

District Administrator's Report

March 2022

Unity School District

Two Great Child Care Options!

LEAP Child Care Center

Unity School District's Little Eagles At Play (LEAP) Child Care Program is growing each month! There are now 50 children enrolled at the center, with an additional 7 children on the waiting list. Children range in age from a few months old to four years. There are seven different classrooms where children are grouped by their relative ages. The program is focused on providing a safe, playful, and caring environment for children.

The LEAP Child Care Program is YoungStar certified, ensuring quality programming and affordable services for families. Parents who would like further information about the program should visit the website at <https://www.unity.k12.wi.us/page/leap-little-eagles-at-play-child-care-center>, email htiedemann@unity.k12.wi.us, or call 715-825-3515.

Eagle Care Club

Unity School District's new school-aged child care program, Eagle Care Club, is offered the hours of 6:00 am to the start of the school day, and from the end of the school day to 6:00pm. Parents can sign their child up for either of the times, or for both. Fees are based upon how long the student attends each day.

The focus of the program is play in a supervised school environment. Students are in classrooms, with time on the playground, in the library, and in the gymnasium. The programming is provided by a number of teachers, educational assistants, and high school student workers.

Registration information will be sent home again to all Unity Elementary students. Parents who would like additional information should visit the school website, <https://www.unity.k12.wi.us/page/school-aged-child-care-program>.

Mental Health Tool: Closegap

Closegap is a digital emotional wellness tool that helps students share their feelings and needs and enables educators to respond. Through a fun, daily check-in, and a library of self-guided activities, Closegap offers students an opportunity to practice emotional awareness, understanding, and regulation.

Closegap is utilized by teachers, administrators, school counselors and social workers to support the emotional wellbeing of their students throughout the school day. Using a fun, student-facing emotional health check-in, students share their emotions and needs. Educators access this data and use it to respond in real-time.

For more information, visit www.closegap.org!



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Student Open Enrollment Is Open For 2022–2023

What is Public School Open Enrollment?

Wisconsin's inter-district public school open enrollment program allows parents to apply for their children to attend a school district 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, four-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 2022-23 school year is from February 7-April 29, 2022. The application period closes at 4:00 p.m. on April 29, 2022.

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



SPEAK UP, SPEAK OUT (SUSO)

While the vast majority of students report Wisconsin schools as being safe, the SPEAK UP, SPEAK OUT (SUSO) threat reporting system aims to empower students to share their concerns safely and confidentially

without fear of retaliation. We encourage parents to talk to their students about the importance of letting a trusted adult know about their safety concerns.

Next month, Unity School District will begin implementing the SPEAK UP, SPEAK OUT threat reporting system that the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of School Safety (OSS) launched earlier this year.

Through the SPEAK UP, SPEAK OUT (SUSO) system, students, parents, school staff and community members can submit a school safety concern by downloading the SUSO app (Android and iOS), visiting speakup.widoj.gov or by calling 1-800-MY-SUSO-1. There will also be a quick link available on our District website, www.unity.k12.wi.us. SUSO Resource Center staff work around-the-clock to respond to reports and to deploy a response locally by communicating directly with school administrators, law enforcement, and counselors.

"Expect Great Things"

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Unity School District Belief Statements

Unity Belief Statements represent our strong convictions, our common core values, and our moral character.

We Believe:

- The student, family, school, and community as partners, share the responsibility for a successful educational experience.
- An awareness of and a tolerance for diversity enriches life.
- Learning thrives in a safe, caring, disciplined environment.
- Learning is lifelong.
- Character development (respect, trustworthiness, responsibility, fairness, caring, citizenship) is an essential component of effective education.
- All individuals learn in different ways, at different rates, and at different times.
- Education includes social, emotional, intellectual, physical, and aesthetic growth.
- Problem solving, critical thinking, effective communication, and working cooperatively are fundamental life skills.
- In challenging individuals to develop to their fullest potential.
- Education provides students with a solid academic foundation.

COVID Testing Clinic is Important Part of Plan

Unity School District's **free, voluntary COVID-19 Testing Program for students and staff** has been an important component of Unity's Return to School Plan. The program is offered free in collaboration with funding from the WI DHS. Regular voluntary testing helps protect our students, staff, family members, and others who are not vaccinated against COVID-19 or are otherwise at risk for getting seriously sick from COVID-19.

Through this program, COVID-19 cases are identified quickly and early, which can help us stop an outbreak before it happens. This helps to keep students in the classroom and able to take part in the school activities they love.

Already this school year, over 1,850 COVID-19 tests have been administered at the Unity COVID-19 testing site. The clinic is located next to the high school office. Results are available in as little as twenty (20) minutes.

To learn more or register your child for a test, please call x3010 or email rschmid@unity.k12.wi.us. Your completed consent form can also be emailed to rschmid@unity.k12.wi.us.

**It is important to note that your child will not be tested for COVID-19 without your permission.*



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Upcoming Meetings and Events

DATE	MEETING	PLACE	TIME
Tuesday, Mar. 8	Board of Education Meeting	Board Room	6:00 PM
Tuesday, Mar. 8	Bandarama - MS & HS Band Concert (Open)	PAC	7:00 PM
Mar. 9, 10	Early Learning Days	Library	
Friday, Mar. 11	End of Trimester	District	
Friday, Mar. 11	CESA 11 Superintendent Meeting	Turtle Lake	9:00 AM
Mar. 14-18	Spring Break - No School	District	
Wednesday, March 23	Administrative Team Meeting	Board Room	1:30 PM
Thursday, March 24	Unity Choral Fest, Grades 6-12	PAC	7:00 PM
Wednesday, March 30	Board Planning Session	Balsam Lake	TBD
Thursday, March 31	3rd Grade Concert (Open to Family Members)	PAC	1:30 PM
Wednesday, April 6	CESA 11 Supt./Board of Education Joint Meeting	Turtle Lake	6:00 PM
Friday, April 8	CESA 11 Superintendent Meeting	Turtle Lake	9:00 AM
Tuesday, April 12	Board of Education Meeting	Board Room	6:00 PM
April 15, 18	Holiday Break - No School	District	

Unity School District Goals

(Approved by the Unity Board of Education, March, 2021)

- Nurture and promote a positive and inclusive culture of respect, leadership, and character for all.
- Encourage career readiness through school and community partnerships.
- Promote and provide flexible accelerated, personalized learning opportunities for students.
- Encourage healthy students, staff, and community while continuing to address mental health needs through various programs and partnerships.



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