

**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](mailto:foundation@ftcpioneers.org)

**OPTION ENROLLMENT 2022-23**

**Option Enrollment for the 2022-23 school year closes March 15, 2022.** Forms are available on our website or at the school offices. The School Board set class size and program parameters in February 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.

**WELCOME TO FORT CALHOUN**

Our community is growing and we want to be prepared. We are reaching out to families with or without 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. Thank you.



**March is Music in the Schools Month**

Come see our students perform in the concerts and programs scheduled during March.

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".

**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.

**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](http://fortcalhounschoools.org). Go to "About, Board of Education, Policies" and scroll down to Policy 3057-Title IX.



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.



**FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

**GUNG HO!**

One of my favorite books is by Ken Blanchard and Sheldon Bowles called *Gung Ho!* It is an excellent book that talks about motivating and creating energy in every person in the workplace. The book is based on three principles observed in nature.

1. The Spirit of the Squirrel – Everyone's job is important, everyone's job has purpose related to the goal. If the squirrel doesn't gather food for the winter they will die thus making all work critical to the success of the goal. Understanding your work is worthwhile gives people self-esteem.
2. The Way of the Beaver – This gives ownership to the workers on how to accomplish the goal. Leadership sets the rules on how the game should be played and who the players should be. The game is then left in the hands of the players to work together to accomplish the goal. Creating high obtainable expectations challenges your people to do their very best.
3. The Gift of the Goose – As a flock of geese fly over you hear honking, this is the geese cheering each other on. Complimenting each other and celebrating successes helps build enthusiasm in the work place. True congratulations cannot be overdone. With everyone cheering everyone on, you have created a work place that will achieve great success.

I surely have not given these three principles justice but after reading the book it certainly has inspired a Gung Ho attitude in me. Remember all work is critical, build a strong team and let them execute the work and celebrate all success, small and large.

**GUNG HO!!**

Jerry Green  
Superintendent  
Fort Calhoun Community Schools



Visit our website at [www.fortcalhounschoools.org](http://www.fortcalhounschoools.org)

Mr. Andrew Christensen  
Assistant Principal  
Athletic Director



Pioneers,

**Important Activity Information & Dates:**

- Basketball
  - Congratulations to the Boys Basketball Program for qualifying for state with a school record 20 wins. They will play on Tuesday, March 8th. More details TBA.
- Wrestling
  - Congratulations to Ely and Lance Olberding for qualifying for State Wrestling. Ely medaled in 5th place and Lance medaled in 4th place. Both Ely and Lance surpassed their 100th win this season! That is an incredible feat as a junior in high school.
  - Our Fort Calhoun Junior High Invite will be held on Friday, March 4th at 4:00pm.
- Spring Sports
  - Practice starts on February 28th for high school baseball, golf, and track
  - 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.

**Fort Calhoun Community Weight Room Information:**

- A family fob can be purchased in the high school main office for \$50
- It is for immediate household family members only
- Guests are not allowed- family only
- To purchase a fob, you must be 18 years +, and be a high school graduate
- No students should be in the weight room at any time without supervision
- Open Monday-Friday 6:00pm-10pm & 8:00am-10:00pm on weekends

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, Food Service, Substitute Food Service.

To apply log on to our website, [fortcalhounschoools.org](http://fortcalhounschoools.org), "About", "Human Resources", "Job Openings" and follow the instructions. Veterans Benefit, EOE

**Elementary News**

Mr. PJ Mallette  
Interim Elementary Principal

Happy March!

As we enter March, that usually means nice weather is around the corner. It also means most people are antsy to spend more time outside! As we enter the last couple of months of the school year, I would like to highlight a few words that come to mind: grit, continual growth, and relationships.

**Grit:**

Grit focuses on courage and resolve, or the strength of character a person has. I see students, teachers, and parents showing a ton of grit this time of year. With content becoming more rigorous, less outdoor recess time, and more challenges, I see everyone continuing to fight through. Remain gritty!

**Continual Growth:**

This is a process that exists without an end. This is necessary for education and learning to take place. A big part of continual growth is reflecting (speaking from experience). Our teachers continue to do a great job reflecting with students as well! With the fast-moving pace of society, this skill oftentimes gets overlooked.

**Relationships:**

The way two or more people are connected, or the state of being connected. Continue to build relationships as it is a bridge to do what is best for our students! The relationships we are building impact our students in a positive or negative way, I know which way I'd like to impact them! We continue to be in this together!

Another thing that spring weather brings is spring testing which will happen towards the end of April. Spring testing is a great opportunity for students to show their growth in certain areas, but don't forget to celebrate the informal proof of growth your students are experiencing weekly! Lastly, please see below for important upcoming dates, and thank you for your support, we couldn't do it without you!

**Important Dates:**

- March 1: Preschool Application Process Closes
- March 9: Talent Show
- March 10/11: No School
- March 18: Donuts with Dad

**MARCH 2022**

- 3/1 High School Band Concert  
Preschool Registration closes
- 3/3 Jr-Sr High Vocal Concert
- 3/8 NO SCHOOL-STATE  
BASKETBALL
- 3/9 End of the 3rd Quarter
- 3/10 Teacher Inservice-No School
- 3/11 No School Spring Break
- 3/14 School Board Meeting
- 3/18 Elementary Band @ Malcolm  
Contest
- 3/19 Prom/Post Prom
- 3/20 First Day of Spring
- 3/26-27 Band Variety Show



**MR. NICK WEMHOFF**  
Principal

The Fort Calhoun Prom for Juniors and Seniors will be hosted on Saturday, March 19th at the Harper Ballroom at Creighton University. The doors will open at 6:30 pm. The coronation of the Prom Royalty will take place at 7:45 pm. The dance is officially over at 10:00 pm. I want to take a minute to thank all those who assist in making prom a great experience for our students, in particular, Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Wellmann. As the junior class sponsors they are critical in ensuring prom is a success. The fundraising, scheduling the DJ, finding a place to host the event along with putting the ceremony together are a few items that go along with the prom.

Post Prom this year will be held at "The Mark" in Elkhorn. There are a lot of activities for our students to participate in while attending post prom this year. The post prom is driven by parents who work very hard at organizing fundraising events, scheduling the site, decorating, purchasing gifts and so much more. There are countless other people who volunteer, bring food, make food, and hang out with our students while staying up all night. And last but not least, thank you to all patrons/businesses in the community who donated money, goods, or services to help keep all our kids safe on this special night.

Prom and Post Prom are great events and wouldn't be possible without the help and hard work of so many people. Thank you to everyone who is a part of the process. This is a special night for our students and an experience they will never forget!



**Mary Blankenship** received a Silver Key and an Honorable Mention in the Scholastic Writing Awards Contest. Both were in Poetry.

Twelve Fort Calhoun Students received 29 awards in the Scholastic Art Awards Contest out of over 2500 entries. Gold Keys were received by **Glenn Hunter, Brooke Johnsen (6), Regina Namuth (2)**; Silver Keys were received by **Ava Bittner, Regina Namuth and Kylie Perfetti**; Honorable Mentions were given to **Gabe Anduze (3), Katie Barta, Ethan Dye (2), Glenn Hunter, Brooke Johnsen (2), Abbey Lienemann, Olivia Mello, Regina Namuth (4), Sasha Robinson and Rowan Roehr**.

Wrestlers **Ely and Lance Olberding** have been busy plying their skills this season. **Lance** got his 100th win at the Pisale Wrestling Invite at Omaha Northwest, was Conference Champion, District Runner Up and placed 4th at State. **Ely** got his 100th win at the Creighton Prep Invite, was the District Runner Up and placed 5th at State. **Ely** also broke school records in Wins/Season, Team Points and Pins/Season. Congratulations to them, their coaches, and the whole team for their hard work this year. Other team members are **Gage Nixon, Levi Lasher, Peyton Lincoln, Owen Miller, Grant Nixon, Alex Schuler, Wes Short, Ethan Shaner, Jessie Hartline and Mason Touring**.

Our **Show Choir, Phenomenon**, took 2nd Place at the Wahoo Court of Champions and received a Gold Award at the NCDA Show Choir Festival. Members are **Will Anderson, Ellie Collins, Haley Conner, Dala Drowne, Eric Ertzner, Bella Irvine, Brooke Johnsen, Cameryn Lewis, Riley Lingle, Payton Pohlad, Natalie Reichert, DeLloyd Robertson, Abigail Russell, Ryan Swierczek, Anna Taylor, Kaylee Taylor, Samantha Thomas and Sophie Thomas**.

**Congratulations to our Boys Basketball Team and their coaches for being District Champions and making their way to the State Tournament!**



Greetings from Pioneers for Education!

-On February 11th the Officer Team had the great privilege of delivering a brand new Circuit Machine with accessories to the Fort Calhoun Elementary teachers and staff. This was made possible by the generous donations collected from our members throughout the year. We couldn't be happier to provide this gift to our very deserving teachers and staff.

-Our Art After School Program is in full swing with the second session registration opening this month. The response to our first session was overwhelming with spots filling quickly. A big thanks to Mr. Paul High Horse and Mrs. Tessa Rutledge for partnering again with the PFE for this fun program.

-Donuts with Dad will be on March 18th at 7am in the Elementary Gym. Feel free to grab Grandpa, Uncle, or Mom if Dad is not available. All are welcome!

-We will be selling desserts at the St. John the Baptist Fish Fry on March 25th. Keep an eye out on how to donate desserts and volunteer. We are excited to get out and see the community at this event.

-The next Pioneers for Education meeting will be held Monday, March 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](mailto:pioneersforeducation@gmail.com).

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

**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 benefits 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**

**Fort Calhoun Community Schools**  
2022-23 CALENDAR  
Adopted February 2022

August, 2022							January, 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
28	29	30	31				29	30	31				
September, 2022							February, 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30		29	30	31				
October, 2022							March, 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1				1	2	3	4
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	26	27	28	29	30	31	
30	31												
November, 2022							April, 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4							1
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
27	28	29	30				23	24	25	26	27	28	29
December, 2022							May, 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1							1
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	28	29	30	31			

  - End of Quarter/Semester  
  - School in Session  
  - NO SCHOOL - Vacation  
  - Staff In-Service  
  - Early Outs: E - 1:15; H.S. - 1:30  
  - Parent Teacher Conference