

District Administrator's Report

March 2016

Facilities Design Process In Full Swing

The design phase is continuing as the design teams for various aspects of the project met with the architect on four separate planning days. The small teams worked directly with the architect, to address the long-term needs of the facility and programming areas. Some of the groups have also conducted some site visits to other facilities to determine what may be possible design elements for the project.

Kraus Anderson is the construction manager for the project and will be designing the specifications for the bid process, which will start in February, after the designs become more formalized. In addition to DSGW as the architectural firm, Karges-Faulconbridge, Inc. (KFI) has been selected as the mechanical engineering firm as well as Cedar Corporation as the civil engineering firm.

Once the overall design has been developed and approved by the Board, the bidding process will begin. This bidding process will include various contractors and trades. The construction project will be done in two phases as the facilities will continue to be used during the construction process. It is anticipated that the Board of Education will be considering the final design for approval in April.

The District is targeting late spring/early summer for the start of the actual construction process. It is expected that the major components of the project will be completed by the fall of 2017 for the start of the 2017-2018 school year.

Unity Summer School Returns for More Learning and Fun

The 2016 Summer School Program looks to build on the success of last summer's program. Enrollment numbers for last summer were absolutely amazing, with nearly 600 enrolled. Luck and Unity, working collaboratively, provided the area's richest, most rigorous, and creative summer school programming. This year's program will again see the two neighboring districts combining to provide an exemplary learning program for students. The courses offered will be geared toward students' interests while providing a project based approach to learning.

Families and students who are interested in registering for the course offerings at the elementary, middle, and high schools are encouraged to contact their child's office soon. Information will be posted on the school district website regarding the exact dates, times, events, and classes.

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Open Enrollment Season is February 1 - April 29

Open enrollment information may be found on the Unity School District website at www.unity.k12.wi.us or at the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction website at <http://dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment>. If you would like further information, you can contact the Unity School District office at 715-825-3515.

What is Public School Open Enrollment?

Wisconsin's inter-district public school open enrollment program allows parents to apply for their children to attend school districts other than the one in which they live. Applications may be submitted to up to three nonresident school districts.

Who may participate in open enrollment?

Pupils in 5-year-old kindergarten to grade 12 may apply to participate in open enrollment.

Open enrollment for prekindergarten, 4-year-old kindergarten and early childhood education is limited. Parents should call their resident school districts to find out if their preschool-aged children qualify for open enrollment.

How and when may parents apply?

The open enrollment application period for the 2016-17 school year is from February 1-April 29, 2016. The application period closes at 4:00 p.m. on April 29, 2016. Late applications will not be accepted for any reason.

Parents may apply online at <http://dpi.wi.gov/oe>.

2016-2017 District Budget Planning Begins

The administration is currently analyzing the proposed district budget for 2016-2017. A budget is composed of both revenues and expenditures. With the revenue for 2016-2017 being flat for school districts, and Unity receiving less than 20% state aid, there is considerable planning that must be done to bring a balanced budget to the school board.

The budget will be a topic of discussion at the Board Planning Session in April. A proposed budget will be considered at the April Board of Education meeting.



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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), Educator Effectiveness Program, career and technical education, accelerated learning, successful transitions planning, and technology integration are at the center of the District's goals and efforts for the school year.

Upcoming Efforts:

- 🕒 April 5 - Solo and Ensemble, Staff Training

Community Education Program Sees Changes in Programming

Information regarding the specific offerings can be found at <http://unity.k12.wi.us/district/community-education> and on Facebook at "Unity Community Education." Additionally, if you are interested in teaching a class, would like to register, or have an idea for an offering, please contact Deb Paulsen at (715) 825-2101 x1560.

Consider Teaching A Class!

2015-2016 School District Goals

(Approved by the Unity Board of Education, 4-15)

- 1. Implement the Educator Effectiveness Model with a focus on school improvement, staff collaboration, student achievement, and educator practices.
- 2. Encourage career, college, and technical readiness through business and school partnerships.
- 3. Promote and provide flexible accelerated, personalized learning opportunities for students.
- 4. Encourage healthy students, staff, and community.

School Closing Information

Unity School District Website, www.unity.k12.wi.us
 WCCO Channel 4, www.wcco.com
 KSTP Channel 5, www.kstp.com
 KMSP Channel 9, www.myfox9.com
 KARE Channel 11, www.kare11.com

Parents:
 Update your contact information online or
 by calling your child's school office.

Promote and provide flexible accelerated, personalized learning opportunities for students.

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Upcoming Meetings and Events

DATE	MEETING	PLACE	TIME
Tuesday, March 8	Board of Education Meeting	Board Room	6:00 PM
Wednesday, March 9	Administrative Team Meeting	Board Room	9:00 AM
Thursday, March 10	Technology Committee Meeting	Board Room	7:40 AM
Friday, March 11	CESA 11 Superintendents Meeting	Turtle Lake	9:00 AM
Tuesday, March 15	Lakeland Conference Meeting	Turtle Lake	9:00 AM
Wednesday, March 16	Administrative Team Meeting	Board Room	9:00 AM
Thursday, March 17	District Curriculum Meeting	Elem. Conf. Rm.	7:40 AM
March 21 - March 25	No School - Spring Break	District	
Wednesday, March 30	Administrative Team Meeting	Board Room	9:00 AM
Wednesday, March 30	Unity Booster Club Meeting	Elem. Conf. Rm.	6:00 PM
Thursday, March 31	Parent-Teacher Conferences	District	4:15 PM - 8:15 PM
Monday, April 4	Parent-Teacher Conferences	District	4:15 PM - 8:15 PM
Tuesday, April 5	NO SCHOOL - Hosting Solo & Ensemble Regional	District	
Wednesday, April 6	Administrative Team Meeting	Board Room	9:00 AM
Thursday, April 7	Professional Staff Development Committee Meeting	Elem. Conf. Rm.	7:40 AM
Thursday, April 7	District Community Education Advisory Council Meeting	Board Room	4:00 PM
Friday, April 8	Middle School Play	Auditorium	7:00 PM
Friday, April 8	Board Planning Session	ADP Center	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Friday, April 8	CESA 11 Superintendents Meeting	Turtle Lake	9:00 AM
Tuesday, April 12	Board of Education Meeting	Board Room	6:00 PM
Wednesday, April 13	Administrative Team Meeting	Board Room	9:00 AM
Thursday, April 14	District Technology Committee Meeting	Board Room	7:40 AM
Tuesday, April 19	Lakeland Conference Meeting	Turtle Lake	9:00 AM
Wednesday, April 20	Administrative Team Meeting	Board Room	9:00 AM
Thursday, April 21	District Curriculum Meeting	Elem. Conf. Rm.	7:40 AM
Apr 21 & 22	4K and Kindergarten Round-Up	Elementary Library	8:30 AM
Saturday, April 23	High School Prom	HS Gym	7:00 PM

Encourage healthy students, staff, and community.

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Inclement Weather Information

The decision to close or delay school due to inclement weather is a complicated one. There are many factors that must be considered and each school district is different. Unity School District is unique in that most of the students are bussed or transported to school daily. Each decision at Unity School District regarding school closings or delays includes consultation with others, such as the Polk County Highway Department, National Weather Service, and other area school districts.

Unity School District considers school closings or delays due to inclement weather when there is a significant concern for student safety. Generally, school closings or delays due to cold weather may be considered when temperatures are below -20°F and/or wind chill temperatures are below -40°F.

Unity School District considers school closings or delays due to snow or freezing rain when road conditions are hazardous. Closings or delays due to snow are dependent upon road conditions and not total snow accumulations. Snow accumulations vary greatly by location and are a concern when adversely impacting road conditions.

If school remains in session, it is important to clothe your child appropriately for the conditions. Ensuring that there is no exposed skin in cold weather, in addition to warm insulated clothing, is very important. The playground remains open for outside recess to -10°F, so please send appropriate winter apparel to school with your child. If appropriate apparel is needed, please contact the elementary principal or counselor.

If conditions are a concern where you live, please communicate those conditions to your child's school office. It is important to note whether a road or driveway is hazardous or unplowed. Additionally, please communicate with your child's office if your child will be absent due to acute inclement weather issues where you live, when school is in session.

The Parent Notification System will continue to keep you informed of Unity's school closings and other important announcements. Please share with your child's office any changes to your contact information.

