



Union Community School District

200 Adams St.

La Porte City, IA 50651

Phone- 319-342-2674

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www.union.k12.ia.us

#UKnighted

“Education to Meet Tomorrow’s Challenges”

Greetings from the Union Community School District! Please find below the stakeholder communication for February 2023.

Facility Updates

Last month, I updated you on the district-wide security camera project as well as the HVAC initiative at UMS. One smaller, upcoming project is to install security cameras and “extra” lighting at both the Dysart and the La Porte City bus barns. We expect some or all of this addition to be done by the end of March.

District Profile

K-6 Union Community School District students continue to outperform students in the Central Rivers Area Education Agency and the state of Iowa on FAST assessments. Per the Winter 2023 scores, our percent proficient, for students in grades K-6, in English/Language Arts was 75%, nearly 10% **higher** than the AEA or the state average. Our math scores, again for students in grades K-6, were **even better** with a difference of 13% over the AEA and the state. I want to commend our students and staff for these outstanding scores!

Things to Celebrate

Congratulations to T. Lorezen for earning Academic All-State in boys’ basketball from the Iowa High School Athletic Association. He is one of only 24 seniors from across the state to achieve this honor.

Congratulations to J. Worthen for being the 1st IGHS AU girls’ wrestling state champion for Union. Jillian had 4 pins and a major decision on her way to the championship.

Congratulations to our TWO musical theater groups who earned All-State honors. All-State is the highest possible recognition from the Iowa High School Speech Association. One group– “Rothschild and Songs” -- consisting of M. Carlson, J. Bistline, S. Klein, H. Spore and A. Martin will be performing in Ames on Saturday, Feb. 18th. The other group– “Veggie Tales” -- consisting of B. Rohrer, E. Hoppe, C. Carlson, D. Gray, M. Media, C. Spore, L. Reed and K. Klein achieved the honor but will not be performing. I am SO proud of these students and their sponsors.

Congratulations to our 3 UHS wrestlers who placed at the IAHSAA state wrestling tournament– B. Bohnsack (champion at 106), J. Hedeman (champion and 113), C. Olson (7th place at 145).

Congratulations to our 5 UHS students- K. Brustkern, A. Gates, S. Klein, T. Lorenzen, M. Uchiyama-Hansen– who will be recognized at the NICL Honors’ Banquet next month.

Boys’ State Wrestling

Congratulations to our 3 UHS wrestlers who placed at the IAHSAA state wrestling tournament– B. Bohnsack (champion at 106), J. Hedeman, (champion and 113) and C. Olson (7th place at 145). These three represented themselves, the team and our district so well. I am very proud of them!

Calendar 2023-2024

The Union Board of Education approved the 2023-2024 academic calendar at the February board meeting. Please see the district website, www.union.k12.ia.us, and click on Calendar in the upper right corner.



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Wind Chill Decision

Going forward, we will be implementing a general policy for days with low wind chills. We will now use the guidance of many other schools-- windchill warning. If there is a windchill warning, which I am not sure we have had yet this year, we would delay or cancel school. If it is a windchill advisory, we will plan to have school on time, barring any district transportation issues or other weather issues. Please plan accordingly.

Spring Sports

Spring sports for our high school students will be starting soon. I want to wish all the participants and coaches good luck.

Conclusion

We had another outstanding month in the Union Community School District. I want to thank the students, staff, parents/guardians and community members for this fact. It is a privilege to lead this district, and I am grateful each and every day.

New Year, New UNION! Go Knights

John Howard, Superintendent