



Union Community School District

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#UKnighted

“Education to Meet Tomorrow’s Challenges”

September 5, 2023

To: Union Community School District Stakeholders

From: John Howard, Superintendent

Re: Revenue Purpose Statement

Dear Union Community School District Stakeholders:

On November 7, 2023, the voters of the Union Community School District will have an opportunity to vote on a new Revenue Purpose Statement to direct the district’s spending of the school infrastructures sales, services, and use tax revenues, commonly known as the “Statewide Penny”. **This vote does not impact your sales taxes or increase property taxes.**

The state of Iowa collects the Statewide Penny and distributes it to all school districts in the state. In 2019, the Legislature extended the collection of the Statewide Penny from December 31, 2029 to January 1, 2051. As part of that extension, the Iowa Legislature requires all school districts receiving Statewide Penny revenues to state how they will use the Statewide Penny revenues through January 1, 2051 and ask the voters to approve those uses. The Legislature limits the purposes for which Statewide Penny revenues may be used. The authorized purposes are construction, reconstruction, demolition, repair, purchase of equipment, technology, buses, school safety equipment, and other infrastructure purposes and property tax relief. The statement of how the Statewide Penny will be used is called a Revenue Purpose Statement. The voters are being asked to approve the district’s Revenue Purpose Statement at the election to be held on November 7, 2023.

The Union Community School District has utilized the “Statewide Penny” revenues in numerous ways, across all buildings, in the last year. Here are just a few examples:

- New/updated Chromebooks for students in the district.
- Asphalt replacement at DG, UHS and UMS.
- Gym resurfacing at UMS and track upgrade at UHS.
- Security camera installation in all buildings.
- Cement projects completion around the district.
- Renovation of the band room at UMS.
- HVAC improvements at UHS and UMS.
- Fascia repainting at LPC.

In addition, the administration and the Union Board of Education are considering some future projects where Statewide Penny funds could be used such as:

- Upgrading (completely) the HVAC system at UHS.
- Installing air conditioning in the gyms at UHS and UMS.
- Resurfacing the parking lots at all buildings
- Enhancing the playgrounds at both elementaries.
- Updating the public address systems in/outside all buildings.

One can easily see the Union Community School District has effectively and efficiently utilized Statewide Penny revenues over the last year for significant improvements in infrastructure and in better meeting student needs. We can continue this momentum, both now and long into the future with a renewal of the Statewide Penny on November 7, 2023. We are depending on you to Be a Difference Maker. Go Knights!

Sincerely,

John Howard, Superintendent
Union Community School District