

Niobrara Public School

December 2018

Dates to Note:

December 1 - Wrestling @ Creighton

December 3 – JH Girls BB vs. St. Mary's @ Verdigre; JV Wrestling @ Ponca

December 4 - G/B JV/V BB @ St. Mary's

December 6 - Preschool Xmas Program

December 7 - Wrestling @ Sargent; G/B JV/V BB vs. C/O @ Verdgre

December 8 - G/B JV/V BB vs. Bloomfield @ Niobrara

December 10 - JH BB @ Elgin Public

December 11 - G/B JV/V BB @ Ewing

December 12 - JH BB @ Crofton

December 15 - G/B JV/V BB @ Creighton; Wrestling @ Osmond

December 17 - G/B JV/V BB vs. Wausa @ Niobrara

December 18 - Girls JV/V BB @ Nel-Oakdale

December 20 - Xmas Concert K-12

December 21 - Early Dismissal 2:08 p.m.; End of 2nd Quarter

December 22 - January 8 - Winter Break

December 27 & 28 - Verdigre Holiday Tournament

School resumes January 7th Staff and 8th Students

Bus #s for Parents: Please

contact your child's bus driver with any bus changes to avoid overloads and ensure the safety of all students riding the bus.

DeLynn Minarik - 402-229-3296

Laurie Stout - 402-373-2603

Terry Zach - 402-857-3564

Penny Reynolds - 402-851-0520

ATTENDANCE

This is a reminder to all students and their parents regarding attendance. The school day is from 8:10 a.m. to 3:52 p.m. Monday - Thursday and 8:10 a.m. to 2:08 p.m. on Fridays and early dismissals. Students that are not in attendance during these times, for reasons other than school activities will be counted tardy or absent. Also, letters may be sent home reflecting attendance issues. Please review the attendance policy in the student handbook. If you have any questions, please contact Superintendent Mrs. Sandoz 857-3323 or Principal Mrs. Guenther 857-3322. Thanks for your support.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

December 3 - 8, 2018

Books Make Great Gifts!

School closing announcements: Due to inclement weather or some other emergency, messages will be sent through Alert Solutions, our phone messenger service. Please ensure that we have the most current emergency contact information. Notify the school with changes.

Bus Safety

Always be alert for students on or near the roadway when a school bus is stopped.

When a school bus is about to stop and load or unload children, the bus driver activates amber warning lights. When meeting or overtaking a bus, slow to 25 MPH and prepare to stop. The amber warning lights will stay on until the bus door opens. When the bus driver opens the bus door, the red stop lights and STOP arm activates. Stop and remain stopped until the bus driver retracts the stop arm and deactivates the red warning lights. Stop a reasonable distance from the bus. Not stopping when approaching or overtaking a school bus which has stop lights on and the stop arm extended is unlawful. The only exception occurs when approaching a school bus in the opposite direction on a roadway divided by a median. Every child who rides a school bus must be a responsible rider. Children must follow all school bus safety practices and respect the authority of the bus driver. We want your children to be safe when they travel to and from school. School bus safety begins at home.

5th Grade - Mrs. Jaime Guenther

November was here and now has gone. The fifth graders were patiently waiting for Thanksgiving break and now are worrying about how long Christmas break will be. A lot of learning has been happening at our end of the hall. Third, fourth, and fifth graders have all been busy in math and the fifth graders have been working hard in their Language Arts class for me too.

When we get ourselves on track for our learning we realize how much we can do. These fifth graders have been finishing books in novel studies and stories in Reading Mastery. These texts have them using their skills in main idea and supporting details, similes, contradictions, and finding themes like perseverance. The other two language arts classes the students have are all about using rules you know for spelling and grammar.

Along with language arts, math class has them finding fractions and percentages of numbers, multiplying and dividing, and solving word problems. Those are just a few examples of their practice each day. We keep getting better and better at our daily work.

The third and fourth graders have been using their skills in math also. They have been practicing using money to help with fractions, estimating and measuring length using the customary method, and we are still finding missing numbers and practicing all kinds of story problems. There has also been a little bit of geometry with lines and segments.

There is about four weeks of school left to finish the semester. Encourage your child to finish strong so they are proud of themselves on their ending to the year 2018.

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DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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- 3 Amerykiss Denney
- 6 Sadie Antelope; Lane & Lynae Nielsen; Tracen Runnels
- 8 Brady Koehn
- 11 Jade Brandt
- 12 Meadow Leboldus; Wichiana Grant-Wabasha
- 14 Paizlee Klug
- 15 Yesenia Deanda
- 16 James Mackey; Chase Pritchett
- 23 Christine Mechaley

Winter Attire

Many students look forward to recess each day! Students enjoy it best when they are properly dressed. Cold weather has arrived along with snow. This is a reminder of appro-* priate clothing for students who participate in recess. Students shall have winter coats, hats and gloves. When the snow arrives, they must wear snow boots and bring along a pair of shoes to wear indoors. Snow manufacture partial parts are optional, but recommended if the student wishes to play in the snow. On days where the tempera-ture drops into the lower digits, recess will be indoors. We appreciate your support by ensuring your child wears appropriate clothing.

Parents and Guardians,

if you are changing the travel arrangements of your child, all calls must reach the school one hour prior to dismissal. Changes to ride arrangements late in the day have created confusion and unsafe situations for our students. Parents and Guardians are reminded that leaving your child at school or not picking them up at the bus stop is a reportable neglect concern. We hope that with this reminder we will have an improved afterschool ride process and need not resort to contacting Child Protection Services. Monday through Thursday the normal dismissal time is 3:52 p.m. and on Fridays dismissal is 2:08 p.m.

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SPORTSMANSHIP: Basketball season is here. Here are some tips for parents to \bigstar

do before, during and after the games. Before the games ask yourself, "Why do I want my son/daughter to play this activity? What do I think a successful season will be?" Next ask your child the same questions. If you do not have the same answers, it is time to support your child and drop yours.

★ Some suggestions for parents regarding games:

- be there
- model appropriate behavior
- focus on the team and team goals not your child
- ★ allow there to be only ONE instructional voice (the coach), multiple voices are confusing, and
- ★ choose one role you are going to show up to the game as:

★ <u>Coach</u>-become certified and apply for the job.

Official - get the proper certification and training and let schools know you are ready for hire.

Player –get out there and actually play the game.

★ Spectator-support the team and encourage them in only a positive way.

After the game, parents can simply ask the child what their favorite memory of the game was and their worst memory. Save the analysis, most kids need space and time to recover. They need to learn how to resolve issues themselves. The time to step in as a parent is when their behavior on the court is not an acceptable behavior in your own home. Lastly, always tell kids "I love to watch you play!" Come out and watch our students play! Have fun! Go Cougars!

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The FBLA is making and selling sports buttons for junior high and high school basketball and wrestling players.

The prices are \$3 for one button or \$5 for two buttons.

Each additional button will be \$2.

If you would like to buy a sports button of an athlete, please return the bottom portion ASAP so you have the button to wear to the games/events.

Your Name	
Student Name	
First Button	\$3.00
Additional Buttons	\$2.00 each
Total	

Food Drive to be Held

The FBLA is sponsoring two different food drives.

The first food drive is in the community. Boxes have been placed in various businesses in Niobrara. There will also be a box at Santa Days this Saturday, December 1.

The second food drive is a competition amongst the 9th-12th grade classes. Staff may either donate to one of the classes, or they may place their items in the box in the office.

All food must be non-perishable and will donated to a food pantry in Knox County.

Parents-

If you would like to have 24/7 access to your K-12 student's grades, attendance record, missing assignments, teacher's comments on assignments, school account balances and more, please ask a staff member about how to set up your PowerSchool account. This is a free online program that also offers an app for your mobile phone. Mobile phone users can elect to receive notifications regarding grades and attendance to pop up on your mobile device.

Skills USA Holiday Food Sale Distribution Saturday, December 15th 10:00 a.m. - Noon Niobrara School Lunch Room Thanks for your support!

COMING SOON SECRET SANTAI

- * When? December 18th, 19th, and 20th
- * Who? For participating high school and middle school students. (There will be a sign-up sheet from Dec. 3rd—10th).
- * Why? To join in on the holiday fun of giving and receiving gifts!
- * What? Gifts usually consist of pop and candy.
- * Prior to the sign-up there will be fliers around the school campus created by FBLA members to provide more additional information on the event.

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FBLA Hold Fund Raiser for the March of Dimes

The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) held a contest among the 7th-12th grade in order to raise money for the March of Dimes. Students were asked to bring in their spare change. In first place was the Sophomores with \$80.70. The Seniors were a close 2nd with \$74.70. The 7th grade was 3rd with \$53.50. The 11th grade had \$28.90, the 8th grade \$23.45, and the 9th grade had \$20.14. All together they raised \$281.39. Nice Job Niobrara Students!

Facts about the March of Dimes:

The March of Dimes is the leading nonprofit organization for pregnancy and baby health.

The March of Dimes was founded in 1938 by Franklin D. Roosevelt, but was originally known as the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

The March of Dimes mission is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth, and infant mortality.

Each day, babies are born fighting for their lives and every day, the March of Dimes help them win.

More than half a million babies are born prematurely in the United States each year. With 1 in 8 babies born too soon, our country lags behind many other developed nations.

Premature birth is the No. 1 cause of death during the first month of life. Even babies born just a few weeks too soon can face serious health challenges and are at risk for lifelong disabilities, such as cerebral palsy, lung problems, and vision and hearing loss.

Most premature babies are born between 34 and 36 weeks of pregnancy. Survival is possible for babies born as early as 23 to 26 weeks.

Mom's health is the best indicator of her baby's health. Early and regular prenatal care is very important to monitor mom and baby to identify problems before they become serious.

FBLA Giving Back to the Community

This year the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) have decided to donate meals to two families in need. They donated a meal consisting of a turkey, potatoes, sweet potatoes, everything needed for green bean casserole, and a pumpkin pie to a family at Thanksgiving. They will donate another meal at Christmas time.

2018-2019 Yearbook

This year the yearbook will be a little different. It will be online. You will be able to view it as it is being developed over the entire year. It has not yet been determined if you will be able to purchase a hard copy of the yearbook at the end of the year. A digital copy will be available for purchase though. The price has not been determined. To view the yearbook online, go the school webpage www.niobraraschools.org.

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