BRUNING-DAVENPORT USD

December 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 November 2026

Celebrations – Birthdays

Britt – Robert – Barb – Mackenzie
Morgan - Conner

I received several positive comments on the Veterans Day Programs.
Ceremonies were held in both the Davenport and Bruning buildings. The Presentation of the quilt of Honor, made by Miss Balke's students, is a powerful and moving experience.

We had our every five years External Visit this past month. This is when an outside team of Administrators from other schools comes in and analyzes all aspects of our school. The feedback from the external team was great!

The FFA team, led by Ms. Vyhnalek, had a great experience in Indianapolis at the National Conference.

Our fall sports season has concluded with the Football team qualifying for State. Basketball practice has started. Quiz bowl, One Act Play and the upcoming Christmas Concert are full speed ahead.

Help Wanted:
2-8 music teacher

Financials: Ending 10-31-27	26-27	25-26	24-25
Operational Budget	7,087,000		
YTD expenditures	965,000		
Last month	509,000		
% Budget remaining (10 months)	86.4%		
Davenport Building Fund	674,000		
Bruning Building Fund	442,000		
Depreciation Fund	898,000		
Davenport Activity Fund	215,000		
Bruning Activity Fund	353,000		
Nutrition Fund	280,000		

(Fiscal year Sept 1 – Aug 31)

Committee's:		Next Meeting
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 Kassi	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

From the Principal's Desk

Welcome to the start of the busy but wonderful holiday season! There is always something exciting happening around Bruning-Davenport!

Junior high basketball is underway, and Quiz Bowl is in full swing. It's great to see our students working hard, building teamwork, and representing our school!

We recently celebrated MAP testing, recognizing students for their growth and hard work. We are proud of the progress our students continue to make!

A big shout-out to our band for their performance at the Veterans Day program. Our 8th graders also did a wonderful job helping lead the program and sharing the Quilt of Valor they helped sew. It was a special way to honor our veterans.

Our elementary students enjoyed trick-or-treating around town and visiting the fire hall. Thank you to our local businesses and community members for always welcoming our students!

I hope everyone has a wonderful start to the holiday season. Thank you for being part of Bruning-Davenport!

Melinda Kerwood
Davenport Principal

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow! It's hard to believe that we are already at the time to prepare for Christmas! It is such an exciting time to get ready for family gatherings, Christmas parties, and presents. While things can get quite busy, especially as we begin the basketball season, it is important to live in the moment and enjoy all that is happening around us. Here at school, we have seen so much growth throughout the first semester by all of our students!

While there has been growth, it is this time of year that we also see motivation begin to decrease, as our distractions get bigger. One of our seniors had a presentation during Storm Strong about procrastination and how detrimental it can be. It can cause stress and a lower quality of work, which can mean a bad grade. So the question would be, how do we deter ourselves and our students from procrastinating? The student who did the presentation advised the other students to give themselves breaks and incentives for getting small tasks done. Another piece of advice was to just sit down and start, without overthinking it. Sometimes the anxiety of starting is worse than doing the work. Not procrastinating will make a healthier and happier you!

Let's finish this semester strong, and before we know it, it will be 2027!!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Ruth Kowalski
Bruning Principal

Counselor's Corner



K-4th have completed the Bullying Prevention Unit! 5th-8th are wrapping it up soon.

Next, they will be starting the Second Step program. Your child will learn critical ***Skills for Learning, Empathy, Emotion Management, and Problem Solving.***

Your child has been learning a lot so far this year and he or she will need your help! Throughout the year, your child has and will be bringing **Home Links** that go with several of the Second Step lessons. They are a great way for you to understand what your child is learning and for your child to show you what he or she knows!

The Juniors are down one more test and they will be receiving their PSAT/NMSQT. Up next, ACT in April. They went to a college fair and enjoyed meeting all of the college representatives.

Many students in high school have registered for SENCAP courses for the Spring semester.

Thank you for supporting your child in learning the skills that lead to success in school and in life. Have a wonderful holiday season!

Marci Reinsch

mreinsch@bdstorm.org
K-12 School Counselor

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Grade	Name		Date
10	Kyler	Koch	2
7	Jackson	Shook	4
1	Barrett	Werner	4
10	BraeLynn	Black	5
	Natalie	Hinrichs	8
11	Peter	Mateo	10
PreK	Luke	Shaner	11
Staff	Logan	Zeleny	12
Staff	Mike	Little	12
PreK	Caroline	Rohr	12
PreK	Amelia	Paup	13
4	Jaliyah	Diaz-McCall	14
Staff	Lichelle	Houchin	16



Grade	Name		Date
1	Rory	Elting	16
8	Laelynn	Schlichtman	17
3	Benjamin	Mata	21
9	Cody	Reutter	22
Staff	Joy	Barton	23
9	Brooklyn	Philippi	25
PreK	Briggs	Thomas	25
Staff	Audra	Loontjer-Capek	27
PreK	Westyn	Dowdy	27
2	Elliot	Eirich	27
5	Iyla	Miller	28
PreK	Lacie	Rohr	29

What's Happening @ Your Libraries

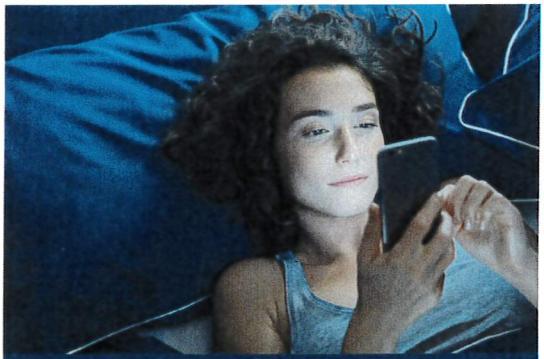
The newsletter deadline is a bit earlier this month, so our library circulation looks a little less than usual. But 470 items circulated is still a large number for our district. It's great to see students improving their reading skills, reading to find out more about the world & people around them! New books are hitting the shelves as we speak so everyone can find something they're interested in.

A drawing was held recently asking about favorite authors. Nine lucky winners traveled to Freeman Public Schools to take them up on seeing someone super special...Jeff Kinney! They got to listen to him speak, watch him draw one of his Wimpy Kid characters & answer some questions. Then he had to "jet" to Omaha to speak there. It was awesome! Our library will receive an autographed copy of his latest book soon. Of course, since they were there, how could they pass up the chance to take their picture with the display of Dani Busboom Kelly's jersey?









Are you struggling with getting your kids to power down their devices at night? Screen time can impact sleep, but small changes can make a big difference! This article shares tips for helping your children get the rest they need.
https://trst.in/XbXoXW

Recently a lesson in 3rd grade library class focused on chapter book series. The students were surprised to learn that many of those series are in hardcover format in our libraries because of the Scholastic Book Fair. They were very appreciative of knowing about the series & of all of the people who patronize our book fair each year. So from all of us, thank you for your continued support of our fairs!

Scholastic Book Fair

DECEMBER 7-11 8 AM-4:30 PM

@ DAVENPORT BUILDING

ALSO OPEN MONDAY UNTIL 7PM & FOR WINTER CONCERT ON THURSDAY





JH Girls Basketball has started! Pictured from Left to Right:

Back Row: Coach-Logan Zeleny, Aaliyah Wessels, Allison Mussman, Oakleigh Morris-Vernon, Kraegan Zajic, Ellie Manes, Ellie Heinrichs, Coach-Connor Poppe.
Front Row: Student Manager-Alicia Fonseca, Laelynn Schlichtman, Rileigh Carlson, Mylah Schoenholz, Student Manager-Kaelyn Schoenholz

From the weight deck:

School Records-
Rylan Trapp in the Dead Lift
Blake Miller in the Power Clean

Chart on the Wall 3 Lifts
Blake Miller

Chart on the Wall 2 Lifts
Colt Crockett
Rylan Trapp
Hayden Schlichtman
Bradley Jacobitz
Kyler Koch
Mikey Pena Lopez

Chart on the Wall 1 Lift
Sam Dana
Peter Mateo
Ben Manes
Traevon Houser
Brayden Philippi
Carter Voss



PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE

MADE & SOLD BY THE CLASS OF 2030

$20 PER 9X13 PAN

CONTACT
LBALKE@BDSTORM.ORG
TO ORDER.

AVAILABLE AFTER DECEMBER 5TH. CHEESECAKES COME FROZEN AND READY TO BAKE!!

SANTA GRAM FUNDRAISER

Adults $5 Students $1

to have our middle school students
sing a Christmas song
to a school staff member!



WANT MORE THAN ONE SANTA GRAM?

YOU CAN DONATE MORE THAN ONCE!

The more you donate, the more
Santa Grams you can send!

FFA Update: High school and junior high members attended district livestock judging at the York at the end of October. In the Senior Division, Traevon Houser received a blue and Eva Oltmans got a red. In the Junior division, Briar Miller, Paisley Follmer, and Carter Voss earned red. This competition also gave our junior high members a great opportunity to participate. They started the day with a group activity before stepping into the ring to judge the animals. Rustin Ozenbaugh received 8th, Kaleb Follmer 42nd, and Gage Ramsey 49th.

Some of our members attended the Water Tower Welding Contest in York. At the contest, they practiced SMAW and GMAW processes and took a test over the process they performed.

The chapter has been working hard fabricating and practicing our Leadership Development Events (LDEs) and are gearing up for the district competition on December 16th. Our members will be delivering their LDEs on December 14th at our third annual LDE showcase night at 7pm at the Bruning building. Parents and community members are invited to attend this night!

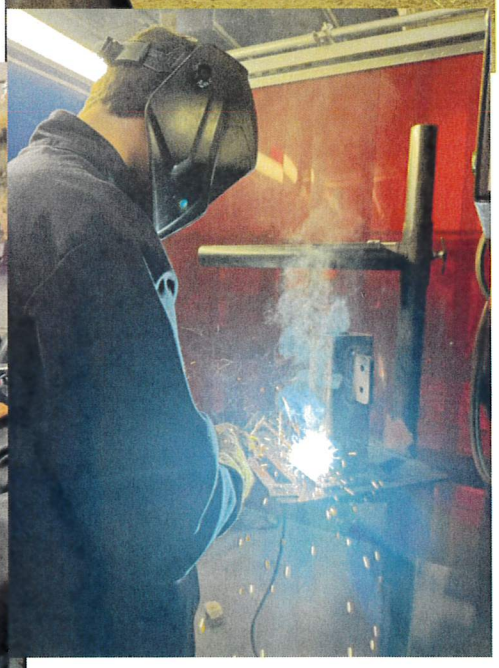
BD FFA Reporter Emma Hoins











BE STORM STRONG

Gratitude

Boosts Your Mood:
Having gratitude releases dopamine & seratonin - brain chemicals linked to happiness.



Physical Well-Being:
Improves sleep, supports heart health, and encourages healthy habits like daily exercise.





Social & Relaionship Benefits:
Show the people in your life you are thankful for them. Gratitude helps you notice and appreciate the people in your life.



Practice Being Grateful:
Journal about things you are grateful for. Write letters to people expressing how grateful you are for them.

BE SAFE • BE RESPECTFUL • BE RESPONSIBLE

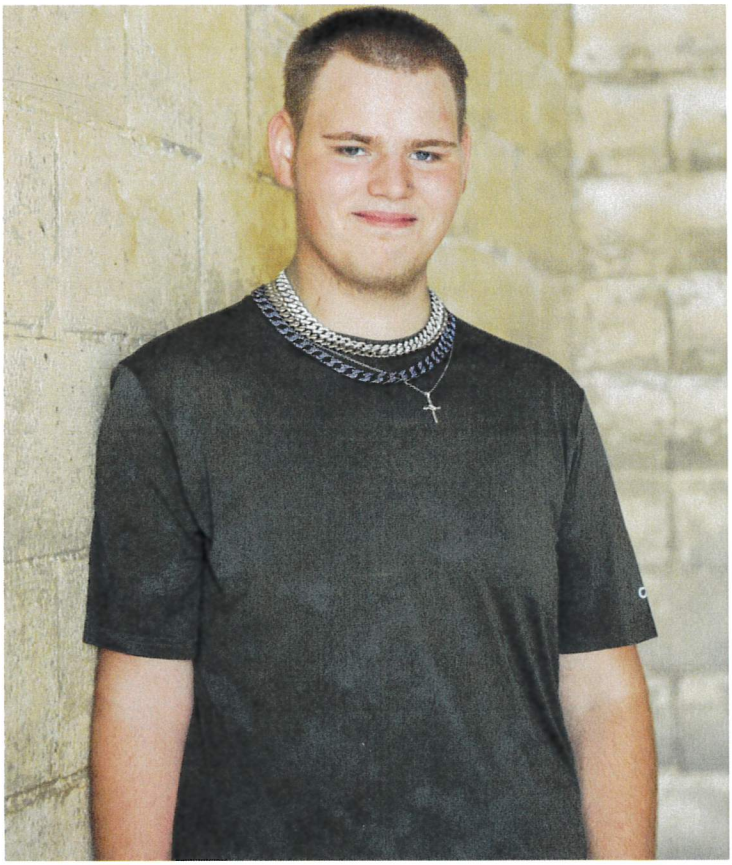
MENTORS WANTED & NEEDED

TeamMates has arrived in our district. This school-based mentoring program has been changing lives in Nebraska and beyond for 35 years. It's a great way for caring adults to make a lasting impact in the life of a student with just 30-45 minutes a week. We are excited to get started and give our students the opportunity to experience the lifelong benefits of TeamMates involvement. If you are interested in making a difference in the life of a Bruning-Davenport student, please contact coordinator Lori Balke at lbalke@bdstorm.org or 402-239-7182.

TEAMMATES℠
MENTORING

Meet A 26-27 Senior!!

Meet Shawn Sunday. He is the grandson of Mary Houser. Shawn has 2 sisters, Shakira and Jamie, and 1 brother, Damian. He is involved in FFA at school. Outside of school he attends youth group at a church in Superior, Nebraska. Shawn's interests include driving around, welding, mowing, and fixing things for his grandma. After high school he plans to enter the workforce. Shawn's favorite foods are steak and tacos, his favorite television show is Family Guy, his favorite song is "Firework" by Katie Perry, and his favorite place to go is in his vehicle. Shawn says the most influential people in his life are his grandma and his teachers because he knows they care about him.



GENERAL FUND BILLS

11/9/26

Ameritas Life Insurance	465.40
Ameritas Life Insurance (10 Month)	75.50
Cornerstone Bank/Direct Deposit	7,193.05
Internal Revenue Service	63,989.08
Nebraska Department of Revenue	8,557.53
Nebraska Public Employees Retirement System	41,116.52
Accelerated Receivables Solutions	553.14
AFLAC	187.72
AFLAC (10 Month)	148.24
American Funds Service Company	200.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield	85,961.74
Horace Mann Life Ins. Co.	459.66
Horace Mann Life Insurance Company	550.00
Payflex Account #304734	1,600.00
Auto Glass Experts, LLC	395.00
Black Hills Energy	2,235.00
Bruning Grocery Inc	742.13
Bruning Transition Fund	1,300.54
Burton Enterprises, LLC	39.00
Certified Truck & Trailer Repair, Inc.	8,721.78
DAS State Accounting-Central Finance	321.20
Davenport Building Supply	168.18
Davenport Transition Fund	3,106.09
Dietze Music House	1,350.47
Diversified Safety Compliance	279.00
Eakes Office Plus	483.95
EcoLab Food Safety	225.00
Educational Service Unit #5	18,662.10
Fiber Platform, LLC	1,394.45
Gaylen Energy Supply	12,207.80
Geneva Tire & Auto, Inc	66.70
Go Physical Therapy	2,354.74
Hastings Tribune	135.00
Heartland Roofing Consultants	978.75
Hebron True Value	6.79
Jostens	137.60
JW Pepper	291.84
KSB School Law, PC, LLO	67.50
Madison National Life Ins. Co. Inc.	4,205.47
Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc.	951.17
Mid-American Research Chemical	1,227.50
Mierau & Co.	745.00
Milligan Towing	329.50
NE Council of School Administrators	180.00
Nicks's Farm Store	143.66
Noel Lawn Care	688.79
Nutrien Ag Solutions	1,122.17
Omnify Benefits	80.50
Orkin	161.03
Pitney Bowes Financial Services	139.62
Rasmussen Mechanical Services	1,561.41
Ruth Kowalski	143.88
Southeast Community College	3,525.98
Straight Line Motor Works	7,144.11
Truck Center Companies	1,236.32
US Bank	1,173.66
Village of Bruning	542.14
Village of Davenport	2,126.21
Village Uniform	363.42
Voss Plumbing Inc	1,212.10
VVS Inc-Canteen	457.95
Wells Fargo Pymt Remittance Center	481.28
Wells Fargo Pymt Remittance Center	1,017.25
Wells Fargo Pymt Remittance Center	1,259.73
Wells Fargo Pymt Remittance Center	531.02
Western Oil II LLC	5,840.32
Windstream	145.59
Woodward's Disposal Service Inc	65.00
Payable Checks	**305,529.97**
Payroll	**222,886.92**
Total	**528,416.89**

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD MEETING – The Unified Board of Education met in Bruning on November 9, 2026. Pursuant to laws and notices posted on the Bruning-Davenport School's website and also published in The Hebron Journal-Register on November 4, 2026, all proceedings were taken while the meeting was open to the public.

President Jerry Baysinger called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Unified members present were Sarah Krehnke, Ryan Miller, Aaron Oltmans, Trey Strong, and Brad Williams. Local board members present were Baxter Beals, Tony Norder, Ryne Philippi, Lon Schoenholz, and Derek Shaner. Superintendent Kelly Lampe, Principal Melinda Kerwood, Principal Ruth Kowalski, Erika Brinegar, and Beth Dolnicek were also present.

Baysinger welcomed all guests, recognized the Open Meetings Act, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Consent Agenda included the agenda, minutes from the October 12, 2026, Unified Board meetings, Treasurer's Report, and the November claims. Sarah Krehnke moved, seconded by Brad Williams, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, with the correction to the Superintendent's Report to read, "Daycare financials were reported."
Roll Call Vote (6-0)

Principal Kerwood's Report – Lots of activities going on in the Davenport building – Started Middle School Student of the Week. This month's are Ryann Messman, Asher Peterson, Greyson Strong, AJ Barney, and Mylah Schoenholz – Recognized the following staff for going above and beyond in October: Beth Ardissono, Tara Voss, Britany Renz, DeEtta Christensen, and Lori Balke

Principal Kowalski's Report – One-Act will be performing on November 13th in Davenport and Shickley's – Christmas concert is December 10th in Davenport - Community dinner is November 19 in Bruning – Basketball jamboree is November 30th

President's report – met with the Fillmore County Supervisor – trying to get more exact numbers from the architect

Superintendent Lampe's Report – looking to get more training on Instructional Coaching – continuous discussion about having a spirit squad/cheerleaders – classroom cameras are up and running in Davenport, almost ready in Bruning – Shout-out to Ruth and Melinda for running a smooth show in their buildings

Action Items: (All motions require a roll call vote and all are carried 5-0 unless noted.)

A. Williams moved, seconded by Trey Strong, to approve Catherine Kimbrough as a substitute teacher.
B. Ryan Miller moved, seconded by Krehnke, to approve the resignation of Jodie Bjorkman.

Aaron Oltmans moved, seconded by Miller, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM.

_____
Erika Brinegar, Recording Secretary

LUNCH MENU



December 2026

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 NO SCHOOL	2 Breakfast Sandwich Hash Browns Juice	3 Chicken Wrap Lettuce/Cheese/Salsa Chips & Cheese	4 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce Green Beans Garlic Bread	5
6	7 Chinese Chicken Rice Broccoli	8 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tomato Soup Celery/Carrots	9 Beef & Noodles Mashed Potatoes Corn Dinner Roll	10 Chicken Fajita Bowl Lettuce/Cheese/Salsa Churro	11 Pulled Pork Sandwich Baked Beans Chips Pickle Spear	12
13	14 Mac N Cheese w/ Little Smokies Broccoli Buttered Bread	15 Tater Tot Casserole Green Beans Dinner Roll	16 French Toast Sticks Hash Browns Sausage Juice	17 Popcorn Chicken Bowl Corn Cornbread	18 Hamburger on Bun Chips Fruit Cup	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Christmas Break

Christmas Break

	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*** EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER	Davenport: --F/V Bar Daily --Chef Salad Meal Option for 5-8th & Adults	

BRUNING-DAVENPORT USD

DECEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 No School District One-Act @ Davenport Bldg. JH GBB @ Red Cloud 6:00PM	2	3 JH GBB Heartland/Hampton @ Dav 4:00PM FFA Launch Program @ UNL	4 HS G/B BB @ Blue Hill (V) 6:00/7:30 JV TBA	5 JH GBB Tourney @ Dorchester 9:00AM HS G/B BB East Butler @ Bru (V) 3:00/4:30 JV TBA
6	7 Book Fair @ Davenport JH GBB @ Cross Co. 4:00/5:15 Public On-Act Performace & Soup Supper @ Davenport 5:30PM	8 HS G/B BB @ Diller-Odell (V) 6:00/7:30 JV TBA	9 NSAA Play Production Championships @ Norfolk	10 Christmas Concert @ Davenport 6:30PM	11 HS G/B BB vs Dorchester @ Dav (V) 6:00/7:30 JV TBA	12 HS G/B BB @ Law/Nel (Nelson) (V) 3:00/4:30 JV TBA
13	14 FFA LDE Showcase NIght @ Bruning Library 7PM Board Meeting @ Davenport 7:30PM	15	16 NHS Blood Drive @ Opera House 11AM-5PM FFA District LDE's @ Concordia	17 JH GBB McCool JCt @ Bru 2:00pm HS G/B BB @ York (Fr & So) 6:00/7:30	18 End of 2nd Quarter 1:00PM Dismissal HS G/B BB Cross Co. @ Dav (V) 6:007:30	19 HS G/B BB @ Lincoln Lutheran (V) 3:00/4:30 JV TBA
20	21 No School - Christmas Break	22 HS G/B BB @ Silver Lake (V) 3:00/4:30 JV TBA	23	24 Gym Moratorium Dec 24-28	25	26
27	28 No School - Christmas Break	29	30	31		
Gym Moratorium		Tekamah-Herman Holiday Tournament - TBA				
		Notes: ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE				

BRUNING-DAVENPORT USD
NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2026