

Overton Public School
P.O. Box 310, 401 7th St.
Overton, NE 68863-0310



Mark A. Aten, *Superintendent*
Brian Fleischman, *PS-4 Principal /*
Activities Director
William Johnson, *5-12 Principal*
Jody Skallberg, *Counselor*

Phone (308) 987-2424

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www.overtoneagles.org

Greetings from Mr. Fleischman's Office

The fall seasons are wrapping up and winter seasons will begin before we know it. As we reach the midway point of 1st semester, remember students to remain vigilant with your classwork and thank you parents for remaining involved in your child's education. The education of our students is truly a team effort and our students are lucky to have supportive teachers and parents behind them.

Upcoming Events:

October 21st: VB @ Kearney Catholic 5:30/6:30PM
October 23rd: 1st Round of FB Playoffs
October 27-28th: VB Sub-Districts @ TBD
October 29th: Freshmen to NCTA
October 30th: Halloween Concert 7PM
October 31st: 2nd Round of FB Playoffs
November 1st: VB District Finals
November 3rd - 6th: Book Fair
November 6th-8th: State VB @ Lincoln
November 10th: Music Booster Mtg. 6:30PM
November 10th: School Board Mtg. 7:30PM
November 11th: Veterans Day Program 10AM (coffee/rolls 9:30AM)

Reminders:

- With the seasons changing, I would like to remind parents to help us by ensuring your child is prepared properly for the elements. Hats, gloves, heavy coats, boots, etc. need to be worn when necessary. We have outside recess as much as possible. A quick check of the weather in the morning will allow you to properly prepare your child for the day's weather. If there is snow on the ground, students need to have snow pants and boots to be able to play in the snow. If they do not have these, they will have to stay out of the snow at recess. Thank you for your help with this matter.
- When students are going to be gone from school, they need to come to the office to get an advanced make-up slip. We also need a note from the parents stating the reason they will be gone. Homework must be done prior to the absence or it will be subject to grading as a late paper. Please remember to call the school when your child is ill and will not be at school. This eliminates the school having to make phone calls to check on student absences. Remember to also bring your doctor's notes to the office when your child is out ill and you visit your family doctor. Thank you for your cooperation.

Thank you for your support of our students, teachers, and staff. The education of a child takes multiple entities working together toward success. Parental support at home is a key component of your child's success. Engaging in meaningful, productive conversations is an excellent way to further this process. Engaging in confrontational, demeaning conversation is an immediate barrier to our success. Let's keep conversations and interactions productive and not create barriers to our students' success.

Educationally yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "BF", followed by a stylized flourish.

Mr. Brian Fleischman, PS-4 Principal/AD
308-987-2424 x111
brian.fleischman@overtoneagles.org

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Update from the MS/HS Principal

Access Period:

A reminder to parents that *Access Period* is available Monday through Thursday from 3:33–3:45 p.m. for all students who need extra help with academic work. All teachers are in their classrooms during this time to assist students. Those who are failing may be required to attend Access Period. The end of the first semester will be here before we know it—let's work together to get those grades as high as possible!

Middle School:

Middle School students are transitioning from fall sports into the wrestling season. As always, I encourage students to participate in a variety of sports and activities. Research consistently shows that students involved in extracurricular activities have better attendance and perform better academically than those who are not involved. Wrestling practice begins Monday, October 20th. Students interested should see Mr. Phelps for details.

Middle School students completed Academic and P.E./Sports locker cleaning on Wednesday, October 15th. We hope a collection of items from the first nine weeks made their way home!

High School:

The last two weeks of October and early November mark Fall Sports post-season games/tournaments. Good Luck Eagles!

In addition to Sports the following are scheduled:

Oct. 21st: Criminal Justice in Action at Hastings CCC

Oct. 22nd: FCCLA District Leadership at North Platte

Oct. 29th: Freshmen to NCTA at Curtis

Oct. 28-31st: FFA at National Convention at Indianapolis

Oct. 30th: Halloween Band Concert

Nov. 2nd: Daylight Savings begins (Fall back, 1 hour).

As always, view <https://www.overtoneagles.org/> for the most updated school information.

If you ever have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Educationally yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Johnson".

Mr. Bill Johnson-5-12 Principal



OVERTON

VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 11TH, 2025

10:00 AM

NORTH GYM

Veterans Breakfast @ 9:30 AM

Cinnamon Rolls & Coffee



The background of the entire poster features a vibrant red curtain with a spotlight shining down from the top center. A large, glowing marquee sign is positioned in the upper half of the image, and the lower half shows rows of red theater seats.

OVERTON SCHOOL

Bookfair
in school library

GRAND OPENING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2 5:00-7:00

MONDAY 11/3 3-7:00

TUESDAY 11/4 3-7:00

WEDNESDAY 11/5 3-5:00

Shop online at
<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/overtonpublicschools>

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SHAMROCK NURSERY

POINSETTIAS



PLEASE ORDER WITH MRS. LOUDON
BY NOV. 5TH!

PRICE: \$20

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE
TO OVERTON GREENHOUSE



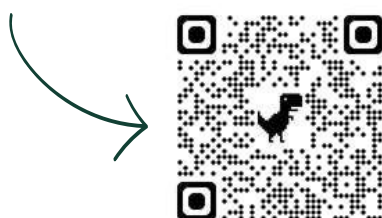
Food & Wine: A Taste of Greece with Julie

Jun 16 – Jun 27, 2027

Up-and-coming wines and Mediterranean meals—the perfect pairing.

See how historic traditions and modern-day culture have swirled together to create Greece's current food and wine scene. Start in Thessaloniki, the country's culinary hub, before heading to the Meteora region to admire its cliffside monasteries and join a guided truffle hunt in the surrounding forest. Then, continue on to Athens to explore some of the nation's ancient wonders. Finally, make your way to Crete, where the area's flavorful cuisine comes to life inside the local markets. From mainland wine regions to island vineyards, you'll experience the wonders of Greek wine while indulging in locally sourced, fresh foods on this small group Food & Wine Tour.

Scan the code or call the number below to sign up and secure your spot today!



1-800-438-7672



Highlights include:

- Thessaloniki
- Epanomi wine tasting
- Meteora monasteries
- Meteora truffle hunt
- Feta cheese factory tour & tasting
- Acropolis
- Cretan cooking class
- Cretan market visit
- Archanes women's co-op
- Iraklio wine tasting



GO AHEAD
TOURS

FFA COAT DRIVE!



We're collecting new or gently used coats from now until **November 10.**

Bring to box by Mr. Aten's or
Mrs. Loudon's room

All kid sizes

We will also take hats and gloves.

Donate to Micah's House



FFA Update - October Edition

This month was a busy one! We had two contests in one day plus concessions.



Our first contest was Land Judging, held in Imperial, NE. Our team placed 11th with Toby Orvis, Mason Dutro, Paige

Walahoski, and Meagan Lassen competing.



We also had livestock judging and poultry judging in Ord, NE. The poultry team came in 4th, just 2 points behind 3rd place. That team was Quinton Anderson, Alex Gibson, Ty Kennicutt, and Cort Lawton. Middle Schoolers were the livestock team, with Connor Hoefener leading the scores.

Mark your calendars for the evening of December 6th, at 7pm in the School Commons Area. We would like to have you there to watch our FFA speeches before we head off to competition on Monday. Light refreshments will be served after.



We would like to extend our gratitude to CR Hay for sponsoring this year's chapter shirts. If you would like to become a sponsor next year, please reach out to Mrs. Loudon! Many thanks also to Creek's Bend Family Farms for sponsoring the pumpkins at our chapter meeting! We had a blast decorating them.

Finally, we want to wish our State Champion Natural Resources team GOOD LUCK as they travel to Indy to compete at Nationals!



Helping Students Learn[®]

Tips Families Can Use to Help Students Do Better in School

Title I-Educational Service Unit 10

MIDDLE SCHOOL



November 2025

Improve reading comprehension by helping your child build skills

When reading to learn, students need to identify the major points in a text. They must also draw *inferences* (use evidence in the text to grasp meaning that is not directly stated). Research shows that about one third of eighth graders struggle to do these things.

To help your student strengthen these important reading skills:

- **Encourage your child to scan** the text before beginning to read. What questions do the headings, graphics and words in bold type raise? After completing the reading, can your child answer the questions?
- **Help your child learn new words.** When encountering unfamiliar words in reading material and in life, suggest that your child write them down, along with their meanings.
- **Ask your child to tell you about** the reading. What was the main point of the chapter or passage? What supporting details did the author provide to back it up?
- **Help your child build reading fluency.** Share short articles that will interest your child. Time your student reading them. Challenge your child to read faster and still identify the main points. Being able to read quickly and easily aids understanding.



Source: "NAEP Reading Assessment 2024," National Assessment of Educational Progress; A.G. Boardman, *Effective Instruction for Adolescent Struggling Readers*, Florida Center for Reading Research.



Support success in meaningful ways

Studies show that middle schoolers benefit when their families are engaged in their education. As your student develops independence, you may be less involved in daily schoolwork, and your engagement can evolve.

Here are three activities which can make a real difference to your middle schooler's achievement:

1. **Setting clear expectations.** When students know their families believe they can learn and expect them to stay in school and give it their best effort, they become more motivated.
2. **Extending learning topics.** Look for related science videos to

watch together, historic sites to visit, plays to act out as a family, projects to manage together, etc.

3. **Planning for the future.** Help your child think about academic and personal strengths and learn about careers that involve them. Together, research the education needed to prepare for them.

Source: D. Viadero, "Scholars: Parent-School Ties Should Shift in Teen Years," *Education Week*.

Sharpen online awareness

Many middle schoolers are unable to tell the difference between factual content online and ads. Teach your child to:

- **Recognize code words.** "Sponsored content" is an ad.
- **Read more.** Sometimes a site will summarize or take one sentence from another source out of context. Reading the original source provides clarification.
- **Follow links.** Do they lead back to trustworthy sources or company pitches?

Source: *Evaluating Information: The Cornerstone of Civic Online Reasoning*, Stanford University History Education Group.

Promote weekend learning

Does your child have too much idle time on weekends? Here are a few ideas to keep your student busy and learning:

- **Cook together.** Offer some recipes to choose from and help your child prepare a simple meal.
- **Start a book club.** Let your child pick a book to read together. Discuss it over a tasty treat.
- **Be hometown tourists.** Ask your child to research interesting local places. Visit and let your child be your guide.



Start off on a career path

Families want children to grow up and find satisfying work that suits their interests. To help your child take the first steps:



- **Urge your student** to discover interests through activities such as school clubs and volunteering.
- **Discuss your own job** experiences. Could your middle schooler shadow you or a coworker at work?
- **Explore career-related classes** your child could take in high school.

Helping Students Learn®

Tips Families Can Use to Help Students Do Better in School



MIDDLE SCHOOL

November 2025

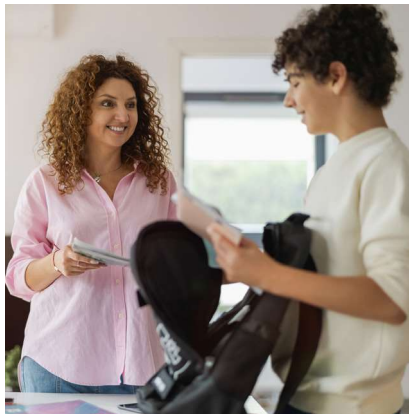


What can I do to find out about my child's school life?

Q: We're a few months into the school year, and I feel out of touch as far as assignments and test schedules go. How can I stay up-to-date without seeming nosy? Should I just leave these things up to my child?

A: You're not being nosy—you're being engaged! Staying aware of what is going on at school is important. To get the information you need:

- **Ask your child** for regular updates on each class. If your student doesn't want to talk about them every day, set aside 15 minutes for a weekly chat. Knowing you are going to ask may motivate your child to keep track. And if a problem is brewing, your child has a built-in time to tell you about it.
- **Read school communications** for families. In addition to letters home, check the website, family portal, social media, emails, etc. If you need help accessing them, ask the office staff.
- **Ask your middle schooler's teachers** if there is a class website or other method for learning about activities in their class.
- **Attend school events and workshops** when you can. You can connect with school staff and other families, and find out more about what is going on at school.



Are you teaching social media safety?

Social media platforms like YouTube, Tik Tok, Snapchat and Instagram are popular with many middle schoolers—and that comes with risk. Are you reinforcing safe rules for social media use? Answer *yes* or *no* below:

1. **Do you check** your child's privacy settings regularly and discuss the dangers of sharing specific personal data?
2. **Do you talk** about why your child should not post or share inappropriate photos or hurtful comments?
3. **Do you explain** that people online may not be who they say they are, and it is not OK to meet them without you?
4. **Do you insist** that your child alert you to hurtful or scary posts by others?

5. **Do you say** that you will monitor your child's online activity from time to time?

How well are you doing?

More yes answers mean you are helping your child learn to use social media responsibly. For each no, try that idea.

"While we try to teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life's all about."

—Angela Schwindt

Enrich everyday activities with a little math practice

Building your child's comfort with math is as easy as working it into activities you already do together. To work on:

- **Measurement**, have your child calculate the area of a room, double a recipe, measure books for a new shelf, etc.
- **Arithmetic**, give your child a grocery receipt. Ask, "How much did we spend today on vegetables?"
- **Statistics**, have your child read graphs in news articles and interpret them.



Foster a healthy body image

Many adolescents don't like what they see in the mirror—and that can have a negative impact on their school performance. To help your child have a positive body image:

- **Discuss the changes** puberty brings.
- **Focus on fitness**, not weight.
- **Don't criticize people's bodies** or appearance—or your own.
- **Suggest unfollowing** social media that makes your child feel unattractive.

Source: S. Gregg, "Positive Body Image: Why It Matters, How to Help Students," UA News Center, University of Alabama.

Offer support that counts

Feeling supported at home helps students do their best in school. In a survey, middle schoolers said they'd like their families to:

- **Show interest** in their schoolwork.
- **Listen to them** when they talk.
- **Offer guidance** without lecturing about mistakes.
- **Notice when they do** things right.

Source: A. Jackson and others, *Making the Most of Middle School: A Field Guide for Parents and Others*, Teachers College Press.

Helping Students Learn®

Published in English and Spanish, September through May.

Publisher: Doris McLaughlin.

Publisher Emeritus: John H. Wherry, Ed.D.

Editor: Alison McLean.

Translations Editor: Victoria Gaviola.

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Be Tech Wise With Baby!

Create a Healthy Technology Environment for Your Baby to Thrive

Congratulations on your new addition! You are starting a wonderful journey. You have prepared for the basics: feeding, changing, and sleeping. Now is the time to consider how you can boost your baby's brain development and communication skills, right from birth. **This includes starting healthy screen-time habits for the whole family.**

Did You Know?

80% of brain development occurs in the first three years of life. Talking, reading, singing, and playing with your baby sets them up for a lifetime of success.

What does your baby need to grow their brain and develop spoken language?

- **Lots of talking.** The more words your baby hears, the better!
- **A tuned-in communication partner.** When your baby cries, coos, smiles, and laughs, they are trying to tell you something. Talk back!
- **Your full attention.** So much learning happens when you notice your baby's interests and respond (*"Oh, you see that ball? It's bouncing."*)

The use of screens—both by you and by your baby—can interrupt your baby's healthy development. But today's parents need devices for many purposes. **Here's why screen-free time is important:**

- Studies have shown that parents **speak fewer words** when they are using a smartphone. Find time to put screens away so you can talk about your activities. You will teach your baby so many words!
- Looking down at your device makes it harder to notice your baby's smiles and sounds, leading to **missed opportunities to bond and communicate**. Babies want to see your face!
- Use of screens by babies can **delay their speech and language development**. They may not be talking yet, but they are learning words by interacting with you.
- When babies use screens, it can be **harder for them to learn how to soothe themselves**. Giving your fussy baby your phone may help in the moment, but not in the long run.

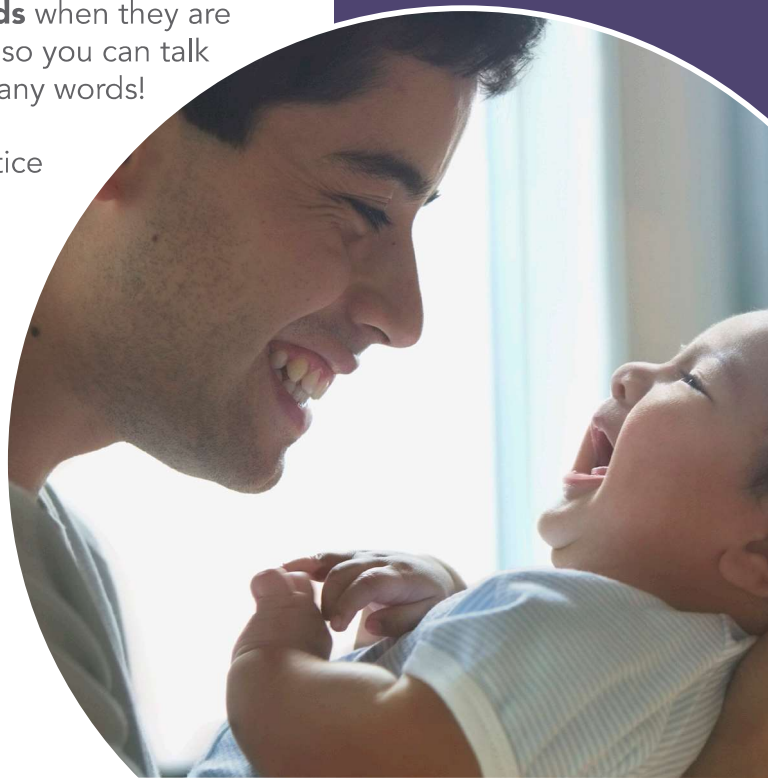


Build Baby's Brain:

Talk a lot!

Read to your baby every day.

Put your phone away, when you can.



Your Healthy Technology Environment: Setting Baby Up for Growth

As you prepare your home, use these tips to create an environment that helps your baby thrive:

- Talk with your partner about how you can both be Tech Wise when spending time with baby.
- Create technology-free spaces.
- Commit to tech-free times each day—such as meal times, caregiving, and play times.
- Turn to your pediatrician, speech-language pathologist, and other trusted experts for guidance about screen-time use.

How does creating a healthy tech environment help YOU?

By being Tech Wise, you can

- feel calmer and more tuned in to baby's needs;
- feel a closer connection to your baby;
- accomplish more throughout your day, giving you more focused time with baby; and
- feel more rested, even as your baby keeps you up often.

By being aware of your family's screen use, you can

- help your baby feel closer to you;
- engage your baby to delight in your attention;
- soothe your baby more easily; and
- help your baby feel safe as they learn about you and their world.

Your baby is off to a healthy start!



Did You Know?

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends zero screen time for babies before 18 months. AAP says that it's okay to use devices just for video chatting with loved ones.

For more information about your baby's communication development, visit www.identifythesigns.org.
For more information about children's screen time, visit www.screentimenetwork.org.

MINUTES OF THE OVERTON PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
October 8, 2025
7:30 p.m.

Mission Statement: *The mission of Overton Public School is to provide opportunities for everyone to be Engaged, Enlightened, and Empowered.*

Board President called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Members Present:

Brennan
Jeffries
Kizer
Lassen
Meier
Walahoski

Notification: The October 8, 2025, meeting of the Overton Public School Board of Education was posted at the Overton Public School, on the Overton Public School website, The Lexington Clipper Herald, Overton Post Office, and the Security First Bank.

Open Meetings Information: To be in compliance with LB 898, The Nebraska Open Meetings Act, Board President informed the public that a copy of the Open Meetings Law is posted near the LMC check-out counter.

Administration Present: Mark Aten, superintendent and Bill Johnson 5-12 principal.

Guests Present: No Guests Present.

Public Comments: No Public Comments.

Reports: No Reports.

Communications: No Communications.

Other: None

Action Items:

1. **Agenda:** Moved by Lassen, seconded by Walahoski to approve the agenda of the October 8, 2025, regular monthly board meeting as presented. Discussion: Discussion was limited as there were no changes made to the agenda. Motion carried 6-0. Voting Yes (6): Brennan, Jeffries, Kizer, Lassen, Meier, and Walahoski. Voting No: (0). Absent (0).
2. **Minutes:** Moved by Kizer, seconded by Jeffries to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2025, regular board meeting, September 22, 2025, Budget of Expenditures Hearing, September 22, 2025 Tax Request Hearing, as presented. Discussion: Discussion was limited as there were no corrections made to the minutes. Motion carried 6-0. Voting Yes (6): Brennan, Jeffries, Kizer, Lassen, Meier, and Walahoski. Voting No: (0). Absent (0).
3. **Claims:** Moved by Brennan, seconded by Jeffries to pay the October General Fund bill roster in the amount \$86,678.39 and the October payroll salary and benefits in the amount of \$351,977.90. Discussion: Superintendents provide additional information on the bill roster. Motion carried 6-0. Voting Yes (6): Brennan, Jeffries, Kizer, Lassen, Meier, and Walahoski. Voting No: (0). Absent (0).
4. Moved by Jeffries, seconded by Kizer to approve the resolution on school district standards for acceptance or rejection of enrollment option students. Discussion: Board agreed that the policy should be reviewed each year. Motion carried 6-0. Voting Yes (6): Brennan, Jeffries, Kizer, Lassen, Meier, and Walahoski. Voting No: (0). Absent (0).

5. Moved by Brennan, seconded by Walahoski to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m. Discussion. Very little discussion as the board determined it was time to adjourn. Motion carried 6-0. Voting Yes (6): Brennan, Jeffries, Kizer, Lassen, Meier, and Walahoski. Voting No: (0). Absent (0).

Board Reports and Discussion Topics:

1. **Board Reports:**
 - a. Transportation: No Report
 - b. Curriculum: No Report
 - c. Facilities: No Report
 - d. Negotiations: Determine the date and time for the first negotiations meeting for the 2026-2027 school year. This will satisfy the law to have a meeting prior to November 1.
 - e. Interlocal Committee: No Report
 - f. Committee on American Civics: Public meeting on Monday, November 10, 2025, beginning at 7:15 p.m. in the LMC.
2. **Discussion Topics:**
 - a. November Board Meeting Date and Time: Monday, November 10, 2025, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the LMC.
 - b. Prek Program will provide presentation to the board at the November 10, 2025, meeting.

Administrative Reports:

Prek-4 Principal Report:

- a. No Report

Grades 5-12 Principal Report:

- a. Calendar of Events
- b. SRP Drills

Superintendent's Report:

1. Enrollment Option Report
 - Option Enrollment:
 - Out: a. None
 - In: a. None
 - Change of Status: a. None
2. Financial Information & Update
3. Financial Update
4. School Audit
5. Budget Review

November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 VB District Finals
2 Dance 3PM Book Fair 5-7PM	3 Book Fair 3-7PM MS Quiz Bowl @ Amherst 4PM Cheer 6PM One-Act 7PM FFA Mtg. 7PM	4 Book Fair 3-7PM One-Act 7PM	5 FCA 7:15AM Book Fair 3-5PM	6 Book Fair 3-7PM State VB @ Lincoln	7 State VB @ Lincoln FB Quarterfinals	8 State VB @ Lincoln
9	10 FCCLA wks. @ UNK HS Quiz Bowl @ Amherst 4PM Cheer 6PM Music Booster Mtg. 6:30PM FKC VB All-Conf. Selection @ EC 7PM School Board Mtg. 7:30PM	11 Veterans Day Program 10AM (Coffee/Rolls 9:30AM) Cheer 6PM	12 FCA 7:15AM FKC Quarterly Mtg. 5:30PM GBB Hite Clinic 5:30PM	13 Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Lunch GBB Hite Clinic 5:30PM One-Act 7PM Athletic Booster Mtg. 6:30PM	14 No School - Teacher In-Service JHWR @ Gibbon 5PM FB Semi-Finals	15 FCA Weekend of Champions @ GI
16 FCA Weekend of Champions @ GI Dance 1PM FKC Cheer/Dance @ Overton 2-4PM	17 1st Day of Winter Practice One-Act @ Elm Creek Festival Cheer 6PM FCCLA Mtg. 7PM	18 FKC Choral Clinic @ Loomis JHWR @ Alma 2PM	19 FCA 7:15AM	20 Cheer 6PM One-Act 7PM	21 One-Act School Performance 1st Period	22 Dance 8:30AM
23 Community One-Act Performance 7PM	24 FKC One-Act @ Holdrege Cheer 6PM	25 One-Act 7PM	26 No School Dance 10AM	27 No School Happy Thanksgiving	28 No School	29
30						

11

NOVEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Overton is an equal opportunity provider.						1
2 Alternate: Chicken patty sandwich	3 B: pancakes, egg L: Calzone	4 B: cereal, yogurt L: sloppy joe	5 B: biscuit sandwich L: potato soup	6 B: little John ham L: Breakfast- french toast	7 B: oatmeal, yogurt L: Quesadilla	8
9 No alternate	10 B: funnel cake, egg L: ham & Swiss potatoes	11 B: cinnamon roll, sausage L: chicken patty sandwich	12 B: french toast L: Pizza	13 B: cereal bar, yogurt L: Thanksgiving dinner	14	15
16 Alternate: Bosco stick	17 B: muffin, combo L: cheeseburger	18 B: breakfast cookie L: chicken stir fry	19 B: potatort ham L: pork nachos	20 B: frudel, egg L: sub sandwich	21 B: waffles L: pig in a blanket	22
23 No alternate	24 B: donut L: chicken nuggets	25 B: breakfast pizza L: taco	26	27	28	29
30		Breakfast is served with choice of protein, grain, fruit or vegetable and milk.	Lunch is served with choice of grain, protein, vegetable, fruit, and milk.		Menu is subject to change.**	