

From the Superintendent's desk:

While I was thinking about information to include in my November newsletter, I looked back and noticed that we had a snow/ice storm last year that forced us to cancel school, so I am including school cancelation/late start information in case of inclement weather. As we transition from the fall to winter season, I want to remind you that we will again be utilizing the Connect 5 communication system for weather related postponements and cancelations. Hopefully all of you receive the text message or email, please do not rely solely on the Connect 5 communication system. Most of the radio stations that I call personally or complete information on-line, are lumped together through a large company or system where they get information for school closing or late starts. I've included the radio and television stations below that I contact. Hopefully there is one station listed that you listen to or watch, for school related announcements. At the beginning of the school year, a Connect 5 form was included in your school forms packet to update phone numbers and e-mail addresses. Hopefully you turned this form into the school. If you are not receiving our school Connect 5 messages, please contact Amanda Veik and we will get a form to you or take your information over the phone. Living in Nebraska, we understand how quickly our weather can change and at the most inopportune time, such as when buses are in the middle of their routes. The decision to go with a 10:00 a.m. late start or cancel school is one of the more difficult decisions I make. Please know that I will base every school/weather related decision on the safety of our students. Regardless of the decision I make, you as parents must make the FINAL decision, to either send them or keep them at home. This is your decision to make! If you decide to send them, make sure students understand the same thing I tell the bus drivers, which is, leave early, slow down, take your time, and if you're late, that is fine because I want everyone to arrive safely. Generally speaking, I will make weather related decisions by 6:15 a.m. When conditions warrant, I will announce the night before so parents have an opportunity to make necessary arrangements. The radio stations I call are as follows; KEXL 106.7 FM, WJAG 78 AM, KZ 100 FM, KKOT 93.5 The Hawk FM, KLIR 101.1 FM, KJSK 900 AM, KTTT 1510 AM, KNEN 94.7 FM and US 92 FM. The following TV stations will also carry the announcements: KOLN/KGIN TV Channel 10/11 in Lincoln and WOW-TV Channel 6 in Omaha.

I am very excited to share with you that we are going to have a Veteran's Day program this year. This year's program will be held at the Humphrey St. Francis gymnasium on Thursday, November 11 at 9:30 a.m. The program will be for all community members, both Humphrey Public and St. Francis staff and students, but especially for our veteran's living in and around Humphrey. Last year we had to cancel the program due to COVID-19. The Veteran's Day program gives us the opportunity to recognize and pay tribute to veterans for their sacrifice and service to our country. I am also pleased to announce that Mr. Bertrand and our grades 7-12 band will be playing several selections for our veterans and community members.

The last topic I want to discuss is our "Illness Plan". At the beginning of the school year, I shared the 2021-2022 Illness Plan in the September newsletter and on our school website. After discussions with the East Central Health district, local health professionals, and administrators throughout ESU #7, we have updated our illness plan. I ask that you read this updated illness

plan. I hope this plan brings some clarity on how we address illnesses (including COVID) and what our expectations are for students and parents. In an attempt to help everyone in our school stay as healthy as possible, we're asking students to stay home when you have flu or COVID symptoms and then return to school only when your symptoms have subsided. I greatly appreciate your cooperation, together we will get through this school year and keep everyone safe and healthy.

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

Have a great November and a Happy Thanksgiving! Mr. Sjuts

Humphrey Public Schools Updated 2021-2022 Illness Plan (11-1-2021)

Humphrey Public School is updating our Illness Plan to bring some clarity for parents and students dealing with COVID, influenza, RSV, strep throat, and any other illness. After much discussion with the health district, health professionals, and administrators throughout ESU #7, Humphrey Public remains committed to our three goals including; keeping our students/staff healthy & safe, continuing with in-person learning, and keeping students active in school activities. In an attempt to help everyone stay healthy: if your child is experiencing any flu type symptoms or COVID symptoms or tests positive for COVID, please keep them home and communicate with the school. Masks are available at school for any students that choose to wear one. If you have any questions about the updated plan, please call us at 402-923-1230.

In the event there is a positive case within a classroom/grade:

- The school will communicate via a Connect 5 message of a positive case.
 - o Grades PK-6 Communicated with individual grade levels.
 - Grades 7-12 Communicated with all students in grades 7-12 due to being in classes with multiple grade levels.
- Parents/guardians will need to decide if they want their child to wear a mask.

If there are multiple positive cases in a classroom or grade, the administration would discuss options that could include:

- Enacting a mask mandate for a period of time
- Social distancing measures
- Closing school to disinfect and clean
- Administration will monitor the situation for a period of time, as recommended by health care professionals. Please remember that every situation is different and decisions will be made by administration on a case-by-case basis based on available information.

What to do if I need to Zoom into my class?

- We have the "technology" to allow students the opportunity to zoom into classrooms to access their education from home when ill.
- Have your parent(s) contact the school office to let them know you will be absent.
- Communicate with your teacher(s) via email.
- Request that a Zoom link be sent to you.
- Materials needed to be sent home (i.e. books), email Mr. King or Mr. Kirby.



As the leaves are turning colors and falling, we know that the white stuff is right around the corner. Please take the time to remind students of dressing warm and for students who drive of being aware of the potential road conditions.

With the change in seasons also come the change in sports seasons. Here in the next few weeks, basketball, bowling, and one-acts will be in full swing. Check the school calendar on the website to see when ball games, matches, and performances will be and where. With that, I want to take this time to remind students and parents who have not gotten sports physicals yet to schedule those soon. Remember, if a student does not have a sport physical that student cannot participate. If a student participated in a fall activity, then that student should be fine.

I wanted to also plug that the NSAA is always looking for officials to help out and different activities. Each year the NSAA experiences lower and lower numbers of officials. So, if you are interested in helping out (during any season) please visit: nsaahome.org/officials-2/. This is a great opportunity to help out the youth in our school districts so that they do not miss out on events.

Thank you to the Jr class as they participated in our P/SAT test a few weeks ago. This was a great opportunity for our kids to practice in the writing portion of the ACT. On November 3rd our Sophomore class will have the opportunity to take the Pre-ACT. The Pre-ACT is similar to the P/SAT as it is a practice test to give the students a taste of what the ACT will be.

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.

Mr. Kirby



From the Desk of Mr. King:

Welcome to November! I hope this letter finds you and your family doing well and enjoying the fall weather. I can't believe how fast the first quarter has flown by. It seems to go faster and faster each year.

Humphrey Public School students will be attending the Veteran's Day program on Thursday, November 11th at St. Francis. The program is scheduled to start at 9:30am. All are welcome to attend as we honor those who have served or are currently serving our country.

On Tuesday, November 2, 2021 we will hold our November elementary Bulldog Rally. This event is to highlight elementary students and their academic success. Our October Bulldog Rally was a huge success.

The Nebraska Department of Education is piloting a through the year testing model as they will be transitioning to this model in the near future. Students in grades 3-6 will be completing a reading and math Winter NSCAS assessment. The assessment window opens December 1st. The winter pilot assessment is for all students in grades 3-8 across the state. I will provide additional details in my December newsletter about the testing schedule.

Last spring, students in grades 3-6 completed the NSCAS assessment. Individual Student Reports (ISR) have been released to schools. Be on the lookout for your students ISR as they will be sent home in the month of November. 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 November!

MR. KING

Greetings from the School Counselor,

Harvest is off and running and so are our students. Continue to check with teachers about the homework and projects you need to complete if you are out of the building. I, too, am frequently out of the building. If you need my assistance and I am absent, please, feel free to email me, leave me notes, or communicate to me in any way that you can what it is that I can assist you all with. As always, please contact me if there is anything at all that I can do to help you.

Elementary in review: October is bullying prevention month along with Red Ribbon Week. We have spent the past month talking about ways to show kindness to others. Please, continue to have these conversations at home as well. This transitioned to being kind to ourselves and taking care of our bodies. Please, partner with us in maintaining good hygiene so that your child and all children have the best learning experience.

We have had limited instances of bullying currently this school year. We are hopeful that is because it is not happening and not because we do not know about it. Therefore, we ask if it is occurring to please communicate with us. We cannot help if we do not know. We ask that at home you are speaking about the importance of bully free schools. I encourage students to stand up to those who are bullying, support those who have been bullied, and do their best to never become a bully. If you are aware of bullying instances, please, talk to someone. We want our learning environment to be safe and effective for all of our students.

As we move into November, we will be working with personal hygiene, positive classroom behavior, being a good friend, giving compliments, and being thankful. This leads into our Holiday Season and I want to wish all our Bulldog families a truly blessed one.

Junior High:

- 1. Now is the time to remember that our GPA matters a great deal in our future. Continue to work hard for your grades, ask for help if you do not understand, and stay caught up on all of your work despite all other activities.
- 2. I also encourage you to begin joining the different clubs and organizations that Humphrey Public Schools offers for instance FCCLA/FFA/HOSA, athletic teams, speech and play production, and attending school events (when possible) to show and build your school spirit.
- 3. It is also never too early to start saving up for college or your future. This means the money for tuition, books, room and board, and especially spending money while you are at college. It also may be helpful when purchasing a vehicle or other necessity items upon graduation if you choose a different path than college. Keep thinking about what you would like to do in your future career and the steps it will take to get there. Remember, I am always here to help.

9th-10th Grade:

1. Continue to try your very best in your classes and completing class work. Your GPA has a direct effect on the amount of assistance you have for college, where you will be able to

go to college, and even getting into college. If you work hard now, it will pay off in the future. Colleges are starting to pay more attention to your GPA than ACT score. Make this a benefit for you by completing all work at a high level.

- 2. Continue to be or get involved within the school. It helps to build well-rounded individuals and looks wonderful on resumes too. Start saving up money for college and your future.
- 3. Check your school emails. I communicate through here frequently. There are some opportunities for under classmen to attend. I will email out many of these opportunities! Also, pay attention to posters outside of my office. They also have helpful information posted.

11th Grade:

- 1. As with the other classes, continue to work hard on your grades and activities you are involved in. It will pay off in the future.
- 2. I encourage you all to start talking about college more frequently. Talk to your parents about plans for paying for college. Then, keep that in mind as you research colleges. Now is the perfect time to visit colleges and find the best fit for you. You are allowed to go on college visits with parent permission. If you need help setting that up, please, let me know.
- 3. Another good idea is job shadowing. This helps you to figure out if a career is a good fit for you or not. Due to COVID, the opportunities to job shadow are limited. Virtual options have been made available and can be a good option for now. Don't just wait for COVID to go away before shadowing, take a look at the various options now so you stay on track with planning your future.
- 4. I also encourage you to meet with the college representatives that visit school (virtually and when possible, in person). If you are for sure the college is not a fit, please stay in class. However, if it is a college you have thought about, please visit with them. It is a quick and efficient way to see if a college may be right for you.
- 5. It is never a bad idea to take the ACT. You can register at: <u>www.act.org</u> In preparation for the ACT, you all have access to your On To College accounts. There are many courses within there that help prepare you for numerous assessments, but is proven to be beneficial for the ACT.

11th and 12th Grade students:

- 1. I have created On to College (John Baylor) ACT Test Prep accounts for you as well as ACT Online prep through the act web page. John Baylor can be accessed at <u>www.ontocollege.com</u> and online prep can be accessed at <u>www.onlineprep.act.org</u>. Both of these are free for you to use to study for the ACT. Your username is your school email and your password is your first name capitalized plus the year you graduate. For instance: <u>johnbaylor@humphrey.esu7.org</u> is the username and John2018 would be the password. Please, come see me if you have issues with either account.
- 2. On to College Prep, which uses John Baylor, will be implemented during the 11th grade Careers course in the second semester. This is to help with the State ACT Test all juniors will complete. With the correct use of these resources, ACT scores typically show a growth of 2-3 points. If you would like to register for an act visit <u>www.act.org</u> to register. If you qualify for free/reduced priced lunches, please see me for a test fee waiver.

12th Grade:

- 1. Continue working on maintaining high grades. Research has shown one of the biggest indicators for a successful college student is a student who has continued to maintain a high GPA while in high school. The high GPA can help to offset ACT scores that might not be as high as we would like. Further, many colleges are accepting GPAs in place of ACT scores for scholarship and admittance.
- 2. On the note of ACT scores, the last test date typically accepted by colleges for scholarships is the December 12th date. Some schools are willing to accept the February test date, but that is not guaranteed. You may register at <u>www.act.org</u>. Always pay attention to registration deadlines that are posted outside of my office and on posters throughout the school.
- 3. Continue to visit colleges. Find the right fit for you. Consider the location, cost, and degree options. If you would like help researching the college, please, see me and we can do that. Currently, there are tons of virtual options for visiting campuses. If unable to get on campus, please use this as a great alternative!
- 4. Complete the FAFSA. By completing the FAFSA early, it allows for more scholarships and schools to have that information earlier which speeds up the process on deciding which college will be the right fit for you. I am available to help with this process, but pieces of it require your parents.

As always, if there is anything that I can do to help in any of these processes, please, let me know. You may contact me in person, through phone, email, notes, etc. Whichever works for you, I will make it work for me.

It is a great day to be a Bulldog!

Cami Oelsligle PK-12 School Counselor camio@humphrey.esu7.org

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HUMPHREY PUBLIC Elementary







Student Name

has permission to open a savings account at their School's Bank of the Valley Branch.

Because of this unique situation, all money deposited will be under one umbrella Bank of the Valley Bank account, however information about each child's deposit will be maintained separately & kept confidential.

I would like my child to use the School's Bank of the Valley Account.

Parent Signature

Contact Phone Number

Student Signature

Date

Grade

Teacher's Name

Please return this signed & completed form to school prior to your child's first deposit.

Humphrey Public School

SUND	AY		WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 *Booster Club/Post Prom Meeting 7:00pm	2 *Bulldog Rally	3 *Banking at School	4	5	6
				STATI	I E VOLLEYBALL	
7	8 *School Board Mtg 7:30pm	9 *Spirit Practice 7:15am	10	11 *Veterans Program @ St. Francis 9:30am *FFA Leadership Night 6:30pm Veterans Day	12 1:00pm Student Dismissal No Preschool Teacher In-Service	13
14	15 *Winter Sports Practices Start *JH G BB vs Battle Creek @ HHS	16	17 *Banking at School	18	19 *FCCLA Meeting	20 *JH G BB Tourney @ HHS
21	22	23 *BB Jamboree vs Niobrara @ LHF	24 1:00pm Student and Staff Dismissal *Blood Drive		26 NO SCHO ksgiving Bro	27 DOL Zak
28	29 *JH G BB vs Twin River @ LHF	30 *JH G BB @ EPPJ		scheduling conflic for the most u	ubject to change due cts, etc. Please watch up to date informatio w.humphreybulldogs	the daily bulletin n. Thank You!

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MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
1 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~~~ Pull Aparts & Marinara Sauce Lettuce Corn Madarin Oranges	2 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Shredded Pork on a Bun Baked Beans Peaches	3 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~~~ Popcorn Chicken Corn Orange Slices Dinner Bun	4 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Goulash Green Beans Pears Breadstick	5 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Stuffed Crust Pizza Lettuce Applesauce
8 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Pork Patty on a Bun French Fries Mixed Fruit	9 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~~ Mini Corn Dogs Corn Pears Dinner Bun	10 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Chicken & Waffles Peas Banana	11 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Philly Steak Sandwich Chips Mandarin Oranges	12 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Pizza Square Lettuce Peaches
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Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Spaghetti & Meatballs Mixed Vegetables Pears Breadstick	Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Chicken Nuggets Corn Apples	Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Beef Ravoli/Chili Dogs Broccoli Peaches	Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Taco in a Bag Brocolli/Corn Pears	Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Hamburger on a Bun Baked Beans Chips Oranges
22 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Chicken Fajita over Rice Green Beans Applesauce	23 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Chicken Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes/Gravy Corn Pears Dinner Bun	24 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Sloppy Joe on a Bun Baked Beans Peaches	25 NO SCHOOL	
29 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal Soft Shell Taco Lettuce Pineapple	30 Hot Sandwich/Cold Cereal ~~~~ Chicken Sandwich Brocolli Applesauce	Choice of cold sandw Lunch o	Menus subject to change. andwich,, milk, water and juice c vich, milk, water and salad bar of alternate must be requested by 9 nn equal opportunity provider & e	fered daily for lunch. :00 am.