Union Community School District
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#UKnighted
"Education to Meet Tomorrow's Challenges"

Greetings from the Union Community School District! Please find below the stakeholder communication for June 2025.

Class of 2025
Congratulations and thank you to the Class of 2025! In my graduation speech, I mentioned how this class showed unwavering commitment, undeniable perseverance and displayed supreme compassion and empathy in the wake of unfathomable circumstances. They also reminded us that even in the most traumatic and uncertain times joy, kindness, and hope are power forces. I was so proud of them!

Promotions/Graduations
Thank you to all the staff who organized our lower level (grade) promotion events during the last couple of days of school. We are so grateful to get to celebrate the accomplishments of these students with families and friends.

Field Days
A HUGE thank you to Mrs. Donlea, our elementary physical education teacher, for organizing two field days this year. For the first time ever, we combined field days between students from both LPC Elementary and DG Elementary. K-2 Field Day was held in Dysart while 3-5 Field Day was in La Porte. Thank you also to all our employees, especially our transportation staff, as well as all our high school student volunteers. Both events were terrific, and the students (and parents/guardians) had a terrific time.

ISASP Scores
We have received preliminary scores from the spring 2025 ISASP. ***It is my pleasure and honor to tell you that this year's ISASP scores are the best in our district's history.***

ELA- Average district percent proficient of 86% (up 7% from spring 2024). Highest score was 97% from the 9th grade.
Math- Average district percent proficient of 82% (up 1% from spring 2024). Highest score of 91% from the 3rd grade.
Science- Average district proficient of 76% (up 4% from spring 2024). Highest score of 88% from the 8th grade.

FAST Scores
I am also extremely pleased and honored to communicate our students' spring 2025 FAST scores. FAST is a screener for K-8 in math and literacy.

- 2024-2025 saw the highest average (district wide) in Literacy since 2019-2020 and tied for the 3rd highest since 2015-2016.
- 2024-2025 saw the highest average (district wide) in Math since 2019-2020. \
- ***1st time in the HISTORY of the district that all buildings met or exceeded the 70% threshold in both Math and Literacy.***

Spring Activities
We had another outstanding spring in terms of our high school activities. From Academic Decathlon to track and field and from golf and tennis and soccer, and virtually every other activity in between, our students and staff did a wonderful job.

Bond Referendum Update
Though nothing is official at this time, the Union Community School District Board of Education has chosen to go forward with a bond referendum in November 2025. The board is still working to finalize the full scope and possible financing of the plan, but that information should be finalized later this summer.

Safety Training
Administration is actively working with both Black Hawk and Tama County Emergency Management to have active shooter training for staff **only** prior to school starting in August. Like I have stated in the past, we hope we never have to experience such an event, but as too many tragedies have taught us, we need to be prepared.

Thank you for your continued support of our district. Have a great summer! Go Knights!

John Howard, Superintendent