**November 2014 Calendar Dates**

**Tues., Nov. 11**  
PTO Meeting, LMC, 6:30 p.m.

**Fri., Nov. 14**  
Professional Development Day  
NO SCHOOL

**Tues., Nov. 18**  
Book Fair, 3:20—6:00 p.m.

**Wed., Nov. 19**  
Dismissed at 11:35  
Parent/Teacher Conf,  
No 4K p.m. class  
Book Fair during conf. time til 7:00

**Thurs., Nov. 20**  
Book Fair, 3:20—6:00 p.m.

**Wed., Nov. 26**  
Teacher Comp Day  
NO SCHOOL

**Thurs., Nov. 27 & Fri., Nov. 27**  
THANKSGIVING Holiday

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**From Mr. Krabbe**
I have a working portfolio for all current Elvehjem students (as well as last year’s 5th graders) containing all their graded work in General Music class. Parents and guardians are welcome to view their child’s work at any time. Email tkrabbe@madison.k12.wi.us or call to make an appointment.

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**Principal’s Corner**

Dear Families,
I can’t believe it’s already November, it seems like the school year just started. The beginning of November marks the end of first quarter. Students have been engaged in learning and building community and our teachers are excited to share information about your child with you at conferences. If you have not scheduled a conference with your child’s teacher, please do so as soon as possible.

This month I have had the opportunity to share our School Improvement Plan, the School Report Card and build our home/school partnership with many families. Please try to attend the parent information sessions on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00. I really appreciate the questions and suggestions that come from all of you and look forward to continuing conversations around ways to ensure our students are learning. As I reflect on the work we have accomplished thus far, I am excited to see what the next quarter brings to Elvehjem.

Sincerely,
Sarah Larson, Principal
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**SCHOOL OF HOPE**

Corinne Coburn is looking for volunteers for the Schools of Hope program. This program matches volunteers with students who need one on one support in literacy or math. Her contact information is elvehjem@schoolsofhope.org if you have questions or are interested in participating.
INCLEMENT WEATHER
In the rare event that Madison Schools close because of inclement weather, please tune in to local television and radio stations. Madison always makes the determination by 6:30 a.m. If the schools remain open, but you feel it is unsafe for your child to attend school you are encouraged to make your own decision about sending your child/children to school. All absences due to weather are marked excused, and according to district officials, should not be considered when determining perfect attendance awards. Please use your best judgment in deciding whether or not to send your child.

When school is in session, we go outside for recess unless the temperature falls to dangerous levels. If temperatures or wind chills are above -5 degrees we go outside. Between -5 and -10, some discretion is used, and a decision is made based upon many factors. Below -10 degrees, we always stay in. This is well above the temperature where conditions become dangerous. Students are not allowed to stay in from recess because they are cold, or because parents send a note to keep them inside. If school is in session, and it is deemed safe to be outside, everyone goes out. Please make sure you send your child in appropriate clothing every day. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact the office at 204-1400.

APPROPRIATE ATTIRE
As the weather gets warmer, we encourage students to dress appropriately for school. Appropriate dress supports a positive learning environment and should be suitable for work in the classroom, activity in physical education class, as well as on the playground.

* Shirts with alcohol, drugs or sexual references and tasteless or offensive slogans
* Shirts that expose the midriff, have open backs, are strapless or tube tops (no belly-buttons showing)
* Revealing or see-through clothing
* Skirts and dresses not reaching mid-thigh
* Clothing or pants that hang so that underwear shows
* Shoes with wheels
* Head coverings are not worn in class or in the building. This includes headbands over 2” wide, sunglasses, bandanas, baseball caps, and hoods.

The City of Madison Health Department requires shoes be worn in school. MMSD policy states that coats, gloves and hats cannot be worn in school.

Consequences:
* Have a talk with the child and give him/her an opportunity to change clothes.
* Notify parents by phone and/or mail
* Students will be given appropriate clothing to wear by administration
* Send a student home for a change of clothing
* Student will make up lost class time

These rules are in place to ensure an atmosphere that encourages learning and provides a safe environment for all students in Elvehjem’s community.
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE & STUDENT SUCCESS
Do you know what your child’s attendance rate is?

Did you know there is a powerful relationship between learning and school attendance? To increase student engagement and assist in student learning, Madison Metropolitan School District’s attendance policy states that all students will attend school on at least 94% of school days. To meet this goal, a student should not miss more than 10 days of school per year, including both excused and unexcused days. It is also essential that students arrive on time.

Students learn most effectively when they attend school every day. When students miss even a day of school, they are missing important lessons and essential skills needed for academic success. Making regular school attendance a priority at home just as we do at school establishes patterns of responsibility and commitment that will serve your child throughout their lives.

In order to build successful students, we must work together to do all that we can to help students attend school regularly. Here at Elvehjem we are striving to create partnerships between families and schools to identify any reasons why a student is not attending school on a regular basis.

If your child is having problems attending school on a regular basis, you are strongly encouraged to contact Jenny Markwiese (204-1455) the social worker here at Elvehjem. She will work with you and your child to understand the causes of your child’s absences and develop a plan which will identify home, school, or community resources school attendance.

Please join us to guide your child to be a successful learner by:
Emphasizing the importance of school attendance with your child.

Developing sleep patterns and morning routines to help school attendance and decrease being tardy.

Working in partnership with your child’s school to address any attendance problems which may arise. Contacting your child’s teacher or a Student Services Staff member early may prevent small issues from growing larger.

If your child is absent or tardy several times, you will receive a letter in the mail to inform you of how many absences or tardies they have. These letters first serve as a reminder about our attendance policies and may later require notes from appointments or a meeting at school to work on improving your child’s attendance.

Reminder: According to MMSD’s new attendance policy, arriving more than 15 minutes late is now considered a third of the day absence.

SCHOOL STORE
Tuesdays and Thursdays
8:10 a.m. to 8:25 a.m.
Hallway outside the office
All items are under $1.00. Stop by the office window to see items for sale.

LOST & FOUND
The Lost & Found is located in next to the cafeteria across from the office. Please stop by and look for your child’s lost items. We will have tables set up the week of parent/teacher conferences please take a look, as all remaining items will be donated the following week.
PTO CORNER

November PTO Meeting
Please join us for the next PTO meeting, Tuesday, November 11, 6:30 p.m., in the Library/Media Center. All parents and guardians are invited to attend and learn about what’s happening at our school.

Also, be sure to sign up to receive weekly emails from the PTO if you’re not already. Just email lvmpto@gmail.com and ask to be added to our list. You can also find us on Facebook by joining "Lvm families" -- and by following the official school page at "Elvehjem Elementary School."

Chip Shoppe
Many thanks to all families who participated in our fall Chip Shoppe fundraiser. Your support will go a long way towards improving technology opportunities for all Elvehjem students. You can pick up your Chip Shoppe orders at the school on Tuesday, November 25, between 3-5 p.m. Thank you!

Upcoming Events
Please join us for the following November events at Elvehjem.

Book Fair
Elvehjem’s annual book fair will span three days this year, November 18-20. Proceeds from the fair go to the purchase of supplies, books, and technology for the school library/media center. If you’d like to volunteer to help with the book fair, please contact PTO Volunteer Coordinator Amanda Hoffman at homepartiesbyamanda@yahoo.com.

Chili Cook-Off & Family Game Night
Join us on Friday, November 21, for a fun family night of food and games! More details to come in our weekly PTO email, but if you’re interested in volunteering, please contact Amanda Hoffman at homepartiesbyamanda@yahoo.com.

Looking for a Restaurant
The PTO traditionally provides school staff with a meal on conference day, in appreciation for all of their hard work and to support them during a long day of conferences. This year, we’d like to provide dinner and are looking for a local restaurant that might be able to help. If you are a restaurant owner or know of a good option, please contact Patti Ross at rosspl22@gmail.com.

Adopt Elvehjem
The Foundation for Madison Public Schools, the private fundraising group for MMSD, implemented the Adopt-a-School program to help strengthen the relationship between our schools and the Madison community, and to work together to promote the academic achievement and personal growth of our students.

Elvehjem is one of nineteen schools that is currently looking for adoption by a local business. Often, the best partnerships come through a relationship with a school family. If your business is interested in adopting Elvehjem—or if you know of a business that might be—please contact Mary Bartzen at the Foundation for Madison Public Schools: mbartzen@fmmps.org.
BOOK FAIR IS COMING!!!!
Elvehjem Elementary will hold our Scholastic Book Fair the week of Parent Teacher Conferences

**Dates:**
- Tuesday Nov 18th
- Wednesday Nov 19th (PT Conferences)
- Thursday Nov 20th

**Times:**
- After School 3:20-6:00 T/TH
- During PT Conferences 2:00-7:00pm Wed.

**Who:** All LVM students and families are invited!

Proceeds will go to support our LMC! Ms. Ochoa hopes to purchase new high quality diverse books, add to our technology (audiobooks) and more!

Please contact our PTO if interested in volunteering

More info can be found on our library portal or by contacting Ms. Ochoa

http://madison.campusguides.com/elvehjemlmc
When is school closed due to weather?

January 2012

Dear Families of MMSD Students,

When the weather is bad, the Madison Metropolitan School District follows a set of guidelines for deciding if school will be open or closed. The district must make a decision that is the best for all students. We realize our decisions may create an inconvenience with your individual circumstances. Therefore, we encourage and strongly support you in making the decision that is best for your child(ren). You are always the best judge of your child’s health and safety.

**The process for deciding when schools are open or closed due to snow and/or ice**

District staff members review the weather conditions beginning early in the morning. They talk with weather forecasters, the City Streets Department, Madison Police and Dane County Sheriff’s Departments, and school district staff to see if all buildings are accessible for students and staff.

MMSD consults with bus companies to see if buses will be able to travel safely to and from school. MMSD administration makes the decision whether to close schools by 6:30 a.m. or earlier, and then communicate this decision to all local news outlets and to parents via email, phone and text message.

**How you can find out if schools are closed**

On days when the weather is bad, listen to any local radio or television station for information about school closing. If during registration you have provided an email address and/or text message phone number in the parent portal to the Infinite Campus student information system, you will be contacted in the morning regarding a school closing. You may also check our website [www.mmsd.org](http://www.mmsd.org) or MMSD-TV Cable Channel 993.

**When schools are closed because of extreme cold**

When the National Weather Service has a wind chill WARNING for Dane County in effect for the time just before the school day begins, we will make a decision if our schools should close. It is quite likely we will make this type of closing decision on the morning of the day in question. If there is a wind chill ADVISORY (and not a WARNING) for the county, schools will likely be open.

**When schools are closed, all activities are canceled**

When Madison schools are closed for the day, it also means that all activities scheduled in school buildings for that day are canceled. This includes all MSCR programs and all after school programs.

**Why schools are generally not dismissed early on days when the weather is bad**

In many of our families, adults work outside the home and they have no child care arrangements available before the end of the school day. However, if your schedule allows and

**Why school starts are not delayed on days when the weather is bad but will improve during the day**

In many of our families, adults working outside the home are not able to adjust their work schedules or find child care to accommodate a later start. If your family transports your child(ren) to school, we appreciate the extra effort it takes on severe weather days and we acknowledge that the students’ arrival might be somewhat delayed.

**When schools are closed for other reasons**

If you have a question about whether schools or a particular school will be closed for reasons other than severe weather, we will communicate via email to those parents/guardians who have provided their email address to us via Infinite Campus – the online student information system. You can also listen to local radio or television stations, go to the school’s Web site or watch MMSD-TV.

**Thank you for your understanding and cooperation**

For every family which is happy that school is in session on days when the weather is bad, there is another family that feels schools should be closed. The decision to open or close schools during inclement weather brings out some of the strongest community reactions – no matter which way we go with our weather decisions.

We appreciate your understanding of the difficulties in making this decision, and your support in helping your child get to school safely on winter days. Please know that we will use safety considerations in making all of our weather decisions.