

# Fillmore Central Public Schools

[www.fillmorecentral.org](http://www.fillmorecentral.org)

High School: 402-759-3141

Middle School: 402-268-3411

Elementary School: 402-759-3184



## District News

After coming through the bitterly cold days and rolling black-outs in February we are excited for the warmer weather and melting we've been experiencing. This week's (late February) COVID Risk Dial from Public Health Solutions remains in the yellow for both our health district and Fillmore County. Both arrows moved a little higher due to more positive tests than two weeks ago and a higher positivity rate than the previous two weeks.

Because we have been in the yellow zone the last three weeks, we have been able to resume a few of the fun activities in our buildings that the students hadn't had yet this year. The Middle School was able to have Game of the Week the past couple of weeks and the Elementary had their first assembly of the year. High School students have been able to begin talking about Prom and Graduation later this spring. The Teammates program has been able to come back into the buildings.

Even though we have been loosening a few things up we are going to continue with masks. I am ready to be finished as all of you are, but as we have found out, we can do many things safely for our students as long as we wear masks. We also want to protect our staff as they wait for their turn to receive the vaccine through Public Health Solutions. We don't have a scheduled date, but through a random drawing of schools we will be in the second half of schools in our health district that receive the vaccine.

Again, I appreciate your partnership and the support you've given our staff and students in an unprecedented year. We are getting through this together and the signs of spring are making it easier.

## Events

- Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup> Teacher Workday  
1:05/1:20/1:35  
Dismissal
- Mar. 5<sup>th</sup> End of Quarter
- Mar. 9<sup>th</sup> 1:05/1:20/1:35  
Dismissal  
Parent-Teacher  
Conferences 2-9 PM
- Mar. 10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> Winter Break- No  
School
- Mar. 15<sup>th</sup> School Board Meeting  
7:30 PM High School  
Library
- Mar. 22<sup>nd</sup> ABC Meeting 6:30 PM
- Mar. 29<sup>th</sup> EPAC Meeting 7:00 PM

The mission of Fillmore Central Public Schools is to provide all students the opportunity and support to achieve excellence, develop responsibility, and become life-long learners.



# Elementary School News

## UPCOMING ELEMENTARY EVENTS

- March 5<sup>th</sup>, End of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter
- March 9<sup>th</sup>, Parent-Teacher Conferences
- March 9<sup>th</sup>, Celebrate Read Across America
- March 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup>, No School, Winter Break
- March 26<sup>th</sup>, Assembly
- March 29<sup>th</sup>, EPAC Meeting at 7:00pm



## ELEMENTARY PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

The March elementary parent – teacher conferences will be held at the elementary school. K – 4 parents received a scheduled appointment that was sent home from school with students. We ask that you not bring your child to conferences as this is a time for parents and teachers to discuss student performance. Childcare will not be provided. Parents should reach out to their child's teacher if they are not able to attend, or if they would like a virtual conference.

Thank you for your continual involvement in your child's education! We've consistently had over **90% of our elementary parents attend conferences**. Other ways to be involved with your child's education include:

- Asking about homework
- Helping with the homework
- Contacting your child's teacher by e-mail, phone, or note

## SPRING ASSESSMENTS

The Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) and Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) tests are scheduled in the spring. The following suggestions to help your student perform in school are taken with permission from the March 2012 issue of *Parents Still make the difference!* (Elementary School Edition) Parent Institute Newsletter.

- **Make school a priority.** Children who do well on tests tend to be the ones who student and finish homework on time. They also miss less school than other kids. These are habits you can encourage.
- **Develop healthy routines.** Your child needs plenty of sleep and a nutritious breakfast every day before school.
- **Communicate with teachers.** In addition to knowing how your child is doing throughout the year, pay attention to test details. "Which skills do the tests measure?" "How should my child prepare?"
- **Promote reading.** Many tests require reading, so make sure your child reads often. Then ask questions that simulate thinking. "Why do you think the main character did that?"
- **Reduce anxiety.** Some kids like to take timed practice tests at home. But as test day approaches, focus on relaxation. Stay positive and calm. If your child is worried, she can take deep breaths and think confident thoughts, knowing she has your support no matter what.
- **Rest/Nutrition.** Make sure your child is well rested and has had a nutritious breakfast.
- **Reduce Distractions.** Eliminate routine appointments during the testing dates so your child doesn't worry about making up their assessments.

**KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION for 2021 – 2022**

Kindergarten registration for the 2021-2022 school year began in February. A packet of information was sent to all parents of eligible age (5 years old by July 31<sup>st</sup>). If you have not registered your school age child for the 2021-2022 school year, or if you did not receive a packet of information, please call the school, 759-3184.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. “K” Parent Meeting**

## High School News

**ACT/NWEA MAPS/8th Grade Activity Fair**

The date this year for our NSCAS ACT is March 24th. All juniors will be participating, and all 9th and 10th grade students will be completing their NWEA MAPS assessments. Seniors will be participating in a school sponsored “skip day.” Our students and staff have been preparing, both directly and indirectly, for these assessments, and we expect our students to perform very well. We will have an early dismissal on this day, as testing will not take the entire day. In addition, we will be hosting an activity fair for all 8th grade students from 2:00 p.m. to 3:20 p.m. in the gym. This is a new event and this idea is a result of conversations within our PLC groups. This will be an opportunity for 8th grade students to learn about all of the activities that we have to offer at the high school, with the hopes that every student will get involved in at least one activity when they start high school.

**Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place on Tuesday, March 9th from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. We are planning to keep the same protocols in place that we had last fall. All high school teachers will be using their classrooms to conduct conferences. We ask that all parents wear a mask while attending conferences. Rooms will be set up so that social distancing can take place. FCCLA sponsored child care will NOT be available, so please plan accordingly.

**Winter Activity Season Notes**

The winter sports season has come to an end. Of special note, congratulations goes out to Connor Asche (4th), Alex Schademann (5th) and Travis Meyer (6th) for their efforts at the NSAA State Wrestling Meet. Our Speech team is in the home stretch and their season will culminate with the NSAA State Speech Tournament that will be held at Kearney High School on March 18th. Our Mock Trial team has been competing virtually this season and recently competed in the district championship where they came up just short of a state bid.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me.

GO PANTHERS!!!



## Middle School News

### ***Update Your Child's Contact Information***

It is very important that we have current contact information for all of our students. This is important because we need to be able to quickly contact parents or guardians in cases of emergency or illness.

Many times a phone number or address will change during the school year without being reported to the office. As a result of this, the needs of students who are injured or ill cannot be met in a fashion that is timely and most beneficial to the student. Be sure to notify the office if any of your child's contact information has changed or becomes outdated.

### ***8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation***

The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation and Honors Ceremony is an opportunity to honor our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students for their academic work during their years at the middle school. The 2021 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation and Honors Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, May 19, beginning at 2 p.m. and should last about one hour. The normal bus and supervision routines for a 3:10 dismissal will take place. More information will be sent home in the spring.

### ***Spring Fever***

It may seem hard to believe but warm, springtime weather is on its way. As Spring arrives, the weather gets warmer and the hours of evening daylight increase. With the excitement that the warmer weather brings comes the temptation to ignore schoolwork. Help your student avoid the temptation of neglecting their studies when springtime weather arrives. You can do this by setting a few expectations and creating a routine that allows students to enjoy the outdoors and still tend to their responsibilities as a student.

- Encourage your student to engage in outdoor activities for a reasonable period of time each day. The exercise will help them unwind after a day at school, it will help charge their brain for evening homework, it will promote a healthy and active lifestyle, and it will help your student sleep better at night.
- Set a specific time for reviewing your child's day and beginning homework that they may have. Having a set time each day to have this conversation will help your student plan their time and it helps you to hold them accountable.

Don't believe the No Homework Myth. Students will often arrive at home and tell parents that they have no homework. While *most students* have time to complete *most of their homework* at school, you should typically expect to see your student bringing work home. Even if they don't have any "homework" you should expect your student to bring something home for additional study each day, even if it is only for 10 – 20 minutes.

### ***High School Orientation***

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade orientation for their transition to the high school will take place in March. Half of the 8<sup>th</sup> graders will attend orientation each day. If you have a student who is transitioning to the high school next year, it might be useful for you to visit with your student prior to their orientation day. It could be very beneficial for you and your student to identify a list of "Things I Want To Know." This will help your student as they tour the facilities and listen to various staff members talk about the transition. It will also help your student know what to ask when given the opportunity to ask questions.

***Parent-Teacher Conferences***

Fillmore Central parent-teacher conferences will once again be held at the high school in Geneva. Conferences will be limited to one day on Tuesday, March 9. Conferences will be held from 2 PM to 9 PM. Progress reports can be picked up at the high school during conferences. Reports that are not picked up at conferences will be mailed home after conferences are over.

We ask that conferences be limited to no more than 10 minutes. This is requested so that all parents will have the opportunity to visit with their children's teachers. If you need additional time with a faculty member, please take the opportunity during conferences to schedule another meeting so that all of your needs and concerns can be addressed. If you have any questions prior to conferences, please contact us at the school.

***No School – Winter Break***

There will be no school on Wednesday, March 10, Thursday, March 11, or Friday, March 12. Classes will resume, with their regular schedule, on Monday, March 16.

***Testing Season Is Upon Us***

The students at FCMS engage in a number of tests during the second semester of the school year. Some of these tests are state mandated. Others are standardized tests that are selected by our school. We use the results of all our assessments to measure both student performance and school performance. Spring is often a busy time with regards to the various tests and assessments that we provide our students. Below is a brief description of five of the tests that students will be taking this semester. I encourage you to become familiar with these tests and to spend time with your student reviewing their results. I also encourage you to visit with your child's teachers as to when the tests will take place so you can help to ensure that your student is in school on those days. Please contact your child's teacher for specific testing dates.

**NSCAS-R (Statewide ELA Exam)**

This test is taken online and will be given to all students in grades 5, 6, 7, and 8. The test will be taken between March 22 and May 3. These tests are administered by our Language Arts teachers during Language Arts class time.

**NSCAS-M (Statewide Math Exam)**

This test is taken online and will be given to all students in grades 5, 6, 7, and 8. The test will be taken between March 22 and May 3. These tests are administered by our Math teachers during Math class time.

**NSCAS-S (Statewide Science Exam)**

This test is taken online and will be given to all students in grades 5 and 8. The test will be taken between March 22 and May 3. The tests are administered by our Science teachers during Science class time.

**MAP (Measure of Academic Progress)**

This online assessment will be given again this spring to all 5 – 8 grade students. Testing dates for all middle school grade levels will be during the first three weeks of May. Yes, a lot of testing but students will be given plenty of breaks to keep them fresh. Individual student results will show their academic growth throughout the year in the areas of reading, math, science.

## Fillmore Central Public Schools

## School Calendar

"Any book that helps a child to form a habit of reading, to make reading one of his deep and continuing needs, is good for him." - Maya Angelou

## March 2021

| Sunday                                 | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday   |
|--|--|---|--|---|---|--|
|  | <b>1</b> Lions Club<br>Hearing/Sight Check<br><br>JH Quiz Bowl at Thayer Central | <b>2</b><br><br>FFA/CDE at Centennial   | <b>3</b> Teacher Workday<br>1:05/1:20/1:35<br>Dismissals                     | <b>4</b> Girls State Basketball<br><br>FBLA SLC Plan Mtg.   | <b>5</b> End of Quarter<br><br>Girls State Basketball   | <b>6</b> Girls State Basketball<br><br>District Speech at FC |
| <b>7</b>                               | <b>8</b><br><br>SNC Quiz Bowl at Sandy Creek                                     | <b>9</b> 2:00-9:00PM Parent<br>Teacher Conferences  | <b>10</b> Winter Break   | <b>11</b> Winter Break<br><br>Boys State Basketball   | <b>12</b> Winter Break<br><br>Boys State Basketball   | <b>13</b> Boys State Basketball                              |
| <b>14</b>                              | <b>15</b> 7:00 PM School Board<br>Mtg<br><br>Cheerleader Try-outs                | <b>16</b><br><br>Cheerleader Try-outs<br>FBLA SLC Virtual Testing Day   | <b>17</b><br><br>Cheerleader Try-outs<br><br>FFA Silent Auction Online       | <b>18</b> State Speech at<br>Kearney<br><br>Cheerleader Try-outs<br><br>FFA Silent Auction Online | <b>19</b><br><br>9:00AM Track at Concordia<br>University<br>Cheerleader Try-outs<br>FFA Silent Auction Online | <b>20</b><br><br>FFA Silent Auction Online                   |
| <b>21</b><br>FFA Silent Auction Online | <b>22</b> 6:30PM ABC Meeting   | <b>23</b><br><br>4:00 PM V Golf at Hidden Hills<br>7:00 PM MS Spring Concert  | <b>24</b> ACT/MAPS Testing<br>Day at the HS<br>8th Grade Activity Fair at HS | <b>25</b>   | <b>26</b>   | <b>27</b><br><br>9:30AM Track at Fairbury                    |
| <b>28</b>                              | <b>29</b> EPAC at 7:00PM   | <b>30</b> 11:00 - 5:00 FFA<br>Blood Drive<br>4:00 PM V Golf at York Country<br>Club<br>1:00 PM JH Track at Superior | <b>31</b><br><br>ESU 6 Quiz Bowl   |   |   |  |
|  |  |   |  |   |   |  |



| MARCH LUNCH         |                  |  |                       |              |
|---------------------|------------------|--|-----------------------|--------------|
| Monday              | Tuesday          | Wednesday  | Thursday              | Friday       |
| 1                   | 2                | 3  | 4                     | 5            |
| Walking Taco        | BBQ Rib Sandwich | Elementary<br>Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich<br>MS and HS<br>Philly Steak Sandwich | Meatloaf              | Cheese Pizza |
| 8                   | 9                | 10   | 11                    | 12           |
| Chicken Sandwich    | Crispito         | NO SCHOOL  | NO SCHOOL             | NO SCHOOL    |
| 15                  | 16               | 17   | 18                    | 19           |
| Chicken Drumsticks  | Deli Sandwich    | Beef Booster<br>Roast Beef   | Chicken Noodle Soup   | Fish         |
| 22                  | 23               | 24   | 25                    | 26           |
| Chicken Fried Steak | Lasagna          | Tomato Soup &<br>Grilled Cheese Sandwich   | Breaded Pork Sandwich | Cheese Pizza |
| 29                  | 30               | 31   |                       |              |
| Walking Taco        | BBQ Rib Sandwich | Elementary<br>Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich<br>MS and HS<br>Philly Steak Sandwich |                       |              |

| MARCH BREAKFAST   |  |   |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|---|
| Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday  |
| 1   | 2  | 3   | 4   | 5   |
| K-12 Before School<br>Pancake<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Breakfast Pizza | K-12 Before School<br>Banana<br>Bread/Muffin<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Fruit Parfait | K-12 Before School<br>Egg & Cheese Sandwich<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Egg & Cheese Sandwich | K-12 Before School<br>French Toast<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>French Toast Bites | K-12 Before School<br>Biscuit & Gravy<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Biscuit & Gravy |
| 8   | 9  | 10  | 11  | 12  |
| K-12 Before School<br>Pancake<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Breakfast Pizza | K-12 Before School<br>Banana<br>Bread/Muffin<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Fruit Parfait | K-12 Before School<br>Egg & Cheese Sandwich<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Egg & Cheese Sandwich | K-12 Before School<br>French Toast<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>French Toast Bites | K-12 Before School<br>Biscuit & Gravy<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Biscuit & Gravy |
| 15  | 16   | 17  | 18  | 19  |
| K-12 Before School<br>Pancake<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Breakfast Pizza | K-12 Before School<br>Banana<br>Bread/Muffin<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Fruit Parfait | K-12 Before School<br>Egg & Cheese Sandwich<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Egg & Cheese Sandwich | K-12 Before School<br>French Toast<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>French Toast Bites | K-12 Before School<br>Biscuit & Gravy<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Biscuit & Gravy |
| 22  | 23   | 24  | 25  | 26  |
| K-12 Before School<br>Pancake<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Breakfast Pizza | K-12 Before School<br>Banana<br>Bread/Muffin<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Fruit Parfait | K-12 Before School<br>Egg & Cheese Sandwich<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Egg & Cheese Sandwich | K-12 Before School<br>French Toast<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>French Toast Bites | K-12 Before School<br>Biscuit & Gravy<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Biscuit & Gravy |
| 29  | 30   | 31  |   |   |
| K-12 Before School<br>Pancake<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Breakfast Pizza | K-12 Before School<br>Banana<br>Bread/Muffin<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Fruit Parfait | K-12 Before School<br>Egg & Cheese Sandwich<br>HS 2nd Chance<br>Egg & Cheese Sandwich |   |   |

All schools serve fruit, vegetables, and milk daily.  
Cereal, fruit, juice, yogurt, and milk served daily at all schools for breakfast.

Breakfast - FREE    K-12 Lunch - FREE    Adult Lunch - \$3.55

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

# Early Development Network Services Coordination

## **What is Early Development Network Services Coordination?**

Services Coordination helps families of children with special needs below age three:

- Find services to meet developmental, educational, financial, health care, child care, respite care and other needs
- Work with multiple providers to make sure services are provided as needed

## **Why is Service Coordination Needed?**

Nebraska families of children with special needs have found it difficult to locate needed services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and then to coordinate the services with the providers.

## **Who is Eligible for Services Coordination?**

Eligible families are those with an infant or toddler below age 3 who has a disability or developmental delay and qualifies for special education through the public schools.

Year round services coordination is provided.

There is no cost to families.

## **How Can Families Apply?**

To request Early Development services for your child or to refer a child, call the local number below. With prior parental permission, referrals may be made by anyone who suspects a developmental delay in an infant or toddler.

**CONTACT: Beth Lightwine at ESU6-Geneva office(225 North 17<sup>th</sup>, Geneva, 402-759-3143).**



"The Fillmore Central Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, age, genetic information, citizenship status or economic status in its programs, activities and employment."