



Where Little Learners Expect Great Things!



Unity Elementary's Theme This Year Is "Trying Hard Helps Us Learn and GROW!"

This year, a quote comparing children with flowers really struck home.

It was: "Children are like flowers, the more care and attention you give them, the more they bloom". Our staff is working hard this year to provide the absolute most care and attention to our kids we can!

We also kicked off the year sharing with students at our assembly that they also can help learn and grow the best they can by trying hard all year!

To help emphasize this theme, we created a fun photo and video of a flower growing for all to see and be a part of. It was a special event and the kids did wonderfully!

Check out the video online, and picture here!



Thank You to Mr. Rasmussen and Mrs. Chell!

Mr. Rasmussen, our new Director of Teaching and Learning has really made a positive impact at our school. We are so appreciative of his leadership in the newly revamped Mentorship Program, Curricular Organization, Collaborative Trainings and Leadership, and have started meetings and reviews of data, schedules and more to best help instructional practices. Thank you Mr. Rasmussen! We also again want to thank Mrs. Chell for her help with many of the above, and especially for kicking off a successful Keys to Literacy Training for all staff! (Our final act 20 requirement).

School Updates

- School Enrollment is at 350 students this year to start.
- Reading Corps schedule has been successfully and creatively made even with cuts.
- Assessments, Interventions, Walk to Read and other structures are planned and starting soon!
- Ready, Set, Go! Conferences are going well - 1st day for K and PK is Friday, Sep 3!
- The year has started well and we are so proud of all the children!



Middle School Board Report

September 2025

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

Unity Middle School has started the school year with energy and enthusiasm, focusing on building connections, celebrating student success, and preparing for a year of growth and achievement.

CELEBRATING ATTENDANCE

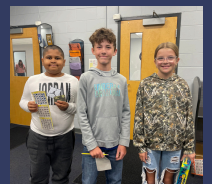
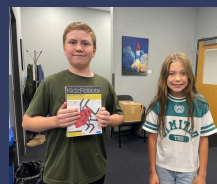
Outstanding attendance from the 2024–25 school year was recognized at the start of the year. Two students achieved perfect attendance, while many others maintained 94% or higher attendance throughout the year. These students were celebrated for their commitment and consistency in learning.

Students with perfect attendance were Hastiin Peck and Kedgenal Tenold-Edstrom.



BACK-TO-SCHOOL FUN

The school year began with a spirited opening day assembly that included staff introductions, walk-up songs, and a shared vision for the year. Students also reviewed expectations for success and participated in relationship-building activities. The day ended on a fun note with an all-school bingo event, bringing the middle school staff and students together.



RECOGNIZING POSITIVE BEHAVIOR

Students who successfully met behavior expectations last year were recognized for having no Office Discipline Referrals during our Wednesday morning student assembly. This recognition highlighted an impressive group of students who consistently demonstrated responsibility, respect, and positive decision-making.



UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPT. 17TH: Power of Youth Presentation
(Grades 7-12) 2:15pm - PAC

SEPT. 19TH: Homecoming!
Parade at 10:30am, Early Release
at 1:00pm

SEPT. 24TH: Picture Re-Take Day

GO EAGLES!



TENNIS TEAM UPDATE

The Unity Girls Tennis team is off to an amazing start with a conference record of 4-2 as of last week! It is sure to be an excellent season!



Unity to host
Cross-Country on
9/18!

CROSS COUNTRY

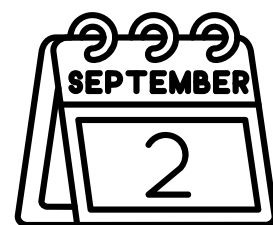


Unity High School hosted its District Open House on Monday, August 25, 2025. It was an incredible night that included a "Suddenly Seniors Information Night" and a "Freshmen Orientation." Families were able to hear school year happenings and plan for the amazing year ahead. It was an awesome evening with record-breaking attendance!

OPEN HOUSE!



CONGRATS!



HAPPY FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!



September 2 was an exciting first day of school. The high school students spent time hearing the latest updates about clubs and activities, as well as a review of the handbook, behavior expectations, and rewards. The school was buzzing with energy!

Student council members were busy presenting volunteer opportunities that the students will participate in on Friday, September 5, 2025. They also assisted the freshman class with a high school tour and helped with lockers.

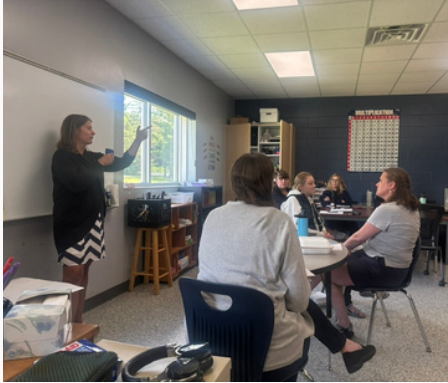
Students got to visit and hear introductions for all available clubs and activities. They learned communication and teamwork in an activity in Mrs. Jagielo's room by doing a blind puzzle. It was a great day for all!



— UNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT —

Special Education Board Report

September 2025



Karen Cass Felling working and planning with Special Education staff

Helping Students in the Moment

Helping students regulate in the moment—during emotional outbursts, shutdowns, or challenges is a key focus in staff development. Rather than waiting for behaviors to pass or reacting with consequences alone, staff are learning how to recognize signs of escalation early and step in with calm, co-regulation strategies. These timely interventions are helping students return to learning more quickly and building trust that lasts.

**“One kind word
can change
someone’s entire
day.” – Unknown**

Supporting Every Student, Every Day: A District-Wide Commitment to Understanding Challenging Behavior

What makes the Unity School District truly exceptional is the people. From classrooms to cafeterias, buses to playgrounds, offices to maintenance—every staff member plays a vital role in supporting the students.

This year, a district-wide professional development session was held for all staff, including teachers, educational assistants, bus drivers, food service workers, custodians, daycare, maintenance personnel, kitchen teams, office staff, and other support personnel. The goal was simple: to equip everyone with the tools to understand student behavior better and support it, regardless of where or how they interact with them. Additional sessions were held for educational assistants and special education staff.

Karen Cass Felling, a licensed psychologist who has been consulting with Unity for over 20 years, returned. Her session, "Reframing Challenging Behavior," focused on what happens in the brain when students become dysregulated—and how we, as adults, can respond in ways that help rather than escalate.

Karen emphasized that what may appear to be defiance is often a student struggling to cope with their emotions. She shared strategies to:

- De-escalate emotional intensity
- Co-regulate with students in distress
- Create emotionally safe environments across all settings

The message was clear: Every interaction matters. Whether it's a kind word in the lunch line, calming actions and words during a meltdown, or a smile at the front door—these moments build connection and trust. And connection is what helps kids succeed. Staff appreciated not only the practical tools but also the acknowledgment that their roles are essential to student growth and well-being. No matter what the role, everyone makes a difference helping the students feel safe, supported, and successful—every single day.



DOTL Board Report

September 2025

NEW TEACHER INDUCTION AND MENTORING PROGRAM

The 2025-26 New Teacher Induction and Mentoring program began on August 13th with new staff and their mentors attending an all day orientation. The day consisted of community building, district systems overviews, and mentoring time.

Unity's New Teacher Induction and Mentoring program has been updated to better reflect best practices in teacher mentorships. Mentors will be spending 30 minutes per week, on average, with their mentees each week. Trent Rasmussen, Director of Teaching and Learning, will be spending 15 minutes per week, on average, with new staff. Mentorship activities include one-on-one meetings, co-observations of experienced teacher, and mentor/mentee observation cycles.

In addition, mentors and mentees will be engaging in monthly seminars facilitated by Trent to cultivate sound instructional practices, instill district values, and develop the professionalism of our new staff.

The Unity Administrative Team has also developed a written handbook for the mentoring program to standardize and sustain our program for future years.

NEW STAFF ORIENTATION DAY



BY THE NUMBERS

New Staff	11
Mentors	10
Minutes per Week Mentoring Goal	45

MENTORING MONDAY SEMINARS

- Classroom Management & Procedures
- Building Respect, Rapport, and Trust
- Parent Communication & Family Engagement
- Professional Learning and Growth / EE
- Curriculum Development and Use Expectations
- Lesson Planning Structures
- Strategic Assessment Planning
- Core Instructional Practices
- Working Collaboratively

CURRICULAR FOCUS

Trent will be meeting with each new teacher on a monthly basis to support “in the moment” curriculum questions as teachers implement our district curriculum. Training will also be provided through this process on how to best utilize the high quality instructional materials our district has invested in.

EXPECT GREAT THINGS!