

### What is NTAP?

The Nebraska Telephone Assistance Program (NTAP) assists qualifying low-income individuals with keeping telephone services affordable by lowering monthly service rates. Individuals can qualify for NTAP by participating in Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Children's Health Insurance Programs (CHIP), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Veterans Pension Benefit/Survivors Pension Benefit, Federal Public Housing, or if household income is at or below 135 percent of the poverty level.

NTAP reduces the cost of local phone service by up to \$12.75 per month on one landline/wireless phone bill or provides minutes to your eligible cellular phone service. Some telephone companies do not participate with this program. The discount will appear as a credit on your monthly telephone bill or minutes will be uploaded to your account. Prepaid accounts do not qualify. No cash or checks will be distributed. The telephone bill must be in the name of, or contain the name of, the applicant.

To receive an application form: Call the Nebraska Public Service Commission at: (402) 471-3101 (Lincoln); (800) 526-0017 (Nebraska Only), OR Mail request to: NTAP PO Box 94927 Lincoln, NE 68509-4927.

Mail the COMPLETED application form to:  
NTAP  
PO BOX 94927  
Lincoln, NE 68509-4927

**The Fort Calhoun Schools Offices will be closed December 24th-December 25th and December 31st-January 1st for the Christmas/New Year's holidays.**

### WELCOME TO FORT CALHOUN

Our community is growing and we want to be prepared. We are continuously counting students in our District to determine future needs.

**Residents:** Please help us with our child count by reporting your children up to 18 years old, especially those who intend to be enrolled in Fort Calhoun Schools for next school year. If you have not already notified us through the census or there has been a change in your household, call the District office at 402-468-5591 with your information.

Fort Calhoun Community Schools use an automated calling system to notify families of emergencies or weather-related closings. Make sure all your contact numbers are up-to-date by calling your child's respective schools.



## LOOKING FOR YEARBOOKS



The District has expanded its digital records capabilities and now the new system will be set up with Athletics and Alumni Activities. We are currently busy working on the design, and accumulating and entering

data. One of its features is digital copies of all our yearbooks. We are looking to borrow books from alumni for the following years: 2005 1997, 1995, 1991, 1989, 1987, 1986, 1984, 1983 and all years prior to 1980.

The books will be scanned and then returned to the lender, but the digital copy will be available for folks to peruse and enjoy for years to come.

If you or a family member have one/some to lend please do so. If you have questions contact Patty, Rose, Nick Wemhoff, or David Genoways at the High School--402-468-5591. You may drop off your book/books at the high school office Monday through Friday from 7:30 to 4:00 or mail to Fort Calhoun Community Schools, Box 430, Fort Calhoun, NE 68023, but please include your name, phone number and return address so we know where to return them.

We plan to launch this soon, so take action today. If you don't have any books but know of someone who does, call them. With your help we can fill the gaps, so pull out that yearbook or make some calls! We know we can count on your help and support to make this project a success.



*Sounds of the Season*

*The public is invited to enjoy our students performing the "Sounds of the Season".*

- 12/6 *Elementary Christmas Concerts at High School 6:30 & 7:15 PM*
- 12/16 *Jr-Sr High Christmas Band Concert 3:00 PM*
- 12/18 *Jr-Sr High Christmas Vocal Concert 7:00 PM*



# The Fort Dispatch

Volume 28 No 4

Fort Calhoun Community Schools

December 2018

### FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

#### Winter has Arrived!

I hope this letter finds you recovering from a great Thanksgiving weekend without a lot of extra pounds to show for it! We definitely had a change in the weather this past week and I am afraid that means it's going to be cold for a while. With that in mind I thought it would be good to remind you of my practice as I consider closing school because of the weather. My first hope that if bad weather is imminent I would call school before 9:30pm the night before the impending weather. If I am not sure the night before I drive the roads in the morning and will work to make a decision around 5:45am so you can make necessary plans. I am in constant communication with the National Weather Service and the surrounding school districts. It has been my practice to error on the side of safety if the weather is too close to call. If you have questions regarding this please feel free to give me a call.

With the upcoming Winter sports season on the horizon I would like to remind you to be a **Positive** fan of our student athletes. I would encourage you to keep your comments positive and directed at the great efforts our Fort Calhoun student athletes will be displaying during competition. Being a fan at the games is a privilege not a right and if you abuse that privilege it can, and will be taken from you. So be positive!!!!

This time of year we have a ton of opportunities for you to come and support our Fine Arts program. Our Drama Club is participating in the One Act play competitions and will have a public showing on Sunday, December 2. The Elementary Choir concert is on December 6th, the Junior-Senior High Choir concert is on December 18th and the Junior-Senior High Band concert is on December 16th. These concerts are awesome and our kids shine during these performances so get out there and support them.

In closing, as always, I advise you take time to enjoy those who you love during this Holiday season. Please also keep in mind those who are serving our country and keeping us safe on a daily basis through their services the Armed Forces.

God Bless and have a great Holiday Season!!!

Dr. Johnson  
Superintendent of Schools



Mr. Jerry Green  
Secondary Principal

### BACK TO BUSY

Late October and early November is that time between Fall and Winter that is a bit slower around the secondary building. Well that is over. As we enter December we are back to busy schedules again. Fall sports have started practices and by the time you read this we will have already played. The One Act Play will have completed in its Conference performance and Districts. All-State Band and Choir are completed and the band and choir are preparing for winter concerts. Students will be preparing for the end of the semester and gearing up for tests and project completion. Many of these activities involve the same students, which makes life extremely busy for them. Even though the schedule is packed tight, school seems to run smoother when we are busy. Too much down time can lead to a little mischief. So even though we are very busy it makes for fast days and the weeks seem to just fly by. It won't be long and we will be looking at Christmas break.

### MR. NICK WEMHOFF

It is hard to imagine that it is December. It feels like yesterday that school was just beginning for the year. As we often say, "Where does the time go"? As we enter into this holiday season, take time to slow down and relax. The holidays are truly about sharing time with your family, making new memories, and sharing old stories. There is nothing better than sitting around the table at with your family over the holidays. As my wife and I get ready to celebrate Christmas with our families, we will be thinking of our other family we have gotten to know over the years; our family at the FORT. We want to wish each and every one of you a safe and wonderful holiday season.

### ATTENTION WALKERS

The Community Building is available for walkers any time no school or community activity is scheduled. Contact the high school for information.



**Courtney Baxter** was selected 1st Team All State Class C-1, and All Omaha Area in the *Omaha World Herald* for Softball. **Courtney** was also named 1st Team All State Class C in the *Lincoln Journal Star* and NCC 1st Team. **Kinsley Wimer** and **Zoe King** were named All State Honorable Mention by the *Lincoln Journal Star*. **Kinsley** was also NCC 2nd Team. **Julie Klemm, Jordan Wear** and **Zoe King** were NCC Honorable Mention.

**Tyler Strauss** and **Aaron Winter** were named 1st Team All District C-1 in Football. **Cole Halford** and **Jose Zapata** were All District Honorable Mention.

**Avery McKennan** was selected for All State Honor Band for the 2nd year in a row.

**Grant Hansen, Taya Skelton, Bode Bench, Hannah Fitzgerald, Malachi King, Jake Seina, Clint Dierks, Dillon Dierks** and **America Johnson** were named Outstanding Actor at the Capital Conference One Act Play competition. The play, "*A Mid Summer Vacation's Nightmare*", the whole cast, crew and sponsor Ms. Julie Johnsen received a **Superior** rating at the District One Act competition.

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### DECEMBER HAPPENINGS



- 12/2 One-Act Play Community Performance
- 12/5 MCC Blood Drive @ High School
- 12/6 Elementary Christmas Concert @ High School
- 12/10 School Board Meeting
- 12/16 Jr-Sr High School Christmas Band Concert
- 12/18 Jr-Sr High School Christmas Vocal Concert
- 12/19 Booster Club Meeting
- 12/21 End of 2nd Quarter/1st Semester
- 12/22-12/26 Sports Moratorium
- 12-22-1/7/19 Christmas Break-No School
- 1/8 School Resumes

## Community Resources

### Arbor Family Counseling

402-330-0960

Fort Calhoun Community Schools has a student assistance contract with Arbor Family Counseling.

Please contact their office for an appointment or see the HS counselor, Mrs. Micki Hernandez or the K-8 school counselor, Mrs. Marie Adams for more details about this and/or our new on-site Arbor Family counselor Jennifer (she is here on Wednesday mornings).

### -Nebraska Helpline

1-888-866-8660

### -National Suicide Prevention Hotline

1-800-273-TALK (8255)

### -Crisis Text Line

text "help" to 741741

### -Boys Town National Hotline -- "You don't have to face your problems ALONE"

~ call: 1-800-448-3000

~ chat: yourlifeyourvoice.org

~ email: yourlifeyourvoice@boystown.org

~ text: "voice" to 20121

### -CHI Health Behavioral Crisis Hotline

402-717-HOPE (4673)

### -AA Omaha Central Office

402-555-1880

### -Narcotics Anonymous

402-660-3662

### -The Bridge (domestic abuse / sexual abuse)

1-888-721-4340

Blair Office:

402-533-4411

### Professional Therapists in the area:

Choices Counseling

Annie Pawol & Jody Koziol

Sue Miller-Harsin

Chandra Peterson

Hold Your Horses Equine Therapy

805 South 75th St

1630 Washington St

9255 County Road P32

Omaha, NE 68114

Blair, NE 68008

Fort Calhoun, NE 68023

(402) 391-5111

(402) 533-3680

(402) 657-6025



The Pioneers for Education (PFE) hosted Donuts with Dad in October and Morning with Mom in November. With the two events combined, over 114 dozen donuts were served with over 900 in attendance! The earlier start time of 7:15 a.m. was well-received. This allowed parents who needed to leave for work to attend and allowed more time for parents to enjoy time with their students. The photobooth was also a great addition. The PFE thanks Cortney Raether for serving as chair for this popular event and will look forward to serving more donuts this spring.

PFE and Fort Calhoun Schools are participating in the Crayola ColorCycle program for the first time this year. This national program allows for the recycling of used markers of all brands, including dry erase and high-lighters. Students are encouraged to bring used markers from home, along with those used at the school, and place them in boxes located at both the high school and elementary. PFE will handle the counting, packaging and shipping of the markers. This effort encourages recycling and turns what would otherwise end up in area landfills into clean fuel to heat homes, cook meals and power vehicles.

The November PFE meeting included an updated total from our Walk-a-thon and Corporate Sponsorship, information on Crayola ColorCycle, Nutrition Nuggets and a possible PopSocket fundraiser. The school assembly and PFE scholarship were also discussed. Teachers expressed needs within their classrooms, including past opportunities in cooperation with the Scholastic Book Fair. The Elementary Student Council plans to head up Spirit Fridays this year so watch for more information on how students can show off their school spirit through some friendly competition.

Happy Holidays to all from the PFE!

