

UNITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

EXPECT GREAT THINGS

2026-2027



October 2026

Principal's Report

Sarah Engstrom-Yde, Unity Elementary School Principal



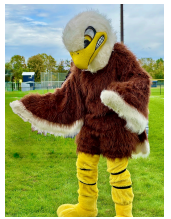
DISTRICT VISION & MISSION

Vision: Our Vision is to be the leading school district in Wisconsin where every student reaches their highest potential.

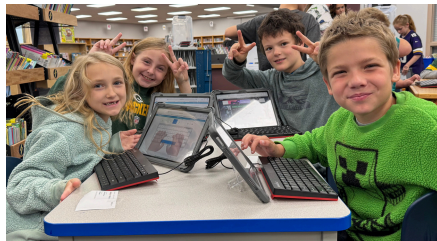
Mission: Our Mission is to empower every student to thrive as a successful citizen in partnership with our vibrant community.

OUR STUDENTS

Unity Elementary students have been actively engaged in our classrooms, school, and community this past month. Whether staying active by joining the mileage walking/running club during recess or swimming during physical education, our students are thriving. In the classroom, we are continuing our daily Walk to Read program for kindergarten through 4th-grade students, enabling them to personalize their learning as they progress through Unity's Walk to Read levels. Students have also been learning through hands-on activities like Sphero Indi coding cars, as well as exciting field trips—including the 1st-grade trip to the Children's Museum and the 4K visit to Joyer Adventure Farm.



Homecoming Week brought even more excitement to our UES students! They built connections with Unity High School athletes during recess card-signing sessions and showed off their leadership skills by leading a cheer at ROK Stadium for the all-school assembly (featuring Ms. Paulsen's 1st-grade class and Mrs. Selander's 4th-grade class). A variety of other fun Homecoming activities brought joy and smiles to students and staff throughout the week, including dress-up days, the Disco Dance Party, the Community Picnic, and the parade in Centuria. Homecoming 2026 was a fantastic way to showcase Unity Eagle Pride and wrap up a successful first month of school!



OUR STAFF



Unity staff demonstrate their school spirit and commitment to serving our students every single day! They ensure our students enter and exit the building safely and regularly connect with families about how their child is doing. Our staff help each student receive the individualized support they need to make meaningful academic growth by providing targeted small-group instruction and interventions in English Language Arts (ELA) and math. Unity educators also collaborate during weekly team time to analyze student progress and plan explicit next steps to keep learning moving forward.

This complex work is approached with joy, energy, and a healthy dose of fun! On any given day, students might learn a bit of ASL from Mrs. Feist (our new music teacher) while waiting quietly to transition to their next class, or enjoy an afternoon walk on our nature trails as an all-class reward.

OUR FAMILIES & COMMUNITY

Elementary students joined staff and students from across the district for this year's Homecoming parade in Centuria. Many family and community members lined the parade route as our students proudly displayed their Unity spirit in red, navy, and white. This tradition was a highlight of the week for many of us, and it was wonderful to see alumni floats representing the Classes of 1961 and 1981!



UES students also benefited from additional community engagement opportunities this past month. Our 4K through 2nd-grade students enjoyed a visit from the local fire department during Fire Safety Week, learning about fire trucks and the vital role firefighters play in serving our community. We are grateful for their service and the time they spent with our youngest learners. In addition, our 4th-grade classes participated in School Sense Financial Education interviews and training with a representative from Royal Credit Union, giving students a practical look at financial literacy. Next, they will begin helping with and supporting our elementary Super Savers!



UNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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#UNITYSCHOOL

"EXPECT GREAT THINGS"

#UNITYEAGLEPRIDE



Middle School Board Report

October 2026

Celebrating Attendance

Strong attendance from the 2025–26 school year was recognized at the start of the year. Four students achieved perfect attendance, while 130 students in grades 6–8 maintained a 95% or higher attendance rate. As a middle school, UMS achieved an overall attendance rate of 94.8% last year. Students were recognized for their commitment to consistent attendance and learning.



Recognizing Academic Achievement

We recognized 106 students in grades 6–8 for earning a 3.0 GPA or higher during the previous school year. We are proud of their hard work and academic commitment.



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

5th Grade	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade	E Team
 Kinzley Southard	 Nadia Cox	 Louis Castillo	 Brooklyn Zelinski	 Thomas Anneken
 Kora Woltz	 Hogan Heinen	 Jubilee Hikel	 Jhandry Vicente-Malacatus	 Kedgenal Tenold-Edstrom
 Mabel Hardin	 McKenna Spofford	 Jack Pouliot	 Lyzel Eichman	 Liam Heller

Sept.
16

Sept.
23

Sept.
30

Behavior Celebrations

At a recent student assembly, we recognized 98 students in grades 6–8 who had no major behavior referrals during the previous school year. We appreciate these students for consistently demonstrating positive behavior and contributing to a positive school environment.



GO EAGLES!



Middle School Board Report

October 2026

HOMEcoming

Students enjoyed celebrating Unity traditions throughout Homecoming Week with dress-up days, activities, and the Homecoming Parade in Centuria. It was a fun week filled with school spirit, laughter, and great memories.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| October 13th: | MS FB @ Unity
<i>vs Spooner - ROK - 5pm</i>
MS VB @ Unity
<i>vs Bloomer - 5pm</i> |
| October 15th: | MS VB @ Cameron |
| October 16th: | PBIS Reward Day
<i>Staff vs MS FB Game</i>
<i>Staff vs MS VB Game</i> |
| October 19th: | NO SCHOOL - In service
P/T Conferences (4-8pm) |
| October 20th: | MS Boys Basketball starts! |
| October 28th: | Unity School - Flu Shot Clinic |
| October 30th: | MS Title I Meeting |

Additional Academic Support



We are excited to have added several opportunities to provide students with additional academic support this year. Through grants, a Math Corps Tutor is supporting students in grades 4–8 with identified math skills, while Gifted and Talented teacher Katelyn Hendricks will be providing enrichment opportunities. District math tutor Kelsey Bazey is also available to support middle school students and staff this school year.

GO EAGLES!



HIGH SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: OCTOBER, 2026



HOMECOMING 2026 WAS CERTAINLY ONE TO REMEMBER! WHILE MANY OF OUR FAVORITE TRADITIONS REMAINED, NEW EXPERIENCES AND CHANGES ALSO HELPED MAKE THIS YEAR'S CELEBRATION UNIQUE. FEATURED HERE IS THE 2026 HOMECOMING ROYALTY.

LEFT TO RIGHT: ANDREA ERICKSON, JORELL BURNETT, BREEYN NELSON, MARKUS MAJESKE, TEIGAN PETERSON, DONAVIN PROULX, ALEXIS BRITTON, AND AIDAN NAGEL. THE KING AND QUEEN WERE LATER CROWNED AT THE VOLLEYBALL GAME ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2026. THE KING AND QUEEN WERE TEIGAN PETERSON AND DONAVIN PROULX.

THE HOMECOMING DANCE WAS HELD ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026, WITH A MEMORABLE AND ENERGETIC BLACK-LIGHT DANCE THEME. MORE THAN 115 STUDENTS ATTENDED THE DANCE, MAKING IT A FUN-FILLED EVENING OF MUSIC, DANCING, AND SCHOOL SPIRIT!



THE ANNUAL SENIOR SUNRISE WAS A BEAUTIFUL MORNING FILLED WITH JOY, MEMORIES, AND A DELICIOUS BREAKFAST. MORE THAN HALF OF THE SENIOR CLASS CAME OUT BRIGHT AND EARLY AT 6:15 A.M. TO WATCH THE SUN RISE TOGETHER AND CELEBRATE THE BEGINNING OF THEIR SENIOR YEAR.





HIGH SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: OCTOBER, 2026



HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING UPDATE

UNITY HIGH SCHOOL BEGINS THE 2026-27 SCHOOL YEAR WITH A TOTAL ENROLLMENT OF 258 STUDENTS DISTRIBUTED ACROSS GRADE LEVELS AS FOLLOWS:

9TH: 63 STUDENTS
10TH: 55 STUDENTS
11TH: 60 STUDENTS
12TH: 77 STUDENTS
9 ADP STUDENTS
=264 STUDENTS AT UHS

OUR UNITY HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS AND SENIORS HAD A WONDERFUL DAY OF POSTSECONDARY EXPLORATION ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6!

STUDENTS ATTENDED THE NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR, WHERE THEY HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT WITH COLLEGES AND LEARN MORE ABOUT THEIR OPTIONS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL. OUR JUNIORS ALSO TOURED DUNWOODY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, WHILE OUR SENIORS TOURED UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-RIVER FALLS.

IT WAS A GREAT DAY FILLED WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE, ASK QUESTIONS, AND BEGIN THINKING ABOUT WHAT COMES NEXT. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE STAFF AND COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES WHO HELPED MAKE THE DAY A MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCE FOR OUR STUDENTS!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 20-24 – National FFA Convention
- October 26– Annual Meeting
- October 27 – National Presenter: Kevin Hines
- October 28 - FFA Thank A Farmer
- October 30 – State Cross-Country
- First two weekends of November: UHS Drama Club Presents: *“The Addams Family”*



OCTOBER 2026

SPECIAL EDUCATION BOARD REPORT



Amanda
Siefert



Breonna
Sarnstrom



Meghan
Newton



Heather
Pfeifer

Unity School District continues its partnership with CESA 11 through the Special Education Teacher Induction Program. The program provides high-quality professional development, coaching, and access to a network of beginning special education educators. The program is offered at no cost to the district, providing a valuable professional development opportunity for Unity's special education staff.

This year, Amanda Siefert will begin Year 1 of the program. Year 1 includes six full-day professional learning sessions led by trained specialists focusing on High-Leverage Practices and special education compliance, including Positive Learning Environments, Explicit Instruction, Student Engagement, Social-Emotional Skills, Collaboration, Data-Driven Planning, and IEP Development and Meeting Facilitation. Teachers also receive at least six in-district coaching sessions and three virtual check-ins. Professional learning is aligned with Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Standards.

Three Unity special education teachers, including Breonna Sarnstrom, Meghan Newton, and Heather Pfeifer, are entering Year 2. Year 2 includes two Focused Learning/Support Sessions and four in-district coaching sessions, providing continued professional growth and individualized support based on classroom experiences and student needs.

The continued partnership with CESA 11 demonstrates Unity's commitment to supporting and developing its special education teachers.

READS FOR SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAM



Unity School District participated in the READS for Summer Learning Program, an evidence-based literacy program designed by the READS Lab at Harvard to strengthen reading skills and help prevent summer learning loss for students in grades 3-5. Thirty students enrolled in the program, with approximately half actively participating in the summer reading activities.

Students received 10 customized books, selected based on their reading interests and district assessment data. Before summer, students also participated in six literacy lessons focused on comprehension strategies and received optional summer reading activities and incentives. Family engagement was an important component of the program. During Parent-Teacher Conferences, families attended a Parent Night presentation where they learned about the program and practical strategies for supporting reading at home.

Throughout the summer, middle school teacher Breonna Sarnstrom reached out to participating families to provide encouragement and support. We observed a positive correlation between participation in the READS activities and improved reading scores. Students who actively participated in the program demonstrated stronger individual reading growth. In addition, students whose parents attended the Parent Night presentation to learn summer reading strategies also showed positive reading growth.

The READS program continues to emphasize strong school-family partnerships, student engagement, and opportunities for students to maintain and strengthen their reading skills.