



# EAST TROY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

*A small school community delivering BIG on education.*



## District Goals

- Ensuring a year to a year plus of learning growth for each child, each year.
- Ensuring programming opportunities through systems and practices that develop the talents of each child in an era of globalization.
- Ensuring individualized learning by empowering students with a personalized learning environment.
- Employing the highest quality professional staff.
- Adapting facilities for current and future educational needs.
- Demonstrating fiscal responsibility through efficiency and effectiveness.



## Open to Community Members: Fitness Center & MIT Certified Fabrication Laboratory

The ETHS Fitness Center is open to the public Monday through Friday from 3:15 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. for a small membership fee.

The ETCSD Fab Lab is open to the community every Thursday night from 4 to 8 p.m. during the school year. Community members will be trained and be able to use the following tools to have their ideas come alive: CNC Milling/Modeling Machine, Laser Engraver/Cutter, Vinyl Cutter, CNC Plasma Cutter, Rolland Mill Router, and 3D Printers.

For more information, check out the community tab on our district website:  
[tinyurl.com/wwd5py2](http://tinyurl.com/wwd5py2)

# So much to CELEBRATE at East Troy Community School District!



SmartLab students from Prairie View created arcade games out of cardboard and raised \$216 for the East Troy Community Resource Center.



Over 250 parents, grandparents, and family members attended the quarterly PBIS breakfast at Little Prairie.



7th graders Gianna, Katelin, and Brogan were able to attend the STEM Day event at the Milwaukee School of Engineering.



Nick, Kaden, and Claire represented ETHS in the Middle Level State Honors Choir & Band ensembles this fall.



5th graders from Prairie View spend time with students at Lakeland School throughout the year to form positive community connections.



East Troy is a two-time recipient of the Phish Tour grant for music education from the Mockingbird Foundation.



East Troy Middle School students raised \$7,824 for their PBIS program during the fall Color Blast event.



ETHS Girls Tennis team earned 3rd place at Sectionals, and four players advanced to the State Tournament.



Co-teaching, flexible learning spaces, and student choice are examples of keeping students at the center of the learning process.



Every school at ETCSD has been recognized for its successful implementation of PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports).



The East Troy Key Club raised funds and organized the construction of a community dog park located next to Village Hall.

## 2018-19 District Report Card

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) generates a School Report Card and District Report Card for every publicly funded school and district in the state. The complete report card can be found online at:

<http://dpi.wi.gov/accountability/report-cards>

The report cards are intended to help schools and districts utilize performance data to target their improvement efforts so that students are ready for their next educational step – including the next grade level, graduation, college, and careers. Since the 2015-16 school year, our district report card overall score has consistently increased.



Overall Accountability Ratings	Score
Significantly Exceeds Expectations	83-100 ★★★★★
Exceeds Expectations	73-82.9 ★★★★☆
Meets Expectations	63-72.9 ★★★☆☆
Meets Few Expectations	53-62.9 ★★☆☆☆
Fails to Meet Expectations	0-52.9 ★☆☆☆☆



The 18-19 ETHS yearbook was inducted into the Gallery of Excellence by Walsworth Yearbooks.



The ETHS drama students did a fantastic job on the Fall 2019 musical production of *Once on this Island*.



Ten students from the ETMS were selected to participate in the 53rd Annual UWM Honors Band Festival.



ETHS student AJ Vukovich earned second place at the High School Home Run Derby during the 2019 MLB All-Star Game.



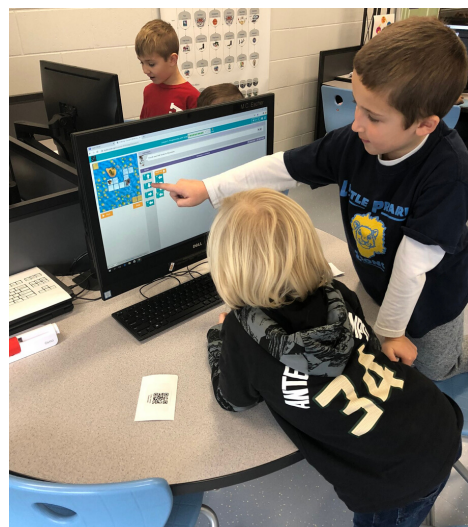
69.8% of the teaching staff at ETCS D holds a master's degree, and 10% are Nationally Board Certified.



ETCS D was named the 2018-19 Rock Valley Conference All Sports Champion: best overall athletic program in the conference.



Prairie View students, along with several ETHS students and community members, made blankets to donate to Ronald McDonald House.



Little Prairie Primary is the FIRST in the nation to have a SmartLab completely dedicated to primary aged children.



Monthly parent and community education nights are facilitated to cover various mental health and parenting topics.

Want even more reasons to celebrate? Follow us to see all the BIG things that happen in our schools every day!

 [www.tinyurl.com/wwd5py2](http://www.tinyurl.com/wwd5py2)

 [www.twitter.com/etcsd](http://www.twitter.com/etcsd)

 [www.facebook.com/easttroycommunity schooldistrict](http://www.facebook.com/easttroycommunity schooldistrict)

 East Troy Community School District



## From the Superintendent

*Dr. Christopher Hibner*

Those who know me are well aware that I love a good quote. At this time in the East Troy Community School District, three quotes in particular really resonate:

**"I never teach my pupils, I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn." -Albert Einstein**

**"Most things that are worthwhile are difficult, and our willingness to work through those difficulties will set you apart from the competition." -Nick Saban**

**"Good things happen when you make good things happen." -Unknown**

In East Troy, we aim to **empower** students in their learning by continually working to embed *student voice* into the learning process. This leads to purposeful and meaningful engagement. It also fosters continuous improvement of both our content and the development of the life-long skills of self-reflection, goal setting, progress monitoring, and the identification of what is not yet understood or what one is not yet able to do. Our students learn the importance of seeking assistance, selecting resources, making an effort, and demonstrating perseverance. Our practices and systems put the child at the center, allowing us to develop **learners**, rather than students.

This is about more than academic achievement - it is about intrinsic motivation, confidence, engagement, purpose, self-worth, and creating conditions that truly represent the value of creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, communication, competency of content, and curiosity. We are not about sorting and selecting talent, nor are we about conformity and compliance. Rather, we are about the learning process, developing talents, and improving on the mentality of "not yet".

As our district forges ahead for the betterment of our students, staff, schools, and community, we must recognize the competitive nature of education and the question of: *Why should children go here?* As the options for attending school expand for families, school districts and communities must continue to reflect on and address this ever-important question.

I remain confident in our answer because I know that we all understand the importance of a well-balanced educational system that works toward providing learning environments that meet the needs of all students in an era of globalization. We must invest in an educational environment that continues to improve on all facets and have the foresight to provide students with a range of different experiences. Strong academic results are a byproduct of developing the skills of each learner.

I recognize we have much work to do, but I am extremely proud of the work of the East Troy Community School District and all our incredibly dedicated staff members. As Walter Elias Disney once stated, "Our greatest natural resource is the minds of our children."

Thank you for your ongoing support of our students and schools.

# Operational Referendum

## April 7, 2020



### WHO:

All voters who live within the East Troy Community School District boundary.

### WHAT:

An Operational Referendum for \$1.6 million for each of 5 years, for an estimated tax impact of \$98 per \$100,000 of assessed property value.

### WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING:

To address Operational, Safety and Maintenance needs, such as (but not limited to):

- Replacement of roof sections at all district buildings (except Little Prairie)
- Replacement of the boilers at Prairie View and the high school
- Replacement of the original furnace and boiler at district office
- Replacement of asphalt as needed, but primarily at middle school
- Relocate middle school office to ensure safe access to the building
- Replace single-pane windows at the middle school
- Update science rooms at the middle school
- Continue the installation of LED lighting in all district buildings (except Little Prairie)
- Continue to maintain the appropriate level of staffing
- Continue to offer competitive student programming

### WHY NOW:

The district has balanced the budget for the past 13 years by reducing \$7.8 million from the operating budget. This includes eliminating or restructuring positions, reducing employee benefits, making energy efficient gains, applying for grants and gifts, and removing other budgetary items. If approved, the referendum would allow the district to address deferred maintenance and structural deficits since state imposed revenue limits have not kept pace with increasing expenditures.

### WHEN:

Residents will vote on the Operational Referendum on **Tuesday, April 7, 2020.**

**For more information, please visit our Operational Referendum webpage at [tinyurl.com/wdu5za2](https://tinyurl.com/wdu5za2)**

We would also like to invite you to attend our Community Referendum Presentations on February 19 and March 18 at 5:15 p.m. Both presentations will be held at the East Troy High School Library and will allow time for Q&A.

## Voter Information

If you are not yet registered to vote, you may register online, through U.S. mail, at your municipal clerk's office, or at your polling location on April 7, 2020. The deadline for online or mail registration is **March 18, 2020.**

Requests for an absentee ballot must be completed prior to **April 2, 2020.** You may request an absentee ballot online, through U.S. mail, or at your municipal clerk's office.

Go to [www.myvote.wi.gov](http://www.myvote.wi.gov) to register online, check your voter registration status, find your polling place, find your municipal clerk's office, see what is on your ballot, request an absentee ballot, and check provisional ballot status.



## Community Survey

### We want to hear from you!

Included with every newsletter will be an opinion survey in order to gain valuable insights from our community members. This issue includes a TWO-QUESTION SURVEY related to how East Troy Community School District communicates with stakeholders and what information should be featured in future newsletters.

Please take a moment to participate! Survey results will be posted in the upcoming newsletter.

Scan the QR code or visit  
<https://survey.sogosurvey.com/r/VdhVO8>

to participate in the community survey!



# Welcome to Our New Staff

The East Troy Community School District strives to employ the highest quality professional staff. Help us to welcome the newest licensed staff for the 2019-20 school year!



**Kristin Beckwith**  
East Troy High School  
Special Education Teacher



**Cynthia Borkenhagen**  
Little Prairie  
Occupational Therapist



**Erich Brown**  
East Troy High School  
Social Studies Teacher



**Eric Butalla**  
Prairie View  
5th Grade Teacher



**Janet Kmiecik**  
District Nurse



**Ben Nugent**  
East Troy High School  
Special Education Teacher



**Brooke Philbrick**  
East Troy High School  
Social Studies Teacher



**Abigail Roberts**  
Prairie View  
5th Grade Teacher



**Summer Shroble**  
Prairie View  
4th Grade Teacher



**Betty Spittlemeister**  
East Troy Middle School  
Social Worker



**Megan Steadman**  
PV & MS Speech &  
Language Pathologist



**Jeff Trinka**  
East Troy High School  
Tech Education Teacher



**Michal VanDyke**  
MS & Alt Ed Special  
Education Teacher



**Ryan Vlies**  
MS & HS Business  
Education Teacher



## Why I love East Troy...



**Jill Douglas**  
Little Prairie  
2nd Grade  
Teacher

*"I love seeing present and former students within the community...at the store, at church, on the athletic field, on stage, pursuing their interests and seeing how they have grown!"*



**Dianne Healey**  
Middle School  
Student

*"I love that ETCSD is so welcoming to everyone, I feel so comfortable with all of my classmates and the faculty here. From the winter picnic in 5K to the zoo trip in 7th grade, I always have so much fun with my peers!"*



**Ron Jordan**  
Prairie View  
Custodian

*"I love that management, staff, and people are all pleasant to work with. ETCSD considers employees as family and they value our overall well-being."*

For volunteer or employment opportunities, check out the district tab on our website: [tinyurl.com/wwd5py2](http://tinyurl.com/wwd5py2)



## Alumni Spotlight: Mary (M.E.) Dodge

### What year did you Graduate?

"I graduated from East Troy High School in the Fall of 2016."

### What are you doing now?

"I am currently a student-athlete at the University of Wisconsin. I am on the women's volleyball team, and I am just finishing up my junior year. I am majoring in Communication Sciences and Disorders, and I have aspirations of continuing my education by applying to the Graduate School for Speech Pathology. Hopefully somewhere in California so I can play beach volleyball."

### Who was your favorite teacher, and how did they influence you?

"I had so many great teachers throughout my years in the ETCS D. Having my mom in the high school was awesome, but I think my favorite teacher was Mr. Lilla. He was one of my middle school math teachers and he was such a great teacher and such a great mentor for kids. I think he helped not just me, but I would think several other students."

### How did ETCS D help you prepare for your future?

"ETCS D helped me prepare for my future by always pushing and demanding more out of me. I always had high expectations for myself growing up, but I really liked having a school district that also expected the same thing from their student body. I think that mentality has carried over to college, and will continue to be a part of my life. I also think the opportunities that the school gives the kids sets them up to go out into the world and achieve whatever they want to do."

### Where do you see yourself in the next 10 years?

"In the next 10 years, I see myself graduated from Wisconsin, graduated from Graduate School, potentially playing professional volleyball overseas, or starting my life with my future husband. Preferably somewhere warm!"



## East Troy Community School District Board Members and Administration

### District Administration

District Office.....262-642-6710

**Dr. Christopher Hibner**, Superintendent

**Kathy Zwirgzdas**, Administrator of Business Services

**Amy Foszpanczyk**, Director of Teaching and Continuous Improvement of Student Learning

**Katherine Lieske-Harder**, Director of Pupil Services

**Robert Ellis**, Director of Buildings and Grounds

**Craig Pape**, Director of Transportation

**Justin Modrak**, Director of Technology

**Reid Oldenburg**, MS/HS Athletic Director

**Ruth Bentley**, Food Service Director

### Building Administration

Little Prairie Primary.....262-642-6730

**Lindsey Harris**, Principal

Prairie View Elementary....262-642-6720

**Mark Weerts**, Principal

East Troy Middle School...262-642-6740

**Peter Syens**, Principal

East Troy High School.....262-642-6760

**Kent Kleinowski**, Co-Principal

**Stacey Kuehn**, Co-Principal

### Board Members

**Ted Zess**, President

**Jessica Fuchs**, Vice President

**Bob Dignan**, Treasurer

**Stephen Lambrechts**, Clerk

**Tony Barrett**, Member

## Upcoming Board Meetings

**February 19th** - 6pm | ETHS Library

**March 18th** - 6pm | ETHS Library

**April 20th** - 6pm | ETHS Library

**May 18th** - 6pm | ETHS Library

**June 8th** - 6pm | ETHS Library



### Can't make it to a board meeting?

Watch it LIVE via our district Facebook page, or watch it later on our YouTube channel. (Just search "East Troy Community School District" on YouTube to find our channel.) Agendas for upcoming meetings and minutes from prior meetings are also available on our website: [tinyurl.com/wwd5py2](http://tinyurl.com/wwd5py2)

# EAST TROY

COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

2040 Beulah Avenue

East Troy, WI 53120



## Upcoming 2020 Events

### February

- 19 - Community Referendum Presentation
- 19 - School Board Meeting

### March

- 1 - Band-O-Rama
- 18 - Community Referendum Presentation
- 18 - School Board Meeting
- 18 - MS & HS Jazz Festival
- 21 - STEAM Expo
- 22 - Camerata & Community Choir Concert
- 25 - PV Smart Lab Open House
- 27-29 - Spring Play

### April

- 7 - Spring Election
- 20 - School Board Meeting
- 26 - Youth and Community Choir Concert
- 29 - MS Band Concert

### May

- 3 - District Art Show
- 17 - HS Choir Concert
- 18 - School Board Meeting
- 19 - MS Choir Concert
- 27 - HS Band Concert

### June

- 3 - 8th Grade Band & Choir Concert
- 5 - Last Day of School
- 7 - ETHS Graduation
- 8 - School Board Meeting

Visit our website for event details

## Open Enrollment

The 2020-21 regular open enrollment application period is  
February 3, 2020 - April 30, 2020

### What is public school open enrollment?

Wisconsin's inter-district public school open enrollment program allows parents to apply for their children to attend a school district other than the one in which they live.

### Who may participate in open enrollment?

Pupils in 5-year-old kindergarten to grade 12 may apply to participate in open enrollment. Open enrollment for prekindergarten, four-year-old kindergarten and early childhood education is limited. Parents should call their resident school district to find out if their preschool-aged children qualify for open enrollment in other districts.

### How and when may parents apply?

The open enrollment application period for the 2020-21 school year is from February 3 through April 30, 2020. Application forms and additional information can be found on the Wisconsin DPI website at [www.dpi.wi.gov](http://www.dpi.wi.gov).

### My family just moved to East Troy. How do I enroll my child?

Students who reside within the boundaries of the district may enroll anytime by visiting our district website or by contacting the building in which they will be attending.

### How can I request a tour?

Go to [tinyurl.com/rtr2n2w](http://tinyurl.com/rtr2n2w) to schedule a tour online.

**Call or visit East Troy Community School District online to view our learning environments, find more information, or enroll your child today.**



262-642-6710

[www.tinyurl.com/wwd5py2](http://www.tinyurl.com/wwd5py2)

[www.twitter.com/etcsd](http://www.twitter.com/etcsd)

[www.facebook.com/easttroycommunityschoolsdistrict](http://www.facebook.com/easttroycommunityschoolsdistrict)

East Troy Community School District