

From the Superintendent's Desk



HUMPHREY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Home of the Bulldogs

Welcome to December. This is always an exciting time of year for students and staff. It is fun to get to hear everyone's "traditions" for the holidays and compare them to my own memories from my childhood. I hope that you all enjoyed your time with family over Thanksgiving. I'm sure everyone is gearing up for the next holiday season, getting decorations put up, putting together travel plans and getting those shopping lists completed.

I want to congratulate the HLHF volleyball team on their successful season, with a trip to the state volleyball tournament. Also, congratulations to the Humphrey High One Act team on their 4th place finish at districts. For those that don't know, our One Act team moved up from class D1 to class C2. For it being the first year in C2, they did an amazing job. They tied for 3rd at districts, but ended up placing 4th.

In November, the Nebraska School Counselor Association held their annual conference. NSCA honors exemplary school counselor professionals who are advocates for their students, helping them achieve success in school and in life. Ms. Cami Oelsligle was named the 2023 Nebraska Elementary School Counselor of the Year. In addition to the Elementary award, two other counselors were awarded the Middle School Counselor of the Year and the High School Counselor of the Year. Ms. Oelsligle and the other two honorees will also be celebrated at a formal dinner celebration in February where one of them will be named the overall 2023 Nebraska School Counselor of the Year and will represent Nebraska at the American School Counselor Association School Counselor of the Year award program. We are so grateful to have Ms. Oelsligle as part of our Bulldog Family. Congratulations Ms. Oelsligle.

The December calendar is filled with multiple activities for the family to enjoy. Our winter sports season is underway. Along with basketball, bowling, and speech, our students will be putting on their annual winter music programs. I would highly encourage you to come out and support our talented students. If you are not able to attend in person, check out our live stream. The links to the events can be found on our website as well as Humphrey Public social media outlets. Thank you to Mitzi Luedtke and her live streaming students for providing this for those not able to attend. As a reminder when you attend our events, our administration, coaches, and students ask for your cooperation in displaying positive sportsmanship. We take pride in representing our school the Bulldog way!

As I end my letter, I will continue to do my very best to model the importance of respect for self and others, promote Bulldog pride in our school, provide a safe and productive environment and provide educational opportunities for our students and staff. It is my goal that every student has a positive and rewarding experience here at Humphrey Public School. If you ever have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call or schedule a time to meet. My door is always open. Have a great December & GO BULLDOGS!!!

Mr. King



THE BULLDOG

NEWS FROM THE JH/HS PRINCIPAL

December 2023

We are on the tail end of the 1st semester of the 2023-24 school year. Please make sure that you and your child review their grades before the end of the semester. Please check PowerSchool for your child's most updated grades. Get a hold of Mrs. Luedtke at mitziluedtke@humphrey.esu7.org if you need assistance. So, with that being said, I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving as was able to get away from the everyday hustle and bustle. A few things that I wanted to cover

- Please check the activities schedule and try to make a ball game, bowling meet, or a speech meet. The winter months are full of activities and this year we will have more home games than last year.
- There is a new rule change in basketball this year. The NFHS has eliminated the 1 and 1 we are all used to. It will now be done by the quarter. So, fouls are kept on the board up to 5 per quarter. Once a team has committed 5 team fouls in a quarter the other team will get two free throws.
- I will be sending out a connect5 each week about low lunch balances. We are currently working with PowerSchool to try and figure out a way you can see your student's balance daily. Also, we are looking into a way for parents to pay online. I do not know the time table for these two things, but we are looking into it.
- Back in November the 7-12 graders took part in an assembly about mental health and other ways to handle stress. I encourage parents and students to have an open dialogue about this issue and please don't be afraid to contact Mr. Kirby or Ms. Oelsigle if you have questions or concerns.
- There is only 3 weeks left in the 1st semester. Please keep track of grades as we get closer to the end of December. Communicate with your student and teachers to make sure that everything is taken care of.
- Last, if your child drives to school, please take the time to speak with them about winter driving.

Thank you.

Mr. Kirby



DECEMBER

Elementary News

From the Desk of Mr. Rathje:

Welcome to December! It is hard to believe that the 1st semester is nearing an end. Since we have had some snow, it is beginning to look a lot more like winter. Please remember that it is ultimately the parents' decision to decide if their child(ren) should come to school based off weather and road conditions. Our goal is to always ensure that the students and staff are safe to arrive at school. Please also ensure that your students are adequately dress for outside recess.

The students have been gearing up for their winter music concert that is set to take place on December 7th beginning at 6:30. Mrs. Whited is finalizing the details and we will provide any additional information as the concert gets closer. If you have any further questions, please contact Mrs. Whited through email or phone call at school.

As we continue to progress through the 2nd quarter, midterm reports for grades K-6 have been sent home. Please check your child's backpack and discuss these reports with them. This ensures that we are all on the same page regarding your child's education.

The 1st semester is winding down and we have had an awesome first half of the school year. We celebrated our 1st quarter accomplishments with a Bulldog Rally just before Thanksgiving break. We are proud of the hard work and progress that our students are achieving. We will be having our 2nd quarter Bulldog Rally after winter break in January. We will once again be highlighting our elementary students and their academic successes as well as students who received a positive office referral.

Lastly, Thursday, December 21st is a 12:00 dismissal. Students will be served lunch this day but we will NOT be serving breakfast. Please make sure your child has breakfast at home. Our Winter Break will be from December 22nd-January 3rd. We will be resuming school on January 4th.

If you ever have any questions, please feel free to contact me. We will continue to keep moving forward and striving to be our Bulldog BEST every day! Have a GREAT December and WINTER BREAK!

*Educationally Yours,
Mr. Rathje*

December

Greetings from the Counselor

I'm not certain how it is December when November just started yesterday, but here we are! ☺ In all seriousness, I hope everyone has had a great first half of our school year and that the second half is even better. Here's also to wishing all of our families a healthy and blessed holiday season!

Elementary in review: This past month in elementary guidance, we spoke about kindness, feelings, drug awareness, empathy, embracing our differences, healthy living and showing our thankfulness. We completed activities such as identifying feelings, developing coping strategies, classroom discussion, the effects of rumors, and various crafts that are all over the school. What a wonderful time to celebrate all that we are thankful for as we enter into the Holiday season! Students also discussed being thankful for family, religion, school, friends, and good health. The students at Humphrey Public are extremely thankful, blessed, and great kids to work with.

Elementary in the future: In the month of December, 5th and 6th graders will do some research on colleges and be introduced to the terminology. Research shows the younger we introduce college and future career planning to our students, the more likely they are to plan and pursue a successful future. It's a perfect time for students to come home over the holiday season and talk to many family members about college and future careers. I encourage these discussions if possible. During this time, K-4th grade will work on social skills, especially good manners, caring for others, correct ways to disagree, and continuing to change the world through our kind ways. This leads into the Christmas season, which is a perfect time to talk about acting in this manner.

Junior High:

1. Continue to think about different careers you would like to pursue. Narrowing your search down at a younger age will help as you make your decision in your high school career about what path lies ahead for you.
2. Ask me questions, ask your teachers questions, ask your family questions. That is the best way to get answers. ☺
3. Continue to save money for when you do go to college or enter the real world after high school. You will definitely be glad you did.
4. Remember that your grades can directly affect your future as well. Take the time to complete projects and homework assignments thoroughly and to the best of your ability. You are the people who will benefit the most from that. Colleges are starting to accept GPA over ACT scores for scholarships and admittance. Make sure your early high school years don't leave a lasting negative effect on your future.
5. As always, be involved and cheer on your classmates who are involved in activities as well. A positive school environment involves you.

9th-10th Grades:

1. Start researching the careers you have been thinking about. Look at different colleges that would be a good fit for you.
2. Have a conversation with your parents about how college is going to be paid for. Are your parents going to help? Will you pay for most of it? Are they going to pay for books? Cost plays a big part in determining where some students go to college. Having this conversation early, will help prevent stresses later on.
3. Many of you are involved in activities right now. Remember to stay caught up on your schoolwork. Life doesn't halt because we are busy, we have to learn to succeed despite the business. On that note, I encourage you all to be involved and support those that are also involved.

11th Grade:

1. Narrow down your career options and visit those schools that have the option. If you are undecided, that is okay. Many colleges won't have you declare until after your first year, but it is best to have thought about different majors so that you go into college with some idea.
2. I encourage you to consider taking the ACT before the state testing date. The ACT has replaced the NESAS/NSCAS for juniors. All juniors in the state of Nebraska will take an ACT given at school in the spring. By taking an ACT before then, you will have more confidence and be better prepared for the spring ACT date. As many of you know, a good ACT score can truly help your future. If your score is not where you want it, don't panic. By taking the test early, there is time to study and try new techniques.
3. All juniors will take part in the John Baylor Test Prep. As stated before, buy into this and it will help.
4. Go on college visits. The only way to truly see if a college is for you is to get on campus and visit. This gives you the first-hand experience needed to make your decisions. If you need help setting up a visit or researching schools, please, come in and see me.

12th Grade:

1. The FAFSA will release soon. Be watching for this and work to complete it in an efficient manner.
2. Continue or begin looking for scholarships. I email any and all scholarships I'm aware of. You may also use *ScholarshipQuest* at Educationquest.org. Also, Peterson's, FindTuition, Cappex, and School Soup are free websites that may have more scholarships available for you.
3. Make sure you are applying for admission into the college you want to go to. If you are unsure, apply to both. See what scholarships you receive, compare pros and cons, double check that they have your major, and make your decision. Please, let me know if there are necessary transcripts or materials that I need to send in.

On an ending note, we have been lucky with decent weather so far this year. However, never trust Nebraska weather. Students, if you are driving, please have an ice scraper, an extra coat, or other necessary items for the winter. Parents, please make sure students are coming to school with coats, hats and gloves when necessary. I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and blessed Holiday Season.

Cami Oelsigle
K-12 School Counselor
camio@humphrey.esu7.org

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

12/7/2023: Elementary Music Concert 6:30pm
12/11/2023: JH/HS Music Concert 7:00pm
12/21/2023: Early Dismissal @ 12:00pm (No breakfast,
lunch will be served) for Christmas Break
12/23/2023 – 12/27-2023: Moratorium
01/04/2024: School Resumes

STAY SAFE ON THE ROAD THIS WINTER

UNDER THE HOOD:

CHECK YOUR BATTERY

Colder temperatures can have a big impact on the life of your car battery. Make sure it's charged and ready to go!

KEEP GAS IN THE TANK

Don't let your gas line get too low in freezing temperatures! This can cause your car to stall.



BEFORE YOU GO:

GIVE YOURSELF TIME

Driving without completely defrosting your windshield is incredibly dangerous! Make sure you give yourself enough time to scrape away any frost or snow so you can clearly see the road ahead of you.

START YOUR CAR EARLY

Blasting the heat as soon as you start your car wastes fuel! Start your car early and let it warm up before you have to hit the road!



IN YOUR CAR:

STORE GLOVES

Driving with an ice cold steering wheel can be dangerous! Keep warm gloves in your car for a firm grip on the wheel.

HAVE A HAMMER HANDY

If the unthinkable happens, and you are stuck in your car, you might need a hammer to exit a window safely.

ON THE ROAD:

CHECK TIRE PRESSURE & TREAD

Cold temperatures can have a serious impact on the pressure in your tires. It's important to make sure your tires are in good shape before you set off on a slippery road.

BREAK EARLY

In these winter months, break earlier than you think you need to! There may be ice on the road that could cause you to slide into an intersection or the car in front of you.



25 Days of Christmas

MacaroniKID[®]
Lowell



MacaroniKID[®]
Acton Concord Bedford Lexington

Make a Christmas countdown paper garland	Write and mail a letter to Santa	Take a Christmas family picture	Read a Christmas book	Bake and decorate Christmas cookies
Make Christmas cards and bring to a nursing home	Shop for toys and winter clothes to donate	Make cookie cutter ornaments*	Shop for this year's special Christmas ornament	Have a "gingerbread" decorating contest*
Watch your favorite Christmas movie*	Make Christmas Tree Cupcakes*	Make and play with gingerbread play dough*	Drive by houses with holiday light displays	Watch an online Nutcracker with the family
Make salt dough ornaments*	Have a Christmas carol sing-along	Make gifts for your teachers	Wrap and decorate gifts for family	Cut out paper snowflakes*
Go to a drive-through holiday light display	Set up a hot cocoa buffet & watch the Polar Express	Look at photos & share stories from past Christmases	Watch "A Christmas Carol"	Put out Reindeer Food & treats for Santa

Humphrey Public School Activities




SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Check out the website & watch for the most up to date information at www.humphreybulldogs.org Activities are subject to change due to unforeseen scheduling conflicts, etc. Please watch the daily bulletin for the most up to date information.</p>					<p>1 * 3rd Grade - Gingerbread houses *HS G/B BB @ Leigh</p>	<p>2 *JH G BB @ Leigh *Bowling @ Newman Grove *HS G/B BB @ Battle Creek</p>
<p>3 *Booster Club/Post Prom Meeting</p>	<p>4 *FFA District Leadership @ Howells *JH G BB @ Tilden</p>	<p>5 *Bowling @ Columbus *JH G BB vs Plainview @ LHF *HS G/B BB vs Plainview @ LHF</p>	<p>6 *FFA Meeting</p>	<p>7 *State One Act *Elementary Music Concert</p>	<p>8 *FFA fruit arrives *HS G/B BB @ Howells</p>	<p>9 *JH G BB @ Fullerton *Bowling @ Norfolk</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>11 *School Board Meeting *JH/HS Music Concert</p>	<p>12 *Bowling @ North Bend *HS G/B BB vs Pender @ HHS</p>	<p>13 *Banking in School</p>	<p>14 *Bowling @ Humphrey *HS G/B BB vs LHNE @ LHF</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 *JH G BB @ Howells *Bowling @ Humphrey *HS G/B BB vs Lyons-Decatur @ HHS</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>18 *JV Bowling @ Columbus Westbrook *JH G BB vs GACC @ HHS</p>	<p>19 *HS G/B BB @ Columbus Scotus</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>12:00 Dismissal End of 2nd Qrt/1st Semester</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Christmas Break until January 4, 2024</p>	<p>23</p> <p>NSAA Moratorium</p>
<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>----- NSAA Moratorium -----</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>G/B Holiday Tourney at North Bend</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31</p>						



December 2023



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Menus subject to change. Choice of hot breakfast sandwich, milk, water and juice offered daily for breakfast. Choice of cold sandwich, milk, water, salad and fruit bar offered daily for lunch. Lunch alternate must be requested by 9:00 am. USDA is an equal opportunity provider & employer.</p>				<p>1 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~~ Pizza Vegetable Fruit/Veggie Bar</p>
<p>4 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~~ Chicken Alfredo Vegetable Fruit/Veggie Bar Bun</p>	<p>5 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~~ Soup/Chili Cinnamon Roll Vegetable Fruit/Veggie Bar</p>	<p>6 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~~ Chicken Nuggets Vegetable Fruit/Veggie Bar</p>	<p>7 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~~ Spaghetti Vegetable Fruit/Veggie Bar Bun</p>	<p>8 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~~ Mini Corn Dog Vegetable Fruit/Veggie Bar</p>
<p>11 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~~ Flying Saucer Vegetable Fruit/Veggie Bar Bun</p>	<p>12 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~~ Chicken & Waffles Vegetable Fruit/Veggie Bar</p>	<p>13 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~~ BBQ Pork Sandwich Vegetable Fruit/Veggie Bar</p>	<p>14 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~~ Taco in a Bag Vegetable Fruit/Veggie Bar</p>	<p>15 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~~ Hamburger on a Bun Vegetable Fruit/Veggie Bar</p>
<p>18 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~~ Cheese Pull-A-Parts Vegetable Fruit/Veggie Bar</p>	<p>19 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~~ Christmas Dinner</p>	<p>20 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~~ Stuffed Crust Pizza Vegetable Fruit/Veggie Bar</p>	<p>21 ~~~~~ NO Breakfast Cooks Choice</p>	

**HAVE A GREAT CHRISTMAS
BREAK.**

See you back Tuesday
January 4th!!