



PFE News

Greetings from Pioneers for Education! The school year is in full swing and so are we! It was so great seeing new and familiar faces at Back to School Night. Thank you to everyone that stopped by both the PFE and Walk-a-Thon tables. A huge thanks to the Calhoun Market food truck for serving up delicious homemade ice cream, it was a big hit! Our Membership Drive is underway. You can find information on becoming a PFE member in Thursday Folders, on our PFE Facebook Page, on the school website, or by contacting us directly at pioneersforeducation@gmail.com. Come join this fun group and help create memorable experiences for the students and staff of Fort Calhoun Community Schools. Corporate Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Any businesses wanting more information please reach out to an officer or email PFE. September is shaping up to be a busy month. The Walk-a-Thon will take place September 17th. Fundraising has already begun and our Pioneer Family is rocking it! Keep those donations coming in! Other events to look forward to are our Summer Bridge Completion Prizes and the Homecoming Parade on September 24th. The next Pioneers for Education meeting will be held Monday September 20th at 6:30pm. Please show your support and attend the meeting!

Your Officer Team: Brad Earley- President, Matt Reichert- Vice President, Shannon Pokorski- Treasurer, Joey Iwen- Secretary, Nicole Duros- Communication Coordinator



SKILLS USA HOG ROAST
SEPTEMBER 24, 2021
4:30-7:00 PM

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE
FROM ANY
SKILLS USA MEMBER



COMMUNITY WEIGHT ROOM USE

The high school weight room is available for use by District patrons. A fob is issued for a fee of \$50.00 which renews yearly each June 1st. If you have any questions contact Mr. Andrew Christensen at 402-468-5591.

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 updating your Student Profile or calling your child's respective schools.



HAPPENINGS

9/1	Picture Day
	Band @ State Fair
9/6	Labor Day - NO SCHOOL
	Band in Septemberfest Parade
9/13	Budget Hearing
	School Board Meeting
9/17	Elementary Walk-a-Thon
9/24	Homecoming
	Skills USA Hog Roast
9/24-26	Alumni Homecoming Weekend
9/25	Homecoming Dance

OPTION ENROLLMENT 2022-23

The Option Enrollment application period for the 2022-23 school year is now open through March 15, 2022. Forms are available on our website or at the school offices. The School Board sets class size and program parameters in February/March and according to State law, all applicants must be notified one way or the other by April 1st. Applicants are taken on a first-come, first-serve basis.



The Fort Dispatch

Volume 31 No 2

Fort Calhoun Community Schools

September 2021

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Off and Running

It is hard to believe we are already more than three weeks into the school year. Teachers, students, and staff are off to a great start and are working hard. There is a lot of planning and preparation that goes into the start of a school year. Many people are hard at work so when the students walk in the doors everything is ready to go. The maintenance and grounds crew have spent a lot of time getting the outside looking sharp, by the way that is one person, we are looking to hire a grounds person if you know anyone interested. The custodial crew has the inside of the building ready and have worked with the teachers to get the right number of desks, tables and chairs and other furniture and equipment ready. The teachers have begun classroom lessons and gone through professional development and safety training. Bus drivers have also done training, so students are ready to ride to school. The cooks and kitchen staff are prepared as they feed approximately 800 hundred students a day in about three hours. Pretty amazing. The secretaries have the never-ending job of, well that's all that needs to be said, they literally have the never-ending job. Paraprofessionals are ready to work with students and play a crucial role in our school system. The administrative team and many others work to get the system started and the running as smoothly as possible. Lastly, I would like to send a special thanks to our school nurses who continue to provide us with amazing care and guidance in what has not been the best possible of circumstances.

While getting my Ed.S. I was taught a philosophy of "ready, fire, aim". The premise is you must get it started and guide it as the situation calls for. This past year and through today the target is ever changing. We will continue to take aim as we start this school year and move through it one day at a time.

Thanks to everyone that helps make this happen, you are appreciated.

Jerry Green
Superintendent
Fort Calhoun Community Schools



WELCOME TO FORT CALHOUN

Our community is growing and we want to be prepared. We are 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. 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.

Elementary News
Your Principal: Drew R. Wagner



WALK & TALK IS COMING

The elementary Walk & Talk will start on Tuesday September 7th from 7:45 to 8:00 AM and will continue each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday throughout the school year. Students who participate in the breakfast program should eat first and then join in. Wear comfy shoes for some fast dancing, walking & talking. We will social distance.

AFTER SCHOOL APPLIED SCIENCE PROGRAM

The After-school Applied Science program registration response was overwhelming and considerably more than the sixty spots we had opened. We are sifting through the registrations and will have the participants selected by the end of this week. All people who registered will receive emails informing them whether or not they were accepted into this first pilot program and the time slots if they did. If you are not a part of this first pilot, know that we are working to have an offering second semester and those not participating in this first semester pilot will be prioritized.

Thank you for your interest and you will from us.

Dr. Johnson, Fort Calhoun Community Schools Foundation

UNITED WE WALK
Fort Calhoun 2021 PFE Walk-a-Thon

Fort Calhoun Elementary School in partnership with Washington County Bank and Memorial Community Hospital & Health System will again spearhead their Walk-a-Thon. Students will be collecting donations for their walk and also are checking every nook and cranny for loose change to fuel the coffers. The goal for This year is \$15,000 to support Fort Calhoun Elementary School and the fantastic annual activities. Prizes are being awarded to the students and classes who collect the most donations.

If you wish to donate to a student's total you may donate at
<https://pfe.formstack.com/forms/walkathon2021>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 6	Labor Day-No School
September 17	Walk-a-Thon



Andrew Christensen
Assistant Principal/AD

Fall activities are off to a great start and we are excited to watch our students compete in the sports/activities they love! Thank you for all the support this fall and continue to come out and support our Pioneers!

As we move through fall activities, I want to give everyone a reminder that winter sports are right around the corner. Please know we are dependent upon the NSAA, Three Rivers Health Department, and the NDE to establish our winter plans. Information continues to come and change, and we will communicate through the fall and winter seasons. Our coaches are going above and beyond to provide a safe environment for our students in the weight room, skill development, practices, and games.

Winter Physical Form Information: I want to remind parents of students who plan to participate in athletics this winter in grades 7-12 need to submit their physical to the main HS office. The sports physical must take place after May 1, 2021 to qualify them for the 2021-2022 school year. The specific line we are looking for is "the athlete is cleared without restrictions to participate in athletics." Any student that has a 2021 fall Sports Physical does not need a new physical form for winter activities.

Winter Sport Start Dates:

- High School Basketball and Wrestling- Monday, November 15th
- Junior High Boys Basketball- Monday, October 25th
- Junior High Girls Basketball- Monday, January 10th
- Junior High Wrestling- Monday, January 10th

Pioneer Fans: A live streaming system will be offered through nfhsnetwork.com. A camera has been installed in our competition gym and football field. With a subscription, fans will have access to watch live activities at Fort Calhoun High School. A portion of the subscription comes back to Fort Calhoun Schools.

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

Fort Calhoun Season Passes are still available at Jr./Sr. High games and in the High School office:

- Family- \$110
- Single Adult- \$50
- JH/SR Student- \$30
- Elementary Student- \$20

Good luck to all of coaches and students this fall! Watching our student athletes compete in fall activities has been outstanding. Go Pioneers!

Mr. Christensen

MR. NICK WEMHOFF
Principal

We have completed our third full week of school already, where does the time go? It has been awesome to see our students here working hard everyday. As we enter the month of September we have seen grades hitting the grade book, NWEA testing come and pass, and HS and JRH sports seasons in full swing. In the next few paragraphs, I highlighted a few things I think everyone should be aware of.

Academic eligibility begins Tuesday, September 7th. Any student failing one or more classes will be ineligible to compete in any school-sponsored activity. Students who are ineligible are still expected to attend practices and games. If they participate in an activity that would leave school before the end of the school day, they are not allowed to miss school time when academically ineligible and would not be able to travel with the team. As soon as their grades are all back to passing, they are immediately eligible to participate in competitions.

The HELP process for students who are missing homework is in place again this year. For grades 7-8, that will be on Fridays from 1:30-2:30. For grades 9-12, that will be after school until 4:15 Monday - Thursday. HELP is designed to assist your child academically by giving them time to complete missing homework. Our goal is for students to have all homework completed which increases their probability of passing their classes.

Homecoming week will be here soon. Homecoming is the week of September 20th. The homecoming parade and pep rally are currently scheduled for Friday, September 24th. The parade will take place down 15th street as it has in the past beginning at 12:30 pm. The homecoming pep rally will be at the football field immediately after the parade. The homecoming dance will be held on Saturday, September 25th at the HS. Information regarding the dance will be shared with students as we near that date.

“Your success and happiness lie in you”.-Helen Keller

1st Annual Pioneer Homecoming Weekend!

September
24th - 26th



Sponsored
by

FORT
CALHOUN
FOUNDATION

Bringing Fort Calhoun Alumni & Community Together!

Schedule of Events

FRIDAY NIGHT

7 PM Homecoming Football Game
8 -11 Pioneers Alumni Pizza Reception

SATURDAY

9 AM Pioneer Homecoming Golf Tournament @ River Wilds Golf Club
1 PM Pioneer Fest (Lunch & Family Fun) @ The Longhorn
2 PM Pioneer Homecoming Cornhole Tournament @ The Longhorn
2 - 4 Tours at the Elementary & High School

SUNDAY MORNING

8 - 12 Knights of Columbus Pancake Feed @ Schwertley Hall
More information for tournament sign-ups and events to come!
(Stay tuned to our Facebook page & website - fortcalhouncsf.org for updates!)
All proceeds benefit the Fort Calhoun Community Schools Foundation

We hope to see you there- it's going to be a great time!



Girl Scouts have begun for this year. If you are interested in joining contact Anne Pierce at 402-639-4256 or attend the first meeting Friday September 10th 1:30-3:30 at Pioneer Park.

FCYSO BOYS BASKETBALL REGISTRATION 2021-22

Registration is open now through Friday 9/17. For registration and information go to <https://calhounyouthsports.com> or tjoconnor@ftcpioneers.org

Skills camps begin the last week of October for grades 3-6



Engaging + Learning + Achieving = Productive PIONEERS!

Nondiscrimination Policy 3053

The School District does not discriminate on the basis of prohibited factors in employment and educational programs/activities. The School District affirmatively strives to provide equal opportunity for all as required by:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 -prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin
- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended -prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, or national origin
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 -prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender
- Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA) as amended -prohibits discrimination on the basis of age with respect to individuals who are at least 40
- The Equal Pay Act of 1963 as amended -prohibits gender discrimination in payment of wages to women and men performing substantially equal work in the same establishment
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 -prohibits discrimination against the disabled
- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) -prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in employment, public service, public accommodations and telecommunications
- The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) -requires covered employers to provide up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to “eligible” employees for certain family and medical reasons
- The Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978 -prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions
- The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) -provides job protections and reemployment rights to military reservists and National Guard members called to active duty
- The Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act (FEPA) -prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including pregnancy), disability, marital status, and retaliation
- Nebraska Age Discrimination in Employment Act (Age Act) -prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of age for those individuals who are over 40 years of age
- The Equal Pay Act of Nebraska -prohibits discriminatory wage practices based on sex
- The Nebraska Equal Opportunity in Education Act -prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex (including pregnancy) by any educational institution
- Veterans Preference Law (NEB.REV.STAT§§ 48-225 to 48-231) -stipulates categorical preferences for employment for military veterans and for the spouses of disabled veterans

Additional School Board policies prohibit harassment and/or discrimination against students, employees, or patrons on the basis of sex, race, color, ethnic or national origin, religion, marital status, disability, age, pregnancy, and any other legally prohibited basis. Retaliation for engaging in a protected activity is also prohibited.

Any person who believes she or he has been discriminated against, denied a benefit, or excluded from participation in any district education program or activity may file a complaint using the district’s complaint procedures.

Inquiries regarding compliance with any of the laws referred to in this policy may be directed to the superintendent or to the district’s Title IX and/or Section 504/ADA Coordinator.