

Freeman Public Schools
415 Eighth Street
PO Box 259
Adams NE 68301-0259

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

*****[FREE AND REDUCED APPLICATIONS LINK](#)*****

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL-The first day of classes for Elementary and Secondary students will be Thursday, August 11th. This will be an early dismissal of 1:00 pm. No breakfast will be served. **Preschool students will start Monday, August 15th.**

OPEN HOUSE-TUESDAY, AUGUST 9TH

Food trucks and activity fair will be from 5-6:30pm. Open House will be from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Senior student/parent meeting will be from 7:30pm to 8:00pm. Please come to the school, bring your student(s) and visit the classrooms. You are welcome to bring your child's school supplies that evening. The supply list is available on the Freeman website (www.freemanpublicschools.org) Click on Parent Portal. On the left hand side, click on Classroom Supply List.

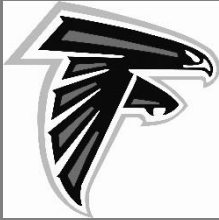
SCHOOL PICTURES

Student and staff pictures will be taken by Pictures With Class on Wednesday, August 24th starting at 8:00 am. All students will have their picture taken for the yearbook and student ID/lunch cards. More information to follow. If you would like to volunteer to help with picture day, please contact Angie in the elementary office.

FALL PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Monday and Wednesday, October 17 & 19 from 4:00-8:00 pm each evening. Online sign up will be sent out at a later time.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
August 2022	1 Fall Sports Conditioning @ Freeman Public Schools	2 Fall Sports Conditioning @ Freeman Public Schools	3 Fall Sports Conditioning @ Freeman Public Schools 6:00pm 7th Grade Orientation @ FHS - North Gym	4 Fall Sports Conditioning @ Freeman Public Schools	5 Fall Sports Conditioning @ Freeman Public Schools	6
7	8 First Day of Fall Sports Practice @ Freeman Public Schools Teacher In-Service 7:00pm Board of Education Meeting @ Freeman Media Center	9 Teacher In-Service 5:00pm-6:30pm Activity Fair @ FHS - South Gym 6:30pm-7:30pm Open House PK-6th 7:30pm-8:00pm Seniors and Parents Meeting	10 Teacher In-Service	11 Start Q1/S1 1:00pm 1:00 Early Out - PD	12	13 10:00am-11:30am Softball Scrimmage @ Zion Lutheran Church Softball Field
14	15 Pre-School First Day	16	17	18 5:00pm Softball-G/JV Fairbury @ Fairbury City Park 5:00pm Volleyball-Varsity Beatrice High School vs. Multiple Schools @ Beatrice HS 6:30pm Softball-G/Varsity Fairbury @ Fairbury City Park	19 Sports Drink Scrimmage @ Multiple Locations	20 8:00am FFA Color Run @ Adams City Park 9:00am Softball-G/Varsity Freeman vs. Multiple Schools @ Doris Bair Softball Complex 5:00pm MUSIC Community Day Band Concert @ Adams City Park
21	22	23	24 8:00am-1:00pm Picture Day @ FHS - South Gym	25 5:00pm Softball-G/JV Ashland-Greenwood @ Zion Lutheran Church Softball Field, Pickrell, NE 5:00pm Volleyball-C Team Fairbury @ Fairbury High School 6:00pm Volleyball-JV Fairbury @ Fairbury High School 6:30pm Softball-G/Varsity Ashland-Greenwood @ Zion Lutheran Church Softball Field, Pickrell, NE 7:00pm Volleyball-Varsity Fairbury @ Fairbury High School	26 7:00pm Football-Varsity Lourdes Central Catholic @ Freeman High School, Falcon Stadium	27 9:00am Softball-G/Varsity Syracuse vs. Multiple Schools @ Syracuse Sports Complex 9:30am Cross Country-JV/Varsity Norris vs. Multiple Schools @ Norris High School
28	29	30 MAPS/NCSAS 7-12 4:30pm Softball-G/JV Falls City @ Fiedler Family Ball Complex 5:30pm Volleyball-JV Sterling @ Freeman High School, North Gym 6:00pm Softball-G/Varsity Falls City @ Fiedler Family Ball Complex 6:30pm Volleyball-Varsity Sterling @ Freeman High School, North Gym	31 MAPS/NCSAS 7-12 6:00pm Parent Meeting (K-6)-Homecoming @ Freeman EL Commons			



DANIEL FREEMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL LEARNERS

www.freemanpublicschools.org

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT, MR. ANDREW HAVELKA

WELCOME BACK

Freeman Families:

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! We are excited to begin the new school year on Thursday, August 11th. This school year will mark the 25th year of Freeman! Throughout the year, there will be events to celebrate the district and communities of Adams and Filley. In this Newsletter, you will find information about several things that will help you prepare for the beginning of the school year.

It was a busy summer at Freeman. Our maintenance and custodial staff were busy with summer projects and getting the building ready for everyone's return. A few summer upgrades include new science lab tables and cabinetry, carpet in classrooms, refinished North gym floor, Tuckpointing on the Northeast building exterior, and several new LED lights. Thanks to their hard work, we are ready for students to return for a fantastic school year. The 2022-23 school year will also see an enrollment increase of 25-30 students in grades K-12. We are excited to see continued growth in our district and will continue to maintain our facilities to prepare for this increase in enrollment.

The beginning of any school year brings excitement, hope, and maybe a little bit of anxiety. This year is no different. The dedication of Freeman Public Schools still lies in the success of our students, families, and staff. In 2022-2023, Freeman Public Schools will continue its Rise to Excellence! We are fortunate to have a dedicated faculty and support staff helping our students learn and grow. We welcome our new teachers and staff members and are excited for the remainder of our team to return for another successful year.

The 2022-2023 school year is fast approaching. I hope you can take advantage of the remaining days of summer. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Mr. Adkisson, 7-12 principal, Mrs. Sieh, PK-6 principal, or me, and we will do our best to help. Have a great year! Go Falcons!

Calendar:

The 2022-23 school calendar is available on our school website under the District tab. Below are important dates to remember in August:

9th: Open House 11th: First Day of School 15th: First Day of Pre-School

Andrew Havelka, Freeman Superintendent

402-988-2525 x103 | Andrew.havelka@freemanschools.net | Twitter: @FreemanPS_Supt

August 2022

No School Days

September 5
September 26
October 21
October 24
October 25
November 23-28
December 21-31
January 1-4
January 16
February 17-20
March 10
April 7-11

Early Dismissal

August 11
February 27
May 16

415 8th Street
PO Box 259
Adams, NE 68301

Phone:
402.988-2525

Fax:
402.988-3475

BREAKFAST

For all K-12 students, breakfast will be served from 7:45 to 8:05 am. The cost of student breakfast will be \$1.95 all students K-12th grade. Adult prices are \$2.60.

LUNCH PROGRAM INFORMATION

Lunch prices for 2022-2023 school year are as follows: K-6 Lunch: \$2.95, 7-12 Lunch: \$3.25. One milk is included with the hot lunch. Adult prices are \$4.25

Ala carte items are an additional charge. Entrees are \$1.00 each and sides are \$0.50 each. Your student must have money in their lunch account to purchase these items. Milk purchased separately (extra milk and milk only) will be \$0.40 each.

Payments may be made by check, cash or online payments through E-funds.

The new school year requires a new meal application to qualify for Free or Reduced Meals. Only one meal application is needed for each household. Applications are available online at www.freemanpublicschools.org

USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil
Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

SCHOOL MESSENGER NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Freeman will again be using School Messenger to notify you of important events and un-planned school closings. The system automatically uses the number/email from PowerSchool. Remember to notify the office if you need to make any changes to the numbers/emails you provided. School Messenger will also call at 9:00 am if a student is marked absent without a call from the parent.

ADMISSION PRICES/SEASON ACTIVITY PASSES

Admission for Freeman varsity contests will be \$6.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students and senior citizens (age 65+). Students in grades 7-12 are admitted to Freeman events free after paying their activity fee.

Admission for Freeman non-varsity contests (JH, JV, 9/10, etc.) will be \$5.00 for adults.

Season passes are good for all home athletic events except holiday, conference and NSAA sponsored tournaments. Season passes offer significant discounts to regular admission prices.

Season Pass Pricing:

Adult- 18-64	\$75	Student	\$55 (non-participants)
Senior 65 +	\$55	Family	\$150

* **Family is considered immediate family members living at home.**

***College students are considered adults**

SECONDARY STUDENTS

Students may enter the building at 7:45 am. Students may enter the building earlier if they have a scheduled appointment with a teacher or coach.

The regular school day runs from 8:05-3:30 daily. No students are to be in the building before 7:45 am or after 3:45pm unless under direct supervision of an instructor or sponsor.

Students who must leave school for any reason during the school day must check out at the office before leaving. Students leaving school must be cleared in advance by a note or phone call from the student's parent or legal guardian.

Upon returning to school that same day, students are to sign in at the office. Students who leave without permission and without signing out in the proper manner will be considered truant.

COMMUNICATION:

If you are wondering what is happening at Freeman, here are few ways to get connected:

- Website: www.freemanpublicschools.org
- rSchool Activities Calendar: <https://www.eastcentralnebraskaconf.org/public/genie/455/school/558/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FreemanPublicSchools>
- Twitter: @Freeman_Falcons and @FreemanPS_Supt
- Striv (live feed for athletics): <https://striv.tv/channel/freeman/>
- Monthly Newsletter – emailed monthly to all families

STUDENT FEES

All 7-12 students will be required to pay a technology fee of \$15. 7-12 students participating in any activity will be required to pay a \$55 activity fee. Activities include band, quiz bowl, speech, FFA, FBLA, One Act, Cheer, and all athletics.

The activity fee will be used to offset the expense of transportation, officials and entry fees. The technology fee will allow the student to keep their Chromebook when they graduate.

The activity fee for ALL 7-12 students wishing to take part in activities will be \$55 activity fee + \$15 technology fee with a total of **\$70 per student**. This is a YEARLY fee, not per activity. **Families who qualify for free or reduced lunch may qualify to have these fees waived.** Please speak with Vici in the HS office to get the appropriate paperwork.

Students who pay their yearly activity fee will also be granted access to all regular season activities at Freeman. Tournaments, Conference events, and State events will NOT honor these passes.

FACILITY USAGE

Shortly after school begins, the office starts getting requests for use of the gym for practices from parents who are coaches for their children's Y-sponsored teams. When wanting to reserve any space within the school, you need to start the reservation process on the freeman home page. <https://freemanpublicschools.org>. The FACILITIES REQUEST FORM tab is below the Falcon Flyer tab. Click there to start the process. If you have issues, please contact Greg Veerhusen at 402-988-2525. All requests for any outside facility usage will go through this system.

CANVAS INFORMATION

The best way to see what your upper elementary, junior high and high school students are doing in class is by creating an Observer account in Canvas, which is our district's learning management system. They say a picture is worth a 1000 words. I wonder how many words a short video is worth? If you are interested in learning more about the creation of an observer account or what such an account can do for you, please take a moment to view the video, read through the Canvas guides or both. As always, if you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out to school.

Canvas Observer Guide <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10917-canvas-observer-guide-table-of-contents>

Canvas Observer Screencast <https://screencast-o-matic.com/watch/cqQh2BtxUy>

STRATEGIC LONG-RANGE PLANNING

In 2021-2022, a group of staff, school board, and community members met to develop a set of strategic long-range planning goals for the district. The group created goals that the board approved:

- 1. Freeman Public Schools staff will engage in continuous planning to increase curricular opportunities that ensure students graduate college and career ready, and ensure our guidance and scheduling procedures allow students access to the opportunities that will help meet their needs.**
- 2. Freeman Public Schools will communicate successes by bolstering our website and social media content, and expand digital media curricular opportunities to ensure students have the skills to lead the promotion of student and staff success in our community.**
- 3. The Freeman Public Schools Board of Education and community will engage in continuous planning to ensure district facilities and infrastructure meet the needs of Freeman students and will take the necessary steps to maintain, alter, and improve facilities as deemed necessary.**

The district will work to achieve these goals over the next five years.



Freeman Public Schools will again be participating in the Backpack program starting this fall. This program is made possible through partnerships with the Food Bank of Lincoln and Freeman Public Schools. Fridays during the school year starting at a later date, a backpack filled with items such as cereal, canned fruits or vegetables, spaghetti, peanut butter and jelly, or mac n' cheese will be sent home for your family. Backpacks will be discreetly delivered to students on Fridays and it is their responsibility to bring the backpack back to school on the following Monday. In addition to nonperishable foods, vouchers to area grocery stores will be sent home each week. These can be redeemed at area stores, a list of which will be provided to you in the fall.

If you would like to participate in the program, there are several ways to sign up.

- **Sign and return the bottom portion of this form to the school office**
- **Call or email Mr. Havelka 402-988-2525 x103 Andrew.havelka@freemanschools.net**

Food Bank of Lincoln Backpack Program:

- Backpacks are loaded by volunteers for Friday pick-up by students
- Backpacks are discreetly delivered to students on Fridays and are expected to be returned on Mondays
- Vouchers included vary each week for eggs, bread, milk, produce and meat
- There is no cost or charge to be part of this program

Sincerely,
Andrew Havelka

Family Name: _____

_____ Yes, our Family would like to participate in the Freeman/Food Bank Backpack Program. My responsibility is to be sure the backpack is returned to school each Monday.

Parent or Guardian Signature _____

ELEMENTARY NOTES FROM MRS. SIEH

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year where “Freeman: We’ll Be There For You!” If you are a fan of the popular TV series FRIENDS, you might see some fun sayings and picture opportunities around the school this year. Be sure to stop by the elementary commons to meet the new Media Specialist, Mrs. Weyer and get your picture taken at “Central Perk” during Open House.

This school year we are excited to welcome some new staff:

- Autumn Hardesty- 3rd grade
- Trisha Alexander- Guidance Counselor
- Becky Weyer- Media Specialist
- Angie Dowding- elementary secretary
- Ashley Miller- paraprofessional
- Clarisa Podtburg- paraprofessional
- Nikki Shubert- paraprofessional
- Sara Pfeiffer-paraprofessional
- Kathy Huls-kitchen

On Tuesday, August 9, 2022, we hope that you can join us for our Elementary Open House and Activities Fair. There will be a few food trucks in the West parking lot to grab some food between 5-8pm. In the South Gym and commons, Freeman is hosting an Activities Fair. We hope that you can join us to see all of the different activities and events that Freeman has to offer. Some community groups will be there as well. All classrooms will be open starting at 6:30pm and will go until 7:30pm. This is a time where you can meet your teachers, drop off supplies, and check out your new classroom! Both offices will be open as well if you need to drop off important papers or money for the lunch account.

The first day of school is Thursday, August 11th. There will be a 1PM DISMISSAL so be sure to make arrangements ahead of time. Friday, August 12th will be a normal school day. In case you need a reminder, the normal school hours are 8:10 AM-3:30 PM. Pre-School will begin on Monday, August 15th. Make sure you are aware of which section your child is in and verify those times with Mrs. Sedlacek.

Thank you for choosing Freeman Public Schools this year! We are looking forward to an outstanding year of learning and growing with your child. Please let us know if there is anything that we can do to serve you better!

Kindest Regards,

Mrs. Erin Sieh

Elementary Principal

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

It is an exciting time for me as I join the Freeman Administration team as the 7-12 Principal for the 2022-2023 school year. This will be my 35th year in education, 25 as a classroom teacher and 10 as a building principal. I retired in the spring of 2021 from my Middle School Principal position with Fillmore Central Schools, which ended my 22nd year with the district. Prior to that I taught at Sutton and Hartington Schools. During my years in education, I held many head and assistant coaching positions, as well as, high school and middle school athletic director. All of these positions allowed me to build some strong relationships with many great people. My wife, Becky, is entering her 24th year in education and 11th as K-6 Guidance Counselor at Fillmore Central. Our family is made up of four married daughters and nine grandchildren. We find ourselves attending many school activities, which we find to be enjoyable. Please be sure to introduce yourself whenever possible or stop in the high school office if you are in the building. Go Falcons!

HIGH SCHOOL NEW STAFF

There are several new staff members in the high school this fall. We want to welcome each of you and know that we are all here to help you in any way we can. Welcome to the following new staff members:

Trisha Alexander- K-12 Counselor

Karli Busboom- Secondary Science

Greg Veerhusen- Secondary Science/AD

Jeremy Hollman- Spanish

Becky Weyer- Media Specialist

Rick Brening- Secondary Music

NEW STUDENTS

Registration for new students is now underway. Please call 402-988-2525 to set up an appointment or stop by the high school office anytime during the day to register any student entering the 7 - 12 grades. If you wish, a tour of the building can also be provided at your convenience. We recommend that new students register with the school as early as possible so that all paperwork can be completed prior to the start of school. As a part of the registration process, you will need to provide the school with a birth certificate, vaccination records, and contact information from your previous school. Students moving from another state are required to have a physical also (forms can be picked up at the school). All 7th grade students are required to have a physical (even if not moving from another state) and any 7-12 grade student who wishes to participate in activities will be required to have the necessary paperwork submitted before they will be allowed to practice.

MENUS

Cereal, juice & fruit are offered with breakfast. All meals come with one carton of milk.

Extra milk may be purchased for \$0.40 each. Menu subject to change

Purchase of an entrée only or an additional entrée will cost \$1.00 for students and staff.

	<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
<u>August 11-12</u>		
Thursday:	no breakfast	Hot Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Chips, Vegetables, Peaches
Friday:	Donut	Pizza, Veggies, Corn, Applesauce
<u>August 15-19</u>		
Monday:	French Toast	Hamburger, Bun, Baked Beans, Vegetables, Peaches
Tuesday:	Muffin	Chicken Patty, Mashed Potato, Gravy, Bread & Butter, Veggies, Oranges
Wednesday:	Pancake	Hot Dog, Bun, Veggies, Green Beans, Pears
Thursday:	Donut	Spaghetti & Meatsauce, Breadsticks, Vegetables, Pineapples
Friday:	Omelet	Fiestada, Veggies, Corn, Applesauce
<u>August 22-26</u>		
Monday:	French Toast	Br. Pork Patty, Bun, Potato Triangle, Veggies, Pears
Tuesday:	Muffin	Mandarine Chicken, Rice, Veggies, Oranges, Roll & Butter
Wednesday:	Pancakes	Corn Dog, Cottage Cheese, Baked Beans, Vegetables, Pineapple
Thursday:	Donut	Sloppy Joe, Bun, Broccoli, Vegetables, Peaches
Friday:	Omelet	Pizza, Corn, Veggies, Applesauce
<u>August 29-31</u>		
Monday:	French Toast	Walking Taco, Chips, Meat, Salsa, Veggies, Oranges
Tuesday:	Muffins	Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potato, Gravy, Bread & Butter, Veggies, Pears
Wednesday:	Pancakes	Ribette & Bun, Potato Triangle, Vegetables, Peaches

TOTAL MONTHLY COST

Elementary Lunch	15	\$2.95	\$44.25
JH/HS Lunch	15	\$3.25	\$48.75
Adult Lunch Price:		\$4.25	



Non-Discrimination Statement: The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.) If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found at www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.