



WELCOME TO FORT CALHOUN

We are growing and to be prepared we continually maintain a census of our residents to determine future needs.

Residents: Please help us with our child count by reporting your children up to 18 years old. If you have not already notified us or there has been a change in your household, call the District office at 402-468-5591 with your information. Thank you.

TITLE IX INFORMATION

Fort Calhoun Community Schools Board of Education passed Policy 3057 at their August 10, 2020 meeting addressing all areas of discrimination. This policy can be found on the schools' website fortcalhounschoools.org. Go to "About, Board of Education, Policies" and scroll down to Policy 3057-Title IX.

3/2	High School Band Concert
3/4	Jr-Sr High Vocal & Show Choir Concert
3/8	School Board Meeting
3/10	End of 3rd Quarter
3/11	Teacher Inservice
3/11-12	NO SCHOOL - Spring Break
3/14	Daylight Savings Begins Spring Forward
3/15	PFE Meeting
3/19-20	Prom - Post Prom
3/27-28	Band Variety Show

MR. NICK WEMHOFF Principal

Spring...here we come!!! As the snow melts and the temperatures begin to rise, it is amazing to look back at what this year has been and where we are today. I am proud of the efforts by our staff, students, and community to make our school safe during Covid. As I look forward, I am excited about March. This month brings about many events in a school calendar that are significant to our students:

- 1) Prom and Post-Prom.
- 2) The start of the fourth quarter
- 3) The ACT for Juniors
- 4) The final submissions for scholarships for Seniors
- 5) Enrolling in next year's classes for current grades 7-11.
- 6) Along with many activities, events, etc.

Today I want to highlight the ACT day. All juniors are required by law to take the ACT. Our ACT test day is set for Tuesday March 23. Here are a few things about this day that parents need to be aware of.

- 1) Juniors will only attend school for the duration of the ACT. They will come in the morning and as soon as the ACT is completed, they will be dismissed from school. Information regarding this day for juniors will be sent to parents in advance. The start of the fourth quarter
- 2) Seniors will not have school on March 23 due to the use of their classrooms. Parents will be notified in advance with specific information.
- 3) All students in grades 7-10 will attend school as a regular school day.

Please know that we will communicate all information with parents. I look forward to the ACT and wish all of our juniors the best of luck!

*"Don't Let Yesterday Take Up Too Much Of Today."
- Will Rogers*



The Fort Dispatch

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FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

District Updates

COVID Update:

We have had very low numbers in positive COVID cases and quarantines since the holiday break. We remain diligent with our procedures and protocols as we near the last few months of school. It is important to understand that as our numbers are low and the state seems to be trending in the right direction that we will not let our guard down. I would argue that we need to remain with our standards and finish the year without taking unnecessary risks. Let's finish strong and keep safety our number one priority.

Elementary Gym Project:

As we enter the first week of March we will be able to transfer into the new gym area at the elementary. It is a beautiful addition to the building and will allow for a much needed space for our school and community programs. Hopefully in August we will be able to host an elementary open house before school begins and you will have an opportunity to check it out.

New Pre-School Classrooms:

The last part of the elementary gym project is to go into the existing gym and remodel it into two new pre-school rooms. This has already begun in very small transitions but will begin full scale the first week of March. The new classrooms will be done in plenty of time to start school in the Fall. This will provide an amazing space for our youngest students to get a head start on the educational development.

Appreciation:

I believe it goes without saying that this school year has been a challenge. Please understand this, I just got off the phone with a curriculum salesman wanting to sell me professional development items "that will help transition students and staff back into school". When I told him we have been in school all year he was shocked. He said he hasn't really run into that during his calls. We are doing something a lot of the country is not. I hope that is not lost on people. I would like to express huge appreciation to our students, staff and community for taking a leap of faith at the beginning of the year. It hasn't been easy but it seems we are going to make it the full year. Goal #1: Keep kids safe and keep kids in school. Thank you to those that supported our mission and to those who continue to take the risk so that we can educate our students in person.

Hopefully warm weather will be at our doorstep soon and we can begin to enjoy the great activities that come with being outside.

Jerry Green
Superintendent
Fort Calhoun Community Schools



Pioneers,

With winter activities coming to an end, I want to take a moment to thank all the coaches, players, parents, and students for your support. All the hard work, time, and dedication does not go unnoticed. It's inspiring to watch our students compete and give their all for the Orange and Black!

As we get geared up for Spring activities, please know we are dependent upon the NSAA, Three Rivers Health Department, and the NDE to establish our fall plans. Information continues to come and change, and we will communicate through the spring season. We are all excited to get back outside, enjoy some nice weather, and support our spring activities. Our Covid-19 Protocols are updated and listed on the school website. Click Covid on the top right of the main page for updated information.

Spring high school activities will start on March 1st and Junior High Track will start on March 22nd. I want to remind parents of participating athletes in grades 7-12, that sports physicals will be different. All 7th graders must have a regular physical but also need to have a sports physical. When you get your regular physical, request the sports physical at the same time. All incoming freshmen also need to have a sports physical. If your student is new to Fort Calhoun Schools, they will need a sports physical as well. If you are going into grades 8, 10-12 and participated in activities last year, you do not need a sports physical. The sports physical must take place after May 1st to qualify them for the 2020-2021 school year. Return a copy of the physical to the high school office when completed. The specific line we are looking for is "the athlete is cleared without restrictions to participate in athletics."

Activity Passes are available at activities and in the high school main office.

- Elementary Student- \$20
- Junior High/High School Student- \$30
- Single Adult- \$50
- Family Pass- \$110 (This includes: Mom, Dad, Children)

Due to potential restrictions at our activities this spring, we are being proactive to provide options for fans to support our Pioneers. A live streaming system will be offered through nfhsnetwork.com. Streaming is only available for Track in the spring. A portion of the subscription comes back to Fort Calhoun Schools.

- Monthly Subscription- \$10.99
- Annual Subscription- \$69.99

Thank you and Go Pioneers!



Trey McCoy, Ely Olberding, Lance Olberding, and Grant Nixon all qualified for the State Wrestling Tournament. **Ely** and **Lance** are District Champions. At State, **Lance** won the 4th Place Medal and **Ely** won the 6th Place Medal.



Fort Calhoun Community Schools use an automated system to notify families of emergencies or weather-related closings. Make sure all your contact numbers, and e-mail addresses are up-to-date by calling

your child's respective schools.

OPTION ENROLLMENT 2021-22

The Option Enrollment application period for the 2021-22 school year closes March 15, 2021. Forms are available on our website or at the school offices. The School Board set class size and program parameters in February and according to State law, all applicants must be notified one way or another by April 1st.

Elementary News

Your Proud Principal: Drew R. Wagner

Engaging + Learning + Achieving = Productive PIONEERS!

Greetings! We are excited to share some information pertaining to a schoolwide art project that will include our students. We have been in discussion with Ms. Homolka and Mr. Paul High Horse, Secondary Art Instructor, on an art project at the elementary building. After some brainstorming we have come up with a reading themed mural in the library on the North wall. There will be a plethora of animated characters on the wall that encourage students to read. With that said, Mr. High Horse will be leading this project with the assistance of the art students at the secondary building. Additionally, all elementary students will be involved in this project. This project starts on Monday, March 1.

The timeline of this project is approximately three weeks. Each student will have relatively ten minutes of painting on this project. We are so excited in incorporating our secondary art program with our elementary students.

Thank you for your time.

***We will continue to follow appropriate safety, sanitation and social distancing guidelines during this project.**

Have a positive day! Go PIONEERS!



Greetings from Pioneers for Education! During this time of social distancing, capacity limits, and cancelling of typical PFE events due to COVID-19, the officer team finds ourselves extra excited about what we can provide! PFE is very happy we were able to work with Mr. High Horse to provide the Art After School program, for students grade 3-6th. In February, the participating 3rd and 4th graders had their turn learning and creating. They created awesome artwork that was displayed in the Elementary School's achievement cases. The 5th and 6th grade students who registered will be receiving their instruction during the month of March. Thank you to Mr. High Horse and Mrs. Rutledge for working with PFE to provide this wonderful program to students! Many thanks to Pioneers for Education President, Sarah Tinkham for working hard to get this program up and running again this year.

Unfortunately, PFE officers and school administrators have officially decided PFE will be unable to host the annual Spring Carnival this school year. PFE is brainstorming other options and hoping to be able to plan an end of the school year Spring event for families. Stay tuned for information regarding that event.

The Officer team has continued having monthly meetings. During our meetings we've had teachers from the Elementary and High School in attendance making requests, and letting us know exciting things they are planning and hoping for within their classrooms. PFE has been able to help fund a few of these projects and is happy to be able to help make learning even better for students at the Fort.

The next Pioneers for Education meeting will be held Monday, March 15th at 6:30pm. Please show your support and attend the meeting! PFE can be reached at pioneersforeducation@gmail.com.

Your Officer Team,

Sarah Tinkham- President; Brad Earley- Vice President; Shannon Pokorski- Treasurer; Joey Iwen- Secretary; Ronee Christensen- Communication Coordinator