Oakland-Craig Public Schools

Junior-Senior High & Business Office
309 N. Davis Avenue
Oakland, NE 68045-0105
Phone: 402-685-5661

www.ocknights.org
Fax: 402-685-5697

Elementary School
400 N. Brewster Ave.
Oakland, NE 68045
Phone:402-685-5631

"Home of the Oakland-Craig Knights"

Dear Oakland-Craig Families,

It is with great pride and excitement that I welcome you to the 2025-2026 school year as the new principal at Oakland-Craig Elementary. While I am new to this role, I am certainly not new to this incredible school community. For the past 5 years, I have had the privilege of serving as a 5th and 6th grade teacher right here in this district. During that time, I came to deeply value the strong relationships among our students, staff, and families. This sense of connection and shared purpose is one of the reasons I'm honored to continue my journey in education as principal at Oakland-Craig Elementary. We will continue to be committed to working with all of you in ensuring that our school meets the diverse needs of all of our learners where we develop and celebrate academic, personal, athletic, and artistic achievement. By continuing to work together, we can succeed in helping our students reach their full potential.

There are some other notable changes this school year at Oakland-Craig Elementary. First, we have a new 3rd grade teacher, Jadin Ostrand. Jadin will start her teaching journey right here at Oakland-Craig and we are so excited to have her as part of our team. David Eriksen will be our new PE teacher. David is an Oakland-Craig graduate and previously worked at Tekamah-Herman schools. Another new face in our building is Lauren Krutilek. Lauren will be one of our elementary special education teachers. She is coming to us from the ESU 2 Independent School. We would also like to welcome back Korri Veskerna. Korri will be returning to Oakland-Craig Elementary as a 6th grade teacher. Listed below you will see some familiar names teaching different grades this school year.

Kindergarten – Tawnya Meyer
1st Grade – Natalie Guenther
4th Grade – Jen Anderson
4th Grade – Jane Nincehelser

School will begin for K-6 students on Thursday, August 14 at 8:20 a.m. and will dismiss at 11:50 a.m. Please note that our first day WILL NOT be a full day of school and there will be no lunch or breakfast served. During the 2025-2026 school year, school will begin at 8:20 a.m. and will be dismissed at 3:25 p.m. Friday dismissal will be at 2:20 p.m. Doors will open for breakfast at 7:45 a.m. Please do not drop your child off before 7:30 a.m. as there is no supervision. Preschool will begin on Monday, August 18 with the AM class from 8:10-11:40 a.m. and the PM session from 12:10-3:40 p.m. Please note that there is no preschool on Fridays.

Another notable change is that there will no longer be an After School Program this year. We understand this change may affect your family's routine, and we appreciate your understanding and flexibility as we transition. Please note that although dismissal is at 3:25 p.m., students may remain on campus until 4:00 p.m. if needed to allow for a more flexible pickup window. On

Fridays, students must be picked up by 2:45 p.m. During this time, students will be supervised in a safe and structured environment.

As we prepare for the start of the school year, I want to share a few important details about our upcoming Back to School Night for all students PK-6 on Tuesday, August 12 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. This year, we're trying something new–**school pictures will be taken during Back to School Night**. This change allows students to look their very best during pictures and avoids taking away from valuable learning time. Enclosed with this letter is information on how to order pictures. In addition to school photos, this night will be a great opportunity for students to meet their teachers, tour the facilities, and bring in their school supplies. We will have various tables with information regarding Title I Reading/Math, lunch money, and more. We encourage you to stop at each table. If you ordered school supplies from the SchoolKidz supply kit company, those will be delivered to the school and will be in your child's classroom during Back to School Night.

We highly encourage families to apply for free/reduced meals. Those that don't fill out the application will pay full price for meals. We strongly encourage you to fill out the enclosed application now and return it to the office prior to school starting in August. Meal prices for the 2025-2026 school year:

- Breakfast for all students - $1.85
- Lunch for elementary students - $3.05
- Milk - $0.55

I look forward to learning and growing with you and your children throughout this exciting school year. As Principal, my door is always open and I welcome your input. Please feel free to stop in or call to make an appointment to discuss any concerns, suggestions, or ideas to help make this the best year yet!

Sincerely,

Becky Rennerfeldt
Elementary Principal
brennerfeldt@ocknights.org
(402) 685-5631