UNION ELEMENTARY @ LA PORTE CITY WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

UNION COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

"EDUCATION TO MEET TOMORROW'S CHALLENGES"

"ALL IN – EVERY CHILD – EVERY DAY"

ISSUE #6

SEPT. 28, 2018

Next Week's Schedule

Mon. Oct. 1 - 26th Day of School - Day 2
- Regular Day of School

Tues., Oct. 2 - 27th Day of School - Day 3
- 6:00pm LPC Elementary PTO Meeting

Wed., Oct. 3 - 28th Day of School - Day 4
- Regular Day of School

Thurs., Oct. 4 - 29th Day of School - Day 5
- Regular Day of School

Fri., Oct. 5 - 30th Day of School - Day 6
- October Birthdays Celebrated at Lunch

PTO Meeting is Tuesday

This upcoming Tuesday will be our monthly PTO meeting. The meeting will be held at 6:00 pm in the LPC elementary building library. Come join the group and assist in planning activities.

October Birthdays Celebrated

On Friday, students who have a birthday in the month of October will be honored at lunchtime. This is always a great way to celebrate our student's monthly birthdays.

LPC Elementary PTO SCRIP

One of the PTO's ongoing fundraisers for the year is the SCRIP program. This is an easy way to help our PTO, teachers, and school by buying gift cards to places that you normally visit. SCRIP orders will be sent out many times throughout the year. The school gets a percentage of the gift cards purchased. This helps the PTO fund student field trips, books/materials for school and different forms of technology. You can either order on the pink paper copy that came home last week or you can order online. These are great gifts for Christmas, birthdays, or any occasion. Sign up online www.shopwithscrip.com To sign in click the Sign In button at the top of the page and enter your username and password. You will need the Enrollment Code for our PTO to connect to us: B4L78C7141185. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

Upcoming October Dates

Oct. 2 - PTO Meeting @ 6:00pm
Oct. 8-12 - National Fire Prevention Week
Oct. 9 - K to Ride Fire Trucks to Fire Station 8:30-9:30
Oct. 15-19 - National School Lunch Week
Oct. 22-26 - Bus Safety Week
Oct. 23-30 - Red Ribbon Week
Oct. 22-25 - Book Fair
Oct. 23 - 2:15 Dismissal P/T Conferences 3-7:30 pm
Oct. 25 - 2:15 Dismissal P/T Conferences 3-7:30 pm
Oct. 26 - No School: Professional Development
Oct. 26 - End of the 1st Quarter
Oct. 31 - Halloween - Room Parties - Costume March

Homecoming Football Game

Our homecoming football game is tonight. A reminder that there is **No Smoking allowed on the Union Community School District grounds** pursuant 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.

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 absent 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 $-10.00, 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 begir at 8:05am with the tardy bell. Student can start coming 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.