

Fort Calhoun Community Schools
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Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023

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Fort Calhoun Community Schools

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FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

THANK YOU

Where did it go, first semester went by so fast. We have enjoyed tremendous success this semester and that doesn't happen on its own. It takes a wide range of people to put together a great school like Fort Calhoun. From times long ago to our most recent history, people make it happen, please make sure you are taking time to enjoy it. "It" goes by very quickly. I have put together a list of people, that have been instrumental in our success. WE THANK YOU.

- Parent Support – Very important to the success of the school and students.
- Maintenance and Custodial Staff - Inside and out of the building they get it done.
- Transportation Director – Routes, activities, drivers, passengers, all the vehicles, this person is ultra organized.
- School Nurses – Pre-K-12 position, over 800 students and staff. Wow!
- Food Service Director and Cooks – Feeding over 800 students and staff daily.
- Administrative Team – Working together to do the very best for the district.
- Business Director, Technology Coordinator – Keeping all the technology up and running is relentless, and being fiscally responsible is always the goal.
- Teachers/Specialist/Staff - Teaching, educating, caring, and much more.
- Secretaries and Office Personnel - They do it all.
- Students - The reason I became a teacher and stay in this crazy business.

“The dream begins, most of the time, with a teacher who believes in you, who tugs and pushes and leads you on to the next plateau, sometimes poking you with a sharp stick called truth.”--Dan Rather

Abraham Lincoln once said, “The best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time.”

Jerry Green
Superintendent

OPTION ENROLLMENT 2025-26

The Option Enrollment application period for the 2025-26 school year is now open through March 15, 2025. 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.

WELCOME TO FORT CALHOUN

Our community is growing and we want to be prepared. We are contacting families in our District to determine future needs.

Please help us with our household information by reporting any adults and 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

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 Jamie Schleifer at 402-468-5591.

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.



Mr. Schleifer, Assistant Principal/AD



Pioneers,
We had an excellent fall sports season! I would like to congratulate all of our fall sports programs and highlight some of the post-season honors.

Softball

All-Conference:

- **Honorable Mention:** Izzy Greenough, Izzy Nolan, Allison Prunty
- **Second Team:** Addie Benoit
- **First Team:** Kaylee Taylor (Honorary Captain), Tacey Belina, Anna Taylor

All-State:

- **Honorable Mention:** Addie Benoit, Izzy Greenough, Izzy Nolan
- **Second Team:** Anna Taylor
- **First Team:** Kaylee Taylor, Tacey Belina

Volleyball

All-Conference:

- **Honorable Mention:** Sophie Weeks
- **First Team:** Emilee Thayer-Mencke

Cross-Country:

District Champions – Boys Team, State Meet – 5th Place

District Medalists: Girls – Lauren Lammers (13th), Raeann Massey (9th) Boys- Seth Waters (4th), Merritt Olberding (5th), Chris Post-Whiteowl (9th), Will Dennis (10th), Matthew Kelly (11th), Travis Skelton (14th)

Football:

All-District:

- **Honorable Mention:** Dylan Keyser, Adam Elofson, Levi Lasher, Alex Christensen, Alex Schuler, Kade Foy
- **First Team:** Blake Welchert, Colton Miles, Andrew Namuth, TJ DeMilt

As we transition to the winter sports season, below are some notable dates for the Pioneers! Good luck this winter!

Blizzard Blowout Holiday Tournament – January 3rd & 4th Howells-Dodge High School

- Schools competing: Fort Calhoun, Centura, Sandy-Creek, and Howells-Dodge.

Important Activity Dates:

- Basketball
 - o December 20th – Youth Dance Night & 20-year anniversary of the 2005 Girls State Runner-Up.
 - o February 4th- Parents Night/Senior Night – Unified Basketball vs Arlington
 - o February 13th- FCYSO Basketball Night, Post-Prom Lasagna Dinner, WCB Night
- Boys & Girls Wrestling
 - o December 14th – Home Girls & Boys Varsity Tournament
 - o January 25th – NCC Meet – At Fort Calhoun
 - o January 30th- Parents Night and Youth Wrestling Night

Thank you,

Jamie Schleifer
Assistant Principal/AD

-Elementary News-

Dear Families,

This month has been a full of learning and growth within our elementary school. As I visit classrooms, I can witness the enthusiasm of our learners as they interact with new material and reinforce the skills they have already acquired. Our recent parent-teacher conferences were a testament to the power of collaboration. Your engagement and insightful conversations have truly strengthened the bridge between home and school, fostering an enriching environment for our young learners. A heartfelt thank you goes to all the families who participated.

Additionally, your generosity in supporting the Giving Tree has been awe-inspiring. We are immensely grateful for your continued support and dedication. We sincerely appreciate you for being a vital part of your child's journey at Fort Calhoun Elementary School.
~ Mrs. Horstman



Science Curriculum Pilot

Seven of our elementary teachers will be working with new science materials throughout November, December and January to help our building select new science materials for the 2024-2025 school year. Your child will still be learning the same content, however the structure of the

Upcoming Events

- November 27th - Early Dismissal
- November 28th & 29th - No School for Students
- December 10th - Elementary Winter Band Concert @ 7 PM
- December 16th - Elementary Winter Music Concert @ 6 PM
- December 18th - 2nd Quarter PBIS Student Celebration
- December 20th - End of the 2nd Quarter

Reminders

Breakfast ends at 8:00 am. 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.

ATTENTION DRIVERS: Our transportation team would like your help with the corner of 12th and Adams. Please leave plenty of space to ensure the buses can safely make the turn onto Adams St.



Drama Club Community Performance

The One-Act Play *Rue* will be performed on Sunday December at 7:00 PM in the Competition Gym at the High School. The community is invited. Admission is \$3.00 per person.



Preschool Registration for 2024-25:

Opens at 12:00 AM February 1st

Wee Screens: January 24th

-The next Preschool Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled for January 15th at 3:15 in the Preschool Room

MR. NICK WEMHOFF
Principal

As we approach the conclusion of the first semester, it's important to reflect on the significance of finishing strong. The final weeks present an opportunity for students to showcase their hard work and dedication to schoolwork throughout the term. Furthermore, ending the semester on a positive note is more than just completing assignments; it's about reaping the rewards of consistent effort and overcoming challenges. Successfully navigating the academic coursework demonstrates resilience and a commitment to personal growth.

For seniors, having a good finish to the semester is a stepping stone to future endeavors, whether it be higher education or entering the workforce. For underclassmen, it sets the tone for the semesters ahead, building a foundation for continued success. In addition, finishing strong brings about a sense of accomplishment and boosts self-confidence.

I challenge all students to embrace these final weeks with determination and enthusiasm. Whether it's scoring well on these final week's tests or putting the finishing touches on a project, every effort contributes to a positive conclusion. Together, let's celebrate the achievements of the semester and carry the momentum into the well-deserved break ahead. Finish strong and set the stage for an even better second semester!

"Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time." - Thomas Edison



Kaylee Taylor and **Tacey Belina** were named to the *Omaha World Herald* All State Softball Team 1st Team. **Kaylee** was also Class C 1st Team. **Anna Taylor** was named Class C Second team, and **Addie Benoit, Izzy Greenough** and **Izzy Nolan** were named Honorable Mention.

In Volleyball, **Emily Thayer-Mencke** was named All Capitol Conference 1st Team and **Sophie Weeks** was named All Capitol Conference Honorable Mention.

Fort Calhoun's e-Sports Team has once again qualified for the **State Smash Brothers tournament**. Our team consists of **Hawthorne Roehr** and **Trevor DeVries**. Congratulations.

The Fort Calhoun Marching Band finished their season with another **Superior at State**. Also, three Fort Calhoun students have been selected via auditions to this year's **All State Honor Band**. They Are **Connor Holmstedt, Michael Maxon** and **Alex Schuler**.

Fort Calhoun's One Act Play, *Rue*, earned a **Superior** rating at the Midlands University competition. Their technical crew was named "Most Outstanding Technical Crew" and **Samantha Thomas, DeLloyd Robertson, Connor Holmstedt, Natalie Lammers** and **Haley Conner** were named "Outstanding Actors". Nice job thespians!!!

Mr. Bo Hansen announced that **Fort Calhoun's E-Sports Team** took 3rd Place at State!! Congrats to **Trevor DeVries, Hawthorne Roehr** and **Chris Post-Whiteowl**.



PFE News

Happy Holidays!
The PFE has been busy planning for 2025 and we have many great upcoming events. We will take a break from meeting in December and pick back up in January. Our membership drive will close December 5th. We will be drawing for front row seats to the winter concert of your choice for all members, so if you have not joined, there is still time!

- 2/15 – Father daughter dance
- 3/7 – Donuts with Mom
- 4/25 – Spring carnival
- TBD – Mother/Son event
- TBD - Golf fundraiser
- TBD - Original works

Your 2024-2025 Office Team: Liz Springer - President
Sara Nichols - Vice President, Krissy Jorgensen - Treasurer, Raschelle Drumheller - Secretary, Amy Evanich - Communication Coordinator



- 12/4 Medical Careers Club Blood Drive
Post Prom Chili Supper
- 12/6 Winter High School Formal
- 12/8 One Act Play -
Community Performance - *Rue*
- 12/9 School Board Meeting
- 12/10 Elementary Winter Band Concert
- 12/13 Post Prom Lasagna Dinner
- 12/15 High School Winter Band Concert
- 12/16 Elementary Christmas Concert @ High School
- 12/19 Jr-Sr High Winter Choir Concert
- 12/20 End of the 2nd Quarter, 1st Semester
Post Prom Lasagne Dinner
- 12/21-1/6 **Christmas Break - No School**
- 12/23-27 NSAA Moratorium
- 1/6 Teacher Inservice - No School
- 1/7 **School Resumes**



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 Profile or calling your child's respective schools.



Visit our website at
www.fortcalhounschoools.org

- 12/10 Elementary Winter Band Concert
- 12/15 Jr-Sr High Instrumental Christmas Concert
- 12/16 Elementary Christmas Concert
- 12/19 Jr-Sr High Choir Winter Concert

Post Prom Benefit Dinners

- 12/20 Lasagna Dinner
- 2/4 Chili & Cinnamon Rolls
- 2!3 Lasagna Dinner



Come Support our Kids



The Medical Careers Club will be holding their annual Blood Drive on Wednesday, December 4th in the Auxiliary Gym at Fort Calhoun High School. The hours are 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Contact Mrs. Lloyd at the high school at 402-468-5591 to register. Drop-ins are also welcome.