Dear Parents, Families, and Friends,

It’s hard to believe we only have a little over three months left with our precious learners this school year. The commitments we made to each other and our students at the beginning of the year are still going strong.

If you didn’t get a chance to view the article in the Messenger, here is a recap of the story they celebrated about Feelhaver. Our staff has been working extra hard to ensure all of our students have the skills and tools to be successful in school and beyond. One area we have a sharp focus on is literacy. As a building, we provide our students individualized supports based on their literacy needs through a progression of tiered instruction. Our staff meets regularly to analyze student data and determine what’s working, what’s not working, and what to do next for each learner. Because of this commitment to quality learning for all, our proficiency data has been steadily increasing. Based on the most recent FAST test, here is a snapshot of the overall growth our students have made this year.

- 100% of our kindergarteners have made modest, typical, or aggressive growth
- 98% of our 1st graders have made modest, typical, or aggressive growth
- 95% of our 2nd graders have made modest, typical, or aggressive growth
- 71% of our 3rd graders have made modest, typical, or aggressive growth
- 89% of our 4th graders have made modest, typical, or aggressive growth

While the Feelhaver staff has worked hard to get these results, I am certain the commitment our families have to reading at home with their child/ren is also factoring into the success our students are having. Thank you for reading to and with your child/ren. The partnership we have means so much to our school!

Mrs. Sara Fitzgerald
Feelhaver Elementary
Principal
Kindergarten
Mrs. Gaul and Mrs. Stepan

Kindergarteners have been working hard on their teen numbers! They can be a tricky concept to correctly count, name, and identify. Students have been writing in a teen number book to legibly write teen numbers and draw a corresponding set of objects. They also got to play a spinner game to match the ten frame teen and the numeral. Students and families should be proud of all the hard work kindergarteners are doing!

1st Grade
Mrs. Utley and Mrs. Winter

First graders love phonics! Every week a new concept is taught to help us learn to be better readers and writers. During the week you might see us fishing for sight words, doing word sorts, or writing words on white boards. Each week the students get a decodable book that goes along with the skill they are learning. At the end of the year, they will be able to take all their decodable books home to keep.

2nd Grade
Mrs. Hinton and Mrs. Hora

Second graders will be starting a new reading unit this month. Throughout this unit, students will continue to learn about different types of pollinators. At the end of the unit, students will give a brief presentation to their classmates about a pollinator they have been learning about. In phonics, students are studying words that contain chunks in them. We appreciate you taking the time to read with your child, as you are a big part of your child’s learning. In math, students are adding and subtracting numbers that require two or more steps to solve them. They are also doing math fluency games.

Students in the Imagine Lab making a building out of legos

Students reading their decodable books

Spinner Game
3rd Grade
Ms. Alstott and Mr. Stanley

For language students just got done writing an opinion essay over their recommendation for the book Peter Pan. Students wrote four paragraphs giving details and reason for their opinion. Lastly, students were able to type their essays. In all block we wrote our recommendation over the text we are reading. Lastly, in math we are working on fractions. Students are learning about comparing fractions and fractions that are greater than 1.

4th Grade
Mrs. Angstrom and Mrs. Nordstrom

We will be working on writing a broadside (opinion paper) to wrap our American Revolution unit. In math, we are talking about factors and multiples. Students will be learning about prime and composite numbers. Remember in fourth grade we do not give homework, but we expect students to read about 20 minutes a night. Our end of the year fluency goal is 147 correct words per minute.

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.

Our family engagement events will take place in April. More information will be sent home at a later date. 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!
In February, Feelhaver students have been busy reviewing school-wide expectations, earning buzz slips, and class rewards! Remember that even though it may be getting warmer out, it’s still important to wear the appropriate clothing outside to recess! We are also working hard on using our table manners at lunch, and when to use please and thank you. Practice with your student at home, too!

There will be school April 13 as a snow make-up day.

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 schools
- Leader in Me district wide 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 to purchase tickets or make a donation.
4TH GRADE MOVIE NIGHT

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!
Are You Smarter Than A K-Kid?  
Game Show  
Benefits Dodger Academy Scholarship Program  

Save the Date: March 27, 2020  

Advance Ticket Price: $10.00  
Tickets at the Door: $15.00  
Ticket price includes your meal  

Butler Elementary School - 945 S 18th St.  
5:45 p.m. - 6:30 meal / 6:30 Game On!  

Follow us: facebook: @are.smarter  
twitter: @are_smarter  

Service is at the heart of every Kiwanis Club.  

Working together, we can achieve what one person cannot accomplish alone.  

Kiwanis K-Kids  
Young Leaders Helping Others  
Together we can make a difference!
Register Now for Kindergarten Roundup at the FDCSD

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 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.
Athletic physicals for current 7-12 grade students will be held on Thursday, March 5, from 5:15–6:15 p.m. at the Fort Dodge Senior High gym. The cost is $15.00. All 7-12 grade Dodger student athletes are encouraged to attend.

A sports physical needs to be current and on file in the nurse's office prior to the first day of practice of the athlete’s sport season. Seniors out for spring/summer sports must have a physical that stays current through the end of their season.

FDSH students can have their pre-workup (height, weight, heart rate and blood pressure) done with the athletic trainer and school nurse during lunch or before or after school March 2-5. FDMS 7th and 8th grade students will not have a pre-workup; everything will be completed the night of physicals.

All athletes will receive a physical form. The form is also available at fdschools.org under Athletics near the bottom of the page. The front of the form must be completed and signed by a parent, and brought with the athlete on March 5 in order for the physical to be completed. Payment by cash or check is also required at this time.

Parents or guardians who need additional information or have questions may contact BreAnn Drees at bdrees@fdschools.org or 574-5825.

The mission of the Fort Dodge Community School District is to provide quality learning experiences and build relationships that develop productive citizens ready for their futures. For more information about the Fort Dodge Community Schools visit www.fdschools.org or call 515.576.1161.

Our Schools. Our Community. Our Pride.

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 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.

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 Lynnae Harvey. She can be reached at 574-5675 or 104 South 17th 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.