

Friend Public School April & May 2023

Superintendent-Derek Anderson Principal-Elizabeth Stutzman Activity Director-Jim Pfeiffer Counselor-Amy Hottovy



Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2023!!



Graduation

Saturday, May 13th

3:00 pm





Recently, Friend Public School worked with the Nebraska Association of School Boards in revisiting and renewing our Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan is an intentional opportunity to look at areas for growth within the district and make improvements over the course of the next five years. This is an all-encompassing plan that delves into many different areas where we look to grow as a district and continue to strengthen areas that we have already experienced improvement.

Part of this process is seeking input from district stakeholders. This has been a cross section of parents, students, teachers, and business owners. The plan helps guide us as we make critical decisions as a district. The input from stakeholders is then prioritized by the board and administration.

The following is a list of the priorities that the School Board and Administration are working toward over the next 2-3 years:

Student Learning Opportunities

Work to provide a High Ability Learning (HAL) program to challenge identified students by advancing their individual academic knowledge, skills, and abilities

Continue progress made in Grades K-6 in the Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS) model and increase in Grades 7-12 to accelerate academic, career, and social-emotional/behavioral instruction and intervention to prepare to empower students.

Curriculum and Instruction

Research, study, and consider the current grading system used in Friend Public School

Commit and maintain the utilization of data to inform decisions at the classroom, building, and district level.

Family and Community Partnerships

Strengthen family and community participation in student learning and the social/emotional, mental health well-being and development of students to overcome barriers

Increase communication and improve perceptions of FPS by engaging students, families, employees, partners, and the Friend community.

Next year, I will be focusing on HAL and MTSS to inform and educate on what these terms are and what they involve.

In the meantime, know that progress will continue to be made in terms of school improvement. We at FPS are never satisfied with the status quo. We will work to improve for our students and the community to be the best we can be!



Teamwork Makes The Dream Work!!



Happy Spring!!!! We have a lot of fun and exciting things happening at Friend Public School to end our school year and celebrate our time together! Please see the schedule below, and please make sure you have the correct number/email address hooked into our school's "Blackboard"

account where you will get notifications as well. You can also make sure to have the Friend Public School App on your phone for up-to-date information.

Liz Stutzman- Principal

Friend Public School

Go Dawgs!!

Pre School Round-Up

On Friday, April 14th **parents AND students** who will be *ENTERING* the 3 year old Pre School class are asked to come to the school at **9:00 AM**. The parents will have an information session from Mrs. Meints and pick up paper work; the students will get to meet their teacher and classmates, see their classroom, and enjoy some recess time.



Important Dates to Mark Down for the Remainder of the Year

April and May- State testing and MAP testing

April 7 and 10- NO school- Easter break

April 12- EMF FFA Banquet at Exeter 6:15

April 14- 3 year old preschool round up (incoming 3's and parents) 9:00 AM

April 15- Prom preview (5:30) and prom (6:30)

April 27- Junior High Honors Night 6:00 and High School Honors Night 7:00 (new gym)

May 8-12- Elementary Bike to School Day (on a chosen day this week, based off the weather)

May 11- Baccalaureate Service 6:30 (Old Gym)

May 13- Class of 2023 Graduation 3:00 pm (new gym)

May 15- Class of 2035 Kindergarten Graduation 2:15 (old gym)

May 16- Jump Up Day for 4-year old Pre School; 6th Grade and field day

May 18- Last day of school!! 12:30 release

May 27- FHS Alumni Banquet (old gym)

Scholarships

- Seniors are asked to let Ms. Hottovy know about scholarships they have been awarded.
- At Honors Night on April 27, all scholarships that have been awarded (by that date) will be announced. Seniors are highly encouraged to attend!
 - A complete list of scholarship recipients will be available at the graduation ceremony.
- Many thanks to our local benefactors for the numerous scholarship opportunities being given to our seniors!

Next Year's Classes

- Students who will be in grades 7-12 for the 2023-2024 school year will soon be signing up for classes.
- Ms. Hottovy will visit with each grade level to discuss options and requirements.
- All students are encouraged to get out of their "comfort zones" by taking classes that are challenging and get them thinking about new and interesting topics!
- Parents/guardians who have questions about required coursework at FPS are encouraged to reach out to the school counselor.
- Students will then receive their class schedules for the 2023-24 school year in August, along with their back to school information.
- After receiving their schedules, students who wish to drop and/or add classes are welcome to stop by the school the week of August 7-11 between 8:30 and 3:30.

Parents/Guardians of Juniors

- Juniors took the ACT on March 21. Kudos to them for working hard during the ACT-Now test prep sessions as well as the day of the test!
- ACT score reports will be available to juniors on MyACT.org. Ms. Hottovy will visit with each individual to interpret results.
- If juniors have not taken a college visit yet this school year, now is the time to get one scheduled!

Freshmen & Sophomores

- Please consider signing up to take the ACT this summer. We really prefer you NOT wait until your junior year to take it. Check out test dates and other information on www.act.org.

Community Service

- Businesses, organizations, churches, etc. in the Friend school district are reminded to contact Ms. Amy Hottovy or Mrs. Liz Stutzman with community service opportunities that might be available for our high school students over the summer. Thank you to all who have already begun partnering with the school!
- Students who will be in grades 9-12 for the 2023-2024 school year are encouraged to earn community service hours this summer. Check out the Google Doc for multiple opportunities.



apRil



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

<p>For the most current and up to date information, please go to: http://www.pioneerconference.org and click on Friend or check the calendar on the school website: friendbulldogs.org</p>							1
	<p>TR Meridian Invite (Friend) 10:00</p> <p>Golf-Friend Quad 4:00</p> <p>FCCLA SLC—Lincoln April 2-4</p>	<p>Golf-Friend Invite 9:30</p> <p>JH TR @ Exeter-Milligan Invite (McCool) 8:45</p> <p>StuCo Lunch Meeting</p>	<p>JH Quiz Bowl @ Seward</p> <p>FCCLA Lunch Meeting</p>	<p>2:00 out</p> <p>FCA Lunch Meeting</p> <p>Dental Day K-4, 7, 10</p>	<p>Good Friday</p> <p>NO SCHOOL</p>		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Easter	<p>NO SCHOOL</p> <p>BOE—Media Center 7:30</p>	<p>JH TR Hampton Invite (McCool) 9:30</p>	<p>Golf @ Milford Invite 9:30</p> <p>EMF FFA Banquet (Exeter) 6:15</p>	<p>TR @ Deshler Invite 10:00</p>	<p>2:00 out</p> <p>3-Year-Old Pre-School Round-Up 9:00am (Incoming 3's and Parents only)</p> <p>8th Grade Field Trip</p>	<p>Prom Preview 5:00</p> <p>Prom 6:30</p>	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
		<p>TR-Friend Invite 10:00</p>	<p>Golf @ David City Invite 9:30</p> <p>Speaker 7-12th</p> <p>FCA Lunch Meeting</p>	<p>District Music TBD</p> <p>JH TR @ David City Invite 10:00</p> <p>FCCLA Lunch Meeting</p>	<p>2:00 out</p> <p>District Music TBD</p>		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	<p>JH TR @ Centennial Invite 2:00</p> <p>TR @ McCool Invite 9:00</p> <p>Golf @ Southern Dual 4:00 (Southern)</p>	<p>StuCo Lunch Meeting</p>	<p>Golf @ Palmyra Invite 8:30</p> <p>JH Quiz Bowl @ Seward</p> <p>2nd Grade Field Trip</p>	<p>JH Honors Night 6:00</p> <p>Intermission</p> <p>HS Honors Night 7:00</p> <p>3rd Grade Field Trip</p>	<p>2:00 out</p>	<p>TR Pioneer Outdoor Invite @ Tri County 9:00</p>	
30	24	25	26	27	28	29	

Breakfast & Lunch Menu



Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

<p>Donuts Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes Gravy Bread/Butter <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">3</p>	<p>Egg, Cheese Omelet Hot Dog/Bun Chili Shredded Cheese <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">4</p>	<p>Cinnamon Rolls Hamburger/Bun Green Beans <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">5</p>	<p>Breakfast Bars Taco Salad Toppings Shredded Cheese Bread/Butter <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:00 out</p> <p style="text-align: right;">6</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NO SCHOOL</p> <p style="text-align: right;">7</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">NO SCHOOL</p> <p style="text-align: right;">10</p>	<p>Egg Patty Mini Corn Dogs Sweet Potato Fries <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">11</p>	<p>Breakfast Bites Sloppy Joes Corn Doritos <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">12</p>	<p>Blueberry Muffin Meaty Nachos Toppings Shredded Cheese Bread/Butter <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">13</p>	<p>Biscuits & Gravy Fiestada Rice Churro <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:00 out</p> <p style="text-align: right;">14</p>
<p>Breakfast Pizza Mandarin Orange Chicken Rice Bread/Butter <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">17</p>	<p>Strawberry pop-tart Beef & Cheese Flatbread Pizza Cooked Carrots <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">18</p>	<p>Scrambled Eggs Hamburger/Bun Baked Beans <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">19</p>	<p>Breakfast Bars Walking Taco Toppings Shredded Cheese Bread/Butter <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">20</p>	<p>Chocolate, Chocolate Chip Muffin Stuffed Crust Cheese Pizza Peas <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:00 out</p> <p style="text-align: right;">21</p>
<p>Donuts Biscuits & Gravy Tator Tots Grape Juice <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">24</p>	<p>Chocolate Chip Muffin Chicken Strips French Fries <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">25</p>	<p>Bacon, Egg, Gravy Cheese Pizza Spaghetti Shredded Cheese Breadstick <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">26</p>	<p>Blueberry pop-tart Chicken Noodle Casserole Green Beans Bread/Butter <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">27</p>	<p>Pancakes Subs Chips Cookie <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:00 out</p> <p style="text-align: right;">28</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE DUE TO AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN PRODUCTS</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>April</p> </div> <p style="text-align: left;"> Purple Ribbon Meat</p>			

MAY Breakfast & Lunch Menu

Monday


Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

<p>Breakfast Pizza Chicken Nuggets French Fries Bread/Butter</p> <p><i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">1</p>	<p>Egg Patty Mandarin Orange Chicken Rice Bread/Butter</p> <p><i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">2</p>	<p>Cinnamon Rolls Hot Dog/Bun Chili Shredded Cheese</p> <p><i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">3</p>	<p>Blueberry Muffin Hamburger/Bun Corn Chips</p> <p><i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">4</p>	<p>Biscuits & Gravy Stuffed Crust Cheese Pizza Green Beans</p> <p><i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:00 out</p> <p style="text-align: right;">5</p>
<p>Donuts Meaty Nachos Toppings Shredded Cheese Bread/Butter</p> <p><i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">8</p>	<p>Strawberry pop-tart Mini Corn Dogs Potato Smiles</p> <p><i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">9</p>	<p>Breakfast Bites Subs Chips Cookie</p> <p><i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">10</p>	<p>Breakfast Bars Biscuits & Gravy Tator Tots Orange Juice</p> <p><i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">11</p>	<p>Chocolate, Chocolate Chip Muffin Fiestada Rice Churro</p> <p><i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:00 out</p> <p style="text-align: right;">12</p>
<p>Breakfast Pizza Walking Tacos Toppings Shredded Cheese Bread/Butter</p> <p><i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">15</p>	<p>Chocolate Chip Muffins Chicken Strips Mashed Potatoes Gravy Bread/Butter</p> <p><i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">16</p>	<p>Scrambled Eggs Hamburger/Bun Baked Beans</p> <p><i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">17</p>	<p>Blueberry pop-tart Cheese Pizza Cookie</p> <p><i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">LAST DAY 12:30 out</p> <p style="text-align: right;">18</p>	<p>SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE DUE TO AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN PRODUCTS</p>

 Purple Ribbon Meat

Friend Public School is an equal opportunity provider.



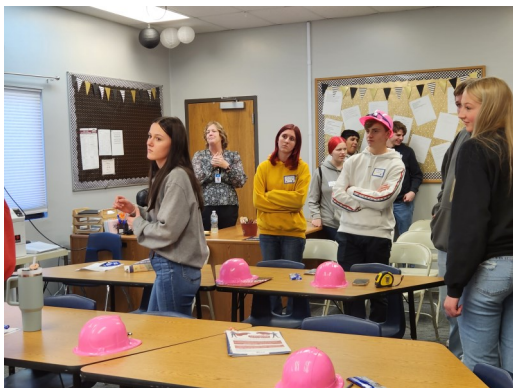


On February 7, Friend Public School juniors attended the annual Blue River Cohort College & Career Day, this year held at Shickley Public School. This event is organized and hosted by the school counselors from Dorchester, Exeter-Milligan, Friend, McCool Junction, and Shickley.

Students from all five schools were first treated to a business panel discussion made of individuals from multiple career types, such as skilled & technical trades (Duncan Aviation and Tuttle, Inc.), nursing, agriculture, photography & videography, human resources, law enforcement, and mental health counseling. Panel members shared what their jobs entail, the education and training required to do their jobs, and important personality traits employees should strive to exhibit no matter the profession.

For the remainder of the day, students rotated through six sessions, each focusing on the critical life skills of mental health wellness, financial awareness & planning, self-defense, personal safety, employability, and social media safety.

During their lunch break, students were encouraged to visit over 20 different colleges, universities, and area businesses to ask questions and network.



FPS Student Council Happenings!!



Dodgeball Tournament

The annual StuCo Make-A-Wish Dodgeball Tournament was held Friday, March 24th, at Friend High School.

This fundraiser was open to students in grades 8 - 12. Five teams participated with students from Friend, Exeter-Milligan, Tri-County, Thayer Central, and Lincoln Southwest High Schools.



The winning team this year was the Drip Kings. The Drip King's team captain was Mason Vossler. His fellow ballers were Lorenzo Vespignani, Jacob Weber, Aidan Vavra, Lily Jeffries, and Kierra Papik.

A prize was also awarded to the team with the best costumes. The Beach Burns team won with their bright beach attire!



The Student Council raised \$336 to donate to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. If you would like to donate, please visit wish.org.



Thank you to the Student Council Dodgeball Committee (Hunter Svehla, Jacob Weber, Jacob Klooz, Zach Spohn, and Emily Brahmstedt) for organizing this fun and meaningful fundraiser for Make-A-Wish.

The annual Student Council Food Drive was held from March 13th - 24th. All items donated were given to the Friend Food Bank.

The class from grades 7 - 12 that collected the highest average of items will receive the afternoon off of school to watch a movie on Thursday, April 6th, and they earned cuts to the front of the lunch line for a week!



The Freshman class was the winner this year with a donation average of 22.4 items per person! The sophomores came in second place donating 17.2 cans per person. In all, the six classes collected an impressive 919 items for the Friend Food Bank.



Thank you to the students, parents, guardians, and grandparents who generously donated and especially to the StuCo Food Drive Committee (Shelby Steyer, Reagan Bartley, Abbie Milton, and Taylin Schluter) for organizing this worthwhile event.

**End of the year means
field trips!!**

Fourth Grade

The Capitol in Lincoln!!



All spellers are
pictured here :

Back Row:

Adilyn Meints,
5th grade alternate-
Valerie Spohn, Zonder
Arp,
Gehrig Weber.

Front Row:

Carlee Bresson, Rylee
Rohren,
Dane Anderson,
6th-grade alternate,
Keisyn Kirchhoff.



Friend 5th and 6th Graders participated in the Saline County Spelling Contest in
Wilber on February 8th, 2023.

Gehrig Weber was crowned champion for the second year in a row.

Zonder Arp placed third.

All the participants represented the Bulldogs in an outstanding fashion!!



**Congratulations
to our
members!**



Calling all FHS Alumni !!!!!

What: Friend High School Alumni Banquet

Who: Friend High School Classes of 2023, 2013, 2003, 1993, 1983, 1973, and 1963

Where: Friend High School "Old Gym"

When: May 27th at 6:30pm (School Tours at 4:30pm)





Sixth-grade students shared their original dragon stories and dragons they created with their younger peers. It was a great experience for everyone!







Friend Public School applied for and was awarded a \$10,902 grant from NDE's Nutrition Services to replace an oven in the kitchen. In 2022, the US Department of Agriculture distributed funds to the State of Nebraska/School Food Authorities for equipment assistance. A competitive grant process was used to award the funds to local schools.

Friend Preschool Round Up!
We can't wait to see you!

When: April 14th at 9:00 AM
Where: Friend Public School Preschool room
Who: Incoming 3's (Students AND Parents)
What: To get information on Preschool for you and your child

If you have any questions, please contact the school **402-947-2781**

FRIEND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
501 S. Main St. • Friend

The graphic features a large, open book in the center. Five cartoon children are interacting with the book: one is pointing at the top left, one is pointing at the top right, one is pointing at the bottom left, and one is pointing at the bottom right. The text is arranged in a clear, bold font within the book's pages.

Care Package Drive

Dear FPS families,

The month of April is Donate Life month, and for the past five years, Friend Public Schools has been donating toys, books, craft sets, and more to children who are at Nebraska Medical Center awaiting or recovering from an organ transplant. This project has been a huge success thanks to the generosity of our FPS families. This spring, the Elementary Student Council will lead the care package drive and will donate all items to the Nebraska Medical Center. The Med Center serves a large region of the United States, as the patients and their families usually have to relocate to Nebraska to stay at the hospital for months, or even up to a year, while waiting for a transplant or after receiving one. Our goal is to provide items for children and their families to help bring joy and to ease the stress of their stay.

All donated items must be NEW and from a non-smoking environment. Items should be centered around the age range of children from newborn to 18 years old. The Child Life Specialist at Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha has provided a list of suggested items to best fit the transplant recipients and their families. Gift cards (Amazon, PlayStation, XBOX, iTunes, etc.) are also welcomed! Thank you for your generosity!

Items are welcomed at school through April 14th, 2023

- Play-Doh
- Puzzles (under 100 pieces)
- Legos (small sets of larger ones and small ones)
- Balls
- Little People and Animals (farm, zoo, dinosaurs)
- Cars (chunky and Hot Wheels)
- Crayons, markers, colored pencils, sharpie sets.
- Coloring Books (all ages including adults)
- Word searches
- Deck of cards/Card games- (UNO, Go Fish, Old Maid)
- Seek & find books
- Nail polish
- Earbuds
- Nerf guns
- Basketball hoops that attach to doors
- Action figures
- Board Games (Ex: Sorry, Chutes and ladders, Candyland, Headbands, Guess Who, Spot it, Memory, Connect 4, Trouble, Yahtzee, Farkle)
- Craft items; color by number, painting sets, bracelet making kits etc.
- Stress balls/ fidgets

These items will be donated in honor of Beckett Arp and Isaac Speece, who gave the gift of life!

Bulldogs of the Month



**Michele
Johnson-Clouse
Business Manager**



**Kellen Vossler - 7th Grade
Shelby Steyer - Senior**

Friend Public Schools
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