



October Newsletter

Elba Public School



OCTOBER 2026

Elba Public Schools Newsletter

HOME OF THE BLUEJAYS



October Superintendent Update

Happy October, Elba Community! As the leaves begin to turn and crisp fall weather arrives, our students and staff have officially hit their stride. From exciting classroom projects to autumn athletics and extracurriculars, the energy in our hallways is fantastic. October is always a busy and productive month, and alongside all the learning happening every day, our Board of Education has been hard at work keeping our district running smoothly, supporting our programs, and planning for our future.

The Board met for its regular monthly meeting on Monday, September 14, 2026. Below is a summary of our recent board actions, student opportunities, and an overview of our approved budget and property tax resolution for the 2026–2027 school year.

2026–2027 Budget & Property Tax Resolution

Following a special public hearing, the Board officially approved the 2026–2027 district budget and tax request resolution. Here are the key numbers and details regarding district taxes and funding:

- **Total Tax Rate (Levy):** Proposed at **\$0.87974 per \$100** of assessed property value.
- **Total Tax Request: \$1,966,856.00** across all funds. This represents a **2.38% increase** in total tax asking compared to the 2025–2026 school year.
 - **General Fund Request:** \$1,850,694.00
 - **Special Building Fund Request:** \$116,162.00

Operating Budget Increase: Driven by overall cost shifts and revenue updates, the total operating budget (combining the General, Bond, and Building Funds) will increase by **8.27%** over last year's budget.

Assessed Valuation: Total assessed property valuation in the district changed by **11.44%** compared to last year.

Board Meeting Highlights & Actions

- **National FFA Convention Trip Approved:** The Board officially approved travel for our FFA students to attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis from **October 21st–24th, 2026**. We are so proud of these students and excited to see them represent Elba on the national stage!
- **Bus Purchase Discussion:** The Board engaged in discussion regarding plans to purchase a new school bus during the 2026–2027 school year to keep our transportation fleet safe, updated, and reliable.
- **NRCSA Membership:** The Board approved renewing our district membership with the Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association (NRCSA) for the 2026–2027 school year to support advocacy, resources, and networking for rural schools.

Thank you for your continued partnership, support, and dedication to Elba Public Schools as we work to keep our facilities safe, our programs thriving, and our budget fiscally responsible. We hope you all have a wonderful fall season!

— **Bobby Kelley, Superintendent**

The school district prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates and individuals may report concerns or questions to the Title IX Coordinator. The school district's Title IX policy, notice, and other information may be accessed elbaps.org.

October 2026

PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVE

NEWS & NOTES



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

WRITTEN BY: MR. POTTER

It is hard to believe that October is already here! It seems like we just started school and welcomed everyone back to a new year. I hope that this newsletter finds you and your child doing well and that the beginning of the year has been a positive experience. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher or me if you have any questions or concerns. It is best to start with your child's teacher. Email addresses can be found on the Elba School Web page. You may also call the school and we will gladly take a message or send you to the teacher's voice mail if they are teaching.

Being a parent of four children, I know how busy life can get. I know evenings can be hectic and finding time to do homework or even read gets challenging. Please do your best to set a routine to read together, do homework or just discuss the classroom activities from the day. Help your child keep a positive attitude toward school and his/her academic work. Your partnership with us in supporting your child will increase her/his success in school and beyond. We appreciate all you do for your child and we want to support in any way we can. We also hope you can support our efforts by becoming involved in school activities, family events and our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO).

- October 14--- 1pm Dismissal
- October 16----No School End of Quarter & Teacher inservice
- October 23 & 26----No School Fall Break
- October 28--No PreK-6 grade classes Curriculum Day

QUOTE OF THE MONTH!

"Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower."

—Albert Camus

SMALL CLASSES, BIG FUTURES

Fall is proof that change is beautiful!





ELBA ACTIVITIES



OCTOBER



Currently, the Girls Volleyball team is sitting 10-6 with six home matches taking place this month. Parents night is Oct 1st and Senior night for the girls is Oct. 19th. We will find out where our girls are for the conference tournament the week of the 5th. The conference tournament will be held on October 15th-17th with the semi-final and final matches held at Grand Island Lutheran. The girls sub-district games are October 26th-27th with the location TBD.

The football team is currently sitting at 2-3 record on the season with three games remaining in the regular season. The boys will take on Ansley-Litchfield on 10/1/26 @ Ansley 7:00pm. Senior night for the boys will be 10/15/26 against Riverside. Junior High Football is currently sitting at 1-1 on the season with their next game being 10/5/26 @ Ansley-Litchfield.

Junior High Volleyball just won the B division bracket at Grand Island Lutheran on 09/26/26. They improved every set and worked hard with the small numbers they have. Way to go girls!

eSports Marvel team is 1-0, Rocket League is 0-1, William Walters is 1-1 in Chess and Jaydin Larsen is 1-1 in Super Smash Bros.



October

NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE

Hello, October!

Our classroom is ready for another exciting month of learning. Students are becoming more confident with Naviance and our College and Career Readiness Program.

This month, we'll explore new topics, strengthen important skills, and continue learning how to work together as a caring classroom community.

Thank you for supporting our learning at home!

REMINDERS

- October 9-Apply2 College Day Seniors
- October 12-Wayne State College Rep
- October 13-UNL Rep
- October 15-Doane Rep
- October 22nd UNO Rep
- CCC Rep--TBD
- October 28th--ASVAB test for all Juniors and Seniors at the Community Center
- Remind your child to work on Naviance when they have time.
- **FAFSA Opens October 1st**

BIRTHDAY

- **October 1--William Walters**
- **October 3--Arjay Rasmussen**
- **October 5--Holis Polski**
- **October 9--Jaxson Pohl**
- **October 18--Eli Jonak**
- **October 20--Kimi Brewer**

Happy birthday to our October stars!

UPDATES

- Please remind your children to read 10-15 minutes a day. I do have plenty of books for students to borrow if interested.
- October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month
- National Book Month
- Emotional Wellness Month
- National Pizza Month

CONTACT ME

MR. JASON FOLKERS

Email: jason.folkers@elbaps.org

Phone: 308-863-2228

Available: Monday-Friday 7:30-4:00



HOCO 2026



Bluejay Buddies Meet and Greet

Bluejay Buddies met last week for the first time this year. They worked on learning names and made a handshake. We had 22 boys and 13 elementary girls sign up. We are excited to see the bonds that will come out of time spent together and our fun activities.



4th-5th Field Trip



4th-5th went on a trip to the Stuhr Museum in Grand Island. They learned about the Pawnee Native Americans and what their daily life was like, how they built their homes.



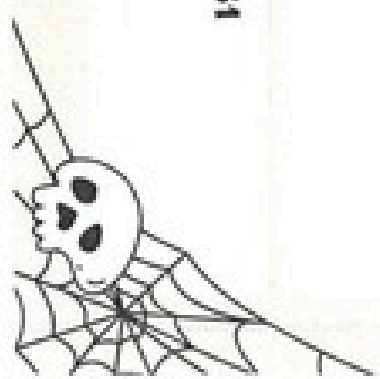
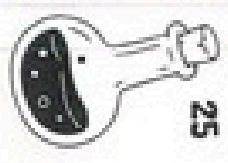
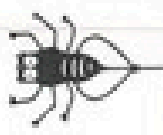
HATCHLINGS

October 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 1:00 OUT	15	16 NO SCHOOL	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 NO SCHOOL	24
25	26 NO SCHOOL	27	28 NO SCHOOL FOR PK-6TH	29	30	31



October 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Taco Burger Biscuits N Gravy	2 Pizza French Toast Sticks	3
4	5 Hot Ham & Cheese Donuts	6 Chicken Fajita Breakfast Pocket	7 Calzone Sausage & Toast	8 Chicken Tetrazini Banana Bread	9 Deli Sandwich Pancakes	10
11	12 Beef Patty Cinnamon Roll	13 Walking Taco Breakfast Bowl	14 Chicken Nuggets Biscuits N Gravy	15 Hamburger French Toast	16 No School	17
18	19 Chicken Patty Blueberry Donuts	20 Soft Shell Taco Scrambled Eggs	21 Corn Dogs Hashbrown Bowl	22 Bosco Sticks Pancakes	23 No School	24
25	26 No School	27 Chicken Fajita Build your own Burrito	28 Steak-Fajita Rice Bowl Sausage & Toast	29 Tator Tot Nachos Muffins	30 Pizza French Toast	31