



ESU 8 Newsletter

2019 December

Merry Christmas from our "family" to yours!

A Community Presentation of Rachel's Challenge will be held that evening at 7:00 pm, same location. It is FREE and open to the public; target audience is ages 12-112.

RACHEL'S Challenge

2020 Winter Workshop

Monday, January 20
9:00am - 3:00pm
Johnny Carson Theater
801 Riverside Blvd, Norfolk



Rachel's Challenge exists to equip and inspire individuals to replace acts of violence, bullying, and negativity with acts of respect, kindness, and compassion. Rachel's Challenge is based on the life and writings of Rachel Joy Scott who was the first victim of the Columbine school shootings in 1999. Through her example, Rachel's Challenge is making a positive impact in the lives of millions of people.

Superintendents, principals, teachers, parents, and students bring Rachel's Challenge into their schools because of escalating problems such as: bullying, student isolation, teen suicide, discrimination, school violence, and increased disciplinary actions. Through powerful presentations, community events, and professional development, Rachel's Challenge provides the sustainable solution.

Rachel's inspiring story provides a simple, yet powerful example of how small acts of kindness and acceptance motivate us to consider our relationships with the people we come in contact with every day. Rachel's Challenge renews our hope that our life has meaning and purpose. Rachel's story gives us permission to start our own chain reaction of kindness and compassion, which positively affects the climate in our schools and communities.

Registration is closed, however, for more information visit esu8winterworkshop.weebly.com or contact Heidi Rethmeier at Heidi.rethmeier@esu8ne.org.

A Community Presentation will be held that evening at 7:00 pm at the same location. It is **FREE** and open to the public; the target audience is ages 12-112.

Note: The ESU 8 Offices will be closed for this event until approximately 1:00pm and there will be no school at the ESU 8 Learning Centers.

ESU 8 offices and Learning Centers will be closed on the following days:

- Friday, December 20, ESU 8 will close at noon
- Monday-Friday, December 23-27, closed for Christmas break
- Monday-Thursday, December 30-January 3, closed for New Year's Day
- ESU 8 offices and Learning Centers will reopen on Monday, January 6

Register for the App Design Challenge at www.esu8.org by Monday, December 9!

App Design Challenge
An Intro to Coding experience for ESU 8 school teams

Register your team today on ESU 8 website.
1 teacher + up to 3 students (grades 6-9) = \$50 registration (includes lunch)

Tuesday, December 10, 2019
9 am - 3 pm at ESU 8
Questions? Contact Katie@esu8.org

BRING IPADS OR USE OURS

Engage with community issues | Learn to code with purpose | Work through design cycle for positive results | Bring back and implement with your school

Tuesday, December 10

9:00am - 3:00pm

ESU 8

110 W 3rd in Neligh

Design an app to solve a community challenge! Add purpose to learning to code. Teams will work together using the design process to create an app prototype. Send a team of up to 3 students (grades 6-9) plus 1 teacher to experience the workshop, then bring back and implement in your school and/or community. This experience can be the perfect complement to a coding club or Intro to Computer Science course. Your team can use an ESU 8 iPad for the day or bring your own iPads to collaborate on.

This fee for this event is \$50 per team (1 teacher + up to 3 students) and lunch will be provided on site.

Register online at www.esu8.org by Monday, December 9. If you have questions or concerns regarding this event, please contact Katie Morrow at katie@esu8.org.

Art Teacher Workshop

Thursday, December 12

9:00am - 3:00pm

ESU 8

110 W 3rd in Neligh

Art teachers will share ideas from their classrooms as well as participate in a batik workshop with presenter, Kristine Allphin Brakenhoff. All materials will be provided.

This workshop has a registration fee of \$45 and lunch will be on your own. If you have questions regarding this workshop, please contact Steph Lundgren at slundgren@esu8.org.

\$45

Collaboration time to share lesson ideas
Batik workshop with Kristine Allphin Brakenhoff - all materials supplied

ESU 8 ART WORKSHOP
12.12.19 | 9AM-3PM

CONTACT STEPH slundgren@esu8.org with questions
Register today www.esu8.org



To order a virtual viewer kit, just email Linda Thompson at lmiller@esu8.org.

ESU 7 & ESU 8 Joint Librarians Collaboration Day

Thursday, December 12
9:00am - 3:00pm
ESU 8
110 W 3rd in Neligh

This is an ESU 7 and ESU 8 Librarians Collaboration Day. The fee for this event is \$20 per attendee and lunch will be provided. Molly Aschoff, ESU 8, and Otis Pierce, ESU 7, will be your presenters.

Register online at www.esu8.org by Wednesday, December 11. If you have questions regarding this event, please contact Molly Aschoff at maschoff@esu8.org.

Check Out the Virtual Viewers

Transform your smartphone into an immersive Virtual Reality viewer. The ESU 8 Media Center has two Virtual Viewer kits available for check out.

Kit #1 includes 6 Google Cardboard goggles and
Kit #2 includes 10 plastic viewers.



They support iPhones and Androids with over 1,500 apps to download from the Google Play Store and the App Store. Utilizing the motion sensor of your phone, they create 360-degree views.

From the ESU 8 Nursing Department

by Jill Bates

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services requires annual school health screenings. Screening of far and near vision, hearing, oral health, height, and weight are required for all students in preschool through grade 4, grade 7, and grade 10. Most schools served by ESU 8 school nurses screen all students in PK-12.

Through October 31st, ESU 8 school nurses report the following:

- 5,061 students screened for far and near vision
- 520 vision referrals
- 1,617 students screened for hearing
- 73 hearing referrals
- 2,279 students screened for oral health
- 210 dental referrals

Vision screening was performed using the Welch-Allyn SPOT Vision Screener. This equipment allows individual screenings to be performed in less than one minute. ESU 8 school nurses continue to screen hearing, oral health, height, and weight.

Not hearing or seeing as well as you used to? Come to the Winter Workshop Health Screening station manned by ESU 8 school nurses on January 20th. The nurses will perform screenings of blood pressure, vision, and hearing. See the new SPOT vision screener and receive printed vision screening results via your email.



For Teachers of grades 3-12!
Register online at
www.esu8.org



The Writing Revolution Book Study

Jan - May 2020

Do you feel like you **assign** writing but not **teach** it?
Let's work together to turn weak writers into
strong communicators by leading a Writing
Revolution* in your classroom.

Register
today
at
esu8.org

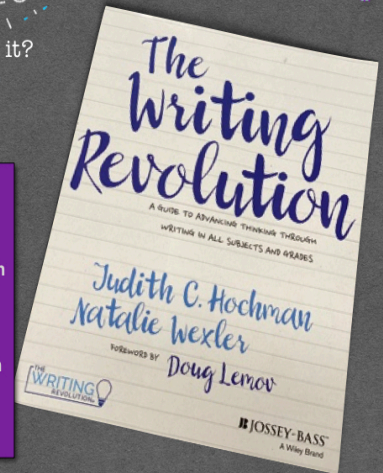
Launch Date: January 27, 2020

Held from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm at ESU 8

Follow up participation will be online weekly through
Canvas.

Registration cost is \$40 which includes lunch and
the book *The Writing Revolution* by Judith Hochman

Facilitated by Steph Lundgren & Katie Morrow
Target audience: Grade 3-12 Teachers



*Implement regular, intentional exercises in a content-rich environment to expand students' writing range.

2020 Quiz Bowl for Grades 9-12

Tuesday, March 3

9:00am - 2:30pm

ESU 8

110 W 3rd in Neligh

This academic quiz bowl for grades 9-12 will be double elimination again. Each school may register one team of up to six and up to two alternates. Spectators may bring pencil and paper, if desired. There will be a lunch break about noon. Attendees may bring their own lunch to eat on-site or choose a local restaurant.

Please register your team(s) online at www.esu8.org by Friday, January 17. If you have questions regarding this event, please contact Marlin Seevers at mseevers@esu8.org.

2020 Quiz Bowl for Grades 6-8

Wednesday, March 4

9:00am - 2:30pm

ESU 8

110 W 3rd in Neligh

This academic quiz bowl for grades 6-8 will be double elimination again. Each school may register one team of up to six and up to two alternates. Spectators may bring pencil and paper if desired. There will be a lunch break about noon. Attendees may bring their own lunch to eat on-site or choose a local restaurant.

Please register your team(s) online at www.esu8.org by Friday, January 17. If you have questions regarding this event, please contact Marlin Seevers at mseevers@esu8.org.



Register for the ESU 8
Academic Quiz Bowl(s)
at www.esu8.org by
Friday, January 17!