

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

### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### **No School Days in January**

**1-3: Winter Break (3rd being a Professional Development Day).**

**15: Professional Development Day**

### **Early Dismissal in January**

**26: 1:00 Early Out for Professional Development**





# January, 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	No School	1 No School 4pm Bball-B/JV @ Southern HS 5pm Bball-G/V @ Southern HS 6:15pm Bball-B/V @ Southern HS 5pm Wrestling-B/V @ Freeman, N Gym 6:15pm Wrestling - Girls (Beatrice) @ Freeman	2 No School - Professional Development	3 6:30pm-8pm JH Boys Bball @ Freeman N Gym	4 5pm Bball-G/JV @ Freeman, North Gym 6pm Bball-G/V @ Freeman, North Gym  Wrestling - Girls (Beatrice) @ Freeman	5 5:30pm Bball-B/JV @ Tri County HS 5:30pm Bball-G/V @ Tri County HS 7pm Bball-B/V @ Tri County HS 7pm Bball-G/JV @ Tri County HS 9:30am Wrestling-B/V @ Malcolm HS
7	8 TBD Bball-G/V TBD @ Beatrice Auditorium 7pm Board of Education Meeting @ Freeman Media Center 6:30pm-8pm JH Boys Bball @ Freeman S Gym	9 TBD Bball-B/V @ Beatrice Auditorium	10	11 TBD Bball-B/V @ Beatrice Auditorium TBD Bball-G/V @ Beatrice Auditorium 6pm Wrestling - Girls (Beatrice) @ Freeman	12 TBD Bball-G/V @ Beatrice Auditorium 1pm Wrestling-B/V @ Weeping Water HS 1:30pm Wrestling - Girls (Beatrice) @ Freeman	13 TBD Bball-B/V @ Beatrice Auditorium SPEECH Meet @ Ashland/Greenwood
14	15 No School Professional Development 5:30pm Bball G/JV Falls City @ Freeman, N Gym 6:30pm Bball-B/JV@ Freeman, N Gym  FFA District LDE Contest @ Norris HS 6:30pm-8pm JH Boys Bball@ Freeman S Gym	16 7:45am-8:05am Bank In School @ Elem Commons 4:30pm Bball-G/JV @ Freeman, N Gym 4:30pm Bball-B/JV @ Freeman, S Gym 6pm Bball-G/V @ Freeman, N Gym 7:30pm Bball-B/V @ Freeman, N Gym 6pm Wrestling-B/V @ Lincoln Christian HS 6pm Wrestling - Girls (Beatrice) @ Freeman	17	18 4pm Bball-G/JH @ Freeman 4:30pm Bball-B/JV @ Wilber-Clatonia HS 4:30pm Bball G/JV @ Wilber-Clatonia HS 6pm Bball-G/V @ Wilber-Clatonia HS 7:30pm Bball-B/V @ Wilber-Clatonia HS	19 2:30pm Wrestling-B/V @ Thayer Central Comm School 2pm Wrestling - Girls (Beatrice) @ Freeman	20 7:45am Bball-B/V vs. @ Sokol Arena  SPEECH Meet @ Thayer Central HS
21	22 4pm Bball-G/JH @ Freeman, N Gym 6:30pm-8pm JH Boys Basketball @ Freeman S Gym	23 4:30pm Bball-B/JV @ Freeman, South Gym 4:30pm Bball-G/JV @ Freeman 6pm Bball-G/V @ Freeman, N Gym 7:30pm Bball-B/V @ Freeman, N Gym Cheer Perform TeamMates Raffle @ N HS Commons 6pm Wrestling - Girls (Beatrice) @ Freeman	24	25 4pm Bball-G/JH @ Falls City MS 6:30pm-8pm JH Boys Bball @ Freeman S Gym	26 1pm Early Dismissal TeamMates Raffle @ - N HS Commons 3pm Wrestling-B/V @ Freeman N Gym 4pm Wrestling - Girls (Beatrice) @ Freeman	27 8am Freeman Hoops Classic @ Multiple Locations  SPEECH Meet- MUDECAS @ HTRS HS
28 11am Freeman Hoops Classic @ Multiple Locations	29 TBD Bball-B/V 4pm Bball G/JH HTRS @ Freeman 6:30pm-8pm JH Boys Bball @ Freeman- S Gym	30 7:45am-8:05am Bank In School @Elem Commons TBD Bball-G/V	31 FFA State Degree Review @ Sterling HS	February No School: 2/21  March No School: 3/7, 8, 29-4/2  April No School: 4/29-5/2	May Tentatively Last Day of School with Early Dismissal: 5/14 @ 1pm *is subject to change	



# DANIEL FREEMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL LEARNERS

[www.freemanpublicschools.org](http://www.freemanpublicschools.org)

Freeman Public Schools Patrons, Parents, and Staff:

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I hope everyone has taken time to relax and spend time with family and friends. It is hard to believe that 2024 is here and we are beginning the second semester. We have had 86 days of school so far, and I am looking forward to watching Freeman students learn and grow in the final 87 days of the school year.

## **Annual Report**

Each December, a comprehensive report of the previous school year is released. The full 2022-2023 annual report can be found on our website at <https://freemanpublicschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/2022-23-Freeman-Public-Schools-Annual-Report.pdf>. A condensed flyer has been mailed to patrons, parents, and staff. This report is created annually following the accreditation rules of the Nebraska Department of Education. This annual report intends to provide the Freeman Public School community with information on student achievement, school system performance, and district resource allocation and expenditures. Freeman Public Schools is an amazing place to learn and grow for our students; It also serves as a great place to work for our faculty and staff. While this report has been prepared as a comprehensive picture, we realize that the total picture cannot be fully represented in this report. I encourage you to read the report and contact the superintendent's office if you have any questions.

## **Inclement Weather**

Freeman has built three days into the 2023-2024 calendar for severe weather cancellations. We have not used any of these days to this point. If the three days are used and additional days are needed, the district will add student days or look for options within the current calendar.

**Reminders regarding inclement weather:** A decision to close school is made when the National Weather Service forecasts and road conditions indicate it would be unwise for students to attend school. Ideally, a decision about the next school day will be made by 9:00 PM. An early decision is not always possible because of uncertain weather conditions. School officials will make periodic assessments of road conditions at night and decide early in the morning (by 6:00 AM if possible). If school is closed or begins at 10:00 AM, information will be sent through the school messenger system and website. Information will also be sent to KOLN/KGIN 10/11, KWBE-AM 1450, and KLKN TV Channel 8.

From my family to yours, we wish everyone in the Freeman School Community a happy and healthy 2024. Go Falcons!

Dr. Havelka

Dr. Andrew Havelka

Superintendent of Freeman Public Schools 402-988-2525 x103 | [Andrew.havelka@freemanschools.net](mailto:Andrew.havelka@freemanschools.net) |  
415 8<sup>th</sup> Street PO Box 259 Adams, NE 68301



## **From the 7-12 Principal, Mr. Cody Wallinger**

What in the world happened to 2023?! With that said, where did our first semester go?! It's always an interesting time when we stop and reflect on past experiences and memories. To think that as you read this, we have just 50% of the school year left. As cliché as it is, the saying "Long days, short years." really does seem applicable, right about now.

However, before we get too much farther with our school year, I want to make sure that we take a moment and appreciate some individuals who so often remove themselves from the spotlight. Individuals who have committed their entire professional existence to helping mold our young men and women into the adults we are so proud of. I'm of course talking about our educators.

Grab your pens and circle Wednesday, January 10th on your calendars. On this day we will be partnering with I Love Public Schools to highlight our Freeman Falcon teachers/paras. Throughout this entire day, I Love Public Schools will continually push out content on their social media platforms, about our teachers/paras. Moreover, we will also share each post, ourselves.

The hardest part about this entire process is the reality that this publicity may be the absolute last thing any of our teachers want. However, it's for that very reason that it needs to take place. As bold of a claim as this is, I can all but promise that there isn't one person reading this that can't recall a past educator who positively impacted their life. Many in unbelievably profound ways. Yet, in today's world especially, we as educators are constantly under the microscope of public perception and opinion. Often times making our mission even more difficult. Nonetheless, and holding true to the DNA that makes up every one of us, we daily take up our cross and carry on. Through the good and the bad educators show up and give their all, so that our kiddos can run confidently to the dreams that await them.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you to our Freeman Public School teachers and paras. Thank you for fighting the good fight. We hope that January 10th is a day you can take pride in who you are and what you are about. As the saying goes, "Whoever saves one life, saves the world entire." And in our educational world, that form of salvation takes on so many different and unique looks.

### **Communication:**

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

- ☐ [Freeman Website](#)
  - ☐ [rSchool Activities Calendar](#)
  - ☐ [Falcons In Action](#)
  - ☐ [Facebook](#)
  - ☐ X (Formerly known as Twitter): @Freeman\_Falcons and @FreemanPS\_Supt
- Phone: 402-988-2525  
Fax: 402-988-3475

Freeman Public Schools has a duty to identify, refer, evaluate, and if eligible, provide a free, appropriate public education to students with disabilities. If you suspect that your child is struggling in school or may have a disability, Freeman Public Schools can assist you.

For additional information about the rights of parents of eligible children or for answers to any questions you might have about identification, evaluation, and placement into Section 504 and special education programs, please contact Freeman's superintendent, Dr. Andrew Havelka at 402-988-2525

## Freeman Strengths Snap Shot from December



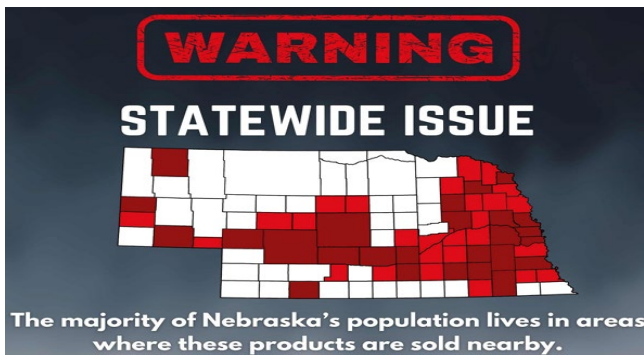
### Freeman TeamMates Breakfast

TeamMates of Freeman held their annual breakfast on December 13 before school. The commons areas were filled with mentors and mentees enjoying Schro Bros breakfast pizza provided by the TeamMates Board of Directors. To add to the conversation for the morning, the Board prepared saran wrap balls for the mentees to unwrap, filled with prizes of all sorts. The hitch? The mentees had to wear socks on their hands to do the unwrapping and claim prizes before the next person rolled doubles. Excitement filled the air as mentees reacted to the game and the mentors cheered them on! These activities are a fun way for matches to meet and mingle with one another. And with 65 matches (that's 130 adults and students!) that's a lot of mingling!

If you are interested in learning more about TeamMates or becoming a mentor, visit [www.TeamMates.org](http://www.TeamMates.org). Freeman has some middle school-aged students waiting for a mentor!







## Attorney General Consumer Warning

### THC-Containing Products Sold in Nebraska Facts

1. THC content varies dramatically from the amounts advertised. Products are often mislabeled.
2. It is impossible to predict the potency of a given product prior to consumption.
3. These products can include pesticides, mold, ethanol, acetone, and heavy metals.
4. These products are largely untested and have not been deemed safe by state of Nebraska or federal regulatory bodies.
5. Many THC-containing products have not been subject to scientific or medical testing— and some have never been tested for human consumption.
6. It may take only a bite of a THC-containing product to send a child to the hospital.
7. Products look like well-known snack food and candy brands that may entice children and teens. This look-alike packaging also makes it difficult for parents and educators to easily identify THC containing products.
8. These products can cause rapid heart rate, vomiting, agitation, confusion, and hallucinations.
9. Side effects can be unpredictable, severe, and life-threatening, especially for a child.
10. Between January 2021 and February 2022, U.S. Poison Control Centers reported that 82% of accidental ingestions were children. There were a total of 2363 negative exposures to THC-containing products reported.
11. Not all products advertise THC content on the label; some contain no labels or ingredient lists and appear to be homemade, and quality control efforts are unknown.
12. Most THC compounds currently being sold in Nebraska are not found in nature and are artificially created.
13. Since data tracking of products containing delta-8 THC began in January 2021, consumption has resulted in adverse health events reported to poison control centers, 70% of which required a medical evaluation.
14. Consuming as little as 2.5mg exceeds the toxicity threshold for a 3-year-old child and may require A hospital visit.

### WARNING

### DANGEROUS TO CHILDREN

THC



As little as 2.5 mg of THC can send a child to the hospital, and just one gummy can contain almost 20 mg of THC.

### WARNING

### UNSAFE COPYCATS

THC



Labeling meant to copy popular snack brands and trick consumers, including children

# Senior Art Trip to Omaha




Grades	Test	Date	Test	Date
Grade 11	ACT--required of all juniors	March 26	Adams Community Building	
Grade 11	ACT makeup	April 9	Adams Community Building	
Grade 11	ACT makeup	April 23	Adams Community Building	
Kindergarten	Math	4/30/24	Reading	5/1/24
Grade 1	Math	4/16/24	Reading	4/8/24
Grade 2	Math	4/17/24	Reading	4/9/24
REQUIRED	NSCAS Math		NSCAS Reading	
Grade 3	4/22/24		4/16/2024	
Grade 4	4/22/24		4/15/2024	
Grade 5	4/24/24		4/17/2024	
Grade 6	4/24/24		4/18/2024	
	NSCAS tests			
Grade 7	reading	April 8		
Grade 8	reading	April 8		
Grade 7	math	April 16		
Grade 8	math	April 18		
Grade 8	Science	TBD		

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Freeman Public Schools is honored to host A Day with Carl Wilkens on February 5, 2024.**

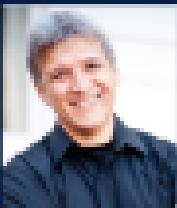
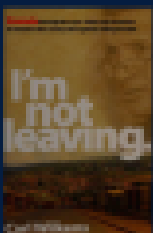
During the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsis in Rwanda, Carl was the only American to remain in Rwanda and his efforts helped save hundreds of orphaned children. Carl will be visiting with selected classes and addressing the student body in an assembly at 2:00 pm to share his message of empathy, inclusion and respect. The public is invited to attend.



# "I'M NOT LEAVING"


**FREEMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
In conversation with storyteller, author,  
and witness to the Rwandan genocide  
**CARL WILKENS**

FEBRUARY 5, 2024  
2:00 PM  
FREEMAN HIGH SCHOOL  
NORTH GYM



**THE PUBLIC IS INVITED.  
PLEASE JOIN US!**

Funding Provided By: Freeman Public Schools Foundation &







# **PURCHASE YOUR 2023-2024 FALCON YEARBOOK **NOW!****

**PRICE INCREASES DECEMBER 31!**

**DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS YEAR'S BOOK! THE YEARBOOK STAFF IS HARD AT WORK CREATING A NEW AND IMPROVED BOOK. THIS YEAR'S BOOK IS IN FULL COLOR. THE STAFF HAS ADDED ADDITIONAL PAGES FOR EXPANDED COVERAGE OF ALL EVENTS PK-12. FREEMAN IS ONE OF THE FEW SCHOOLS IN NEBRASKA THAT CONTINUES TO INCLUDE ALL GRADES IN THE YEARBOOK. AVOID LOST BOOKS – GET YOUR BOOK STAMPED WITH YOUR NAME! ORDER NOW BEFORE THE PRICE INCREASES!**

STUDENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF YEARBOOKS AT \$50 EACH \_\_\_\_\_

NAME STAMP FOR YEARBOOK (OPTIONAL) \$5 \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT SUBMITTED: \_\_\_\_\_

**After December 31**, the price for a yearbook increases to \$55 and name stamping is no longer available

All photos are full color!

Over 110 pages of PK thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade coverage

It's a great way to remember special events and people for years to come!

Submit all order forms, questions, or concerns to:

Mrs. Kastanek

[jkastanek@freemanschools.net](mailto:jkastanek@freemanschools.net)

402-988-2525 ext 142

Please make checks to:  
Freeman Public Schools

Or

Order online at  
[www.yearbookforever.com](http://www.yearbookforever.com)

Order Online!



# MENUS

Cereal, juice & fruit are offered with breakfast. Breakfast: K-12 served 7:45-8:05.

Cost for K-12 is \$2.10 Adult price is \$2.75

All meals come with one carton of milk. Extra milk may be purchased for \$0.45 each.

Menu is subject to change. Purchase of an entrée only or an additional entrée will cost \$2.00 for students and staff.

TOTAL MONTHLY COST			
Elementary Lunch	19	\$3.10	\$58.90
JH/HS Lunch	19	\$3.40	\$64.60
Adult Lunch Price:		\$4.60	

<b><u>January 1-5</u></b>		
Monday:	No School	
Tuesday:	No School	
Wednesday:	No School	
Thursday:	French Toast	Corn Dog, Cottage Cheese, Baked Beans, Vegetables, Pears
Friday:	Scrambled Eggs	Pizza, Corn, Vegetables, Applesauce
<b><u>January 8-12</u></b>		
Monday:	French Toast	Walking Taco, Meat, Cheese, Chips, Vegetables, Peaches
Tuesday:	Muffin	Ribette, Bun, Potato Triangle, Vegetables, Pineapple
Wednesday:	Donuts	Chicken Patty, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Bread & Butter or PB, Vegetables, Oranges
Thursday:	Waffles	Chili or Veg. Beef Soup, PBJ, Vegetables, Applesauce
Friday:	Omelet	Fiestada, Vegetables, Applesauce
<b><u>January 15-19</u></b>		
Monday:	NO SCHOOL	
Tuesday:	French Toast	Hamburger, Bun, Baked Beans, Vegetables, Peaches
Wednesday:	Donuts	Mandarin Chicken, Rice, Vegetables, Roll & Butter, Oranges
Thursday:	Waffles	Spaghetti & Meat Sauce, Breadstick, Vegetables, Pineapple
Friday:	Sausage & Biscuit	Pizza, Corn, Vegetables, Applesauce
<b><u>January 22-26</u></b>		
Monday:	French Toast	Br. Pork Patty, Bun, Potato Triangles, Vegetables, Pears
Tuesday:	Donut	Chicken Noodle Soup, Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Peas, Vegetables, Applesauce
Wednesday:	Waffles	Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potato, Gravy, Vegetables, Bread & Butter/PB, Pineapples
Thursday:	Muffin	Sloppy Joes, Bun, Baked Beans, Vegetables, Peaches
Friday:	Scrambled Eggs	Chicken Quesadilla, Corn, Vegetables, Oranges
<b><u>January 29-31</u></b>		
Monday:	French Toast	Falcon Hero Sandwich, Chips, Vegetables, Pears
Tuesday:	Muffin	Hamburger, Bun, Baked Beans, Vegetables, Peaches
Wednesday:	Donuts	Chicken Patty, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Bread & Butter or PB, Oranges

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