learning community that values caring, compassion, and kindness we have adopted a motto for the 2019-2020 school year. All students and staff have agreed that our motto is "Kindness Starts With Me". Throughout the year, we will be highlighting acts of kindness and ways that our students and staff show compassion and care.

In an effort to support this initiative, Ellsworth Elementary Middle School will be hosting a very special event on September 16th for students, staff, parents, and community members. Rachel's Challenge, a nationally recognized program pursues the mission to promote safer, more connected schools. It centers around the remarkable story of Rachel Scott, the first victim of the Columbine High School tragedy whose life and message was one of showing kindness and compassion to all.

During the school day on September 16th, EEMS students and staff will be hearing presentations about how Rachel Scott promoted kindness and caring during her life. These presentations will focus on involving our students in conversations about promoting kindness, and the chain reaction that is created by acts of kindness. The conversations will not be focused on school violence or tragedy, but rather how each of us has the potential to create a chain reaction of kindness.

In the evening, there will be a presentation in the EEMS Cafeteria at 6:30 p.m. for community members, parents and students ages 11 and above. This presentation will be an opportunity for parents and community members to hear a similar message to what students and staff receive. The goal of this presentation is to involve all members of the greater learning community in promoting an environment of caring, kindness, and compassion. All are encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be provided, and there will be childcare available for younger children.

On September 17th, Ellsworth High School will also be hosting Rachel's Challenge. The presenters from Rachel's Challenge engage students in age appropriate conversations at all levels.

If you would like more information or have questions please contact Principals, Cathy Lewis or Erica Gabbianelli at 207-667-6241 or clewis@ellsworthschools.org egabbianelli@ellsworthschools.org.

Sincerely,
Cathy Lewis, Principal

Erica Gabbianelli, Principal