

WHAT'S COMING UP?

- 4/1—Track & Field Waffle Breakfast, ZM Cafeteria, Zumbrota, 8:00 am -noon
- 4/11—ZMHS Spring Band Concert, ZM Auditorium, Zumbrota, 7:30 pm
- 4/12—Early Release. Cougar Care/Bright Beginnings Open
- 4/13—No School/Comp Day. Cougar Care/Bright Beginnings Open
- 4/14—No School/Holiday. Cougar Care/Bright Beginnings Closed
- 4/24—End 2nd Quarter. School Board Meeting, ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota, 7:00 pm
- 4/29—Prom



EARLY RELEASE MARCH 30

ZM will host the HVL Choral competition on March 30th. Because all rooms are used in the high school, students will be unable to attend classes. Mazeppa students will be dismissed at 11:45 am and Zumbrota students at 12:00 pm.

SPRING IS HERE AND SO IS THE ANNUAL TRACK & FIELD FUNDRAISER!



Mark your calendar and enjoy a delicious breakfast or lunch of Belgium waffles, topped with your favorite accompaniments.

Your support helps fund the ZM Boys/Girls Track and Field program.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 1 FROM 8:00 AM UNTIL NOON
ZM CAFETERIA, ZUMBROTA**

Cost is \$7 if purchased from track athlete, \$8 at the door

Notice of Non-Discrimination: Zumbrota-Mazeppa ISD 2805 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Superintendent Gary Anger, 343 Third Ave NE, Mazeppa, MN 55956. Telephone: 507-732-1400.



NOTICE FOR BIDS: Bids for the 2016-17 Vocational Construction House are now being accepted at the Superintendent's Office, 343 Third Ave NE, Mazeppa. **Minimum Bid: \$299,917.** The house is located at 615 Golf View Lane, Zumbrota, MN. Questions? Contact the District Office at 732-1400 or Kevin Nelson at 732-7395.

Zumbrota-Mazeppa ISD 2805
343 Third Ave
Mazeppa, MN 55956
Home of the Cougars



ZM MESSENGER



Zumbrota's Covered Bridge

ZUMBROTA-MAZEPPA PUBLIC SCHOOLS A BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE



Mazeppa's Walking Bridge

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTS NEW MEMBERS FOR 2017

On Tuesday, March 21, sixteen new members were inducted into the ZM Chapter of the National Honor Society. The National Honor Society, or NSH, is a nationwide organization in the United States and consists of many chapters in high schools across the nation. Selection is based on four standards of criteria: scholarship, leadership, service, and character. The NHS requires some sort of service to the community, school or other organizations in order to be considered for membership.

New members include Roslind Anderson, Lana Yeakel, Brynn Karstens, Emily Haugen, Halle Kruse, Carly Fredrickson, Morgan Goodman, Cole Peters,



Kevin Niebuhr, Blake Stiller, Casey Dykes, Stephanie Everly, Kyra Nichols, Makayla Arendt, Glenn Nelson, and Cooper Utley.

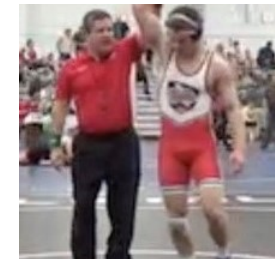
ZM congratulates these outstanding students!!

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WRESTLING TEAM TAKES STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

It was a year to remember for ZM wrestling fans!

- Section 1A Champions and 2017 MN Class A State Champions.
- Team season record of 26-6
- Section 1A Champions
- State Class A Champions
- Team earned Academic Gold Certification
- Link Steffen - Section Coach of the Year
- 6 individuals qualified for state competition. Results:
 - 145 Maverick Jackson – 2nd
 - 152 Sam Nordquist – Indiv Qualifier,
 - 170 Hayden Voxland – 5th
 - 182 Caden Steffen – State Champion
 - 195 Jacob Bennett – 2nd
 - 220 Jarret Hagland – 2nd



In addition to the State Championship, Caden Steffen won the NHSCA JR 182 lb. National Championship



MARCH "LEARNING" MADNESS



"Messy" fun in Early Childhood classes



Middle School students made pretzels in FCS classes



Izzy, the Reading Dog, enjoys a story



6, 7, 8 graders built earthquake-proof cell towers with the help of IBM engineers



FFA members attend H2O Conference



ECFE Indy 500 fun



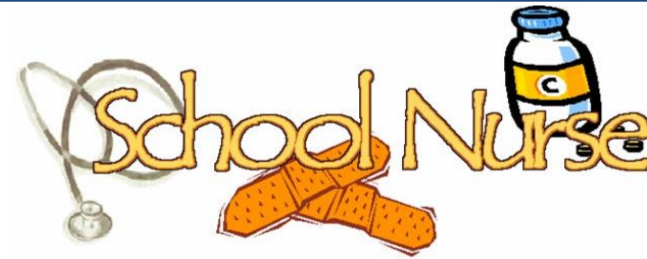
Getting in shape for track



NHS Blood Drive was a great success-70 units collected!!



All-State Dancers Katie Lawler, Kaitlyn Hinchley, & Amanda Edstrom performed in Eden Prairie.



Health Office Notes: When you are keeping your child home due to illness, please contact office staff with their symptoms, which may include: cough, fever (degree of fever/how long has student had the fever), diarrhea, vomiting, strep throat, headache, rash, etc. This is helpful information for nursing staff to have so we can monitor illnesses in the school and report to the state as needed. We are still seeing symptoms of influenza (fever and cough or sore throat), strep throat, and the stomach bug.

Guidelines for Children Returning to School: A student should not come to school if they have had a fever of 100 degrees F or more in the past 24 hours, vomiting or diarrhea in the past 24 hours, or has an undiagnosed skin rash.

Medications: ALL medications at school should go through the health office. Please notify the nurse if your child in K-12 grade needs a medication at school.

Immunizations: Student immunizations that the school has on record are viewable on the Parent Portal in Infinite Campus.

Letters were sent home with 6th grade students reminding them of the immunizations needed before entrance to 7th grade. Incoming Kindergarten students will have letters sent home soon.

Incoming Kindergarten student requirements:
DTP—5th dose Polio—4th dose
MMR—2nd dose Varicella—2 doses
Hep B—3 doses

Incoming Grade 7 requirements:
Varicella—2nd dose Tdap booster
Meningococcal

If you choose to file exemptions for any immunizations, forms are available on the ZM School website under Parents/Health Services/Immunizations, or you can contact the nurse at 507-732-7848. Students will not be eligible to attend the first day of school in 2017 until we have up-to-date immunizations on file.

Health Information Forms: Forms were sent home with all Gr. 1-12 students in January. If you have not yet completed this health update form, please fill it out and return to the health office. Form is available on ZM school website under Parents/Health Services/Health Conditions.



If you no longer need a paper copy of this newsletter, please call 507-732-1400 to have your name removed from the mailing list. You will still be able to access this newsletter in color online at www.zmschools.us

K-2 STUDENTS "SAVE A HEART"

Between January 30 and February 24, 2017, our K-2 students were busy jumping rope in Physical Education class to increase their heart health and strength as well as asking family, friends and neighbors for donations to help other kids and adults with heart disease. They participated in our second Jump Rope for Heart event, sponsored by the American Heart Association. Our students did an outstanding job raising heart health awareness, honoring their loved ones who have passed away from heart disease and helping others who are living with heart disease. They learned about the importance of staying active, drinking water, eating fruits and veggies, cutting back on salt and saying no to tobacco. The kiddos collected \$7,031 in donations in our second year.

Combined with last year's donations, our students have raised \$14,973! Fifty dollars is all it takes to train someone in CPR, so our kids have saved almost 300 lives. The American Heart Association uses over half of their donations towards public health education and lifesaving research.



With their incredible community service, dedication and hard work, our kiddos even helped our own Primary Physical Education Department earn a \$300 gift certificate to purchase new equipment. They will be receiving thank-you prizes near April.

The top donors (we had a tie!) in all of K-2 will get to make a mess of Mr. Anger, Mr. Rasmussen and Ms. Bangert in the coming weeks and the top donor class will receive a Subway party!

KINDERGARTEN



Excitement is always in the air at ZM Schools when we start thinking about our kindergarten students for the upcoming school year!

Prior to the start of the next school year, it is important to meet with you and your child to complete the registration paperwork (available in the Primary Office in Zumbrota), to do an academic readiness assessment, and to discuss with you, as parents, what to expect as your child enters kindergarten. Your child will also have an opportunity to participate in an engaging kindergarten experience.

Assessments have been scheduled on the same day as registration. Please mark your calendars for April 28. Assessments will be scheduled in fifteen minute increments from 8:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. **If your child currently attends our preschool program, you DO NOT have to set up an assessment time as it is completed within the preschool program.**

At 1:00 p.m., children will be introduced to a kindergarten classroom experience and, at 1:15, parents will attend an informational meeting in the auditorium.

Please call the primary office at 732-1414, ext. 2, by April 7 to confirm your child's attendance for this day and to schedule a time for an assessment, if needed. If assessments have not been scheduled by April 7, a time will be set aside for you. Confirmation letters of your assessment appointment will be mailed by April 17.

Day at a Glance

8:00 am -12:30 pm—Assessments in 15 minute increments. Only for students not enrolled in preschool.



KINDERGARTNERS

1:00-2:30

- *Meet Kindergarten hosts
- *Play time
- *Bus ride around town
- *Story/Art
- *Snack
- *Goodbyes

PARENTS

1:15—2:30

- *Information Session
HS Auditorium
- *Question Session
- *Tour of Facilities
- *Child Questionnaire
- *Pick-up Children

SUMMER POSSIBILITIES FOR YOUR CHILD

Your child's summer is full of endless possibilities and adventures through Community Ed— Watch for the brochure to come home in backpacks mid-April. The brochure is packed full of sports, arts & crafts, science classes and trips.

You may access the On-Line Registration site at www.zmschools.us under Community Education link the week of April 17th.

The brochure will be available at the Community Education, Middle School, Elementary School and Primary School Offices. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Jen Burfeind or Julie Vath at 507-732-4244 or juliev@zmsch.k12.mn.us or jenb@zmsch.k12.mn.us.

Cougar Care and Bright Beginnings: Registration opens May 1. **To be assured of your child's spot, return all the SUMMER REGISTRATION FORMS BY MAY 8. Check online for the forms (www.zmschools.us)**

Summer Hours: Monday—Friday, 6:00 am—6:00 pm

Location: Early Childhood Building, Zumbrota

Mission: "To provide a safe and entertaining environment for children ages 33 months to 11 years." The summer program offers exciting field trips, and numerous opportunities for hands-on exploration; be sure to keep your child safely and happily

engaged all summer long!



Looking for a part time job?



Sugar Loaf Bus Service has a great opportunity for you driving school bus for the students of our district. Drivers are needed now for this school year. If you are interested, please contact Sugar Loaf Bus Service at 507-732-7670 and speak with Barb or Scott. They will even help you with the training!

The local community scholarship booklet will be sent home with all seniors in March. Seniors will have the opportunity to apply for many locally donated scholarships. The awards night has been changed to a daytime award so that our student body can attend. The senior awards program will be **Wed, May 17th at 1:00 p.m. in the auditorium.**



Orientation will be held for students in sixth and second grade in May. Sixth grade students will tour the middle school on May 19 and second graders will tour the elementary on May 25. If you have a child transferring to ZM or moving to our district in the upcoming year and you would like them to attend one of the orientations, please contact Pam Langley at 507-732-1420, ext. 1117, and your child will be registered.

School Board Meeting Minutes, continued from page 4

New Business:

Mr. Niles reviewed the bills and found them ready for payment. The following personnel items were approved:

- New Hires—Jamie Quam, 8th grade softball coach and Chap Cooper, Jr Hi softball coach.
- Retirement—Carolyn Benson, special education assistant, at the end of the 2016-17 school year and Bonnie Rolland, special education assistant, as of April 1, 2017.
- Resignations: Scott Paukert, head girls basketball coach, Linda Boraas, assistant girls basketball coach, Laura Huneke, 9th grade girls basketball coach, Caitlin Bonde, 8th grade girls basketball coach, all effective at the end of the 2016-17 basketball season; and Kathryn Hodgman, Cougar Care assistant, effective December 31, 2017.
- Tenure was approved for the following at the end of the 2016-17 school year: Stephanie Foss, Caitlin Bonde, Heather Decker, Derek Hatten, Logan Jensen, Samantha Woods, Katie G. Kennedy, Jamie Ringstad, Rachel Miller, Todd Petterson, and Jacob Smith.

The board held a discussion on gymnastics and the possibility of entering into a partnership with Pine Island similar to the soccer program. There will be more information at a later date.

The board approved the recommendation that the 2016-18 principal contract be amended to include the family health/hospitalization and dental insurance rates for 2017-18 in the amount of \$1,415 for health and \$160 for dental. The single rate will remain the same.

Board Comments and Reports:

Minutes were available from the Southeast Service Cooperative. Ms. Hinchley and Ms. Roth reported for the Wasioja Education Technology Cooperative and Mr. Wendt for the Goodhue County Education District.

Pertinent Dates:

- April 1—Track Waffle Fundraiser—ZM Cafeteria, Zumbrota, 8:00 am—Noon
- April 10—School Board Work Session, :00 pm, ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota
- April 11—ZMHS Spring Band Concert, 7:30 pm, ZM Auditorium, Zumbrota
- April 12—Early Release
- April 13—No School/Comp Day
- April 14—No School/Holiday
- April 24—Regular School Board Meeting, 7:00 pm, ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota. End of 2nd Quarter
- April 29—Prom

There were no future agenda items. The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm by Chair Hinchley.



A mind that is stretched by a new experience can never go back to its old dimensions.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

SUPERINTENDENT MESSAGE

Dear ZM Families and Community Members,

There was once a middle aged man who tended to be on the cranky and opinionated side. Every day he would look out his window to his neighbor's backyard and complain to his wife about the laundry they had hanging. "I can't believe that a person would hang dirty laundry up all the time. What's the deal? Do they have no pride in what they are doing? Can't they even afford detergent once in a while? I heard they give detergent away at the food shelf. What is wrong with them?" Finally one day when he went to his window he was surprised to see that the laundry was absolutely sparkling. He then said to his wife, "Would you take a look at that, they finally did something about their laundry problem. I wonder what finally happened." To which his wife replied, "I decided to clean that window you've been looking out of."

I thought of this story the either day when I was working with a group of our students. The amazing thing about kids is that they come to us every day with windows that are pretty much clean. They see things for what they are and do not carry the biases we do as adults.

I think we can all learn a great deal from our younger generation in this regard. Wouldn't it be great if we could set aside the prejudices we have accumulated through our life experiences? Wouldn't it be great if we could shed our own baggage and look out clean windows without thinking we are always right? Wouldn't it be great if we could all just look out our windows to help others rather than come up with excuses for why a situation is none of our business? This may seem easy for us to do, but it's not. The way we act has been shaped by how we have been treated by others, by the way we were raised, by how we are feeling and by what is happening around us.

But we can certainly help keep our own children's windows clear. We can do this by truly listening to them when they ask us questions and by responding thoughtfully. We can also do this by modeling good behavior or what we expect our kids to do. We can do this by providing joyful experiences for our children. Most importantly, we can do this by showing our kids that we love them all the time, even when they make mistakes.

It is springtime and probably the best time of the year to clean windows. Please join me in seeing how many windows of our own we can clean. If we keep our windows clean, trust me, we are helping keep our kids windows clear too.

Sincerely,

Gary Anger, Superintendent Zumbrota-Mazeppa Schools



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

The ZM Board of Education held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, March 27, 2017 in the ZM Elementary Media Center in Mazeppa. The usual business was conducted, including payment of bills.

The ZM Wrestling team and their coaches were recognized by the Board on their state wrestling championship.

Reports:

Tim McAthie, Activities Director, was in attendance to report on the winter activities season. Participation was good this winter with 35% of grade 7-12 students participating in a winter sport activity. Two teams, dance and wrestling, earned a state trip.

Dave Anderson, middle/high school principal, reported that grade 7-12 scheduling for 2017-18 will be completed shortly. Final probationary teacher evaluations are nearing a close and the last round of parent-teacher conferences were completed March 14. The National Honor Society held induction March 21 and the senior high choir recently traveled to Nashville. Thirteen students are currently in Washington D.C. as part of the Close-Up experience.

Quinn Rasmussen, primary/elementary principal, reported the 5th graders had an amazing time at Eagle Bluff in March. Over 65 parents also attended this learning experience in Lanesboro. There was a 98% attendance at parent-teacher conferences and he thanked teachers and parents for their participation. The MCA testing will begin soon and plans are underway for the kick-off.

Gary Anger, superintendent, reported that March enrollment was 1171. The treasurer's report to the board was available for board review. He reported that no bids were received for the 2016-17 vocational construction house by the March 17 deadline so the bidding is extended until the house is sold.

Continued on page 3

SIXTH GRADE MATH MASTERS

Fifteen sixth graders from Zumbrota-Mazeppa competed in the Math Master competition for southeastern Minnesota on Friday, March 3rd. There were a total of 24 teams from ten different schools with 113 individuals vying for the top scores. Each of these 113 students excel in mathematics and enjoy the challenge of the day of competition. The ZMMS students have met each week for the past two months and practiced different strategies and learned new methods and concepts in preparing for the competition. AND THE PRACTICES PAID OFF BIG!! The team of Haley Moore, Rylee Nelson, Kacey School, Natasha Sortland, and RJ Sylak placed second in the team scores. All fifteen of the ZM students placed in the top 70 percent of the individual scoring with

Rylee Nelson receiving a ribbon as 15th place and RJ Sylak receiving a medallion for fourth place overall. In the fact drill the

students definitely excelled by all placing in the top one half on the entire group of competitors. In this area, Natalie Clemenson was 18th, Bobbie Rae Benson was 16th, Katrina Sortland took 10th place, RJ Sylak placed 8th, Haley Moore placed 6th, and Kacey Scholl and Rylee Nelson tied for 2nd place. The team was coached by Denise Leedham.



Math Masters began as a fifth grade competition in Austin, MN in 1989 with teams from 44 schools taking part. In 1995 the competition was expanded to include sixth graders and this year there are approximately 5500 fifth and sixth graders registered to compete. Math Masters is designed to promote excellence in critical thinking skills and problem solving abilities as well as to provide recognition to younger students for academic effort and achievement. The Hormel Founda-

tion as well as many other businesses and individuals support the Math Masters organization. Any donations and support are always welcome.

FIFTH GRADE ATTENDS EAGLE BLUFF

ZM's fifth graders and many of their parents made the annual trek to Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center in Lanesboro March 8—10. As in past years, it was a tremendous experience for everyone. Students learned about pioneer life, winter survival, and about many species of animals and birds. Students also realized how far they could push themselves in personal challenges, such as the ropes course, where each student rode a zip line through the trees. It was extra challenging this year because it was a cold, windy day!

Learning about pioneer life in the 1858's was quite an experience in how our lives have changed in 160 years. Students made their own biscuits and tea, chopped and cut wood, played period games, and learned how to get sap from a tree.

The Root River hike took students and parents through the beautiful bluffs and the scenic Root River area. They participated in a scavenger hunt and played more games along the way. During winter survival, students learned what are the most important skills to have for survival in the wilderness. They tested their skills by making shelters and by trying to start a fire.

Environmentalists from Eagle Bluff gave presentations on snakes and raptors, while students got to see how and where some of these animals live. Dissecting an owl pellet was quite an experience for some!

Thank you is extended to the parents who chaperoned—over 65 came along! The food was great and the students represented ZM well. It was a very enlightening experience for everyone!

