

May 29, 2020

Greetings EGF ISD 595 Families, Staff and Community Members,

The final day of the very unusual 2019-2020 school year is here and we made it! To say that the last few months have been challenging would be an understatement, but it also brought out the best in many people. Students, parents, and staff members were presented with some big challenges in the middle of March and have worked very hard to make the best out of a difficult situation. I am extremely proud of everyone and would like to sincerely express my gratitude for their efforts. The implementation of distance learning, childcare programs, and food delivery services was not easy, but everyone worked together as a team and did a super job! THANK YOU!

Please take a little time to review the following information and feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

- **Congratulations to the Class of 2020** - CONGRATULATIONS to the members of the Class of 2020 on reaching a milestone in their lives! The final months of their careers at EGF Senior High created some significant challenges for the graduates and they had to learn how to handle adversity. They conducted themselves with class and persevered during tough times. I am grateful for their efforts and wish them the best of luck in the future. The Class of 2020 Virtual Graduation Ceremony was aired 7:00 p.m. on Friday, May 22nd and is to view at the following link. I would like to thank the following special guests for offering their congratulations and words of wisdom to the Class of 2020 during the virtual ceremony. They did a super job and I am very grateful for their willingness to help out. I would also like to thank Noah Thompson for creating the video and the Senior High staff members who participated in the process.

Special Guest Speakers

Jay Debertin (EGF Class of 1978) - CHS President and CEO

Steve Gander (EGF Class of 1979) - Mayor of the City of EGF

Dave Hakstol - NHL and Former UND Hockey Coach

Mark Johnson - MN State Senator from EGF

Nick Mertens (EGF Class of 2005) - QB of 2004 State Champions and NDSU Bison

Adam Monley (EGF Class of 1996) - Broadway Actor

Tucker Poolman (EGF Class of 2011) - NHL Hockey Player - Winnipeg Jets

Virtual Graduation Video Link

<https://archive.org/download/sh-graduation-v-2/SH-GRADUATION-V5.mp4>

- **Retirements** - Friday, May 29th was the last official day of work for Beatrice Frol (SH paraprofessional) and Daryl Hanson (bus driver). I would like to thank both of them for their dedicated service to the school district and wish them the best of luck during retirement.
- **Last Day of Childcare and Grab & Go Meals Programs** - Friday, May 29th was the last official day of the childcare for essential workers and “grab & go” meals delivery programs. The success of both programs was very evident and the direct result of dedicated staff members. Just under 65,000 meals were delivered to children since the middle of March and the childcare program provided excellent support for working parents.
- **Summer Meals Program** - The EGF Summer East Program will start up on June 15th and be run the same as the last two years with locations at New Heights Elementary and the Senior High School. You can go to <https://www.egf.k12.mn.us/> or call the district office at 218-773-3494 to find out more information about the program. Please consider using the program this summer!
- **Kindergarten Registration** - Due to the restrictions created by the pandemic, it was very difficult to conduct the KG registration process like in previous years and we need your help! If you have a child who will be going to kindergarten next fall and have not officially registered him/her for school, please go the <https://www.egf.k12.mn.us/o/new-heights-elementary> or call New Heights Elementary at 218-773-0908 as soon as possible. Thank you in advance for your help.

I will do my best to keep everyone updated on summer programs and plans for the start of the 2020-21 school year. Please stay tuned!

Have a wonderful weekend, enjoy the summer months, and be safe!

Mike Koltness

Superintendent of Schools
East Grand Forks ISD 595
218-793-2880

