UNION ELEMENTARY @ LA PORTE CITY WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Union Community School District

"Education To Meet Tomorrow's Challenges"

LETTER #20

Jan. 8, 2021

Next Week's Schedule

Mon., Jan. 11 - 84th Day of School - Day 6(PE&M)
- Homecoming Week: Crazy Hair Day

Tues., Jan. 12 - 85th Day of School - Day 1(M&L)
- Homecoming Week: Wear your Sleepers Day

Wed., Jan. 13 - 86th Day of School - Day 2(PE&A)
- Homecoming Week: Wear Mismatch Clothes Day

Thurs., Jan. 14 - 87th Day of School -Day3(PE&M)
- Homecoming Week: Wear your Favorite Team Jersey/Shirt Day

Fri., Jan. 15 - 88th Day of School - Day 4(A&M)
- Homecoming Week: Spirit Day: Wear Red & Black Union Colors

Homecoming Week at LPC Elementary

This upcoming week will be homecoming for the Union Community School District. A little different in the past. We moved it from the fall to the winter this year. 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*. These activities are designed to carry on the Union Knight pride and spirit into the homecoming basketball and wrestling meets this week. This should be a very exciting week at LPC Elementary!

Early Dismissal Extended to Jan. 29

At the Union CSD board meeting on December 21, the following changes were approved to our Return To Learn Plan.:

Union Community Schools ***will continue with a shortened day schedule from 8:00-2:15 district-wide until January 29***. At the LPC elementary, 2:15 is actually 2:25 for walkers/town students and 2:35 for bus students. The plan is to begin back on regular 3:10 dismissal on February 1st. The school board will review the situation again at the January board meeting, if conditions warrant. A winter reminder: if the district decides to have a two hour late start due to weather conditions, we will then have a regular dismissal time of 3:10 walkers/town - 3:25 for bus.

Upcoming January Dates

Jan. 5 - Classes Resume from Winter Break
Jan. 15 - 1st Semester Ends
Jan. 18 - Day of School: This was originally, a No School PD Day, but was changed with the late start of school
Jan. 22 - Report Cards Released to Parents Via JMC

2021 New Year's Resolutions

It is that time of year again that people attempt to identify and then stick to a New Year's Resolution. At school we will be having each class talk about and make a plan for the 2021 year. Listed below are some ideas that parents can try. These will assist your child in practicing and improving their reading skills. Take a look at these tips and try some of them for the upcoming year. You might find that they will turn into daily habits and normal routines.

1. Read to your child on a daily basis.
2. Provide your child a quiet, comfortable place to read and study.
3. Encourage your child to develop a personal library and to add to it regularly.
4. Provide your child with a wide range of experiences.
5. Talk to your child on a daily basis about school, work, etc.
6. Praise your child for at least one success or improvement daily.
7. Hug your child at least once a day.
8. Respect your child as an individual who has unique talents and abilities.
9. Provide family activities which encourage your child to grow in different ways.
10. Encourage your child to view reading as an enjoyable and fulfilling lifetime experience.

Iowa School Alerts

If you want to receive weather alerts about Union Community School Schools including early dismissals and/or late starts, sign up now. Simply visit the Iowa School Alerts website to subscribe. https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/IAEDU6536/subscriber/new.

You may choose email or text alerts from the drop-down menu; however, please note that in order to receive both, you must go in and subscribe separately for each preference.

PARENT RESOURCE:

Parent Return to Schools Plan

Listed below are specific building guidelines that the La Porte City Elementary building will follow for the 2020-21 school year. These guidelines were developed from recommendations from the Black Hawk County Public Health Department and our Union Community School District's Return to Learn Plan. Some of these guidelines may be subject to change as recommended by the Public Health Department and Department of Education.

Main Focus

All plans are designed around the main focus of social distancing and the safety of our students and staff. This will be done with keeping classrooms and grade levels together as much as possible and not mixing with other grades

Start Date & Time

Union Community Schools will begin face to face classes on Aug. 27, 2020. We moved the start date back from Aug. 24, due to power outage in the district. We will still run a shortened day schedule from 8:00-2:15 district-wide. At the LPC elementary, 2:15 is actually 2:25 for walkers/town students and 2:35 for bus students. A shortened day schedule will run from August 27 to October 2. We will re-evaluate this schedule as the fall progresses. The 2:35-3:30 time will be for teachers to work on Remote Learning, PLC's, grade level meetings, and planning time. If the district decides to have a two hour late start due to weather conditions, thedistrict will follow a two hour late start schedule with a regular dismissal time of 3:10 walkers/town - 3:25 for bus.

Prescreen Students at Home

Parents will screen their children at home for fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. Call the elementary office and a medical professional if your child is symptomatic. Students do not report to school if they are symptomatic.

Pick Up and Drop Off Of Students

Parents are encouraged to stay in their vehicles during drop-off and pick-up times and/or practice social distancing if you need to come to the office. If picking up for an appointment, please call the office, and we will send your student out to you.

Entering and Exiting the Building

Students will enter and exit the building through their classroom's outside door following the schedule below:

Gates St. Side	Main Hallway	Fillmore St. Side
KP	KJ	TK
KL	1P	4N
1J	1D	4S
2N	3A	4J
2P		5S
3G		5B

Preschool will use the side door next to the SB field

In the morning, students will report directly to their classroom. If they are having breakfast, they will then go to the breakfast room after they have dropped off their backpacks and coats. ***If students are not riding the bus and will not be eating breakfast they are encouraged not to come to school prior to 8:00. All students need to be in the building by the 8:05 Tardy Bell.*** Students and parents are encouraged not to congregate at or around their student's classroom's door before and after school. During dismissal, classrooms will be released one at a time.

Classrooms

Student desks will be spaced out in the classroom as much as possible (3-6 feet apart) for social distancing, facing the same direction. Community sharing items will be limited as much as possible - students will wash hands or use hand sanitizer before and after the use of them. When students are in small groups they will wear masks and be with others that they normally sit near. Hallway doors will be left opened to reduce the number of students touching the door handles throughout the day. When lining up, students will be near others that they sit by and should keep their hands to themselves, wear masks, and practice social distancing. Student backpacks will be spaced out using the classroom hooks or spaced out around the room. All classes will be required to keep track of seating charts in large and small groups.

Face Coverings

Face coverings that cover the mouth and nose will be required for all PK-12 (including 4 year old preschool) students and staff on buses, hallway passing time, and in classrooms where social distancing is difficult to maintain. Face covering breaks will be given each class period. Some classes might be able to make covering exceptions, as directed by the teacher, if students are participating in non-verbal work such as reading or assessments. Union CSD recognizes that student abilities and tolerances for wearing a face covering will differ by age and thus, expectations may differ at the elementary level. Students with medical exceptions will be required to have documentation.

Students who refuse to wear a face covering while in the building will have to choose the online learning option. Students will be provided with a lanyard to keep their mask on when they are not wearing it and bags to place them in at while eating.

Special Classes

PE will be outside as much as possible and when physical distancing is possible, masks will be optional. Face coverings will be encouraged in all special classrooms including music. Kindergarten, 1st grade, and 4th grade will have some mixed classrooms for specials in the same grade level – they will wear face coverings and social distancing will be observed between classrooms. If possible at times the special area and special education teachers will try to come into the regular classroom. In 4th & 5th Grades, the departmentalized setting of students moving rooms will be limited this year for social studies and science. In special education classes, students from different grades will be separated in the room as much as possible. Tables/desks will be disinfected after each class has left the rooms in the special areas (Art, Library, Guidance), title I reading, and special education.

Recesses

Students are to wash their hands/sanitize before and after recess. They will stay with their own grade level peers. They are asked to physical distance and not to participate in activities that involve close contact. Students may wear their face coverings at recess.

Hand Washing and Santizing

Students and staff will wash or sanitize their hands upon entering and exiting the building in their classrooms. They will continue to wash their hands throughout the day when entering and exiting individual classrooms, cafeteria, recesses, and special classes.

Touch Surface Cleaning

Enhanced cleaning protocols will be in place throughout the day by all staff and after hours by the custodial staff. Disinfecting wipes and hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and halls

Caferteria/Meals

Students will sit in assigned tables and seats in the lunchroom with students they normally sit by in their classroom. Social distancing will be followed in the lunchroom and at the tables with limited seating and diagonal seating. 3 lunch shifts will be used with time for cleaning being added between lunch shifts. Students will sit at assigned classroom tables for breakfast with social distancing.

Nursing/COVID

We will have special spaces for students with COVID Symptoms. Teachers will implement plans to reduce unnecessary visits to the nurse's office (example: bandages, chapped lips, etc.) We will follow guidance from Black Hawk County Public Health. If a student or staff member becomes sick with COVID-19 symptoms during the school day, the student/staff member will be sent home. Classroom will be thoroughly cleaned. We will follow guidance from the Black Hawk County Public Health Dept. We will communicate that "we have a confirmed case in the Elementary, MS, or HS involving a student or staff member." We will not identify a specific grade level.

Water Bottles

Water fountains will be shut off in the halls and replaced by additional water fill stations. Students will be allowed to bring water bottles to school (with their names on them) and take them home at night to be cleaned. Water bottle fill stations will be available. We prefer refillable water bottles with removal drinking lids verse disposable ones. Student will need to make sure they do not touch the top of their bottle to the refilling station when refilling them.

Restrooms

Students will be asked to wash their hands or use sanitizer before and after they use the restrooms. PK-3rd grade classes will use their regular classroom restrooms. 4th & 5th Grade Hall Restrooms will have a limit of 4 students at a time - Some sinks and urinals will be blocked off. All restrooms will be thoroughly cleaned after school hours.

Halls/Social Distancing

Students will follow the markings on the floor to keep to the right side of the hallway and follow social distancing guidelines. Face coverings will be worn in the hallways.Social distancing of 3-6 feet will be expected when possible at all times throughout the school day.

Visitors

Visitors will not be allowed past the school office. We will not have parents eat with students this year during lunch. Volunteers will not be utilized at school this year. For all students who need to leave the building (have an appointment, are ill, need to leave early, etc.) parents are asked to call the school office upon arrival to the building and the student will be released.

Transportations

Students will be assigned seats. Surfaces will be wiped down between routes. Students will be spaced apart as permitted by the number of riders. Students are required to wear face coverings

Snacks At School

Students will only be able to bring prepackaged store bought items for snack. Birthday and holiday treats will be allowed as long as they are prepackaged store bought.

Extra Curriculuar Activities

The beginning of the year Open House will only take place for Preschool, TK, and kindergarten students. Teachers will contact parents to schedule this. Parents may bring their child the first day to the outside door of their classroom. Field Trips are postponed until further notice. Building wide assemblies, concerts, the art show, and track & field/fun and fitness day will be on hold until further notice.

LUNCH January 2021 DG & LPC Elementary Union Community Schools

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4 NO SCHOOL	5 (2) Hamburger on bun Green Beans Carrots Fresh Peaches Milk	6 (3) Crispito Burrito Lettuce & tomato Carrots baby fresh Pears Milk	7 Breakfast for LUNCH (4) Sausage smokies & Pancakes Hash brown round Carrots fresh Apple slices Milk	8 (5) Pepperoni Pizza Corn Carrots fresh Pineapple Milk
11 (6) Chicken popcorn w/tea roll Mashed Potatoes Carrots Fresh Applesauce Cup Milk	12 (1) Grilled cheese sandwich Green beans Carrots fresh Banana Milk	13 (2) Pizza Fiestada(taco flavor) Lettuce & tomato Carrots fresh Pineapple Milk	14 (3) Pork rib on bun Baked beans Carrots fresh Apple slices Milk	15 (4) Mini Corndog Corn Carrots baby fresh Mixed fruit Milk
18 (5) Chicken Nuggets w/tea roll Mashed potatoes Carrots Baby fresh Applesauce cup Milk	19 (6) Breaded Chicken Patty on bun Broccoli w/cheese Carrots fresh Side Kick Fruit Juice Milk	20 (1) Walking Taco Lettuce & tomato Carrots fresh Mandarin oranges Milk	21 (2) Hot dog On Bun Potato tots Carrots fresh Apple slices Milk	22 (3) Cheese filled breadstick w/marinara Green beans Carrots fresh Pears Milk
25 (4) Chicken popcorn w/tea roll Mashed Potatoes Carrots Fresh Applesauce cup Milk	26 (5) Cheese Pizza Corn Carrots fresh Pineapple Milk	27 (6) Beef & Bean Nacho's Lettuce & tomato Carrots fresh Mixed Fruit Milk	28 (1) Deli Sub Ham/Turkey/cheese on bun Sweet Potato fries Carrots fresh Banana Milk	29 (2) Shrimp poppers w/1cheese filled breadstick Green beans Carrots baby fresh Mandarin oranges Milk
			This institution is an equal opportunity provider.	All items listed will be provided in each meal. Menu is subject to change without notice.

BREAKFAST DG & LPC Elementary January 2021 Union Community Schools

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4 NO SCHOOL	5 Pancakes Choice: Cereal w/ muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk	6 Mini Cinnis Choice: Cereal w/muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk	7 Breakfast Pizza Choice: Cereal w/muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk	8 Muffin w/Yogurt Choice: Cereal w/muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk
11 Mini Donut Choice: Cereal w /muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk	12 Pancakes Choice: Cereal w/ muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk	13 Mini Cinnis Choice: Cereal w/ muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk	14 Egg Wrap(Tac&Go) Choice: Cereal w/ muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk	15 Muffin w/Yogurt Choice: Cereal w/muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk
18 Mini Donut Choice: Cereal w /muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk	19 Pancakes Choice: Cereal w/ muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk	20 Mini Cinnis Choice: Cereal w/muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk	21 Breakfast Pizza Choice: Cereal w/muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk	22 Muffin w/Yogurt Choice: Cereal w/muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk
25 Mini Donut Choice: Cereal w /muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk	26 Pancakes Choice: Cereal w/ muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk	27 Mini Cinnis Choice: Cereal w/muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk	28 Egg Wrap(Tac&Go) Choice: Cereal w/ muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk	29 Muffin w/Yogurt Choice: Cereal w/muffin 100% fruit Juice Fruit Milk
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