



LA PORTE CITY ELEMENTARY WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

"Union Community Schools-Education To Meet Tomorrow's Challenges"

Friday, August 25, 2023 | Newsletter #1

BE A DIFFERENCE MAKER

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Monday, August 28 - 4th Day of School - Day 4 (M&A)

- Regular Day of School for TK through 5th Grades(No Preschool on Mondays)
- Preschool Open House 6-7 pm

Tuesday, August 29 - 5th Day of School - Day 5 (PE&L)

- Regular Day of School for Preschool through 5th Grades
- 1st Day of School for Preschool

Wednesday, August 30 - 6th Day of School - Day 6 (M&PE)

- Regular Day of School for Preschool through 5th Grades

Thursday, August 31 - 7th Day of School - Day 1 (M&L)

- Regular Day of School for Preschool through 5th Grades

Friday, September 1 - 8th Day of School - Day 2 (A&PE)

- Regular Day of School for Preschool through 5th Grades

Monday, September 4 - NO SCHOOL - LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Monday, September 5 - No School Labor Day

Monday, September 11 - LPC Elementary PTO 6:30pm

Monday - Friday, September 18-22 - Homecoming Week for Union Community Schools

Wednesday, September 27 - School Pictures

NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The 2023-2024 school year is here. I am very excited about starting my 19th year as the PreK-5 elementary principal here at Union in La Porte City. I am looking forward to building on the last 18 years' successes. This will be my 33rd year in education and my 23rd year as an elementary principal. Our goal is to create a positive atmosphere in our building where education is engaging, exciting, challenging, and a fun place for our students. Our Union Community School District theme this year is Be Difference Maker.



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NEW BUS SAFETY EXPECTATIONS

As we start the school year we wanted to communicate expectations and consequences if those expectations are not met for transportation. Expectations are pretty simple, talk quietly, stay in your seat, be respectful of the driver and other riders. Unfortunately, those expectations are not always met and consequences need to be given. One of the big questions we have had is "What constitutes a bus suspension?" Please see below: Physical Fighting - Bullying/Harassment - Vandalism
3rd Insubordination Violation(Insubordination will be considered refusal to obey redirects from a bus driver which includes refusing to use seatbelts in accordance with board policy [711.10](#)) (Parents will be contacted by school administration letting you know each time insubordination has taken place. The first removal will be five days, and the second twenty days, which you can find page 7 of the district handbook which is [linked here](#). If you have any questions, please contact your students building principal. Thank you for your help and support!
Union Administration Team

NEW CAMERAS AT THE ELEMENTARY

New this year, the La Porte City Elementary Building has cameras in the hallways, entrances, parking lots, and playgrounds. The Union Community School District Board of Directors supports and has authorized the use of video cameras inside and outside of district property, including school district buses as a means to monitor and maintain a safe environment for students, staff and visitors. Please see our District Handbook for further information regarding cameras in our district.

CELL PHONES AT THE ELEMENTARY

Cell phones are allowed on school grounds, as long as students keep them turned off in their backpacks during the school day. Students are not to have them out in the breakfast room or in the bus line in the gym at the end of the day. They shall stay turned off in the student's backpack until the end of the day, in which students may turn them on after exiting the school building. Students will assume the risk and responsibility of having these stored in their backpacks.



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WEEKLY NEWSLETTERS

This is our 1st weekly newsletter that will be sent out via our JMC email system usually on Fridays throughout the school year. These will also be on our Union Community school webpage under the La Porte City Elementary tab. The main purpose of this newsletter is to form strong lines of communication between our elementary school and you, the parents. By sending these home on Fridays, you will have an opportunity to look at the upcoming events for the next week and have a chance to prepare for them over the weekend. If you need a newsletter printed out for you please let your child's teacher know.

A REMINDER OF OUR START TIME

At La Porte City Elementary, our school will begin at 8:05am with the tardy bell. Students 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 not riding the bus and not be eating breakfast are encouraged not to come to school prior to 8:00. 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. Students will enter and exit the building through their main hallway. During dismissal, the K-3 students who have classrooms on Gates Street (KP, 1S, 2N, 2P, & 3G) may use the outside door of their classroom.

3 WAY STOP SIGNS ON FILLMORE & PINE ST.

Just a reminder to parents that the City of La Porte City installed permanent 3 way stop signs in the front of the LPC Elementary building on the corner of Fillmore and Pine Street 2 years ago. Please make sure to obey these new signs especially when the safety patrol is in the cross walks walking students across the street.

MORNING DROP OFF & PICK UP 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



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dropoff time in the morning safe and stress free. If you are picking up your children on Gates Street, please park in the spots available marked with yellow lines, or in the baseball parking lot. We ask that parents do not stop and wait along the road or near the stop signs. Please be alert of students that may be crossing with a parent and cars backing up. For the safety of all students we ask that parents do not bring pets on school grounds at drop off and pick up times. This is in accordance to our school board policy.

HOME FOOTBALL GAME REMINDERS

Our first varsity home football game is coming up soon. . 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 and watch the game. 2. If your child brings a football to the game, we ask that they play catch away from where fans are watching the game. 3. No students are allowed on the practice field behind the scoreboard outside of the fence. 4. We also are asking that students dispose of all plastic bottles and trash properly in the waste cans available. 5. No kicking or throwing of pop bottles will be allowed. 6. 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. Go Knights!!!!

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!

LPC ELEMENTARY HANDBOOK

All La Porte City Elementary procedures and guidelines can be found on our building handbook, which is located on the Union Community School District website at <https://www.union.k12.ia.us/>. Click on the LPC Elementary link on the schools tab and then goto the Student Handbook link on the right hand side.



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CHANGE OF PLANS REMINDERS

Parents, your help is needed on a daily basis to please send a note and/or an email, if there is a change of plan with getting your child home. 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. Keep in mind all of these people that may need to know about change of plans: teachers, office, bus driver, siblings, coaches(soccer/football), others they walk with, and daycare. We are having daily situations in which not everyone knows about changes of student plans. We thank parents for assisting us in this situation.

HAWKINS MEMORIAL LIBRARY:

- Weave colorful and useful potholders with our looms and loops. Potholders week is Monday, August 28 through Saturday, September 2.
- Hawkins Memorial Library will be closed for the Labor Day holiday on Monday, September 4. Remember to stop in early to grab books, movies, puzzles, and games!
- The Rainbow Fish, by Marcus Pfister, is the September window story you can read while strolling through downtown. Eye-catching foil stamping, glittering on every page, offers instant appeal, but it is the universal message at the heart of this simple story about a beautiful fish that learns to make friends by sharing his most prized possessions that gives this book its lasting value. Begin reading the book in front of the library and follow the directions to find the next set of pages.



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UNION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

LUNCH	LEL				August 2023
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
		PIZZA DAY 23	BBQ PORK RIB ON BUN 24	PIZZA CRUNCHERS 25	
		Corn Pineapple	Potato Wedges Peaches	Mixed Veggies Fresh Fruit	
		Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	
MINI CORNDOGS 28	CRISPITO BURRITOS 29	POPCORN CHICKEN 30	MEATBALL SUB 31	KNIGHT STICKS 9/1	
Broccoli With Cheese Pears	Corn & Refried Beans Mandarin Oranges	WITH TEA ROLL Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Applesauce	(HOAGIE, MEATBALLS, CHEESE & SAUCE) Sweet Potato Fries Fresh Fruit	(Cheese Filled Breadsticks) Green Beans Pineapple	
Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	

*Vegetable / Fruit Bar Contains: Fresh Romaine Lettuce, Tomatoes, Carrots, Cucumbers, & a 2nd Fruit Daily
May Also Contain Other Choices Like Celery, Peppers, And Cauliflower. All Items On Menu Are Subject To Change Based On Product Availability.

CHOICE OF HAMBURGER ON BUN OFFERED DAILY

BREAKFAST	LEL				August 2023
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
21	22	MINI CINNIS & FRUDELS 23	BREAKFAST PIZZA 24	YOGURT PARFAITS 25	
		Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar	Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar	Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar	
		100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	
DONUTS 28	BREAKFAST BAR W/ TOAST 29	FRENCH TOAST 30	BREAKFAST PIZZA 25	YOGURT PARFAITS 9/1	
Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar	Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar	Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar	Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar	Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar	
100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	