

# JC McKenna Middle School School Newsletter

November 2018

Families of JC McKenna,

Thank you for sharing your student with us each day. The school year has already been a busy one with not only a lot of learning but also a lot of other experiences. Our sixth graders had a chilly but engaging outdoor day where they were able to fish, kayak and experience archery among other things. Thank you to the volunteers that helped to make this day happen as we couldn't do it without them. The seventh graders took an afternoon to see the evolution of vehicles as a connection to their Science lessons. The Ferrari seemed to be pretty popular by all students. Again a huge thank you to everyone that is willing to take the afternoon to share their vehicles with our students. The seventh grade class also participated in a day at UW-Madison touring the campus as well as Camp Randall and ending the experience with Bascom ice cream. They returned to school and talked about careers and what it takes to make the careers reality.

During our Foundations times in September and October our students and staff have been learning about The Zones of Regulation. Zones is a behavioral approach used to teach self-regulation. This is achieved by providing strategies to students so that they are more aware of and in control of their impulses and emotions. Please see the link below for additional information.

<http://www.zonesofregulation.com/learn-more-about-the-zones.html>

Success Club has started each Wednesday after school. Your child's team time teacher will contact you if your child is being asked to stay to get caught up on work. Please continue to encourage your child to get their homework complete prior to the due date and to seek the help of a teacher if needed.

Did you hear that our Cross Country Team was conference champs? They had a lot of interesting weather to run in with two meets being more like a mud run and the last conference meet feeling like winter had arrived. Nonetheless, they pulled ahead of the others and many of them beat their personal bests. We are all very proud of them and happy that the team has a lot of participants. I'm guessing that the track coaches are excited about spring.

Along with our students our staff have been busy too. On October 8 the whole staff began looking at Integrated Comprehensive Services for Equity where we learned about the history of education and how we got to the system that we have today. We had the opportunity to sort through our current practices and most importantly had important conversations on how we best meet the needs of all of our students. We also had the opportunity to look at our k-12 data. On October 17 our ELA, Spanish and Special Education Teachers met with a literacy consultant to plan out the newest Lucy Calkins Units of Study in each grade level.

Thank you for encouraging and supporting your student each day. Please never hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, concerns or funny stories to share. I could always use a laugh!

Joanie Dobbs

JC McKenna Middle School Principal

## Important Dates

End of 1st Qtr--Early Release..Nov 2  
Parent/Teacher Conf.....Nov 8  
Parent/Teacher Conf.....Nov 13  
6th grade Field Trip.....Nov 13  
Folk Fair Trip.....Nov 16  
Thanksgiving Break.....Nov 21-23  
Prof Develop Day/no school..Nov 26  
End of 1st Tri-core.....Nov 30

## Contacting JC McKenna Middle School

### Main Office Hours

7:15am-3:45pm

### Telephone Extensions:

Principal, Mrs. Dobbs.....882-3302

Attendance Voicemail .882-3301

School Guidance Counselor:

Mrs. Holm.....882-3304

School Social Worker:

Mr. Mike Czerwonka...882- 3346

307 S. First Street

Evansville, WI 53536

**Fax:** 608-882-5744

**Website:** [jcm.ecsdnet.org](http://jcm.ecsdnet.org)



Please do not drop off your child in the staff parking lot on Liberty Street. We ask that you drop off on Second Street or on First Street once the bus traffic has passed. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Mission Statement

“Educating and engaging the whole student”

To create a stimulating, caring and socially responsible environment that

encourages students

to reach their individual potential

## Organized for School Success

Middle school students may have six or seven classrooms and teachers, plus a locker. They are expected to take increasing responsibility for their own learning and success, and lay the groundwork for even more responsibility in high school and beyond. All of that change means organization is more important than ever. Here are some ways from “The Middle Years” to help students get organized for school success.

### Manage time wisely

Being a good time manager includes knowing what you *have* to do and what you *want* to do, as well as accurately judging how long each activity will take. Consider these ideas for helping your child learn to manage time well so she can maximize her learning.

#### Write it down

Encourage your tween to think of her student planner as her sidekick on her journey through middle school. Suggest that she use one color to write required tasks (homework, band practice) and another color for those she'd like to make time for (riding bikes with friends, organizing her photos). Let her know in advance about appointments or family events so she can include those, too. Having all of her commitments written down in one spot will let her see them at a glance so she always knows what's ahead.

#### Learn to estimate time

Have your middle grader time himself doing activities like studying or researching. For instance, he may plan to spend 30 minutes on Saturday doing library research for a social



studies report, but find out that it actually takes him an hour. By paying attention to his start and stop times, he can estimate more accurately in the future and set aside the time he will need.

### Arrange homework space

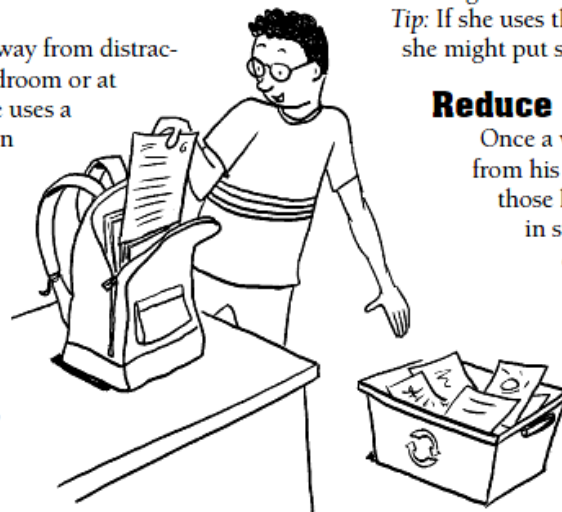
Your child is in charge of doing his own homework, but you can help by making sure he has what he needs. Try these tips for creating a well-stocked homework spot where he can focus on his assignments and do his best work.

#### Pick a place

Have him choose a well-lit location away from distractions. He could work at a desk in his bedroom or at the dining room table, for example. If he uses a shared spot like the kitchen, cut down on noise by making homework time “quiet time” for everyone. Younger siblings might read or color, and perhaps you'll also read or do paperwork.

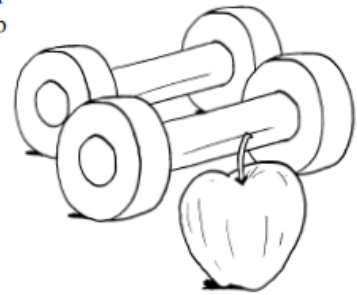
#### Stock supplies

Let your middle grader decide how to organize her supplies. She could decorate glass jars for storing scissors, pens, and pencils. Zipper bags might hold paper clips, erasers, and sticky notes. And shoeboxes are ideal for items like



### Stick to routines

Regular daily routines often lead to better organization and greater school success. Suggest that your tween develop the ones that work best for him. They should include 9–11 hours of sleep, healthy meals and snacks, at least an hour of exercise, and time for family and friends. Help him make adjustments if a routine isn't working. If it's hard for him to get started on homework right after school, perhaps he'll decide to relax for 15 minutes rather than jumping in immediately.



#### Set mini-deadlines

Your tween can manage time better by breaking tasks into chunks. She could write down deadlines for specific parts of her work. If she starts studying for a history test at 5 p.m., she might plan to read and take notes on one chapter by 5:30 p.m., then quiz herself until 6 p.m. If she has a science project due in two weeks, she could give herself one week to complete the experiment, two days to write up her findings, two days to make a poster, and three days to practice presenting her project.

# News from the LMC

Hello from the LMC~

Books have been flying off the shelves! Please help support your student in returning their library books on time and visiting the LMC often. They have the opportunity to come with their English Language Arts Classes on a regular basis, AND also can come any time during the school day with a pass. They do not have to wait for a scheduled time, the LMC is open 7:30am-12:15pm and then 12:45pm-3:30pm.

Thanks to the 8th Grade Language Art's classes, the LMC has a new welcome wall! In five weeks, the 8th graders have read a combined total of 406 books! Great job.

The Scholastic Book Fair will be at JC McKenna November 5<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>. Students and parents are encouraged to stop by and support literacy in our school. Proceeds go back to the LMC and student learning. It will be open a half hour before and after school and during Parent/Teacher conferences. We would love to see you there.

~Mrs. Abby Beyerl, K-12 Library Media Specialist & Mrs. Amy Zastoupil, LMC Clerk



# 6th Grade News

## 6th Grade Team

**Mr. Tom Bethke** 882-3328  
Math  
bethket@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Ms. Sara Bessonny** 882-3330  
Social Studies  
bessonny@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Mr. Colin Langan** 882-3323  
Reading/Language Arts  
langanc@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Mrs. Renae Smith** 882-3322  
Reading/Language Arts  
smithre@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Mr. Greg Vossekuil** 882-3329  
Science  
vossekuilg@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Ms. Jo Ann Mumm** 882-3339  
Business & Information Technology  
mummj@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Ms. Erica Mitten** 882-3314  
Special Education  
mittene@evansville.k12.wi.us

- Parents please continue to sign and check over your child's assignment notebook. This helps everyone stay informed about what is being assigned for homework as well as any upcoming tests or projects. Team Time teachers check for signatures daily.
- Grades are posted online. Please use Family Access to find your child's grades. It takes about 1 week turn around time for teachers to post grades. If you have not signed-up for Family Access please contact Melinda Molloy at the District Office.
- Parent /Teacher Conferences are November 8 and 13 from 3:30 to 8 pm.  
(information regarding conferences will be sent home the week of October 30). Your child's team teacher will set up a conference time.

## Homework Help!

- 6th Grade Success Club meets every Wednesday from 3:15 to 4:15 pm. This club is staffed by 6th grade teachers. Students with late work will be asked to attend by Wednesday. Contact your child's Team Time teacher if you have any questions. We take pride in providing many opportunities for students to complete work or even skill work.

## Science

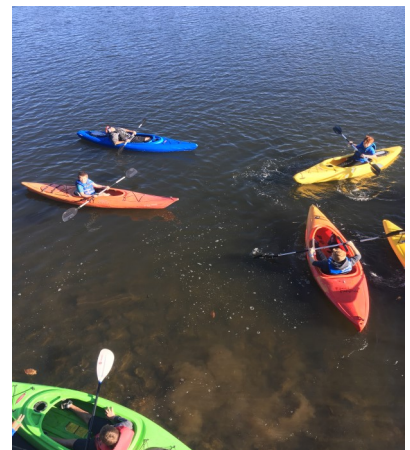
Students will begin using their online textbooks for their first Chemistry unit about atoms and elements. Please make sure that you and your student have been able to come up with a plan about having access to the internet in case there is online homework.

Students have also started to study 40 important elements and their corresponding symbols. These elements are ones that students will continue to see in all of their science classes so they are very important for the students to study.

Lastly, thank you for taking an interest in your student's science education! Help your student to learn good study skills and helping to quiz your student will only help in their understanding of the concepts taught in class.

## 6th Grade Outdoor Education Day was a success!

Students spent their day split between Lake Leota Park and the Nature Center in Evansville on Sept 28. Activities included kayaking, fishing, a scavenger hunt, Yard game, archery, and a visit to the Nature Center. See more photos at the end of this newsletter. We want to thank the many community



members that join us and make Outdoor Education Days possible. There will be 2 more Outdoor Days in June 2019.

## Language Arts



We started the year off with a fantastic start, and the 6th graders read too many

books to count for our Character Study. We recently started our new Writer's Workshop major unit with

The Personal Narrative - Crafting Powerful Personal Life Stories. The students are creating lists of ideas that are "small moments" they have experienced, and turning that small moment into a compelling piece of writing. They're practicing how to show our ideas with descriptive details, rather than just telling a story. By studying actual author's works and strategies, students are writing more each day as they apply ideas

practiced in daily mini-lessons. Ask your child what they're writing about - their small moment stories are amazing.

For Reader's Workshop, some students are studying the author, Roland Smith and reading one of his many great stories. Other students are dipping into the Thriller genre with different book clubs. The students will then switch units in a few weeks.

## Math

Regular math classes are currently completing Chapter 2 of Big Ideas. This is the study of fractions and decimal operations. Students have been working on adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions and mixed numbers. Up next in Chapter 3 of Big Ideas, students will be working on algebraic expressions and properties. Area of polygons will be the next unit of study. Ask your child if they have done any math extra credit.

### Math 24

Math 24 will be introduced this month to all 6th graders. This is a math game using the 4 basic operations along with integers to get to 24 or -24. There is a grade level tourney coming up in February. The top 6 students will go on to compete later in March at a regional tourney.

### Advanced Math

Students have just started Chapter 3 of the "Red" Big Ideas Series. This is the study of expressions and equations. Highlights of this chapter include solving equations with adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing. Students will also

solve some 2-step equations. Calculators will be used in this class from now until the end of the year. Please ask your child if they have a calculator for math class.

**KhanAcademy.org** is a website that all students can use as a resource. Students can watch videos for grade level math, practice 6th grade math problems and play games. Please encourage your child to use Khan Academy outside of school. Students also have computer access at JCM. This is a wonderful, free resource for all students and parents. Please have your child show you this valuable website.

**Mr. Bethke's website** has a variety of math resources including YouTube video lessons from the current chapter for regular and advanced math classes. <https://sites.google.com/a/ecsdnet.org/bethke-website/home>

## Social Studies

Sixth graders are transitioning from our Native American Unit to learning about the widespread and long-lasting impacts

of European Colonialism. To gain a better understanding of one of these impacts, students completed a research project to determine where the crops and livestock from one of their favorite meals originated. Nearly all students had ingredients from the 'Old' World and the 'New' World, showcasing the fact that even our food would be completely different without colonialism and the Columbian Exchange!

Currently we are moving on to learn about what life was like in the original 13 colonies, and soon we will explore the factors that led to the American Revolution. We will finish this in time to delve into the foundations of our government while following the November elections closely. This will allow students to watch the democratic process in action. I encourage you to talk to your sixth graders about what they are learning so they can keep making connections between our curriculum and their lives!

## Computer Applications

As our class enters our last weeks of the Tri-Core, we continue to master our keyboarding skills. Our bi-weekly timed writings assess student accuracy and words per minute. State standard for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade is 30 wpm. Some students are well over that already! As with any skill, practice improves results; students who practice at home see improved results.

October is Internet Safety month! We participated in an activity set up by the F.B.I. and depending on how well we did, an FBI agent could visit our school!





**OUTDOOR  
DAY  
FUN**

# 7th Grade News

## 7th Grade Team

**Mrs. Ann Alme** 882-3325  
Math  
almea@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Mr. Bruce Curtis** 882-3356  
Science  
curtisb@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Mrs. Carla Gomez** 882-3348  
Spanish  
gomezc@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Mrs. Beth Oswald** 882-3342  
Social Studies  
oswaldb@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Mrs. RuthAnn Yoerger** 882-3349  
Composition Literature  
yoergerr@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Mr. Dave Kopf** 882-3319  
Tech Ed/Stem  
kopfd@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Mrs. Kelli Ours** 882-3324  
Special Ed  
oursk@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Ms. Mallory Isbell** 882-3336  
Special Ed  
isbellm@evansville.k12.wi.us

## SPANISH

Students in 7th grade Spanish have begun our Friendship unit. Students will learn how to describe themselves and others in Spanish and learn how to tell what they like to do in Spanish. In this unit students will write a poem about themselves in Spanish. They will also create a conversation with a partner where they talk about themselves entirely in Spanish.



## SCIENCE

We are currently studying Greek and Latin terms. So many science words are based on them, so it helps students understand words that are unfamiliar. Our next unit will be Viruses and Bacteria— just in time for the Flu season!



## 7<sup>th</sup> grade math-

Students will be learning about rational numbers. Rational numbers include fractions, decimals, whole numbers, and positive and negative numbers. They will be adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing with rational numbers.



## Technology/STEM

The activities in this lesson will introduce the students to several mechanisms that are used to change speed, torque, force, type of movement, and direction of movement. These mechanisms have been developed over time to address the need for changes in machine tools, robots, automobiles, airplanes, etc. Students will build different mechanisms and discover how they are used in the world today. They will be introduced to the VEX® building parts and the proper way to assemble them. It will be important for students to correctly assemble and disassemble the parts so that they are not damaged.



## Reading/Language Arts

After reading and responding to a variety of short stories, students are ready and excited to begin our next reading unit which involves reading novels. The focus of the unit will be on characters and characterization. At the end of October, students finished writing their realistic fiction short stories and shared those with classmates. Our next writing unit will focus on writing arguments.



# 8th Grade News

## Composition/Literature

Students just finished up their first reading unit, "A Deep Study of Character," and were extremely successful! Students read a combined total of 406 books! They learned how to understand a character, how a setting affects many facets of a character's choices, and lastly they figured out how to look for themes in their books. Next, students will be learning how to write an investigative narrative using a journalistic approach. They will also be learning Greek and Latin stems to help better vocabulary and word recognition. Lastly, students will still be continuing to read daily.

## Science

Second quarter will have us starting a unit on Earth's Structure – The surface, Interior, and forces of nature. Rocks and minerals will also be studied as part of the crust.

## Spanish

Students in 8th grade Spanish have just finished up a unit on family. They learned how to ask a family member's name, age and description. They also now know numbers in Spanish well beyond 100. Coming up, we will take a break from Spanish and work on language arts. We will do concurrent units. One will be a Writer's Workshop unit on Investigative Journalism. In addition, students will start learning Latin and Greek word parts in a unit called Word Within the Word. These will cross over between Spanish and English classes.

## World Geography

Students will be working their way around the USA's regions, National Parks, cities and geography/history.

Also, November 6th is Election Day. Get your student out to the polls and model civic involvement.

## Math 8

Here comes Geometry! Students will be using different transformations to form congruent and similar figures– reflecting, rotating, translating, and dilating.

**Note: Both Math 8 and Algebra students** have online access to their textbooks as well as bonus features like tutorial videos and online quizzes to help them. See [www.bigideasmath.com](http://www.bigideasmath.com). Your student has a sticker with their username and the format of their password in their notecard folder or student journal.

## Algebra

Algebra students will be working on all things linear: different forms of linear equations, graphing, and using lines of best fit. We will then solve systems of equations in various ways.

## Art

Students are designing and creating a ceramic container that includes a lid and a handle using a variety of hand building techniques with a focus on using the slab technique. A slab is an evenly rolled out piece of clay. Their design for the container will be based on a theme of their choosing. Glaze techniques will be explored and applied to their finished creation.

## 8th Grade Team

**Mrs. Katelyn Demrow** 882-3351  
**Composition/Literature**  
demrowk@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Mr. Rich Fanning** 882-3358  
**Science**  
fanning@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Ms. Kelly Fanta** 882-3350  
**Spanish**  
fantak@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Mr. John Hanson** 882-3340  
**Social Studies**  
hansonj@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Mrs. Gretchen Kopf** 882-3343  
**Math**  
kopfg@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Mr. Trent Schmick** 882-3335  
**ART**  
schmickt@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Mrs. Brittany Shottliff** 882-3315  
**Special Education**  
shotliffb@evansville.k12.wi.us

# Specials Classes

## Specials Team

**Mr. Kendall Buttchen** 882-3316  
Phy Ed/Health  
buttchenk@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Mr. Darren Demmin** 882-3309  
Phy Ed/Health  
demmind@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Ms. Leslie Ferrell** 882-3320  
Reading Specialist  
ferrelll@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Mr. Bob Harsevoort** 882-3334  
Band  
harsevoortb@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Ms. Cathy Kruckenberg** 882-3308  
Phy Ed/Health  
kruckenbergc@evansville.k12.wi.us

**Mrs. Meghann Proper** 882-3332  
Vocal Music  
properm@evansville.k12.wi.us

## CHORUS NEWS

We are getting ready for our December 17th concert! Ask your student what their favorite song is that we are learning for the concert. Keep Monday, December 17th open to come hear your student sing. The sixth grade concert will begin at 6:30pm and the combined seventh and eighth grade concert will begin at 7:30pm. Students should report to the high school chorus room 30 minutes before their concert begins, wearing nice black clothes with an optional pop of color.

## GENERAL MUSIC/MUSIC APPRECIATION

8th graders are learning about music around the world, specifically West Africa, Caribbean, Native American, and Indian. Eventually students will choose a country to research and create a google site about that country's music.

7th graders are learning about genres. We learned about pop, rap, hip hop, country, and rock as a class. Now students are creating a google slideshow about an assigned genre like jazz, techno, soundtrack, classical, bluegrass, blues, and opera.

6th graders are learning about the instrument families by using [www.dsokids.com](http://www.dsokids.com) and creating a google slideshow review. Eventually we will review by playing a Kahoot and then take a quiz to test our knowledge.

## 8th Grade PE:

Finished our skills and games for our softball/Recreational unit.

Starting our football unit. Learning passing routes, terminology, rules and game situations. Students will compare how football skills can be used in every day life (hand-eye coordination, reaction time).

## 6th Grade PE:

Working on general fitness and various warm-up activities. Learning rules, skills and game situations for softball.

## 7th Grade Health:

Continuing to look at how drug use effects the teen brain. Learning new information about vaping and alcohol use.

# JC McKenna Sports

## **Boys Basketball Schedule**

### **Thursday, Nov 8, 2018**

Basketball: Boys 8th Game 4:00PM vs. Brodhead Middle School @Brodhead  
Basketball: Boys 7th Game 4:00PM vs. Brodhead Middle School @ Home

### **Monday, Nov 12, 2018**

Basketball: Boys 8th Game 4:00PM vs. Edgerton Middle School @Home  
Basketball: Boys 7th Game 4:00PM vs. Edgerton Middle School @ Edgerton

### **Thursday, Nov 15, 2018**

Basketball: Boys 8th Game 4:00PM vs. Turner Middle School @ Home  
Basketball: Boys 7th Game 4:00PM vs. Turner Middle School @ Turner

### **Tuesday, Nov 20, 2018**

Basketball: Boys 8th Game 4:00PM vs. Clinton Middle School @ Clinton  
Basketball: Boys 7th Game 4:00PM vs. Clinton Middle School @ Home

### **Tuesday, Nov 27, 2018**

Basketball: Boys 8th Game 4:00PM vs. Parkview Junior High @ Parkview  
Basketball: Boys 7th Game 4:00PM vs. Parkview Junior High @ Home

### **Thursday, Nov 29, 2018**

Basketball: Boys 8th Game 4:00PM vs. Brodhead Middle School @ Home  
Basketball: Boys 7th Game 4:00PM vs. Brodhead Middle School @ Brodhead

### **Tuesday, Dec 4, 2018**

Basketball: Boys 8th Game 4:00PM vs. Edgerton Middle School @ Edgerton  
Basketball: Boys 7th Game 4:00PM vs. Edgerton Middle School @ Home

### **Thursday, Dec 6, 2018**

Basketball: Boys 8th Game 4:00PM vs. Turner Middle School @ Turner  
Basketball: Boys 7th Game 4:00PM vs. Turner Middle School @ Home

### **Tuesday, Dec 11, 2018**

Basketball: Boys 8th Game 4:00PM vs. Clinton Middle School @ Home  
Basketball: Boys 7th Game 4:00PM vs. Clinton Middle School @ Clinton

### **Thursday, Dec 13, 2018**

Basketball: Boys 8th Game 4:00PM vs. Parkview Junior High @ Home  
Basketball: Boys 7th Game 4:00PM vs. Parkview Junior High @ Parkview

The Football, Cross Country and Volleyball seasons have wrapped up. Boys Basketball practice has begun and games will start on November 8th.

Looking ahead, Girls Basketball and Wrestling will begin immediately after our winter break. Please make sure to have all paperwork into the office before the season begins.



# EVANSVILLE YOUTH CENTER

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 2018

Week of 29-2: Pumpkins

29—Spoons

30—Library Allison

31—bottle bowling

1—Wii Game Party

2—NO EYC

Week of 5-9: Card Making

5—Wii Badminton

6—Wii Medieval Games

7—Movie & Popcorn

8—Card House Contest

9—Challenge Us

Week of 12-16: Glitter Acorns

12—LEGO Towers

13—Race Cars

14—Let's Cook

15—Game Night

16—Party

Week of 19-23: Canvas Tape Art

19—Minutes to Win It

20—Library Allison

21—NO SCHOOL, NO EYC

22—NO SCHOOL, NO EYC

23—NO SCHOOL, NO EYC

Week of 26-30: Scrapbook Bookmarks

26—NO SCHOOL, NO EYC

27—Karaoke

28—Chess Tournament

29—Chess Tournament

30—Mystery Box Choice



Evansville High School / DRAMA DEPARTMENT

## Performances

General Admission Tickets

At door only

One hour before show time

Friday, November 2nd 7:30pm

Saturday, November 3rd 7:30pm

Sunday, November 4th 2:00pm

ADULTS.....\$10.00

STUDENT/CHILD.....\$6.00

Evansville High School PAC / 640 S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street / Evansville, WI