

Andrew Christensen
Assistant Principal/AD

Pioneers,

Congratulations to our Winter Sports NCPA Academic All-State Nominations: Boys Basketball- Jayden Hunter and Austin Welchert, Girls Basketball- Kenzie Hansen and Tessa Skelton, and Wrestling- John McKennan and Lance Olberding.

Our Academic Honors Night and Athletic Banquet will be combined this year and will be held on April 29th at 6:00pm.

For all Covid-19 guidance for home and away activities, please refer to our school website. Go to fortcalhounschool.org – COVID (Top right of main page) - Click on the desired sport. Information is updated on a daily basis. You can also find Covid-19 guidance on the school activities twitter- @ftcactivities. Although every school will follow the Nebraska Directed Health Measures, each school will look a little different. For the most updated information, please visit our school website or check our activities twitter page on the day of the activity.

Spring Activities: No attendance restrictions for Baseball, Golf, or Track. Masks are required at the gate, concessions, and restrooms. While outside, masks may be removed if social distancing by 6 feet can be achieved. Please sit in family pods while attending activities.

A live streaming system will be offered through nfhsnetwork.com for Track only this spring. A camera has been installed on our football field press box. A portion of the subscription comes back to Fort Calhoun Schools. The live stream is only on the track.

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

Thank you,

Andrew Christensen
Assistant Principal/AD



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.



PFE Movie Night
Friday April 16, 2021
High School Practice Field

More information will come home with students.



The Fort Dispatch

Volume 30 No 8

Fort Calhoun Community Schools

April 2021

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Jerry Green
Secondary Principal

Seven Weeks

It is hard to imagine we only have seven weeks of school left. Some days it seems like it went quick and others, well, it doesn't. The fact is we were able to keep school open and keep school safe. This is a huge accomplishment and could not have taken place without the cooperation and support of all stakeholders.

As we venture through the next seven weeks it is important to remember that our task of keeping schools open and safe is not over. The pandemic is certainly in a better place than it was in the Fall but it is not over. We see surges throughout the United States and even in Nebraska. As vaccinations increase, the weather gets warmer and we are able to do more activities outside it is important to remember our mission is not complete. Activities inside and out still have restrictions that must be followed. As a school our goal is to finish the year strong, limit any chance of a spike and send everyone off to a great summer break.

What will the start of school look like in the Fall? This is the same question we faced last year at this time and the answer is the same. We don't know. I can tell you we will take lessons from this year and continue with good hand washing, sanitizing and other items that promote health. We will continue to monitor the pandemic throughout the summer and hope that when August rolls around the start of school will be as normal as possible. Trust me when I tell you, we ALL want that.

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. If you have new neighbors pass this on to them. Thank you.



MR. NICK WEMHOFF
Principal

It is April! Can you believe we only have 7 weeks left of school? In that same phrase, we still have 7 weeks of school left! This is NOT the time to slow down, but rather, it is time to focus on finishing the school year strong. There are many educational events that take place in April and May that are highly important. Items include but not limited to: NSCAS (state tests) for grades 7 and 8, NWEA testing for grades 7 and 8, scholarship deadlines for seniors, along with the every day homework as students work to complete courses. This is a critical time in learning for all students.

For our Seniors, the 4th quarter marks the beginning to the end of one chapter in their lives – Graduating from high school. Graduation is scheduled for May 8th at 2:00 pm. I am excited to be able to participate in this ceremony and to celebrate with our families! There will be information sent home to parents of seniors soon. It will include information that is pertinent to graduation, along with our plans given Covid-19.

A message to the Seniors – don’t stop short of the finish line! Graduation is the culmination of 13 years of school, grades K-12. When you figure that there are 179 days of school a year times approximately 7 hours a day; it adds up to 16,142 hours of school as of April 1st. Seniors, you have approximately 147 hours left of school. Don’t leave any task undone or homework unfinished, make sure you graduate. Don’t let 16,289 hours go to waste because you failed a class.
FOCUS – FINISH – GRADUATE!

“It’s not where you start – it’s where you finish that counts”.
- Zig Ziglar




Brittany Peterson, Abigail Ryan, John McKennan, Kenzie Hansen and Riley McKennan are the 2021 Conference Quiz Bowl Champions.

All Conference Basketball recognitions go to **Brant Hilzendeger** and **Tessa Skelton** - 2nd Team All Conference, and **Carson Schwarz** and **Zane Schwarz** - All Conference Honorable Mention. Congratulations!

Vinnie Bonacci and **Harry Geiger** were medalists at the Elkhorn Band Olympics. At solo/ensemble contests **Vinny, Harry** and **Samantha Brewer** all received Superior ratings.



| | |
|---------|---|
| 4/2-4/4 | Easter Break - NO SCHOOL |
| 4/3 | Happy Easter |
| 4/12 | School Board Meeting |
| 4/14 | Conference Art Show @ Fort Calhoun |
| 4/16 | PFE Movie Night @ HS Practice Field |
| 4/19 | PFE Meeting |
| 4/22 | Earth Day  |
| 4/23 | NO SCHOOL- NDE Inservice Day |
| 4/23-24 | District Music-Band & Vocal |
| 4/25 | Band Salad Safari |
| 4/29 | Academic/Athletic Honors Night |
| 4/30 | Arbor Day Junior High Band Concert |

*Activities are subject to change and Restricted Admittance may be announced due to COVID-19.

Elementary News
Your Proud Principal: Drew R. Wagner

Engaging + Learning + Achieving = Productive PIONEERS!

Batter up! In the game of baseball it’s not about the score after each inning. It’s about the score at the end of the game. I would like to invite you to walk with me through this analogy of what this has looked like this school year. We started in the minor leagues and we transition to the majors with dedication, positivity, and teamwork. Here we go! Play ball!

Spring Training. Getting ready to start a school year with appropriate resources to assist students was a priority. It was not necessarily about the practice that needed to happen. It was about the different preparation we had to accomplish to take on the next level of competition (COVID). We did not know what this year was going to look like, but we trained to take on this challenge and win.

First Inning-Fourth Inning (First and second quarter). The school year started with many changes. Changes that we all wanted to run from and steal the next base hoping that base was a better place to be. Instead we did not steal because we made decisions based off of research, best practice and being safe. We are always trying to protect our team by equipping them with the best helmet and gear to come to the plate and get a hit. These innings are key to a successful start that builds positive momentum into the middle of the year. Success is not given it is earned by a dedicated team of professionals that take their job serious everyday.

Fifth-Ninth Inning (Third and going into fourth quarter). As we entered the third quarter the hope of change came to fruition. That hard work for a positive change started to come together. We started to get a few more runs in and change the momentum of the game. We are finally starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel. All that hard work, positivity, and dedication is paying off. You know what else is paying off, the team’s training and growth mindset. Our bats are on fire! The runs are pouring in like a summer thunderstorm. As we swing into the eighth and ninth inning that same mindset will safely get us to the climax of our game. We will end this game (school year) even stronger than we started it. Our resiliency and grit to change will continue to move us to the winner circle.

Get ready for one of the biggest wins in history!!! That is what we do! Then be ready to repeat history with the hard work we have in front of us.

With this analogy aside I wanted to provide a few more updates that are happening around the building.
-Spring Music Concert Update. After researching area schools and seeking feedback we have decided to hold a virtual music concert. Mrs. Geisler and Ms.Bryan will be creating a virtual concert to post to classroom teachers communication platforms by April 15. Be on the look out for this unique experience.
-Field Day. This event is still in discussion. More to come soon.

Thank you for your support during this time. It truly enhances the learning environment for our students. Let’s continue to gain the biggest wins in history as we move forward. We appreciate you!



- Kindergarten Roundup is scheduled for April 23, 2021. If you have registered, information will be coming in the mail. If you have not registered, contact the Elementary School at 402-468-5714 to be included.



Nebraska’s Holiday
April 30,2021

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.