



W.J. ZAHNOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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W.J. Zahnow Elementary Board Report December 2025

November was a month about connecting with families! It started on November 13th when we had our annual free Family Fun Night, put on by our Family and Committee Engagement Committee. This year's theme was Team Crayons - Together Everyone Achieves More. A special thanks to the Junior High and High School students for their help in making this a success and for volunteering their time.

On November 24th, the weather held off enough for Zahnow to hold our second annual Turkey Trot. Students practiced running and the correct form for running in PE with Coach Haare. Students then trotted, jogged, or dashed their way around the course while their friends and staff cheered them on! There were lots of smiles and laughter! This year, we were excited to include parents, friends, anyone else that wanted to come and cheer on their student, and even a live turkey.

In November, Zahnow and other elementary schools held food drives for the holiday season and participated in Kellsie's Hope, Sock it to Cancer. Thanks to the generosity of our community families, we were able to donate food and money. A special thank you to the PAWS group in Waterloo for coordinating the food pickup for HNS.

On December 6th, Zahnow had our "Saturday with Santa" event. The event was successful again due to the preparations of Monica Bandy and Jennifer Evans, all of our hardworking staff, and students in the district. A lot of work goes into getting it set up in one day, but we get it done! We hope all the students and families enjoyed the event and helped get them in the Christmas Spirit! Thank you to all of the families for coming and participating.

Thank you to the Waterloo's Santa's Float for stopping by Zahnow and talking to our classes, and for being in so many pictures. The students loved it!

In November, students learned about and practiced the word "Peace." One student, who exhibited this character trait, was chosen from each classroom at the end of the month and presented with an award at the end-of-the-month assembly. Congratulations to those students selected. For December, students are learning about the character word "Caring."

Congratulations to Allison Biffar, who was selected for December's Staff Member of the Month. Allison is known for her experience and expertise in AAC devices, collaborating and assisting teachers in new techniques, and also working towards giving students the best opportunity to communicate. Thank you, Allison, for all you do!

Looking Ahead

December 16th - Kindergarten Christmas Programs

December 19th - Last day before Christmas Break

December 22nd - January 5th - Christmas Break

January 9th - 2nd Quarter Report Cards Go Home

January 13th - Reading Winter Benchmarking

January 14th & 15th - Math Winter Benchmarking