

Fort Calhoun Community Schools
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U.S. Postage Paid
Fort Calhoun, NE 68023
Permit #4



Volume 34 No 9

Fort Calhoun Community Schools

April 2025

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT’S OFFICE

Thoughts on the Year....So Far

It is a busy time of year. As I write this, we are beyond the midpoint of 2nd semester, and it will soon be summer. Items to remember as second semester flies by:

Over the past several weeks we have been able to have our students represent Fort Calhoun Community Schools on field trips, class outings, prom, post prom, and other events. At all these events the administration has had someone hosting these events make a point to come and let us know we have good kids. This is always good to hear. It says a lot about the community as a whole and the school.

Keep a growth mindset, as we live our lives, we understand that it is not always going to be easy. The mark of a growth mindset is your ability to find success and positivity even when things aren’t quite right. Character has many different names and definitions; in the end the most important thing is to just have it.

Ignore the Critics; control what you can control. You could cure all disease and feed the world, and some people will criticize you for it. Leaders expect to be attacked but they still do what needs to be done. Keep in mind, there is a limit to the madness, be kind.

Stay positive. You are broadcasting energy in everything that you do, is it positive or negative? Your vibe is contagious and impacts the people around you. Maybe ask the question, would you want to hang out with you?

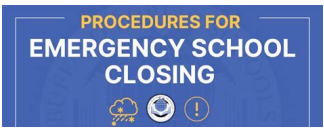
Love the ones you love. I say this as we continue to see heartache and tragedy in our world and in our own lives. Don’t forget to give hugs, allow yourself to be hugged and always have the awareness and courage to say I love you.

Have a great second semester and a great 2025.

Jerry Green
Superintendent
Fort Calhoun Community Schools



Fort Calhoun Community Schools are currently accepting applications for 2025-26 for High School Science with emphasis on Chemistry and Physical Science and a Head Boys Basketball Coach. Apply through Applitrack on our website under, About, Job Openings, and follow the instructions. Applications will be taken until the positions are filled. Subject to a veterans preference. EOE



Fort Calhoun Community Schools use an automated system to notify families of emergencies or weather-related closings. Most of the schools’ information is now sent by electronic means. It is imperative that all contact information for parents/guardians is up to date. Contact your child’s school with any new or updated addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses or text information.

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.

Visit our website at www.fortcalhounschoools.org

WELCOME TO FORT CALHOUN

Our community is growing and we want to be prepared for future needs.

Please help us with your household information by reporting any adults or children in your household. If you have not already notified us through the census (card below) or there has been a change in your household, call the District office at 402-468-5591 with your information.

FORT CALHOUN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
DISTRICT CENSUS RECORD

Resident: Last _____ First _____ Mailing Address: _____ Zip _____
Spouse _____ Residence Address: (if different) _____
Occupation _____ Hrs/Wk _____ Chmty _____ Phone # _____

Other Adults Living at Same Address _____
Date _____ For Office Use Only: _____ Census ID # _____

NAME OF CHILDREN: (3rd to 17 Years)	SEX	DATE OF BIRTH	PLACE OF BIRTH
	M	F	CITY/STATE

Pioneers,

I want to congratulate the winter sports programs on their outstanding efforts this season. We have many athletes who have been recognized with post-season honors, which you can find below! The Spring Sports season is in full swing, and while we’re hoping for no more historical Spring blizzards, we know it’s Nebraska—so we’ll adjust and adapt to whatever weather comes our way. There are plenty of exciting opportunities to catch the Pioneers in action this spring. Please see a few of the big home events listed below. Go Pioneers!

Boys Basketball

- Travis Skelton: All-Conference Honorable Mention, Academic All-State
- Chase Premer: Academic All-State
- Adam Elofson: 2nd Team All-NCC, Academic All-State
- Kade Foy: All-Conference Honorable Mention

Girls Basketball

- Kaylee Taylor: Academic All-State
- Samantha Thomas: Academic All-State
- Raeann Massey: 2nd Team All-Conference
- Maelie Nelson: All-Conference Honorable Mention
- Ansley Elofson: All-Conference Honorable Mention

Girls Wrestling

- Madilyn Larrick: Academic All-State
- Annaleigh McLaughlin: Academic All-State

Boys Wrestling

- Levi Lasher: Academic All-State
- Alex Schuler” Academic All-State



Important Spring Pioneer Events!

Track & Field

- Junior High Home Events:
- April 15th- Quad 4pm
- April 26th NCC Invite 10am
- High School:
- April 29th- Home Invite 1:30pm
- May 3rd: NCC Meet @ Conestoga 10:00 am
- May 13th: Districts @ Blair
- May 21-22: State Meet @ Omaha Burke

Unified Sports Fun at The Fort:

April 25th 9 am: High School Football Field/Track

Golf

- April 3rd: Home Triangular @ River Wild Golf Course 3:00 pm
- April 8th: Home Triangular @ River Wild Golf Course 3:00 pm
- May 8th: NCC Conference Meet: @ Yutan (Country Drive Golf Course)
- May 19-20: Districts @ TBD
- May 28-29: State @ Gering

Baseball

- April 18th & April 19th: NCC Tournament @ Fort Calhoun Ball Fields
- April 25th: Senior Night Home vs South Sioux City
- May 8-10: Districts @ TBD
- May 16-23: State Tournament @ TBD

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,

Jamie Schleifer
Assistant Principal/AD

The Pioneer Post

Fort Calhoun Elementary Newsletter

Hello to our Pioneer Families!

We are excited to enter the fourth quarter. Our teachers and students have done an amazing job navigating through the 2024-2025 school year. There is a lot of learning to be accomplished in this final quarter. During the month of April, students will begin taking their end of the year assessments (NSCAS or NWEA, and Dibels) in reading and math. Additionally, our 5th graders will take the state science assessment. This data will allow us to determine how much our students have learned throughout the year.

With our days winding down for the school year, many grade levels have field trips planned and other activities (Field Day, Test Kick-Off Assembly, PBIS Celebration) planned over the last several weeks of school. Even though students are already thinking about the end of the school year, it’s essential to keep in mind that learning re-mains the top priority while at school. The expectation to be safe, respectful, responsible, and brave remain high. Students have proven that they can meet these expectations each quarter, as more and more students have been able to attend our celebrations at the end of the quarter.

As we wrap up another eventful month, I want to extend my gratitude to our students, staff, and families for their continued support and dedication. March was filled with growth, learning, and memorable moments, and I’m excited to see what the remainder of the school year holds. Let’s continue to work together to make each day meaningful. Wishing you a wonderful spring season, and as always, thank you for being a valued part of our school community!

~ Mrs. Horstman

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- Morning breakfast ends at 8:00 am. It is It is challenging for students to eat their full meal when they arrive at 7:55 am. Please help ensure your child is arriving to school with adequate time to eat, so they can start their learning when the school day begins at 8 AM.
- If your child has alternate pick up plans after school, please contact the office so the message can be relayed to the classroom teacher. It is also helpful when you send an additional message through SeeSaw to the student’s teacher.
- Parents, the bus lane needs to remain open for the buses. Please refrain from parking in the bus lane until after the buses have left school property.
- Please remind your child to utilize the side of the vehicle that is closest to the school sidewalk when entering or exiting a vehicle.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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|----------------|--|
| April 4th | No School for Students |
| April 9th | Preschool Parent Advisory Committee |
| April 17th | Spring Music Concert |
| April 18 | Easter Break-No School |
| April 23-May 2 | NSCAS & NWEA End of the Year Testing |
| April 25th | Kindergarten Round Up - More Information to Come |
| May 2nd | Kindergarten Round Up - More Information to Come |
| May 9th | Field Day |
| May 13th | PBIS Kickball Game |
| May 19th | 4th Quarter PBIS Celebration |



Fort Calhoun Community Schools Foundation
Pioneer Adventure Club
Summer Program Information

Fort Calhoun Community Schools Foundation is again holding their Pioneer Adventure Club this summer. For information contact pac@ftcpioneers.org or landonmiller@ftcpioneers.org. Information was also sent home to elementary families in the most recent “Thursday Folders”.

MR. NICK WEMHOFF
Jr-Sr Principal

It is April! Can you believe we only have 8 weeks left of school? At the same time, we still have 8 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. Many educational events take place in April and May that are highly important. Items include but are not limited to NSCAS (state tests) for grades 7 and 8, scholarship deadlines for seniors, along with everyday homework as students work to complete courses. This is a critical time in learning for all students.

With all that happens at this time of the year, please take a minute to add the following dates to your calendar. Freshman Orientation for current 8th Graders will be on Monday, April 17th at 6:00 pm. The Honors Night and Athletic Banquet will be on April 28th at 6:30 pm in the new gym at the high school.

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 10th at 2:00 pm. I am excited to be able to participate in this ceremony and to celebrate with our families!

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 I do the math going all the way back from kindergarten to April 1st of your senior year, you have completed approximately 16,000 hours of school up to this point. Seniors, you have approximately 175 hours left of school. Don’t leave any task undone or homework unfinished; make sure you graduate. Don’t let 16,000 hours go to waste because you failed to finish strong. FOCUS – FINISH – GRADUATE!

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



The Vocal Music Department will unlock the imaginations of Fort Calhoun citizens when they bring the Cat in the Hat, Horton the Elephant, Gertrude McFuzz, Mayzie La Bird, the Whos in Whoville, and other Seuss favorites to life with their production of *Seussical JR.* combines Dr. Seuss’ tales (...and tails!) using the plinker-plunker of many musical styles – ranging from Latin to pop, swing to gospel, and R&B to funk – as colorful as the classic books. Horton will hear a Who and cheerful chaos will ensue on Saturday, April 12th at 7 pm and Sunday, April 13th at 3 pm at the high school gym. Tickets can be purchased for \$6 at the door or from any musical cast or crew member. Children 5 and under will be admitted for free.

Seussical JR. is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized materials are supplied by Music Theatre International 423 West 55th Street, New York, NY 10019 (212) 541-4684,

Fort Calhoun Community Schools

2025-26 CALENDAR

Adopted 2-10-2025

August, 2025

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August 11-13

Pre-school In-service

Aug 14

School begins - E - 11:15; H.S. 11:30

Sept 1

No School - Labor Day

Sept 29

No School

Oct 17

End 1st Quarter - 45 days

Oct 22

Parent Teacher Conferences -- Early Out

Oct 23

Parent Teacher Conferences -- Early Out

Oct 24

No School - Fall Break - Comp Day

Nov 7

Teacher In-service - No School

Nov 26

Early out

Nov 27-28

No School - Thanksgiving

Dec 19

End 2nd Quarter - 41 days - Early Out

Dec 22-Jan 5

End of 1st Semester - 86 days

Dec 24-28

No School - Christmas Break

Dec 28-Jan 5

NSAA Moratorium

Jan 5

Teacher In-service - No School

Jan 6

School Resumes

Jan 19

Teacher In-service - No School

Feb 18

K-12 Parent-Teacher Conferences Early Out

Feb 19

Elementary Only Parent-Teacher Conferences

Feb 20

Early Out Both Buildings

March 11

Comp Day - No School

March 12-13

End 3rd Quarter - 45 days

Apr 3-6

No School - Spring Break

May 1

Teacher In-service - No School

May 9

Commencement 2:00pm

May 21

End of 4th Quarter - 46 days

May 22

End 2nd Semester 91 days

May 25

Dismissal E - 11:15; H.S. 11:30

Teacher In-service

Memorial Day

1st Sem. Teacher days 91

2nd Sem. Teacher days 96

Total 187

1st Sem. Student days = 86 days

2nd Sem. Student days = 91 days

Total = 177

Emergency Days: May 26, 27, 28, 29

January, 2026

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School In Session

End of Quarter/Semester

NO SCHOOL - Vacation

Staff In-Service

Parent Teacher Conference

Early Outs: E - 1:15 H.S. - 1:30