

WHAT'S COMING UP?

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| 10/12—Grade 7-12 Parent-Teacher Conferences 4-8 pm | 10/26—School Board Meeting, 7 pm, ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota |
| 10/12—School Board Work Session, 7 pm, ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota | 10/27—Early Childhood Screening |
| 10/14—Early Release | 10/27—Grade 5 Concert, 7 pm, ZMES Gym, Mazeppa |
| 10/15 & 16—No School. Education MN Conferences | 10/29—Grade 3 to Orchestra Hall |
| 10/20—Grade 3-6 Picture Retakes | |
| 10/20—Early Childhood Screening | |




Be an informed, concerned parent! Parent Teacher Conferences for Grades 7-12 will be held on Oct. 12 from 4-8 pm.

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.

ZM Mission Statement:
 "Building a bridge to the future where all individuals have the full potential in a safe, challenging learning environment."




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



ZM MESSENGER

September 2015



Zumbrota's Covered Bridge

ZUMBROTA-MAZEPPA PUBLIC SCHOOLS A BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE



Mazeppa's Walking Bridge

ZM has launched a new website—same address, new look. Check it out!

www.zmschools.us

COLOR RUN FOR PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT



ZM Schools are excited to be doing a Color Run on October 3rd at the Covered Bridge Park in Zumbrota. This colorful 5k (3.1 mile) run/walk is being put on to raise money for the new playground equipment at the Elementary School in Mazeppa.

All of the money raised during the run/walk will go towards new equipment. It will be a fun family atmosphere with music before and after the race. The course will consist of three 1 mile loops making it more kid friendly.

Please register online at www.ZMEmscr.eventbrite.com. You may register the day of, but will not be guaranteed a t-shirt. Cost is \$25 for k-12 students and \$35 for general admission. We look forward to seeing as many people as possible at this awesome event! Let's improve our playground for the kids!!!

EARLY RELEASE OCTOBER 14—BUSES LEAVE MAZEPPA 12:30, ZUMBROTA 12:45.

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ZM ELEMENTARY NAMED A REWARD SCHOOL

ZM Elementary is very proud to be named a Reward School by the Minnesota Department of Education. This award demonstrates and rewards all the hard work that has occurred in grades 3-6, beginning in grades K-2 and district wide. The Minnesota Department of Education reported that every year, the top 15 percent of schools that receive Title I funding (allocated to schools with high levels of students in poverty) are recognized as Reward schools. This year, 119 schools received the Reward designation. Read more by going to the Minnesota Department of Education website: <http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/Welcome/News/PressRel/023693>.



HOMEcoming WEEK FESTIVITIES



Homecoming was celebrated September 21-15 with many fun, spirit-filled activities.

Coronation was held September 21 with King Derek Stehr and Queen Kellie Nordquist chosen to preside over the week's activities. Seniors attending were Laura Drackley, Breana Haag, Bella Wagner, Ryan Archer, Colton Webster, and Noah Krueger. Freshman attendants are Natalye Quam and Jacob Bennett; sophomore attendants Lauren Miller and Hayden Voxland; and junior attendants Maggie Gunhus and Tyler Stene.

Students decorated businesses in the communities to encourage everyone to support our school. Pepfests, competitions, and sporting events filled out the week of fun.

A tailgate party, sponsored by the student council, was held prior to the football game. It was a great hit with many students and parents attending. A Homecoming dance culminated the week's events.



NURSE NOTES

School is back in session and so is cold and flu season! The Minnesota Department of Health has compiled a screening tool for parents to use when deciding whether or not to keep their child home from school. Please follow these guidelines and keep your child home if in doubt to lessen exposure to other children and school staff. Thank you for your cooperation!

Does your child have:

1. A fever of 100 degrees F or higher? (Be sure to take the temperature before giving fever-reducing medicines such as Tylenol)
2. Sore throat?
3. Cough?

Should I Keep My Child Home?

- If you answered "yes" for fever AND one of the other symptoms, keep your child home for at least 24 hours after his/her fever is gone without fever-reducing medicine. For many children this will be 5 to 7 days. Your child should feel

well enough to participate in school before returning. If you have questions about your child's health or symptoms, call your child's doctor or clinic.

- If your child has been diagnosed by a doctor or clinic with a different disease, such as strep, follow your doctor or clinic's recommendation and school policy for when to return to school.

What Should I tell My Child's School?

- If you answered "yes" for fever AND one of the other symptoms, tell the school that your child is home with influenza-like illness.
- If your child has been diagnosed by a doctor or clinic with a different disease, such as strep, tell your child's school.

You can also view the checklist here: <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/flu/school/parentscreens.pdf>

PACKING FOR THE WEEKEND

In an effort to make sure students have nutritious food on non-school days, Zumbrota-Mazeppa Schools, in partnership with The United Way, will be offering an opportunity for families to participate in a program to receive needed food for the weekend. Here's how it works:



- * Through this program, we are offering to send child-friendly food home on the last day of the week in student backpacks.
- * This program is being offered, without charge, to qualifying students at the Elementary, Middle, and High School.
- * Food items for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and a snack will be provided. Some of the food may need to be prepared.
- * Everything possible will be done to keep participation in this program confidential.
- * Beginning around mid-November, we will provide a bag of food each weekend for up to 30 families district-wide.
- * Families will be chosen on a first come, first serve, basis.
- * The school reserves the right to withdraw a family from participation in the program if it find the food is not needed, not used, or distributed inappropriately.

If you would like to become a volunteer and help with this program, please visit United Way's website at www.uw.gwp.org. Questions about this program can be directed to Katie G. Kennedy, school social worker, at 507-732-1414, ext. 1124 or katiek-sw@zmsch.k12.mn.us or Pam Langley at 507-732-1414, ext. 1117 or paml@zmsch.k12.mn.us.



Please send food home with my child: _____

My child's teacher is: _____

Number of children in the family: _____ Ages: _____

Phone number: _____

Parent or Guardian's Signature: _____

Do you have a child living in the home that attends middle or high school? Yes No

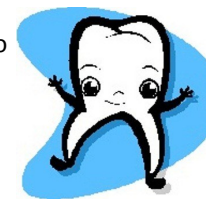
If yes, which school do they attend? _____ Name of student(s) _____

TWENTY TEETH RETURNS

This clinic is for students who do not currently have access to dental care. Applications need to be completed and returned to Mrs. Kennedy/ Mrs. Potter-Langley by **October 2**.

There must be 25 participants enrolled in order to qualify for the portable clinic to come to ZM.

Those students requiring further work will be given a referral. Visit www.twentyteeth.org for more information. Or call your child's school and ask for the social worker or counselor.



What: Dental Health Services: Cleaning, Sealant, and Fluoride

Who: Students ages 5-14 who are on free/reduced lunch services with no dental coverage, or Medical Assistant, Doral-U-Care, Blue Plus, or South Country.

When: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 (20-30 minutes appointments)

Where: ZM Elementary School in Mazeppa. Zumbrota students will be transported.

AMITY PROGRAM

The 2015-16 Amity program is underway at ZM Schools again this year. This program affords our students an opportunity to learn about the culture and traditions of countries around the world. This year's Amity teachers are from France and Spain. Pictured is Ingrid, our French Amity teacher, explaining to primary and elementary students, about her homeland. She will be teaching French to all K-6 students this year. Ce que c'est drôle!!



SCIENCE AND MATH

Seventh graders worked with isopods to practice their



experimental design skills. Each class designed an experiment to carry out and write up while 8th grade students

took the density challenge - Using what they knew about density and objects sinking or floating, students were challenged to modify three film canisters so that one would float, one would sink and one would be suspended.



Sixth graders tried a new approach to math by playing Yahtzee. An imaginative way to learn math skills!



LIONS PROVIDE THIRD GRADERS WITH DICTIONARIES

ZM's third grade students won't be misspelling their words now! For the past seven years, the Mazeppa Lions Club has been handing out very useful dictionaries to the third grade students at ZM Schools. This year, 90 third graders received a dictionary from Lions Club member, Dick Whitaker, along with one of their teachers, Todd Cordes. The Lions members explained to the students that the Lions are a service organization that conducts fundraising projects so they can sponsor projects such as the dictionary handout. Students were reminded that even though technology is wonderful, it is also great to hold a book in your hand!



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

The Board of Education held their monthly meeting Monday, September 28 in the ZMES Media Center in Mazeppa. The usual business was conducted, including payment of bills.

Reports:

Scott Cory, band director, was in attendance to report on the 2016 band trip to California. He outlined the proposed agenda and funding options. He asked permission of the board for the trip and to do a Kwik Trip car wash card fundraiser in addition to the frozen food sales. He also discussed insurance options in case of student cancellation. He would like to offer a travel insurance for students wishing to purchase it. The board approved the trip and insurance, but wanted to table the budgeted donation until speaking with the superintendent.

Aaron Schumacher went over the proposed changes to the teacher development and evaluation plan, which had already been approved by EMZM. He was requesting board approval of the changes outlined and the board gave that approval.

Mr. Anderson reported for the middle and high school. He summarized the beginning of the year activities as well as Homecoming. He commented the school liaison officer is a huge asset to our school this year. Teacher observations will begin later this month and curriculum offerings will be discussed in October.

Mr. Rasmussen reported for the primary and elementary schools. He was pleased to announce that the elementary was named a 2015 Reward School by the Minnesota Department of Education. Data meetings will be held to develop plans for utilize the ADSIS and Reading Corps people.

The principals went over the superintendent report in Mr. Anger's absence. Enrollment for September was 1,159, up considerably over last year in September, which was 1,128. The treasurer's report to the board was available for review. ZM acknowledged and thanked the following businesses for their support during our staff workshop week: Bank of Zumbrota, Kwik Trip, Tanker's Grill, Ameriprise, Pray Zumbrota, Grover Auto, Zumbrota Ford, Lunchtime Solutions, and Hub Food Center.

Old Business:

The board had previously discussed the administrator evaluation plan at the September work session. Since there were no additional questions to the plan, it was recommended for approval.

There was no patron input.

The following new hires were approved as presented:

- Lisa Nelson, 8th Grade Girls Basketball
- Ron Gabrielson, 9th Grade Girls Basketball
- Caitlin Bonde, 7th Grade Volleyball
- Alyssa Bangert, 7th Grade Girls Basketball
- Mark Moran, Head Golf
- Tom Erslund, Fall Musical Director
- Logan Jensen, Assistant Boys Basketball
- Linda Boraas, Assistant Girls Basketball
- A. J. Yusten, Assistant Baseball
- Jessica Paulsen, Program Teaching Assistant beginning 8/30/15. Reassigned to a Lead Teacher beginning 9/28/15 for 3 hours per day and the Program Teaching Assistant for 5 hours per day beginning 9/28/15.
- Madeline Lawler, High School/College Assistant beginning 9/1/15
- Katie Lawler, High School/College Assistant beginning 9/1/15
- Nick McLaughlin, Elementary Night Custodian beginning 9/8/15
- Madisyn Timm, High School/College Assistant beginning 9/14/15
- Tammy Gruhlke, SPED Assistant in Cougar Care, beginning 9/22/15.

Resignations were accepted from Hailey Vath, Program Teaching Assistant, effective 9/22/2015, and Tracy Roschen, SPED Program Teaching Assistant, effective 9/29/15.

Other items approved included the following:

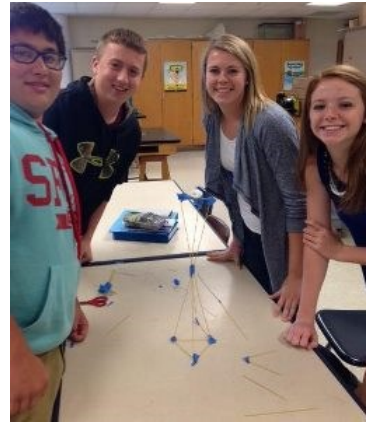
- Reassignment—Jordan Pahl from a SPED teaching assistant to a program lead teacher in Cougar Care as of 9/28/15;
- Overload for Brad Haugen, Media Specialist for the 2015-16 school year;
- Childcare Leave for Kelsey Bradley for twelve weeks with the estimated leave beginning March 5, 2016;

PHYSICS CHALLENGE

Students in Mrs. Post's physics class were split into teams of four and given 20 strands of spaghetti, 1 meter of tape, 1 meter of string, scissors, and a marshmallow. Their end goal - to build a free-standing structure that can withstand the weight of a marshmallow in eighteen minutes. The team with the highest placement of their marshmallow, wins!

Two teams were able to build structures within the time constraint, whilst the other two teams floundered and were disqualified at the bell. The first structure was 46 centimeters tall, and the second structure was 47.2 centimeters tall - great work!

This is a great team building exercise which is used in fortune 500 companies throughout the world. See <http://marshmallowchallenge.com> for more information.



COUNSELOR NOTES

Parents of a junior or senior: There is a parent letter on the school website with some important information regarding the school year. Go to www.zmschools.us



The 9th grade retreat will be held October 9th at Camp Victory in Zumbro Falls. All 9th graders will be participating in leadership activities. Look for pictures of the day in a future newsletter.

College fair for juniors is scheduled for October 29th. Juniors are offered the opportunity to take the bus to Rochester Community and Technical College to visit with college representatives. Over 100 colleges will be in attendance. More information will be available next month.

EXPLORE and PLAN tests for 8th and 10th graders will be given in October. These tests are practice ACT tests which also have a great career interest inventory included. A parent letter will be coming home in the near future.

SIXTH GRADERS ATTEND THE RENDEZVOUS

ZM's 6th graders attended the Zumbro Bend Rendezvous, which is sponsored by the Dodge County Historical Society.



At the Rendezvous, the students attended presentations about early Minnesota history. The presentations included: candle-making, archery, guns of the era, fur-trading, pioneer cooking and Native American beading, just to name a few.



PARKING AND BUS REMINDERS

A reminder for parents picking up and dropping off their students: There is **NO PARKING** along the school side of Third Avenue in Mazeppa during the school day. This is a designated bus and school vehicle drop-off and pick-up area.

It is also requested that parents not park on the east side of Third Avenue (across from the bus loading/unloading area) in an effort to reduce traffic congestion during bus loading and to promote safety for students crossing the street.

If your child attends Bright Beginnings or Preschool and are under 4 years of age, they are not allowed to ride the school bus. In order for a preschooler to ride the school bus, they need to be 4 years old **and** have an older sibling on the bus. This rule is for your child's safety and if you have questions about this, please contact Sugar Loaf Bus Service or the Community Ed Director, Jen Burfeind. **LET'S KEEP OUR STUDENTS SAFE THIS YEAR!!**



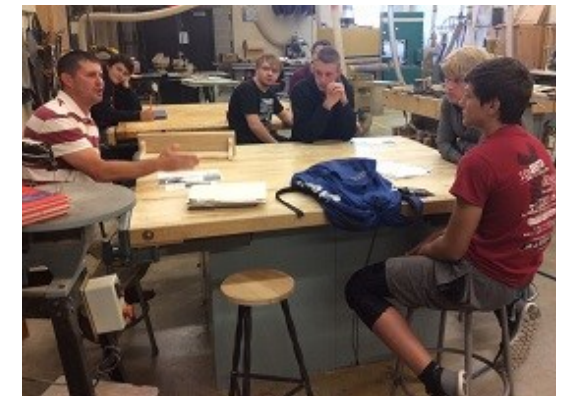
SCHOOL IS OFF AND RUNNING

Students are back in the classroom, ready for another year of learning and fun. Pictured are third grade students in Ms. Woods' class. They are spinning a web of yarn, each student adding to the web by telling something about themselves. They learned we are all connected in some way!



High School and middle school students are already hitting the books hard, using technology as part of their daily routine, as shown in Mr. Boraas' social studies class.

Pictured to the right are students in Mr. Albers' industrial tech class.



Board of Education Minutes, continued from page 9

- Lane Change for Mark Moran from MS+10 to MS+30; and
- Ramp Up to Readiness \$500 stipend for the following leaders: Kelsey Bradley, Dawn Guse, Michelle Jentsch, Katie Kennedy, Mary Kleese, and Pam Peterson.

In other business, the 2015 Pay 2016 levy was approved at the maximum amount. Revised policy #810 for Salespersons and Solicitors was approved as presented and a new policy, #811, Non-School, Non-District Organizations, was approved. A credit card security policy was also approved. The recommended Minnesota PEIP Health Insurance renewal rates were approved as presented.

Board members gave reports from the Wasioja Education Technology Cooperative and the Goodhue County Education District. Minutes were available from the Southeast Service Cooperative.

Pertinent Dates:

- October 12 - Grade 7-12 Parent Teacher Conferences 4-8 pm
- October 12 - School Board Work Session, 7:00 pm, ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota
- October 14 - Early Release
- October 15, 16 - No School, Education MN Conferences
- October 26 - School Board Meeting, 7:00 pm, ZMHS Media Center, Zumbrota
- October 27 - 5th Grade Concert, 7:00 pm, ZMES Gym, Mazeppa

There were no future agenda items and the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.