



## Where Little Learners Expect Great Things!



### Thank You To All Who Served Our Students, Parents, and Community at Summer School!

What an incredible summer! This was the largest and longest period of programming the district has provided for free for families for a number of years. It was so beneficial for maintaining and developing academic skills, along with fun and friendships. We especially appreciated the partnership with the Eagle Care Club (ECC) run by Mrs. Amanda Seifert from LEAP. This was very helpful for before and after care for families and was the only portion that was fee based.

#### THANK YOU TO:

Mrs. Meyer - Kindergarten  
Mrs. Cavalier - Kindergarten  
Mrs. Sorensen - Kindergarten  
Mrs. Stark - 1<sup>st</sup> / Kindergarten  
Mrs. McElhone - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
Ms. Grams - 1st/2<sup>nd</sup> Grade  
Ms. Bazey - Kids Kamps and 'Everything'  
Ms. Blomberg - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade/  
Yard Games  
Mrs. Cornelius - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade  
Mrs. Schock-Clarkson -  
Reading, Rec

### Continued...

THANK YOU...continued.....

Mrs. Lueck - Crayons, Paper  
Mrs. Hinze - Summer Olympics  
Mrs. VosBenkowski - Art Explorations  
Mrs. Hogan - Rock On!  
Mrs. Emerson - Cupcake Wars/ Sports  
Mr. Johnson - Strings and Things  
Mr. Mackey - Yard Games/ Basketball  
Mr. Hikel - Summer Saunters/Credit Rec.  
Mrs. Weness - Summer Saunters/ Theatre  
Mr. Kern - CrossCountry, Survival Camping  
Mrs. Birling - Cross Country  
Mrs. Brown - Comics/Crafts/Chemistry  
Ms. Tiedemann - Baking/ Desserts  
Mrs. Crowe and Olson - Horse Camp  
Mr. Johnson - Basketball/ Strength  
Mrs. Hansch - Credit Recovery  
Mr. Brown - Drivers Ed  
Mrs. Wilhelm - Swimming  
Mrs. Hansen - Theatre  
Mr. Martinez - Tennis  
Mr. Crowe - Softball  
Mr. Hendrikson and Mooney - Baseball  
Mrs. Schleussner - Basketball  
Mr. Harris - Basketball/ Strength  
Mrs. Nyhus - Volleyball  
Mrs. DeLozier - Volleyball  
Mr. Bates - Band  
Mr. Feist - Basketball  
Mrs. Paulsen - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade  
Mrs. Peterson - 3rd/4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Mrs. Lechman - 3rd/4<sup>th</sup> grade  
Mr./Mrs. Nelson, Johnson, Peterson, Nyhus,  
Denucci, Colletti, Harris -  
Strength/Conditioning  
...and...

Our very special education assistants,  
custodial, maintenance, bussing, district,  
ECC, and kitchen staff!

**All of you made an incredible difference in  
the lives of our kids!!! THANK YOU!!!**

### School Updates

- Welcome to Class!  
Letters heading out now.
- Schedules for the year are being finalized.
- Final Classroom adjustments are being made.
- Compiling the final Summer School Report is beginning now - likely projected ~70 FTE results.
- Preparing for Title 1 Audit - our year has been moved up to this year.
- Reading Corps cut to 1 full and 1 part time (from 2 full time) (impact of Fed Americorps funds) - schedule will be ok w/better achievement.
- FoodWise Program Cut - this is a supplement to Health Instruction - 'healthy foods' - (our Curriculum is still covered) (impact of Fed Funds cut).
- Keys to Literacy Schedule for PD ready to go.
- Finalizing beginning trainings, accounts, and mentors for new teachers!
- EVERYONE is excited for the year to start!



# Middle School Board Report

## August 2025

### Middle School Students Shine at the Polk County Fair

From July 24–27, our talented Unity Middle School students proudly showcased their skills, creativity, and dedication at the Polk County Fair. With a wide variety of exhibits and animals on display, their hard work was evident throughout the fair. We are incredibly proud of the way our students continue to represent Unity with pride, responsibility, and excellence beyond the classroom.



### Softball and Baseball Teams Wrap Up a Great Season

Our middle school softball and baseball teams had an outstanding summer, not only building skills on the field but also developing teamwork, responsibility, and character. Players worked hard, supported one another, and represented Unity with pride throughout the season. A huge thank you to our dedicated coaches and supportive parents for the time, energy, and encouragement they poured into making this such a memorable and fun experience!



### Summer School Success

Summer school was a big success, with fun and enriching opportunities like summer saunters, horse camp, outdoor yard games, survival camping, strings and things, strength and conditioning, and adventures in baking. Students also enjoyed sports camps for basketball, cross country, football, tennis, and volleyball.

### Upcoming Events

- |                 |                          |                |                             |
|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| • August 13:    | New Teacher Orientation  | • August 25:   | Open House (4-7pm)          |
| • August 19-27: | Fall Inservice           | • August 25:   | 5th Grade Orientation (5pm) |
| • August 25:    | Student Pictures (4-7pm) | • September 2: | 1st Day of School           |

**GO EAGLES!**





## ANNUAL CAR & CRAFT SHOW

The Unity SkillsUSA Chapter hosted their annual Car and Craft Show on Saturday, August 2, 2025. Along with enjoying the beautiful weather, there were around thirty cars on display representing all different makes and models, and about 100 people stopped by to check out the cars, browse the crafts, take a swing at the smash car, and enjoy some Papa Murphy's pizza. Thanks to everyone's support, the SkillsUSA Chapter raised nearly \$700, which will go toward competition registration fees, community service projects, and annual scholarships.



## WIAA AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Unity School District has been named a recipient of the 2024-25 Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association Award of Excellence — a recognition earned by only 39 schools across the state! This prestigious award highlights Unity's continued commitment to sportsmanship, integrity, leadership, character, and administrative excellence in athletics. From thoughtful coaching and leadership development to community volunteerism and scholar-athlete nominations, Unity's athletic program demonstrates what it means to lead with purpose — on and off the field.



*Award of Excellence*  
**RECIPIENTS**



*Leadership • Sportsmanship • Ethics • Integrity*





On July 28, the Unity Girls Varsity Volleyball team earned an impressive 2nd place finish at the Barron Summer League! The team has been working hard all summer, dedicating time to conditioning and building strong team chemistry. There's a lot to be proud of, and even more to look forward to as we head into the Fall season.

## UMD FOOTBALL CAMP



From June 16–18, the Unity Football Team attended a football camp held on campus at the University of Minnesota Duluth. Led by Coach Nyhus, the camp focused on team bonding, skill development, and conditioning and fitness. The experience helped the team grow both on and off the field as they prepared for the upcoming season.

## 29th Annual Wisconsin American Indian Studies Summer Institute

In partnership with CESA 11 and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), Unity proudly hosted the 29th Annual Wisconsin American Indian Studies Summer Institute from July 28 through August 1.

This impactful event provided nearly 50 educators from across Wisconsin with high-quality professional development focused on the histories, cultures, and tribal sovereignty of the American Indian nations and tribal communities in Wisconsin.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to David O'Connor from DPI and Sam River for their hard work and dedication in organizing this important event. Additionally, we extend our sincere appreciation to CESA 11 Educational Consultant Kyle Polzin, whose contributions were instrumental in the success of the institute.



# UNITY SPECIAL EDUCATION

## AUGUST 2025 BOARD REPORT

### WELCOMING AND SUPPORTING NEW TEACHERS

Unity Middle School is welcoming three new special education teachers this coming school year. To support their transition, they will participate in the CESA 11 New Teacher Induction Program, which includes six days of in-person training and six coaching sessions with CESA consultants throughout the year. Each teacher is also paired with a district mentor who will provide ongoing, site-based support. Middle School special education staff already met for a planning day to review student needs and prepare for the year ahead. Additional support includes the August 13th New Teacher Orientation, in-service days, and access to professional learning resources. These efforts reflect Unity's commitment to a strong start and continued success for our new educators.

#### Heather Pfeifer

Heather brings a rich and diverse background to her new role, including over 30 years of experience in the restaurant industry and time spent leading youth camp sessions with the YMCA—experiences that have strengthened her leadership, communication, and teamwork skills. Originally from Southern California, Heather recently relocated to Wisconsin with her partner, their two children, and a variety of pets. She holds a double bachelor's degree in Childhood Development and Business Leadership from Ashford University, as well as a Master's in Elementary Education from Grand Canyon University, where she also earned her teaching credential. Over the past year, Heather has had the opportunity to serve as a substitute teacher at Unity, and she is excited to now join the staff full-time. Currently residing in Milltown, she looks forward to continuing to grow, learn, and collaborate with students, staff, and families throughout the school year.

#### Breonna Sarnstrom



This is Breonna's first year of teaching after recently graduating from the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire with a degree in Special Education. Originally from Hammond, Wisconsin, Breonna will be living at her family's cabin in the Balsam Lake area during the school year. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with friends and family, doing puzzles, watching TV, and reading. Breonna is enthusiastic about starting her teaching career at Unity and looks forward to a positive and rewarding school year ahead.

#### Meghan Newton



Originally from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Meghan relocated to Balsam Lake three years ago and is excited to begin this new chapter in her teaching career. Outside the classroom, Meghan enjoys reading, crocheting, and baking. She is also a proud dog owner to three beloved pets—Coco, Matilda, and Waylon—who play a big role in her life. Meghan is looking forward to building connections with students, staff, and families, and is excited for the year ahead at Unity Middle School.