

# the <sup>EN</sup> courier

the appleton east student newspaper



UNBELIEVABLE



UPDATES!



As some of you may know, Coach Krommenacker – known by most as “Coach K” – will be leaving Appleton East at the end of the school year. But where is he going?

With experience as East’s JV and varsity football coach, as well as having been our school’s resident tech expert for a number of years, Coach K has a versatile skill set that will serve him in any career. After speaking with an anonymous source, though, it is clear that Coach K has his sights set on one title in particular: head coach of the Wisconsin Badgers football team.

In expectation of Luke Fickell’s resignation following a two-year run as head football coach of the Badgers, Coach K has been hired to fill the position. “It has been very difficult to keep this a secret,” Coach K said, “I am really excited to join the legacy of Badgers coaches who have led the team to greatness.”

After sitting down for a conversation with Coach K regarding his impending career change, one thing became clear: His passion for the sport, and dedication to improving the various teams he has led through the principles of discipline and responsibility, have shaped him into an ideal candidate for coaching collegiate football.



Photo: Bucky Badger and Coach K (right)

“The past few years have taught me a lot about becoming an effective team leader,” Coach K said, “I strongly believe in working hard to achieve your desired results, and listening to the voices of each member in order to create an environment people want to be a part of.” Coach K additionally cited the years he spent teaching the courses Leadership 1 and 2 alongside Mrs. Fude as having helped him develop as a leader alongside his students.

Looking forward, Coach K hopes to lead the Badgers to victory, and he is “excited to call Camp Randall Stadium home.” He is thrilled to be taking this monumental step in his career; the Patriots are proud to send one of their own to take on such an incredible role. Go Badgers, and good luck, Coach K!

- Lila Bornemann

# EAST UPDATE: FIRE POLE?!

As the construction at East continues, some pursue the mystery of what's behind the barred door between the culinary and child development rooms on the second floor. Could it be another staircase, maybe purple this time, or yellow to finish the primary colors? What if we're finally getting an updated and more efficient elevator? Better yet what if the newest addition is an escalator, making the trek to the third floor less of a feat? Sadly, none of these guesses are true, but fear not, because the new addition is not a boring hallway either. Here I'll give you a clue. A firefighter may use one to go down to floor one from floor two.

That's right: East is adding a fire pole to the school for a variety of reasons. First, the fire pole will reroute stairwell traffic and promote more efficient travel. With more students able to quickly get from the second to the first floor, fewer students will be walking down the stairwells. This makes the trip down faster for others and gives more room to those on their way up. Plus, the new addition will make it much easier for many to rush home faster after school, in hopes of getting out of the parking lot at a decent time. Additionally, in cases of emergencies, the fire pole will decrease evacuation time. Moreover, who does not need a little fun to brighten up an otherwise dull school day?



However, some point out valid safety concerns.

For example, how will students know when it is their turn to go? Simple, a timed light will signal when you are in the clear similar to systems certain water park slides have installed. When the light is red, the student must wait; once it turns green, then it is their turn to go.

Will the landing be safe? Of course, safety and possible lawsuits are big concerns for the school district, which is why the walls and floor will be padded with thick mats. Students must have common sense though when dealing with this new addition. They must make sure to clear the bottom as quickly as possible, and double-check no one is at the bottom when they go.

Yes, a few accidents may happen here or there; a few water bottles or lunch boxes may crash to the ground, but overall the fire pole may be just the little charm East was missing.

- GRACE BOE

# CHROMEBOOKS SHUT DOWN

According to the Appleton Area School District, Appleton East will be reverting back to paper-based learning. The project, dubbed “Project Physical,” will be test-run at Appleton East High School beginning next school year. If it is successful, AASD will move forward by implementing Project Physical in every school in the district.



Instead of using Google Docs and Canvas, students will be provided with a single notebook and pencil for the semester. Backpacks are expected to be full of extra supplies. AASD claims the Project is to fight use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and ChatGPT, used to cheat on major assessments, and the usual “academic dishonesty.” It will also “increase handwriting legibility and letters,” says AASD representative Dr. Johnathan Egbert.



Egbert continued, adding, “We also think it’ll increase how much money we can put into sports. Without the distraction of chromebooks, we can give more money to sports teams, and we don’t need to pay people to fix the computers if there aren’t any computers to fix.”

Reactions have been mixed. Some love the idea, and others hate it. Either way, the advent of the program creates some major changes in the status quo of school life. It marks a major step forward in the crusade against cheating and AI usage in schools, but perhaps a major step back for grading speed, since many kids haven’t had to hand write, and teachers haven’t had to hand grade in a while.

- Liliana Monson



## **In The Commons?!?**

The all-time favorite student hotspot and store, Circle K, made a surprising announcement last week in response to increasing student demand for hundreds of their beloved goods and services. The owner of Circle K declared that to help with the morning and midday traffic rush as Appleton East High School students hurry to fill up their gas tanks and grab a bite to eat, the company will, in fact, extend and incorporate an operating Circle K inside Appleton East High School's commons.

This new extension, says the owner, will be located towards the back-left side of the commons, with a glass-paned store inside the commons for easy access, and four pumps outside for students to buy gas at the end of the John Street parking lot. The interior, incorporating the usual loved healthy snacks and drinks, especially Bubb'l'r, also contains fresh produce and lunch options as an alternative to regular school lunches. The Patriot Pro Shop also stated that this incorporation of Circle K into the school's environment will help boost general interest in school merchandise, creating a mall experience within the school commons.

Several staff members, particularly those in administrative positions, feel that this will be an extraordinary resource combining convenience and education for thousands of students and will create enough revenue for the school for company profit and district growth. Parents also praise the idea, as it "helps students get the supplies they need without having to leave school," and is a "big time-saver for busy families."

Appleton East High School is eager to welcome this change, which will be in effect on April 1.

- **Ella Raney**

# Check Out

# the New APL!

Last month, the Appleton Public Library reopened its doors to the city. After several years of closure and movement, we have our hallowed tomes back where they belong. There's a record number of library cards being acquired as well.

The renovations have been a smashing success. Starting on the ground floor, the teen section has been extended. They have added comfy chairs and tables throughout the building's three floors. The book drop is highly improved, being both outdoors and indoors, with a conveyor belt leading into the back for sorting. Spines first!

The children's section has been moved to the basement, and is just as welcoming as before. It includes new classrooms with high-tech screens, a special section of new books, a portal to the Realm of Darkness, an extended section of Spanish and Braille books, and a play area with seating for parents to watch their children.

The renovations extended to the system. The American Library

Association has introduced a new style of organization known as the "Louie Decimal System," in which the books are ordered by color of cover and name of author, completely ignoring the numerical system introduced in the 1870s. There is also a section of collected newspapers, dating back to the beginnings of Wisconsin, which have been greatly extended through clay tablets from Before the Universe, detailing the truth of creation. Of course, we can't detail the information here. Please be aware that the Appleton Public Library is not responsible for lasting psychological damage or bleeding orifices that occur from viewing the tablets.

An anonymous ALA member claimed, "...Kids these days, (they) don't care about the numbers. They don't get taught the system, so it's stupid." The spokesperson also said that "colors are cooler anyway." The spokesperson's legitimacy has been questioned, but the ALA insists they were completely legitimate.

The APL also introduced cost-saving measures. These include turning off the air conditioning in the summer as well as the winter, dimmer LED lights (which are also better for the eyes of patrons), and 'hiring' the minions of GodKing Derryl, local entrepreneur and responsible donator to the funds. The minions do not need monetary compensation, only requiring the waters that flow from the Well of Silent Screams in the back of the book drop. The Library would like to to personally thank all of the donors, including the Bolt Company, U.S. Denture, Festival Goods, the Estate of the Accursed GodKind Derryl, Jerry's Family Restaurant, and every family and individual who took the time and funds to support this amazing project.



- Liliana Monson



# MARCH INTO CRAFT MONTH

In the month of March, there are many ways for people to stay entertained. One of the easiest ways is by doing all sorts of crafts. March is known as National Craft Month, where you can take the time and have an excuse to finally get around to that craft kit you got a few months back. Whether it is knitting a hat or drawing a silly picture of your friends, there are countless ways for you to get creative.

Some easy crafts that you can do with just a piece of paper and a pair of scissors are origami. You have the freedom to be able to create whatever you want with just a few simple shapes and folds. It can be as difficult or as easy as you wish for it to be.

Another thing you can do that is a little more difficult is just look up easy drawing videos to learn how to draw your favorite movie characters or a cute dog. I highly recommend the YouTuber "Art for Kids Hub" if you want some more guidance with your drawings. Otherwise, if you are more advanced, it can be interesting to just look up specific types of drawing styles you want to master.

Sometimes people aren't always a fan of making something physical, so a good alternative is through songwriting. Even if you are just plucking on instruments or learning that new song in the choir, you are still being creative by your own means.

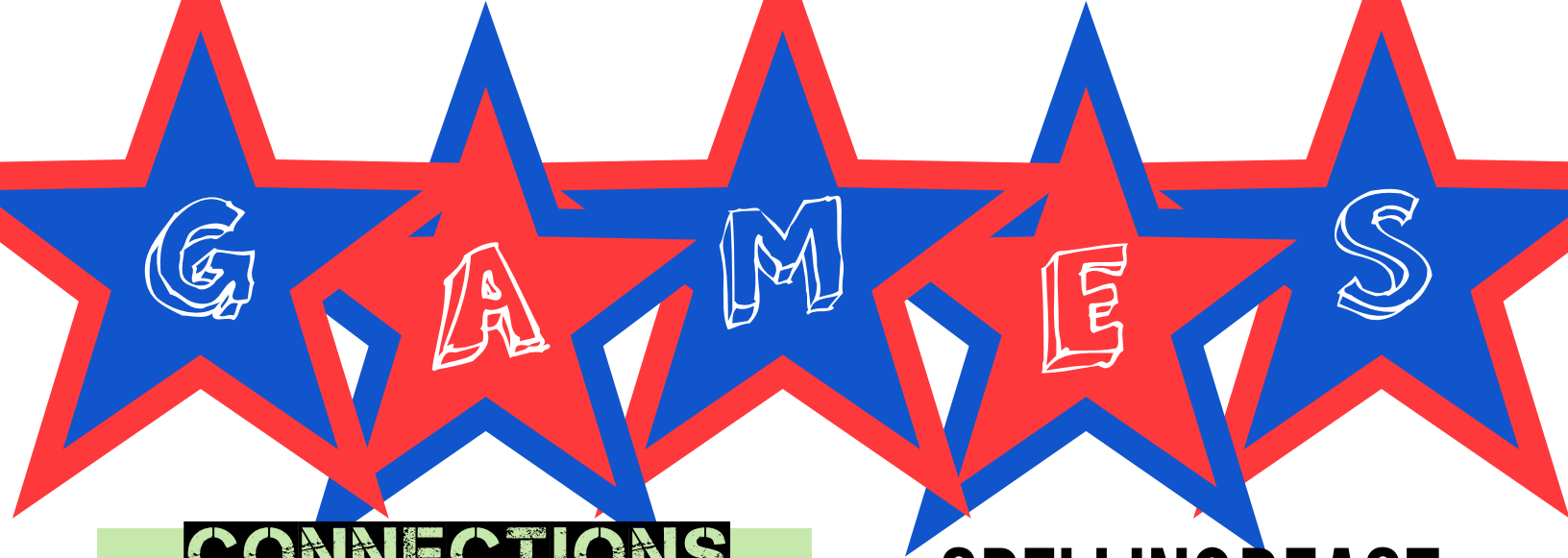
No matter what you wish to do during the month of March for a craft, the important part about it is to have fun with it. - Layla Schiesl

## ***EAST*** Updates, Announcements, Reveals

**Big news for everyone who uses the restrooms!** The administrators have announced that they will be removing the restroom stall doors. If you want to have a door while you're using the restroom, you will have to stop by student services and pay \$50 (for one use only)! Administration said it was to help reduce vaping and class skipping. -Yuna Lee

**The Schaefer Street Parking Lot is permanently closed!** The AASD will use excess referendum funds to build excess classrooms in the excess space.

**AWARD Winner!** The enCourier editors and staff recently traveled to Mos Eisley to collect another Fake News Trophy for high school journalism. The ceremony is April 1.



## CONNECTIONS

Connections is a word game that challenges players to find themes between words.

Players are given 16 words and find groups of four items that share something in common.

### For example:

- FISH: Bass, Flounder, Salmon, Trout
- Things that start with FIRE: Ant, Drill, Island, Opal

Each group is assigned a color (Yellow, Green, Blue, or Purple), with Yellow being the easiest category and Purple being the trickiest.

[Play here!](#)



Try to guess the hidden word in six guesses or less!

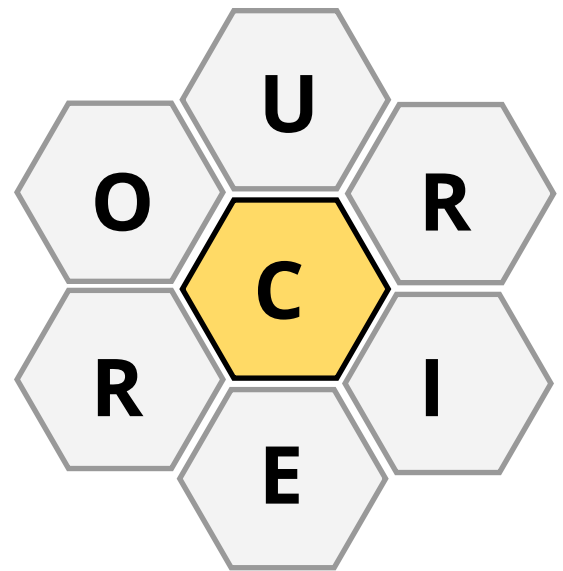
**R** = the letter does not appear in the word

**O** = the letter does appear in the word, but in a different spot

**W** = the letter appears in the word in that spot

[Play here!](#)

## SPELLINGBEAST



Make as many words as possible with the given letters!

- All words must contain the center letter
- Words must be at least four letters long
- Letters may be used multiple times within one word
- Four-letter words are worth one point, any words longer than four letters are worth the number of points equal to the number of letters in the word
- There is at least one word that can be made using all seven letters, called a pangram. A pangram is worth seven bonus points plus the word's length, so a seven-letter pangram would be worth 14 points. *Answer on last page of enCourier!*

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## enCourier Contributors:

**Grace Boe:** Fire Pole

**Lila Bornemann:** Coach K to Badgers

**Yuna Lee:** Where Are Our Doors?

**Liliana Monson:** Appleton Library, No More Chromebooks, & Comics

**Ella Ranes:** Circle K in Commons

**Layla Schiesl:** National Craft Month

*Spelling Beast Answer: SnapChat*

## Editors:

Lila Bornemann

Liliana Monson

## Adviser:

Mr. Otis

The enCourier, Appleton East's fake student newspaper, is written, edited, and distributed by Patriot students and staff. And it's totally fake.



## Next Meeting!

Thursday, April 10, during Flex! Room 1112 Sign up for Mr. Otis. We hope to see you there!

No JOKE!