



Union Community School District

200 Adams St.

La Porte City, IA 50651

Phone- 319-342-2674

Fax- 319-342-2393

[www.union.k12.ia.us](http://www.union.k12.ia.us)

#UKnighted

**“Education to Meet Tomorrow’s Challenges”**

Greetings from the Union Community School District. Please find below the stakeholder communication for February 2026.

### **Congratulations and Good Luck**

- Congratulations to our six wrestlers who qualified for the IAHSAA Boys’ Wrestling Tournament.
- Congratulations to C. Mehlert for winning the Class 2A 113 lb championship.
- Congratulations to K. Jones for finishing 5th at 138 lbs in Class 2A.
- Congratulations to our Seussical Group for earning All-State (non-performing) recognition from the Iowa High School Speech Association.
- Congratulations to all the FFA students who advanced to districts with outstanding performances at sub-districts earlier this month.
- Good Luck to the UHS Academic Decathlon team at the upcoming state competition.
- Good Luck to all the spring coaches and athletes as those seasons begin soon.

### **School Calendar 2026-2027**

The Union CSD Board of Education approved the 2026-2027 instructional calendar at the February meeting. You can find the calendar by going to our website ([www.union.k12.ia.us](http://www.union.k12.ia.us)) and clicking on Families and then Calendars.

### **Facility Improvements**

At the February meeting, the Union CSD Board of Education voted to move forward with addressing many of the district’s (major) facility issues– HVAC (at UHS and UMS), roofing (UHS and UMS), fire alarm system at UHS, parking lot improvements at UHS and more– by borrowing from SAVE (1 cent sales tax) funds. This decision allows the district to move forward sooner with these much needed improvements while not impacting property taxes. More information to come.

### **UHS Musical**

The upcoming spring musical is “Honk” by George Stile, Anthony Drewe. The musical is an adaptation of the “Ugly Duckling”. Dates are Friday, March 13th and Saturday, March 14th. Both shows begin at 7:00 p.m. with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. in the Matt Auditorium at Union High School.

### **Academic Success- Semester 1**

- High School
  - 60% of students at UHS were recognized for Academic Excellence
  - 52.3% achieved a GPA of 3.33 or higher.
  - 20% of students were on the A team.
  - Average GPA was 3.19.
- Middle School
  - 96% of students passed all their classes in 1st quarter.
  - 95% of students passed all their classes in 2nd quarter.
  - 54% of students earned 1st quarter Honor Roll.

- 51% of students earned 2nd quarter Honor Roll.
- DG and LPC
  - 42 LPC students had perfect attendance.
  - 39 DG students had perfect attendance.
  - FAST Winter Screening scores for K-5 were good... ELA- 76, Math- 80
    - The average percentage proficient score per building and for both buildings in Literacy and Math increased from the Fall FAST screener!

**Calendar Update– Winter Weather**

The approved 2025-2026 calendar (this year) had 45 more instructional hours than required by law. We use these “extra hours” to offset any missed time for state events, inclement weather, emergencies, etc. As of this writing, we have missed a total of just over 35 due to inclement weather and have just over 9 hours left. If we miss more than those hours, we will have to look at some school make-up days. To this end, the board approved the following make-up days (in order) at the February meeting:

- March 9- Change from PD day to school day.
- June 1-3- Change from PD and teacher work day to school days
- June 4-5- Add these days
- April 3- Good Friday to a school day

**National Showcase School**

Union Middle School was, once again, nominated to be a National Showcase School for Capturing Kids’ Hearts (CKH). This designation is the highest honor any school can earn through CKH. I am extremely proud of the tremendous staff and excellent students at UMS.

**Future No School/Early Out Days**

- March 9, 2026- No School- Professional Development (unless we need it for student hours)
- March 16-20, 2026- No School- Spring Break

Thank you for your continued support of our district. Go Knights!

John Howard, Superintendent