

BRUNING-DAVENPORT USD

September 2026

Kelly Lampe, Superintendent
Melinda Kerwood, Principal
106 N. Juniper Ave.
Davenport, NE 68336
402-364-2225

Ruth Kowalski, Principal
340 Carroll St.
Bruning, NE 68322
402-353-4685

***BOLTS: "Building Outstanding Leaders for
Tomorrow's Society"***

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT: Mr. Kel Lampe

Bruning Davenport School News

August 2026

Celebrations – Birthdays

Niki – Micah - LA

August Unified Board Meeting

Set date for the Budget Workshop for Wednesday, Aug 26th.

Approved resignation of Nate Acton.

Approved Shauna Fangmeyer and Mackenzie Kaup as Para's.

Approved Substitute list.

Approved the Extra Duty list.

Daycare Report

The Daycare expansion is going well

Transportation Report

Waiting on new vehicles to come in.

Buildings and Grounds Report

Bruning gym roof repair project is done.

The Bruning welding shop ventilation has been a concern for a while.

Maggie and Lori have received a grant to partially improve ventilation and add a couple of welding bays, which are desperately needed.

Installed a Cathodic Protection System in the Bruning boiler. It is to protect metal and structures buried in soil or water. This is mandated.

Replaced a section of heater fins in the heating unit in the PreK.

In the process of replacing chain link fence surrounding the propane tanks in Bruning, that was damaged by a wind storm.

Repair completed in football crows nest from water leakage.

Small freezer went out in Davenport kitchen, so that is being replaced.

Replaced AC unit in Davenport library.

Finishing Davenport Science Lab.

News

We purchased some weight equipment from Thayer Central to replace the Davenport equipment.

New Facility Update

The first public meeting was held on August 17th at Shickley at 7:00pm.

It was an information sharing presentation with numbers compiled and Feasibility Study results presented. The consensus was to sechedule further meetings.

Help Wanted:

2-8 music teacher

Financials: Ending 7-31-26

	25-26	24-25	23-24
Budget	6,136,594	5,962,246	5,387,784
YTD expenditures	5,107,000	4,751,000	4,196,000
Last month	408,000	423,000	443,000
% Budget remaining (1 month)	16.8%	20.3%	22.1%
Davenport Building Fund	583,000		
Bruning Building Fund	397,000		
Depreciation Fund	839,000		
Davenport Activity Fund	270,000		
Bruning Activity Fund	295,000		
Nutrition Fund	310,000		

(Fiscal year Sept 1 – Aug 31)

Committee's are updated as of 8-26-26.

Let me know if any mistakes.

Committee's:

		<u>Next Meeting</u>
Americanism	Sarah Tony Baxter Aaron Charles Ben	Yearly
BDEA	Cammie Beth D Ali Lichelle	As needed
BDS Coop	Baxter Tony Trey	Quarterly
Calendar	Jill Daina Ali ? ? Ruth Melinda	As needed
Classified	Erika DeEtta Barb Jeff Lon Trey	As Needed
Comm Outreach	Mark Lori LA Jill Emmy	At Inservice
Daycare	Adam Heather Sarah K Lichelle Ciara Kathy Daina Kassi Kel	Monthly
Discipline	Daina Cammie Ali Maggie Morgan	Annually
Build/Grounds	Jerry B Ryne Ryan Brad Robert Mike	Annually
Frontline		Weekly
Grant		As Needed
ILCD	Melinda Joy Ali Lindsey Emmy	At Inservice
MTSS	Morgan Cammie Melinda Ali Daina Brooke Jen Joy Tara	As needed
Negotiations	Ali Logan Cammie Jen Jerry Sarah Ryan	As Needed
Safety	Charles Marci Leah Jen Cammie Laurie	At Inservice
Steering	Melinda Ruth Beth A Lichelle Ben Joy Britany Rick Ali	Bi Monthly
Tech Website	Beth D Tara Micah Wade Kent Daina	At Inservice
Transportation	Jeff Lon Derek Trey Mike Robert	As needed
Wellness	Brooke Logan Morgan Maggie Kalli Lindsey	At Inservice

Goal:

To be the best small school in the State

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To be the best small school in
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From the Principal's Desk

There's something exciting about a new school year! This year, we have some extra reasons to celebrate! As we said goodbye to some teachers who were ready for their next chapter, we also welcomed new members to our team who have brought fresh energy, positive attitudes, and enthusiasm. It has been exciting to watch them jump in, build relationships with students, and become part of the Bruning-Davenport family. Innovative ideas and a shift of perspectives make a big difference. I'm especially excited about the direction we are headed and the energy our staff are bringing into this school year.

Our school year is already off to a strong start! It has been wonderful to see our students settling into routines, reconnecting with friends, and getting back into the swing of learning. Classrooms are busy, expectations are being established, and there is a great energy throughout our schools as we begin another year together.

As we move into September, our students are also getting involved outside the classroom. Sports practices are underway and many activities are beginning to fill their schedules. With so much happening, it is important to remember that every school day matters. Regular attendance gives students the opportunity to stay connected to their learning, build relationships, and make the most of the opportunities available to them. We are excited about what this school year has in store and look forward to a great year of learning, growing, and making memories together!

Melinda Kerwood
Davenport Principal

Culture. What is culture? According to Merriam-Webster, culture is "the set of shared attitudes, values, goals, and practices that characterizes an institution or organization." So, my question to you is, what is the **culture** of Bruning-Davenport USD? I've been reading a book called, *The Power in the Hallways: How Student Influence Shapes School Culture* by Mike Donahue, which discusses how a culture is created and how it progresses, both positively and negatively. This is now my 13th year at Bruning-Davenport, and I would definitely argue that our culture is mostly positive, but it has room for improvement. How do we do that? Mike Donahue states,

"The schools with the healthiest cultures are not the schools with the fewest expectations. They are the schools where expectations and belonging coexist...and when enough students believe they are valuable, and act like others are too, culture changes from the inside out" (p. 20, 24).

We strive to instill this in our students. You matter, everyone matters. While we will work and set expectations and models for the students at school, it is also vitally important that they learn this in their home environment. What expectations do you set for your child at home? How do those expectations roll into their school expectations? When we work together, both inside and outside the building, we can create a healthy, positive culture. We have such amazing students and families in our district. Let's continue to build the Bruning-Davenport culture!

Ruth Kowalski
Bruning Principal

Meet A 26-27 Senior!!

Cynthia Ozenbaugh is the daughter of Mitchell & Katrina Ozenbaugh. She Has 1 sister, Karolyn, and 1 brother, Wyatt. She is very involved in school activities which include basketball, track, FFA, speech, one-act, national honor society, letter club, and fellowship of Christian athletes. Cynthia is a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Ohiowa. She also attends youth group at the Methodist Church in Shickley. Cynthia is an American Legion Auxiliary Member of Gingrich-Dixon Post #13 in South Dakota. Cynthia likes to read, swim, bake, and paddleboard. She plans to attend college in Nebraska and major in Animal Science. Cynthia's favorite food is ice cream, her favorite television show is The New Girl, her favorite song is "Can't steal my Joy" by Josiah Queen, and her favorite place to be alone is at the dam. Cynthia says the most influential person in her life is Our Lord & Savior, which she refers to as "The Big JC".



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Grade Name Date

Staff	Jodi	Bjorkman	9	1
11	Collin	Schoenholz	9	1
Staff	Denise	McGinley	9	2
1	Hadley	Miller	9	4
K	Alexander	Morris	9	4
Staff	Lori	Balke	9	5
7	Asher	Peterson	9	8
9	Hayden	Schlichtman	9	9
PreK	Mollie	Schardt	9	13
5	Weston	Voss	9	14
10	Rylan	Trapp	9	15
10	Kenyon	Hall	9	15
10	Trevor	Steward	9	15



Grade Name Date

1	Maddix	Thomsen	9	16
1	Jesse	Boomgaarn	9	18
Staff	DeEtta	Christensen	9	23
1	Everleigh	Marquart	9	23
9	Braelynn	Thornburg	9	23
Staff	Melinda	Kerwood	9	28
11	Anthony	Nutsch	9	28
1	Graham	Holtzen	9	28
2	Stella	Bentley	9	28
K	Sutton	Ault	9	28
9	Cagney	Mussman	9	29
PreK	Willow	Welander	9	30

What's Happening @ Your Libraries

Our school library site has many links to our online resources & the card catalog that parents can access from home! Here's a quick refresher on how to find it, see what your family has checked out, & access our online resources!

How to Find Our Library Website

--> Go to our school website's home page and find the student menu. Click on Student and then Library.

--> Click on Log In at the top right corner, then choose to use Google. Enter your student's credentials in the blanks (If you don't have this information because your student is younger than grade 5, contact Mrs. Dolniecek by phoning the school or emailing her to obtain this information). Your middle or high school student should know their credentials and can enter them for you.

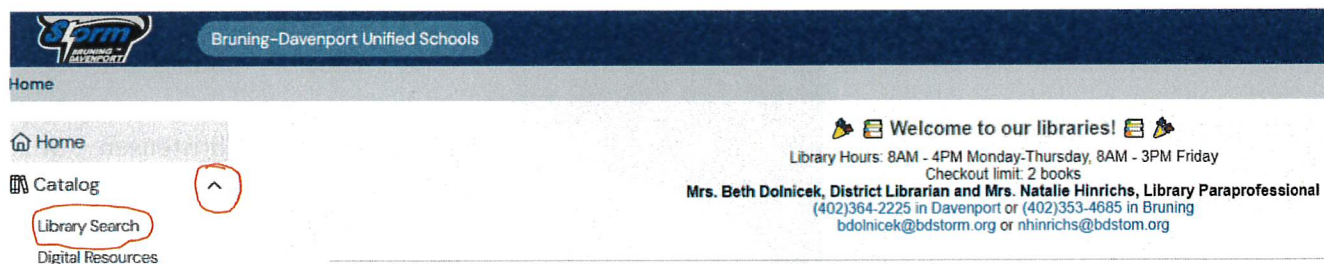
--> Now you should be able to see all items checked out in your student's name. Hopefully this will help everyone keep track of their books & help find lost ones! As always, parents/guardians are encouraged to make their wishes known regarding what they consider appropriate content for their students when it comes to checking out books & other library materials. The beginning of the school year is a great time to remind your students about those wishes.



How to find links to resources

--> Go to our school website's home page and find the student menu. Click on Student and then Library. No need to log in to log in here!

--> From here, scroll down the page and see what else we have to offer. We have added more resources for our students this year, including our own eBook collections of AV2 & Abdo books!



Today's readers are tomorrow's leaders!

Digital Citizenship Tip

Another school year has arrived! This usually means some scheduling changes for families. From buying school supplies, packing lunches, paying school fees, and adjusting bedtimes, things just roll differently at this time of year. With the relaxing time of summer may have come relaxed rules on screen time. Need some help or suggestions on how to more painlessly dial things back? Advice from the Mayo Clinic & the American Academy of Pediatrics can be found in this informative article. (<https://www.mayoclinichealthsystem.org/hometown-health/speaking-of-health/6-tips-to-reduce-childrens-screen-time>). Thanks for all you do to help your students manage their amount of screen time!



The Bruning-Davenport FFA Chapter has had a productive and eventful summer, with activities spanning from June through August. We kicked off June by participating in Iowa Days, where nine of our members volunteered their time to prepare and serve hot dogs and hamburgers to community members. Our newly elected officer team also attended the MAPS Officer Training held at the Leadership Center in Aurora, where they gained valuable leadership and team-building skills. In July, 6 additional members supported our community during Achievement Days by setting up in the park to serve meals. The menu included grilled hot dogs and hamburgers, chips, cookies, and drinks. Great job to Riggins, Josie, and Cagney. At the Fillmore County FFA swine and sheep show. August began with the Thayer County Fair, where our chapter decorated and rode on a float during the parade alongside local 4-H participants. We also helped operate the Farm Bureau booth, continuing our tradition of community involvement. To cap off the summer, Toby, Carter, Shelby, and Braelynn did a great job with all of their livestock projects. Shortly after, we had our welcome-back meeting and a pool party where we ate pizza, ice cream, and had lots of fun swimming. We are proud of our members dedication and service throughout the summer and look forward to an exciting and successful school year ahead! **-BD FFA Reporter, Emma Hoins**





Meet your 2026-2027 FFA Officer Team:

President-Cynthia Ozenbaugh, Vice President- Kennedy Barney, Secretary-Riggins Ozenbaugh, Treasurer- Eva Oltmans, Reporter- Emma Hoins, Sentinel- Colt Crockett, Parliamentarian- Kyler Koch, and Historian- Josie Stanek



BRUNING-DAVENPORT UNIFIED SCHOOL
School Year 2026-2027

CLASS OFFICERS

Class of 2027

President: Cynthia Ozenbaugh
VP: Kennedy Barney
Secretary: Brodrick Dunn
STUCO: Grandy Holtzen & LeTrell Houser

Class of 2028

President: Emma Hoins
VP: Colt Crockett
Secretary: Blake Miller
Treasurer: Collin Schoenolz
STUCO: Riggins Ozenbaugh, Eva Oltmans,
Anthony Nutsch

Class of 2029

President: Kyler Koch
VP: Aliviah Barney
Secretary: Brayden Philippi
Treasurer: Josie Stanek
STUCO: Rylan Trapp & Claire Lahners

Class of 2030

President: Paisley Follmer
VP: Carter Voss
Secretary: Macin Kowalski
Treasurer: Scarlett Holtzen
STUCO: Cagney Mussman & Brooklyn Philippi

ORGANIZATIONS

Student Council Officers

President: Riggins Ozenbaugh
VP: Grady Holtzen
Secretary: Eva Holtzen
Treasurer: Anthony Nutsch

Student Council Members

Seniors: Grady Holtzen & LeTrell Houser
Juniors: Riggins Ozenbaugh, Eva Oltmans, &
Anthony Nutsch
Sophomores: Rylan Trapp & Claire Lahners
Freshman: Cagney Mussman
Brooklyn Philippi

National Honor Society

President: Cynthia Ozenbaugh
VP: Kennedy Barney
Secretary/Treasurer: Eva Oltmans

Letter Club

President: Cynthia Ozenbaugh
Vice President: Kennedy Barney
Sec/Treas: Eva Oltmans

FFA

President : Cynthia Ozenbaugh
Vice Pres: Kennedy Barney
Secretary: Riggins Ozenbaugh
Sentinel: Colt Crockett
Parliamentarian: Kyler Koch
Reporter: Emma Hoins
Historian: Josie Stanek

MEET YOUR 2026-2027 BRUNING-DAVENPORT STAFF

Bruning Building

Lori Balke: Family Consumer Science
Amanda Barney: Cook
Joy Barton: High School SPED
Laurie Davis: High School Math
Micah Dolnicek: Business
Shauna Fangmeyer: Para Professional
Natalie Hinrichs: Library/Para Professional
Lichelle Houchin: Kindergarten
Mackenzie Kaup: Para Professional
Ruth Kowalski: Principal
Jennifer Krupicka: Title
Ben Lindsay: High School Social Studies
Niki Mata: Administrative Assistant
Denise McGinley: Office Manager
Emily Miller: Para Professional
Rebecca Morris: Custodian
Kalli Mumm: Preschool
Sheri Norder: Para Professional
Daina Philippi: Preschool/Elementary Music
Marci Reinsch: Guidance Counselor
Britany Renz: Art
Jill Rohr: High School Science
Missi Rohr: Para Professional
Mark Rotter: Physical Education
Brooke Soukup: 1st Grade
Ali Strong: Elementary SPED
Kent Stutheit: Music
Michelle Sybrant: Custodian
Toni Szydlo: Para Professional
Maggie Vyhnalek: High School Ag/Wood Shop
Lacey Wagner: Nurse



Davenport Building

Arnold Adams: Physical Education/Athletic Director
Beth Ardissono: Middle School Math
Richard Ault: Middle School English/Wood Shop
Lori Balke: Family Consumer Science
Jodie Bjorkman: Para Professional
Erika Brinegar: District Business Manager
Emily Chamberlain: SPED
DeEtta Christensen: Cook
Shannon Collier: Para Professional
Ashli Czekai: Para Professional
Beth Dolnicek: Library/Computers
Andi Domeier: Administrative Assistant
Cameron Freitag: 3rd Grade
Charles Hamilton: Middle School Social Studies
Melinda Kerwood: Principal
Jennifer Krupicka: Title
Kel Lampe: Superintendent
Mike Little: Maintenance
Audra Lootjner-Capek: Para Professional
Lindsey Messman: SPED
Marci Reinsch: Guidance Counselor
Britany Renz: Art
Kent Stutheit: Music
Tara Voss: Middle School Science/Ag
Lacey Wagner: Nurse
Leah Overturf: 4th Grade
Barb Williams: Custodian
Logan Zeleny: 2nd Grade

BE STORM STRONG

HOW TO BE STORM STRONG FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

TEACHER-STUDENT RELATIONSHIPS



Come into the school year ready to learn and with an open mind. Positive attitudes from all will help the year go smoothly!

TEACHER-PARENT RELATIONSHIPS



Be on the same page and work as a team. The students' success is most important for both teacher and parent.

SET GOALS



What do you hope to contribute throughout the school year? Big and small goals will help you reach milestones throughout the year.

ATTITUDE OF GRADTITUDE



Learning is a privilege. Be grateful for the opportunities our school gives you. First impressions go a long way.

YESTERDAY IS HISTORY, TOMORROW IS A MYSTERY, TODAY IS GIFT. SO BE PRESENT.

-Coach Kevin Kush



GENERAL FUND BILLS

8/26/26

Barb Williams	43.96	JW Pepper	90.99
Bel-Con Refuse	2,360.00	Kevin Kush Public Speaking, Inc.	2,713.00
Beth Ardissono	17.95	Lon Schoenholz	108.00
Black Hills Energy	2,235.00	Lori Balke	56.53
Brody Chemical Company, Inc.	460.13	Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc.	45.50
Bruning Activity Fund	66,000.00	Morgan Beals	58.82
Bruning Lumber Co.	1,025.99	NASB ALICAP	108,472.00
Bruning-Davenport Depreciation Fund	300,000.00	Norris Public Power District	2,503.82
Certified Truck & Trailer Repair, Inc.	897.48	Nutrien Ag Solutions	325.91
DAS State Accounting-Central Finance	321.20	Omnify Benefits	75.00
Davenport Activity Fund	23,000.00	One Less Thing	750.00
Davenport Building Supply	6,008.68	OTC Brands Inc.	23.74
Diversified Safety Compliance	70.00	Precision Signs & Graphics, LLC	900.00
Eakes Office Plus	12,097.60	Professional Choice Recovery, Inc.	202.00
Educational Service Unit #5	90,059.00	Pyramid Educational Consultants	48.00
Fairbury Glass	117.50	Scholastic, Inc.	1,111.66
Gopher	597.44	TCI	576.00
Hebron Pest Control	110.00	Thayer County NE	280.00
Hometown Leasing	9,632.00	Victory Too Graphics	113.11
IXL Learning Inc.	2,409.38	VVS Inc-Canteen	61.86
		Totals	635,979.25

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD MEETING – The Unified Board of Education met in Bruning on August 26, 2026. Pursuant to laws and notices posted on the school website and also published in The Hebron Journal-Register on August 19, 2026, all proceedings were taken while the meeting was open to the public.

President Jerry Baysinger called the meeting to order at 6:11 PM. Unified members present were Sarah Krehnke, Ryan Miller, and Trey Strong. Local board members present were Baxter Beals, Tony Norder, Ryne Philippi, Lon Schoenholz, and Derek Shaner. Superintendent Kelly Lampe and Erika Brinegar were also present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Sarah Krehnke moved, seconded by Trey Strong, to approve the absence of Unified Members Aaron Oltmans and Brad Williams. (Roll Call Vote 4-0)

President Baysinger recognized the Open Meetings Act.

The Consent Agenda included the agenda, August 13, 2026, Unified Board meeting minutes, and the August End-of-Year claims. Strong moved, seconded by Ryan Miller, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Roll call vote (4-0)

Action Items: (All motions require a roll call vote and all are carried 4-0 unless noted.)

- A. Krehnke moved, seconded by Strong, to approve the transfer of \$66,000 from the General Fund to the Bruning Activity Fund.
- B. Strong moved, seconded by Miller, to approve the transfer of \$23,000 from the General Fund to the Davenport Activity Fund.
- C. Miller moved, seconded by Krehnke, to approve the transfer of \$300,000 from the General Fund to the Depreciation Fund

Discussion Items:

- A. 2026-2027 Budget
 - a. It was suggested to move forward with a .0772 Building Fund tax rate, .3819 General Fund tax rate for an overall .4591 Rate.

Strong moved, seconded by Miller, to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 PM.

Erika Brinegar, Recording Secretary

LUNCH MENU



September 2026

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Chicken Legs Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy Dinner Roll	2 Meatball Sub Baked Beans Chips	3 Breakfast Sandwich Tater Tots Juice	4 Beefy Cheesy Potatoes Green Beans Biscuit 	5
6	7 NO SCHOOL	8 NO SCHOOL	9 Popcorn Chicken Bowl Corn Buttered Bread	10 Walking Tacos Lettuce/Cheese/Salsa Churro 	11 Italian Dunkers California Blend Veggies Cookie 	12
13	14 French Toast Sticks Sausage Tri Tater Juice	15 Pulled Pork Sandwich French Fries Pickle Spear	16 Soft Shell Taco Lettuce/Cheese/Salsa Refried Beans 	17 Crispitos Spanish Rice Corn	18 Chicken Alfredo Green Beans Garlic Breadstick	19
20	21 Mac N Cheese w/ Little Smokies Broccoli	22 Pizza Romaine Lettuce Salad Garlic Breadstick	23 Chicken Strips Curly Fries	24 Nacho Tots Lettuce/Cheese/Salsa Corn Mini Pretzels 	25 Hamburger on Bun Baked Beans Chips Brownie Sundae Bar 	26
27	28 Corn dogs Mac N Cheese California Blend Veggies	29 Flying Saucer Corn Cornbread	30 Chinese Chicken Rice Broccoli Fortune Cookie			
	Bruning: --F/V Bar --Salad Bar Available Daily	 = NEBRASKA BEEF	GRAB AND GO BREAKFAST SERVED DAILY Milk served with ALL Meals	*Menu Subject to Change* *Second Entrée – \$1.00 * EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER	Davenport: --F/V Bar Daily --Chef Salad Meal Options 5-8 Only & Adults	

SEPTEMBER 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 HS VB Tri Sutton @ Sandy Creek 5:00PM	2 2nd-4th Grades to The State Fair	3 Girls Golf - Sutton invite @ Fox Hollow 9:00AM JH VB @ Heartland/Hampton 4:30PM HS VB vs. GI Lutheran @ Shickley (JV, V) 5:30/6:30	4 HS FB vs Lourdes Central Catholic @ Bruning 7:00pm	5
6	7 Labor Day - No School	8 No School - Teacher In-Service HS VB Cross County @ Shickley (JV, V) 6:00/7:00PM	9	10 Girls Golf Meet Heartland Comm @ Galaway Creek 10:00AM HS VB @ College View (JV, V) 5:00/6:00PM	11 HS FB vs Elmwood Murdock @ Shickley 7:00PM	12 JH VB Tournament @ Thayer Central 9:00AM
13	14 Girls Golf Meet @ Fairbury CC 9:00AM FFA to Ag Venture Day 4th Grade to Ag Venture Day JH & JV FB vs. Fairbury @ Shickley 4:30/6:00 Board Meeting @ Bruning 7:30PM	15 Girls Golf Meet @ Friend CC 9:00AM FFA to Husker Harvest Days	16 FFA to Range Judging @ Pawnee Co.	17 Juniors to Homestead National Park - Naturalization Day JH VB @ McCool Jct. 1:00PM	18 HS FB @ NE Christian 7:00PM	19 JV & R VB Tournament @ Shickley 9:00AM
20	21 JH FB vs. Meridian @ Bru 4:30 HS VB (R) Tri vs. Thayer Central & Sandy Creek @ Shickley 4:30/5:30PM	22 Picture Day HS VB Tri Shelby RC & NE Lutheran @ Shickley (V) 5:00/7:00	23	24 JH VB @ Meridian 4:00PM HS VB @ Meridian 6:00PM	25 HS FB vs Fullerton @ Bruning 7:00PM Homecoming for B/D and Shickley	26
27	28 JH VB vs. Fillmore Central @ Shickley 4:30PM JH FB @ Cross Co. 4:30PM HS VB @ Centennial (R, JV) 5:30/6:30	29 Girls Golf Meet @ Hidden Acres CC 2:30PM JH VB @ Dorchester 1:00PM HS VB @ Southern (JV,V) 5:00/6:00PM	30 FFA Land Judging @ Grand Island			

Notes: ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

BRUNING-DAVENPORT USD
NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 2026