

The Sophomore American History class recently completed a unit on Westward Movement. The Friend students joined Dorchester's Junior American History students in visiting Homestead National Monument near Beatrice and Rock Creek Station near Fairbury on Wednesday, September 20 ${ }^{\text {th }}$. Friend students attending included: Kiahna Bachle, Caleb Black, Christian Conley, Riley Conner, Chase Cook, Hailey Goodrich, Josiah Oceguera, Taylin Schluter, Hadley Sladek, Hunter Svehla, Zachary Vossler, Vincent Warner, and Babe Weber.


## Superintendent's Desk

Success is written all over the season's records and relationships for the inaugural 2023-24 EMF fall sports and activities. The numbers of wins, the personal bests, and the student-athletes joining together with the same uniforms are only the starting point of all that is to come for EMF. As we take a look at the Coop so far, it has been met with success for our students in many different facets. Our football team has made it to the playoffs, our volleyball has a winning record, girls golf qualified our first state participant, cross country ran strong in their initial year, softball finished their season a game from the state tournament, and we have already seen e-sports kick off as well.

With this Coop has come many different opportunities for our students in extracurricular activities. This is only the beginning of the potential possibilities. With the success of this cooperative agreement comes the growing idea and plan to consolidate two separate school districts into one. This is not a new concept for Exeter-Milligan and Friend. We have reached a point where we need to begin an open dialogue with community members as we move toward consolidation.

The first part of this is to create a petition to the Nebraska Department of Education to form this new district. Mr. Sheffield and myself have done this. The next step is board involvement and input. Once that has happened, we will have two different types of meetings open to the public and in different communities. There will be two informational meetings and two meetings with public comment. Below are the dates and times.

Special meetings - no public comment (information will be presented) 7:00 p.m.
Milligan - Wednesday, January 17, 2024
Friend - Tuesday, January 23, 2024 (Striv recording for those who cannot make it)
Special meetings - public comment 7:00 p.m.
Friend - Tuesday, February 27, 2024
Exeter - Monday, March 4, 2024
With any change comes uncertainty. Change usually comes with challenges and unknowns and, in some cases, it can stand in the way of progress and growth. With the success of the fall sports and the continued relationships I see forming in and out of the classroom, I can only sit back and dream of the academic opportunities for a consolidated school district and the students it intends to serve.

I hope you all will find the time to listen to what will be presented and think about what could be a possibility for our students. I also urge you as individuals to have open dialogue with board members and myself as we move forward with these meetings. I welcome all discussion on this topic and my door is (almost always) open.

I continue to work and strive for more for our students. Our staff continues its pursuit of excellence. This consolidation is another step in that pursuit. This is an exciting time to be here in this district!

Derek Anderson
derek.anderson@friendschool.org

## Go For The Gold Every Day!!

Hello Parents and Students,
Happy Fall! Thank you so much to the parents who were able to make it Parent-Teacher Conferences. We had $99 \%$ of the kids represented in the elementary ( $131 / 132$ ), and $80 \%$ of the kids represented in the secondary (77/98). Literacy Night for our Preschool-1 ${ }^{\text {st }}$ grade families was also a great success, we had 41/62 kids (with their families) come and learn more about the importance of literacy, eat supper, and have fun with different learning activities! Thank you very much to our local firefighters for teaching our students about the importance of fire safety. The kids even got to go to the fire station! We also had a fun time in our Bulldog Buddies' groups creating posters to hang up around the school! The posters ranged from Bobcat pride to encouraging words to student support! Very creative!

Just a friendly reminder that when you come to support our students at events, students need to sit with their parents/guardians who brought them- No running around or walking around on the catwalk in the gym. Please remember to model good sportsmanship for your children, and also to represent our town of Friend (and EMF) in a positive manner at sporting events. Also, with more spectators attending our games, it would be very much appreciated if you would please pick up your trash as you exit the gym. GO BOBCATS!

Please keep an open line of communication. If you have any questions about your child, please ask his/ her teacher so we can help you out. There are many ways to communicate: Remind App, e-mail, phone, or set up a meeting if necessary. Communication and teamwork are the keys to success!

Here's to a great school year in 2023-2024! Liz Stutzman- PreK-12 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Grade Principal

## Stutzman's Side Notes

"Go For The Gold Every Day"

October 26-November 9: Elementary is collecting canned food/items for the Friend Food Pantry November 10: 8:30 Veterans Day Program 8:30 AM in the old gym
November 22-26: Thanksgiving Break
December 12: Holiday Concert; Elementary: 6:00 PM followed by the Secondary: 7:15 PM (new gym)
December 22-January 3: Holiday Break

7-12 grade students and parents/guardians: please mark your calendars with these important dates:

- December 15 is the deadline for 7-12 grade students who wish to make a second semester schedule change. Teacher, parent, and administrative approval is required for all changes.
- Registration for spring SENCAP classes is also due December 15. Interested 10-12 grade students (who are in solid academic standing) should be making appointments NOW to see Ms. Hottovy to discuss options. This is a great way for high school students to earn college credit at a hugely discounted rate! Take a look at this website for more information: https://www.southeast.edu/sencap/


## SCHOLARSHIP NOTES

- Ms. Hottovy often sends scholarship opportunities and college/career information to juniors and seniors through school email. Have a conversation with your son/daughter about checking their email often and practicing good communication skills.
- If your business, organization, or family would like to begin offering a scholarship to this year's graduating seniors at Friend Public School, please contact Ms. Amy Hottovy at your earliest convenience.
- Current scholarship benefactors who wish to make a change to their application form or process are also encouraged to contact the school counselor as soon as possible. Thank you for your generosity and support!
- Students and parents are able to see an updated list of scholarship opportunities as they become available. Look for the tab called "Scholarship Central / Scholarships 23-24" on the school website or follow this link: Scholarship Central.
- Seniors have been encouraged to create an account and complete a profile through Education Quest to see the MANY scholarship opportunities that exist. They should check the website weekly!


## COMMUNITY SERVICE REQUIREMENT

- We are always looking for more community service opportunities to add to our list so students can see a variety of experiences from which to choose. If you are interested in offering and supervising community service, please contact me at your earliest convenience (amy.hottovy@friendschool.org; 402.947.2781 extension 212).


## IMPORTANT TEST DATES

October 25, 2023 - invited Juniors take the PSAT
November 8, 2023 - all Sophomores take the PreACT

- This short assessment predicts student performance on the ACT and offers careerinterest information to students, parents, and teachers. It also helps ensure students take the best classes to prepare them for college and their options after high school.
December 6, 2023- all Sophomores (and some Juniors) take the ASVAB
- This is a free opportunity for students to understand their unique skills and interests, plus identify potentially satisfying careers,
January 17, 2024 - all Juniors take the practice ACT
March 26, 2024 - all Juniors take the ACT


## ELEMENTARY LESSONS WITH THE COUNSELOR

- Ask your child about what he/she is learning during lessons with the school counselor! These are skills students should use both at school and at home.
- Lower elementary grades have been practicing their skills of focusing and listening. They should be able to tell you how they show they are paying attention!
- Middle elementary grades are practicing how to build new pathways in their brains, plus they are learning that mistakes are a natural part of growing.
- Upper elementary grades are learning about managing stress (and other big feelings) and starting to learn about college and careers.
- It's never too early to begin saving for your child's college expenses!
- Your child may be young now, but he/she will be graduating from high school before you know it.
- While you and your child's teachers are making sure the children are ready for higher education, be sure you have done your homework as well.
- With some planning and a bit of commitment, you can make their dreams of college a reality!
- Visit https://www.nest529direct.com/home.html for information on how the NEST529 college savings plan might be a good fit for your family.
- If you are interested in a brochure, contact Ms. Amy Hottovy at school.


## KEEPING KIDS SAFE

Parents and guardians, do you ever wonder how to keep up with the latest trends and dangers when it comes to cell phones, social media, screen time, or other technological devices?

Just like you would never hand the car keys over to your child and encourage him/her to speed down the interstate without any driving lessons or guidance, we should never "turn kids loose" in the world of technology without clear expectations, rules for safety, and an open door to come to you with anything they want or need to discuss.

CommonSenseMedia.org is an excellent resource for parents! You can access movie, TV, app, game, and book reviews on the website. You can also click on the "Parents Need to Know" tab to search for guidance on numerous topics by age group.

## BULLDOG BOUTIQUE

The Bulldog Boutique is a place where ALL Friend Public School students can find new or gently used clothing and personal items...no questions asked and free of charge! Staff members and parents/guardians are encouraged to let the school counselor know if a child is in need.

## EMF FFA Chapter 23-24 <br> 

"Our EMF FFA Chapter has been off to a fast and furious start to the school year. This year we have reached a record high membership for our chapter with 74 members. Since school has started, our Imembers have attended and participated in numerous activities. In September, members traveled to - Husker Harvest Days and completed a scavenger hunt, met with vendors, and were able to see all of the Inew equipment. Also in September we hosted our first quarter meeting in Exeter with over 54 members in "attendance. In October we completed fruit sales, Feed the Farmer, EDGE Conference, District Livestock Judging, and attended the National FFA Convention at the end of October.

I
.EDGE Conference was held at Norris High School on October 12th. Our chapter took 7th and 8th grade Imembers to this conference. Members learned about leadership, opportunities in FFA, and careers.
"District Livestock Judging was held at the York County Fairgrounds on October 18th. We took six junior
I high, 15 junior division (9-10), three senior division (11-12) judgers. In the junior high division, we placed ; 3rd out of 12 teams. In the junior division, we qualified a team for state and we got 3rd out of 16 teams. .Keltyn Kirchhoff was 3rd overall, Malorie Lawver was 10th overall, and Hunter Svehla and Cohen Harre I round out the team that qualified. In the non-competitive section, we placed 3rd out of 14 teams with - Jaxson Brandt and Alexis Paulsen both placing in the top 10 individually. Lastly, in the senior division, we I did not have a full team but Mikey Bartu placed 39th, Will Vyhnalek 52nd, and Carter Milton 94th. Way to ;go to all of our individuals and teams who competed.
_Coming up this year we will be gathering gift cards for children awaiting organ donation at UNMC as part of . our annual gift card drive. Our goal is to raise $\$ 2,500$ in gift cards. Watch for updates on our social media I accounts for drop off locations. Lastly, we will have Leadership Development Events on December 13th in "York. We have a large group of students who will be competing this year.



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| For the mo up to date please go to on the sch friendbulld | current and nformation, the calendar ol website: gs.socs.net |  | State VB @ Lincoln | State VB @ Lincoln | 2:00 out <br> State VB @ Lincoln <br> FB Playoffs Quarterfinals TBD | State VB @ Lincoln |
| Daylight Savings Time ends <br> One Act Matinee (Exeter) 2:00 | JH WR EMF Invite <br> (Friend) 4:00 <br> Pioneer Conference Vocal Clinic @ JB \& Sterling | Election Day <br> JH GB vs. Seward <br> (Exeter) 4:00 | FCA Lunch Meeting <br> Pre-ACT (Sophomores) <br> JH Quiz Bowl @ Seward | JH GB @ Wilber 4:30 <br> 9 | 2:00 out <br> Veteran's Day <br> Program 8:30 <br> FCCLA Fall Conference <br> FB Playoffs <br> Semi-finals TBA | Veteran's Day <br> JH GB vs. Deshler <br> (Exeter) 10:00 <br> FCCLA Fall Conference |
| FCCLA Fall Conference <br> One Act Matinee (Milligan) 2:00 | Start of Winter <br> Practice <br> JH GB vs. Southern (Exeter) 6:00 <br> BOE -Media Center 7:30 | JH GB vs. Sutton (Exeter) 4:00 | JH WR @ Dorchester <br> 5:00 <br> Pioneer Conference Play Production @ JB 9:00 | $\begin{gathered} \text { JH GB @ } \underset{4: 00}{@ H e a r t l a n d ~} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ <br> EMF FFA Officer Meeting (Exeter) 6:30 | 2:00 out <br> JH WR @ Crete 5:30 | 18 |
| 19 | FB Finals TBA <br> One Act Dinner Theater (Friend) 7:00 Dinner 7:30 Performance | 2:00 out JH GB vs. Thayer Central (Exeter) 4:30 <br> JH WR @ Geneva 4:30 <br> One Act Matinee (Elementary) 1:00 | NO SCHOOL $22$ | NO SCHOOL $23$ | NO SCHOOL <br> 24 | 25 |
| 26 | JH WR @ Wilber 6:00 | 28 | FCA Lunch Meeting <br> 29 | GB BB @ Lewiston <br> 4/5/6/7:30 <br> B \& G WR <br> Triangular (Friend) 6:00 |  |  |




| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | M [D | Cinnamon Rolls Cheese Calzone Marinara Sauce Corn Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Waffles Chicken Nuggets French Fries Bread/Butter Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Blueberry Muffin Fiestada Spanish Rice Churros Fruit \& Veggie Bar <br> 2:00 out |
| Chocolate, Chocolate Chip Muffin Sloppy Joes Doritos Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Donuts <br> Walking Taco Toppings Shredded Cheese Bread/Butter Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Egg Cheese Omelet Mandarin Orange Chicken Rice <br> Bread/Butter Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Biscuits \& Gravy Chicken Alfredo Green Beans Breadsticks Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Breakfast Bar Subs Chips Cookie Fruit \& Veggie Bar <br> 2:00 out |
| Egg Patty Grilled Chicken Bun <br> Broccoli \& Cheese Jell-O Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Breakfast Pizza Italian Dunkers (Cheese Breadstick) Marinara Sauce Green Beans Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Breakfast Bites Hamburger/Bun Cooked Carrots Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Scrambled Eggs Sliced Turkey Mashed Potatoes Gravy Hot Rolls Pumpkin Dessert Fruit \& Veggie Bar | French Toast Stuffed Crust Cheese Pizza Corn Fruit \& Veggie Bar 2:00 out |
| Donuts <br> Meaty Nachos Toppings Bread/Butter Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Chocolate Chip Muffin Hot Dog/Bun Chili <br> Shredded Cheese Fruit \& Veggie Bar <br> 2:00 out | NO SCHOOL <br> 22 | NO SCHOOL <br> Thanksgiving <br> 23 | NO SCHOOL |
| French Toast Chicken Strips Mashed Potatoes Gravy Bread/Butter Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Breakfast Pizza Bacon, Egg, Cheese Spaghetti Shredded Cheese Breadstick Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Apple Breakfast Bites Tomato Soup Grilled Cheese Goldfish Crackers Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Cinnamon Rolls Hamburger/Bun Baked Beans Fruit \& Veggie Bar | $\qquad$ |


| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\qquad$ |  |  |  | Chocolate, Chocolate Chip Muffin Fiestada Spanish Rice Churro Fruit \& Veggie Bar 2:00 out |
| Breakfast Bar Chicken Strips Mac N Cheese Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Waffles <br> Mandarin Orange <br> Chicken <br> Rice <br> Bread/Butter Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Pancake Bites Beef \& Cheese Quesadilla Corn Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Egg Patty <br> Walking Taco Toppings Shredded Cheese Bread/Butter Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Breakfast Bites Subs Chips Cookies Fruit \& Veggie Bar <br> 2:00 out |
| Breakfast Pizza Bacon, Egg, Cheese Sloppy Joes Doritos Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Donuts <br> Hot Dog/Bun Chili <br> Shredded Cheese Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Biscuits \& Gravy Chicken Nuggets Sweet Potato Fries Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Pancakes Sliced Ham Mashed Potatoes Gravy <br> Hot Rolls <br> Cream Cheese Dessert Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Scrambled Eggs Stuffed Crust Pepperoni Pizza Fruit \& Veggie Bar <br> 2:00 out |
| French Toast Cheese Calzones Marinara Sauce Corn Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Breakfast Pizza Meaty Nachos Toppings Bread/Butter Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Cinnamon Rolls Hamburger/Bun Green Beans Fruit \& Veggie Bar | Chocolate Chip Muffin Italian Dunkers (Cheese Breadstick) Marinara Sauce Peas Fruit \& Veggie Bar 2:00 out | Holiday Break <br> NO SCHOOL |
| Holiday Break NO SCHOOL | Holiday Break NO SCHOOL | Holiday Break NO SCHOOL | Holiday Break NO SCHOOL | Holiday Break NO SCHOOL |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

Hello! I am the new music teacher here at Friend Public Schools. My name is Kaydi Daudt, and I am so happy to be teaching at this wonderful school! The 7-12 band students have been working hard so far! The two things that we have been focusing on is pep band and marching band. For marching band, we are playing "Wild Thing." We already marched at the State Fair at the end of August. We found some; ithings that we need to fix, but we did great overall! We spent some time; exploring the fair after we marched and made some great memories. We are looking forward to the rest of the year and what it has in store for us. I would like to thank everyone who continues to support the music program here at Friend!

Here is a picture of us before we left for the state fair in August!

## Friend Historical Society

## Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 19-2pm Astronaut Clayton Anderson presentation Clay will share how a small-town boy from Ashland, NE made his dreams come true. The whole family will enjoy his inspirational story. He will describe his adventures in space and answer audience questions. Currently Clay is President and CEO of the Strategic Air Command \& Aerospace Museum just off I-8o, Exit 426 near Ashland, NE. He is an author of several books for all ages and will autograph books for purchase. This free program is being made possible by the local Historical Society of Friend.
Contact Mary Ann @ 402-560-1126 for more information


Kindergarten went to the Braun Pumpkin Patch on Friday, September 29th. April Braun educated us on the pumpkin growing process along with the parts of a pumpkin. We then got to pick a pumpkin to take home! Thank you to the Braun family for allowing us to come to your Pumpkin Patch!


## Friend Elementary Food Drive: "Friendly" Classroom Competition



Friend Elementary is again helping our community by stocking The Friend Food Pantry.

The food drive will run from October 26- November 9. Each class will compete to see which class can collect the MOST items in these weeks.

This is for Pre-school-6 $\sigma^{\text {th }}$ Grade classrooms.
(Junior high and High school will collect in the spring)
Please consider donating to those who are less fortunate and need our help. Bring your items to school by November $9^{\text {th }}$ - Food, household items, and toiletries are welcome. All of the food donated goes to the Friend Food Pantry.

| $\mathbf{Y e a r}$ | Total Items Donated! |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2018 | 1,180 |
| 2019 | 1,485 |
| 2020 | 1,626 |
| 2021 | 1,727 |
| 2022 | 1,522 |
| 2023 | $? ? ? ?$ |



Thank you for your help and for setting a "giving" example and mentality for your children.

If you have great photos of sports lactivities, would you consider sharing with the Yearbook Staff?

## YEARBODK


email Mrs. Anderson
paula.andersonefriendschool.org Thank you!

## EMF's One Act 2023

 Presents
by Alec Strum

## Local Performances

Exeter Matinee: Sunday, November 5, 2PM at Exeter-Milligan School

- Tickets at door-\$5 with dessert bar

Milligan Matinee: Sunday, November 12, 2PM at Milligan Auditorium

- Tickets at door-\$5 with popcorn

Friend Dinner Theatre: Monday, November 20 at Friend Public School

- Dinner 7PM, Performance 7:45PM
- Dinner Theatre \& Performance- $\$ 30$ *must be purchased ahead* from cast, crew, or front office between Nov. 1-15
- Performance Only-\$5 at door

Friend Matinee: Tuesday, November 21, 1 PM at Friend School

- Tickets at door- $\$ 5$ with EMF elementary students

| Cast \& Crew |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Caleb Black as Zeus | Crew <br> Brooklyn Oldehoft as Prometheus <br> Kmila Benitez as Hera <br> Halona Wootton as Demeter <br> Tucker Svec as Hermes <br> Logan Krupicka as Hades <br> Kyler Sladek as Persephone <br> Kiley Oldehoeft as Aphrodite <br> Divinity Smith as Artemis <br> Jacob Weber as Hephaestus <br> Troy Kallhoff as Poseidon <br> Neal Scott as Ares |
| Sheyene Engert <br> Kierra Papik as Athena | Thaylor Pribyl |
| Hadley Sladek |  |

## EMF JH VB 2023

The first ever EMF Junior High Volleyball team completed its season on October 9, 2023. E-M and Friend girls joined forces this year, which created a unique opportunity for the girls to meet and make new friends and provided them the opportunity to learn with and from each other in order to become better volleyball players. The girls did an amazing job of working together and supporting each other to find success. The A Team ended the season with a record of $11-1$, the B Team was $3-8$, and the C Team was $4-1$. The first picture is of the girls after they won the EMF Invite. The second picture was taken after their last game.


Members of the team include: 1 Hannah Petersen, 2 Makenna Burchett, 3 Mackenzie Jaeger, 4 Chezney Kanode, 5 Aubrey Bachle, 6 Ensley Stahl, 7 Brogan Staskal, 8 Tori Bresson, 9 Bristol Sladek, 10 Miley Ricenbaw, 11 Meredith Paulsen, 12 Sadie Brandt, 13 Reese Tuttle, 14 Brynnlye Johnson, 15 Madelyn Kenney, 16 Jewel Lawver, 17 Maddison Allen, 18 Natalie Meyer, 19 Kate Pribyl. Coaches: Mrs. Darcy White and Mrs. Erin Wessels.

This was a fun group of girls to work with and there is a ton of potential going forward. I want to thank Coach Wessels for working with me and all the parents for their support throughout the season.

Go Bobcats!!!!
Coach White


Mrs. Anderson's 2nd period speech students (sophomores and juniors) spiced up their voice : expressions, gestures and eye contact when reading aloud children's books to the Friend kindergartners and first graders! They chose books relating to Halloween, fall, five senses, fire safety and more! The BIGS and the LITTLES : loved reading and listening to the books!


Ms. Elsberry's high school speech classes are working on voice expression in their public speaking. High school students chose books to read to the elementary classes to work on character voices, pauses, and expressions.
Thank you for hosting us, Elementary!




PRESCHOOL LEARNED ABOU'T
FIRE SAFETY!!

## Importunt

## The school building is closed for the NSEA Moratorium <br> December 23-27. <br> NOpractices are <br> allowed during this time.

Friend Public Schools
P.O. Box 67

Friend, NE 68359

