

FOUR MILE FAMILY ZONE

12 DAYS OF Four Mile

- 4 Candy Cane:** dress in red and white
- 5 Cuddle up and Read:** wear PJs
- 8 Merry and Bright:** dress in red, green, gold, or silver
- 9 Holiday Headwear**
- 10 Warm and Fuzzy:** fuzzy, warm, or silly socks / slippers
- 11 Reindeer Day:** wear black or brown
- 12 Flannel Friday**
- 15 Grinch Day:** wear green
- 16 Winter Vacaton:** wear tropical clothes
- 17 Festive Sweater** (all school sing along)
- 18 Candy Land Day:** dress in bright colors
- 19 Class Parties:** look for information from your classroom teacher

December 5th's Cuddle Up and Read Day is a fundraiser for our Seasons of Sharing Fund. Students are asked to bring a monetary donation for our Season of Sharing fund, which helps many Four Mile families.

FOUR MILE SHINES IN THE 2025 IOWA SCHOOL PERFORMANCE PROFILES!

We are thrilled to share some exciting news with our Four Mile community! Earlier this fall, the Iowa Department of Education released the 2025 Iowa School Performance Profiles—our state's official school report card—and Four Mile stood out in a big way. Our school's designation improved from Commendable in 2024 to High Performing in 2025. Even more exciting, our score jumped from 64.02% in 2024 to 72.23% in 2025—a remarkable amount of growth.

This achievement reflects the daily commitment of our entire school community—strengthening core instruction, providing effective interventions, supporting ESOL and Special Education growth, and keeping student attendance a priority. Our students, staff, and parents/caretakers have been incredible partners in this work, and the results speak for themselves.

In the coming weeks, we will take a deeper look into each area of the report to better understand what contributed to this success and where we can continue to grow. As always, we're committed to thoughtful reflection and responsive action planning to ensure we are doing what's best for our students. There is always room to grow—and we are excited to keep moving forward together.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Tuesday, December 2- PTA Skating Night at Skate South, 6-8pm
- Tuesday, December 2- Hearing screenings; grades K & 2nd
- Wednesday, December 3- 4th Grade and Coach Farley attending Drake basketball game
- Wednesday, December 3- Hearing screenings; grades K & 2nd
- Thursday, December 4- 2nd and 3rd grade concerts (6 and 7pm)
- Wednesday, December 10- Four Mile Spirit Night at Texas Roadhouse, 4-9:30pm
- Wednesday, December 17- All School Sing Along
- Wednesday, December 17- Hearing screenings; grades K & 2nd
- Friday, December 19- Winter Parties
- Monday, December 22-January 2- Winter Break
- Monday, January 5- Classes Resume
- Monday, January 5 - Friday, February 6- iReady diagnostic math winter screening
- Friday, January 9- Recheck Hearing screenings; grades K & 2nd; 9am
- Monday, January 12- Friday, January 23- FAST/ aReading winter screening
- Tuesday, January 13- PTA Meeting, 6pm
- Monday, January 19- Staff Development Day. No school for students.
- Friday, January 23- PTA Bingo Night, 6-7:30

FROM OUR PTA

We will NOT be having a December PTA meeting; our next meeting will be Tuesday, January 13th at 6:00 pm in the Four Mile Library.

Here are our upcoming PTA events that you won't want to miss:

- Tuesday, December 2nd: Four Mile Night at Skate South from 6:00pm - 8:00pm. A portion of admission profits will be donated to our PTA!

- Wednesday, December 10th: Four Mile Community Spirit Night at Texas Roadhouse from 4:00pm - 9:30pm. A portion of Four Mile sales will be donated to our PTA!

- Friday, January 23rd: Four Mile Family Bingo Night from 6:00pm - 7:30pm (more info to come)

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions:

fourmilepta@gmail.com, and check out our PTA Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/FourMileElementaryPTA>

We hope you have an enjoyable and safe holiday season, and we look forward to seeing you again in 2026!

NEW SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM COMING TO FOUR MILE

We are thrilled to share that Southeast Polk will start a new Level 3 / Intellectual Disability (ID) program at Four Mile in January! This is a great opportunity for our school, and we are happy to welcome the new students and staff who will join us. The ID program is made to help students with intellectual and developmental disabilities learn and grow. We are excited to welcome this program to our Four Mile family and we will continue to make our school a safe, caring, and supportive place for every student. We welcome Ms. Bailey Buerger as our new Special Education Teacher who will lead this program. Ms. Buerger is a Southeast Polk graduate and will graduate from UNI in mid-December.

FOOD AND MEAL ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILIES

You can apply for free/reduced meals for your student(s) at any time during the school year. If your household income has changed, please consider submitting a new application.

Additionally, the new SEP School Food Pantry is up and running at the District Office! If your family has a need from the Pantry, please fill out this form: SEP School Food Pantry Sign-Up. Items currently available include flour, honey, cereal, canned tuna and chicken, pasta, canned vegetables, frozen hot dogs and deli meat, frozen egg patties, and frozen PB&Js.

Also please remember Caring Hands, which is a network of community partners and churches that provide a food pantry, thrift store and clothing vouchers. It is located at 602 3rd Street SW in Altoona. Caring Hands also has a program that helps families locate assistance for housing, transportation, utilities, medical care, food and more.