



Elk Bugle

June 2024



Elk River High School

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## **Wednesday, June 5**

**Senior Breakfast - 7:00 am -ERHS Commons**

**Graduation Rehearsal (Mandatory) - 7:30 am**

**Graduation guest tickets & honors tassels handed out. There will be 4 Tickets for each graduate - Ticket required for gymnasium seating.**

## **Thursday, June 6**

### **Elk River High School Graduation Ceremony**

**Main Entrance (Door A) opens @ 5:30 pm**

**Gymnasium/Zabee Theater Doors open @ 6:00 pm**

**\*Ticket is required for entrance to Gymnasium - no re-entry.**

**All seating is first come, first serve.**

**Ceremony Starts @ 7:00 pm**

**Zabee Theater is for overflow guests - NO ticket is required.**

**Graduation will be streamed LIVE**

# ***Congratulations !!***

# **2024** *Class of*

## **June**

**June 5 Last Day of School**

**June 5 Senior Breakfast and Graduation**

**Rehearsal 7:00 am**

**June 6 Graduation 7pm**

## **July**

**July 8 Fall Sports**

**Registration Opens (Parent Portal)**

**July 22 Football**

**Registration/Team Meetings**

**July 23 All other Fall Sports**

**Registration/Team Meetings**

**It's good to be  
an Elk!**

Follow us on:

Twitter @Elk\_River\_Elks

Facebook @elkriverrhighschool

# ***ELK RIVER HIGH SCHOOL***

## ***Scholarships***

***ERHS Scholarship Night***

***190 Scholarships awarded to the  
class of 2024!***

***Total \$164,000.00***

***Thank you to all of our Donors for their continued support!***





# *EVENING OF THE ARTS*

*On Thursday, April 25th, Elk River High School hosted its annual Evening of the Arts. The free event welcomed students, parents and community members with an eclectic selection of musical performances, cultural displays, student art demonstrations, theatrical performances and more. There were hundreds of works of art on display including photography portfolios, large-format digital prints, original fashion designs created without fabric, writer's portfolios, pottery, paintings, jewelry and drawings.*

*In addition to the children's make-and-take button station, visitors were treated to Raku firings, painted photo-op boards and student instructors available for those who wanted to try the potter's wheel.*

*The activity was made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Central MN Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. With additional funding from Tributary Advisor Group, a private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC.*

## Evening of the Arts



Freshmen Adrienne Rotz (L) and Ruthie Salazar (R) pose for a photo after having their faces painted by junior Annabelle Wesolowski.



Senior Gavin Schwartz and his brother sophomore James Schwartz demonstrate the ancient Japanese firing technique of Raku.



Senior Caroline Marques and sophomores Gigi Clemens and Reece Erickson are providing ice cold lemonade and delicious cookies to Evening of the Arts guests.



Mazie Bengston, 9 ½ years, shows the soccer ball on her cheek and a button she designed at the children's table.



continued ....



Sophomore Simon Bicek shows visitors the early stage of throwing a form on the potter's' wheel.

Tessa Kovar making pottery on the wheel.



Sophomore Estella Yanquoi paints portraits on a large canvas.





continued ...



Members of the United Nations of ERHS performed a Cultural Fashion Show: (L-R) Isabel Sevilla (grade 11), Janelle Nyakango (9), Gracieann Khang (11), Michelle Lin (11), Chrysanthemum Van (11), Mbango Ndobedi (11), Kylie Fru-Mambo (9), Mamie Khan (9), emcee Louise Zakama (11), emcee Samantha Tamez Marquez (11)



Sophomore Dylan Durfee used a Wacom Tablet and a Stylus to draw in Adobe Illustrator.



continued ....



Senior Bryana Salazar is guiding Caitlyn Scherr, age 11, how to throw pottery on the wheel.



Juniors Joslynn Hines paints with watercolors and Maeve LeMieux paints with acrylic. They are two of the nearly 3 dozen students demonstrating art making at the 2024 Evening of the Arts.



*Two works of visual art from each of the ISD 728 schools have been selected, photographed, framed and displayed at the District Office for the 2024-25 school year. An oil pastel artwork by junior Violet Funk and a stoneware clay sculpture by senior Gavin Schwartz will represent ERHS. The next time you visit the DO please take a moment to check out the amazing collection in the common area created by K-12 students.*



### Sunset Glide

**Artist Statement:** In Nordic Skiing I find boundless inspiration in its races, trails, camaraderie, and sheer positivity. With this piece, I aimed to encapsulate the profound joy and exhilaration this sport brings. Using oil pastels for the first time I explored and discovered many ways to use the medium to convey the vibrant energy of skiing. Employing techniques such as taping off sections of the paper, blending colors, and scratching away at the oil pastel, I sought to evoke the vivid hues and dynamic motion of a sunset sky. The bright palette reflects the radiant happiness that fills my heart when I glide through the snow-covered landscape. Referencing many images of the scenic trails my team frequents, I aspired to capture the breathtaking beauty of these pristine environments. In portraying the skiers themselves, I aimed to celebrate the graceful artistry of their movements, particularly in the fluid elegance of skate skiing. Each stroke of the pastel reflects the effortless glide of skate skis cutting through the snow, creating a mesmerizing splash of motion. Through this piece, I share my deep love and appreciation for Nordic Skiing, inviting viewers to experience the joy that it brings to my life.

--Violet Funk



### Violet Funk



*continued .....*



## Mo(nu)mental Deterioration

Gavin Schwartz

**Artist Statement:** I did enjoy the challenge—that I set up for myself—in making this piece. When I sat down to start building it, I asked my friend “How big can I make the crescents before gravity doesn’t want them to exist?” I set out to make this piece large, to display the airbrushing I would do later. Though I forgot just how much clay can shrink after firing, I’m happy with the final piece and what I learned along the way. I handbuilt the crescents from slabs, measured them, and threw the bowl with that information. After connecting all the pieces I drilled the holes for the wire. A bisque firing later, I broke off one tip, to reflect the deterioration in this work. And also add an anomaly to this piece, as I’ve been using this juxtaposition in my other works, like slapping a graffiti tag onto one. I then glazed the piece, using a stencil to airbrush the black underglaze on the copper glaze in a crater-like fashion. Afterwards I wrapped the wire around, And used it to reconnect the tip in a new way. I’m glad I took this challenge on, as I learned about airbrushing techniques, and how to handle more complex handbuilding shapes. I’m glad I pushed myself to make this piece as large as I could, and I think next time I’ll be able to go larger.

--Gavin Schwartz

## Elk River Students Earn Awards at 2024 High School Regional Juried Art Exhibition!

Congratulations to ten Elk River High School students whose artwork was selected for the 2024 Annual High School Juried Art Exhibition. At a recent awards ceremony held April 26, 2024, at the Paramount Center for the Arts, St. Cloud, MN, three Elks earned special recognition.

Earning the top honor Best-in-Show at the exhibition was Senior Olivia Riewe with her glazed stoneware sculpture titled *Greed*. She also received a check for \$500. Senior Gavin Schwartz was the recipient of the 3D Second Place Award for his clay sculpture titled *Mon(nu)mental Deterioration* (glazed stoneware). Gavin received a \$300 check. Senior Synnøve Lumley was the recipient of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Award with her 3D Jewelry Pendant (sterling silver & red carnelian stone) titled *The Light Below*. She received a check for \$250.

In addition to the students mentioned above, seniors Natalie Barringer, Carly Humphrey, Leah Skogquist-Berg, juniors Violet Funk and April Levens, sophomore Simon Bicek and freshman Anne Aaron had wonderful work on display at the Paramount Gallery. This annual exhibition featured the work of 130+ pieces of art from 17 schools across Central Minnesota.



The exhibition was sponsored by the Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, Friends of Mia-St. Cloud, American Association of University Women and Central Minnesota Arts Board.



2024 High School Regional Juried Art Exhibition Award Recipients from ERHS: Seniors Olivia Riewe, Gavin Schwartz and Synnøve Lumley.



Olivia Riewe  
*Greed*



Gavin Schwartz  
*Mon(nu)mental Deterioration*



Synnøve Lumley  
*The Light Below*

**DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR.....**



7/8 Fall Sports Registration Opens (Parent Portal)  
7/22: Football Registration/Team Meetings  
7/23: All other Fall Sport Registration/Team Meetings

Here is the [Fall Sports link](#) for further information!



## ***ERHS Counselors***

**Mrs. Ashley Cloutier**, last names A-E

[ashley.cloutier@isd728.org](mailto:ashley.cloutier@isd728.org)

**Ms. Trista Rudstrom**, last names F-K

[trista.rudstrom@isd728.org](mailto:trista.rudstrom@isd728.org)

**Mrs. Erin Shermak**, last names L-Ri

[erin.shermak@isd728.org](mailto:erin.shermak@isd728.org)

**Mr. Jase Meyer**, last names Rj-Z

[jase.meyer@isd728.org](mailto:jase.meyer@isd728.org)

**Mrs. Michelle Reimer**, Intervention  
and Prevention Counselor

[michelle.reimer@isd728.org](mailto:michelle.reimer@isd728.org)

**Mrs. Kim Davison**, College/Career  
Counselor, AVID Coordinator

[kimberly.davison@isd728.org](mailto:kimberly.davison@isd728.org)

## **PSAT: Optional Test for Class of 2026**

Save the Date: October 30th

The [PSAT](#) will be offered on October 30, 2024  
at ERHS during the school day for any  
interested juniors (Class of 2026).

- Deadline to Register: September 20th
- Deadline to Request Testing  
Accommodations: August 29th (contact  
ERHS counselor)
  - Students with an IEP, 504 Plan, or  
Medical Concern (such as  
diabetes) may request  
accommodations.

Interested sophomores (Class of 2027) may  
also register for the PSAT for practice.

Please watch your email for further details and  
a link to register in the middle of August.

### ***Career and College Opportunities: Summer Programs***

*Looking for ways to explore your career and college options over the summer? Check out  
this [list](#) of summer programs throughout the area.*

**ERHS College Admission and Military Visit** Did you know around 50 college  
admission representatives and all branches of the military visit ERHS each year?  
This is a convenient way to learn more about admission, programs, degrees, and  
financial aid by talking with an expert from that particular college or military branch.  
College admission visits will be held in the Career Center. Please visit this [form](#) for  
a list of upcoming events and sign up to attend. [Military visits](#) will be during lunch in  
the Commons and students do not need to sign up to attend. Additions are added



Students going onto a secondary education will be required to submit a FINAL TRANSCRIPT to that location. Your final transcript will include your grades from second semester and will list your graduation date.

Final Transcripts are Not automatically sent so **ORDER NOW**  
**Current students can order their transcripts free of charge, orders placed after July 1 will have a fee associated for 23-24 ERHS Graduates.**

**Important:** Upon check out make sure to change the send now to **HOLD FOR GRADES.**

**ORDER TRANSCRIPT**



## ***MORE FROM COUNSELING .....***

### **Attention Juniors: College Visit Guide**

The spring and summer are great times to visit college campuses to get a feel if the college is the right fit for you. Attached is a [College Visit Guide](#) that provides tips for scheduling campus visits, what to make sure you see on your visit, and what types of questions to ask.

### **MN Private College Week: June 24-28**

Come on your own, with friends or with your parents. These free, low-pressure introductory campus tours and informational meetings can serve as a first step to help you discover just what you're looking for in a college — especially if you are early in your search. Sessions begin at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and run either two or three hours, depending on the campus. Click [here](#) for more information.

### **Minnesota State Week: June 24-28**

Minnesota State Week is a great time to explore the 33 colleges and universities that make up Minnesota State. Special campus visit events are planned at all of the Minnesota State campuses. All Minnesota State colleges and universities are waiving their application fee for the week of June 24-28, 2024. Click [here](#) for more information.

### **Career and College Opportunities: Summer Programs**

Looking for ways to explore your career and college options over the summer? Check out this [list](#) of summer programs throughout the area.



Dear Families,

Ensuring the safety of our students and staff is our highest priority. We are pleased to announce a collaborative effort between the Sherburne County Sheriff's Office, the Wright County Sheriff's Office, Rogers Police Department, Elk River Police Department, and Elk River Public Schools to share a crucial message regarding proper gun storage and safety.

Last year, 156 children in the U.S. gained access to a firearm and experienced unintentional shootings. In Minnesota alone, an average of 41 children and teens lose their lives to gun-related incidents each year, with 58% of these tragic events being suicides. The importance of proper gun storage cannot be overstated, as improper handling may lead to devastating consequences—ranging from accidental injuries to intentional harm.

Preventing children from accessing unsecured firearms is required under Minnesota Statute Section 609.666: *"A person is guilty of a gross misdemeanor who negligently stores or leaves a loaded firearm in a location where the person knows, or reasonably should know, that a child is likely to gain access, unless reasonable action is taken to secure the firearm against access by the child."*

We ask that you consider following the **Be SMART** message in your home. It emphasizes the importance of secure gun storage. Consider secure gun storage as an important step you can take to help protect your family, school and community. **Be SMART** stands for:

- Secure all guns in your homes and vehicles.
- Model responsible behavior around guns.
- Ask about unsecured guns in other homes.
- Recognize the role of guns in suicide.
- Tell your peers to Be SMART.

In addition to following the Be SMART message, you can take action by visiting the [besmartforkids.org](http://besmartforkids.org) website to watch and share the Be SMART educational video and access Be SMART printable resources.

Thank you for reading this important safety message and for being a partner with us in helping to keep our kids, schools and communities safe.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Joel Brott, Sherburne County

*Joel Brott*

Sheriff Sean Deringer, Wright County

*Sean Deringer*

Chief Ron Nierenhausen, City of Elk River

*Ron Nierenhausen*

Chief Dan Wills, City of Rogers

*Dan Wills*

Superintendent Dan Bittman, Elk River Schools

*Dan Bittman*



## Scents and Essential Oils

*Many people (students and staff) have allergies and reactions to scents. Please avoid using products with strong scents or fragrances which include perfumes, colognes and heavily scented deodorants. Essential oils can also cause allergic reactions to students and staff members. See ISD 728 Guidelines:*

Essential oils are concentrated volatile liquids that give plants their characteristic scents and are isolated from the plant by mechanical means. They are used primarily in perfumes and flavorings, and for aromatherapy. When used in diffusers the essential oil is being distributed to every person breathing that air.

Essential oils are not without risk, especially for children. In a typical classroom of students, we have some who are immunocompromised, have ADHD, seizures, taking numerous medications, have allergies, and respiratory conditions such as asthma. Use of essential oils could cause life threatening reactions in these students.

Essential oils, in the pure form, may be used as follows:

- Diluted in a solution to clean yoga mats with the following prescribed ratio:
  - a. Fill spray bottle with cold water
  - b. Add 1-2 Tablespoons of white vinegar (antibacterial agent)
  - c. Add 3-4 droplets of essential oil lavender (anti-bacterial) or tree oil or peppermint, or lemongrass (anti-fungal & anti-bacterial)
- For therapeutic reasons, a written consent must be provided by a Health Care provider and cleared through a Licensed School Nurse (LSN)
- Personal, controlled use by a student, staff member or visitor that does not distract others or put another's health at risk

Essential oils *may not* be used as follows:

- In diffusers
- Applied to any student, even if the parent requests staff to administer, without a Health Care Provider order
- In professional development sessions
- Any circumstance that is disruptive or puts another's health at risk

If essential oils are found:

- In diffusers:
  - Diffuser is removed and disposed of properly
- On students/staff which are disruptive or putting another's health at risk
  - Do not use water to wash off as it may increase irritation by spreading the oils.
  - Offer clean clothing, as needed and as available
  - Notify parent, if necessary

Questions about the use of essential oils should be directed to the Manager of Health Services, or Laura Masley, Manager of Health and Safety

# Resources

ERHS Main Office	763.241.3434	<a href="mailto:erhs.office@isd728.org">erhs.office@isd728.org</a>
ERHS Attendance Office	763.241.3555	
ERHS Activities/Athletics Office	763.241.3427	<a href="mailto:erhs.activities@isd728.org">erhs.activities@isd728.org</a>
ERHS Counseling Office	763.241.3424	<a href="mailto:erhs.counseling@isd728.org">erhs.counseling@isd728.org</a>
ERHS Health Office	763.241.3423	

[Elk River High School Website](#)



Our office will be closed for the summer and will reopen in August

