Fort Calhoun Community Schools Box 430 Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023



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Volume 29 No 9

#### FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

It's hard to believe this will be the last Dispatch article I write as an employee of Fort Calhoun Community Schools. What an honor it has been to lead this District both as a Secondary Principal and for the last ten years as the Superintendent of Schools. One of my favorite people of all time use to say, "If you love what you do, you will never work a day in your life". So I have been blessed to do what I love to do for the past thirty years. Thank you for your help and support throughout my career here at the "FORT".

With the help of great Board of Education, a great administrative team, great teachers, great support staff, awesome kids, and supportive families we have become one of the best school districts in the State of Nebraska. Because of the support of the community we have state-of-the-art facilities and the latest technology for which to prepare our students for the world to come. We have created a modern day "FORT" for our kids. A place where all kids are accepted, valued and protected.

I was excited when the board selected one of our own, Jerry Green, to become the next Superintendent. Jerry has a passion for the "FORT" and is one of the reasons it has become an outstanding district. With Mr. Green and the rest of his team Nick Wemhoff-Secondary Principal, Drew Wagner-Elementary Principal, Andy Christensen-Assistant Principal/AD, Ashley Dourghtery-Director of Special Education, Paul Wilson-Technology Director and David Genoways-Business Director you have an impactful team that will drive this District to continued success. As always they will be guided by a strong School Board and will need the continued support of this community.

In closing I would like to extend a big thank you to my secretaries Patty Appel and Rose Tinkham because without them there is no way I could have been successful here at the "FORT". Thank you to all of the teachers and support staff for all of their hard work to make the "FORT" a great place to be! And thank you to the many outstanding Board members who have challenged us over the years to be the best we could be! But most of all thank you to my beautiful bride of thirty-seven years Alice, who put up with a ton of stuff over my career here at the "FORT".

Good Luck and God Bless!

Dr. J





Kaitlin Smith and Brant Hilzendeger were named to the Pinnacle Bank/Midand University Outstanding High School Leaders program.

Kennedy Bradburn, Grant Hansen and America Johnson were named by the Omaha World Herald as Honorable Mention in the 2020 World Herald All Academic Program. Morgan Miller received the Key Staffer award from the same organization.

Fort Calhoun Art students received recognition from the Audubon Society of Omaha Art Show. Those named are: Kennedy Bradburn - 2 Excellents and 1 Best in Show 9-12; Bailey Donovan - 1 Excellent, 1-Merit and 1 Best in Show 9-12; America Johnson - 1 Excellent; and Greta Wimmer - 1 Excellent.

The Spring All State Academic selections have been made. They are: Grant Hansen and Morgan Miller - Music; Zach Faucher and Ty Hallberg - Baseball; Savannah Lukasiewicz, Kelsie Premer and John McKennan - Track.

Kennedy Bradburn, America Johnson and Grant Hansen were named by the Omaha World Herald as Honorable Mention in the 2020 World Herald All Academic Program.

> Fort Calhoun Community Schools will continue with the Summer Food Program and furnish breakfasts and lunches through June 30th. Please let us know if you wish to participate by calling 402-468-5591.

Fort Calhoun Community Schools

# What a Ride!



Thirty-four Fort Calhoun Graduating Seniors reported being offered scholarships to post secondary education totaling over \$3,035,700, the highest dollar amount offered to date. Congratulations to you all and all of those important people who have helped you along the way to achieve your goals! In addition 88% of the Senior Class has already earned college credit in a total of 266 classes over their careers.

Madyson Mae Back, Daughter of Bryan & Jennifer Back and Mary & Darren Johnson - Doane University: Doane Community Award, Campus Visit Grant, Volleyball Scholarship, Opportunity Grant, Concordia University: Achievement Award, Character Grant, Augustana University, Academic Enhancement Award

Brett Mason Bennett, Son of Tammy Brown - Metro Community College Aksarben Career Promise Scholarship

Kennedy Marie Bradburn, Daughter of Dawn and Chuck Bradburn - Fort Calhoun Women's Fitness Club Scholarship, American Broadband Hometown Leaders Scholarship, Paul and Bea Kruger Memorial Scholarship, Allen Cemetery Association Pioneer Memorial Scholarship, Midland University - Pinnacle Bank Outstanding High School Leader, University of Nebraska Kearney Regents Scholarship, Creighton University: Founders Award Fr. Joseph Labaj Award, Creighton University Award, University of Nebraska Omaha; Regents Scholarship, Teachers Scholar Academy, Pioneers for Education Scholarship, Omaha World Herald All Academic Program Honorable Mention, Pioneer Outstanding Senior of the Class of 2020

Kyla Rose DeLuca, Daughter of Karman and Paul DeLuca - Creighton University: Creighton University Award, Freshman Merit Award, Fr. Joseph Labaj Award, University of Nebraska Kearney Loper Achievement Scholarship, University of Nebraska Lincoln Husker Power Scholarship, Nebraska Wesleyan University Nebraska Strong Grant, Solomon Lodge #10 Scholarship

Kyle Mason Deyen, Son of Glenda Deyen and Dennis Deyen - University of Nebraska Lincoln Nebraska Achievement Scholarship

Bailey Marie Donovan, Daughter of Traci and John Donovan - Nebraska Wesleyan University Youth Salute Scholarship, Washington County Bank ATM Scholarship, Creighton University CU Award, University of Nebraska Lincoln Foundation Scholarship

Haley Jane Ertzner, Daughter of Cathy and Alan Ertzner -Joseph Heimann Family Scholarship

Jenda Adelicia Gebhardt, Daughter of Theresa and Tony Gebhardt - G.R.I.T. Scholarship, Metro Community College Board of Governor's Scholarship, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Schwertley Scholarship

Carter James Gochanour, Son of Michelle and Tim Gochanour - G.R.I.T. Scholarship

Davan Delmar Goos, Son of Laura Pullen – Fort Calhoun Presbyterian Church Scholarship

Grant Ryan Halford, Son of Annie and Ryan Halford - Metro Community College Future Forward Scholarship, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Schwertley Scholarship

Grant Leighton Hansen, Son of Tiffany and Josh Hansen - Pioneer Fund Foundation Scholarship, Runza Student of the Week Scholarship, University of Nebraska Lincoln Regents Scholarship, University of Nebraska Omaha Regents Scholarship, University of Nebraska Kearney Regents Scholarship, Abes Transport Solutions Voice of the Pioneers Recognition Award, Omaha World Herald All Academic Program Honorable Mention

Bryce Daniel Hirchert, Son of Monica and Tim Hirchert - Metro Community College Aksarben Career **Promise Scholarship** 

**Evelyn Rose Holmstedt**, Daughter of Andrea and Noel Holmstedt - Creighton University: CU Award, Fr. Joseph Labaj Award: Hastings College Academic Scholarship, Open Space Art Scholarship; Northern State UniversityWolf PACT Scholarship, University of South Dakota Coyote Commitment Scholarship

Hailey Rose Howell, Daughter of Lisa and Darrel Howell - Wayne State College Dean's Excellence Award, Metro Community College Academic Excellence Scholarship

Sophia Nicole Irvine, Daughter of Nicole and Chance Irvine - Pioneers For Science Scholarship, Clarkson CollegeYouth Salute Scholarship, Creighton University Creighton University Award, Nebraska Wesley-

an University: NWU Achievement Scholarship, Youth Salute Scholarship, Music Ensemble Scholarship, University of Nebraska Kearney: Nebraska Strong Grant, Archway Scholarship, Pioneers for Education Scholarship, Greater Omaha YLCB, Youth Spirit Award, PEO Star Scholarship

Sara Madison Jabens, Daughter of Karen and Jon Jabens - G.R.I.T. Scholarship, Fort Calhoun Education Association Foundation Scholarship



Dear Parents/Guardian,

COVID-19 WILL NOT TEAR DOWN THE FORT! Why is this statement important? It describes the grit, resiliency and strength of what Fort Calhoun represents. This also provides hope! We need to continue to provide our students hope. That may look differently for each family, but the attempt is worth it. Moving forward I would like to elaborate on a few items of interest. Those items include; my weekly updates on YouTube, Kindergarten Roundup, and having a plan for the plan.

This pandemic has provided me an opportunity to open a line of communication. With the assistance from our Technology Director, Mr. Paul Wilson, we have been posting updated information with what is happening around the building on a weekly basis. As we know life moves on during this pandemic. So I thought I would continue to communicate and ensure you are staying informed. Please check my weekly videos on the elementary twitter account or on our website under "School" then click on the "Elementary" then finally click on "Announcements." Thank you for watching!

There is one event that we are trying to reschedule, Kindergarten Roundup. This activity is vital for our students entering kindergarten for the following year. The process of building relationships, getting acquainted with the students and understanding their individual needs must happen. We are brainstorming different ideas to ensure this happens. Please be looking for more information on this soon.

As we wrap up this school year I know a vast majority can't help but wonder what the start of next school year may look like. Of course we will have a plan to ensure students are being educated at the highest level possible. This plan may include a very thought-out remote learning path to address technology and the learning gaps this brings. It may look like a traditional start of the school year. My point being is we will have a plan for the plan (just in case). The data that will be provided as we get closer to the start of the school year by our Governor, Commissioner of Education, Health Department and KSB Law will guide our final plan. Once we choose the correct action plan to start the school year we will then communicate appropriately. Please continue to stay positive and ready to collaborate.

Lastly, I wanted to provide "shout outs" to my staff, our families, and all other stakeholders during this historic time of our lives. We all came together and deployed our best efforts to ensure students were being educated (of course following recommended guidelines) and taken care of. My last "shout out" is to our STUDENTS! You are greater human beings for going through such a chaotic time in your life. You are resilient, brave, strong, and amazing human beings. I am proud of you! We miss you! Great job being awesome this school year! GO PIONEERS!

Drew R. Wagner

It's a great day to be a **PIONEER!** 

Student Age Group	Required Vaccines			
	4 doses of DTaP, DTP, or DT vaccine			
Ages 2 through 5 years enrolled in a school based program not	3 doses of Polio vaccine			
licensed as a child care provider	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 <sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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.			
0.1	Must be current with the above vaccinations			
Students entering 7th grade	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.			

#### **Elementary News** Your Principal: Drew R.Wagner Engaging + Learning + Achieving = Productive PIONEERS!



#### **IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION**

In Nebraska, children can't attend classes in public or private school until the school has written proof of their immunization status (Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 79-217 through 79-253).

-Immunization records must be maintained for all students, but information on the following three groups needs to be reported: students entering school for the first time (kindergarten or 1st grade); 7th graders; and All out-of-state transfer students (including foreign exchange students

-Some immunizations call for multiple doses of vaccine. For students who have not completed all doses required, state statute allows them to be provisionally enrolled in school if they have received at least one dose of each of the required vaccines prior to enrollment and continue to get the remaining shots as rapidly as is medically feasible.

#### **ITS CENSUS TIME**

Our community is growing and we want to be prepared. We are continuously counting people/students in our District to determine future needs.

**Residents:** Please help us with our count by reporting yourself, children up to 18 years old especially those who intend to be enrolled in Fort Calhoun Schools for next school year, and any other household members. 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. This form is also available on our website.

Resident: Last	First			Mailing Address:	Zip
Spouse				5	
				Residence Address: (if differ	rent)
Occupation		Co	unty _	Phone #	
He/She					
Other Adults Living at Same A	ddress				
Date				For Office Use Only:	
NAME OF CHILD/SOC. SEC. #		ID #	SEX M		PLACE OF BIRTH
(Birth to 21 Years)		1.5	141		CITY/STATE
(Birth to 21 Years)					
(Birth to 21 Years)					
(Binn to 21 Years)					

#### **Policy of Nondiscrimination**

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.

 America Ann Johnson, Daughter of Carol and Cliff Johnson - Paul and Bea Kruger Memorial Scholarship, Two Rivers Bank Business Scholarship, Omaha World Herald All Academic Program Honorable Mention, University of Nebraska Lincoln Husker Traditions Scholarship, Fort Calhoun Presbyterian Church Scholarship
Cole Irving Klabunde, Son of Shawn and John Klabunde – Metro Community College Academic Excellence
Scholarship, University of Nebraska Lincoln O & G Kammerer Scholarship
Savannah Frances Lukasiewicz, Daughter of Kim and Brian Lukasiewicz - Midland University: Music
Scholarship, MU Campus Visit Grant, Academic Merit Scholarship, Wayne State College Dean's Commitment
Scholarship, Washington County Bank ATM Scholarship, Fort Calhoun Booster Club Scholarship, St. John the
Baptist Catholic Church Schwertley Scholarship
Morgan Rene' Miller, Daughter of Angie and Tim Miller - Pioneer Fund Foundation Scholarship, University of Nebraska Lincoln Husker Traditions Scholarship, University of Nebraska Kearney Regents Scholarship, University of South Dakota Coyote Commitment Scholarship, Nebraska
Wesleyan University Nebraska Strong Grant, Omaha World Herald Key Staffer Award
Alyssa Eileen Mitchell, Daughter of Monica Mitchell and Chad Mitchell – Simpson College Presidential
Scholarship, Simpson Merit Grant

 Joshua Cole Nachtigall, Son of Jen and Andy Nachtigall - Metro Community College: Ak-sar-ben Career Promise Scholarship, Academic Excellence Scholarship
Westin Rae Nottlemann, Daughter of Anne Breitkreutz and Roger Nottlemann - Class of 1984 Memorial Scholarship, University of Nebraska Lincoln Husker Power Award, Arizona State University Dean's Award, Coastal Carolina University Coastal Scholar Award, Texas Christian University TCU Family Frog Scholarship
Isaac Joseph Parys, Son of Sarah and Joe Parys - Metro Community College Aksarben Career Promise Scholarship, Nebraska Machinery Corporation NMC Sponsorship Program
Kelsie Della Premer, Daughter of Jennie Meyer and Gregg Premer - Learning with Laughter Scholarship Jolene Cordes, Benefactor, G.R.I.T. Scholarship, University of Nebraska Omaha
Teachers Scholar Academy Scholarship, Skinny Bones Pumpkin Patch Scholarship, Omaha Education Foundation Jennie Memorial Scholarship, Washington County Chamber of Commerce Scholarship
Cameron George Shaner, Son of Kelli and Jeff Shaner - Vernon College Rodeo Scholarship, Washington County Cattlemen Association Scholarship

**Tyler Joseph Strauss**, Son of Liz and Jeremy Wayne and the late Steve Strauss - Nebraska Wesleyan University: Nebraska Strong Grant, Archway Scholarship, Learn, Earn, Serve Scholarship, Book Scholarship, Campus Visit Grant, Wesleyan Grant, Morningside CollegeFootball Scholar Athletic Scholarship, Concordia University Football Scholar Athletic Scholarship, Midland University Football Scholar Athletic Scholarship **Christine Lee Stoa**, Daughter of Penny and Jay Stoa - Doane University Van Hoy Scholarship, Benedictine College Award, Augustana College Academic Scholarship, Drake University Presidential Scholarship, Academic Merit Award; Seattle Pacific University: Dean's Scholar Award, SPU Early Success Award, Drake University Presidential Scholarship

Ashlee Victoria Thalman, Daughter of Jeni and Lee Thalman - Metro Community College Take it Further Scholarship, Nebraska Methodist College Upfront Merit Scholarship; Northwest Missouri State University Green & White Advantage Award, Norwest Academic Merit Award; University of Nebraska Licoln O & G Kammerer Scholarship; Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation Scholarship Maggie Ann-Marie Theisen, Daughter of Heather Theisen and Tom Theisen – Nebraska Methodist College, Upfront Merit Scholarship

**Kaden Michael Therkildsen**, Son of Lisa and Bryan Therkildsen - Morningside University: Football Athletic Scholarship, Founder Scholarship, Midland University Pinnacle Bank Outstanding High School Leader Scholarship, Joseph Heimann Family Memorial Scholarship, Fort Calhoun Booster Club Scholarship, Pioneers For Education Scholarship, Fitzgeralds of Garryowen Scholarship **Kinsley Marie Wimer**, Daughter of Sara Wimer – Central Community College; Softball Athletic Scholarship, CCC Foundation Assessment Advantage Scholarship, Great Plains Communications Family Scholarship

**Allyssa Lea-Louise Wright**, Daughter of Cindy Wright and Matt Wright –College of Saint Mary Dean's Scholarship, Residence Hall Award, Nebraska Opportunity Grant, Catherine McAuley Grant

### Mr. Jerry Green Secondary Principal

## The Challenge

To say the end of the year has been a challenge is an understatement. We are all aware of the challenges of E-Learning, the loss of activities and events, and the unknown of what will the Summer and Fall look like. We have to also recognize the challenges of social distancing and the shut down of businesses. This has all had an emotional, spiritual, social and economic impact on the citizens of, literally, the world.

When faced with all the adversity that comes with this pandemic I have had to challenge myself to find the good, recognize the successes and believe in a better day. This is the challenge I would like to leave you with. I believe we are all fighters, we know how to rise to the challenge. Here are some thoughts:

- Control what we can control, let the rest go.
- Turn "it" into a positive. Make it better.
- Don't be afraid to do things differently.
- Empower yourself, you are capable and worthy.
- Serve others less fortunate.
- Make a connection, reach to someone you haven't talked with for a while.

I have a college buddy that I talk to about three times a year. I bet we have talked, face timed, or texted once a week over the past several weeks. What a great connection this has been for me. It literally makes my heart happy and increases my energy level. We have the power to accept the challenge and make a difference. Good luck to you and may you and your family stay safe.

The High Ability Learners numbers were incorrectly reported in the Annual Report. It should have read State-13%; Fort Calhoun-7.23%.



The mission of the Fort Calnoun Community Schools is

**F**oster learning in an inspiing and caring environment, provide

**O**pportunities for all students to be successful, instill the attributes of

**R**espect and responsibility among staff and students alike, and present students with the

Tools to succeed in life.

The end-of-the year celebrations and programs are posted on our website-fortcalhounschools.org. These include Graduation, Honors Recognition, Local Scholarship winners, Athletic Recognition, the Senior Video and a Show Choir performance.

Prom Royalty was chosen at the "Virtual Prom". Grant Hansen and Kennedy Bradburn were crowned King and Queen, and Harrison Schmitt and Ellie Lienemann were named Prince and Princess.



#### Nick Wemhoff **Assistant Principal, AD**

As we plan for activities over the summer, please know we are dependent upon the NSAA, Three Rivers Health Department, and the NDE to establish our summer plans. Information continues to come and change at a rapid pace. We will communicate as much as possible as information comes out and we have set a plan. If you have questions, I would ask that you reach out to your coach first for information. I look forward to seeing everyone back in the building one way or another through the summer activities!

I want to remind parents of students who plan to participate in athletics next year in grades 7-12, that sports physicals will be different. All 7th graders must have a regular physical but also need to have a sports physical. When you get your regular physical, just request the sports physical at the same time. All incoming freshman also need to have a sports physical. If you are going into grades 8, 10-12, you do not need a sports physical. The sports physical must take place after May 1st to qualify them for the 2020-2021school year. Return a copy of the physical to the high school when you have it. The specific line we are looking for is "the athlete is cleared without restrictions to participate in athletics".

I would like to take a moment to thank the many people who help support our activities here at the Fort: -Mr. Johnson, Mr. Green, and Mr. Wagner, Mrs. Dougherty for all their help and support all year long -Head coaches, assistant coaches, junior high coaches, and volunteers for investing their time in our

- student-athletes
- contributions to our programs.
- to get ready for events
- ready for events.
- -Parents who take time to be a part of their child's extracurricular life.

Our programs would not run as smooth as they do without the support of all of you. Thank you so much for your support of our activities here at the FORT!

Finally, I want to send a special note to those who are retiring at the HS this year. There are no words that can describe all you have done for our students. You have always been there for students in need of a friendly smile or words of encouragement. You have been an inspiration to anyone you have taught or mentored. You have left an everlasting impression on the FORT that will be felt forever.

Thank you Mrs. Bohaboj, Mrs. Young, and Dr. Johnson. I wish you all the best!



-The Booster Club, Booster Corporate Sponsors, and all the Booster Club Members for their

-Patty Appel, Rose Tinkham, Jean Welchert, and Chriss Lloyd for all their work behind the scenes

-Bruce Mattison and Kathy Masloskie for all their hard work making sure everything is set up and

"There is incredible value in being of service to others." - Elizabeth Berg

### Pioneers For Education scholarship winners for 2020 are Kennedy Bradburn, Sophia Irvine and Kaden Therkildsen.