

District Administrator's Report

November 2013

Unity School District

Farm to School Seminar Planned

Unity School District will be hosting a seminar for area farmers and producers to share information on how to work collaboratively with school food service departments. Unity has been a leader in the inclusion of locally produced fruits and vegetables into the school meal program. This seminar is designed to provide valuable information to local producers from this region to ensure that students benefit from fresh and locally produced food.

CommUNITY Harvest Workshop

Thursday December 5th

Unity Auditorium

10:00 AM - 2:30 PM, lunch served at 11:30 AM

Lunch to include beef stew, dinner rolls and milk

Agenda

10:00 AM	Welcome and Introductions	
10:10 AM	Farm to School Introduction	
10:30 - 11:30 AM	Farm to School, The Can's and Cannot's	Brian Hobbs, Polk Co. Environmental Health
11:30 AM - 12:00 Noon	Lunch and Networking	
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Farm to School Legalities	
1:00 PM - 1:30 PM	School Garden Fun	Unity Horticulture Students
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	Questions and Answers	

New District Website is Live

Unity School District's new website is now live! The redesign is meant to provide a cleaner, easier to navigate experience for students, parents, and community members. There are portions of the website that are still being developed and added, with the entire transformation scheduled to be completed in the next two weeks.

Check out the new website at www.unity.k12.wi.us

Educator Effectiveness Program Lays Foundation in District

Unity School District has been a local leader in piloting the Department of Public Instruction's approach to the Educator Effectiveness model. Unity participated in the Teacher Practice component pilot during the 2012-2013 school year. This school year, Unity has a pilot group participating in the full model. Unity is committed to being an active participant in developing a strong educator effectiveness model for DPI.

Increase student achievement in reading through curriculum development, consistency of instruction, and effective instructional strategies.

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Diploma Plus Program Expands in High School

Unity School District's Diploma Plus program is focused on providing every Unity High School graduate with additional training and certification to benefit them in their further educational and career efforts. The program has been developed with an emphasis on Youth Options credits, Advanced Placement courses, and WITC articulated coursework. There will also now be a space available in the high school office for students to meet with military recruiters, college admissions counselors, and potential employers. The small conference room space will provide a professional atmosphere for students to develop relationships with those that will further help them to achieve their goals beyond high school.

School Safety Plan Implemented With Law Enforcement Support

Unity School District's School Safety Plan has been implemented since the start of the school year. The District's employees have undergone training to familiarize themselves with the safety procedures and expectations defined in the plan. Unity School District will be conducting the first of two planned Lockdown drills in the course of the next few weeks. The Polk County Sheriff's Department has been involved in the development of the plan and is also involved in its implementation. With the guidance of the District's school resource officer, Deputy Grimm, the practice drills will be evaluated with feedback provided for further improvement.

Veterans Day Assembly

Unity School District honored the area's veterans with an assembly on Monday, November 11th in the high school gymnasium. The assembly is an annual tradition where the high school choir and the middle school band share their appreciation of our veterans' sacrifices through their performances. Additionally, the elementary student council members shared "thank you" cards for those veterans in attendance.

The assembly is open to the public annually and is followed by a lunch reception in the auditorium. Please consider attending in the future.



Implement and incorporate the District's Response to Intervention Model throughout pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade programming for students of all academic and behavioral needs.

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Professional Development Efforts

Unity School District is committed to providing quality professional development and training opportunities for its staff. Initiatives such as the Response to Intervention (RTI) Model planning, Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS), Common Core Standards, Educator Effectiveness Program, successful transitions planning, and technology integration are at the center of the District's goals and efforts for the school year.

Upcoming Efforts:

- January 20: Full Day, Strengthening Curriculum, PBIS
- February 17: Full Day, Strengthening Curriculum, PBIS

Unity Wall of Honor Nominations Sought

The Unity Board of Education has established a "Wall of Honor" to recognize and honor the accomplishments of Unity alumni and employees. Criteria for selection to the "Wall of Honor" will be based on contributions in the areas of education, business, human services, government, athletic, military, fine arts, and community involvement. Alumni selection is based on post-high school accomplishments. The nominee will be screened by a selection committee, which will meet in early March. Deadline for applications each year is March 1st.

If you know of someone who is worthy of being considered for the "Wall of Honor," nomination forms are available at Unity's District and School offices. Additionally, application forms are available on the District website at www.unity.k12.wi.us. If you have any questions, call or write to Unity Wall of Honor, Unity School District, 1908 150th St./Hwy 46N, Balsam Lake, WI 54810; (715) 825-3515.

2013-2014 School District Goals

(Adopted 8-13)

- Increase student achievement in reading through curriculum development, consistency of instruction, and effective instructional strategies.
- Implement and incorporate the District's Response to Intervention Model throughout pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade programming for students of all academic and behavioral needs.
- Promote school spirit and pride through increasing community and parent involvement.
- Integrate technology into the teaching and learning process to best prepare our students for their future.

SCHOOL CLOSING INFORMATION

PARENTS:

Please make sure that your contact information is updated with your child's school office. This will ensure that you receive the Skylert parent notification phone calls.

School Closing Information can be found at these media outlets.

WCCO Channel 4, www.wcco.com
 KSTP Channel 5, www.kstp.com
 KMSP Channel 9, www.myfox9.com
 KARE Channel 11, www.kare11.com

Promote school spirit and pride through increasing community and parent involvement.

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Upcoming Meetings and Events

DATE	MEETING	PLACE	TIME
Friday, November 8	CESA 11 Superintendent Meeting	Turtle Lake	9:30 AM
Tuesday, November 12	Board of Education Meeting	Board Room	6:00 PM
November 13, 14	Wisconsin Rural Schools Alliance Conference	Rothschild, WI	
Thursday, November 14	District Technology Committee Meeting - Canceled	Board Room	7:30 AM
Friday, November 15	High School Variety Show	Auditorium	7:00 PM
Tuesday, November 19	Lakeland Conference Superintendent Meeting	Rice Lake	9:00 AM
Wednesday, November 20	Administrative Team Meeting	District	9:30 AM
November 25-29	No School - Fall Break	District	
Thursday, December 5	Farm to School Training Seminar	Auditorium	10:00 AM
Thursday, December 5	Professional Staff Development Meeting	Elem. Conf. Room	7:40 AM
Thursday, December 5	Community Education Advisory Council Meeting	Board Room	5:00 PM
December 9, 10, 11	Wisconsin SLATE Conference	Wisconsin Dells	
Tuesday, December 10	Board of Education Meeting	Board Room	6:00 PM
Thursday, December 12	District Technology Committee Meeting	Board Room	7:30 AM
Friday, December 13	CESA 11 Superintendent Meeting	Turtle Lake	9:30 AM
Tuesday, December 17	Lakeland Conference Superintendent Meeting	Rice Lake	9:00 AM
Dec. 21 - Jan. 1	No School - Winter Break	District	
Thursday, January 2	School Resumes	District	
Thursday, January 2	Professional Staff Development Meeting	Elem. Conf. Room	7:40 AM

There are many performance arts events through November and December. Visit the District website, under the "Calendar" menu for information on these amazing concerts and performances.

"Expect Great Things"

Integrate technology into the teaching and learning process to best prepare our students for their future.

Unity School District