
Back to School Newsletter

EMPORIA HIGH

◆
August 2024



PRINCIPAL - DATHAN FISCHER

Dear Students and Parents,

I am excited to welcome you to the 2024-2025 school year at Emporia High School. Our staff is ready for another great year and is dedicated to helping each student become equipped for post-secondary success. Our vision at EHS is very simple, to build futures, one student at a time.

In addition:

At EHS WE BELIEVE:

- Our stakeholders (students, staff, and community members) build collaborative relationships, leading to a shared responsibility of student success.
- Our students have the capability and potential to learn.
- Our students develop the skills necessary to be productive members of an ever-changing society.
- Our students are encouraged to develop their unique skills, interests, and passions.
- Our positive and effective relationships create a safe school environment.
- Our dynamic and challenging curriculum increases student engagement.
- Our different talents, abilities, cultures, and values strengthen our school community.

At EHS WE VALUE:

- Relationships
- Accountability
- Collaboration
- Diversity
- Engagement

I look forward to this school year and wish each of you the very best in the many opportunities that await you. Emporia High School is a great place to be and we're glad you are a part of our Spartan family! Please let us know if there is anything we can do to make this school year the best one yet!

Go Spartans!

Dathan Fischer



Jump Start

Jump Start is for all 9th Graders and All New Students!
Location - Emporia High School
Tuesday, August 13th 8:00 a.m.-11:52 a.m.

This special morning session has been planned to help students become more comfortable with the high school, as well as take care of some “new student business”. USD253 transportation will be running normal routes or parents/guardians may provide transportation for their children to/from the high school as well. In order to control and ease traffic congestion, we ask that you drop students off at the main doors on the south side of the building. All students should be dropped off before 7:55 a.m. Upon arrival, students will have the opportunity to eat breakfast and/or gather in the high school commons areas.

Parent Square

We are excited to announce that we have adopted a new form of school-to-home communication for Emporia Public Schools called ParentSquare. This unified communications platform informs parents and guardians and encourages greater engagement and connection with our schools. It provides a safe way for district administrators, school principals, teachers, staff, and parents to:

- Send and receive school and class information
- Share pictures and files
- See calendar items
- and much more . . . all in one centralized place!

[Parents—Getting Started Video](#)

All district and school, grade level and classroom information will now be sent to your computer or phone via email and text. Download the ParentSquare app (free for iOS and Android devices) for even more convenience.

Have questions? Click the question mark in the top right corner of the desktop version or the Help tab on the app (tap the triple bar icon at the top left) to find answers to most of your questions.



First Day of School

The first day of school for all students will be on Wed., August 14th. School will begin at 9:00 a.m. since it is a Wed. We will dismiss at 3:22 p.m. Students will be able to attend all of their assigned eight blocks on the first day of school.

College Classes

- Students who take a college class that is not offered at EHS during the school day for one or more of their scheduled blocks, will need to make sure they communicate this with their counselor and seek approval from Mr. Fischer before enrolling. If a student is taking a college class on their own and it isn't part of their scheduled blocks of enrollment at EHS and they do not want it to show up on their high school transcript, then there is no pre-approval required. The number of options students have for taking college classes has grown in recent years. It is the responsibility of the student and parent to communicate and ask us questions about taking college classes that aren't offered at EHS.
- Dual Credit vs. Concurrent Credit
 - Dual Credit is when a student takes a college credit class from the college and it is taught by a teacher from the college. Students can also get high school credit for these classes if they appropriately complete the steps necessary at EHS. These steps can be reviewed with your counselor.
 - Concurrent Credit is when a student takes a class at the high school for college credit and high school credit. These classes are taught by our high school staff. Students must have pre-enrolled during pre-enrollment to take these classes.
 - It is best to communicate with your counselor to make sure steps are appropriately followed when utilizing college credit classes for high school credit.
 - Taking a college class at EHS does not mean the class is free. Tuition expenses vary depending on the class and institution granting the credit for college level classes.
 - *The cost of taking a college class during high school varies depending on the college.*



Contact Information

Wondering who you need to contact or communicate with if you have questions about EHS? Here is a list individuals you can contact at EHS:

- EHS Main Office Phone Number-620-341-2365
- Head Principal - Dathan Fischer - dathan.fischer@usd253.net
- Attendance Secretary-Alba Maciel---alba.maciel@usd253.net
- Guidance Counselor's Secretary-Bruna Delgado---bruna.delgado@usd253.net
- Head Principal/Finance Secretary-Lisa Gutierrez---lisa.gutierrez@usd253.net
- Athletic Secretary-Jill Steinlage-- jill.steinlage@usd253.net
- Registrar/Student Records-Rebecca Smith---rebecca.smith@usd253.net
- School Nurse-Jaime Nelson---jaime.nelson@usd253.net or Juanita Horn--juanita.horn@usd253.net
- Guidance Counselors based on Student Last Name
 - Ali Macias-students last name beginning with the letter A-E---alexandria.macias@usd253.net
 - Dallas Shafer-students last name beginning with the letter F-Le-- dallas.shafer@usd253.net
 - Troy Chapman-students last name beginning with the letter Li-Ri---troy.chapman@usd253.net
 - Roxana Peraza-students last name beginning with the letter Ro-Z---roxana.peraza@usd253.net
- Assistant Principals based on Student Last Name
 - Beau Welch-Athletic Director/Assistant Principal students last name beginning with A-E---
beau.welch@usd253.net
 - Kendra Bloomquist-students last name beginning with F-Le---kendra.bloomquist@usd253.net
 - Sheryl Leeds-students last name beginning with Li-Ri---sheryl.leeds@usd253.net
 - Brent Burns-students last name beginning with Ro-Z---brent.burns@usd253.net

Parking

- Once school begins, students and visitors should NOT park in the following areas:
 - Areas marked "Staff or Faculty Parking".
 - Areas which are painted parking spots and reserved for seniors. Only seniors who purchased a painted parking spot can park in those spots.
- Most of our student parking spots are located on the south side of the building and towards the lower east side of the building. We refer to the lower east side of the building as the "old tennis courts". Students can park in the north parking lot near the tennis courts.
- Students are required to have a student parking pass. There is no charge for a parking pass. Passes can be picked up in the EHS office and the student will need the following information: their drivers license and the vehicle registration for the vehicle they will be driving. Students who had a parking pass last year WILL need to get a new one for this school year. Parking passes can be picked up in the front office from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily.
- EHS does monitor the parking lots and parking tickets will be issued if a vehicle doesn't have a parking pass or if it is located in a parking area it shouldn't be.
- Parents can park in visitor parking. We also ask that parents don't block our entry points during the school day.

Bus Procedures

- Regular education bus dropoff will occur at our new science wing entry doors on the north side of the building. These doors will be locked after school begins and no entry will be allowed for unsupervised students after the school day begins. Middle school students will also be dropped off at EHS and walk to EMS.
- If students receive transportation services for special education, then they will be dropped off and picked up on the west side of the building like we have done in the past.
- Students will be picked up after school on the north side of the building in a similar format as last year. It is best for students to know their bus number and we can help guide them to their bus. The bus lineup after school will rarely ever change.



Student Schedules 24-25

Aug. 1st - Schedules will be visible in PowerSchool

Schedule change requests - per Student Handbook, **acceptable reasons to request a change** in schedule are as follows:

- The **computer made an error** on a student's schedule. (*i.e. Student was enrolled in the "B" section of US History, but not in the "A" section. Student's schedule is not "FULL" - missing a Block.*)
 - The student is **misplaced in a class**. (*i.e. Student was enrolled in a class and hasn't completed the prerequisite course.*)
 - The student's schedule needs to be altered in order to add **required classes**. (*i.e. Core classes are English, math, science, social studies, etc. required for graduation.*)
 - If a student has not paid the **required fees for a college class** by the end of the class period on the 3rd day, the student will be dropped from the class and re-scheduled in a non-college equivalent. The student will need to formally drop the course at the enrolling institution on their own. (*i.e. Tuition wasn't paid to ESU for College Communication Arts - the student would be placed in Communication Arts.*)
- We are **NOT** able to accommodate the following requests:
 - for a specific teacher; or
 - requests to change the order of classes or to have certain classes placed in specific blocks for athletes or to request a specific lunch period; or
 - to change CAP teachers.

Students & Families will receive an email with additional information as well as a Google Form to complete to request any changes prior to August 1.

If you DO NOT currently have Parent Access to PowerSchool - You will need to request your student's "Access ID" at EHS. Then create an account using a computer. Student information (attendance/grades) will then be available either by computer or on the PowerSchool app on your phone.

OPEN HOUSE

Emporia High School invites YOU to our
OPEN HOUSE!

Open House will take place on
August 13 -- 5:00 -7:00 pm

Please come join us!

Walk your schedule - Meet your teachers
Before coming to Jump Start on Tuesday

Assessment Information

PSAT - 9th, 10th, 11th Grade students

The PSAT helps you prepare for the SAT by testing your math, reading, and writing skills. Beyond practice, high-scoring students can earn national recognition, including a National Merit Scholarship.

PreACT 8/9 - **FREE** 9th grade students only

Support for 9th graders with an early practice experience for the ACT test.

October 22 ~~~ 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

ACT (National Testing Dates) -

For additional information (registration, study tips, etc) please refer to: act.org

ACT (State Testing - **FREE** junior students only) -

Information will be shared thru Parent Square this fall. Testing dates will fall February 25-28, March 3-7 sessions will be 8:00 am - 12:30 pm

Questions? Ask Kendra Bloomquist at
kendra.bloomquist@usd253.net

Individual Plan of Study (IPS) News

As students navigate through high school and into career and college, it is imperative that students set educational goals and create a roadmap for success in high school and beyond. This roadmap, or individual plan of study (IPS), includes development of a flexible career focus and an education plan that is clearly-defined, rigorous, and relevant to assure a successful and efficient transition to postsecondary education and/or the workforce.

The foundational elements of the individual plan of study are the career interests identified by the student through XELLO, an authentic career interest survey and YouScience aptitude assessment. A roadmap based on the student's interests and talents can then be developed. Other parts of the IPS include graduation requirements, approved coursework for the student's educational and career goals, and developmentally-appropriate, work-based learning experiences.

Throughout your student's four years at Emporia High, they will be led through a variety of activities during CAP (Career & Academic Planning) to assist them in the development of their Individual Plan of Study (IPS).

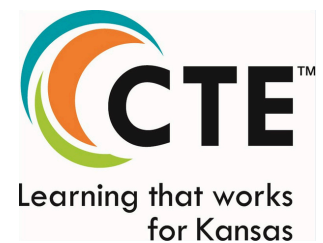
Career & Technical Education (CTE) News

Emporia High School has 15 CTE pathways for students to explore and experience possible careers of interest and develop employability skills for post-secondary success.

EHS CTE Pathways

Business Management & Entrepreneurship
Marketing
Corrections, Security, Law & Law Enforcement
Construction & Design
Engineering & Applied Mathematics
Health Services
Early Childhood Development & Services
Plant Systems

Business Finance
Teaching / Training
Digital Media
Manufacturing
Biomedical
Restaurant & Event Management
Animal Science



ACT WorkKeys Assessment



All Junior students (& any Senior students who have not taken the ACT WorkKeys) are encouraged to take the ACT WorkKeys Assessment. This free assessment measures foundational skills required for success in the workplace, and helps measure the workplace skills that can affect job performance. Students will receive a rating based on their performance (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze) to identify skills on resumes, applications, and more.

Testing dates for the coming school year will be Tuesday, Oct 22 or Thursday, Oct 24. Interested students will be able to select either a morning or afternoon test session.

Questions? Ask Sheryl Leeds at
sheryl.leeds@usd253.net



EHS Activities



Activities Fair: EHS will be having an activities fair during Back to School night and Jump Start day. Students will have the opportunities to see a variety of different clubs and organizations which they can take part in at EHS. Students and/or the staff sponsor will be present to answer questions.

Most student clubs meet at least once a month during CAP time so it's important for students to get an idea of the variety of options offered to them at the activities fair.

We encourage students to explore their interests and to try new things.

School Pictures: Picture day will be the morning of August 16th. Retakes are currently scheduled for October 24th.



Back to School Dance: August 23rd from 8:00-10:00 pm. ONLY EHS students may attend this dance. No out of town dates allowed.



Band: EHS Band Meeting in the band room 8/15 from 6:30-7:30pm



Choir: EHS Choir Rally in the Front Commons on 8/26 from 6:00-8:00pm

Legally Blonde the Musical: auditions are September 4th and 5th.



Theater: Kickoff meeting 5:30 pm -6:30 pm in the auditorium on August 20th.

Legally Blonde the Musical: auditions are September 4th and 5th.

Theater production of "26 pebbles," September 14th and 15th.



Orchestra:

Homecoming:

Homecoming Parade will be on September 27th from 5-6:00 pm.

Homecoming Dance will be September 28th from 7:00-10:00pm at EHS. EHS students planning on attending must be in good standing according to the EHS student handbook. Out of town dates are permitted if a student completes an out of town date form and turns it into the office no later than Wednesday September 25th. All out of town dates must be approved by Mr. Burns in order for them to attend.

Questions? Ask Brent Burns at
brent.burns@usd253.net





Physicals: You must have a completed physical on file in the athletic office before you can participate in any interscholastic activities for the 2024-2025 athletic season. No athlete will be allowed to practice without a physical. Physicals can be turned into Jill Steinlage or Beau Welch.

Eligibility: Students must pass 6 out of their 8 classes to be currently eligible. To be eligible for all of semester 1 during the 24-25 school year, students must have passed 6 of 8 classes during semester 2 of last school year. All incoming freshman will be eligible to start the school year.

Fall Sports Locations:

Football: Emporia High School & Welch Stadium

Gymnastics: EHS & Sunflower Gymnastics

Volleyball: Emporia High School

Tennis: Emporia High School

Girls Golf: Emporia Municipal

Cross Country: Emporia High School & Jones Park

Boys Soccer: Emporia High School

All Practices begin August 19th

Digital Tickets:

Digital tickets have been a great addition to our sporting events at EHS! For a list of events and to purchase tickets online, use this link. [Digital Tickets](#)

AED Locations:

AED's are located on sight at all sporting events. They're located in the concession stand at soccer, football, and tennis at EHS. They're located in the swimming pool commons area and between the gyms at EHS for swim and volleyball.

Athlete Orientation:

All students who plan to participate in any athletic team in the 2024-2025 season are required to participate in athlete orientation- Tuesday, August 13th from 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm in the Auditorium. Any student athlete who does not attend will be required to do a make-up session before they participate in their first activity.

Concussion Testing

All freshman, juniors and new students who plan to participate in athletics need to attend concussion screening with Mrs. Cole. Baseline concussion testing is done by all freshman and junior athletes to get subjective data on how an athlete reads, processes and reacts to information. This computerized test is used in conjunction with a 5 step return to play protocol to ensure that the athlete is healed enough from a diagnosed concussion to safely return to sports and competition, .Dates and times of this concussion screening will be determined after coaches practice schedules are released in August.

Inclement Weather Decisions

KSHSAA GUIDELINES FOR LIGHTNING SAFETY

1. If cloud-to-ground lightning is seen or thunder is heard, the storm is close enough to pose a risk of a lightning strike. Suspend play and take shelter immediately.
2. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes from the last sound of thunder heard or lightning witnessed before resuming the activity.
3. Any subsequent thunder or lightning during the 30 minute waiting period resets the clock, and a new 30 minute waiting period begins.

Questions? Ask Beau Welch at
beau.welch@usd253.net