



LA PORTE CITY ELEMENTARY WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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

Friday, September 1, 2023 | Newsletter #2

BE A DIFFERENCE MAKER

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Monday, September 4 - NO SCHOOL - LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

Tuesday, September 5 - 9th Day of School - Day 3 (M & PE)

- Regular Day of School for Preschool through 5th Grades

Wednesday, September 6 - 10th Day of School - Day 4 (A&M)

- Regular Day of School for Preschool through 5th Grades

Thursday, September 7 - 11th Day of School - Day 5 (PE&L)

- Regular Day of School for Preschool through 5th Grades

Friday, September 8 - 12th Day of School - Day 6 (M&PE)

- Regular Day of School for Preschool through 5th Grades

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

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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DAILY ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Missing a day of school here and there may not seem like much, but absences add up!

When a student misses 2 days a month..	When a student misses 4 days a month..
They will miss 20 DAYS a year.	They will miss 40 DAYS a year.
They will miss 30 HOURS of math over the school year.	They will miss 60 HOURS of math over the school year.
They will miss 60 HOURS of reading & writing over the school year.	They will miss 120 HOURS of reading & writing over the school year.
They will miss over 1 YEAR of school by graduation.	They will miss over 2 YEARS of school by graduation.

As another school year starts, we want to remind our Parents, Guardians, Relatives, and most importantly our STUDENTS about the importance of regular school attendance. Regular school attendance is the #1 factor for student success in school. If you are involved in a student's life, please encourage them to attend school and support them in regular attendance. Thank you for your help and cooperation in the success of OUR students!

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



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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.

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.



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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 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 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 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



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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.

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:

- 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 weekly activity for Tuesday, September 5 through Saturday, September 9 is Perler Beads. We have many forms and beads to make colorful Perler Bead projects.
- National Read a Book Day on September 6 calls all book lovers to indulge in their favorite hobby - guilt-free! Bringing new worlds to life, books enlighten us and transport us on exciting adventures. They can challenge our perspectives on the human experience in ways unmatched by other media. In



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a world deluged by technology, National Read a Book Day encourages us to silence the noise and turn the pages for a while.

- Did you know September is Library Card Sign-Up Month? The library has lots of items you can borrow. If you are not already a patron, come in, sign-up, and start using your library. We have books, eBooks, audiobooks, magazines, movies, newspapers, computers, programs, games, puzzles, and more...`



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UNION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

LUNCH		LEL				September 2023	
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY			
		EVERYDAY THERE WILL BE A CHOICE OF A HAMBURGER ON BUN			KNIGHT STICKS 1 (Cheese Filled Breadsticks)		
					Green Beans Pineapple Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk		
	4 WALKING TACO 5	6 CRISPY CHICKEN ON BUN 6	7 MANDARIN ORANGE 7 CHICKEN ON WG RICE	8 PEPPERONI FRENCH 8 BREAD PIZZA			
NO SCHOOL LABOR DAY	Corn Refried Beans Pears Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	French Fries 100% Fruit Juice Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Green Beans Mandarin Oranges Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Broccoli With Cheese Pineapple Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk			
11 BREADED PORK CHOP WITH WG MUFFIN	12 CHICKEN FAJITA 12	13 CHICKEN DRUMSTICK 13 WITH TEA ROLL	14 LASAGNA CHEESE ROLLUP 14 WITH GARLIC BREADSTICK	15 CHEESE PIZZA 15 (Stuffed Crust)			
Potato Wedges Applesauce Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Corn Peppers & Onions Mandarin Oranges Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Baked Beans Peaches Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Mixed Veggies Fresh Fruit Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Green Beans Pineapple Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk			
18 CHEESEBURGER ON BUN 18	19 SOFT SHELL TACO 19	20 POPCORN CHICKEN 20 WITH TEA ROLL	21 FRENCH TOAST STICKS 21 WITH SAUSAGE	22 PEPPERONI PIZZA 22 (Stuffed Crust)			
Potato Tots Fruit Cup Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Corn Refried Beans Mandarin Oranges Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Mashed Potatoes Gravy Rosy Applesauce Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Hashbrowns Fresh Fruit Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Mixed Veggies Pears Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk			
25 SHRIMP POPPERS WITH A KNIGHT STICK	26 CHICKEN & CHEESE 26 QUESADILLA	27 LOCAL FOOD DAY 27 ANTON FARMS BRATS & BEEF BURGERS	28 CHICKEN ALFREDO 28 WITH GARLIC BREADSTICK	29 PIZZA CRUNCHERS 29			
Broccoli With Cheese Mandarin Oranges Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Corn Refried Beans Pineapple Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Local Ag Science Garden Veggies Becks Apples EARLY DISMISSAL Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Peas Fresh Fruit Fruit / Veggie Bar Milk	Green Beans Applesauce Cup 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.



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BREAKFAST		LEL			September 2023
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
					YOGURT PARFAIT 1 Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk
	4 OMELET WITH TOAST Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	5 PANCAKES Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	6 BREAKFAST BURRITO Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	7 YOGURT PARFAIT 8 Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	
NO SCHOOL LABOR DAY					
MINI DONUTS 11 Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	12 BREAKFAST BAR W/TOAST Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	13 FRENCH TOAST Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	14 BREAKFAST PIZZA Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	15 YOGURT PARFAIT 15 Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	
MINI CINNIS 18 Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	19 OMELET WITH TOAST Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	20 PANCAKES Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	21 BREAKFAST BURRITO Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	22 YOGURT PARFAIT 22 Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	
FRUIT FRUDEL 25 Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	26 BREAKFAST BAR W/TOAST Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	27 FRENCH TOAST Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	28 BREAKFAST PIZZA Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	29 YOGURT PARFAIT 29 Choice: Cereal with Muffin, Yogurt, or Oatmeal Bar 100% Fruit Juice & Fruit Milk	



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