

DELONG MIDDLE SCHOOL

NEED-TO-KNOW NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026

DeLong Calendar

April

1-3 No School/Spring Break
6-17 Forward Exam
6 - 4th Qt Sports Start
9 - Band 7 Concert 7pm
13 - Club 3 Starts
16 - Band 8 Concert 7pm
21 - Juntos Night - 5pm
21 - PTO Meeting - 5pm
27 - No School/Staff Development
30 - Orchestra 6 Concert 7pm

May

4 - Staff Appreciation Week
5 - Band 6 Concert 7pm
7 - Choir 6 Concert 7pm
8 - Mid-Quarter
12 - Orchestra 7 & 8 Concert 7pm
14 - Choir 8 Concert 7pm
15 - Pep Fest 12pm
19 - Choir 7 Concert 7pm
21 - Club 3 Ends
23 - Hmong Heritage Preformance 7pm
25 - No School/Memorial Day
28 - 4th Qt Sports End
28 - NJHS Ceremony 4:30pm
28 - Knight of Excellence 6pm

Yog koj xav tau tus neeg Hmoob txhais tsab ntawv no ua lus Hmoob rau koj los yog koj muaj lus nug txog tsab ntawv no, hu rau 715-852-5026.

Si usted quiere ayuda en interpretar esta carta, por favor póngase en contacto con el asistente de educación bilingüe al 715-852-4924 y deje un mensaje con su nombre y número de teléfono.

Quick Links

April Lunch Menu
ECASD Technology Support and Resources
DeLong Website
Community Events & Resources
Connect with us on Facebook HERE

Principal's Message

Dear DeLong Families,

Spring is in the air, and I hope everyone is having a restful and enjoyable Spring Break! April is a busy month at DeLong, as we are in the final stretch of the school year. During the month of April students will be participating in the FORWARD exam, and we appreciate families making sure their students get a good night's rest, eat breakfast, and have their devices charged and ready to go each morning during the days we are testing.

Spring sports and activity clubs will be starting up, these are always great opportunities for students to try new things. We will also be beginning the spring concert season.

Thanks again for all you do.

Michele Wiberg
DeLong Middle School

Meet Our New Principal for Next Year!



Dear DeLong Middle School Families,

It is with great excitement and pride that I write to introduce myself as the next Principal of DeLong Middle School. I am truly honored to continue serving our students, staff, and families in this role and to lead a school community that has meant so much to me for many years.

DeLong has been my professional home for the past seventeen years. I began my career here as a Special Education teacher, later taught Social Studies, and for the last few years have had the privilege of serving as Assistant Principal. Throughout each of these roles, I have been proud to call myself a DeLong Knight, and I am deeply committed to the students and families who make this school such a special place.

Middle school is a critical time in a student's life—academically, socially, and emotionally. I believe every student can learn, grow, and succeed when they feel safe, supported, challenged, and known. At DeLong, we will continue to focus on strong relationships, high expectations, and a positive school culture where all students feel a sense of belonging.

Partnerships with families are essential to student success. I value open communication and collaboration, and I encourage you to stay connected and involved. Whether through school events, conferences, emails, or just conversations, I look forward to working closely with you to support your child's growth.

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Our DeLong staff is a dedicated and caring group of professionals who put students first every day. Together, we will continue to build on the strong traditions of DeLong Middle School while also looking ahead to new opportunities that will help our Knights thrive.

Thank you for your continued support of DeLong Middle School. I am excited for the 2026-27 school year and look forward to working alongside you to make it a successful and rewarding experience for all students!

Go Knights!

Sincerely,
Marcus Larsen

State Testing

Students will be preparing for the annual Wisconsin Forward Exam. All students will have the opportunity to view informational videos about the test and practice using the testing platform and its tools. **Official days of testing will be April 6-17; make-up testing will be the week of April 20-23.**

Students will need to make sure they are charging their laptops at night. Please encourage your child(ren) to get plenty of rest and eat a healthy breakfast.

The WI Forward Exam is an online summative assessment measuring students' cumulative progress from the past school year. It is administered in ELA and Math for grades 3-8, in Science for grades 4 & 8, and in Social Studies for grades 4, 8 & 10. The exam provides a measure of students' knowledge and skills required to be college- and career-ready.

Announcements



DeLong Spring Concerts

Our Spring Concert Season is here!
All of the concerts will be held in
the DeLong Auditorium at 7pm.

April 9: Band 7 Concert
April 16: Band 8 Concert
April 30: Orchestra 6 Concert
May 5: Band 6 Concert
May 7: Choir 6 Concert
May 12: Orchestra 7 & 8 Concert
May 14: Choir 8 Concert
May 19: Choir 7 Concert

After School Clubs

After-school clubs will be starting Monday, April 13, and will run until May 21. Clubs take place after school until 4:30pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. There are no fees required to participate. Students will not be able to be involved in a sport offering and a club during the same time. Watch your email for more information!



March Great Knights



PROUD OF YOU

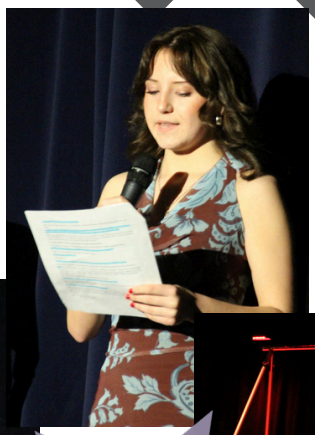




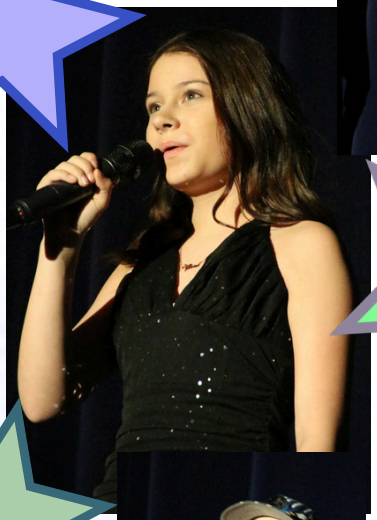
Variety Show 2026

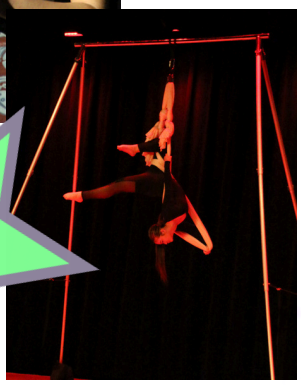








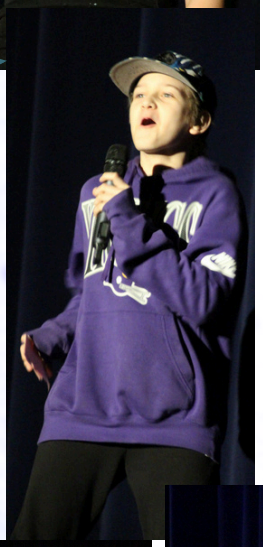














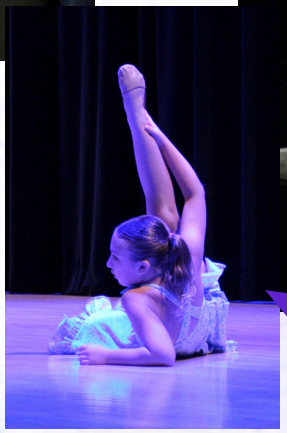




















Winter Reading Challenge







We're wrapping up the Winter Reading Challenge here at DeLong! The 8th grade team - Les Chevaliers du Livre - won the Main Event Bracket, and the 7th grade team - The Ravenous Racoons - won the Underdog Bracket.

A big thank you to Toppers West for donating pizza so the winning teams could attend a pizza party! "Top Readers" in each grade were awarded "Knights Knockout MVP" t-shirts. A big thank you to Marti Folz for screen printing the t-shirts! The highest point earning reader in each grade won a coveted crocheted dragon stuffy. Thank you, to the talented yarn wizard Mrs. Karls! And another big thank you to everyone who participated in and supported the challenge - especially Mx. Quinette who helped film and edited the halftime report videos. Who says reading isn't a team sport?!











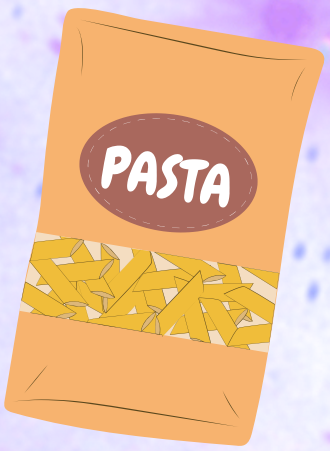


DeLong Food Pantry

DeLong Middle School is trying to re-start their food pantry soon after spring break. We plan to open on Thursday, April 16. Then, we will be open Thursdays during Knight Time after April 16. The students will be able to shop at the food pantry, on Thursdays, during Knight time (2:22-2:51pm). To shop at the pantry, students should express the need to their school counselor (6th grade, Kris Terhark, 7th grade, Ryan Sherman, and 8th grade, Faith Erickson), or the school social worker, Bria Schichel, weekly. This need must be expressed weekly to the school counselor or school social worker and is not reoccurring if a student expresses this need one time.



We are currently looking for canned goods (fruit, vegetables, beans), legumes, pasta, rice, grains, pasta sauce, canned proteins or peanut butter, cereal, mac and cheese, and ramen. You are also able to donate monetarily with cash or checks written out to DeLong Middle School. We will use these funds to purchase these staple food items for DeLong Middle School.









News From Our PTO

Thank-You PTO!

In March, PTO funded a surprise staff pick me up, homemade Egg Rolls from Long & Mai Chang. The staff were very grateful for the yummy treat made possible with your donations during the No Buy-No Sell fundraiser.



PTO Met with New Principal Marcus Larson



At the last meeting, we worked on some ideas for Teacher Appreciation week. We are also working on the 8th Grade Graduation T-shirts. PTO buys a shirt for every 8th grader. We also voted to increase the amount of money given to each grade for the end of the year field trip. Thanks to your generous donations, PTO supplied each grade with $2000 towards bussing and other expenses.

News from our PTO

PTO April Meeting:

The PTO is grateful for all you do to support the DeLong students, staff, and community. As always, we'd love to hear from you or see you at one of our meetings. Please join us for the **April 21st meeting at 5pm in the IMC** or reach out to the PTO.



At the next meeting we will:

- Finalize Plan for Staff Appreciation Week
- Work on End of Year Activities
- Plan for Next School Year

At every meeting there is an update from Principal Michele Wiberg.

REMINDER

You can view all of our previous meeting minutes on the **DeLong PTO page**.

Our meetings are usually the third Tuesday of the month. The **next meeting is May 19th at 5 pm** in the IMC (library). You can attend virtually. Video call link: **https://meet.google.com/gtv-kiju-drc**
Or dial: (US) +1 413-438-4170 PIN: 957 139 186#

Please contact the Executive Committee with any questions:

- Holli Jacobson, President: president@delongpto.com
- Jamie Kampf, Vice President: vicepresident@delongpto.com
- Rebecca Pick, Secretary: secretary@delongpto.com
- Julia Johnson, Treasurer: treasurer@delongpto.com

ECASD ART SHOW

WHEN

FRIDAY, APRIL 10TH
5:30-7:00PM

WHERE

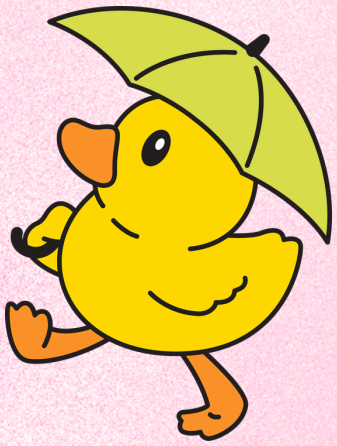
500 MAIN STREET
EAU CLARIE, WI

OPEN TO PUBLIC

From Opening Night until
Friday, May 1st, 2026
between 8:00am-4:30pm



Jeanne Richie Memorial Puddle Jump



The Jeanne Richie Memorial Puddle Jump is an annual 5k fun run/walk. Proceeds from the race benefit Longfellow school. **Race Day is Saturday, April 18, 2026 at 9:00am at Phoenix Park.**

Online registration closes on Friday, April 15, 2026. There will be same-day registration available from 7:30am-8:30am.

REGISTER NOW!

Community News



Community News



OPEN ENROLLMENT
BEGINS FEBRUARY 2, 2026

What is Public School Open Enrollment?

Wisconsin's inter-district public school open enrollment program allows students and families who don't live in our district to open enroll into the Eau Claire Area School District.

Who May Participate?

Wisconsin residents in grades K-12 may apply to participate in open enrollment. Students in pre-kindergarten may participate in limited circumstances; parents should call the Enrollment Office at 715-852-3063 to find out if their preschool-aged children qualify.

How and When May Parents Apply?

The regular open enrollment application window is February 2, 2026, through April 30, 2026, at 4:00 pm for the 2026-2027 school year. Parents may submit online applications beginning February 2, 2026, at the Wisconsin Department of Instruction website at https://dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment. Please call 715-852-3063 or email districtadministration@ecasd.us for more information.

Have you moved out of the district during the 2024-2025 school year?

If so, you must apply for a Tuition Waiver to continue attending the Eau Claire Area School District for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year. Contact the Enrollment Office at 715-852-3063 or email districtadministration@ecasd.us for an application.

Students Currently Attending the ECASD Through a Tuition Waiver

Students who have moved outside of the district during the 2025-2026 school year and are currently attending school under a Tuition Waiver must apply for open enrollment during the regular application window, February 2, 2026, through April 30, 2026, to continue attending during the 2026-2027 school year.

Current Open Enrollment Students

Students currently attending the Eau Claire Area School District under the open enrollment law do not need to reapply.

Other Information

Students who move into the district after January 2026 and anticipate moving out of the district before the 2026-2027 school year will not be eligible for a Tuition Waiver. Students must apply for open enrollment during either the regular open enrollment or alternative open enrollment period to be eligible to attend the Eau Claire Area School District during the 2026-2027 school year.

School Placement

By completing an open enrollment application, you are applying to attend the Eau Claire Area School District. You can indicate which school your child would prefer to attend; however, the district will determine placement based on space availability.



Questions?

If you have any questions about open enrollment or the application process, please contact the Enrollment Office at 715-852-3063 or email districtadministration@ecasd.us.

Community News

Protect our environment and community by properly disposing of medicines!

Visit one of the National Prescription Drug Take-Back events on Saturday, April 25, to safely dispose of prescription medications, over-the-counter products, ointments, patches, creams, non-aerosol sprays, vials, pet medications, and sharps. Convenient curbside drop-off locations are available at all locations, and it's free!

Check out the flyer to see what times each location is accepting drop offs.

This information is provided by the Eau Claire Health Alliance. Learn more at: echealthalliance.org



Finding Healthy Alternatives

Taking risks is a normal part of growing up. When kids take healthy risks, they build confidence and learn more about themselves. But without these challenges, young people may find the excitement they're looking for in dangerous activities like underage drinking. Here your child finds healthy ways to put themselves out there, like:



Joining a sports team or club



Learning to cook



Trying out for a school play



Volunteering in the community

This information is provided by the Eau Claire Health Alliance. Learn more at: echealthalliance.org

*Find more community events for families & students **here**!*

EAU CLAIRE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

DeLong is De-Best!

DeLong Middle School
2000 Vine Street
Eau Claire, WI 54703

Main Office: (715) 852-4900
Student Services: (715) 852-4917