The Friend Schoolwide Geography Bee was held Wednesday, January 15, in the Media Center. Students in grades 4th – 8th competed at the classroom level to advance to the schoolwide finals. The ten finalists were Jacob Behrends, Zayde Arp, Lindsay Landis, Caleb Black, Hunter Svehla, Keila Ricenbaw, Gabby Theis, Breckan Schluter, Mataya Schwisow, and Harley Vajgrt. The winner of the Geography Bee was Breckan Schluter from the 8th grade.

Second place went to Lindsay Landis of the 5th grade class, and third place went to Caleb Black in the 6th grade. Congratulations to all our finalists.

Submitted by Paul Martin, Geography Bee Sponsor
Friend Foundation Helps Support Friend School

Earlier this week, the Friend Foundation met to approve two capital improvement projects for our school totaling over $50,000. The first project will replace 25 outdated staff laptops, while the other is installing a new web based security camera system. With the Foundation’s assistance, our school can channel those savings into other areas of need to help improve or school. Last year, the Foundation provided many student scholarships, technology, and teacher mini grants totaling over $70,000. This is all being done with the interest earned on generous donations and contributions from community patrons.

The Foundation members are Paul Segner, Christy Svehla, Judy Kohout, John Popisil, Kim Due, Shirley Spohn and David Kraus. The board goals are:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Board Purpose 1:</th>
<th>To provide financial assistance to students and graduates of Friend Public Schools, Friend, Nebraska (Saline County, Nebraska School District #68) to assist them in attaining a post-secondary education.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Board Purpose 2:</td>
<td>To support and fund academic or vocational instructional programs beyond those that are minimum curricular requirements as provided by State Law or Regulations, and which have been authorized and approved by the Board of Education of Friend Public Schools.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board Purpose 3:</td>
<td>To support and fund capital improvements in the facilities at Friend Public Schools which are authorized and approved by the Friend Public Schools Board of Education.</td>
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We are very fortunate to have this board and generous donations to help support our school and students. Our school would like to thank those donors and members of the board who continually strive to make our school and students successful.

If any community members would like information about the Foundation or wishes to make a contribution, please feel free to contact one of our members.
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

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<td>GB BB @ Pioneer Conf. Tournament &quot;A&quot; Site - Diller-Odell &quot;B&quot; Site - Southern &quot;C&quot; Site - Tri-County</td>
<td>GB BB @ Pioneer Conf. Tournament &quot;A&quot; Site - Diller-Odell &quot;B&quot; Site - Southern &quot;C&quot; Site - Tri-County</td>
<td>FFA State Degree Interviews @ Milford</td>
<td>GB BB @ Pioneer Conf. Tournament &quot;A&quot; Site - Diller-Odell &quot;B&quot; Site - Southern &quot;C&quot; Site - Tri-County</td>
<td>2:00 out</td>
<td>JH BB @ Exeter-Milligan Tournament</td>
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<td>BOE - Media Center 7:30</td>
<td>Juniors - Career Day @ Exeter-Milligan</td>
<td>Saline County Spelling Bee 5th &amp; 6th - 9:00 7th &amp; 8th - 11:00 FCA Lunch Meeting in Mr. Hitchcock’s room</td>
<td>GB BB @ Meridian 4/5/6/15/8</td>
<td>2:00 out</td>
<td>WR Districts @ Central Valley (Greeley) JV GB BB @ Diller-Odell JH BB @ Heartland 10:00</td>
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<td>GB Sub-Districts @ Centennial</td>
<td>GB Sub-Districts @ Centennial</td>
<td>GB Sub-District Final @ Centennial</td>
<td>2:00 out</td>
<td>BB @ Cross County 5:30/7:00</td>
<td>JJ BB @ Deshler 9:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>FFA Pancake Feed Community Building 11-1</td>
<td>National FFA Week Feb. 16-23</td>
<td>National FFA Week Feb. 16-23</td>
<td>National FFA Week Feb. 16-23</td>
<td>State Dance - Grand Island</td>
<td>State Wrestling - Omaha</td>
<td>BB District Final @ TBD</td>
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<td>JH Quiz Bowl @ Thayer Central 4:00</td>
<td>BB Sub-Districts @ Centennial</td>
<td>NHS Blood Drive East Gym 8-2</td>
<td>BB Sub-District Final @ Centennial FCA Lunch Meeting in Mr. Hitchcock's room</td>
<td>2:00 out</td>
<td>GB District Final @ TBD</td>
<td>NHS Sadie Hawkins Dance 7-9 pm</td>
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Our staff began the 2020 year by joining our Blue River Cohort Schools in Exeter to hear a wonderful speaker, Mike Lucas, talk about ways to make a positive influence and be your best, not just ok. We also had a chance to meet with other teachers in our curriculum area, and continue to grow professionally.

Our Bulldog Buddies group members (students and staff) worked as a team to decorate their doors! See pictures later in the newsletter. The decorations range from basketball, Valentine’s Day, winter, to academics! It was so fun to see the buddy groups work as a team to make our school look even more beautiful than it already is! Very creative!

Our elementary students celebrated the 100th Day of School on January 24th! 100 Days Smarter! We have all grown so much in those 100 days, and the learning will continue every day. They brought in 100 of something to celebrate the occasion and had some fun classroom activities as well. Great job!

On January 31st we had a fun family movie night watching “The Lion King” with the elementary families in the gym on the big screen. We enjoyed popcorn, snacks, and being together. Thank you to the families who were able to make it! What a fun night and a great movie!

Important Dates to Mark Down this Month

- **Friday Early Release**
  - Fridays are 2:00 Early Releases for all students.
- **Other Early Release Day** (due to not having a Friday that week)
  - March 11 and April 9.
- **February 13**
  - Preschool Valentine’s Day Parties
- **February 14**
  - Elementary Valentine’s Day parties (K-6th Grade)
- **February 28**
  - Grandparents Day & Read Across America Day (12:15-2:00)
  - **More information to follow.**

Just a friendly reminder, that we will not have parent-teacher conferences in the spring. Please contact your teacher if you have any questions or would like to set up a meeting. As always, it takes the parents, students, and teachers to work together to ensure success.

Go Bulldogs!!!

Liz Stutzman- Principal

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School Website: [www.frienderdogs.org](http://www.frienderdogs.org)

Twitter Account: @FriendSchools

Facebook: Friend Public School
Scholarships

- Seniors should be busy working on both local and national scholarship applications. Parents, ask your son/daughter about the local scholarships that were shared with them last week. Deadlines will be here soon!
- If any other local businesses, organizations, or families are interested in offering a local scholarship to a graduating senior, please contact Amy Hottovy, school counselor, as soon as possible (amy.hottovy@friendschool.org or 402.947.2781 ext. 212).
- A huge thanks to the many local businesses, organizations, and families in our school district who have already earmarked approximately $9,400 in scholarship money to this year’s graduating seniors!

College Visits

- It’s never too early to start thinking about college choices!
- Juniors are allowed one excused absence per school year for a college visit, and seniors are allowed two.
- If a student plans to make a college visit, he/she must get the appropriate paperwork completed and turned in BEFORE the day of the visit in order for the absence to be excused.
- Need help scheduling a college visit? Contact Ms. Hottovy at your earliest convenience.

Community Service

- Quite a few seniors and even some juniors have already met their community service requirements.
  - Parents and guardians: please visit with your student about his/her progress toward completing hours.
- Businesses, organizations, churches, etc. in the Friend school district are reminded to contact the school with any community service opportunities that might be available for our high school students. Thank you to all who are already partnering with the school!

Parenting Tips

- Parents and guardians -- do you ever struggle with how to handle a difficult or challenging situation with your child?
- Consider taking a look at the Love and Logic website, which notes, “Whether your child is a newborn or teenager, you’ll find information and handouts for dealing with a range of situations, including potty training, toddler aggression, homework assignments, internet safety, accountability, appropriate consequences, and more!”
- You can access Love and Logic articles and advice by clicking on this link: https://www.loveandlogic.com/a/info/articles-and-advice-for-parents
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<td><strong>Breakfast Pizza</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bacon Breakfast Toast</strong></td>
<td><strong>Egg Taco</strong></td>
<td><strong>Breakfast Burrito</strong></td>
<td><strong>Biscuits &amp; Gravy</strong></td>
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<td>Chicken Quesadilla</td>
<td>K-6 Chicken Strips</td>
<td>Hamburger/Bun</td>
<td>Sloppy Joes</td>
<td>Stuffed Crust</td>
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<td>Santa Fe Koos Koos</td>
<td>7-12 Spicy Chicken Strips</td>
<td>Baked Beans</td>
<td>Potato Smiles</td>
<td>Cheese Crust</td>
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<td>Mashed Potatoes</td>
<td>Chips</td>
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<td>Fruit &amp; Veggie Bar</td>
<td>Gravy</td>
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<td>Fruit &amp; Veggie Bar</td>
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<td>Bread/Butter</td>
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<td><strong>Breakfast Bites</strong></td>
<td><strong>Egg Omelet</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chocolate-Chocolate Chip Muffins</strong></td>
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<td>Cheese Flatbread</td>
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<td>Spaghetti</td>
<td>Fiestada</td>
<td>Chicken Fajita</td>
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<td>Green Beans</td>
<td>Chicken Nuggets</td>
<td>Bread Sticks</td>
<td>Mexican Rice</td>
<td>Sandwich Bread</td>
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<td>Shredded Cheese</td>
<td>Churro</td>
<td>Pudding</td>
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<td>Gravy</td>
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<td>Fruit &amp; Veggie Bar</td>
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<td>Chocolate Chip Cookie</td>
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<td>Fruit &amp; Veggie Bar</td>
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<td><strong>Breakfast Pizza</strong></td>
<td><strong>French Toast</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cinnamon Roll</strong></td>
<td><strong>Scrambled Eggs</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sausage-Egg-Cheese Slider</strong></td>
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<td>Hot Dog/Bun</td>
<td>Mandarin Orange</td>
<td>Hot Beef Sandwich</td>
<td>Soft Shell Taco</td>
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<td>Chili</td>
<td>Chicken/Rice</td>
<td>Peas</td>
<td>Toppings</td>
<td>Stuffed Crust</td>
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<td><strong>Donuts</strong></td>
<td><strong>Apple Churro</strong></td>
<td><strong>Breakfast Bites</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cherry Strudel</strong></td>
<td><strong>Biscuits &amp; Gravy</strong></td>
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<td>Mini Corn Dogs</td>
<td>Tomato Soup</td>
<td>Hamburger/Bun</td>
<td>Meaty Nachos</td>
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<td>Patty/Bun</td>
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**FRIEND PUBLIC SCHOOL** offers online payments for your convenience!

- When your child’s lunch balance is getting low, you can also receive an e-mail alerting you of the low balance along with an option to replenish.
- Our partnership with **e-Funds for Schools (EFS)** will allow you to pay for your student’s meals from your checking account, debit card, or credit card.

- Fund your child’s lunch account at any time and from anywhere!
- Parents can access the e-Funds for Schools system and make one payment for one or all of their children, all during a single visit!

To get started, visit: [https://payments.efundsforschools.com/v3/districts/56376](https://payments.efundsforschools.com/v3/districts/56376)

Or email: michele.clouse@friendschool.org

Friend Public School is an equal opportunity provider.
WHEN TO KEEP KIDS HOME FROM SCHOOL*  
*Adapted from Children’s Health

Fever, vomiting and sniffles …oh, my!

Between colds, coughs, and tummy bugs, kids can get sick frequently. So when symptoms like a runny nose or stomach pain hit, it may be difficult to decide when you should keep your child home from school.

"Sometimes it’s obvious when kids need to stay home, like when they have a fever," says Stormee Williams, M.D., a pediatrician and Director of School Based Telehealth at Children's Health. "But many times children's symptoms fall into a gray area that gives parents pause."

**Is my child too sick for school?**

In general, you should keep your child home from school when they have any of the following symptoms or illnesses:

- Fever – Temperature greater than 100 degrees
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Certain illnesses and rashes like chickenpox, measles or hand, foot and mouth disease

**Should I keep my child home from school with a cold?**

Colds, coughs, and sore throats are common in kids and do not require that children stay home from school, especially if symptoms are mild. However, **if cold symptoms include a fever, or if a cough is excessive enough to disrupt their learning, you should keep your child home to rest.**

"With colds, as long as there is no fever and the child feels well enough to participate in class, they can go to school," says Dr. Williams. "But if a child is lethargic or will not eat, it's best to keep them home until they are feeling better."

**When can my child return to school after being sick?**

When your child can go back to school will vary depending on what symptoms or type of illness your child experienced.

**Returning to school after fever**

A child should stay home with a fever, which is a temperature of 100 or higher. Children should be fever free for 24+ hours without the use of fever-reducing medications such as Tylenol or Motrin.

**Returning to school after vomiting**

Children can return to school when they tolerate liquids and solid food without vomiting. A child may go hours without vomiting if they haven't eaten, but as soon as they eat or drink, they get sick again. Dr. Williams advises to wait an hour after a child vomits to let the stomach calm down and then give them sips of water. If they can hold water down after an hour, progress to more liquids or something bland to eat, like a cracker or piece of toast.

**Returning to school after flu**

Children can return to school after the flu when they no longer have a fever and they feel well enough to participate in class. Because the flu can cause a variety of symptoms, a child may not be ready for school even if they are fever free. Parents should use their best judgement to determine if their child is close to being back to their normal level of activity before returning to school.

**Tips to keep your child healthy at school**

*Proper hand hygiene is the best way to prevent the spread of germs.* Teach your child to wash their hands frequently, especially before eating, after using the bathroom, or blowing their nose. It's also important to wash hands after touching desks, doorknobs, and handrails. To help prevent the spread of illness, teach your child to cough into their elbow or to cover their nose and mouth with a tissue before a sneeze. It's also a good idea to remind your child not to share food or utensils with classmates.

We recognize that illness is never convenient, but we can all work together to limit the spread of flu, colds, and other contagious illness and keep our kids strong and healthy!
Seniors...make sure you complete the FAFSA process

Getting financial aid for college involves more than completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Complete each step of the process so that you don’t miss out on money for college.

If you haven’t already, complete your 2020-21 FAFSA at FAFSA.gov using 2018 income tax data. Before you start, you and a parent must each get an FSA ID at fsaid.ed.gov as you’ll need them to access and sign your FAFSA.

Expect a Student Aid Report (SAR) via an email link. The SAR acknowledges that your FAFSA was received and lets you know if you need to take further action before the form can be processed.

You might receive a verification notice from the college(s) you listed on your FAFSA requesting documents to verify your FAFSA information. The college will not process your financial aid until you provide required documents.

Watch for financial aid award notifications. Once you’re accepted for admission to the colleges you listed on your FAFSA, they will notify you of the types and amounts of financial aid they’re offering.

What you need to know about scholarships

Most scholarships are based on academics, but others are based on community service, school involvement, or talent. Some are based on financial need as determined by the results of your FAFSA.

Here’s where to look for scholarships:

ScholarshipQuest at EducationQuest.org houses over 2,000 Nebraska-based scholarships. After you create a profile, you’ll be matched with scholarships that fit your criteria.

Your school counselor’s office. Visit regularly to check on local and national awards.

The college you plan to attend. Contact the school for a list of scholarships they provide and the application procedures.

National search sites such as College Board, Peterson’s, and Chegg.

Other resources could include your coach, clubs and organizations, and your parents’ employers and civic organizations.

Click here for more details about scholarships and tips to help you complete a successful application.

Two easy-to-apply-for scholarships from EducationQuest

Nebraska students in grades 9-12 are invited to pursue these $500 scholarships from EducationQuest:

Get Social Scholarship – By following us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, you can enter into a drawing for a $500 scholarship each time we hit another 250 followers. Click here for details.

Scavenger Hunt Scholarship – Create a ScholarshipQuest profile at EducationQuest.org and then scavenge around the EducationQuest website to find answers to questions on a survey. The deadline to apply is March 31. We’ll draw two winners from those who answer all questions correctly. Click here for details.

February “To Do” List

Seniors:

___ If you haven’t already, complete the FAFSA.

___ Expect financial aid award notifications from the colleges you listed on your FAFSA.

___ Apply for scholarships.

Juniors:

___ Start preparing for the ACT. Here are test-prep resources to consider.

___ Register by February 14 for the March 14 SAT.

___ Register by February 28 for the April 4 ACT.

For free help with college planning, contact EducationQuest Foundation:

Omaha 402-391-4033 888-357-6300
Lincoln 402-475-5222 800-303-3745
Kearney 308-234-6310 800-666-3721
Scottsbluff 800-303-3745 ext. 6654

EducationQuest.org

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram
On January 15, 2020, the EMF FFA chapter traveled to the Holthus Center in York to compete in District Leadership Development Events. This year the chapter took two Ag Demo teams, two Creed speakers, two Job Interview, and one Discovery Speaker.

The Ag Demo competition had 16 teams competing this year. In this competition, members demonstrate how to do something related to agriculture. It is not a formal speech but rather an explanation while members are demonstrating the activity. The Ag Demo team comprised of Kiah Songster, Cade Kresak and Avery Kraus placed 5th and received a purple ribbon. They demonstrated how to prepare a steer for the show ring.

The Ag Demo team of Josie Vyhnalek, Christian Weber, Kylie Weber, and Jaiden Papik placed 8th and received a purple ribbon. They demonstrated how to do soil nutrient testing and specifically demonstrated how to do a nitrogen, phosphorus, and pH test.

The next area we competed in was Job Interview. In job interview, members have to apply for a fictitious job related to their SAE. They create a resume and cover letter, which are turned in ahead of time. At the competition, members fill out a job application, interview with a panel of judges, and write a follow-up letter. Kate Houlden and Abigail Eberspacher participated this year. There were 23 total competing in this area. Kate Houlden placed 7th and received a purple ribbon, and Abigail placed 11th and received a blue ribbon.

Next, Chase Svehla and Kiarra Fennell represented the chapter in Creed speaking. The FFA Creed competition requires students to memorize the FFA Creed, five paragraphs, word for word, and then recite it to a panel of judges. In addition, each member is asked at least 3 questions about the Creed by the judges. This year there were 23 in Creed speaking. Kiarra Fennell made finals, placed fifth, and received a purple ribbon. Chase Svehla placed 12th and received a red ribbon.

The last area we competed in was Discovery Speaking. Discovery Speaking is open to 7th and 8th grade members. Members can develop a speech that lasts between 2-4 minutes on the agriculture industry. Zachary Spohn competed in this division against 7 other speakers. Zach placed 3rd and is the alternate to the state competition.

We are excited about how our members competed this year and are currently preparing for State FFA Degree interviews and spring Career Development Events.
JANUARY BULLDOG BUDDIES
DOOR DECORATING

Don't Go Bacon
My Heart

Staching Through the Snow!

The Sky is the Limit
Blast into 2020