

Paw Prints

SPRING ISSUE 2009

HOME OF THE UNION WILDCATS

2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR Option BOARD APPROVED MARCH 18, 2009
 INCLUDES EARLY RELEASE ON FRIDAYS FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT 2:00-3:00

Event	AUGUST '09	SEPTEMBER '09	Event																																																																																											
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ECC Ground Breaking

Calling All New Kindergarten Students

The Union School District is putting out the word to WELCOME all incoming kindergarten students for the 2009-2010 school year. Please enroll by April 30!!!!

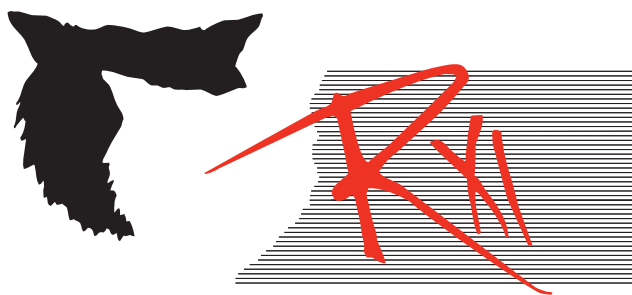
If you have a student who will be five years of age by August 1, 2009, your child is eligible to attend kindergarten next school year. In order to attend, you need to report to Beaufort Elementary or Central Elementary- depending on your attendance area- to enroll. You will need to bring your child's birth certificate, immunization records, proof of residence, your child's social security number, and be prepared to fill out various information forms. Once enrolled, your child will be scheduled for kindergarten screening and is also eligible to enroll for summer school June 8 - July 2.

It is incredibly important for your child to enroll and be screened by April 30!! As the district plans for next year, we are determining the number of teachers needed for kindergarten, the amount of materials to order, and much more. We are carefully monitoring the enrollment numbers at Beaufort and may consider capping their classes by the end of April.

Don't be left out - enroll and include your student today!!

If you do not have a kindergarten student at home, but have friends, relatives, or neighbors who might not know about kindergarten enrollment, please share this information! Parents are welcome to enroll on any day at their designated elementary school. You may call Beaufort at (636) 583-7744, or Central Elementary at (636) 583-3152 for additional information. Even if you are not able to enroll your child right away, please call the school and leave your name and phone number for our records.

We look forward to seeing all of our new kindergarten students in the very near future!!!



NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Union, MO
Permit No. 8
ECRWSS

Postal Patron

REMINDER FOR OUR PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Class field trips are being scheduled and if you want to volunteer and attend, be sure to get the appropriate background checks done.

Volunteers are required to complete the background checks for the district. Background checks can take weeks to clear, so please start the process as soon as possible.

Please remember the reason for these background checks is to protect our children and ensure maximum student safety.

For more information on becoming a school volunteer, please contact your school's office.

Union R-XI School District Mission

The mission of the Union R-XI School District is to create a safe, drug-free, student-centered system with parental involvement, responsive to community and family needs; where all students are personally responsible, challenged and motivated, given time to imagine and create, and offered a global, current curriculum with educational, technical, economic, and health skills necessary to function successfully in society; where all faculty and staff are excellent, well-rewarded, and work successfully, individually and in teams, for the benefit of students and themselves; and where leadership and management of the system is influenced by those who participate.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Union R-XI School District is to provide an excellent education to all of our students by setting high standards in achievement, providing excellent faculty and staff, promoting community support, and providing appropriate technology.

Vision

The Vision of the Union R-XI School District includes safe and secure facilities conducive for learning and appropriate to house quality programs and necessary services for learners from pre-kindergarten to graduation. The district will provide an environment that meets the diverse learning needs of all learners. The district will operate in an appropriately disciplined atmosphere, free of violence, drugs and alcohol, and the district will strive to promote an atmosphere of mutual respect between the learner and teacher. Learners will receive a strong foundation in the "basics" needed currently and for the future. Well-trained teachers will use innovative teaching practices with proven instructional methodology and assessment. All learners will have access to relevant technological tools and resources to support learning. Life-long learning will be fostered as students learn to apply their knowledge and demonstrate effective skills in communication and problem solving in order to succeed as productive citizens in an ever-changing world.

Union R-XI Board of Education

Mr. Tom Stahlman	President
Ms. Valorie Steinbeck	Vice-President
Ms. Traci Canby	Board Member
Ms. Teresa Connelly	Board Member
Ms. Pam Janssen	Board Member
Dr. Ron Sohn	Board Member
Mr. Dan Hall	Board Member

Union R-XI Administration

Dr. VeAnn Tilson	Superintendent
Dr. Jennifer Hope	Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Shirley Dintelman	Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Jeff Van Zee	Director of Facilities
Mr. Dennis Lottmann	High School Principal
Mr. Chris Arand	High School Assistant Principal/Activities Director
Ms. Amy Carlson	High School Assistant Principal
Mr. Gary Menke	Middle School Principal
Mr. Nathan Bailey	Assistant Middle School Principal
Mr. Aaron Jones	Clark-Vitt Elementary Principal
Ms. Jenny Davis	Clark-Vitt Elementary Assistant Principal/Curriculum
Ms. Meg Vogel	Beaufort Elementary Principal
Dr. Deborah Stephens	Central Elementary Principal
Ms. Monica Assareh	Central Elementary Assistant Principal
Ms. Julie Price	Secretary to the Superintendent/Board
Ms. Lisa Delmain	Secretary to the Superintendent
Ms. Lauren Brake	Secretary to the Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Susan Timlin	Secretary to the Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Tameron Voss	Secretary to the Director of Facilities
Ms. Connie Rinne	Bookkeeper
Ms. Michelle Fink	Bookkeeper
Ms. Rita Greenwood	Assistant Bookkeeper
Ms. Rhonda Witte	Benefits Secretary
Ms. Jennifer Meyer	Process Coordinator

Phone Numbers

Superintendent's Office	636.583.8626
Union High School	636.583.2513
Union Middle School	636.583-5855
Clark-Vitt Elementary	636.583.6997
Beaufort Elementary	573.484.3221/636.583.7744
Central Elementary	636.583.3152
Bus Garage	636.584.7171
Food Service Dept.	636.583.5840
Maintenance Dept.	636.583.2432
Custodial Dept.	636-583-5855
Resource Center	636.584.0157
Technology Department	636.583.4440



Dear Patrons,

The most frequently asked question I've heard over the past several weeks is "How will the stimulus money affect Union R-XI?" My response has been "We do not know how much we will receive, when it will come, and if it comes, what strings may be attached." What we have been told by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is not to make plans to spend it until the money is in the bank! Good advice I'm sure.

Do I think the district will see some stimulus funds for the 2009-10 budget? Yes, I believe our district will receive some extra funding. How much? That's certainly an unknown at the time. Will there be strings attached? Yes! Most, if not all of the increase will probably be limited to IDEA (Special Education) and Title I (Remedial Reading) areas. That means the funds can only be spent in those specific areas of the school budget. Could the district move local monies out of those areas and replace with stimulus funds? Possibly, the district may be able to move some of the funds for two years, but will have to budget very carefully due to the fact that these funds are strictly one-time funds. Most of the additional monies will have to be spent in the areas designated (i.e. Title I and Special Education).

What can our local patrons do to help? Please contact our local legislators and ask them to send school districts these funds with fewer strings attached and allow our local school boards' discretion on where to spend the funds (i.e. roofs, window replacement, technology, etc.). These are truly one-time expenditures for one-time monies.

Have a wonderful spring. Summer is around the corner.

Sincerely,

Dr. VeAnn Tilson
Superintendent of Schools

Q & A - 2009-10 School Calendar

The development of a school calendar is a complex process driven by multiple requirements and parameters. For example, state law requires that school calendars include a specific number of student contact days (174), a certain number of inclement weather days (6), and a minimum number of student contact hours (1,044). In addition to legal requirements, parameters such as parent-teacher conferences, holidays, and spring break must be addressed. The information below clarifies how some of these requirements and parameters drive calendar decisions.

1. Who develops the school calendar? A District Calendar Committee annually develops the school calendar. The committee is composed of teachers, principals, district staff, and parents. The calendar is reviewed by the superintendent and then approved by the Board of Education.

2. How many days do students attend school? Students must attend school 174 days/1,044 hours.

3. Why is the first day of school before Labor Day? In order to end first semester by Christmas break, while keeping a balance number of days in both semesters we need to start school before Labor Day.

4. Why do we end first semester before the Winter Break? We always try to complete the first semester in December so that the high school finals are administered before Christmas break. This timing also facilitates the college application process for graduating seniors.

5. Why is the last day of school so late in May? The last day of school is driven by the number of required student contact days. Additionally, state law requires school districts to schedule six inclement weather make-up days. The Calendar Committee strives to have the final day of school occur prior to Memorial Day whenever possible.

6. How many days do teachers work? Teachers are under contract to work 180 days. (174 student instructional days & six staff development days)

7. Why do we have staff development days for teachers scheduled during the school year? Professional development/staff development is an ongoing process. Research on student achievement strongly supports on-going, job-embedded learning for teachers is necessary to have high levels of student learning. In other words, student learning is directly aligned with teacher learning. Scheduled professional learning/work time during the school year ensures teachers will have opportunities to collaboratively analyze student data to improve instruction, to learn new instructional methods, and to complete important professional work requirements such as communication to parents and completion of grade reports. Staff development days are used to develop and revise curriculum, review textbooks, organize and examine test results from state, Missouri Assessment Program and local assessments, develop school improvement plans, research and implement instructional models and strategies, and a number of other activities related to improving student achievement and instruction.

8. Why do we have Early Release every Friday if you already have six staff development days? The additional staff time is needed for teachers to implement strategies in our CSIP plan. Since our district is at a Level 2 of Improvement No Child Left Behind (NCLB), our Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP) includes action steps requiring teachers to conduct in-depth item analysis on common assessments results which were given throughout the year, and develop plans for alternative instruction. A copy of the district CSIP plan is available on the district Web site.

9. Why don't the teachers have their staff development day in the summer? Many teachers teach summer school, attend college classes and take vacations during the summer months which make it difficult to plan staff development activities for all staff. Since most of the staff development is based on the results from on-going student assessments, most release time is needed during the school year. The District PDC (Professional Development Committee) sponsors a week-long, voluntary staff development program, (PDC) University, for teachers in July.

10. Why don't students attend school the Wednesday during the week of Thanksgiving?

Historically, the District held classes the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Thanksgiving week. However, in recent years, Wednesday has been added as part of the Thanksgiving break. Both staff and parents have indicated they prefer to keep that day as a holiday whenever possible.

11. Why doesn't spring break coincide with Easter? The Calendar Committee normally attempts to schedule spring break with the Easter weekend. However, this year, MAP testing is scheduled from March 29 to April 23 and Easter is April 4. It would not be prudent for our students to be out of school more than 4 days during the testing window of these high-stake tests.

12. How are the bad weather make-up days chosen?

Missouri school districts must build six inclement weather make-up days into the school calendar. They may be scheduled during the year or in May. Make-up days should be scheduled late enough to prepare for the possibility of bad weather occurring late in the school year. Make-up days may be on holidays or at the end of the school year, however, feedback from both parents and staff indicate that most prefer not to schedule make-up days on holidays, due to family schedules.

13. Why don't we use MLK and Presidents Day as snow make-up days? Traditionally, our district has scheduled Presidents Day and MLK Day as no school holidays. When asked for input, both parents and staff felt it was a tradition they would prefer to keep if possible.

14. Why don't we have a holiday on Veterans Day?

The district feels that students will have the opportunity to observe and participate in special activities to honor veterans. For several years, most of the schools have had special programs to honor our local veterans and many feel that students are most affected with this type of observation rather than a day of no classes.

2009 - 2010 District Calendar Development

Assumptions/Perimeters:

- To provide 174 days (1,044 hours) of student instruction (law)
- Starting date for all staff after August 16. (cost of insurance for new staff) *
- To include six make-up days for snow or other unforeseeable events. (law)
- Only four partial days to be included in school calendar (parent & staff surveys)
- "Late Starts" not an option until adequate supervision is available at schools
- Six hours for Parent/Teacher Conference with 3 hours in evenings for working parents.
- Each school week will have two student days (attendance/funding)
- Have two semesters with a similar number of instructional days accounting for the loss of instructional time due to local, state, and national testing in the spring semester.
- Provide blocks of quality instructional time, but condense the academic year as much as possible.
- End first semester at winter break with semester exams, and end the school year in May.
- Complete the fall semester before Christmas Break.
- Must include six make-up snow days in school calendar (SB64).
- Minimum number of days off during MAP testing window for 2010 (March 29 - April 23)
- If first day of school is prior to August 28 (for students), the BOE must have a public hearing regarding the recommended start date. (law)
- Include enough staff development time to meet CSIP requirements during school year: 40 hours (NCLB/AYP -law)

To include:

- 31-33 hours for data analysis and collaboration
- 7-9 hours for professional development training

**We are required to include the necessary staff development hours in our district calendar to address the areas of concerns as noted in our AYP (annual yearly progress) District Improvement Plan and District CSIP. Our district is in Level 2 - District Improvement. See document titled "Review of Staff Development "Time" Requirements for 2009-2010 Calendar" for additional details.

Traditions:

- To provide three days of teacher preparation in August- (total of six staff days)
- New teacher orientation one day before all staff start (may be Aug. 15)
- Wednesday before Thanksgiving off
- Two weeks Christmas Break
- Friday and Monday around Easter off for holiday
- To complete the end of the school year in May
- ½ days for students on the last two days of each semester
- ½ day for staff on the last day of each semester
- No school on Martin Luther King Day and Presidents Day

You Are Invited To The
2009 Retirement and
Recognition Tea!

Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Place: Union High School
Cafeteria

Social Hour will be from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

The recognitions of our retirees and service
awards will begin at 4:30 p.m.

Cake and punch will be served,
and everyone is invited!

Teen CERT

In February, 24 Union High School students began their participation in Teen CERT. UHS is the first high school to offer this program in the Franklin County area. This program was initiated through grant funding from Michigan Citizen Corp to develop, validate and initiate an education program targeting high school students teaching Disaster Preparedness and Response. The Teen Community Emergency Response Team (Teen CERT) Program educates students about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, Teen CERT members can assist others in their schools, neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. Teen CERT members are also encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community. This 20-hour program focused on the following topics with hands-on learning. Topics include:



- Disaster Preparedness Fire Safety
- Disaster Medical Assistance Part 1
- Disaster Medical Assistance Part 2
- Light Search and Rescue Operations
- Disaster Psychology
- Terrorism
- Course Review and Disaster Simulation

The core Teen CERT program has three main goals. First, it seeks to provide students with a knowledge base on the effects of natural and man-made disasters and their



emotional, social, and economic impacts. Secondly, it aims to build decision-making and problem-solving skills and strategies to help students make informed decisions regarding readiness, response and recovery and mitigation efforts to reduce loss of life and property. Lastly, an integral part of the Teen CERT program provides students with hands-on training using reality-driven drills and exercises.

Training in disaster response will not be a one-time event. Awareness, commitment, and skills will be reinforced through follow-up training and repeated practice to maintain the edge necessary for effective

response in the face of a disaster. The team will maintain their skill level and continually improve performance through participation in supplemental training. Working through practice disaster scenarios with other citizens will provide opportunities not only for extended practice, but also for valuable networking with citizens and agencies in the Franklin County area.

Current Teen CERT members are: Chris Savage, Griffin Daehnke, Jeanne Tappe, John Tappe, Tori Tappe, Tyler Johnson, Amanda Click, Joe Walther, Brandon Yenser, Sean Wood, Garrett Hill, Annie LaBeau, Ellen Domijan, Madeline Slay, Morgan Maher, Lydia Lansford, Renee Holtmeyer, Katie O'Rear, Shannon Bradley, Natalie Randolph, McKenzie Groff, Emily Vie, Dylan Meyer, and Cole Westhoff.



Spring 2009: All High School Students Are Required to Take End of Course Exams

This school year, students at Union High School and all high schools throughout the state, will be required by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to take End of Course (EOC) exams in Algebra I, English II and Biology. These assessments will replace the MAP (Missouri Assessment Program) test previously given at grades 10 and 11. Students in grades 3 – 8 will continue to take the MAP tests.

Union R-XI administered its first EOC exams last December. Students repeating English II and Biology were tested. EOC exams were taken prior to students taking final exams.

EOC exams are administered once a student has successfully completed or passed all Course Level Expectations (CLEs) in the identified subjects. All EOC exams must be completed prior to graduating. Students must take eight EOC exams (Algebra I, English II, Biology, one additional test in each of these content areas, as well as two social studies EOC exams) prior to graduating. Students of the class of 2012, current freshman, will be the first group of students required to take the eight EOC exams prior to graduation. Students in other graduating classes are only required to take the EOC exams if the EOC is available when they complete the matching course. Ex: Sophomores and some juniors taking Biology and English II this year.

While students are required to take EOC exams, DESE will not establish a "passing" score. The scores on the EOC exams will not prevent a student from graduating, but are part of the final grade for the course.

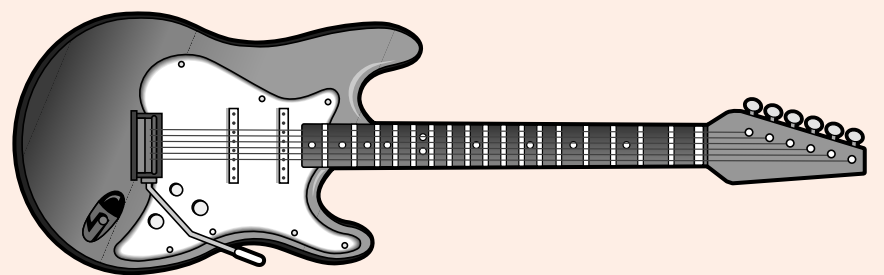
According to DESE, EOC exams have been developed to measure student achievement and progress toward post secondary readiness; identify students' strengths and weaknesses; communicate expectations for all students; meet state and national accountability requirements; and evaluate programs. EOC exams will provide a valid and reliable method for assessing students' knowledge for CLEs and allow instructors to incorporate statewide assessment results in students' course grades.

Students failing a course will only take the EOC exam when he/she has successfully completed the content of the CLEs being assessed. EOC exams will be administered three times per year – at the end of the fall and spring semesters and during summer school.

Parents are encouraged to contact their child's counselor to make sure the student is on target with meeting state and district requirements for graduation.

Additional EOC exams in Geometry, Algebra II, English I, Government and American History will also be given this year, as field tests to set state achievement levels and will be given officially in the 2009-10 school year. Additional science assessments will also be developed, but the specific courses to be covered have not been determined. All Missouri school districts are required to administer these field tests to students enrolled in the corresponding courses.

Additional information on EOCs can be found on DESE's Web site at: www.dese.mo.gov/improve/assess/eoc/index.html.



Donate a Guitar. Be a Guitar Hero!!!

Do you own a guitar? When was the last time it was pulled out of the closet, or basement, and played? Well, if it has been a while... DONATE IT TO YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL!!!

The middle school and high school will be offering a guitar class for our students during the 2009-2010 school year. We need instruments. If you have an acoustic or electric guitar that you are not using – we hope you think about donating it to the Union School District. It will be used to educate our young people in the art of making music.

Feel free to drop off your guitar at the middle school or high school office, or call Mr. Doug Rice (636) 583-2513, ext. 1720, if you have questions. We hope you can score big points with our young people and be a Guitar Hero...



Jimmy Barnhart

Wrestling

Wrestling Wildcats qualify six for state tournament. Barnhart finishes second.

The Union High School Wrestling Team wrestled in the district tournament at St. Genevieve February 13 and 14. Taking only 10 wrestlers to the district tournament, the Wildcats were able to get six individuals through to the state tournament in Columbia. Freshman Josh Reeser (119) finished fourth, senior Josh Bridgman (140) finished third, junior Billy Bradley (145) finished third, senior Steven Sachs (189) finished third, senior Jimmy Barnhart (215) finished third, and senior Bobby Bridges (285) finished second. All qualified for the state wrestling meet by placing in the top four at the district meet. The team finished fifth out of the 13-team tournament.

The wrestling team then headed to Columbia to wrestle at the Mizzou Arena Thursday, February 19-21. The wrestling Wildcats were able to win four out of six first-round matches. Josh Reeser and Josh Bridgman were unable to defeat their opponents in the first round. Billy Bradley, Steven Sachs, Jimmy Barnhart, and Bobby Bridges were all victorious in their first-round matches. Reeser lost his second-round wrestle back match which put him out of the tournament. Bridgman was able to win his second-round wrestle back match, but lost his third-round match and was knocked out of the tournament. Billy Bradley lost his second-round match, but rebounded to win his third-round wrestle back match. In the fourth round, Bradley competed well, but fell short of medaling and his tournament was over. Steven Sachs lost his second- and third-round match, which put him out of the tournament. Bobby Bridges lost his second- and third-round matches which ended his tournament as well.

Jimmy Barnhart won his first-round match against Riley Glasgow of Oak Grove. This was the most highly anticipated match of the first round at the state tournament in the 215-pound weight class. Barnhart was able to upset Glasgow with a 17-11 victory. In the second round, Barnhart upset the heavily favored state champ, Derek Lee, of Bolivar, 7-5. In the semifinals, Barnhart defeated Mike Chastain, of Smithville, 5-4 to make the championship finals. In the championship match, Barnhart fell to Zach Williams, of Center (Kansas City).

All of the wrestlers that Barnhart defeated on his way to the finals came back to medal third, fourth, and sixth place respectively in the tournament. Barnhart beat very quality opponents and put together a great tournament. Barnhart finished his season with a record of 36-4 and was the Four Rivers Conference champion in the 215-pound weight class. Barnhart won four tournaments during the regular season. Through-out Union High School's wrestling history, Barnhart is only the third wrestler from Union to reach the finals in the state tournament. Only Terry Lansford and Mat Machelette have achieved this accomplishment before Barnhart. The last person to reach the finals from Union was Mat Machelette dated back in 1991.

“Spring Cleaning” - Prescription Medication Take-Back Program

Sponsored by: Franklin County Narcotics Enforcement Unit

Dispose of your unused prescription meds safely!!

Date: May 5, 2009
 Time: 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
 Where: Union Fire Station
 1401 W. Springfield Ave.
 Union, Mo.

For more information, contact your local law enforcement or high school. Or contact: Phone - 636-239-9700
 e-mail: monica_ffc@charterinternet.com

Football



Adam Amato-RB-Central Methodist



Colter Janssen-OL-Benedictine



Jarred Cahill-OL-Missouri Western



John Mitchell-DL-Missouri Western



Patrick Gerrein-OL-Missouri Valley

One of the programs that has been initiated as a result of the new Team configuration at Union Middle School is the selection of two students per week for Wildcat of the Week (W.O.W) recognition. These students have shown the character traits of Wisdom, Integrity, Loyalty, Dependability, Compassion, Awareness, Tolerance and Success.



January W.O.W. students on the seventh-grade Team were Kayla Thornton, Zach Gibson, Jessica Sterner, Joe Hood, Brian Borgmann, and Victoria Kramer. W.O.W. students on the Combo Team for January were Sarah Schulte, Brandon Church, Adrienne Mercer, and Jeff Holt. Eighth-grade Team W.O.W students were Ruth Strugari, Dawn Kohler, Abby Vie, John Meyer, Aldwin Espera, and James Eagan.

In a separate drawing, eighth-graders James Eagan and Dawn Kohler were chosen as the UMS Middle School Students of the Month for January.



Battle of the Books



Union Middle School held their third-annual Battle of the Books competition the week of March 9. Sixty-eight students participated in the competition. The students formed teams of four to read 15 books, and then faced off in a series of questions related to the books. The top five teams are pictured below.

Jonathan Strugari, Cornelia Cojoraru, Nathan Saleniuc, and Connor Hamilton; Tylor Brown, Jonathan Mueller, Brian Borgmann, and Nolan Meyer; Emily Evert, Emmy Kaiser, KateLyn Riechers, and Ashley Vandiver; Natalie Jarvis, Cassie Tolson, Dayeana Shell, and Brianna Gardner; and Chelsea Chitwood, Cheyenne Willard, Stephanie Donnor and Haley Beach



The winning team was Jonathan Strugari, Nathan Saleniuc, Cornelia Cojoraru, and Connor Hamilton. These students won a shopping spree at the Scholastic Warehouse in Fenton, Missouri.



Science Olympiad

Science Olympiad is a competition that challenges students in all areas of science. Some events require team members to build a device such as a rubber-band-powered vehicle, a balsa wood bridge, or a catapult. Other events require students to do an in-depth study of a certain topic such as genetics, ecology or rocks and minerals. UMS takes a team of up to 15 students to a regional competition in Rolla each year.

The following UMS students attended the competition in Rolla this year:

Libby Eckelkamp
Colleen Stokes
Thomas Sieve
Connor Hamilton
Brittany Laubinger
Jillian Johnston
Blake Voss
Karissa Peth
Christa Lenau
Ryan Hoerr
Kayla Tyree
KateLyn Riechers
Emmy Kaiser
Nora Becker, Manager



UMS took first place in the following events:

Scrambler: Blake Voss & Karissa Peth

Elevated Bridge: Christa Lenau & Jillian Johnston

Write It / Do It: Emmy Kaiser & KateLyn Riechers

Robo-Cross: Colleen Stokes & Brittany Laubinger

3rd Place:

Reach for the Stars: Kayla Tyree & Karissa Peth

4th Place:

Ecology: Emmy Kaiser & Colleen Stokes

5th Place

Karissa Peth & Christa Lenau - Crave the Wave

Blake Voss & Christa Lenau - Dynamic Planet

Ryan Hoerr & Jillian Johnston - Science Crime Busters



The Union Middle School Science Olympiad Team placed 5th overall in the Region V Competition. The sponsors are Jane Andrews, Carla Durham, Nancy Johnston and Melissa Schroll



Junior Honor Society

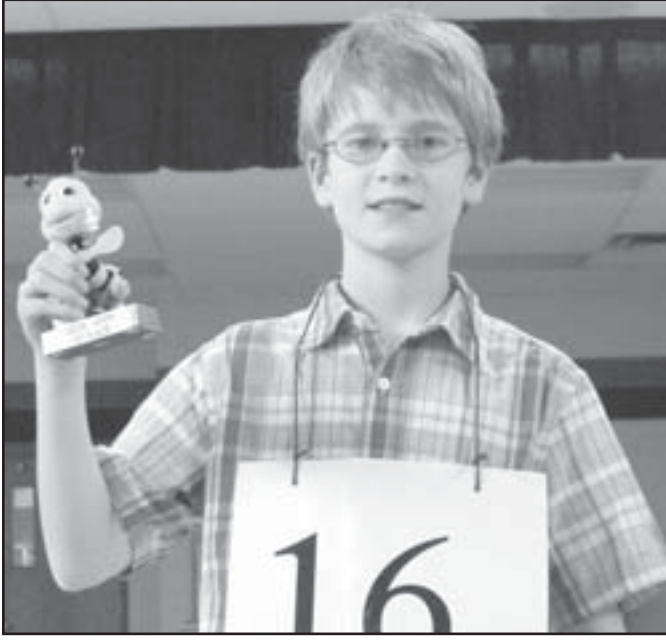
The following seventh-grade students were selected for membership in the Union Middle School National Junior Honor Society. Selection was made by the faculty council and was based upon careful examination of scholarship, leadership, character, service, and citizenship. These seventh-graders will be inducted into the UMS chapter on Tuesday, May 12, during a ceremony held in the Fine Arts Center. Sponsors of NJHS are Nancy Johnston, Carla Durham, Bob Anders, and Jane Andrews.

Megan Altemueller
Curtis Bergner
Dakota Birkmann
Elizabeth Birkmann
Jared Birkmann
Brian Borgmann
Jessica Jenkins
Shelby Johnson
Aisha Jones

Ethan Kerr
Emily King
Emily Kossmann
Rebecca Kramer
Zach Lanham
Jacob Lenau
Shelby Miller
Jonathan Mueller
Meghan Neace

Jerica Reeser
Leah Russell
Jessica Saucier
Paige Schlueter
Dylan Stackle
Colleen Stokes
Emily Tappe
Jordan Thorpe
TJ Vitt

In conjunction with the Bourbeuse River Operation Clean Stream effort, the eighth-grade members of NJHS conducted a trash pickup at the Union Access on the last Saturday of March. Also, in March the chapter sponsored a hat day and all proceeds were donated to Friends of Kids with Cancer. In April, a group representing UMS NJHS will participate in the Diabetes Walk held in Washington.



Andrew Kaiser was our first-place winner in our annual Spelling Bee! Andrew is a sixth-grade student. Congratulations!



Our Character Education Assemblies take place each month. "If you are honest and truthful too, people will believe in you!"

Busy Time of Year at Beaufort

School life is not always easy, and at this time of year it all seems to catch up. Look at the calendar, so many exciting things are happening! Even in our busy times, one thing remains the same...our commitment to excellence for students to continue learning academically and socially. Thank you for another successful year!

Meg Vogel

Upcoming Events:

- May 1 Outdoor Day
- May 8 Hobby Day
- May 15 Field Day
- May 19 Kindergarten Celebration 6:30 p.m.
- May 21 Sixth-Grade Promotion 7:00 p.m.
- May 26 Accelerated Reader Beach Party
- May 27 and May 28 Dismiss at 11:45 a.m.



Let the summer fun begin!



Our scrapbook event was a success! Even students got involved this year!



MAP Muffins with Mom and Dad had this student making suggestions for future tests!



Kids from Beaufort enjoyed time with folks at Willowbrooke

Thank You!

to the following businesses for your generous donations to our Literacy Programs and our crop. We could not do this without you!

*****Thank You!*****

We raised over \$2,200 to assist with literacy and incentive programs for reading!

**Union Wal-Mart
United Bank of Union
Union Taco Bell
Johnny's Grill
Pasta House
Spa Haven
Imo's
Qdoba
Oasis Lanes
Legend's Bank
Applebee's
Tricia Seely
with Edward Jones**

**Donna Feltmann
with Edward Jones
Scrapbook Central
Footloose Shoes
Hawthorne Inn
Pizza and Pasta
Bob Evans
Kohl's
Junie Moon
Benitos
Tiger Travel Agency
Lucky Chinese Restaurant**

Thanks also to our vendors for sharing their time and creativity with us and also for their donations. We are so very grateful to you!!

**Roxie Green with Close to my Heart
Karen Hays with I Remember When
Antoinette Huels with Stampin' Up
Judy, Carol, and Karen with That's a Scrap
Kim Ostoff with Creative Memories**

Union R-XI School District Freedom Team Asthma Mythbusters

www.pulmicortrespules.com/asthma-control/asthma-action-plan-children.aspx

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has declared asthma a major health problem in the United States. Did you know that? One in 15 children have a diagnosis of asthma or asthma-related illness.

More than a half million emergency room visits are with childhood-related asthma for kids under the age of 15. More than 700,000 school days are missed every year in Missouri due to asthma. In a 174-day school year, an average of 4,000 students are absent each day due to asthma.

Childhood asthma symptoms are often worse late at night. Among students with asthma, 42 percent received asthma medications while at school.

The Freedom Team, under the grant entity of the Missouri Foundation for Health, would like to make you aware of the following myths and facts related to you and your child's asthma.

Myth: My child has been diagnosed with asthma and now that will keep my child from participating in physical activities.

FACT: This is a natural reaction to a diagnosis of asthma or asthma related illness but the National Institutes of Health states that children with asthma can and should be active. As a parent what should you do? First, partner with your physician on developing the right asthma action plan and you can go from treating your child's symptoms to helping prevent them.

Myth: Asthma is temporary and my child will outgrow it.

FACT: Asthma is a chronic condition. What that means is that if your child has asthma now he/she will probably have it for life—even if symptoms are now always present. It's not you or your child's fault. When children have asthma, their body reacts to certain triggers.

Take the time to answer these simple questions and consult with your doctor if:

My child has a persistent cough which worsens at night or in the early morning hours. This can interrupt or prevent sleeping.

When my child breathes I hear a whistling or squeaky sound.

My child has reported to me that he/she sometimes feels like someone is sitting on or squeezing his/her chest.

Your child is unable to catch his/her breath, feels they are unable to "get their breath" or that "it feels like I am breathing through a straw".

If you or your child has observed or reported these statements, talk with your doctor.

Myth: If my child does not have symptoms right now, I don't need to worry.

FACT: Even if your child is not experiencing difficulties with breathing right now, as a parent it is important to know your child's asthma triggers and how to avoid those triggers as much as possible. Actively communicate with your child's physician to develop an asthma plan with setting goals, creating a plan and making adjustments as necessary and take medications as prescribed.

The services through The Freedom Team are available to all parents or guardians in the Union R-XI School District, and are not based on income guidelines or insurance. Give us a call or have contact with your building nurse/health aide and see if we can partner with you regarding your child's asthma or asthma-related illness.

Contact Numbers for The Freedom Asthma Team:

636-583-5855, x1522 (office number) 636-583-5855, x1508 (counselors number)



As the first days of SPRING visit us on the playground at Central Elementary, we see big smiles and good times!!! Students and teachers alike, are ready to get outdoors and enjoy the sunshine. While the daffodils are blooming outside....learning continues to bloom in the classrooms!

Central students took third-quarter common assessment tests on March 11 and 12. This quarterly test helps our teachers keep track of what students are learning and helps them plan future lessons and activities. With the No Child Left Behind mandate, teachers must keep close track of the grade-level objectives each student masters. Students will take one final common assessment this school year, near the end of fourth quarter.

Speaking of testing....it is nearly time for the MAP test!! Our third-graders are the only students at Central who must take this yearly test. Teachers and students have been working so very hard all year - teaching, testing, and then teaching again to make sure all students are prepared. The test were given at Central, March 31 through April 9, in the areas of math and communication arts.

The week before MAP begins, our third-graders will participate in a spirit week with a theme for each day - such as a "sock day" and the theme "sock it to the MAP." Students have decided to call their final review and testing preparation BOOT CAMP and we have ordered camouflage pencils and shirts to add some fun to all the work. Students are decorating their shirts with stars - earning these stars by scoring well on their review projects. We are hoping to have several "majors or generals" in the group! Good Luck to our third-graders!!! Everyone has worked hard and done a good job.

This all sounds like a lot of work and no fun....but that is not the case. We have been doing many exciting activities at the same time. Our Positive Behavior Support sock hop was held in March. Students dressed in their version of the '50s - as did staff - and had a hoppin' good time. Students can earn this reward by having fewer than two tardies, two absences, and NO office referrals in a six-week period.

Second-grade students just participated in their parent night and music presentation this month. Second-graders also presented their Chinese DRAGONS, which they created in art class, in our annual dragon school parade. As students marched around the hallway to Chinese music, they pulled all the strings to make their dragons come to life. Parents enjoyed the parade - as well as all of our Central students. Central first-grade parents joined us for AR - Accelerated Reader - night and a musical performance on March 26.

Students have also enjoyed an assembly in March, provided by Delta Dental on good dental care and hygiene. Ronald McDonald also visited students in March to talk to them about doing their best work! Our students really enjoyed both opportunities.

As we move into the final months and weeks of our school year, we want to thank all Central parents for their continued support. It is a pleasure to have such great students come through our doors each morning. We look forward to teaching them each and every day.



Groundhog Day at Central Elementary



Visit Powell Symphony Hall



Third grade enjoyed a field trip to the symphony. They also had fun at lunch at Hardee's. Students had a great time taking in the beauty of Powell Symphony Hall. They also learned a lot about how music can tell a story. They used excellent manners during lunch. Students used their experience to write a friendly letter about their trip to their pen pals out at Beaufort Elementary.



Celebrating Dr. Seuss



Patrons of Clark-Vitt:

We have two very special students in the spotlight right now at Clark-Vitt.

Tyler Virkler (6th grade) has been honored as a Missouri Valley Young Achiever for 2009!

Hannah McKean (4th grade) won first place in the Songs With Words Category of the Elementary School Division of the Creating Original Music Project at the University of Missouri!! Her song was called, "All Summer"

Also, thanks to Mrs. Brune for helping Hannah get her song into the contest!!!

Some Recent Happenings at Clark-Vitt

From February 23 through March 13 the students at Clark-Vitt collected pennies for the "Pennies for Patients." The students of Clark-Vitt raised \$3,180.80.

February 26, the trainers and animals from Purina Farms came and talked with us about caring for animals and put on an exciting show!

March 4 and 5, the Clark-Vitt fourth-graders went to Skaterz to learn about the force of motion, friction and inertia.

The annual Book Fair was held from March 16-20.

March 19, the PTO had a Chili Supper to coincide with the fourth-grade annual "Hartland Hoedown."

March 20, the fourth-grade traveled to East Central College to see the production of Once Upon This Island. Our very own Patty Kellmann was in the performance.

March 31, Clark-Vitt cafeteria held our morning "Family Breakfast" to help insure a great start to our MAP testing schedule.



Come on out and help jump start our kids!

Keep an eye out for all of the other wonderful things going on at Clark-Vitt!

Aaron Jones
Principal



Elementary Summer School

June 8 - July 2

Summer School for Central Elementary, Beaufort Elementary, and Clark-Vitt Elementary students will be in session from Monday, June 8, through Thursday, July 2, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

There is a CHANGE from the past few years.

*ALL Pre-Kindergarten Central students - through current fifth-graders at Clark-Vitt will attend summer school AT CENTRAL ELEMENTARY.

* Beaufort students, including current fifth-graders, will continue to attend summer classes at Beaufort Elementary.

Students will be involved each day in fun and exciting activities. Attendance prizes can be earned by all students for meeting attendance incentives.

Breakfast and lunch will be served daily - prices will remain the same as our regular school year. Transportation services will be limited this summer. Students will be picked up and dropped off at specific locations. Schedules will be completed after enrollment forms are compiled and will be available at a later date.

We are including a summer registration form for your convenience. It is important to fill out registration forms with updated emergency numbers - which may be different than those you provided during the regular school year. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU IN JUNE!

Summer School Enrollment

Please complete this enrollment form and return to school by April 17.

Students' Name: _____ SS # _____
 Birth Date: _____ Grade completed this year: _____
 Primary Address: _____
 Home Phone: _____ Lives with: Mom Dad Both (circle one)
 Parents' Names: Mom _____ Dad _____
 Work #: Mom _____ Dad _____
 Cell Phone #: Mom _____ Dad _____

My child will need transportation to and from summer school.

Morning pick-up address at: _____
 Afternoon drop-off address at: _____

(late registrations may delay or limit transportation for those students)

I will be transporting my child to and from summer school.

My child attends Central Elementary or Clark Vitt during the regular school year
 Yes No he/she attends _____

Emergency Contacts:
 Name: _____ Phone(s) _____

If emergency treatment is required and a parent Or guardian cannot be reached, may the school use their judgment in calling the child's doctor, ambulance, or hospital? Parents would be responsible for all expenses. Yes No

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____
 Student Health Information
 Allergies: _____ Asthma: _____ Seizures: _____
 Heart Problems: _____ Diabetes: _____ Medications: _____
 Physician: _____

Send to school with your student. Keep this page for your information.