

WHAT'S COMING UP?

2/3—School Board Retreat, 6:00 pm, ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota

2/10—Early Release. Cougar Care/Bright Beginnings open

2/12—No School/Teacher Flex Day. Cougar Care/Bright Beginnings open



2/15—No School/Holiday. Cougar Care/Bright Beginnings closed

2/22—School Board Meeting, 7:00 pm, ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota

2/23—Early Childhood Screening. 1st Grade Concert, ZMHS Auditorium, 7:00 pm

Special Event
14th Annual ZM Family Expo
Sat., February 27
9:00—11:00 am
ZMHS Gym
705 Mill Street, Zumbrota

This FREE event, for children birth to kindergarten and their families, highlights various family services that are available in the ZM community.

Bring your family and enjoy:

- Face painters and glitter tattoos
- Balloon artists
- Children's music
- Bounce house and slide
- Puppet show
- Children's craft activities
- Variety of family service tables



Prize drawings for adults and children!!



New Baby?? The ZM Early Childhood Family Education program want to congratulate you on your new arrival and help you celebrate by bringing you a FREE BABY BAG filled with baby supplies and information on child development. Call ZM ECFE 507-732-4244 to set up a time so we can either drop off your bag or you can come grab it! We look forward to meeting you and your little one!

This newsletter is offered in color online at www.zmschools.us. If you no longer need a mailed copy, please call 507-732-1400. Reading online will save paper and postage!!

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



ZM MESSENGER

January 2016



Zumbrota's Covered Bridge

ZUMBROTA-MAZEPPA PUBLIC SCHOOLS A BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE



Mazeppa's Walking Bridge

TRIPLE A WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Zumbrota-Mazeppa Schools is proud to announce that Breana Haag and Alex Nelson have been awarded the 2016 Minnesota State High School League's Triple A award. The Triple A (Academics, Arts, and Athletics) award goes to high school seniors who have a "B" or better grade point average and who participate in league-sponsored athletic and fine arts activities.

Breana and Alex are active members at ZM Schools; both students have participated in numerous band opportunities, acted as freshman mentors, are members of the National Honor Society, and were mentors for the Kindness Retreat.

Breana is an active member of the volleyball, dance, and track and field teams. She received an Academic All State award for each of those sports.

Alex is an active member of football, basketball, and baseball.

The Triple A Award On-Court recognition ceremony will be held in conjunction with the Boys' State Basketball tournament in March. The top two award finishers from each region will be invited to the banquet. League officials will announce the four Triple A Award recipients at the banquet. Award recipients—a boy and girl from both a Class A and a Class AA school—will receive a four year \$1,000 scholarship. Congratulations to Breana and Alex!!



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FUN IN THE WINTER

Who needs to be cooped up in the winter? Don't let the snow and cold keep you indoors—embrace this beautiful season!!



Ninth grade phy ed students enjoyed the snow and the activities it brings—from snowshoeing to building a snowman!!

TESTING SCHEDULE: ZM SCHOOLS 2015-2016

October	14th PSAT Test (Optional for Juniors and Seniors)	21st (in classrooms/chrome books) Reading MCA Grade 8 (in classrooms/chrome books) Math MCA Grade 6
November		22nd Math MCA Grade 6
December	4th ASVAB (Optional for Juniors)	26th Math MCA Grade 4 Math MCA Grade 8 (in teacher classrooms/chrome books)
January	Minnesota Student Survey (MSS) Grades 5, 8, 9 and 11 online 18th-22nd Minnesota Student Survey Grade 5	27th Math MCA Grade 4 Math MCA Grade 8 (in teacher classrooms/chrome books)
February	1st - March 25th ACCESS for ELLs (district-wide) 8th, 9th, 11th Minnesota Student Survey MSS (grades 8, 9 and 11) 9th Reading OLPA for Grades 3-6 18th Math OLPA for Grades 3-6 22nd ACCESS/ELL 23rd ACCESS/ELL 24th ACCESS/ELL 25th ACCESS/ELL 26th ACCESS/ELL 29th ACCESS/ELL	28th Math MCA Grade 5 Math MCA Grade 7 (in classrooms chrome books) 29th Math MCA Grade 5 Math MCA Grade 7 (in classrooms/chrome books)
March	1st ACCESS/ELL (make-ups) 2nd ACCESS/ELL (make-ups) 3rd ACCESS/ELL (make-ups) 4th ACCESS/ELL (make-ups) 7th MTAS window opens 15th ACT (Grade 11) Online testing 22nd ACT (Grade 11) Online testing 25th ACCESS for ELL window closes (district-wide)	May 2nd AP Chemistry (8:00 a.m.) AP Psychology (12:00) 3rd Math MCA Grade 3 Math MCA Grade 11 (in teacher's classrms on Chromebooks) 4th Math MCA Grade 3 AP English Literature (8:00 a.m.) 5th Science MCA Grade 5 Science MCA Grade 8 (in classrooms/chrome books) AP Calculus (8:00 a.m.) 6th Science MCA Grade 8 (in classrooms/chrome books) MTAS window closes 10th Science MCA Grade 10 (In media center; half class tests one day, the other half the next) 11th Science MCA Grade 10 (In media center; half class tests one day, the other half the next) 12th AP English Language (8:00 a.m.) 13th AP Statistics (12:00) AP Microeconomics (8:00 a.m.) Window closes for MCAs High School Middle School Elementary School All (ES, MS, HS)
April	5th ACT (Grade 11) Online testing 12th ACT (Grade 11) Online testing 14th Reading MCA Grades 4 and 6 Reading MCA Grade 10 (in classrooms/chrome books) 15th Reading MCA Grades 4 and 6 19th Reading MCA Grades 3 and 5 Reading MCA Grade 7 (in classrooms/chrome books) 20th Reading MCA Grades 3 and 5 Reading MCA Grade 7 (in classrooms/chrome books) Reading MCA Grade 8	

Parents—help your child to do their best on these important tests. It is important that children eat healthy meals, exercise, and get plenty of rest. Encourage your child to do their best !!

FIRST GRADE ARTWORK

ZM is a lucky school to have so many dedicated volunteers for the classroom. Pictured is Ms. Bonde's first grade class



and volunteer, Denice Cocker, displaying their winter artwork, made possible through Mrs. Cocker's assistance.

Also pictured is classroom volunteer, Gary Bonde, helping hone math skills with some of our youngest students. Thanks to all of ZM's volunteers—you are appreciated!!



Organization Board Minutes, *continued from page 6*

- Meal/lodging allowance of \$12 for breakfast, \$15 for lunch, and \$22 for dinner.
- Mileage allowance set at the 2016 federal rate

The board set the 2016 committee appointments as follows:

1	Attendance/Discipline (1)	Mr. Wendt, Mr. Hinrichs, Alt.
2	Board Policy Manual (2)	Mr. Hinrichs, Ms. Roth
3	Buildings/Grounds (3)	Mr. Wendt, Mr. Grudem, Mr. Krier
4	Community Ed Board (2)	Mr. Hinrichs, Ms. Hinchley
5	School Improve/Curriculum (2)	Ms. Roth, Mr. Grudem
6	GCED Joint Powers (1)	Mr. Wendt, Ms. Roth, Alt.
7	Legislative Com/Net (1)	Mr. Wendt
8	Meet & Confer (3)	Mr. Wendt, Mr. Krier, Ms. Roth
9	Negotiations/Transportation (3)	Mr. Hinrichs, Ms. Hinchley, Mr. Grudem
10	MSHSL/Extracurricular (3)	Mr. Hinrichs, Mr. Grudem, Mr. Krier
11	Strategic Plan (2)	Mr. Wendt, Ms. Hinchley
12	Technology (2)	Mr. Hinrichs, Ms. Hinchley
13	Vocational Advisor-School to Work (3)	Mr. Wendt, Mr. Grudem, Ms. Roth
14	WETC Joint Powers (2) (alternate required)	Ms. Hinchley, Ms. Roth, Mr. Hinrichs, Alt.
15	Education Foundation (2)	Mr. Wendt, Mr. Grudem, Mr. Krier, Alt.
16	Budget Committee	Mr. Hinrichs, Ms. Hinchley

The board adopted the school board preamble as presented with the updated mission statement.

The superintendent's mid-year evaluation and review was discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES

The ZM Board of Education held their organizational meeting on Monday, January 4 in the ZMES Media Center in Mazeppa.

The board adopted the agenda with the addition of a lunch tray bid and a resolution from the Minnesota State High school League for a grant. Also added was the hiring of Julie Vath.

The board accepted a bid of \$10 from Camp Victory for 200 of the surplus property lunch trays.

The board adopted a resolution supporting an application for a grant to purchase two AEDs with training.

The board approved the hiring of Julie Vath as 0.4 MARSS coordinator and 0.6 Community Ed secretary.

First order of business for the organization portion of the meeting was election of officers. Peter Hinrichs remains the chair for 2016, as well as Brian Grudem as vice-chair and James Wendt as treasurer. Jean Roth was elected clerk for the upcoming year.

The 2016 regular school board meeting dates and times were set as follows:

1/25	7:00 pm	ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa
2/22	7:00 pm	ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota
3/25	7:00 pm	ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa
4/25	7:00 pm	ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota
5/23	7:00 pm	ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa
6/27	7:00 pm	ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota
7/25	7:00 pm	ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa
8/22	7:00 pm	ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota
9/26	7:00 pm	ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa
10/24	7:00 pm	ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota
11/28	7:00 pm	ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa
12/19	7:00 pm	ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota

The school board special meetings were set as follows:

1/4/16	Organization 6:00 pm	ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa
2/3/16	Retreat 6:00 pm	ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota
8/3/16	Retreat 6:00 pm	ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota
12/19/16	Tax Hearing/Adoption 6:30 pm	ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota
1/2/17	Organization 6:00 pm	ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa

The 2016 school board work sessions were set as follows:

2/8	7:00 pm	ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota
3/7	7:00 pm	ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa
4/11	7:00 pm	ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota
5/9	7:00 pm	ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa
6/13	7:00 pm	ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota
7/11	7:00 pm	ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa
8/8	7:00 pm	ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota
9/12	7:00 pm	ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa
10/10	7:00 pm	ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota
11/14	7:00 pm	ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa
12/12	7:00 pm	ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota

The bill review schedule for 2016 is as follows:

- January/July—Mr. Hinrichs
- February/August—Mr. Wendt
- March/September—Mr. Krier
- April/October—Ms. Roth
- June/December—Mr. Grudem

The official district bulletin boards include the Superintendent’s Office, ZMHS Main Door on Mill Street, and ZMPS Main Door on Mill Street.

The Bank of Zumbrota was designated the general depository for 2016 and the investment sites of First State Bank of Red Wing at Mazeppa, Bank of Zumbrota, Liquid Assets, and Edward Jones at Zumbrota.

Diane Matthees and Carol Glander were authorized to make electronic transfers in 2016. The superintendent, chair, and treasurer were authorized to invest surplus funds and the superintendent and treasurer were granted access to the bank safe deposit box located in the downtown Bank of Zumbrota building, #503.

The following legal firms were designated for 2016: Rockne Law Office, Zumbrota; Gartner & Associates, LTD; Ratwik, Roszak & Maloney, P.A.; Knutson, Flynn, & Deans; and Dunlap & Seeger, P.A.

The News Record was designated the official school newspaper and the Mayo Health System of Zumbrota and the Goodhue/Wabasha Health Service as the official school clinics.

Board compensation for 2016 was set as follows:

- Regular meeting per diem \$2000
- \$15/hour for board members to attend meetings on legal issues and negotiations during workday,
- Chair \$300 annual per diem
- No annual per diem for clerk or treasurer
- Negotiator per diem of \$400 flat fee
- No other committee per diem in 2016

DORIAN FESTIVAL

The Annual Dorian Vocal Festival had its 66th annual concert this year on January 10, 2016. The following students were selected to sing at the festival with around 1,100 other high school students from Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois, South Dakota and Wisconsin: Caleigh Avery, Sabrina Spratte, Haley Ellingson, Alex Moreno, and Nathan Horsch.



On January 9th, the students traveled to Decorah, IA for rehearsal, an evening concert, dance, and overnight stay. The evening concert consisted of the Decorah High School Concert Choir and the freshmen women's college and men's choirs. Laura Schueler, a Zumbrota-Mazeppa alumni, sang with the women's choir, Aurora, under the direction of Jennaya Robison. The Zumbrota-Mazeppa students stayed overnight in the dorms at Luther College. This gave them an opportunity to experience a little of college life.

On Monday, January 10th, the festival choir students rehearsed and performed three pieces together: “Nyon Nyon” by Jake Runestad, “Grace Before Sleep” by Susan LaBarr, and “O Clap Your Hands” by Ralph Vaughan Williams. The choir then split up and the women sang “Hope Is the Thing with Feathers” by Susan Labarr; the men sang “Barb’ra Allen” by Randall Gill. Jake Runestad and Susan LaBarr, two of the composers, were at the festival to help with rehearsal. It was a neat opportunity for the high school students to meet living composers.

PARAPROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION WEEK OBSERVED

Every January, the Minnesota governor and Department of Education recognized paraprofessionals across Minnesota for their support services in our schools. Paraprofessionals number over 20,000 in our Minnesota schools and they provide support for instruction and support in multiple settings, all in an effort to help our students succeed in the classroom and in various activities. ZM also recognized the thirty-one paras who daily assist our students—our students succeed through their efforts!!



Primary (above): Jody Ayres, Bonnie Rolland, Courtney Hammes, Danelle Dykes, Carolyn Benson, Jen Moore, Cecelia Garcia, Sue Scheffler.

Elementary (upper right): Ann Streiff, Veronica Garcia, Donna Huneke, Wendy O’Reilly, (back) Shelley Speltz, Monica Dohrn, Kristen Donovan, Pam Stehr, Lynn Wingfield.

MS/HS (right): Keysha Hoehne, Sara Hoven, Rozie Born, Deb Floan, Jodie Thompson, Krista Boelter, Jon Wicks.



GOLDEN DUST PAN AWARD

Elementary students are being challenged to keep their room in tip top shape by noticing paper on the floor, throwing away their trash, etc. Each week, the "Golden Dust Pan" is awarded to the classroom with the least mess for the custodians. The winner of the first week's award was Mrs. Sjolander's classroom.

Great way to show consideration for everyone in the school!



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The regular meeting of the ZM School Board was held Monday, January 25 in the elementary media center in Mazeppa. Business was conducted as usual, including payment of bills.

Recognition was given to the elementary custodians for initiating the "Golden Dust Pan" award to the cleanest classrooms. The Mazeppa Lions were acknowledged for their \$5,000 gift for the elementary playground. Triple A winners, Breana Haag and Alex Nelson, were recognized for their nominations for this award.

Reports: Brian Wright, food service director for Lunchtime Solutions, updated the board on the food service program for the 2015-16 school year.

Ashley Buchholz, Spanish teacher, presented information on a student trip to Nicaragua. She explained the program and requested permission. The board approved this request for the trip in 2017.

Mr. Anderson reported for the middle and high school, noting that teachers attended an all day workshop for Illuminate, a database program. Student engagement and technology surveys were completed and it was noted that Southwest State University may possibly add more courses for ZM students. Snow Week is February 2-7, with many activities planned.

Mr. Rasmussen reported for the primary and elementary. He noted that the second round of observations for non-tenured staff are ongoing. The 5th and 6th grade will have their first banc concert January 28. The third SAT meeting using data walls was held. The Mazeppa city council met with school representatives regarding the playground equipment project.

Mr. Anger reported that enrollment was 1,161 for January. The treasurer's report to the board was available for board review. The MSBA conference was reviewed as well as the mid-year superintendent evaluation.

Old Business: The board approved a bid from Camp Victory for two of the saws designated as surplus property, for a bid of \$20.

New Business: Megan Nelson was hired as the middle/high school SPED paraprofessional, beginning January 29, 2016. Daren Wingert was released from his position as SPED educational assistant effective December 3, 2015. A lane change was approved for Aaron Schumacher and Katie G. Kennedy from BA+10 to BA+20 and for Anne Solberg from BA+20 to BA+30. Childcare leave for Megan Ferguson was approved beginning April 18.

The Minnesota State High School League requires two representatives be designated to represent ZM; Gary Anger and Peter Hinrichs were assigned by the board.

It was noted that the non-certified staff has requested that negotiations commence for the 2016-18 school year. The 2015-16 construction house sale and bidding process was discussed. More discussion will take place at the board retreat February 3.

Minutes were available from the Goodhue County Education District and the Southeast Service Cooperative. There were no meeting minutes for the Wasioja Education Technology Cooperative.

Pertinent Dates:

- 2/3—School Board Retreat, 7:00 pm, ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota
- 2/10—PLC Inservice-Early Release Students
- 2/12—No School. Teacher Workday
- 2/15—No School. Holiday
- 2/22—Regular School Board Meeting, 7:00 pm, ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

HONOR BAND

On January 16th, five 7th grade band students participated in the Southeast Minnesota Band Directors Association 6th-8th Grade Honor Band held at Red Wing High School. The Honor Band was made up of approximately 75 students from schools across the southeastern region of Minnesota.

Pictured from left to right: Brady Schran, Soren Hellyer, Raelyn Stiller, Annika Angerman, Morgan Archer.



JUMPIN' JANUARY

Even though winter days seem long, it has been an active and exciting month for ZM students! Elementary students enjoyed a day of explorations where they took nature walks,



played floor hockey, and practiced random acts of kindness. High School students practiced interviewing skills in their careers class.



FUN WAY TO PRACTICE LEARNING SKILLS



Mrs. Sjolander's 4th graders practiced the reading skill of Compare and Contrast by playing the card game "What's Not?" Mr. Anger even joined in on the fun!!

