

# Tigerhawk Talk



May 2021

## Tigerhawks!!



**Erik Anderson**  
Superintendent

We are finishing up a year like no other. What our kids have been through this past year has been unfair to them. All of us have done our best to support them, whether at home or school. Still, our kids have been impacted. I am extremely proud of the way our kids

have stepped up and taken on this unprecedented challenge. They are true Tigerhawks! Along with our students, two important groups in our education process have also been impacted; our teachers and

our Board of Directors.

Our teachers have been asked to pivot, redesign, rethink, and completely overhaul their curriculum and teaching practices. They have done this for the betterment of our students. Throughout this pandemic, our teachers have stood up to the winds of change and made this work for our kids. May 3 - May 7 is Teacher Appreciation week. Please take time to share with our teachers how much we appreciate them. Take time to reach out to them individually or as a group. Every word and note makes a difference to our teachers! Thank you, teachers!

Our Board of Directors are unpaid volunteers that put their own name and reputation on the line for our students while receiving no pay and often little to no thanks. The direction they give guides the day to day movements of our system.

Directors often do not have educational backgrounds, but do all have a huge heart for students and for Colfax-Mingo. The decisions they have had to make in the past year are extremely difficult and without precedent. Still, they show up to meetings and make the best decision they can for our kids. May is School Board recognition Month. Please take time to send a note of thanks to our Directors for the work they do. Thank you, Directors!

Finally, I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve this district for two years so far. I am excited for our future and the growth of our district!

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Remember, this is Tigerhawk country... Welcome home!

Take care,  
Erik Anderson



All students who will attend Colfax-Mingo school for the 2021-22 school year must register online. This includes a student who is registered at Colfax-Mingo during this current school year, incoming kindergarten students, pre-school students, and any student new to Colfax-Mingo Schools.

In order to alleviate service charges for parents, we are trying something new

for the 21-22 school year called, "Family Accounts." Fees will not be collected during registration. Fees will be charged to your child(ren)'s account sometime after July 1st.

Please follow this link <https://colfax-mingo.k12.ia.us/district/2-enrollment-registration/> Enrollment & Registration

Be sure to browse our website for more information regarding your child's

particular school, activities, news, and much more.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact me at Missy Daft~SIS Specialist, Colfax-Ming Community Schools District Office, 1000 N. Walnut St., Colfax, IA 50054 or at 515-674-3328 or email [mdaft@colfaxmingo.org](mailto:mdaft@colfaxmingo.org)

Office hours: M-F, 7:30am to 4pm



# COLFAX-MINGO COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## 2021-2022 SCHOOL CALENDAR



### July 2021

M	T	W	T	F		
			1	2		
5	6	7	8	9		
12	13	14	15	16		
19	20	21	22	23		
26	27	28	29	30		

### August 2021

M	T	W	T	F	Days	Hrs
2	3	4	5	6		
9	10	11	12	13		
16	17	18	19	20		
23	24	25	26	27	3	20
30	31				5	33.3

### September 2021

M	T	W	T	F	Days	Hrs
		1	2	3	8	53.3
6	7	8	9	10	12	78.5
13	14	15	16	17	17	110.3
20	21	22	23	24	22	142.2
27	28	29	30		26	167.3

### October 2021

M	T	W	T	F	Days	Hrs
				1	27	174
4	5	6	7	8	32	205.8
11	12	13	14	15	36	231
18	19	20	21	22	41	262.8
25	26	27	28	29	46	294.7

### November 2021

M	T	W	T	F	Days	Hrs
1	2	3	4	5	51	325.5
8	9	10	11	12	55	349.7
15	16	17	18	19	61	387.2
22	23	24	25	26	63	400.5
29	30				65	413.8

### December 2021

M	T	W	T	F	Days	Hrs
		1	2	3	68	432.2
6	7	8	9	10	73	464.2
13	14	15	16	17	78	496
20	21	22	23	24	80	509.3
27	28	29	30	31		

### School Building Hours:

Elementary 8:00 - 3:15  
Secondary 8:15 - 3:15

August 2-6; 9-13	Teacher - Collaborative Flex Day
August 16, 17	New Teachers Prof Development
August 18, 19, 23, 24	All Teachers Prof Development
August 25	First Student Day
September 6	Labor Day - No School
September 8	90-min Late Starts Begin
October 11	Teacher Prof Development - No School
October 29	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter Ends (46 days)
November 4, 11	Parent/Teacher Conferences--Elementary
November 11, 16	Parent/Teacher Conferences--Secondary
November 8	Teacher Prof Development - No School
November 12	1 <sup>st</sup> Trimester Ends (55 days)
November 24	Teacher Comp Day - No School
November 25 - 26	Thanksgiving Break - No School
Dec 22 - Jan 2	Winter Break
January 3	School Resumes
January 14	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Ends (44 days) 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester Ends (90 days)
January 17	Teacher Prof Development - No School
February 21	Presidents Day - No School
February 25	2 <sup>nd</sup> Trimester Ends (63 days)
March 3, 8	Parent/Teacher Conferences--Elementary
March 3, 10	Parent/Teacher Conferences--Secondary
March 11	Teacher Comp Day - No School
March 12-20	Spring Break
March 25	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Ends (43 days)
April 18	Teacher Contract Day - No School
May 11	90-min Late Starts End
May 19	Seniors Last Day
May 22	High School Graduation 1:00PM
May 24	Pre-School Last Day
May 26 - 2 hour early out	Last Day of School 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter Ends (43 days) 3 <sup>rd</sup> Trimester Ends (58 days) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester Ends (86 days)
May 27	Teacher Prof Development - No School
May 30	Memorial Day - No School
May 31 - June 10	Teacher - Collaborative Flex Day
May 27; May 31 - June 3	Reserved as Make-up Days

# Colfax-Mingo

Conferences (4:00-8:00 pm):  
1 hour early dismissal  
Nov 4, 11, 16  
March 3, 8, 10

*Board Approved:*  
> Each Wednesday (Sept. 8 - May 11), school will begin 1 hour and 30 minutes later. Adjusted start time will be used for staff professional development.  
> 400 min per day (310 min on late starts)

**District Office 515-674-3646**  
**Elementary School 515-674-3465**  
**Junior/Senior High School 515-674-4111**  
[www.colfax-mingo.k12.ia.us](http://www.colfax-mingo.k12.ia.us)

### January 2022

M	T	W	T	F	Days	Hrs
3	4	5	6	7	85	541.2
10	11	12	13	14	90	573
17	18	19	20	21	94	598.2
24	25	26	27	28	99	630
31					100	636.7

### February 2022

M	T	W	T	F	Days	Hrs
	1	2	3	4	104	661.8
7	8	9	10	11	109	693.7
14	15	16	17	18	114	725.5
21	22	23	24	25	118	750.7
28					119	757.3

### March 2022

M	T	W	T	F	Days	Hrs
	1	2	3	4	123	781.5
7	8	9	10	11	128	811.3
14	15	16	17	18		
21	22	23	24	25	133	843.2
28	29	30	31		137	868.3

### April 2022

M	T	W	T	F	Days	Hrs
				1	138	875
4	5	6	7	8	143	906.7
11	12	13	14	15	148	938.7
18	19	20	21	22	152	963.8
25	26	27	28	29	157	995.7

### May 2022

M	T	W	T	F	Days	Hrs
2	3	4	5	6	162	1027.5
9	10	11	12	13	167	1059.3
16	17	18	19	20	172	1042.7
23	24	25	26	27	176	1117.3
30	31					

### June 2022

M	T	W	T	F		
		1	2	3		
6	7	8	9	10		
13	14	15	16	17		
20	21	22	23	24		
27	28	29	30			

**Cost: \$30 for two day Summer Camp**  
**Contact Phil Grant**

# BASKETBALL CAMP

Skill Development Taught By A Pro



**ND42** BASKETBALL  
CAMPS

- ESTABLISHED 2011
- CAMPS IN 20 DIFFERENT U.S. STATES
- PROFESSIONAL AND COLLEGIATE ATHLETES AS STAFF MEMBERS
- CAMP PROGRAM THAT IS CENTERED AROUND THE DISCIPLINE OF THE GAME AND EMPHASIS ON SKILL DEVELOPMENT
- EACH CAMPER RECEIVES CAMP GIFT

FOR REGISTRATION OR QUESTIONS CONTACT PHIL GRANT  
PGRANT@COLFAXMINGO.ORG

COLFAX, IOWA  
COLFAX-MINGO HIGH SCHOOL

JULY 19TH - JULY 20TH  
AGES: BOYS & GIRLS  
4TH-12TH GRADE  
TIME: GRADES 4TH-8TH  
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.  
GRADES 9TH - 12TH GRADE  
1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

# Elementary School News



**Brian Summy**  
Elementary  
Principal

The end of the 2020-21 school year is quickly approaching. It has been a year of both challenges and celebrations. One thing is for certain, it has shown us how we can overcome adversity and give our students the best education possible. I am so proud of everyone connected with Colfax-Mingo Elementary. Thank you to everyone who helped us make it through the year.

Spring time also means assessment time. All Kindergarten through sixth grade students will have the final FAST

assessment for the year. Kindergarten through second grade will be the week of May 3-7 and third grade through sixth grade will be the week of May 10-14. Third grade through sixth grade will also have ISASP testing the week of May 3-7.

The elementary will be supporting a summer school program again this year. The program will begin June 7th and run through July 2nd. We are still planning the details of the program. We are excited to be adding programs for band, art and PE. Families will be receiving information the first part of May with more details.

### Upcoming activities for May:

- May 3rd-6th K-2 FAST & 3-6 ISASP testing
- May 10th-14th 3rd-6th grade FAST testing
- May 17th/18th: 5th grade Quarry Springs Adventure
- May 19th & May 26th (No Late Start on Wednesday)
- May 21st Senior Walk @ elementary school
- May 24th Track & Field Day (3rd-6th morning) (K-2nd afternoon) Rain date is May 25th.
- May 27th: Last Day of School (2 hour early dismissal)

## 5th Graders Headed to Quarry Springs

Covid put a halt to most spring 2020 activities and has altered how activities have been done this school year. In August we weren't sure what this spring would bring, however the 5th grade class is excited to be resuming its traditional two day Quarry Springs adventure. On May 17th and 18th the students will spend two school days exploring what the park has to offer. Activities will include archery, hiking, learning about furs and tracks, survival skills, shelter building, fire building, rocketry, and of course time spent playing on the sand dunes. We are thankful for everyone who supports this trip. The park board does a fabulous job of hosting us for two days. Staff from Jasper County Conservation and ISU Extension provide programming support. Parents also help run programs, serve meals, and chaperone throughout the two days. We couldn't do it without everyone's assistance. Here's hoping for beautiful weather, great learning experiences, and wonderful memories!

## COLORS ARE EVERYWHERE

### Students Are Making Deeper Connections with Colfax-Mingo Curriculum

Morgan Ault was writing a poem in her free-time, and Ms. Johnson thought it would be great for others to see. Ms. Johnson reached out to Mr. Otto about working with Morgan on some type of illustration that would enhance Morgan's poem. Morgan sat down with Mr. Otto working though what images would go with what she wrote, designed a poster together, and posted it in the building for students to connect with.

*COLORS CAN BE SEEN, OR NOT BE SEEN  
Colors are everywhere you see.  
Follow me, & I'll show you, where colors are.*

**Green** is a happy color you see.  
Like if you played a game with a friend.



**Blue** is a color you see, when you or someone else is sad, you see.  
Like if you got Cancer.



**Yellow** is a color you see, like if you are excited.  
Like if it's your friends BIRTHDAY PARTY!!!



**Red** is the color you will see, when someone is angry, like if they got into a fight.



Written by: Morgan  
4th Grade - Mrs. Johnson  
Illustrated with: Mr. Otto

**COLOR  
CONT. TO PAGE 5**

**THIS YOU SEE,  
COLORS ARE EVERYWHERE**

# Empathy

Our 5th and 6th Grade TigerHawks participated in a large group empathy lesson this week. During the lesson, they viewed the video UNDER THE SURFACE. Then they broke into small groups and discussed what they learned and how they can use that in their lives.

The large group came back together and shared their ideas. Some of the student comments include: “I understand I am not the only one going through things.” “ It makes me feel like I can open up to people and they might finally understand.”

The students shared that they are concerned that empathy has been missing in their lives and they are excited to learn and grow in this area. In the coming weeks we will continue with the empathy theme during our classroom guidance time.



**Morgan Ault**

**COLOR • CONT. FROM PAGE 4**

Morgan – What inspired me is that there wasn’t a lot written about the Zones, and some people don’t understand the Zones, so I decided to make the poem.

Ms. Johnson – She wrote a poem, showed it to me, and thought this was something all the kids in the school could relate to. I wanted her to realize

other people would enjoy it as much as I did, so I was thinking I could talk to Mr. Otto, and we could see what we could do with it around the school. I wanted all the students to see how common the Zones are, since that is something we’ve been learning this year in our class, guidance, art, music, and throughout the school.

Mr. Otto – I was excited to help Morgan take her writing to the next level, and to showcase

how others can apply their art and writing skills; to create something people can connect and relate to. It’s been great to have the common language of the Zones this year to communicate feelings between everyone. Students can identify where they and others are at emotionally, and then how to cope or react/help other students and staff which helps facilitate an even safer, more suitable learning environment for all learners.

# Jr/Sr High School News

## Principal's Corner



**Todd Jones**  
Jr/Sr High  
School Principal

It is hard to believe, but this will be one of the last weeks of a very long school year. We have five full weeks of school left in the 2020-21 school year. I hope that we will start the year in a near-normal if not completely normal way in the upcoming school year. There will be a lot of new faces at the secondary school. Although the end is near, we still need to finish strong to be as well prepared for the next school year as possible.

**Awards Night:** Awards night will be held on Wednesday, May 19th at 6:30 pm in the Jr/Sr High Gymnasium to allow for social distancing.

**Graduation:** Graduation will be held on Sunday, May 23rd, at 1:00 pm. Final details will be announced after our April school board meeting. I will get the information out to the public as soon as all of the details are finalized.

**8th Grade promotion:** Promotion for the 8th grade will be held on Wednesday, May 26th at 2:00 pm in the Jr/Sr high gymnasium. Final

details will be announced after our April school board meeting.

**Last Day of School:** The Senior's last day is Friday, May 21st following graduation practices. 7th through 11th grade's last day of school is Thursday, May 27th. Students will be released two hours early.

**My Last Newsletter:** I realized as I was writing this article that it would be my last one. I was talking with my wife the other day that what I am experiencing is just like the senior class; this is my graduation from school as well. Like

the seniors, I have had my list of lasts this year. I suppose after 56 years of education, from kindergarten to retirement, I am having my final graduation. I want to thank you all for your support throughout the years. We have done a lot over the years to help improve Colfax-Mingo. I am proud of what we have accomplished during my tenure here. It is my sincere hope that as a school and the communities that we will grow together to make Colfax-Mingo a shining example of what a school can and its surrounding communities can become. Thank you all again for everything you have done for the school, the community, my wife, and me.

## Welcome Alexandra Lancaster 2021 Jr/Sr High School Principal

Colfax-Mingo Schools is proud to announce that Alexandra Lancaster has been hired as the 7-12 grade principal for the 2021-2022 school year! Mrs. Lancaster will replace current principal, Todd Jones, who is set to retire at the end of this school year.

Alex Lancaster is an experienced secondary educator and a visionary leader who has a passion for education and ensuring the success of every student. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Creighton University and Masters degrees in the Science of Teaching and Educational Leadership from Drake University. Originally from Waukee, Mrs. Lancaster has taught in the Southeast Polk and Johnston Community school districts. She is currently a lead teacher and 7th-grade social studies instructor at Summit Middle School in Johnston. She and her husband Joe currently reside in Urbandale with their three sons: Clay, Chandler, and Cameron. They are excited to become a part of the Colfax and Mingo communities and to build upon the great



**Alex Lancaster**  
Jr/Sr High School  
Principal

things already happening at Colfax-Mingo Jr/Sr High School. On Feb. 24, Colfax Mingo interviewed three highly-qualified candidates. 48 members of the Tigerhawk family were involved in the interview process.

Here are some comments from committee members regarding Mrs. Lancaster:

- "She was able to give the 'how' not just state desires. She was clear, concise and passionate. Committed to long-term growth."
- "Positive, enthusiastic, and decisive."
- "Valuable equity and inclusion perspectives."
- "Definitely a 'wow' factor"
- "I love her vision!"
- "Enthusiastic and wants to be immersed in the district"
- "So many inspiring and great ideas"
- "Energy!"

Superintendent Erik Anderson com-

mented that it's an honor to welcome Mrs. Lancaster into the Colfax-Mingo school community. In a pool of very distinguished candidates, she rose to the top. "Mrs. Lancaster's commitment to students, skill set, and desire to be a part of the Colfax Mingo family was clear", Mr. Anderson remarked. "She is knowledgeable about school improvement, connects well with students, and has unique experiences that match the direction of Colfax-Mingo as well as the profile developed from parent, staff, and student input. We are lucky to have her joining our family."

Mrs. Lancaster stated, "One aspect that solidified my decision about joining this district was the consistent comments about the excellent staff and teachers and their dedication to student success. This speaks to the positive culture that I was seeking. I am very excited to join the Colfax-Mingo School District and immerse myself and my family in the communities."

Mrs. Lancaster will officially begin her role as principal on July 1.

# MAY 2021

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
						1
2 May 3-6 K-2 FAST & Gr 3-6 ISASP Testing	3 School Board Work Session 6 PM	4	5 90 Minutes Delay for School	6	7	8
9 May 10-14 Gr 3-6 FAST Testing	10	11	12 90 Minutes Delay for School	13	14 Kdg to Gr. 8 Dance Team Clinic: after school until 4:45 pm/Elem Gym Cost \$25	15 SPRING DANCE SHOW 4 PM JR/SR HS
16	17 Regular Monthly School Board Meeting 6 PM  5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Quarry Springs Adventure	18  5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Quarry Springs Adventure	19 AWARDS NIGHT Jr/Sr HS 6:30 pm HS Gymnasium  NO LATE START	20	21 Required Seniors Last Day of School for Commencement practice  SENIOR WALK THRU AT ELEM	22
23 GRADUATION 1 PM JR/SR HS GYMNASIUM	24 Elem K-6 Track & Field Day [Rain date, 5-25-21] 9:00 am Gr 3-6 12:30 pm Kdg 1:15 pm Gr 1 2:00 pm Gr 2	25 Pre-School Last Day of School	26 8 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE PROMOTION	27 End of 2020-2021 School Year  2 Hour Early Dismissal	28 Teacher Professional Development	29
30	31 MEMORIAL DAY					

**Note: Activity Events change often.** Please go to the school webpage under the **Parents dropdown**. Go down **to Colfax-Mingo Athletics**. You can visit the **SICL website**. Click on **Member Schools** on the top tab. To the right of the page, you can see **Calendar of Events**. Click on **Colfax-Mingo** for all information [dates, times, place, etc.] regarding the Colfax Mingo School calendar of events. The calendar of events are currently updated when any event has changed or been added.

Children may have their choice of the breakfast menu, cereal & toast, fruit, juice & milk everyday.  
Breakfast served 7:45 am to 8:10 am daily.

### Colfax-Mingo CSD May 2021 Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 B- Cereal & Toast  Corndog Tater Tots Baked Beans Peaches Milk	4 B- Cinnamon Roll  Super Nachos Bean/Cheese/Salsa Corn Rosy Applesauce Milk	5 B- Grab n Go  Chicken Wrap Garden Salad Mini Carrots Grapes Dessert Milk	6 B- Muffin & Yogurt  Spaghetti Tossed Salad Seasoned Peas Garlic Bread Fruit Choice Milk	7 B- Long John  Cheese Steak Sandwich Seasoned Wedges Broccoli Mandarin Oranges Milk
10 B - French Toast Sticks  Cheeseburger/WG Bun Curly Fries Baked Beans Apple Milk	11 B- Coffee Cake  Salisbury Steak Potatoes & Gravy Green Beans Wheat Roll Banana Milk	12 B – Grab n Go  Garlic Cheese Bread w/ Marinara Mixed Greens Salad Seasoned Peas Mixed Fruit Milk	13 B - Breakfast Sandwich  Quesadilla Corn Fresh Vegetables Fruit Choice Dessert (HS) Milk	14 B – Mini Pancakes  Mr. Rib French Fries Creamy Coleslaw Orange Wedges Milk
17 B – Cereal/Toast  Chicken Melt Garden Salad Sweet Potato Fries Applesauce Milk	18 B - Mini Donuts  French Toast Sausage/Egg Potato Triangle Cucumber Slices Blueberries Milk	19 B - Breakfast Choice  Popcorn Chicken Mashed Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Biscuit Peaches Milk	20 B - Breakfast Pizza  Crispito w/ Cheese & Lettuce Corn Refried Beans Pineapple Choc Chip Cookie Milk	21 B – Mini Cinni  Hotdog/WG Bun Waffle Fries Vegetable Choice Apple Milk
24 B – Mini Waffles  Pork Fritter Tater Tots Green Beans Pears Milk	25 B – Donut  Chicken Patty/WG Bun Vegetable Choice Broccoli Banana Milk	26 B- Breakfast Choice  Pizza Tossed Salad Mini Carrots Mandarin Oranges Milk	27 B – Breakfast Choice  Cooks' Choice  Last Day of School	28

\*Milk (skim, choc skim & 1%) \*Menu is subject to change  
\* Breakfast includes entrée, fruit/fruit juice & milk. Additional options at the JH/HS.

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

It is the policy of the Colfax-Mingo Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socio-economic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact Erik Anderson, Superintendent, 1000 North Walnut, Colfax, IA 50054. Telephone: 515-674-3646; Email: erik.anderson@colfaxmingo.org

Colfax-Mingo Community School District Newsletter

# Tigerhawk Talk



Deadline for copy and photos is the 20th of each month. Newsletter Designer • Dana J. King School Facilitator • Bert Deaton

#### Iowa Nondiscrimination Statement

It is the policy of this CNP provider not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age, or religion in its programs, activities, or employment practices as required by the Iowa Code section 216.6, 216.7, and 216.9. If you have questions or grievances related to compliance with this policy by this CNP Provider, please contact the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, Grimes State Office Building, 400 E 14th St, Des Moines, IA 50319-1004; phone number 515-281-4121 or 800-457-4416; website: <https://icrc.iowa.gov/>.