

## January 2021 Newsletter

From the Superintendent's desk:

I want to welcome everyone back for the start of the second semester. I hope you had an awesome Christmas and New Year's holiday season and were able to spend some quality time with your family and friends while staying healthy and safe. As a reminder, our 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of school will begin on Tuesday, January 5, 2021.

I want to start my January newsletter off by thanking two school board members who will end their terms at the January 11, 2021 board meeting. Doug Beller has served on the school board for 8 years and Barry Tasa has served on the school board for 4 years. I want to personally and professionally thank both Doug and Barry for their willingness to serve on the school board. They have provided the district with tremendous leadership and always made decisions based on what was good for students. I will miss their knowledge and experience on the board and appreciate everything they have done for Humphrey Public School District #67. I also look forward to working with our two new board members, Aaron Korth and Paul Schemek. They will take their oath of office during the January 11, 2021 re-organization of the school board.

On a very uplifting note, I hope you had the opportunity to read the article in the Humphrey Democrat about the mural painted by Oriana Kuehler, a senior here at Humphrey Public School. Oriana painted the mural on the wall by Ms. Oelsligle's office as part of her art class project because she wanted to spread the message of kindness and being positive with all students. I want to thank Oriana for painting the mural that will be a part of Humphrey Public School for a long time and for sharing kindness with all of our students and staff. Great job Oriana!!

The last topic I want to discuss is the COVID-19 pandemic and the NSAA winter season guidelines that we must follow. Thru Sunday, January 3, 2021, we are under the 25% capacity limitations. Schools received an update from NSAA Executive Director Jay Bellar, who is increasing capacity to 50% beginning January 4, 2021. Circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic are constantly changing and can vary from school to school. Difficult decisions are made for the health and safety of our students, staff, as well as other communities so we can continue to provide students opportunities to participate in the winter NSAA activities season. We will be updating our COVID-19 plan addressing the increased capacities. With this new capacity, we need to know if capacity is still limited to household members and grandparents only or if the general public attend. We will get this information, along with guidance and protocols for the upcoming Speech season out to parents via our Connect 5 communication system.

As always, I want to end my newsletter as I normally do by saying should you ever have any questions, please call and get the answers. Clear and open communication between the community and the school are vital areas in the success of our school.

Mr. Sjuts



## From the Principal's Desk:

Welcome to 2021! I'm not sure I can find the words to describe the many emotions experienced during 2020. There are some really great times and there were some really hard times. What I do know, is what we learned navigating through the many changes this pandemic has brought, has made each and everyone of us more appreciative and grateful for the people we have in our lives.

In December, Humphrey Public students were able to perform their musical talents. The elementary students made some adjustments and recorded their music programs, while the JH/HS students were able to perform in person. This has been a more challenging year for our music departments due to the pandemic and the safety precautions put in place. I want to thank Mrs. Whited and Mr. Bertrand for their work in preparing our students for a great performance.

As we have entered the season of sickness, I would like to remind our parents that if you take your child to the doctor, please make sure that you get a note from the doctor excusing them from school. This note needs to be turned into the office so it can be placed in our files. This is very important to have on file as we have documentation verifying your student's absence when we submit our attendance reports to the state department of education.

The Nebraska School Activities Association recently announced the Nebraska Chiropractic Physicians Association Academic All-State Awards for the 2020 fall sports season. I would like to recognize and congratulate the following student athletes on this outstanding award. *Girls Cross Country* - Allison Durkop; *Football* - Jacob Sjuts and Jason Sjuts; *Volleyball* - Autumn Bender and Addison Schneider; *Play Production* - Oriana Kuehler and Carson Schnitzler.

A reminder that on Monday, February 8, 2021 is Parent-Teacher conferences. Sign up sheets will be going home during January. We encourage you to attend and chat with your students' teachers regarding their progress. Conferences will again run from 1:30pm until 8:00pm. If you are unable to make it during the scheduled time, please contact your students' teacher to schedule a time to meet.

Another reminder for elementary students and parents that there is NO SCHOOL on Friday, February 5th for grades PK-6. Our elementary staff will be continuing their work on writing/updating social studies and science curriculum.

A final reminder for this newsletter is that the USDA FREE lunch program for all students grades PK-12 continues through the rest of the school year. Students get their first course for free, however, their second course is charged to their account. Please make sure lunch money is getting sent to cover their seconds.

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 January!





Greetings from the Counselor

Happy New Year! In a year full of division, twists and turns, and unprecedented times, I know 2020 was not quite what we expected; however, I am hopeful that everyone was able to reflect on the year and find the good within it. The first semester has flown by even while everyone is adjusting to a new way of life. I cannot accurately convey how proud I am of our school and community for making an entire semester of in person learning possible. Great work to all! I look forward to this upcoming semester, and the opportunity to work with some of the best students, families, and faculty around. Every day is a great day to be a Bulldog!

Elementary Guidance: The past month we have worked with spreading Christmas and Holiday cheer, remembering our manners, and understanding how our words can hurt people, but also help them. The fifth and sixth graders have both began to work with colleges. Research shows, the earlier we expose our students to colleges and the idea of going, the more likely they are to attend. I make sure to mention that college may not be the path for everyone, but our Humphrey Public research shows that 85% or more of our students attend college at some point in their lives. Therefore, by instructing heavily on college, it is not that I want to discredit the work force; it is simply to share information a large majority of our students will need to know for their future. If you or your child ever has any questions about their future, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or have them do so. In the upcoming months, we will continue to discuss future career options and college opportunities. We will also continue working on the characteristics it takes to be a good person.

## 7th-9th Grades:

- 1. Keep working hard. This is a new semester and a chance to get or keep your grades where you would like them. Decide now, where you want to be in your upper high school years. Good grades, attendance, and school participation lead to more scholarships and more opportunities. The sky is the limit for all of you. Don't settle for anything less. Remember to be involved, cheer your classmates and schoolmates on, and to stay caught up.
- 2. A good idea for the future is to start writing down any activities you are involved in, any awards you may have received, and any volunteering you have done. Keep this in a Google Doc or similar location so that you will have the information when it comes time to create a resume.
- 3. Also, remember to start thinking about your future and different careers you might find interesting.

 $10^{\text{th}}\text{-}11^{\text{th}}$  Grades:

- 1. As with the 7-9 grades, you have an opportunity at a new semester to perform how you want. Don't waste this opportunity. With a new beginning, you can achieve whatever you put your minds to.
- 2. As you all continue to think about future careers, I highly encourage you to consider going on Job Shadows. The best way to determine if a career is for you is to get out

and see what goes on in that career. I can help you get registered for a Job Shadow if you need assistance. Due to COVID, Job Shadows are typically virtual right now, and this actually helps make them a bit easier to accommodate. So, if you're at all interested, let's get something set up!

- 3. I also encourage you all to consider different colleges and for the 11<sup>th</sup> graders, start taking college visits. That is also the best way to see if a college is the perfect fit for you. Again, many of these are virtual. It can't quite replace actually being there, but the virtual visits typically provide good information and a good overview of the college and campus.
- 4. Continue to save money for college along with keeping track of all activities you've been in and awards you have received. Compiling all of this information into a resume would be a great idea and save you stress in the future.
- 5. Be thinking about people who would be able and willing to write you letters of recommendation. It is a good idea to have these individuals in mind before your senior year so that you are prepared for scholarships and applications.
- 6. As always, it is good to look at applying for the ACT. That can be done at <u>www.act.org</u>

12<sup>th</sup> Grade:

- 1. You are in your final semester of high school. It is bittersweet, but remember to finish strong. Even if you are accepted and have received financial aid to college, it is still important to finish this final semester to the best of your ability.
- 2. I suggest that you all speak with a staff member and have at least one letter of recommendation completed along with a community member with a second letter. This will aid you in applying for scholarships and possibly admission.
- 3. If you do not have the FAFSA completed, this needs to be done very soon. Please, come in and see me if you need help with its completion.
- 4. Many of the big scholarship deadlines, such as Susan Buffet, are right around the corner. I encourage you to fill out as many scholarships as possible. If I can ever be of assistance to you, please stop in and see me.
- 5. Also, try to begin narrowing your search on a college. In order to have the best opportunities at colleges for housing and scholarships, it is best to be decided by February. If you are not certain, there is still time, but do your best to narrow it down. If you have not been on the campus of the school you are interested in, I would suggest setting up a college visit so you can be sure it is the best college for you. As always, if you have any questions, please see me.

I am excited for the second half of this school year. I am here to help with any concerns anyone might have.

Cami Oelsligle pK-12 School Counselor 402-923-1230 camio@humphrey.esu7.org



6<sup>th</sup> Grade News

Things are busy in the sixth grade room this year. We have 16 students in our class and have been working hard on many different things.

In reading class, we have been working on genres, main ideas, context clues, figurative language, Greek and Latin roots, and there are always new vocabulary words with each story we read. Our phonics class goes over syllables, digraphs, consonant clusters, and the different meanings of various prefixes and suffixes.

English brings work on the basics of grammar: sentence structure, nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, etc. We also spend time writing different types of essays.

In Math we are covering adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing decimals, fractions, and integers. Second semester gets a lot more into ratios, percentages, equations, and geometry.

Note taking is a big part of both Science and Social Studies for us. It helps us group together the most important parts of the sections we read in our textbooks. Science has us discussing elements, atoms, compounds, gravity, electricity, space, nature, and the human body. Ancient civilizations are our focus in Social Studies. We cover everything from cavemen, to Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, and Greece first semester. This spring we will work our way through Rome, Arabia, Africa, Europe, Asia, and Ancient America.

With all these things to keep us busy-homework, quizzes, and tests-we should never get bored!

Mr. Niemann



## Humphrey Public School January 2021 Events

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
www.humph due to unfore	ebsite for the most up reybulldogs.org Activ eseen scheduling confl for the most up to dat	ities are subject to cha icts, etc. Please watch	ange	· · · ·	1 VEATO	2 *HS G/B BB @ Stanton
3	4 NO SCHOOL	5 School Resumes 3rd Qtr Begins *Bowling @ Plainview	6	7 *Bowling @ Pender	8	9 *JH B BB vs Cross County @ HHS *C Team G/B BB @ Scotus
10	11 *JH B BB @ Twin River *School Board Mtg 7:30pm	12 *HS G/B BB @ Wisner-Pilger	13 *FFA Meeting 7:30am	<b>14</b> *HS G/B BB vs Neligh Oakdale @ LHF	15 *HS G/B BB vs Summerland @ Clearwater	16 *Speech @ Pierce *JH B BB vs Clarkson Leigh *C Team G/B BB vs Twin River @ LHF
17	18 *JH B BB @ Howells Dodge	19 *Bowling @ Dodge	20 1:00pm Student Dismissal No Preschool *Teacher In-Service *Speech @ Howells Dodge	21 *HS G/B BB @ Madison	22 *HS G/B BB vs BRLD @ HHS	23 *Varsity Speech @ Lincoln SW *JV Speech @ Boone Central *JH B BB vs Fullerton @ LHF *Bowling @ Pender
24 31 *Booster Club/Post Prom	25 *Bowling @ Columbus Westbook Lanes	26 *JH B BB vs Riverside @ HHS *HS G/B BB @ Oakland Craig	27	28 *HS G/B BB vs EPPJ @ LHF *District FFA Contest	29 *EHC G BB @ TBD	30 *Speech Team Building *JH B BB Tourney @ Riverside *EHC B BB @ TBD

мон	ımphrey Schoo	Public	THURS	2021 FRI					
Menus subject to change. Choice of hot breakfast sandwich, cold cereal, milk, water and juice offered daily for breakfast. Choice of cold sandwich, milk, water and salad bar offered daily for lunch. Lunch alternate must be requested by 9:00 am. USDA is an equal opportunity provider & employer									
4	5 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	6 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	7 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	8 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal					
No School	Chicken Alfredo Green Beans Peaches Dinner Bun	Beef N Bean Burrito or Hot Dog on a Bun Baked Beans Pears	Chicken & Waffles Corn Mandarin Oranges	Fiestada Lettuce Pineapple					
11 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	12 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	13 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	14 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	15 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal					
Chicken Tenders Steamed Peas or Lettuce Peaches Dinner Bun	McRibb on a Bun Baked Bean or Broccoli Applesauce	Chicken Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Pears Dinner Bun	Beef Nachos & Trimmings Corn Pineapple	Chicken Nuggets French Fries Applesauce Dinner Bun					
18 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	19 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	20 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	21 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	22 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal					
Sloppy Jo on a Bun Corn Mandarin Oranges	Chicken Crispitos Broccoli Pears	Spaghetti & Meat Sauce Green Beans Peaches Garlic Stick	Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans or Lettuce Pineapple Dinner Bun	Hamburger on a Bun Tater Tots Applesauce					
25 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	26 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	27 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	28 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal	29 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal					
Chicken Fajita over Rice California Blend Pineapple Bread Stick	Taco in a Bag Corn or Lettuce Peaches	Tater Tot Casserole Green Beans Pears Dinner Bun	Pork Patty on a Bun French Fries Applesauce Dinner Bun	Pizza Lettuce Mixed Fruit Brownie					