Dear Cooper Families,

I have always thought of February as the longest winter month but this one just flew by! Hopefully the weather continues to avoid us and some fresh spring air blows all of this sickness out of our school. Our Nurse Juli has been incredibly busy taking care of all our sick students and staff!

March is going to be a very busy month for us, as evidenced by the size of this newsletter! We are starting with our Family Engagement/school conference events on March 3rd and 4th. You should have received notification regarding these events and if you haven’t please reach out to your child’s teacher. The event will have several components designed to connect, inform and help parents. We will do activities, share data about how your child is doing, spend time teaching you ways to help you work with your child, and let you practice these skills. While parents are learning we will have activities for students in the gym and with the help of the Booster Club we will be feeding them. The Book Fair will also be set up for these events.

We are also holding Kindergarten Roundup for Cooper on March 24th. We are looking forward to meeting our new Cooper Kids!

Thank you for all you do for your children! I look forward to seeing you for our Family Engagement events!

Ms. Harvey
Go Big for Kids and support the Fort Dodge Community Schools Foundation Annual Fundraiser Go Big, Go Dodgers.

In 2019, your support helped add the following to our district:

- iJAG program at FDSH
- Peace corners at Duncombe Elementary
- Interactive technology at Feelhaver Elementary
- Math Talks materials at Cooper Elementary
- Surface planer for career and technical education at FDMS
- Battle of the Books program at all elementary school
- Leader in Me district program coming in 20-21 and more!

The Big event is **Friday, April 3, at 6 p.m. at Fort Frenzy**. There will be live music by Salty View, a live auction, food, tailgating games, a cash bar and more!

Tickets are $40 per person ($20 for FDCSD employees and one guest). Go to [www.fdcsfoundation.org](http://www.fdcsfoundation.org) to purchase tickets or make a donation.

Fort Dodge Senior High is looking for projects in the community for our construction students. If you have a desire for a shed, garage, or small addition on your property and like the idea of helping our students learn a skilled trade, please contact Adam Kent at [akent@fdschools.org](mailto:akent@fdschools.org) with your ideas. If your project aligns well with our curriculum, we will make it happen. District administration will make the final determination on participation in any project.
Important Dates to Remember in March 2020

March 3rd  Family Engagement Event (See more information below)
March 5th  Family Engagement Event (See more information below)
March 18-20th All Schools Closed for Spring Break
March 24th  Kindergarten Round Up at Cooper

Cooper Family Engagement Event

The Fort Dodge Community School District is implementing family engagement events in our schools over the next couple of months. These events will help increase the awareness families have of our academic expectations, will build the capacity of families to support their students’ learning and will create a strong partnership between families and our schools.

These interactive events will offer families the opportunity to practice skills and strategies they can use at home to support and extend their students’ learning. Family members and school staff working together will better support student learning and help students achieve their dreams.

Ongoing research shows that family engagement in schools improves student achievement, and reduces absenteeism. Students with involved parents and/or caregivers earn higher grades and test scores, have better social skills and show improved behavior at home and school.

Cooper Family Engagement events will be on March 3rd and March 5th see the schedule below for times.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MARCH 3RD</th>
<th>Kindergarten-1st Grade</th>
<th>2nd-4th Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Engagement Event</td>
<td>4:30-5:45PM</td>
<td>5:45-7:00PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open House</td>
<td>5:45-7:00PM</td>
<td>4:30-5:45PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MARCH 5TH</th>
<th>Kindergarten – 1st Grade</th>
<th>2nd– 4th Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Engagement Event</td>
<td>5:30-6:45PM</td>
<td>6:45-8:00PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open House</td>
<td>6:45-8:00PM</td>
<td>5:30-6:45PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These family engagement events will serve as our spring conferences for families. Please mark your calendars accordingly and plan to attend. Teachers will reach out to individual families for additional one-on-one conversations as needed.

Family is the most important influence in a child’s life, therefore involving families in the education of our students is critical to their success. We will continue to work to build more meaningful and personal connections with our families to better support our students in their learning and for their futures. We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming family engagement event. Together We Rise!
Register Now for Kindergarten Roundup at the FDCSD

February 24, 2020, Fort Dodge, IA- Registration is taking place now for Kindergarten Roundup at the Fort Dodge Community School District. Families can choose the session that works best for them: 12:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. The schedule is as follows:

March 23 at Butler Elementary
March 24 at Cooper Elementary
March 25 at Duncombe Elementary
March 26 at Feelhaver Elementary

The child’s home address determines which Roundup location he/she must attend. If parents/guardians are unsure where a child should attend Roundup, please call 574.5679. Children must be five years of age by September 15, 2019, to be eligible to attend kindergarten in the fall. Parents/guardians who have a child ready to enter kindergarten may register their child for Roundup using the online form located at www.fdschools.org or may call 515.574.5679 to register their child into a Roundup session. The following information is required:

- If your child currently attends preschool or TK at Riverside ELC no paperwork is needed at this time. Please use the online form to indicate your intention to enroll in kindergarten at the FDCSD
- If your child currently attends preschool at Childcare Discovery, Community Christian, Dodger Preschool, Little Lambs or Saint Edmond proof of guardianship, proof of address and immunization records are needed. Please use the online form to indicate your intention to enroll in kindergarten at the FDCSD
- If your child currently does not attend preschool proof of guardianship, proof of address and immunization records are needed. Please use the online form to indicate your intention to enroll in kindergarten at the FDCSD. You will then receive a link to complete the pre-registration process online.

Parents and children will spend about an hour in a classroom where they will engage in various literacy, fine motor and math activities. Parents will attend a brief meeting with the building principal, nurse and kindergarten teachers. Children will remain in the classroom during the meetings to participate in art and story time as well as have a snack.

For families interested in Transitional Kindergarten (TK), pre-registration is taking place now. To be eligible to attend TK in the fall of 2020, children must be five years old by September 15, 2020. Space is limited and a waiting list will be started once the TK sections are full. TK hours will be 8 a.m. to 3:10 p.m., with the doors opening at 7:30 a.m. TK Roundup is March 27. Families may choose to attend a 9:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. session. Register using the form online form at www.fdschools.org.

Families will need to complete the full registration process online during the summer of 2020.

Please call 574.5679 for additional information or with questions.
It is the policy of the Fort Dodge Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, ancestry, age, gender, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, physical attributes, religion, political party preference, political belief, socioeconomic status, veteran’s status, actual or potential parental, family or marital status in its programs, services, and employment practices. If you have questions or grievances related to this policy, please contact Dr. Stephanie Anderson (Director of Student Services - Elementary), and Dr. Kirsten Doebel (Director of Student Services - Secondary), Central Administration Office, 104 South 17th Street, Fort Dodge, IA 50501, (574-5678) or contact the Civil Rights Midwestern Division for U. S. Department of Education Office, 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661-4544. (Alternate for Section 504 is Lynnae Harvey, Director of Special Education/Special Needs, 515-574-5675).

The District’s Compliance Coordinator for Affirmative Action is Lisa Negus, who can be reached at 574-5657 or 104 South 17th Street, Fort Dodge, IA 50501.

The District’s Designated Investigators of Physical/Sexual Abuse of Students by School Employees are Dr. Stephanie Anderson (Director of Student Services - Elementary), and Dr. Kirsten Doebel (Director of Student Services - Secondary). They can be reached at 576-1161 or 104 South 17th Street, Fort Dodge, IA 50501. The alternate is Corey Moody. He can be reached at 574-5469 or 819 North 25th Street, Fort Dodge, IA 50501.

The District’s Officers for Harassment Complaints and Allegations are Dr. Stephanie Anderson (Director of Student Services - Elementary), and Dr. Kirsten Doebel (Director of Student Services - Secondary). They can be reached at 576-1161 or 104 South 17th Street, Fort Dodge, IA 50501.
Welcome to the Middle School! All 4th graders and their families are invited to a MOVIE NIGHT in the Middle School Auditorium!

**DETAILS:**

**WHAT:** Movie night for our incoming 5th grade families for the 2020-2021 school year.

**WHERE:** Fort Dodge Middle School Auditorium. Park in the south parking lot, and enter the auditorium doors.

**WHEN:** March 6, 2020. Doors will unlock at 6:30, and relock by 7:15. Information and the movie will start at 7:00.

**WHO:** All current 4th graders and their immediate families are invited. All students must be accompanied by an adult.

**WHY:** Fort Dodge Middle School wants to welcome you to our school!

Movie: *The Secret Life of Pets 2*

April 4th, from 8:30-10:30, will be the come-and-go Welcome Breakfast with tours, information about the Middle School, and a chance to meet your teachers. More details to come!