



# Niobrara Public School

February 2020

## Dates to Note

- 1 - Wrestling @ Plainview; Speech Invite Hartington; NVC G/B BB @ Niobrara
- 3 - Girls NVC BB
- 4 - Boys NVC BB
- 5 - JH BB @ Niobrara
- 6 - NVC BB Semi-finals
- 7 - Speech Invite Wakefield; Wrestling Pender Duals
- 8 - Speech Invite Stuart; State Wrestling Duals Kearney; NVC BB Consolation & Finals @ West Holt
- 10 - JV/V G/B BB @ Elkhorn Valley
- 11 - Local Spelling Bee; JV/V G/B BB @ West Holt
- 12 - Industrial Tech Day @ Boyd County
- 14 - No PreK; JH/JV/V G/B BB @ Niobrara
- 14-15 - District Wrestling
- 15 - Speech Invite Osmond
- 17 - No School; Girls BB Sub-districts
- 19 - Knox Co. Spelling Bee
- 20 -22 - State Wrestling @ Omaha
- 21 - JV/V Boys BB @ Neligh/Oakdale
- 22 - Speech Invite Crofton
- 24 - Boys BB Sub-districts
- 28 - Girls BB District Finals
- 29 - Boys BB District Finals; Speech Invite Pope John

Blizzard Ball

## Winter Formal

Saturday Feb. 15th 8pm-11pm  
DIY Photos from 7:30pm-8pm  
Niobrara East Gym

Sign up YOU and/or YOUR DATE AGAIN in the office by Feb. 12 to attend.

Only those who are signed in are able to attend. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Dress Clothes Required! No Shorts, T-shirts, or Jeans!

**Attendance and Tardiness** are the responsibilities of both the student and the parent. Research proves that good attendance at school is a success signal for adult life. Share with your child the importance of being in school and doing your best. Please ensure your child has plenty of rest and is keeping up on their school work. Together the school and family connection will make a difference in their future.

## Second Quarter & First Semester

### Honor Roll

Congratulations to the following high school and middle school students:

**Seniors** - Summer Key, Adam DeKay, Tala Henry

**Juniors** - Emily Parks, Ashtyn Holz, Kalyn Nielsen, Kiera Moody

**Sophomores** - Octavia Bluebird, Daniel Redowl, Jordayn LaPlante, Chase Pritchett

**Freshman** - Harley Stark, Ashley Parks, Olivia Holz, Karli Nielsen, Rikki Kitto, Yesenia DeAnda, Kennedy Reynolds, Wolfgang Hallum, Chelsea Valburg, Summer Guenther, Rachelle Widow, Mila Saul, Phalynn Redowl, Chrissenna Swalley, Natasha Henry

**Eighth Grade** - Chloe Reynolds, Hehaka Frazier, Brooke Henry, Brady Koehn, James Mackey, Jaxton Saul, Danika Runnels, Billie Pritchett

**Seventh Grade** - Chloe Hanzlik, Mya Chohon, Dakota Denny

**Sixth Grade** - Taylen Stark, Payten Nielsen, Amaryah Block, Julius Brandt

**Winter weather** has arrived and ensuring students are safe regardless of the situation is important. If you have a student that drives to school, please help them ensure they are prepared for any of the winter weather pitfalls that could happen. Do they have a blanket or other items that will help them stay warm until help arrives if they would break down? Is there a supply of items they can use to dig out or get better grip on their tires if they would happen upon ice or snow drifts? These are just a few important conversations to have with your children prior to sending them to school in a vehicle.

**Winter attire** is another reminder. When students are traveling in the winter months, keeping them safe from unfortunate bus or vehicle breakdowns by dressing and preparing for the worst is necessary. Students should have coats, gloves, hats and boots when possible. It is cold and if a vehicle breaks down, it gets cold inside the vehicle very fast. Be prepared!



Friday, March 20th

Please call the school a.s.a.p.

402-857-3322 or 3323

Your child must be 5 years old by July 31st.

### February Birthdays

- 2 Olivia McClellan
- 3 Amaryah Block
- 7 Rowdy Nielsen
- 11 Emily Parks, McKenzie Runnels
- 16 Jaxton Saul
- 17 Karissa Kurpgeweit
- 18 Zander Andrews
- 19 Amayra DeAnda, Blake Kreycik
- 26 Taylen Stark
- 27 Gabriel Cournoyer, Camden Eisenhauer, Ariella Brandt

### Flowers for Valentines

February 14th

Honor Society is selling flowers for \$2.50 each with a personalized tag. Orders are due Friday, February 7th. Contact an Honor Society member to place your order. Thanks for your support!

# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

**Niobrara Public Schools** has much to be sharing with you regarding the past year and the current school year. The past year came and went but with many events, activities and happenings. This is just a rundown of the many aspects that our school has in place.

**Safety Meetings** - Quarterly meetings held to ensure all aspects of the school are safe and collaborate with local EMTs, Fire Department and Police Department are current and aware of ongoing events and happenings in our school. Collaboration with Moody Motor Co. is currently in place and this is our evacuation location for the school. We practice evacuations annually and do lock down drills, fire and tornado drills.

**CLI** - Curriculum Leadership Institute located in Emporia, Kansas works with staff to write new local curriculum based on the state standards that the State Board of Education has adopted. Grading, Instructional Models, lesson planning is all on the horizon for the school as we work through the conversations regarding each of these items. We have a dedicated group of Curriculum Coordinating Council members dedicated to making quality decisions for the school.

**NCATE** - Niobrara Cultural Awareness Through Education-Cultural awareness aspects added to the building, partnership with the Nebraska Arts Council to provide music, art, and movement. Goals of the grant:

- 1) Collaborate with existing tribal resources and programs to support the multi-tiered framework to increase cultural awareness throughout the district.
- 2) Provide tiered mental health and behavioral supports and activities to all students as determined by level of their needs.
- 3) Decrease the number of student referrals and suspensions by 40% over four years.
- 4) Increase access to post-secondary prep and programming over four years.
- 5) Develop a sustainable program that serves the needs of our American Indian students.  
(This is the three-legged stool that I refer to at our meetings. 1. Culture, 2. Mental Health and 3. Post high school college and career training.)

**ESU Interviews** - Conducted annually to see how they can improve services to our school.

**Sister School Meetings** - Wausa and Bloomfield administration and sometimes entire staff share insights and ideas to better our districts and to help keep one another on track with best practices along with school improvement efforts.

## CONTINUED

**MTSS-Multitiered System of Support** - Taking students and giving them additional opportunities through a tried system for practice and support to ensure that they are reaching mastery. Core reading and interventions are provided daily to help students get the number of repetitions and practice they need to be good readers in the elementary. Math interventions are provided for 15 minutes in grades 3-5. The schedule is tight, there doesn't seem to be enough time in the day to accomplish all that we want to do.

**Coach Rozy** - Summer athletic Programming in partnership with the Santee Wellness Center. Physical Education programming is continuing through the year to ensure that the students have continuity from the summer programming.

**Dean Jacobs** - Life coach and world traveler here to meet with kids monthly to remind them to dream big, live tall and make the world better. Dean meets with grades 2-5 one month and 6-8 the next month, but each month he meets with the seniors to ensure that their transition to post high school is alive with dreams and beliefs that will take them into their futures. (NCATE Grant)

**Trauma Informed Training** - Training to ensure that we have a clear picture of the impacts on Trauma and the residual effects that can last a lifetime and pass from generation to generation. Project Harmony out of Omaha along with NCATE staff were responsible for the trainings. (NCATE Grant)

**De-escalation and Restraints Training** - Training to ensure that when students need to be restrained or secluded that staff is trained to ensure the proper movement of the students to ensure the least potential for injury.

**NPB Grant** - Niobrara Positive Behaviors Grant-Climate Transformation Grant. Goals for the grant include...

- 1) Staff will be trained in effective MTSS/PBIS strategies,
- 2) Improve student attendance to at or above state levels,
- 3) Students will transition successfully to high school,
- 4) By 2024 increase high school graduation rate from 92.5% to 97.5%,
- 5) Provide tiered mental health and behavioral supports and activities to all students as determined by level of their need,
- 6) Sustain the program beyond Federal funding.

Implement PBiS (Positive Behaviors Interventions and Supports) along with MTSS to ensure that all students have clear expectations and knowledge to be positively supported in the school. There are also tiered support for students that require additional support for behaviors. The hiring of Implementation Consulting Group LLC resulted from this grant and the NCATE grant. This process will take some time to put into place, but within the next few months you will be hearing about new hires, meetings and trainings.

**Para educators and substitute bus drivers** are still being sought. We have had limited interest in the application process for either of these positions. If you know someone that would like to help individual or small group of students on a regular basis, please have them fill out an application.