

**BOXHOLDER**  
**The Bobcat**  
**Callaway Public Schools**  
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## Deployment has unsettled my child. How can I help?

**Q:** My spouse is deployed overseas and won't be home for several more months. This is challenging for our third grader, whose schoolwork is starting to suffer. What can I do to help my child cope and get back on track over the next few months?

**A:** Having a loved one be away for months at a time is hard for anyone. Here are some ways to help your child:

- **Acknowledge feelings.** Say something like, "We love Daddy very much. Of course we miss him. Whenever you feel sad, you can tell me."
- **Alert your child's teacher** to what's happening so the school can respond appropriately. Ask for suggestions for helping at home.
- **Stick to daily routines at home.** Consistent routines give children a sense of stability and predictability.
- **Encourage your child to stay in touch** with your spouse with phone calls, video messages and email.
- **Reach out to friends,** family and other military families who have had similar experiences. They can offer ideas for coping.
- **Look for ways your child can help others.** This helps kids put their own problems into perspective.



## Are you supporting school success?

Decades of research show that when families and schools work as a team, students are the real winners. Are you playing your part in making your child's education a success? Answer *yes* or *no* to the questions below:

1. **Do you make sure** your child attends school every day on time and prepared to learn?
2. **Do you ask** your child about school every day and review all communications the school sends home?
3. **Do you review** your child's schoolwork? If your child is struggling with a subject, do you ask the teacher how you can help?
4. **Do you share** information about your child with teachers?
5. **Do you reinforce** school rules and the need to follow them?

### How well are you doing?

*More yes answers mean you are a valuable player on your child's family-school team. For each no, try that idea.*

"The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team."

—Phil Jackson

## Transform text into poems

April is National Poetry Month. Writing blackout poems is a creative and fun way to celebrate with your child. You'll each need a page of text from a magazine or newspaper and a black marker. To create a poem:



1. **Scan the words** in the text to get an idea for your poem.
2. **Underline the words** and phrases that will make up your poem. The words should appear in your poem in the same order they do in the text.
3. **Black out** the remaining text with the marker to see your poem pop!

Source: J. Stock, "Bringing Poetry Outside," Edutopia.

## Discuss discipline's purpose

Maintaining discipline is easier when you involve your child from the start. Talk with your elementary schooler about discipline. Why is it helpful? How does it work? Take your child's ideas into consideration when establishing rules and consequences. Then, reinforce the behaviors you want to see by noticing and offering praise when your child displays them.

## Instill a can-do attitude

When students encounter difficulty learning, some say "I'm just not good at this" and quit trying. But other kids say "This is a challenge, and I love a challenge!"

The can-do attitude of the children in the second group makes them more likely to stick with problems—and solve them. Encourage this attitude by offering praise for effort and persistence. "That was challenging, but you kept trying different things until you got it!"

Source: J. Stillman, "New Stanford Study: A Positive Attitude Literally Makes Your Brain Work Better," Inc.

## Helping Children Learn®

Published in English and Spanish, September through May.

Publisher: Doris McLaughlin.

Publisher Emeritus: John H. Wherry, Ed.D.

Editor: Alison McLean.

Translations Editor: Victoria Gaviola.

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1-800-756-5525 • www.parent-institute.com

April 2026 At A Glance

Thursday April 2 - 10AM Varsity Golf @ Amherst

10AM - JV Golf @ Stapleton

10AM - Track @ Elwood

2:40PM - Dismissal

Friday April 3 - No School

Monday April 6 - No School

Tuesday April 7 - FCCLA Officer meeting @ Lunch

7PM - FFA Officer Interviews

Wednesday April 8 - 8AM ACT Testing

Thursday April 9 - FCCLA Chapter Meeting @ Lunch

7PM - FFA Banquet @ Community Center

Friday April 10 - No School - Teacher Work Day

10 AM - Golf @ Arnold

10 AM - Track @ Arnold

TBA - Music Contest @ Cambridge

Tuesday April 14 - All Day - 8-9 Grade College Visit

4PM - Golf Quad @ Broken Bow

Wednesday April 15 - 10AM - JH Track @ Hershey

1:30PM - Dismissal

Thursday April 16 - 10AM Golf @ Hershey

Friday April 17 - 10AM Track @ Burwell

Monday April 20 - 7PM FCCLA Officer Interviews

Tuesday April 21 - 9AM Track @ Overton

10AM - JH Track @ Elwood

Wednesday April 22 - District Music @ Broken Bow

Thursday April 23 - 8:30AM 4th Grade Field Trip to Halsey National Forest

10AM - Golf @ Thedford

Friday April 24 - 8AM Bear Bank

8AM - Juniors Decorate for Prom

Saturday April 25 - All Day Prom

4:30PM Prom Pictures Start

6PM Prom Open to Public

6:30PM Grand March

Monday April 27 - JV Tri Golf @ Arnold

7PM 7-12 Spring Concert

Tuesday April 28 - 10AM JH Track @ Arnold

10AM JH Track @ Arnold

7PM FCCLA Banquet

Wednesday April 29 - 12:30PM Teammates Pizza Lunch

Thursday April 30 - 10AM MNAC Golf @ Thedford

6PM - Elementary Spring Concert

# ATTENDANCE HONORS

## FEBRUARY

COLTON BILLINGS	OLIVIA BOLLIG	BROCK BONDE
ESMAE EGGLESTON	GEORGIA MEYER	ROAKKER MORRISON
AVALEE NICHOLAS	PRATT WARREN	KOLT BERG
KYLEE BERG	SUTTON DVORAK	LELAND KEENEY
BRECKENN LUEBBE	TREVOR THOMSEN	FINN TROUT
BROOKLYN BONDE	HADLEY BROGAN	BEAU DUCKETT
CARSON MCDANIEL	FREYJA NICHOLAS	HANK SVOBODA
PAITYN WARREN	DAECYN BARBER	KAYLEE BERG
RAYNA BLACKBURN	TAYGEN BOESER	WYATT BROGAN
WYATT MILLS	NEWT OWENS	ELLIOT QUITMEYER
FIONA TROUT	SANTIAGO AVILA MURILLO	FLETCHER BELLINGER
COUPER BLACKBURN	HUNTER DUCKETT	LOGAN JOHNSON
ZAK LOESER	RYKER MCDANIEL	SEELEY NICHOLAS
AVALYNN ORTIZ	GIDEON STUTZMAN	LANE THOMSEN
BROOKLYN TUCKER	KINSLEY TUCKER	PIPER HOESEL
EMMIT QUITMEYER	PRYCE WARREN	GRIFFIN BELLINGER
BRECKN DOGGETT	SKYLAR DVORAK	JAXON FEDDERSEN
HENRY FETTERS	CAMDEN GORSUCH	GRACE STUTZMAN
	BODEE KLEMM	
IMPROVED (50%)	EXCELLENT (94%)	PERFECT (100%)

### Courage Overview

We are excited to focus on Courage this month! One way to think about Courage is "choosing what is helpful, right, and kind even when it is hard or scary." Courage can look a little different for everyone. Get ready to explore as a family what Courage means to you!

Courage is 1 of 3 traits we will focus on throughout the year that helps students **Be Strong**. Across grade levels, students will be developing skills like focusing, organizing, and goal-setting.

### Conversation Starters



- Can you share or show what it means to have Courage?
- When you practice Courage, how does it make you feel? Why?

### PurposeFull Pursuits

Have some fun connecting as a family this month while practicing Courage. Here are 2 "PurposeFull Pursuits" you can complete together!

#1

Remember that Courage is choosing what is helpful, right, and kind even when it is hard or scary.

Reflect, think, and discuss things you would like to do, but find intimidating or scary (individually or as a family). Maybe it's a new hobby, trying a new game, sharing your art or invention with others, or going on an adventure somewhere. Give 1 of these things a try together this month and take a selfie to capture the memory!



#2


We have all demonstrated Courage in our lives. Stories are powerful tools for connecting as a family. Protect time this week to share stories about Courage with each other (you can use the story prompts to get started). At the end of the conversation, think of 1 way you can practice Courage this week.

#### Story Prompts:

- A time I (or someone else) showed Courage was \_\_\_\_\_.
- An act of Courage that changed/challenged me was \_\_\_\_\_.

## Spring 2026 Testing Times

	<u><b>April 1</b></u>	<u><b>April 2</b></u> <u>2:40 dismissal</u>	
	8th Science 8:21-9:12 5th Science 9:00-10:00	8th Science 8:00-8:44 5th Science 9:00-10:00	
	<u><b>April 8</b></u>	<u><b>April 9</b></u>	
	7th ELA 10:08-10:59 8th ELA 11:50-12:41	7th ELA 10:08-10:59 8th ELA 11:50-12:41	
	<u><b>April 15</b></u>	<u><b>April 16</b></u>	<u><b>April 17</b></u> <u>2:40 dismissal</u>
	3rd ELA 8:00-9:00 4th ELA 9:00-10:00	3rd ELA 8:00-9:00 4th ELA 9:00-10:00 5th ELA 10:00-11:00 6th ELA 10:00-11:00	5th ELA 9:30-10:30 6th ELA 9:30-10:30
<u><b>April 21</b></u>	<u><b>April 22</b></u>	<u><b>April 23</b></u>	<u><b>April 24</b></u> <u>2:40 dismissal</u>
3rd math 9:00-10:00 4th math 10:00-11:00	3rd math 9:00-10:00 4th math 10:00-11:00	7th math 8:21-9:12 5th math 9:00-10:00 8th math 9:17-10:08 6th math 10:00-11:00	7th math 8:00-8:44 8th math 8:52-9:37 5th math 9:00-10:00 6th math 9:30-10:30
<u><b>April 28</b></u>	<u><b>April 29</b></u>	<u><b>April 30</b></u>	<u><b>May 1</b></u> <u>2:40 dismissal</u>
K ELA 8:30-9:15 1 ELA 9:15-10:00 2 ELA 10:00-11:00 NSCAS Make up  Acadience 3-6	K ELA 8:30-9:15 1 ELA 9:15-10:00 2 ELA 10:00-11:00 NSCAS Make up  Acadience 3-6	NSCAS Make up 2 Math 10:00-11:00  Acadience K-2	NSCAS Make up 2 Math 10:00-11:00  Acadience K-2
<u><b>May 5</b></u>	<u><b>May 6</b></u>	<u><b>May 7</b></u>	<u><b>May 8</b></u> <u>2:40 dismissal</u>
K Math 8:30-9:15 1 Math 9:15-10:00  Prek PELI	K Math 8:30-9:15 1 Math 9:15-10:00  Prek PELI	K-2 makeup  Prek PELI	K-2 makeup  Prek PELI

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
		1 B - Grab & Go L - Hot Dogs	2 B - Cinni Mini L - Walking Tacos	3 No School 
6 No School	7 B - Yogurt Parfait L - Chicken Fried Steak	8 B - Pancake Sandwich L - Lasagna	9 B - Tornadoes L - Pizza	10 No School
13 B - Sausage Tri-tator L - Popcorn Chicken Bowl	14 B - Biscuits & Gravy L - Hamburger Potato Casserole	15 B - Grab & Go L - Tortellini	16 B - Long Johns L - Chicken Wraps	17 B - Grab & Go L - Sub Sandwich
20 B - Breakfast Casserole L - Chicken Quesadilla	21 B - Tornadoes L - Chicken Legs	22 B - Breakfast Sandwich L - Pizza Pockets	23 B - Breakfast Burrito L - Tator-tot Casserole	24 B - Grab & Go L - Tacos
27 B - Pancake on a Stick L - Pizza Burger	28 B - Breakfast Bars L - Chicken Strips	29 B - Breakfast Pizza L - Beef & Cheddar	30 B - Cinnamon Rolls L - Runza Casserole	

Breakfast Includes: Milk, Juice,  
OR Fruit and main Breakfast  
Item. Breakfast will not be  
served on 10:00am Starts

Extra Milk: S.45  
Seconds: S.80  
Extra Juice: S.40

Breakfast: \$2.50  
Lunch: \$2.95  
7-12: \$3.10  
Adults: \$4.25

Breakfast & Lunch Menu  
Lunch Includes: Veggies/Fruit  
Bar and Milk

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# Breakthrough Bears



Spending the past day and a half at Callaway Public Schools as part of the external review team for their continuous improvement process was a valuable reminder of what makes Nebraska schools so special.

From a thoughtful tour led by two outstanding senior students to meaningful conversations with parents, teachers, and students in grades 6-12, one theme came through clearly: relationships and culture matter here.

There is a strong sense of family at Callaway. Students and staff take pride in knowing one another and building connections across grade levels-evident in the daily time built into the schedule where high school and elementary students come together.

I also saw dedicated teachers who are proud to work in this district, alongside administrators committed to doing what's best for kids-willing to try new things while still honoring tradition. That kind of culture is built over time, and it shows.

Callaway proves that small schools can offer big opportunities. Along with traditional activities, they've created innovative pathways, including a "grow your own" model where students interested in teaching can work as paid paraprofessionals.

I was grateful for the opportunity to learn alongside this community and to see the pride and purpose present in rural Nebraska schools.

Nebraska Teacher of the Year  
Sarah Hardin



# April

## Bobcats of the Month



**Elliot Quitmeyer**

I nominated Elliot because he is always willing to ask questions and has an amazing attitude and sense of humor. - Mr. Beavers



**Fletcher Bellinger**

Fletcher Bellinger is a good student and a hard worker. He asks great questions and helps his classmates when they work in groups. Fletcher makes good decisions throughout his day. He has also worked very hard to improve his grades. Keep up the good work. - Mrs. Rush

**Tasia Trotter**

Tasia Trotter has an outstanding attendance record of over 99% for the school year going into the 4th quarter. During this season, the significance of actually attending classes becomes very clear as many students are frequently not present in the spring. I see this as an invaluable trait as any future employer will certainly be willing and able to train an employee who is consistently on the job site. Tasia is quite successful in the classroom, and some of this can be attributed to actually being there, but she is also willing to put in the effort and ask pertinent questions to be sure that she has a comprehensive understanding of the task at hand. - Mrs. Svenson

