

Fort Calhoun Community Schools
Box 430
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023

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Fort Calhoun, NE 68023
Permit #4



FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT’S OFFICE

The Power of Thank You!

It seems simple enough and easy but many times it gets missed. Sometimes on purpose but other times it is just an oversight or we get caught up in the moment and the opportunity passes by. The moment might be gone but I don’t think it is ever too late to say, THANK YOU. Thank you to our students who come to school with an attitude to learn and compete. Thank you to the teachers and coaches who push our students to reach beyond what they believe they can accomplish. Thank you teachers, coaches, support staff and all who tolerate little negativity and stand tall for ownership and responsibility. Thank you to the kitchen crew and custodial staff who somehow feeds and cleans up after 800 students a day. Not an easy job. Thank you to the bus drivers who drive our students safely to their homes and events. Thank you to the secretaries and office staff who keep it all together and give us the materials needed to do our jobs. Thank you to the administrative staff who provides each other with the support to get us through what can seem like some impossible times. Thank you to the parents for allowing us to do our very best for your children. Although we are not always in agreement, I feel confident in saying that we all want what is best for your child and work very hard to provide a rigorous, safe, and caring educational environment. Thank you to everyone who works so hard to raise, educate and lead the young men and women of today.

Jerry Green
Superintendent
Fort Calhoun Community Schools

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 then applicants are taken on a first-come, first-serve basis. According to State law, all applicants must be notified one way or the other by April 1st.

TITLE IX INFORMATION

Fort Calhoun Community Schools Board of Education’s Policy 3057 addresses 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.

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.



As more and more of the schools’ information is sent by electronic means, it is imperative that all pertinent contact information for parents/guardians is up to date. Contact your child’s school with any new or updated phone numbers, e-mail addresses or text information.



Mr. Andrew Christensen
Assistant Principal

Pioneers,

Important Activity Dates:

- Basketball
 - o February 8th- Parents Night
 - o Girls Subdistricts- February 14, 15, 17
 - o Boys Subdistricts- February 22 & 24
- Wrestling
 - o January 27th- Parents Night and Youth Night
 - o Districts- February 11 & 12
 - o State- February 17, 18, & 19
- Spring Sports
 - o Practice starts on February 28th for high school baseball, golf, and track
 - o Practice starts on March 21st for junior high track.

Spring Activities: 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 Winter seasons. Our coaches are going above and beyond to provide a safe environment for our students in the weight room, skill development, and practices.

New Gym Activities Only- 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. The live stream is only in the new gym. We will play as many games in the new gym as possible, but some games will have to be played in the old gym without the live stream.

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

Thank you,

Andrew Christensen
Assistant Principal/AD

*****Follow all our athletes and their accomplishments through the Sports Twitter page on our website under “Pioneer Pride”.**



Fort Calhoun Community Schools has positions open for both the remainder of the 2021-22 school year and beyond, and for the 2022-23 year.

Immediate Openings 2021-22 and beyond : 1/2 Time Accompanist - 1/2 Time Office Assistant, Para professionals, Part time Elementary Food Service, Substitute Food Service.

Beginning the 2022-23 school year. Fort Calhoun High School---9-10 Math, 9-10 English-Social Studies, 11-12 Special Education, Head Volleyball Coach. Assistant coaching is also available with all positions. Fort Calhoun Elementary School---2nd Grade, 5th Grade, Head Volleyball Coach. Assistant coaching is also available with all positions.

To apply log on to our website, fortcalhounschoools.org, “About”, “Human Resources”, “Job Openings” and follow the instructions. Veterans Benefit, EOE



Elementary News

Mr. PJ Mallette
Interim Elementary Principal

Wow, the holiday season came and went. I hope everyone had time to reflect and cherish the time spent with loved ones. This school year continues to present its own challenges in a variety of manners but there is nothing we can't overcome together. One of my mentors always told me during obstacles or challenges we face to always be curious before critical. I want to take the time to challenge each one of you to be curious before critical as well. This direct communication approach is a key component to our success as we all want what is best for our students at the end of the day. We are in this together.

I would like to take a moment and celebrate some students. We recently held our Fort Calhoun Elementary Spelling Bee. There were 16 contestants throughout 4th, 5th, and 6th grade that earned the privilege to spell at the school level. All our contestants were brave for putting themselves out there to spell in front of the entire school. I couldn't be more proud of them! Our overall winners will represent Fort Calhoun Elementary at the Washington County Spelling Bee on February 3rd. Gabrielle Muse in 4th grade was our Champion! Our second-place winner was a 6th grader, Sean Waters.

Lastly, I want to thank everyone for continuously supporting what we do, we couldn't do it without you.
Go PIONEERS!

Important Dates:

February 1: Preschool Application is live
February 3: Washington County Spelling Bee
February 11: Book Fair Starts
February 16/17: Early out; Parent-Teacher Conferences
February 18: No School

Elementary Student Council will be collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House from February 14-18. Give them to your elementary student to return for a chance at being the classroom winner.



2/17

2/18
2/18-19
2/21

2/1-28 Preschool Registration for 2022-23 open
2/11-17 Elementary Book Fair
2/14 Happy Valentines Day School Board Meeting
2/16 Parent Teacher Conferences
Both Schools-Early Out
Elementary Parent Teacher Conferences
Both Schools-Early Out
No School
State Wrestling
President's Day



Preschool registration will take place from February 1st through March 1st 2022.

To Apply: <https://forms.gle/r6VDM2r8YHo6YpoV9>

MR. NICK WEMHOFF
Principal

I am excited to announce that Fort Calhoun High School is again offering John Baylor's OnToCollege ACT test prep courses this year to all of our current juniors. It is important to us that we give all our students the best possible opportunity to maximize their ACT scores. ACT scores can have an enormous financial impact on the future of our students who decide to attend a two or four-year college. Every high school junior student across the state of Nebraska is required to take the ACT this spring. The test date for Fort Calhoun is set for Tuesday, March 22nd, please make sure you mark your calendar. If you have any questions regarding the ACT this Spring, please feel free to stop in and see Mr. O'Connor during Parent-Teacher conferences. He is the ACT coordinator for the HS and can help answer any questions you may have.

Speaking of Parent-Teacher conferences, they are scheduled for Wednesday, February 16th at the Junior-Senior HS. Parents are invited to stop in and see teachers between 2:00 pm and 8:00 pm. Detailed information regarding Parent-Teacher conferences will be coming soon.

*"Your success and happiness lie in you."
-Helen Keller*



At the Omaha Northwest Pisasale Wrestling Invite, Ely Olberding got his 100th win --- He is also the **Conference Champion** in his weight class!

Tyler Eastman, Brooke Johnsen and Jacob Rupp have all been selected as members of the "Nine Who Shine" feature of the *Enterprise*.

Grayson Bouwman and Bria Bench were both listed as "Prep Notables" for Basketball in the Omaha *World Herald*.

Aiden Tinkham is the Junior High Spelling Bee Champion. Tacey Belina is the Runner-Up. Both will represent Fort Calhoun Junior High at the Washington County Spelling Bee.

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 or register at the high school office.



**Pioneer Adventure Club
Summer Programs**

Full Time Care -

M-F 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM

May 23-July 1 and July 8 - August 5 (or the Friday before school starts). Full time care automatically enrolls your child(ren) into all 4 Summer camps.

The camps are: Pioneer Planters, Around the World, To Infinity and Beyond, and Blast to the Past.

To register or for information go to the Foundation's website:
<https://www.fortcalhouncsf.org>

The Foundation is also taking applications for their After School Applied Science Program. Contact them at:
foundation@ftcpioneers.org

The *Fort Dispatch* is published every month. Print editions are mailed to District patrons 4 times each year. Every edition is also on our website under "About", then "Publications".



PFE News

Greetings from Pioneers for Education! We are excited to get the creativity flowing in February! Registration for Art After School will open up on February 7th, with sessions beginning February 28th. This program is a big hit with students and spots fill up fast. We are happy to offer two sessions this semester. Another creative program happening this month is Original Works. This is a really great opportunity to get your child's artwork immortalized on a wide variety of fun products! Information will be coming home in Thursday Folders and be posted to our FaceBook Page with more details on both of these programs. The PFE Officer Team spent last month working hard behind the scenes to plan fun and exciting events for our Pioneer Families! Donuts with Dad, One School One Book, PFE Family Night Out, and Movie Night are some of the upcoming events to look forward to. If you would like to add your input or expertise to PFE events, join us at our next meeting. We are a fun group with the ultimate goal to put smiles on kids faces, provide activities the whole family will enjoy, and support our amazing teachers and staff as much as possible! If you like to spread kindness and joy then you're the volunteer we need to continue to offer these events. Come have fun with us! The next Pioneers for Education meeting will be held Monday, February 21st at 6:30pm. You can find information on becoming a PFE member on our PFE Facebook Page, on the school website, or by contacting us directly at pioneersforeducation@gmail.com.

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



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 correct by updating your Student

MEAL BENEFIT APPLICATIONS

Because of the COVID pandemic and schools' situations nationwide, the USDA extended the waivers to schools to furnish free meals to all school age children through the 2021-22 school year. Fort Calhoun Community Schools, under the direction of the Nebraska Child Nutrition Program, will provide free first school meals to all students K-12. Letters were sent to all households explaining the program at the beginning of the school year. Let us know if you have questions.

Even though first meals are free, there are EBT, scholarship, carryover meals, fee waiver, SCHIP, and or grant opportunities for families and students who would qualify for meal benefits. If you feel this would be a benefit, we urge you to complete the "Free and Reduced-Priced Meal Application" that was sent home with each student at the beginning of the year. It is also available on our website under Food Services.



**Making a Difference
with Every Meal**



Visit our website at
www.fortcalhounschoos.org