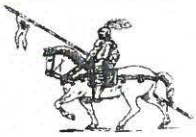
UNION ELEMENTARY @ LA PORTE CITY WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



UNION COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

"EDUCATION TO MEET TOMORROW'S CHALLENGES"

"ALL IN – EVERY CHILD – EVERY DAY"

ISSUE #5

SEPT. 21, 2018

Next Week's Schedule

Mon. Sept. 24 - No School - Teacher Inservice Professional Development

Tues., Sept. 25 - 22nd Day of School - Day 4
- Homecoming Week:
- Roll Out Of Bed Dress Up Day

Wed., Sept. 26 - 23rd Day of School - Day 5
- Homecoming Week:
- Sports Day Dress Up Day
- PE Students (5th, 3rd, 4th) Run the Mile @ the HS

Thurs., Sept. 27 - 24th Day of School - Day 6
- Homecoming Week:
- Crazy Hair Dress Up Day
- PE Students (5th, 3rd, 4th) Run the Mile @ the HS

Fri., Sept. 28 - 25th Day of School - Day 1
- Homecoming Week:
- Red and Black Dress Up Day

No School Monday, September 24

On Monday, September 24 the Union Community School District will have no school due to teacher inservice. At the elementary level both buildings will be meeting together reviewing math number talks concepts, Zones of Regulation, and Literacy Strategies. School will resume on Tuesday, September 25.

PE Students Run the Mile @ the HS

On Wednesday and Thursday of this upcoming week our 5th, 3rd, and 4TH grade students will run the mile at the high school track during morning PE classes.

Homecoming Week at LPC Elementary

This upcoming week will be homecoming for the Union Community School District. The La Porte City Elementary Building will join in on the fun. The LPC elementary student council has selected dress up days for the week as listed above in the *Next Week's Schedule*. The cheerleaders and senior football players will come over on Friday to talk to the students. These activities are designed to carry on the Union Knight pride and spirit into the homecoming football game Friday night against Rolland Story. This should be a very exciting week at LPC Elementary!

Upcoming Dates

Sept. 3 - Labor Day Holiday - No School
Sept. 14 - School Pictures
Sept. 25-28 - Homecoming Week
Sept. 24-No School: Professional Development

Home Football Game Reminders

Our varsity home football games have begun. A reminder that there is **No Smoking allowed on the Union Community School District grounds** pursuan to the Iowa Smokefree Air Act. The school does not provide direct supervision of students, but will uphold appropriate student behavior and student expectations as follows: 1. Ideally, elementary students should sit with their parents or in small parent-supervised groups in the bleachers or on the hill and **watch the game**. 2. Students are **not allowed to bring footballs** to the game. 3. **No students are allowed on the practice field.** 4. We also are asking that students dispose of all plastic bottles properly in the waste cans available. **No kicking or throwing of pop bottles will be allowed.** ***Also we ask that students do not sit or stand in the middle of the brick retaining wall under the scoreboard***. Your cooperation is needed and very much appreciated. We want students to have fun and show their school spirit in a positive way.

Good Sportsmanship

As the junior high and high school football, volleyball, and cross-country seasons are ready to begin, our district needs your help. As parents and role models, we need you to set the tone at all games. We need you to support our players, cheerleaders, and coaches in a positive manner that represents our school with pride. Come cheer on the Knights to V-I-C-T-O-R-Y! See you at the games. Go Knights!

District Calendar Online

This year our district calendar is online at the Union Community School District's webpage at www.union.k12.ia.us. Just click on the "Calendar" tab at the top of the page next to the "Staff Directory" button. Parents do have the option to print off the up-to-date printable calendar with district events listed.

UNION KNIGHTS

Zones of Regulation

This year both elementary buildings are incorporating the Zones of Regulation curriculum into our classrooms. These are lessons and activities designed to help students recognize their feelings and gain skills in the area of self-regulation, which is centered around self-control, self-management, impulse control, and state of alertness. The lessons and learning activities are designed to help students recognize when they are in the different zones and learn how to use strategies to change or stay in the zone they are in. In addition, the students will gain an awareness of emotional terms, skills in reading other people's facial expressions, perspectives about how others see and react to their behavior, insight into events that trigger their behavior, calming and alerting strategies, and problem solving skills. A critical aspect of this curriculum is that all staff members know and understand the Zones Language. This creates a supportive environment for students to practice their self-regulation skills. You can help at home by asking your child to explain to you what the four zones of regulation colors on the back of today's newsletter mean to them and how have they been learning about it at school.

Blue Zone Green Zone Yellow Zone Red Zone

Morning Drop off Zone Reminders

A reminder to parents that your help is needed before school to ensure the safety of all children and also provide smooth drop zone procedures. We are asking that if parents need to park their car and come into the building with their child, that they ***park at the far end of the drop off zone past the sign.*** This needs to be available for buses and also parents who are just dropping their children off to school from 7:30-8:05. ***Parents who need to come in the building need to park at the end of the drop off lane. The side parking lot on Gates Street is also open for parents to park and come in the building.*** Thank you for helping make the dropoff time in the morning safe and stress free.

Visitors

Parents are welcome to visit their child in school. *Please give the teachers and students a few weeks to establish classroom routines and expectations before coming to visit.* We ask that you check in at the office and sign in the notebook on the counter. If you are coming for lunch, please call ahead of time so we can add you to our lunch count.

Change of Plans

Students who have a change of plans that varies from their typical after school routines need to bring a note from home stating their intentions. This is a safety issue as we want to keep track of the children and let bus drivers know of changes.

Attendance Policy

Our district has an attendance policy in which we are trying to reduce the number of days students are abser from school. Please refer to the handbook for more information. Please contact the office by 8:30 if your child will be home sick.

Lunch Policy Reminders

The Iowa Department of Education and our Union Community School District auditors have advised us to incorporate new measures to reduce excessive negative lunch balances. **As started last year, if we do not receive payment by the time the amount reaches $-20.00, we will ask your child to bring a cold lunch until the negative account is taken care of.** Students will continue to bring home negative lunch slips. Parents will receive emails about your child's negative lunch balance. Parents can also set up an online account with Payschools and add money online to their child's account. A password needs to be set up with the office. A reminder that our lunch program is not a charge type of system. We thank parents for keeping your lunch accounts in the positive.

A Reminder on Start Time

At Union Elementary at La Porte City our school will beg at 8:05am with the tardy bell. Student can start comin into the building at 8:00 and go straight to their classroom. If they come before 8:00, they are to go to the gym. Students eating breakfast may enter the front doors of the building ***no earlier than 7:40***. Serving ends at 7:55am for breakfast. ***Please do not drop your children off to school before 7:40am as no direct supervision is available until then.***

Volunteers & Substitutes

We are always in need of volunteers and substitutes throughout the school year. If you are interested in volunteering in the classrooms and/or substituting as a classroom teacher, secretary, nurse, cook, or associate, please contact the elementary office.

Bus Safety - A must everyday!

If your child rides the bus, please review the bus procedures in our online elementary handbook. Our bus drivers need to concentrate on their driving and extra noise along with students misbehaving can be a distraction. Please remind your child that riding on a bus is a privilege and students will lose those privileges for repeated bus referrals. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter to ensure all of our students follow proper bus rules and stay safe.