



MONTHLY MESSAGE

from Mr. Howard

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

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL REMINDER

- The last student day is Wednesday, May 31st, 11:00 a.m dismissal.
- The last staff day will be Friday, June 2nd, 12:00 p.m.

IOWA STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT PROGRESS (ISASP)

We have received our students' preliminary results on the ISASP. Overall, our scores were very solid. I was very impressed with the students' attitudes and efforts. Parents/Guardians should receive your child's scores in the mail prior to school letting out for the summer. We will have final results in early fall, and we will communicate our results in more depth at that time.

WHY UNION?

We have completed our Why Union marketing sheets for students and staff. We greatly appreciate the input from these individuals. Here are two quotes – one from a staff member and one from a student.

- I love our Union community! There is not a week that goes by that I don't see a student's smiling face at the grocery store, in the bleachers of a sporting event, down at Tootsie's, etc. With the wide variety of opportunities that Union provides, I also get to see my former students shine on the stage, on the court, in the field and in their classrooms as they go through middle and high school. Our family is blessed to be a part of this Knight community" – *LPC Elementary teacher*
- UMS is a fun and safe place that kids enjoy coming to every day. The teachers do a great job at teaching and really work hard to understand each student and their individual goals. Even though school may not be fun sometimes, the teachers work their hardest to make it fun." – *8th grade student*

ACADEMIC DECATHLON

Our academic decathlon students did a great job at the national competition in late April. We had multiple students place in the top 20 (out of nearly 100) in many categories.. One student – A. Brehm – finished 8th in speech and 9th in science – Congrats to all the students and thanks to Mrs. Michael for all her work!

UMS MATH BEE

The UMS Math Bee team did very well in their competition. J. Paine was a ribbon award winner in 10th place out of 194 students. (Only 3 points separated 1st and 10th as there were multiple ties and tie breakers!) The team placed 8th out of 40 teams!

FACILITY UPDATES

- The security cameras are all installed and working at DG Elementary. There are 33 total – inside and outside the building.
- The track resurfacing is scheduled for late May. As a result, the track will be closed for a week or two around that time.
- We are looking at possibly replacing some asphalt in the parking lots at UMS and UHS early this summer.
- We are in continuous discussion about replacing some of the playground equipment at DG Elementary.



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SPRING SPORTS

Our spring sports' teams continue to do well. I am very proud of their success and also how they represent themselves, the school, district and community in a tremendous manner. All teams are currently participating or "gearing up" for the postseason.

SUMMER SPORTS

Good Luck to the JH and HS summer sports teams as they begin their seasons.

CLASS OF 2023

Congratulations to the Union High School Class of 2023! The members of this class have left a tremendously positive legacy for/on the school and the district. You will be missed. Good Luck!

CONCLUSION

This is my last monthly stakeholder communication of the school year. I hope you (the readers) enjoyed learning about the great things happening in our district. As stated many times previously, I am truly honored and privileged to lead this awesome district! May everyone have a relaxing and safe summer. Go Knights!

New Year, New UNION! Go Knights!

Sincerely,
John Howard, Superintendent