



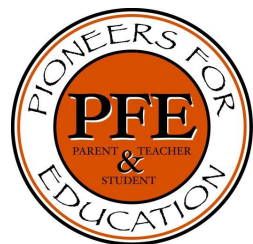
Ely Olberding and Lance Olberding are District Wrestling Champions and earned a trip to the State Wrestling Tournament. At State, Ely wrestled his way to be the **STATE CHAMPION!** Congratulations to Ely and his coaches.

Several of our Art students entered works in the Scholastic Art Awards of Nebraska competition and were recognized. Gold Key Awards: **Gabe Anduze** and **Bailey**

Donovan; Silver Key Awards: **Katie Barta, Kaitlin Smith, Kennedy Bradburn,** and **Bailey Donovan x2**; Honorable Mention was earned by **Sasha Robinson, Jada Wheeler, Kennedy Bradburn x3, Bailey Donovan x2, Evelyn Holmstedt x3, Alyssa Mitchell, Maggie Theisen** and **Nathan Wear**. The pieces and awards are on display at the TAC Building of OPS in Omaha.

The “2020 People, Places and Progress of Washington County” has been published. **Savannah Lukasiewicz** and **Evelyn Holmstedt** were selected as two of the “9 Who Shine” and **Mrs. Kim Szlachetka** was selected as one of the “5 Who Strive”. Congratulations!

The **Boys Basketball Team** is the Sub District Champion and will play in Districts for a spot at State!!!



It's a busy season for Pioneers for Education.

February 7th brought the first ever Sweetheart Dance for Girls, hosted by PFE. 105 students and their special adult guests attended. Dads, Grandpas, Brothers, Uncles, Moms and Grandmas were on the dance floor for 2 hours of nonstop dancing and fun with the girls. The boys' turn is February 28th, for the Glow Crazy dance. PFE hopes to make these dances annual events. Volunteers and support are crucial to see both events continue.

On February 18, speaker and author Garry Clark presented an inspiring message to our 3-6th graders about his personal journey from inner city Washington D.C. to Nebraska. The K-2nd group will have an assembly in March, with Omaha Children's Museum coming to visit.

March 6th will be the Dad's (or grandpa, uncle, special adult's) turn to have donuts with their student at the Elementary building. The next PFE meeting will be held March 23rd, at the High School Library. Several new officer positions are open, and important topics will be discussed at this meeting also. Please attend, all are welcome!

Important upcoming dates for PFE:

March 6th- Donuts with Dad

March 23rd- PFE Meeting at 6:30pm

March 27th- PFE Fish Fry night

April 19th- PFE Carnival at the High School

PFE Officers: Denise Work, President; Sarah Tinkham, Vice President; Michelle Dill, Treasurer; Natalie Cummings, Secretary; Ronee Christensen, Communication Coordinator

March is Music in the Schools Month

Help us Celebrate.
The public is invited and welcome.



For all the latest going on at

“The Fort” visit
our website at
www.fortcalhounschoools.org

March 3	High School Band Concert
March 5	Jr-Sr High Choir Concert
March 9	NCC Honor Band @ Fort Calhoun 6:30 PM Concert
March 28	HS Band Play-a-thon Fundraiser



The Fort Dispatch

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Fort Calhoun Community Schools

March 2020

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Raising Kids in the 21st Century

When Alice and I had our first baby we were really scared about how to take care of this little heavenly creature. So Alice read several books on how to take care of our baby including the book by baby guru Dr. Spock called “Baby and Child Care”. The book was very helpful and despite being very young parents I am glad to report that our kids turned out pretty good (thanks mostly to Alice). With that being said, Alice and I raised our kids in a world void of all of this technology and social media for the most part. Most of the issues we dealt with had nothing to do with some of the crazy things that parents are dealing with these days. The issues of the 21st Century make raising kids tougher than it has ever been. So on March 16th starting at 5:30 we are holding our first annual “Raising Kids in the 21st Century” parent conference.

The conference is an opportunity for you as parents and/or community members to hear experts in a variety of areas discussing topics that may help you navigate though the tough and challenging times of raising kids in today's culture. **The breakout sessions include:**

Digital/Online Safety
Distracted Driving
Bullying, Sexting & Dating Violence
Suicide Prevention
Conquering Anxiety/Depression
Understanding & Helping Student Athletes
Vaping
Raising Sexually Healthy Children
Coping through the Teenage Years

I am excited about this conference and would encourage parents of all ages to attend. We will be providing childcare and chili supper for the night, so please make this a priority as March 16th approaches.

Folks, while the list of breakout sessions above may seem daunting and a bit scary they are all things that our students are dealing with on a daily basis. Be proactive and join us for a night!

Good Luck and God Bless!

Dr. J



Dear Parents/Guardian,

This letter is to provide information regarding our upcoming building construction project. The addition includes: four classrooms and bathrooms off the northwest side of the building.

As the weather gets nice, the fencing will be the first item going up. In the next few weeks there will be fencing going up on the northwest side (gym entrance will have limited accessibility) of the building. The fencing will start on the corner of the exterior of the 2nd grade classrooms, go toward the playground, then wrap around the bus stop, and end along the preschool playground. The playgrounds will remain open during this construction until further notice.

The anticipated date of construction will start mid March depending on weather of course. Most of the construction while students are in session will happen outside and not interrupt the learning environment. The main impact of this construction within the school will occur in Mrs. Leifeld’s kindergarten classroom. Mrs. Leifeld’s classroom will relocate to the music/band room for the rest of the school year. During this time music classes will be in the teachers classroom at the regular scheduled time throughout the week. Band sessions will relocate to the lunchroom at the regular scheduled time at the end of the day. Furthermore, the main goal, at this time, will be to start school according to the master calendar in mid-end of August for the next school year.

If you have any questions please contact Dr. Johnson, the elementary office or myself. Thank you for your patience, flexibility and positive mindset as we go through this building project together.

It’s a great day to be a PIONEER!


Upcoming Events

March 2-6: Book Fair

March 2-6: Preschool Enrollment Registration

March 6: Donuts with Dad sponsored by our PFE

March 12 and 13: No School



Summary of the School Immunization Rules and Regulations

Student Age Group	Required Vaccines
Ages 2 through 5 years enrolled in a school based program not licensed as a child care provider	4 doses of DTaP, DTP, or DT vaccine 3 doses of Polio vaccine 3 doses of Hib vaccine or 1 dose of Hib given at or after 15 months of age 3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine 1 dose of MMR or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age 1 dose of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. Written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted. 4 doses of pneumococcal or 1 dose of pneumococcal given on or after 15 months of age
Students entering school (Kindergarten or 1 st Grade depending on the school district’s entering grade)	3 doses of DTaP, DTP, DT, or Td vaccine, one given on or after the 4 th birthday 3 doses of Polio vaccine 3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine or 2 doses of adolescent vaccine if student is 11-15 years of age 2 doses of MMR or MMRV vaccine, given on or after 12 months of age and separated by at least one month 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. Written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted. If the child has had varicella disease, they do not need any varicella shots.
Students entering 7 th grade	Must be current with the above vaccinations AND receive 1 dose of Tdap (contain Pertussis booster)
Students transferring from outside the state at any grade	Must be immunized appropriately according to the grade entered.

Source: Nebraska Immunization Program, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. . For additional information, call 402-471-6423.

The School Rules & Regulations are available on the internet: http://dohhs.ne.gov/Pages/reg_1173.aspx (Title 173: Control of Communicable Diseases - Chapter 3; revised and implemented 2011)
Updated 01/26/2018

← RAISING KIDS IN THE 21ST CENTURY →

a conference presented by FORT CALHOUN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS


Cyberbullying—Distracted Driving—Vaping—Mental Health

Parenting children in today's world brings a unique set of challenges. Our goal is to educate and empower parents to tackle some of the biggest obstacles they'll face raising a kid in the 21st Century.


Please join us for a FREE event as we work to strengthen our parents and community, ultimately helping our children be more successful.

MONDAY MAR 16TH 5:30PM – 8:45PM


This event is FREE, to register:




Go online to fortcalhounschoools.org then go to Latest News > Register



or you can visit <https://forms.gle/ky2dGNNtUMBxzFmr>



By phone, please call (402) 468-5591



Or scan the QR code!

Session Descriptions

Digital/Online Safety

Presented by: Smart Gen Society

It is critical for parents and students to think about their digital usage while maintaining their privacy and safety, staying true to their authentic self. This session will share preventative and proactive measures to offset the negative implications of a digitally dependent society. Smart Gen Society's goal is to reduce digital-based anxiety, prevent peer and predator exploitation, and ensure online safety and privacy.

Distracted Driving, Seatbelts, and Motor Vehicle Safety

Presented by: Kevin Chase & Keith Bell, Nebraska State Patrol

Whether you're buying your child's first car seat, handing the car keys to your teenager, or are a driver yourself you will benefit from attending this session. Discover the dangerous consequences of distracted driving, the necessity to wear seat belts, and how you as a parent can help instill these critical safe behaviors in your children.

Bullying, Sexting, & Dating Violence: What Every Parent Should Know

Presented by: Gina Hansen, School Security Services, a Nesbitt & Associates Company

Parents and caregivers play a critical role in preventing and addressing bullying, dating violence, and sexting. Open dialogue with kids is critical when it comes to their safety. Join this informative and interactive discussion to learn more about signs, prevention, and strategies for developing healthy children in the 21st Century.

Instilling Hope & Resiliency in Youth: Suicide Prevention

Presented by: Katie Zimmerman, The Kim Foundation

We know that suicide is the second leading cause of death for 10-34 year olds in the United States. This presentation will focus on the risk factors, warning signs, and protective factors associated with suicide. Different ways that individuals can instill hope through positive coping skills and calming strategies along with national and local resources will be presented.

Understanding & Helping Student-Athletes Manage Anxiety & Pressure

Presented by: Becky Meline, LMHP MGCP & Luke Olson, MGCP

Anxiety in youth and teens has quadrupled in the last 10 years and it does not seem to be slowing down. As a student-athlete, your child deals with a unique kind of stress and anxiety around performance and expectations. This presentation will go inside the mind of our student-athletes today to understand what they are experiencing and explore interventions to help them manage the pressure effectively.

What's in the Juice? - Vaping and E-Nicotine Delivery Systems

Presented by: Jill Salzie, PA-C, Nebraska Medicine

Adolescent and teenage use of vaping and electronic nicotine delivery systems continues to rise. According to the CDC, the number of middle and high school students using e-cigarettes rose from 3.6 million in 2018 to 5.4 million in 2019—a difference of about 1.8 million youth. Learn critical information on this rising epidemic including: types of nicotine delivery systems, "What's in the juice?", and the risks associated with the devices.

It's Just That Easy: A Guide to Raising Sexually Healthy Children

Presented by: Lacey Taylor, Three Rivers Public Health

This session will help parents learn how to identify and use "teachable moments" to educate their children on sexual health. This facilitator-guided session will share typical developmental stages and help parents determine age appropriate information for your child. This session is an introduction to a full 2-hour class Three Rivers will be holding at the Blair Public Library on April 1st.

Coping Through the Teenage Years - Your Life, Your Voice

Presented by: Naina Schneckenberger, Boys Town National Hotline

Life can give you and your kids challenges. The Boys Town National Hotline is a free resource and counseling service that assists youth and parents. Find out what teens/young adults are reaching out about on the hotline. This presentation will focus on those issues, as well as the hotline's support and resources available to support parents.

**All presentations will be recorded and will be posted on our school's website along with session handouts: fortcalhounschoools.org/raisingkidsconference

Upcoming Events

3/2-6

3/3

3/5

3/9

3/10

3/11

3/12

3/13

3/17

3/18

3/19

3/21-22

3/28

Preschool Registration

Elementary Book Fair

Band Concert

Jr-Sr High Choir Concert

Fort Calhoun Hosts Conference

Honor Band---Concert 6:30 PM

School Board Meeting

Jr-Sr High Science Fair

End of 3rd Quarter

Spring Break-Inservice - No School

Spring Break - No School

Happy St. Paddy's Day

Booster Club Meeting

Start of Spring

Prom - Post Prom

Band Fundraiser - Play-a-Thon

NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE
(Also refer to Board Policy 4001)

Fort Calhoun Community Schools 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. 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: Dr. Donald Johnson, who may be contacted in writing at 5876 County Road P43, PO Box 430, Fort Calhoun, NE 68023, at djohnson@ftcpioneers.org by email or by telephone at (402) 468-5596 or to the district's Title IX and/or Section 504/ADA Coordinator.

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It Will Be What You Make Of It.

I get to hear a lot about what we are (not) doing right at school and make no mistake I understand we can always make improvements. But here is my thought process; it will be what you make of it. Challenges, difficulty and sometimes bad calls are going to happen. You can complain, place blame and point fingers but the simple fact is it probably won't do much good. What can we make of these situations? First, let's determine the severity of the situation. Is it life and death, is it life altering, will it change my path five or ten years down the road? What is my responsibility for the situation? Do I have all the information? What to make of it? Ask good questions, ask in a responsible adult manner, seek clarification and offer a possible resolution. Take into account the action and not the attitude or emotion. Step outside the picture and look at the situation from outside. What does it look like from there?

This is not directed at any one person or any one issue. It is directed at the thought that we can all take a more positive approach to everything. We can work together for resolution, keeping in mind that we may not agree and some things are just not possible. An equal effort to do what is best for all is what is best for all. In my opinion we have a great school with great families and great things happening, but anytime you have over 330 students and all their parents, challenges will surface.

Please make sure that we all appreciate how hard our students, teachers, coaches, sponsors and parents work as we watch our children grow up. Surround them with positive thoughts and actions, and positive people and lessons that will help them develop into great young people. The world can be hard enough; we all have the ability to make it better by being positive and supportive of everything we are privileged to be a part of.

Please make the most of it.

Spring sport practices start on March 2nd. Athletes must have a physical on file at the high school before they can begin practices. If you have not gotten your physical done, please do so as soon as possible. I am encouraging all of our students go get involved. If you have not signed up for a Spring sport, there is still time. Go out and finish this school year strong!

One thing that we are constantly trying to instill in our students is the ability to be great leaders. Our world is in need of people to step up in tough times and lead with optimism, enthusiasm and positive energy. Leadership is not just about what you do but what you can inspire, encourage and empower others to do.

Two ideals that will help you become a good leader:

People follow the leader first and the leader's vision second. It doesn't matter if the leader shares a powerful vision, if the leader is not someone who people will follow, the vision will never be realized. As a leader, who you are makes a difference. The most important message you can share is yourself.

Great leaders know that success is a process not a destination. John Wooden, the legendary UCLA basketball coach, never focused on winning. He knew that winning was the by-product of great leadership, teamwork, focus, commitment and execution of the fundamentals. As a leader, focus on your people and process, not the outcome.

I believe you become great when you help others become great.
-Jon Gordon

(both ideals were taken from an article written by Jon Gordon.)

Preschool Enrollment Registration Information

Fort Calhoun Preschool
2020-2021 Registration

Registrations are being accepted for admittance into the 2020-2021 Fort Calhoun Preschool beginning March 2, 2020. No applications will be accepted before that date.

- During the school year, preschool meets:
 - o Monday through Thursday
 - o 8:00-11:15 a.m. or 11:50-3:05 p.m.
 - o Preschool consists of 3, 4 and 5 year olds.
- Resident students requiring special education services will have priority admission.
- Neighborhood peer models have second priority.
- Non-resident peer models will be admitted if space is available following resident registration.
 - o If necessary, a lottery system will be utilized to determine peer model placement in the program
 - o Tuition for resident and non-resident peer models is \$140 per month
- Please complete the application below and return to:
Fort Calhoun Elementary School
ATTN: Mr. Drew R. Wagner
1120 Monroe Street
Fort Calhoun, NE 68023

Name of Child: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Parent(s) Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Check one:
Special education needs _____
District Peer Model _____
Non-district Peer Model _____

If you have any questions you may call the elementary office at 402-468-5714.



If you are new to the area or have a change in your household please contact the school with your family's information. We use this information to keep you informed of the happenings in the District and to notify you of important information from the schools. We also publish the *Dispatch* monthly and mail it 4 times per year.

You may either call the school at 402-468-5591 with the information or go to our website www.fortcalhounschoools.org, under School, Enrollment, fill out #4-Census Information and mail it to Box 430 Fort Calhoun, NE 68023 or fax it to 402-468-5593. Call if you have any questions.



Fort Calhoun Community Schools have begun using a new automated calling system to communicate with families. Call your child's respective schools with updated contact information or if you have questions. You now have the option to get alerts sent to your phone, and by e-mails or texts.