

December 2021 Newsletter

From the Superintendent's desk:

As we enter the month of December and the Christmas season, I encourage everyone to download the December calendar to your phones or keep a copy of it near because there are many activities scheduled in the 15 days of school leading up to the Christmas break. I am looking forward to the beginning of the basketball and bowling seasons along with our two Christmas concerts. Mrs. Whited and the elementary students will be singing for everyone at the annual Elementary Christmas concert scheduled for Friday, December 17. The concert for K-2 students will start at 6:30 p.m. followed by the grades 3-6 concert at 7:15 p.m. Mr. Bertrand's 6th grade band students will also be playing at the 7:15 p.m. concert. The grades 7-12 Christmas concert is scheduled for Monday, December 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the gymnasium. I hope you are able to join us for both concerts as we have many talented students who will display their musical abilities. I also want to thank our very talented instrumental and vocal music teachers, Mrs. Whited and Mr. Bertrand. The dedication and love for music that you share with our students is greatly appreciated. Please mark your calendars and join us for two outstanding concerts.

With the end of the second quarter/1st semester quickly approaching, I want to thank our parents, students and staff for your cooperation, hard work and understanding as we continue to work through COVID related illnesses and quarantines. I shared and discussed the updated Illness Plan in my November newsletter, we also posted it on the school website. I hope this plan brought some clarity on how we address illnesses (including COVID) and what our expectations are for students and parents. You've all been super about keeping ill students at home and not furthering the spread of COVID or any other virus. I ask that you continue to follow this request as we attempt to keep everyone in our school as healthy as possible. If you have flu or COVID like symptoms, we're asking students to stay home and then return to school only when your symptoms have subsided. I greatly appreciate your cooperation.

As we enter the upcoming winter sports season, I want to address the issue of sportsmanship and my plea to all parents, students and Bulldog fans to please be respectful at our basketball and bowling activities. One of my least favorite job responsibilities is to escort a fan out of the facility because they could not control their anger or made very negative or inappropriate comments toward an official or opposing team. The NSAA shared information with school administrators in the fall that there is a shortage of referees/officials and one of the main reasons is due to verbal and at times, physical abuse towards officials at games. Bulldog fans have displayed positive sportsmanship for the most part over my 19 years which is greatly appreciated. I want to share this comment with fans to hopefully give them something to think

about before saying something negative, if this was your son or daughter reffing, would you be yelling or want others to be yelling at him/her in this manner? I believe most of us know the answer to this question. Please be positive and enjoy the upcoming sports season.

Before I end my newsletter, I want to share that Humphrey Public School will once again be providing a live stream for home basketball games in Humphrey this winter. The link this season for the live stream is <u>bit.ly/HPSLiveStream</u>. I personally and professionally want to thank Mrs. Luedtke for her willingness to live stream Bulldog activities. By providing the live stream, she is allowing many people to watch their kids and/or grandkids who otherwise wouldn't have the opportunity. Mrs. Luedtke's acts of kindness are appreciated by myself and many others. When you have a chance, please send Mrs. Luedtke an email, text or tell her inperson how much you appreciate the time she willingly spends to bring our kid's activities into your homes. Thank you so much Mrs. Luedtke, you are Bulldog AWESOME!!

I want to end my newsletter as I always do by saying should you ever have any questions, please call and get the answers. This will help curb any misinformation and help eliminate rumors and your concerns. Clear and open communication between the community and the school are vital areas in the success of Humphrey Public School.

Happy Holidays Mr. Sjuts

I hope all of you had a great Thanksgiving and had much needed time with family and friends. That being said, we are on our last stretch for the first semester of the school year. Within the next three weeks we will have Basketball games, One-Acts, Bowling, FFA, FCCLA, Winter concerts, and I am sure there is something else I am missing. Simply put, there is a lot going on in the next three weeks. So, there are a few things to think about.

Students, as the second quarter/first semester comes to a close, make sure you are up to date with your grades. Please check them so that you are not surprised when break starts. So, make sure you are communicating with your teachers. Seniors, make sure you are communicating with your college instructors. Also, make sure you are aware of assignment, project, and/or final dates.

Parents, please assist your student in making sure they have everything in line as the quarter/semester comes to an end. If you have not yet been signed up for PowerSchool, please let myself or Mrs. Luedtke know and we will assist you in setting this up.

Remember that for the whole 2021-2022 school year that school breakfast and lunch are free for all students at HPS. This is a great opportunity for our kids and a burden lifted off our parents. Take advantage of this program and if you have any questions call the office.

Everyone, I want to thank all of you for making my first semester in Humphrey great. Special thanks to Mr. Sjuts and Mr. King for helping me in my new role. Amanda and Michelle in the office have gone above and beyond to help me. Thank you to the staff as they have done a great job of working with me. Then there are the students! I am thankful for the students who walk through our doors on a daily basis. Having such great students, staff, and parents to work with has been the best part of coming to Humphrey Public.

Mr. Kirby



From the Desk of Mr. King:

Welcome to December! I hope this letter finds you and your family doing well. It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of the first semester of the 2021-2022 school year and how fast this school year has been going. It seems to go faster and faster each year.

The elementary students have been working really hard to prepare for their upcoming Winter Music Concert. The concert will be held on Friday, December 17, 2021. Grades K-2 will perform at 6:30pm. Grades 3-6 will perform at 7:15pm. Additional details will be sent home with students by Mrs. Whited. If you have any questions, please send Mrs. Whited an email or call the school office.

The FCCLA group will once again be selling Winter Grams to send to students. A note with details about the Winter Grams and an order form was sent home with your elementary student. I hope that you are able to send a Winter Gram to your child as they are very excited to receive them. All proceeds from this event are going straight to the FCCLA Back Pack program. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Another FCCLA event that is coming up on Monday, December 20th is the FCCLA Elf Bootcamp. Details will be sent out later this week. They will be providing games, dinner and a movie. It will be held at school from 4:00pm - 8:00pm. If you are needing a little extra time to finish up your Holiday shopping, let the FCCLA group help with child care.

Last spring, students in grades 3-6 completed the NSCAS assessment. Individual Student Reports (ISR) have been released to schools. Your students ISR was sent home with progress reports. If you have any questions about your students report, please contact your child's teacher or Mr. King.

As I wrap up my letter, please remember that my door is always open if you ever feel the need to talk about any concerns that you may have. If you ever have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Until my next letter, have a great December!



Greetings from the Counselor

Way to go Bulldogs! We are in the last month of 2021 with lots to celebrate. We have successfully remained in school, gone without a mask mandate, and have enjoyed success throughout the fall season. I am so incredibly proud of the effort of our administration, students, staff, and community. Each and every one of you should be proud of yourselves! Go Bulldogs!

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, teaching our classmates various skills, classroom discussion, 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.

- 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 NESA/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. Many of you have your FAFSA completed. If not, work on completing it. If you need help with it, please ask. If you are waiting for the right time, I do understand. Please, share with parents the emails I send regarding financial assistance. After submitting the FAFSA, you should expect a Student Aid Report (SAR). This will come to you in your email. This says that your FAFSA was received and if there are any other necessary actions to take with your FAFSA. If this report shows an income much larger than it should, we can still go back into the FAFSA and make the necessary changes. By completing it early, this allows for the necessary time to do so.
- 2. Continue or begin looking for scholarships. I have the Google Doc and update as I am made aware of scholarships. 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 Oelsligle K-12 School Counselor camio@humphrey.esu7.org





SUNDAY	MONDAY	THEODAY	WEDNECDAY	THUDODAY	EDIDAY	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The second second	Check out the websi most up to date www.humphreybulld are subject to change scheduling conflicts, er daily bulletin for the informa	nformation at logs.org Activities due to unforeseen tc. Please watch the e most up to date	1 * Banking at School 7:30am *District One Act @ Creighton *Clubs Choice Delivery for Seniors	2	3 *HS G/B BB @ Clarkson- Leigh *3rd Grade Gingerbread houses 1:300m	4 *JH G BB vs Clarkson-Leigh @ HHS #HS G/B BB @ Battle Creek *Bowling @ Newman Grove
5	6 *JH G BB vs Elkhorn Valley @ LHF *C Team G/B BB vs Clarkson-Leigh @ HHS *FFA District Leadership @ Newman Grove *Bowling @ Columbus (Westbrook Lanes)	7 *Spirit Practice 7:15am *JH G BB vs Plainview @ LHF * HS G BB vs Plainview @ LHF	8 *FFA Meeting 7:30am	9 *State One Act *Bowling vs Howells-Dodge @ HHS	10 *FFA Fruit Delivery *JH G BB @ GACC *HS G/B BB @ Howells- Dodge	11 *JH G BB @ Fullerton *Bowling @ Norfolk
12	13 *JH/HS Winter Music Concert 6:30pm *School Board Mtg 7:30pm	14 *HS G/B BB vs Pender @ HHS	15 *Banking in School 7:30am *10th Grade Connecting the Dots	16 *HS G/B BB vs Lurtheran High Northeast @ HHS *Bowling Dual @ HHS	17 *FCCLA Meeting 7:30 am *Elementary Music Concert Grades K-2 @ 6:30pm and Grades 3-6 @ 7:15pm	18 *JH G BB @ Howells-Dodge *HS G/B BB @ Boone Central *Bowling Dual @ HHS
19	20 *7-12 FCCLA Elf Boot Camp 4:00pm	21 12:00 Dismissal NO PRESCHOOL End of 2nd Qrt/1st Semester No Breakfast/No Lunch *HS G/B BB vs Columbus Scotus @ HHS	22 Christmas Br January 4, 2		24	25
26 - NSAA Moratorium	27	28 G/B Holiday Tour	29 ney at North Bend	30	31 HAPPY NEW YEAR	





Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Choice of hot brea	L	Menus subject to change. offered daily for breakfast. Choice of o unch alternate must be requested by 9 DA is an equal opportunity provider &		offered daily for lunch.
		1 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal McRibb on a Bun Corn Peaches	2 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes Peas	3 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cerea Quesadilla Lettuce Mixed Fruit Cookie
6 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Chicken Tacos	7 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Soup/Chili	8 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Pork Patty on a Bun	Oranges 9 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Goulash	10 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cerea Mini Corn Dogs
Potato Smiles Pineapple	Cinnamon Roll Mandarin Oranges	Cooked Carrots Peaches	Corn Pears Dinner Bun	Green Beans Dinner Bun Chocolate Cake
13 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	14 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	15 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	16 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	17 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cerea
Chinese over Rice Broccoli Pineapple	Nachos & Trimmings Lettuce Corn Apples	Ham & Scalloped Potatoes Pears Dinner Bun	Pretzel & Cheese Lettuce Corn Peaches	Hamburger on a Bun Baked Beans Chips Mixed Fruit
20 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Pizza Lettuce Oranges/Pineapple	21 No Breakfast No Lunch Early Dismissal		REAT CHRISTMAS E back Thursday January	