

NIOBRARA PUBLIC SCHOOL

November 2020

Congratulations!!!

First Quarter

HONOR ROLL

Seniors - Gavin Chohon, Ashlyn Holz, Kiera Moody, Kalyn Nielsen, Emily Parks

Juniors - Ken Dine, Rainy Fischer, Beau Hrbek, Chase Pritchett

Sophomores - Ava Chohon, Yessenia DeAnda, Natasha Henry, Olivia Holz, Kellen Moody, Karli Nielsen, Ashley Parks, Phalynn RedOwl, Kennedy Reynolds, Harley Stark, Christenna Swalley, Chelsea Valburg, Rachelle Widow, Elizabeth Traversie

Freshman - Billie Pritchett, Chloe RFeynolds, Danika Runnels

8th Grade - Mya CHohon, Chloe Hanzlik

7th Grade - Amaryah Block, Julius Brandt, Aiden, Elena Mackey, Taylen Stark

6th Grade - Austin Avery, Delani Runnels, Wade Pritchett, Starlet Nielsen, Kash Nielsen, Jacob Motacek, Alex Motacek, Elijah Coffman

Drama **ONE ACT** Team

The drama team has been working hard on this years performance, "**Check Please Take Two**". It is about a series of bad dates. Will our main characters ever find a "normal" person to take a chance with? Be on the look out for our up coming performance to show case our hard work in December!

Actors/Actresses

Gavin Chohon
Emily Parks
Ava Chohon
Ashley Parks
Kennedi Reynolds
Olivia Holz
Billie Pritchett
Harley Stark

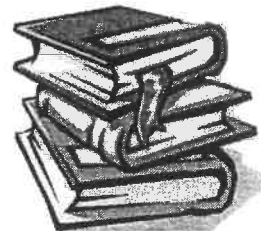
Mark Your Calendar Scholastic

Book Fair Coming to

Niobrara

Public School

November 30 - December 11



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1st Melanie Crosley
- 2nd Zackary Bolling
- 5th Scotty Klinetobe
- 16th Chrisseana Swalley
- 8th Wade Pritchett; Aizleigh Janovec; Zoe Edmisten
- 20th Kendrick Denney;
- 21st Kiera Moody
- 26th Joel Valburg Jr.
- 29th Starlet Nielsen
- 30th Gavin Chohon; Story Wright

TRANSPORTATION REMINDER

ALL transportation changes must be made before 3:00 pm Monday-Thursday and before 1:00 pm on Fridays and early dismissals. This will ensure students arrive home on time and safely. Thank you!

Class of 2024 says THANKS!

The Freshman would like to say THANK YOU to all of those that supported our Scentsy fundraiser. Also a huge shout out goes to Tyler Wilson for helping us and his continued dedication to Niobrara Public Schools students.

Middle School Math

We survived the 1st Quarter! Middle School math has seen its ups and downs this first quarter with the virus playing a role in our classes at times. We have learned to Google Meet when we have been quarantined and doing our homework remotely. It is a challenge but with our new expectations we must keep going! This has made our students even more responsible by making sure their laptop is charged at night and ready for use during the day. I can't stress enough to make sure that they are doing that so that our time in class is not interrupted when we need to use the computer and it is charged. As for the students working remotely or in class, I have utilized using our math program with some assignments so that they are able to make that adjustment if they have to learn remotely and they can have my help in class.

Each class has started with different objectives this year and are trying to "get caught up" from missing some concepts from the end of the year last year. The 6th graders are currently working on Algebraic Expressions and will be moving into Equations. The 7th graders are currently working on Integers and Rational numbers. They have been working on real-life situations with these numbers and realize how much our world deals with numbers. The 8th graders finished up a unit on Transformations in geometry and have moved into working with angles, angle pairs, their relationships with each other and now triangles and their angles. *Mr. Eisenhauer*

MUSIC:

Our Band and Choir students are learning songs for the Veteran's Day Program movie. When they master their songs, they will record them. The first and second graders are recording the Allegiance Rap while the 2nd-5th graders are recording Stars and Stripes. It is exciting to see how this new format goes over!



Students in K-12 will be starting the learning process of their Christmas Music. The Christmas Program is not until December, but it takes work to get that music to performance level. We all know that things have (and are) changing due to the Covid19 virus.

We are trying to keep our students and staff healthy, therefore programs like the Veteran's Day and Christmas may be done a little different this year. We know that the Veteran's Day is going to be recorded and put online and even though the Christmas Program is out a little farther in the year, there is a strong possibility that we will have to change the format of this too. I will keep everyone informed as to how we are going to present our Christmas Program this December. Thanks for your understanding!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR:

The Scholastic Book Fair will be happening November 30 - December 11. THE ONLY THING DIFFERENT THIS YEAR IS: This will not be open to the public. We are trying to keep our students and staff safe and healthy and the Scholastic company has a few variations to help this happen. They are going to send us a CLEAN, LOW TOUCH fair with books in cases for the students to peruse. The ONLINE FAIR will be open to parents and community, and when you place an order, the books ship directly to your house. Your orders from home or school will help benefit our library, just as if it were in person.

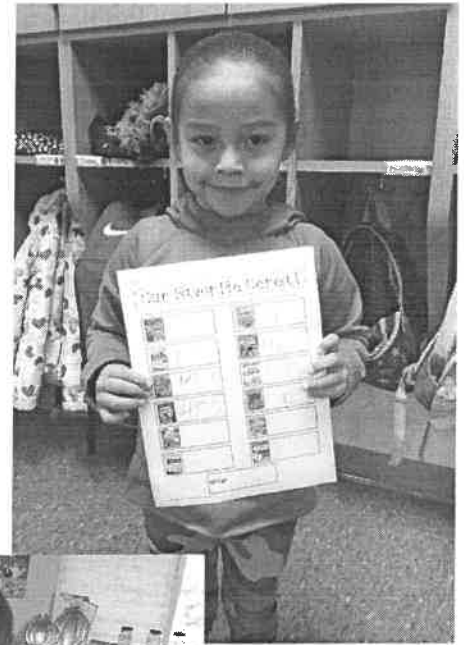
When the actual books come to the library, I will make a video and put it on the school Facebook page. You can watch this with your students to see what they would like to order. Then, you can either send a check with the child, or go online and order the books for them. Thanks for understanding. More information will be coming home within the next few weeks.



PRESCHOOL



Preschool has been busy learning and growing! They have been learning about all things fall! Preschoolers have been working hard each day exploring the centers, counting, writing their names, listening to books, singing songs and so much more!





2nd Grade News

November 2020

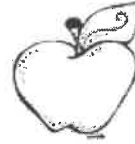
A Note from the Teacher

The second graders have been working hard the last couple months on our science unit Land and Water on Earth. They learned about different landforms – mountains, canyons, plains, islands, valleys, etc. and different types of water – oceans, lakes, rivers, glaciers, etc. In the pictures below they used sand, clay, and water to build their own landforms and had a lot of fun doing it! They continue to work hard and impress me each day!

Mrs. Steffen



Miss Justo's CLASS NEWS



Homework reminder: Students' homework each day is to read their AR book for 20 minutes. Have them log their AR book title in the planner and parent/guardian can initial after they have read.

What we are learning:

Reading: We are working on building vocabulary, reading fluently, and comprehension. We are well into our first novel study – “Because of Winn-Dixie”. This novel is full of figurative language and the kids are getting really good at picking it out. Students are analyzing characters, identifying character traits, and picking out the theme of the novel.

Language Arts: We are working on identifying the subject/predicate of a sentence. We have been practicing identifying nouns, verbs, and pronouns. The students are writing inferencing paragraphs and working on adding figurative language to make them more interesting. They are doing great at making their paragraphs fun to read.

Social Studies:

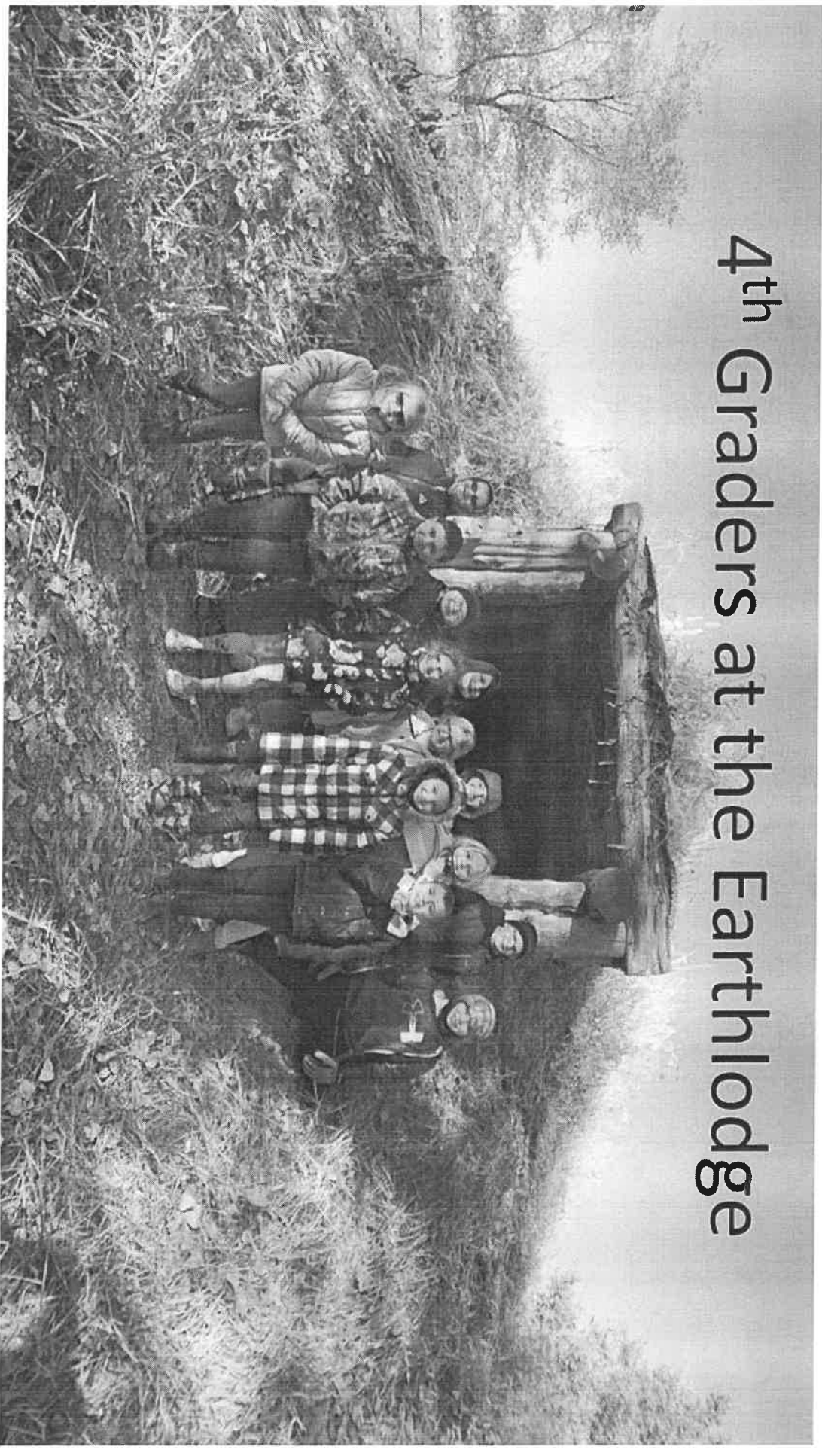
3rd: We have been learning all about how communities change over time. We will focus on how our local communities have changed.

4th: Students have been learning all about Nebraska's state symbols and government. We are just starting to learn more about the Native American groups that lived in Nebraska before European contact. We have visited the Ponca Tribe's walking trail to check out their earthlodge. It is awesome to have such a great resource so close to home.

5th: Students are studying the conflicts and events that led up to American independence.

This month is Native American Heritage month. It is important to celebrate the rich history, diverse culture, and important contributions of our nation's first people of the past and present.

4th Graders at the Earthlodge





NOVEMBER

4th Grade Happenings!

Insane Idioms!

Ask a 4th grader about identifying idioms in his/her reading! We are working on adding them into our writing to add voice and description in our stories!

Reading

We are currently reading the Fantasy novel 'The Wizard of Oz' in Reading Mastery. We are also reading 'Where the Red Fern Grows' as our enrichment novel study. The students are enjoying making text-to-self connections with our main character, Billy, who desperately wants two coonhound dogs for hunting.

Science

In science, we are finishing up our unit on energy and motion. To complete our unit, we will be completing a STEM Module where they will be designing their own roller coaster to show their concepts of kinetic and potential energy, momentum, acceleration, and velocity!



STAR STUDENT OF THE WEEK!

Each week starting in November, a 4th grader will be chosen as the 'Star Student of the Week'. They will decorate a poster all about themselves, have them displayed on a bulletin board in the hallway, and will even have their picture in the paper with a brief article about themselves!



November News

It is hard to believe that it is already November! We have so much to learn and do before Christmas break. I hope your November is filled with positive thoughts and to always be thankful for everything you have!

~Mrs. Pischel

Events

- *No elementary school on the 18th
- *Thanksgiving break starts the 25th with a 2:10 dismissal.
- *No school for Thanksgiving break the 26th & 27th

Reminders

*Have your child practice addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts at home, in the car to school, or at night before bed.

"The only way to know math is to do math."

Learning Focus

3rd Grade Math – We have been busy practicing our addition & subtraction facts! This month we will be learning about rounding, choosing the correct method in a story problem, & inverse operations.

4th Grade Math – We have been learning our multiplication facts & doing very well! We are especially good at 2s, 3s, 5s, & 9s. This month we will learn about decimals and fractions.

5th Grade Math – The students have been reviewing their multiplication facts and now working on division facts! This month we will learn about comparing decimals and fractions.

BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

NOVEMBER 2020



Here's what's Going on in Mrs. Motacek's classes

Web Design: Students are creating web pages from scratch using HTML coding language. We are just starting to learn how to give our HTML code some style with CSS (cascading style sheets) which will make plain text come to life with colors, fonts, and alignments.

Foundations of Computing: Students learned the importance of clear communication in programming language with a lego build and rebuild activity. Currently students are finalizing apps they created and coded themselves using JavaScript coding. These apps are hosted by Code.org and can be sent to mobile devices. Next students will learn more extensive coding techniques to make more robust apps and games. QR codes to these apps will be shared for you to check out next month.

Information Technology: Students are worked on building data analysis skills with the use of Google Sheets. We're rounding out October with a strong focus on Digital Citizenship. Students are learning more about the goals of being a digital citizen who is: inclusive, informed, engaged, alert, and balanced in their online life.

7th Grade Tech: The seventh grade completed their nine weeks of technology. Everyone improved their keyboarding metrics and are at or right next door to the Nebraska standard of 30 wpm at 90% accuracy!!! In addition to focusing on typing and digital citizenship skills, students worked in Google Sheets to understand and chart data. Students programmed Micro: bits using JavaScript programming language. They learned so much in their short nine weeks and should be very proud!

Elementary Tech:

All elementary classes had a strong focus on digital citizenship in our October rotation in addition to their class activities. Students learned how to protect their personal information, how to be kind online, and how to handle cyberbullying and be an upstander if they do encounter it.

Kindergartners are perfecting their mouse skills, clicking, double clicking, and dragging and dropping. They are starting to locate some keyboard keys.

1st graders are learn

2nd graders began a typing program to learn which finger is used to type which key. They are also learning more about what goes on inside the computer to make it work.

3rd graders is learning about a computer processes information. They are in the Typing.com program and working on a goal of 10 wpm at 90% accuracy

4th and 5th graders have been hard at work with their typing goals, 4th grade 15 wpm and 5th grade 20 wpm both with 90% accuracy. Both classes are working on some basic digital design concepts drawing pictures with shapes in Microsoft Word



Thanks for a great nine weeks, Seventh Grade



We had a fantastic nine weeks in technology class! This group was incredibly supportive as you encouraged each other to meet and exceed typing goals. You became computer scientists programming robots and microchips. You showed amazing creativity and came up with innovative ideas for apps. Some of which were designed to pick a pair of shoes for you, entertain you, help with school work, and help you avoid creepers. You built awesome prototypes to help with problem solving skills while you dealt with real world problem solving skills of remote learning!

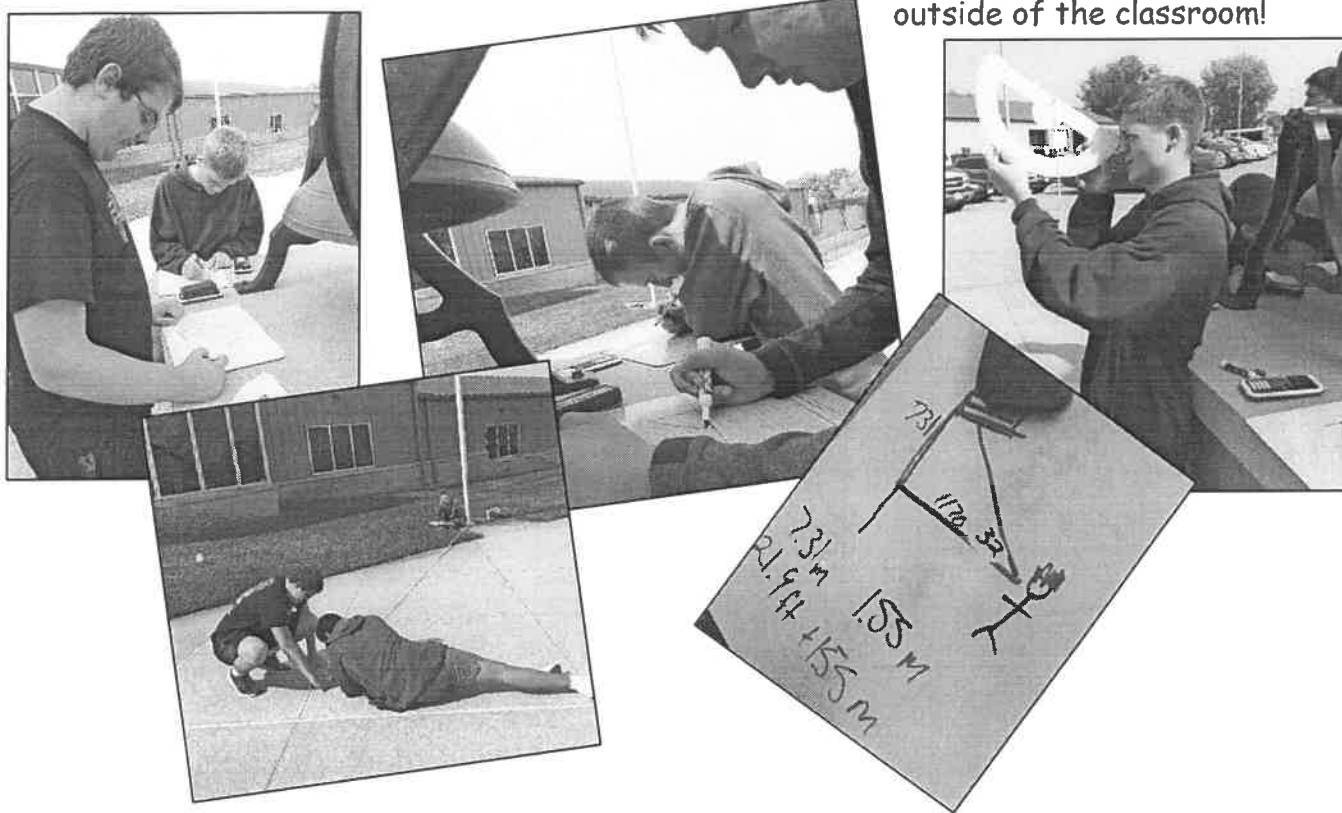
You made me laugh every day and picked some great music to work to (except the Kidz Bop 🎵). We have many talented artists and engineers in this group and I am so excited to see where that takes you!

Special Recognition to the following Keyboarding Super Stars, many of whom worked outside of class time so they could complete ALL the Edutyping lessons!

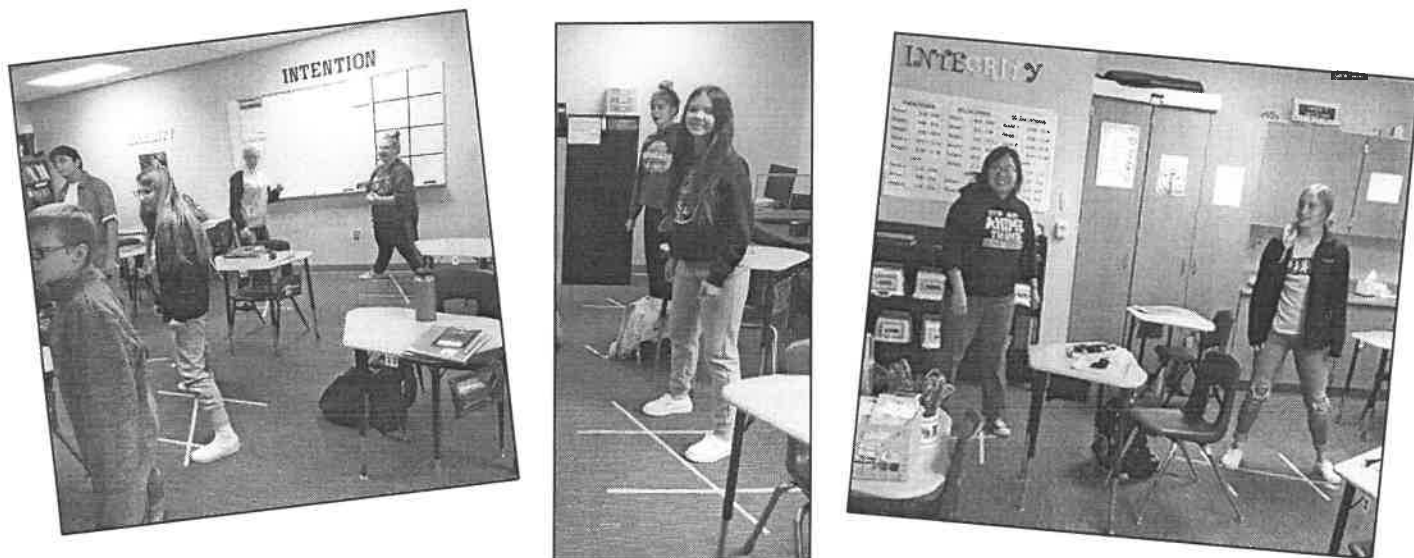
Amaryah, Amayra, Clayton, Duwayne, Elena, Leon, Miley, Taylen

High School Math Class News

Standards Math Class took advantage of some nice fall weather last month to go outside and use some trigonometry to compute the height of the flagpole and other tall structures. We were able to check the accuracy of some of our calculations to verify that trig does have uses outside of the classroom!



Geometry students recently used some dance moves to work on vocabulary when studying angle relationships when two lines are crossed by a transversal. The activity must have worked as all of them passed this section on their latest assessment!!



STANDING BEAR SCULPTURE

Niobrara Art Classes take a look back to see how far we have come

The Niobrara High School Art Classes went out to the Ponca Tribal Grounds. The group was able to experience the bronze Chief Standing Bear sculpture by Benjamin Victor installed atop the hill overlooking the beautiful Niobrara River valley. Realizing that Chief Standing Bear walked on this very ground and was such a civil rights leader for Native Americans and all Americans is such a visual history lesson. Mrs. Schacht and her art students loved being able to take it all in right here where we live in Niobrara, Nebraska.



"God made me and I am man."

-Chief Standing Bear

WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND THAT EVERYONE TAKE A DRIVE AND VIEW THE AWESOME STANDING BEAR SCULPTURE SOUTHWEST OF NIOBRARA LOCATED ON THE PONCA TRIBAL GROUNDS. THANK YOU TO THE PONCA TRIBE.

-NHS ART STUDENTS



MTSS UPDATE

Multi-Tiered System of Support

Niobrara's MTSS Framework is in the beginning stages of implementing an Individual Student Intervention Planning (ISIP) Process. The ISIP Process will be looking at the whole child. This process is data driven and will allow the MTSS team to problem-solve and implement evidence-based interventions based on current needs (academic, social, emotional, behavioral).

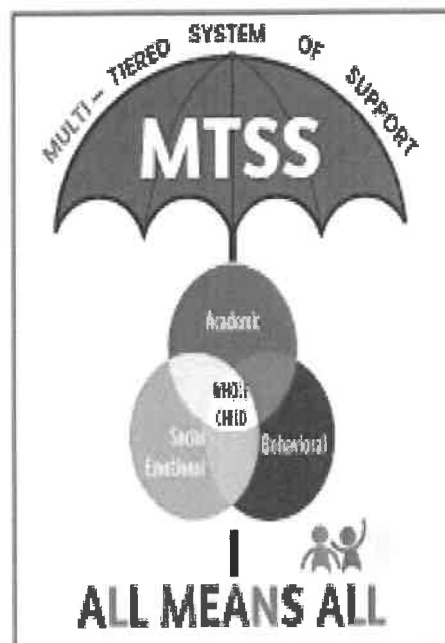
Parents/guardians will be contacted to participate in the process when this occurs.

Behavior Learning

In the upcoming month, NPS will implement an Acknowledgement System to reinforce positive behavior throughout the building for our students and teachers. More information will be shared as the system becomes fully developed. Please email shiggins@niobraraschools.org if you would like to participate in the development of this system.

Social Emotional Learning

This year, all students participate in Social Emotional Learning during ROAR period. Students in Grades K-5th participate in Second Step and 6th - 12th graders are learning through Project Wisdom. NPS is dedicated to supporting all students, especially with the additional challenges due to the pandemic.



A Fact Sheet for Parents



CDC HEADS UP
SAFE BRAIN. STRONGER FUTURE.



What is a concussion?

A concussion is a type of brain injury that changes the way the brain normally works. A concussion is caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head. Concussions can also occur from a blow to the body that causes the head and brain to move rapidly back and forth. Even what seems to be a mild bump to the head can be serious.

Concussions can have a more serious effect on a young, developing brain and need to be addressed correctly.

What are the signs and symptoms of a concussion?

You can't see a concussion. Signs and symptoms of concussion can show up right after an injury or may not appear or be noticed until hours or days after the injury. It is important to watch for changes in how your child or teen is acting or feeling, if symptoms are getting worse, or if your child just "doesn't feel right." Most concussions occur without loss of consciousness.

If your child or teen reports **one or more** of the symptoms of concussion listed below, or if you notice the signs yourself, seek medical attention right away. Children and teens are among those at greatest risk for concussion.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF A CONCUSSION

Signs observed by parents or guardians

- Appears dazed or stunned
- Is confused about events
- Answers questions slowly
- Repeats questions
- Can't recall events *prior* to the hit, bump, or fall
- Can't recall events *after* the hit, bump, or fall
- Loses consciousness (even briefly)
- Shows behavior or personality changes
- Forgets class schedule or assignments

Symptoms reported by your child or teen



THINKING/REMEMBERING:

- Difficulty thinking clearly
- Difficulty concentrating or remembering
- Feeling more slowed down than usual
- Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy



SLEEP*:

- Feels drowsy
- Sleeps *less* than usual
- Sleeps *more* than usual
- Has trouble falling asleep

**Ask about sleep symptoms only if the injury occurred on a prior day.*



PHYSICAL:

- Headache or "pressure" in head
- Nausea or vomiting
- Balance problems or dizziness
- Fatigue or feeling tired
- Blurry or double vision
- Sensitivity to light or noise
- Numbness or tingling
- Does not "feel right"



EMOTIONAL:

- Irritable
- Sad
- More emotional than usual
- Nervous

To download this fact sheet in Spanish, please visit cdc.gov/HEADSUP.

Para obtener una copia electrónica de esta hoja informativa en español, por favor visite cdc.gov/HEADSUP.

cdc.gov/HEADSUP



DANGER SIGNS

Be alert for symptoms that worsen over time. Your child or teen should be seen in an emergency department right away if she or he has one or more of these danger signs:

- One pupil (the black part in the middle of the eye) larger than the other
- Drowsiness or cannot be awakened
- A headache that gets worse and does not go away
- Weakness, numbness, or decreased coordination
- Repeated vomiting or nausea
- Slurred speech
- Convulsions or seizures
- Difficulty recognizing people or places
- Increasing confusion, restlessness, or agitation
- Unusual behavior
- Loss of consciousness (even a brief loss of consciousness should be taken seriously)

Children and teens with a concussion should NEVER return to sports or recreation activities on the same day the injury occurred.

They should delay returning to their activities until a healthcare professional experienced in evaluating for concussion says they are symptom-free and it's OK to return to play. This means, until permitted, not returning to:

- Physical education class,
- Sports practices or games, or
- Physical activity at recess.

What should I do if my child or teen has a concussion?

1. Seek medical attention right away.

A healthcare professional experienced in evaluating for concussion can determine how serious the concussion is and when it is safe for your child or teen to return to normal activities, including physical activity and school (concentration and learning activities).

2. Help your child take time to get better.

Your child should take it easy the first few days after the injury, when symptoms are more severe. As your child starts to feel better (and within a few days after the injury), he or she can gradually return to regular (non-strenuous) activities. If your child's symptoms do not worsen during an activity, then this activity is OK for him or her. If symptoms worsen, your child should cut back on how much he or she can do that activity without experiencing symptoms. Ask your child's doctor for written instruction to help with recovery, and let the doctor know if concussion symptoms do not go away or if they get worse after your child returns to regular activities.

3. Offer support.

Be sure to offer support during your child's recovery, and allow him or her to stay connected with friends and others.

How can I help my child return to school safely after a concussion?

Most children can return to school within a few days. Help your child or teen get needed support when returning to school after a concussion. Talk with your child's teachers, school nurse, coach, speech-language pathologist, or counselor about your child's concussion and symptoms. Your child may feel frustrated, sad, and even angry because she or he cannot return to recreation and sports right away, or cannot keep up with schoolwork. Your child may also feel isolated from peers and social networks. Talk often with your child about these issues and offer your support and encouragement. As your child's symptoms decrease, the extra help or support can be removed gradually. Children and teens who return to school after a concussion may need to:

- Take rest breaks as needed;
- Spend fewer hours at school;
- Be given more time to take tests or complete assignments;
- Receive help with schoolwork; and/or
- Reduce time spent reading, writing, or on the computer.

Revised August 2019

To learn more,
go to cdc.gov/HEADSUP





College Planning on the web

Find helpful tools at EducationQuest.org

Omaha

402.391.4033

888.357.6300

Lincoln

402.475.5222

800.303.3745

Kearney

308.234.6310

800.666.3721

Scottsbluff

800.303.3745

ext. 6654

Activities Resume™ tracks extracurricular activities, awards and employment.

College Funding Estimator™ estimates FAFSA results.

College Profiles™ provides information about colleges nationwide.

College Timeline will keep you on track for college.

FAFSA Tools has resources to help you complete the FAFSA.

Reality Check matches careers to your desired future lifestyle.

ScholarshipQuest™ contains over 2,000 local and state scholarships.

Other helpful websites

Scholarships

CollegeBoard.org

Petersons.com

Cappex.com

GoodCall.com/scholarships/search/

SuperCollege.com

CollegeData.com

Chegg.com

InternationalScholarships.com

College Planning

BigFuture.CollegeBoard.org

Nebraska Educational Savings Trust

Nest529direct.com

Midwest Student Exchange Program

mhec.org

College Navigator

nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator

Testing

ACT - ACTstudent.org

SAT - SAT.collegeboard.org

Accuplacer - accuplacer.collegeboard.org

Study Abroad

StudyAbroad.com

InternationalStudent.com

Federal Student Aid

FSA ID user name and password

fsaid.ed.gov

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

fafsa.gov

Student Aid on the Web

StudentAid.ed.gov

Apply for a student and/or parent loan

StudentLoans.gov

Track your student loan debt

nslds.ed.gov

Career Planning

NebraskaCareerConnections.org

CareerLink.com

Bureau of Labor Statistics

www.bls.gov/k12/

O*NET Online

onetonline.org

Money Management

EconEdLink.org

FederalReserveEducation.org

PracticalMoneySkills.com

TheMint.org

FinancialAvenue.org

*Your Journey to
College Begins with Us*

Scholarship

Tip Sheet

Tips for finding scholarships

- Start looking in the spring of your junior year.
- Organize scholarships in deadline order, and set aside time each week to work on scholarship essays and applications.
- If requested on the application, list activities, awards, honors classes, and volunteer or paid jobs. Track them using the *Activities Resume* at **EducationQuest.org**.
- If an application requires a letter of recommendation, give the person writing the letter sufficient notice, a specific deadline, and a copy of your *Activities Resume*.
- After writing an essay, ask an adult (preferably an English teacher) to review the document for spelling, grammar, and sentence structure.
- Follow all directions, and make sure the application is complete and submitted by the deadline or it will be disqualified.
- *Never* pay for scholarship services! Talk to your school counselor or contact EducationQuest about the many free options available.

Where to find scholarships

- **ScholarshipQuest at EducationQuest.org** – contains over 2,000 local and state scholarships.
 - **High school counselor's office/website** – visit at least once a month during your senior year to learn about local and national awards.
 - **Potential colleges** – contact colleges of interest for a list of scholarships they offer along with information about criteria, deadlines, and application procedures.
 - **National scholarship search sites** – visit *free* sites such as:
 - CollegeBoard.org
 - Petersons.com
 - ScholarSnapp.org
 - Fastweb.com/college-scholarships
 - Supercollege.com
 - GoingMerry.com
 - Chegg.com
 - ScholarshipAmerica.org
 - Other resources could include clubs, parents' employers, and civic organizations.
-



STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Our school has adopted The "I Love U Guys" Foundation's Standard Response Protocol (SRP). Students and staff will be training, practicing, and drilling the protocol.

COMMON LANGUAGE

The Standard Response Protocol (SRP) is based on an all-hazards approach as opposed to individual scenarios. Like the Incident Command System (ICS), SRP utilizes clear common language while allowing for flexibility in protocol.

The premise is simple - there are five specific actions that can be performed during an incident. When communicating these, the action is labeled with a "Term of Art" and is then followed by a "Directive." Execution of the action is performed by active participants, including students, staff, teachers and first responders. The SRP is based on the following actions: Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, and Shelter.

HOLD

"In Your Classroom or Area"

Students are trained to:

- Clear the hallways and remain in their area or room until the "All Clear" is announced
- Do business as usual

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Close and lock the door
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual



SECURE

"Get Inside. Lock outside doors"

Students are trained to:

- Return to inside of building
- Do business as usual

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Bring everyone indoors
- Lock the outside doors
- Increase situational awareness
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual



LOCKDOWN

"Locks, Lights, Out of Sight"

Students are trained to:

- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Recover students from hallway if possible
- Lock the classroom door
- Turn out the lights
- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door
- Prepare to evade or defend



EVACUATE

"To a Location"

Students are trained to:

- Leave stuff behind if required to
- If possible, bring their phone
- Follow instructions

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Bring roll sheet and Go Bag (unless instructed not to bring anything with them, dependent on reason for evacuation.)
- Lead students to Evacuation location
- Account for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems using Red Card/Green Card method.



SHELTER

"State Hazard and Safety Strategy"

Hazards might include:

- Tornado
- Hazmat
- Earthquake
- Tsunami

Safety Strategies might include:

- Evacuate to shelter area
- Seal the room
- Drop, cover and hold
- Get to high ground

Students are trained in:

- Appropriate Hazards and Safety Strategies

Adults and staff are trained in:

- Appropriate Hazards and Safety Strategies
- Accounting for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems using Red Card/Green Card method.





STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

PARENT GUIDANCE

In the event of a live incident, parents may have questions about their role.

SECURE

"Get Inside. Lock outside doors"



Secure is called when there is something dangerous outside of the building. Students and staff are brought into the building and the outside doors will be locked. The school might display the Building is Secured poster on entry doors or nearby windows. Inside, it will be business as usual.

SHOULD PARENTS COME TO THE SCHOOL DURING A SECURE EVENT?

Probably not. Every effort is made to conduct classes as normal during a secure event. Additionally, parents may be asked to stay outside during a Secure event.

WHAT IF PARENTS NEED TO PICK UP THEIR STUDENT?

Depending on the situation, it may not be safe to release the student. As the situation evolves, Secure might change to a Monitored Entry and/or Controlled Release.

WILL PARENTS BE NOTIFIED WHEN A SCHOOL GOES INTO SECURE?

When a secure event is brief or the hazard is non-violent, like a wild animal on the playground, there may not be a need to notify parents while the Secure is in place.

With longer or more dangerous events, the school should notify parents that the school has increased their security.

LOCKDOWN

"Locks, Lights, Out of Sight"



A Lockdown is called when there is something dangerous inside of the building. Students and staff are trained to enter or remain in a room that can be locked, and maintain silence.

A Lockdown is only initiated when there is an active threat inside or very close to the building.

SHOULD PARENTS COME TO THE SCHOOL DURING A LOCKDOWN?

The natural inclination for parents is to go to the school during a Lockdown. Understandable, but perhaps problematic. If there is a threat inside the building, law enforcement will be responding. It is unlikely that parents will be granted access to the building or even the campus. If parents are already in the school, they will be instructed to Lockdown as well.

SHOULD PARENTS TEXT THEIR STUDENTS?

The school recognizes the importance of communication between parents and students during a Lockdown event. Parents should be aware though, during the initial period of a Lockdown, it may not be safe for students to text their parents. As the situation resolves, students may be asked to update their parents on a regular basis.

In some cases, students may be evacuated and transported off-site for a student-parent reunification.

WHAT ABOUT UNANNOUNCED DRILLS?

The school may conduct unscheduled drills, however it is highly discouraged to conduct one without announcing that it as a drill. That's called an unannounced drill and can cause undue concern and stress.

Parents should recognize that the school will always inform students that it is a drill during the initial announcement.

It's important to differentiate between a **drill** and an exercise. A drill is used to create the "Muscle Memory" associated with a practiced action. There is no simulation of an event; this is simply performing the action. An exercise simulates an actual event to test the capacity of personnel and equipment.

CAN PARENTS OBSERVE OR PARTICIPATE IN THE DRILLS?

The school welcomes parents who wish to observe or participate in drills.





SCHOOL NEWS/UPDATES

Superintendent Sandoz

BUS BARN

The new bus barn is going up fast. NuAge Builders is ahead of schedule and hoping to complete the parking and driveway areas before the snow flies. The new facility will be a four-bay bus/van parking area with storage on the south side for three doors to store the snowplow, lawn mowers, and necessary maintenance equipment. The estimated date of completion is February 2021.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER SHORTAGE

The Nebraska Department of Education is working with school districts to ensure that they have what is needed this year. Many districts need substitute teachers and struggle to find them. NDE is looking into allowing local substitute teachers to increase their yearly total days to substitute from 45 to 90 and possibly even 180 days. Commissioner Blomstedt is also looking at ways to handle the Human Relations Training requirement to get people certified to be a local substitute in schools as the shortage is Statewide. Niobrara is fortunate to have two retired administrators this year working as full-time substitute teachers. Rich Higgins and Ted Hillman were hired this year utilizing stimulus and grant money to ensure we have the needed staffing to support our six (6) maternity leaves and other absences of teachers throughout the year.

ADMINISTRATION

The administrative team has been focused on student growth and engagement. We are meeting weekly to focus our attention on improving instruction and increasing the opportunities for students. Through the Climate Transformation Grant, we have a contract with Implementation Consulting Group, LLC (ICG) to develop instructional feedback forms that are designed to provide specific feedback to the teachers. ICG is working directly with administration and teachers to develop a deep implementation of research-based instructional practices. Through Professional development, student engagement, student growth and improved teacher instruction we are all working to improve the entire educational experience at Niobrara Public Schools.

COVID

A fellow administrator reminded me that “Trust is the currency that we use to do our work.” There must be a trust between students, parents, teachers, administrators, school board members and the community for a district to move forward in a positive direction. The past two years have been especially challenging for the Niobrara Public Schools. With the flood of 2019 and now the COVID Pandemic, it doesn’t seem that there is a day that information and decision making have ceased. Currently, the school is working very closely with the North Central Public Health Department, Nebraska Department of Education and Governor Pete Ricketts office to stay informed on the most recent developments regarding the current directed health measures. The pandemic is one of the major issues that we all face daily, however, we also have other issues that are affecting our lives. The uncertain political climate and the wildfires that have spread throughout the country are other factors that are creating a new world in which we must navigate.

Schools have and continue to change; this year is no exception. This year we have been fortunate to have very limited positive cases and exposures to the virus that is plaguing our country. With the flexibility and new approaches to education that had to be utilized this year, we all will learn new ways of doing our work. Remote, blended and in person learning are happening at the same time. Educators must be task masters and have a “with-it-ness” necessary to change gears quickly and often. We are fortunate to have many talented teachers and supports here at Niobrara Public Schools that provide for these changing times.

SCHOOL LUNCH

Recently the USDA announced that waivers would be extended to schools for meals based on the summer food program. This means no lunch bills for our families for the remainder of the school year. (Originally, we thought this would expire in December 2020).

As always pay close attention to the Niobrara Public School website (www.niobraraschools.org) and the Niobrara School Facebook page for updated information about events and happenings. With Thanksgiving celebrated this month I would like to Thank you for the trust you have in our school system. We aren’t perfects, but we are working to become a PERFECT place for all. We are blessed to live in such a beautiful and caring region.



November

Native American Heritage Month

Month of November in Dakota-Tahecaps'un Wi (Tah'(k) aychaw p'shewn wee)

Translation-deer antler shedding Moon

Month of November in Ponca/Omaha-Táxti Hé Baxóⁿi-k^he (DAH-hte HAY bah

KHOYNkay) Translation-Time when the deer break off their antlers (rubbing them)

Dakota word for deer- tah'ca

Omaha/Ponca word for deer- T'áxt'ì



Omaha (Umóⁿhoⁿ) translates to “against the current”

Ponca (Póⁿka) translates to “those who lead” or “sacred head”



Dakota means ally or friend. Dakota tribal members are originally from the woodlands of the Mni Sota Makoce (Minnesota)

Mni Sota Makoce meaning “Land of thousands of waters”

Isanti (Santee)- Given to the Dakotas. They set up their camp on a part of land that resembled a big knife, between the Minnesota and Mississippi .

Sioux- This is the name given to them by their enemies the Objibwa(Chippewa). A word Nadoussioux which meant Adder snakes and thus enemy. This maybe viewed to SOME Dakota or Lakotas as offensive.

Niobrara SkillsUSA Holiday Food Sale 2020

Customer Name: _____

PH # _____

FRUIT	Price	Qty	Amt	Assorted Fruit Boxes
Oranges - 88 CT				\$24.00 ea.
Full Box	\$40.00			Fruit Assortment #1
1/2 Box	\$23.00			4 Red Delicious Apples
1/4 Box	\$12.00			4 Granny Smith Apples
Clementines - 5lb	\$8.00			4 Fancy Navel Oranges
Texas Grapefruit - 36 CT				4 Gala Apples
Full Box	\$38.00			1 Pineapple
1/2 Box	\$24.00			Fruit Assortment #2
1/4 Box	\$13.00			4 Red Delicious Apples
CR PineApple 6ct. Case				4 Fancy Navel Oranges
6 Count Case.	\$21.00			4 D'Anjou Pears
Single PineApple	\$5.00			3 Red Grapefruit
Pears - 90 CT				4 Gala Apples
Full Box	\$46.00			Fruit Assortment #3
1/2 Box	\$33.00			4 Red Delicious Apples
1/4 Box	\$17.00			4 Granny Smith Apples
Gala - 88 CT				8 Fancy Navel Oranges
Full Box	\$43.00			4 Gala Apples
1/2 Box	\$24.00			Fruit Assortment #4
1/4 Box	\$13.00			4 Red Delicious Apples
Fuji - 88 CT				2 Granny Smith Apples
Full Box	\$45.00			4 Navel Oranges
1/2 Box	\$25.00			2 D'Anjou Pears
1/4 Box	\$13.00			3 Red Grapefruit
Braeburn - 88 CT				2 Gala Apples
Full Box	\$45.00			2 Bosc Pears
1/2 Box	\$25.00			
1/4 Box	\$13.00			
Red Delicious - 88 CT				
Full Box	\$42.00			
1/2 Box	\$22.00			
1/4 Box	\$12.00			
Golden Delicious - 88 CT				
Full Box	\$48.00			
1/2 Box	\$29.00			
1/4 Box	\$15.00			
Honey Crisp - 60 CT				
Full Box	\$52.00			
1/2 Box	\$27.00			
1/4 Box	\$15.00			
Pink Lady - 88 CT				
Full Box	\$52.00			
1/2 Box	\$27.00			
1/4 Box	\$15.00			
Granny Smith - 88 ct.				
Full Box	\$45.00			
1/2 Box	\$24.00			
1/4 Box	\$13.00			
Total Fruit				

CHEESES	Price	Qty	Amt
Bites 6 oz.			
Cheddar	\$6.50		
Colby	\$6.50		
Colby Jack	\$6.50		
Garden Medley	\$6.50		
Bacon Onion	\$6.50		
Black Pepper	\$6.50		
Chipotle	\$6.50		
Dill	\$6.50		
Ranch	\$6.50		
Salsa	\$6.50		
Pepper Colby Jack	\$6.00		
Pepper Jack	\$6.00		
Pepperoni	\$6.00		
Prairie Heat	\$7.00		
Ranch	\$6.00		
Smoked Cheddar	\$6.50		
Garlic Parsley	\$6.50		
Habanero	\$7.50		
Habanero	\$7.50		
Total 6 oz Bites.			
1LB Block	Price	Qty.	Amt.
Cheddar	\$8.50		
Colby	\$8.50		
Colby Jack	\$8.50		
Monterey Jack	\$8.50		
Bacon Onion	\$9.50		
Black Pepper	\$9.50		
Chipotle	\$9.50		
Dill	\$9.50		
Garden Medley	\$9.50		
Garlic & Parsley	\$9.50		
Ghost Pepper	\$10.50		
Habanero	\$10.50		
Horseradish	\$10.50		
Pepper Colby Jack	\$9.50		
Pepper Jack	\$9.50		
Wild Italian	\$10.50		
Prairie Heat	\$10.50		
Ranch	\$9.50		
Raspberry Jalapeno	\$11.50		
Salsa	\$9.50		
Smoked Cheddar	\$9.50		
Tomato & Basil	\$9.50		
Aged Cheddar	\$10.50		
Bleu Cheddar	\$10.50		
Total 1lb BLK			
Spreads 12oz.	Price	Qty	Amt
Aged Cheddar	\$8.25		
Cheddar	\$8.25		
Habanero	\$8.25		
Horseradish	\$8.25		
Jalapeno	\$8.25		
Prairie Heat	\$8.25		
Smoked Cheddar	\$8.25		
Ranch	\$8.25		
Total Spreads			

The Niobrara SkillsUSA Club is Offering
Food From the Following Establishments:
Wausa Lockers - Wausa NE.
Bakers Candies - Greenwood NE.
Dimock Dairy - Dimock SD.
Associated Wholesale Grocers - Norfolk NE.
Butter Braids - Lester, IA.

Niobrara November Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Daylight Savings Time Fall Back	2 Down List	3 NE Wesleyan Rep Zoom 3 pm Flex Rm	4	5	6 FB Playoff Quarter Finals	7 JH Wrestling @ Wayne 10 am
				State Volleyball Lincoln		
8	9	10 NECC Rep Zoom Flex Room 2 pm	11 Veterans' Day	12 ASVAB Test PreK Parent Com- mittee Meeting 430-530 Zoom	13 FB Playoff Semi-finals	14
15	16 Winter Sports Prac- tice Begins WR/BB Down List	17	18 NO PreK-5 Students Staff Training	19 JH Wrestling @ Plainview 3 pm	20	21
	American Education Week					
22	23 JH Wrestling @ Nor- folk Catholic 430 pm FB Playoff Finals	24	25 Dismissal 2 pm	26	27	28
				Thanksgiving Break NO SCHOOL		
29	30 JH Girls BB @ O'Neill 4/5 pm JH Wrestling @ Nel- Oakdale 5 pm Down List	Dec 1 JH Wrestling@ Battle Creek 330 pm JH Girls BB vs. Plainview@ Verdigre 4 pm	Dec 2	Dec 3 JV/V G/B BB vs. Stuart @ Niobrara 330 pm		
	Scholastic Book Fair November 30 - December 11					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	B-UBR Breakfast Cookie L-Chicken Quesadillas	B-Biscuits & Gravy L-Pizza	B-Cereal & Muffins L-Mini Corn Dogs	B-Cinnamon Roll L-Taco Soup	B-Breakfast Pizza L-McRib Sandwich	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	B-Tornadoes L-Italian Dunkers	B-Biscuits & Gravy L-Lasagna	B-Cereal & Yogurt L-Chicken Fajitas	B-Twist Donut L-Cooks Choice	B-Breakfast Pizza L-Chicken Noodle Casserole	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	B-Sausage/Pancake on a Stick L-Chicken/Bacon/ Ranch Casserole	B-Biscuits & Gravy L-Chicken Noodle Soups	B-Cereal & Muffins L-Hot Dog	B-Rolls & Donuts L-Tacos	B-Breakfast Pizza L-Taverns	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	B-UBR Breakfast Cookie L-Chicken Nuggets	B-Biscuits & Gravy L-Thanksgiving Meal	B-Cereal & Yogurt L-Cheeseburger	No School	No School	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	B-Tornadoes L-Nachos					
29	30					

NOVEMBER

2020

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30
31					31				

OCTOBER 2020

DECEMBER 2020