

Callaway Public School 2025-2026

Open House: Come help us celebrate back to school Wednesday, August 13, 2025 from 5:30-7:00pm. Incoming seventh graders will have orientation from 5:00-5:30pm in the Learning Center. Please have a parent attend with the student at orientation. Meet your teachers and bring supplies. Supper will be provided. Come check out what's new at school! Back to school packets will be available for pick up.

Welcome Back: The first day of school for Pre-K-12 students will be on Thursday, August 14, 2025. School will start at 8:00am and end at 3:44pm for K-12 grades. Breakfast and lunch will be served. Buses will run their regular routes. Regular school hours for K-12 will be 8:00am to 3:44pm, Monday through Thursday. Friday dismissals will be at 2:40pm. Preschool age 3 will be from 8:00am to 11:00am Monday through Thursday and Preschool age 4 will be from 12:15pm to 3:44 Monday through Thursday with a 2:40 dismissal on Friday's.

Students are expected to arrive at school no more than 15-20 minutes prior to the first class or school program in which they are participating. Prior to that time, the school is not responsible for supervision of the students. The doors will remain locked until 7:30am.

MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION FORMS: If your child must take over the counter and/or prescription medication while at school, please fill out a "Caretaker Authorization for Administration Over the Counter Medication of Student" and return to the school office along with the original manufactured bottle with labeling. Each bottle should contain no more than 50 tablets/capsules. Each child needs their own bottle. If your child must take a prescription medication at school, please obtain a form entitled "Provision of Medication to Student Physician's Request for Administration of Prescription Medication by School Personnel." This form must be signed by your medical provider and returned to the school office with the pharmacy labeled medication. Forms are available at the Callaway Public School office.

If your child is able to self manage their own health conditions such as Diabetes, Asthma, Anaphylaxis, etc., please contact the school office for the appropriate forms that need to be kept on file.

SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION RULES AND REGULATIONS: If your child receives immunizations throughout the year, please make sure to report the date of the immunization to the office to be kept in your child's records.

STUDENT ABSENCES: If your **child can not** come to school **for any reason**, please make sure to **contact the school office at 308-836-2272 before 8:20 a.m.** If the school office is not contacted, then your child will be considered **UNEXCUSED**. An absence which is not excused is unexcused. If a student's absence is **UNEXCUSED** the student may receive **ZEROS** for any class work missed during the absence, and may be required to make-up work and the time missed.

School Lunch Program: Breakfast and lunch will be served on the first day of school for students in grades K-12. Each Student/Staff will have a 4 digit lunch code that they will need to know in order to go through the lunch line.

Lunch prices for the 2025-2026 school year will be K-6 \$2.95, 7-12 \$3.10, and Adults \$4.25. Breakfast price \$2.50. An extra carton of milk will be \$.45. Seconds will cost an additional \$.80. An extra juice will be \$.40. Parents with Pre-school, Kindergarten and First grade students will be charged an additional \$10.00 per month for snacks.

All meals should be prepaid... charges will not be accepted. Payment for lunches must be made in advance.

FEDERAL LUNCH APPLICATION: Everyone is strongly encouraged to fill out an application. If you did not receive an application or have questions filling out the application, please call the school at 836-2272. Families may apply any time during the school year. As required by law, all information is completely confidential.

Charge Policy for Callaway Public Schools: Callaway Public Schools is a provider of the USDA's School meal program. Parents are expected to keep their students' lunch account balance up to date. Notifications will be sent home when lunch balances reach \$10.00 or below. Once a student has a negative balance notifications will be sent daily until the balance is brought back to positive balance.

Households can apply for **Free and Reduced Meal** benefits at anytime throughout the year. Applications are available at the school.

For lunch balances over \$500.00 parents will be notified that they need to make payment arrangements with the school. If payment arrangements are not made and followed through on the negative accounts will result in legal action.

The School Food Authority or the Administration will make exceptions to this policy on a case by case basis.

Charges to a family's account include; breakfast, lunch, snacks(prek-1st) and seconds. **Please note that seconds and snacks do not fall under the Free and Reduced lunch guidelines.**

The Callaway School Administration reserves the right to pursue legal action to collect on overdue accounts. Past due accounts may be modified at the discretion of administration.

This will be the policy for grades Pre-K -12.

Student Handbook: Both parents and all students in the family who are in school, should sign the form included with the handbook. High School students will be required to return all completed paperwork before being allowed to take their chromebook home. Paperwork will be handed out on the first day of school to the youngest child in your family. All paperwork must be received by Tuesday, August 19th.

School Insurance: Students will also be receiving an insurance flyer the first day of school explaining the 24-hour, school-time, dental, life, and football coverage. If you would like to be covered under this policy, please follow the link on the flyer.

Picture Day: Picture Day will be held on August 21, 2025.

Chromebook Loan Agreement and User's Fee: The computer loan agreement will be part of the packet of forms and information that you receive from the school. Parents are to read and sign the agreement if you wish to have your student or students have the use of a computer in and out of school. This would be a great time to talk to your student about your expectations while they are online. Students will read and go over their part of the agreement with Mrs. Gaffney the first day of school; they will also sign the agreement if they would like to use the school's computer during the school year. There is a \$25 user fee for all computers and chromebooks that are issued to students. This fee will cover the use of a computer for one school year.

Callaway Public Schools has purchased software which will allow the Chromebooks to be filtered and monitored 24 hours a day. Classroom teachers will also be able to monitor the use of Chromebooks in their classrooms.

Bus Notes: Students not on regular routes who will be riding the bus, students transported to another stop, or town students wishing to use the school transportation must turn in a written note, from their parent or guardian, to the office to be approved prior to the time transportation is needed. Students, who do not have a note, will not be able to ride. This is in compliance with state law and school policy.

Locked Doors: For the safety of the students, the School Board decided to leave all doors locked during the school day. After 8:00am all doors will be locked and you must use the front doors. You will need to be buzzed into the school. Please ring the buzzer and wait for the office to let you in. All visitors are required to check in at the office.

Asbestos in the School: This notice is being written to inform you that our school district does have a limited amount of asbestos in our facility. All the areas with asbestos are covered and in good shape. The building will be inspected on a regular basis to ensure no asbestos exposure. A management plan to contain or remove the asbestos has been developed and sent to the Nebraska Department of Health. If you should have more questions concerning the asbestos plan, please feel free to discuss your concerns with the Superintendent. The asbestos management plan is located in the central office.

Lost and Found: Throughout the year we get an accumulation of clothes, shoes, coats, jewelry, house keys, etc. If your child has lost or misplaced anything, please check at the main office or at the athletic office. Parents, it would also help if you put your child's name on clothing, especially coats, as we end up with an assortment at the end of the year. Any item not claimed at the end of the year, will be taken to Goodwill.

2025-2026 School Physicals: Students entering Kindergarten, 7th, and 9th grades or new to the school district are required to have a school physical prior to the beginning of the school year. All 7th through 12th graders who plan on participating in any extra curricular activities, weights, or PE classes must have a school physical completed before participating.

Superintendent's Corner:

Summer is a lot like waiting in line for a roller coaster ride. Some of our kids just can't wait to get in and start the ride and some are looking for the side exit hoping summer might last a little bit longer. The school year, like a roller coaster, is going to have its ups and downs. You are going to feel like losing your cookies a couple of times. But, you will feel satisfied and relieved when you get to the end. For this month's corner I want to highlight a few things that we sometimes take for granted and I want to start with my guiding theme for the year.

Each school year I try to come up with a mantra. Something that will focus my efforts and help me prioritize my decisions and actions. A couple of years ago it was "Excellence isn't an Accident" and last year was "You Can Make a Perfect System with Imperfect Parts." My hope is that when we start a new year with a new slogan we don't just drop the old ones. I still believe that none of us are perfect, but if we all are in it for our kids and we give each other some grace we can make a perfect school. I also think if you're not trying to improve every day you shouldn't expect to be excellent at anything. Excellence isn't born of anything other than a willingness to grind until you get there and to keep grinding so you can stay there.

My theme for 2025-26 is "The Year of No Justs." It is overly simple when you say it, but upon analysis it really pushes me. Think about the times you use the word "just" in your vernacular. It is almost always used to diminish yourself or others. It is a place holder. It lowers expectations and contains assumed excuses. How often have we heard, "she is just a freshman, he is just a custodian, they are just teachers, she is just a secretary." This list can go on and on, but should it? Even worse is when you hear someone start with "I'm just..." When I hear "just a teacher," I think if this year's valedictorian address where a couple of teachers were given the credit for a young lady, with boundless potential, being ready for her next challenge. I think of the face of a young man the Monday after a big hockey game because his teacher thought he would love the experience. I think of a picture of our kids on a stage in Florida being crowned National Champions. There are examples all over our school that prove we don't have one person who is "just a teacher."

In my 28 years working around kids I have learned that they will almost always clear whatever bar you set for them. Let's quit using "Just." It only lowers the bar. Celebrate when your student is challenged. If they are nervous about a big test that is a good thing. Instead of "He JUST doesn't get it," say "He doesn't get it yet." It sounds the same, but in one phrase the work is over and we are ready to quit and in the other the work is just beginning and failure really isn't an option. Help us have a year of "No Justs" at CPS. I think our students are really going to impress everyone.

To wrap up this corner I just want to give a shout out to those who keep a school going during the quiet time. Our custodial staff has spread enough paint to cover the whole town. We have made some changes in how we celebrate our accomplishments and we are ready, no we are excited, to show our kids their school. I am blessed with an office staff that keeps the ship floating and heading in the right direction. As we work on budgets, roll from one school year to another, and get our kids schedules plugged in, I think about all the hours and effort that goes on behind the scenes. For some of our staff you only notice our work when we make a mistake so no noise is good news! When you see our drivers, custodians, office staff, kitchen ladies, etc. please help me to let them know how much we appreciate them. It is a little cliché, but they truly are the bones of our school and we couldn't do it without them.

So, bring it on 25-26. Let the ride begin. We are ready!

2025-2026 School Event Calendar

July 2025					
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	10	11	12
14	15	16	17	18	19
21	22	23	24	25	26
28	29	30	31		

August 2025					
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30

September 2025					
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30				

October 2025					
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18
20	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31	

November 2025					
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1
3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29

December 2025					
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30	31			

July

August

September

October

November

December

	1:30 Dismissal
	2:40 Dismissal
	Teacher Inservice
	End of Quarter
	No School

January 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

January

February

March

April

May

June

1-2	No School Christmas Break
5	Teacher Inservice
6	School Resumes
21	1:30 Dismissal PD
23	Teacher Workday- SL Wrestling Meet

12	1:30 Dismissal- PTC 2-8
13	No School
18	1:30 Dismissal PD

11	End of Quarter 3- 2:40 Dismissal
12-13	No School Spring Break
18	1:30 Dismissal PD

2	2:40 Dismissal
3	No School Good Friday
6	No School Easter Monday
10	Teacher Workday- SL Track Meet/Golf Meet
15	1:30 dismissal PD

10	Graduation
20	Last Day of School 1:30 Dismissal

	Staff	Student
Qtr 1	48	44
Qtr 2	41	40
Qtr 3	47	45
Qtr 4	46	45
Sem 1	89	84
Sem 2	93	90
Total	182	174

Callaway Public Schools Supply List

Please label all items!

Preschool:

Mrs. Hickenbottom

- Backpack
- Extra set of clothes to stay in backpack
- 8 pack of crayons
- 4 glue sticks

Kindergarten:

Mrs. Ross

- Book bag
- Pencil box
- 3 pencils
- Eraser
- Water bottle to be left at school
- 3 glue sticks
- Box of 24 crayons
- Headphones no ear buds
- Gym shoes

First Grade:

Mrs. Meyer

- Backpack
- 4x6 plastic pencil box
- 1 box of 12 colored pencils
- 1 box of 24 crayons
- 1 pk of yellow #2 pencils
- 1 pair of scissors
- 2 pink erasers
- 6 glue sticks
- Headphones (no ear buds)
- Extra pair of clothes (socks also) in a labeled Ziploc bag
- Gym shoes

Second Grade:

Mrs. Anderson

- Only Yellow #2 Pencils (6 or more)
- 1 package of pencil top erasers
- 1 pencil box
- 1" - 3 ring binder with clear outside cover
- 24 count box of colored pencils
- 1 package of Crayola markers
- 4 Composition notebook - wide ruled
- 3 small glue sticks
- 1 pair of child scissors
- Headphones no ear buds
- 1 3 ring zipper pouch
- 2 pocket folders
- Gym shoes

Third Grade:

Mrs. Brogan

- 12 pencils only yellow #2
- 4 glue sticks
- Headphones no earbuds
- 1 box colored pencils
- 4 composition wide ruled notebooks
- 5 plastic folders with pockets
- 1-1" 3 ring view binder with pockets
- Gym shoes
- Folder with brads
- 1 box of markers
- 1 package of wide ruled notebook paper
- 1 pencil box
- 1 package of pencil top erasers

Please turn over ...

Fourth Grade:

Mrs. Rush

- 4-5 Pencils (not mechanical)
- Erasers
- 1 green pocket folders
- 1 red pens
- Headphones/ear buds
- 1 inch 3 ring view binder white
- 2 - 7Oct. spiral notebooks
- Pencil box or bag
- 1 glue stick
- 1 pack of colored pencils
- Gym shoes

Fifth Grade:

Mrs. Sallach

- 5 Pencils
- 1 Eraser
- Scissors
- Colored pencils
- 1 pocket folders
- ruler
- Pencil bag
- 1 notebook
- 2 highlighters
- Headphones/ear buds
- Gym shoes

Sixth Grade:

Mrs. Weber

- Pencil box/pouch
- 1 package pencils
- 2 big erasers
- 12 pack Colored pencils
- 2 highlighters
- different colors
- 3 pocket folders
- Scientific calculator
- Ti-30XIIS
- Headphones/earbuds
- 1 spiral notebook
- Gym shoes

Seniors: Mrs. Sughayar

- 1 box of resume paper
- 1 box of Clear plastic report covers
- Accordion style file folder
- Binder with loose leaf paper

Mrs. Svenson

- Calculator
- 3 ring notebook
- Loose leaf, lined paper
- Pencils

7th grade: Miss Popp

- 2 yards of cotton fabric

JH Mrs. Leibhart:

- Ear buds/headphones
- Loose leaf paper

9-12 English - Mrs.

Espinosa

- 1 pack loose leaf paper
- 1 pack red pens
- 4 different colors of highlighters
- 1 pack of book tabs
- 5 packs of post it notes
- 1 1 inch binder

AUGUST 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Breakfast Pizza Hamburgers	15 Grab & Go Tacos	16
17	18 Tornados Pulled Pork Sand- wich	19 Breakfast Sandwich Tater tot Casserole	20 Cinni Mini Popcorn Chicken Bowl	21 Breakfast Bars Spaghetti	22 Grab & Go Walking Taco	23
24	25 Sausage Tri-tator Chicken Wraps	26 Long Johns French Dips	27 Pancake on a Stick Pizza	28 Breakfast Burrito Chicken Alfredo	29 No School	30

BREAKFAST
INCLUDES:
MILK, JUICE, OR
FRUIT AND MAIN
BREAKFAST ITEM.
BREAKFAST WILL
NOT BE SERVED
ON 10:00
STARTS.

Breakfast: \$2.50
Lunch: \$2.95
7-12: \$3.10
Adults: \$4.25
Extra Milk: \$.45
Seconds: \$.80
Extra Juice: \$.40

Breakfast & Lunch Menu

Lunch Includes: Veggie/Fruit Bar and Milk

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Callaway Public Schools

Mon Aug 11, 2025

All day Teacher In-Service

Tue Aug 12, 2025

All day Teacher In-Service

Wed Aug 13, 2025

All day Open House

All day Teacher In-Service

Thu Aug 14, 2025

8am First Day of School!

Fri Aug 15, 2025

12:30pm Teammate Board Meeting

Thu Aug 21, 2025

8am School Pictures

Tue Aug 26, 2025

8am Science and Math River Trip

7pm FCCLA Kick Off Meeting

Wed Aug 27, 2025

8am Senior help with Kite Flight Prep

Thu Aug 28, 2025

■ 8am JH State Fair Marching

■ 10am Cross Country @ Burwell

■ 8pm Football @ Hemingford

Fri Aug 29, 2025

All day No School -Teacher In-Service



BOOSTER CLUB



CALLAWAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Callaway Booster Club is a nonprofit organization, consisting of parents, grandparents, alumni, community members, businesses, and school personnel. The Booster Club has been supporting our students for over 25 years.

Our Booster Club Supports all aspect of our Callaway students through raising funds and coordinating events.

The Booster Club is dedicated to fundraising, to support all Callaway Students Pre-K through 12th grade. We need your support, so the Booster Club can continue to make financial contributions to our Callaway Students. Please join today!! Your membership is valid for the 2025-2026 school year.

Please fill out the following and return with money!! Thanks for your support!!
Callaway Booster Club, PO Box 281, Callaway, NE 68825

- *FIELD TRIPS
- *BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT
- *TEACHER APPRECIATION
- *YOUTH BASKETBALL, WRESTLING & VOLLEYBALL
- *TRUNK OR TREAT
- *HOMECOMING FOOD
- *FUND GRADUATION DECORATIONS
- *ICE CREAM MACHINE AT SCHOOL
- *ONE ACT STAGE
- *WEIGHT ROOM
- EQUIPMENT & PROTEIN SNACKS
- *STUDENT SNACKS FOR DISTRICT & STATE EVENTS
- *SPONSORED KIDS ON WASHINGTON DC & FCCLA NATIONAL TRIPS
- *SPONSORED AUTHOR VISIT AT SCHOOL
- *BAND ROOM INSTRUMENTS
- *Comfort dog Laney, in the 2024/2025 school year as a student support initiative
- *2025 Elementary Inflatable Day, celebrating improved test scores

Membership Levels

\$15-49- Bronze Booster Member

\$50-99- Silver Booster Member

\$100-up- Gold Booster Member

NAME: _____

BUSINESS NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/ZIP _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL _____

Board members are:

President: Rhonda Pandorf, 308.325.4493

Secretary: Roni Boeser, 308.636.8947

Treasurer: Erin Reiff, 308.289.3060

School Representative: Jenn Hickenbottom

BOXHOLDER
The Bobcat
Callaway Public Schools

P.O. Box 280
101 N. Needham

Callaway, NE 68825

Phone: 308-836-2273

Website: callawaypublicschools.org



Welcome Back!!
First Day of School
August 14th