



Building a Bridge to the Future



ZM MESSENGER

ZM SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNIZED

The Zumbrota-Mazeppa ISD 2805 joined school districts throughout the state to salute their local education leaders during Minnesota's annual School Board Recognition Week February 19-23.

The commemorative week is designed to recognize the contributions made by Minnesota's school board members, including the Zumbrota-Mazeppa School Board, who are charged with governing public education under state law.

Minnesota school board members are chosen by their communities through election or appointment to manage local schools. They oversee multimillion-dollar budgets, which fund education programs for more than 825,000 students in approximately 2,000 schools. Their personnel decisions affect more than 52,000 teachers and thousands of administrators and support workers.

These volunteer leaders also are responsible for formulating school district policy, approving curricula, maintaining school facilities, and adhering to state and federal education law. Legal concerns and the complexities of school finance, including budgeting and taxation, require them to spend many hours in board training programs and personal study to enhance their understanding of these issues. Our deepest appreciation is extended to the dedicated men and women who make it possible for local citizens to participate in education in our community. We salute the public servants of the Zumbrota-Mazeppa School Board whose commitment and civic responsibility make local control of public schools in our community possible.



Dirk Niles, Jean Roth, Rebecca Hinchley, Angie Bredehoft, Jason Lohmann, and Jim Wendt.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ZM STUDENTS JACOB BENNETT AND NATALYE QUAM—2018 EXCEL WINNERS



ExCEL stands for Excellence in Community, Education and Leadership. It is a unique recognition program designed exclusively for Minnesota high school juniors who are active in school activities, who show leadership qualities, and who work voluntarily in their community. Every member school of the League is invited to nominate one girl and one boy for the ExCEL Award.

Nominees must: be a junior in high school, make satisfactory progress toward graduation, participate in a MSHSL fine arts and/or athletic activity, hold a leadership position(s) in their school, and work voluntarily in their community.

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visit us at www.zmschools.us

WHAT'S COMING UP?

- 3/5, 13 PreK-12 Parent-Teacher Conferences, 4-8 pm
- 3/7, 8, 9 Grade 5 Eagle Bluff Trip
- 3/12 School Board Work Session, ZMES Media, 7pm
- 3/14 Early Release
- 3/16 Blood Drive, ZMHS, 9am-2pm
- 3/22 Gr 3 Concert, ZMES Gym, 7pm
- 3/26 School Board Meeting, ZMES Media Center, 7pm
- 3/27 End 3rd Quarter
- 3/28 No School/Teacher Inservice
- 3/29 & 30 No School/Comp Day/Holiday

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE SCHOOL MUSICAL

ZM Schools will present *Legally Blonde*, a school musical, in March.

Performances will be held on

- ◆ March 23 & 24 at 7:00 PM, and
- ◆ March 25 at 2:00 PM

All performances will be held in the ZM MS/HS Auditorium in Zumbrota.



Dylon Starr and Audrey Rinkoski will direct this musical of with over 25 ZM students. Don't miss this opportunity to see our students shine!

[Click here for the rehearsal schedule.](#)

TWENTY TEETH

This clinic is for students aged 5-14 who do not currently have access to dental care. The clinic will be held at ZMES School in Mazeppa (Zumbrota students will be transported).

WHAT: Dental Health Services: Cleaning, Sealant, Fluoride

WHEN: Wed., February 28, 2018

WHO: Students ages 5-14 who are on Free & Reduced Meal Services with no dental coverage, or Medical Assistance, Doral-U-Care, Blue Plus, or South Country



Congratulations to the Primary Cougar **P.A.W.** winners for the week of February 5-9. Awesome job of **P**racticing kindness, **A**cting with respect and **W**orking to do your best!



GUESS WHAT'S COMING??



ZM FFA will be hosting
Donkey Basketball

Friday, March 16
7:00 pm
ZMES Gym
Mazeppa



Get your tickets from a FFA member or at the door the night of the event.



Amazon Smile



The ZM Education Foundation has partnered with Amazon Smile to raise money for the Foundation. The Foundation helps pay for projects and field trips that the school district is unable to fund. If you are planning on using amazon.com for shopping, please think about going to smile.amazon.com and putting the ZM Education Foundation as your charitable organization. After you set that up, .5% of every purchase will go to the Foundation.

How do I sign up for Amazon Smile?

1. Sign in to smile.amazon.com
2. Go to your account from the navigation at the top of any page and selection option to Change your Charity
3. Select ZM Education Foundation!

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

The ZM School Board held a work session on February 12. At this session, they discussed revising the master agreement for the Community Education/Early Childhood director to include a cell phone stipend that has been in effect for a number of years, but not in the agreement. The Coordinator of Fiscal Services agreement was also discussed and it was recommended that the dental insurance premium be revised to read \$66.34 per month for single insurance and \$132.67 for family.

These two changes will be on the agenda for approval at the February 26 meeting.

Other items for discussion included reviewing the policy regarding state tournaments and competition and how to handle school days if a team goes to state competition. The board reviewed the following district policies: #203 Methods of Operation, #203.5 School Board Meeting Agenda, #204 School Board Meeting Minutes, #205 Open Meetings and Closed Meetings, #206 Public Participation in School

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THREE TEAMS ADVANCE IN COMPETITION



ZM Jazz Dance Team advanced to state competition & placed third AND the Kick Team was named Section 1a runner-up and also competed at the state level.

The PIZM Gymnastics team is the new Section 1 A Champs for 2018 and competed and placed 5th at state as a team. Sawyer Gorman and Jaci Neuman are the All Around gymnasts who competed in Individuals. Brynn Olson competed on Vault, Bars, and Floor for Individuals. This team received an Academic Gold and many made All Conference and All Section Honors. They were also Conference Champs this year.



The ZM Wrestling Team earned the Section 1A Championship and will defend their Class A state title in state competition on Thursday, March 1 at Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. As the top-ranked team, they'll likely be the No. 1 seed.

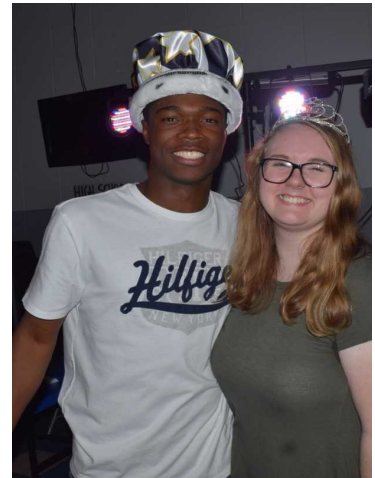
Congratulations to these outstanding athletes!



ZM'S STUDENTS ARE SHINING THIS MONTH



The Robotics team completed their robotics building and will compete



Snow King Robvon Jackson and Queen Stephanie Everly



Plunging for Special Olympics and raising \$2400



FCCLA visits nursing home to deliver Valentines



Grade 1 designs owl pictures



Grade 2 visited the Ordway and Rice Park's Ice Castle!



Board Meetings, and #208 Development, Adoption, and Implementation of Policies. Mr. Harvey felt that the policy that addresses district policy regarding gifts to employees and school board members should be updated to include a section on employee appreciation programs. All these policies will be on the February 26 agenda for final approval.

The contract with Winona State College covering nursing and health sciences, nursing, social work, etc. was approved. This contract was needed to cover an intern social worker who is doing a practicum at ZM this winter.

Mr. Harvey had four teacher on special assignment agreements for the board to review. These agreements cover teachers doing a special assignment and will be presented for approval at the February 26 regular meeting.

The MSBA model forms that districts are required to use in the event of staff reductions were available for board review.

The school resource officer contract was discussed at length. The Safe School levy will not cover the cost in the upcoming years and the board must make a decision whether or not ZM can afford a full-time school resource officer or what other options the school might have.

The high school band director, Mr. Cory, surveyed students on how many could commit to marching band this summer and only 22 students could. Because that is too small a number for a marching band, it is probable the band will not perform at area parades this summer.

A golf pairing agreement with Pine Island Schools was approved. The head coaches of each program would work together to merge the programs with ZM's head coach leading the boys' program and Pine Island's head coach heading the girls' program.

The building project was discussed. The board would like to hear from R. A.

Morten before making a decision. Mr. Harvey will set up a presentation time.

The work session was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

The regular school board meeting was held on February 26 in the ZM MS/HS Media Center. The usual business was conducted, including payment of bills.

The board recognized Natalye Quam and Jacob Bennett for their achievement in being named this year's EXCEL award winners from ZM.

Mr. Darin Raasch, high school social studies teacher, gave a presentation on technology using Google classroom.

Mr. Anderson reported for the middle/high school. He gave the college algebra grade breakdown from 1st semester. The FIRST Robotics team will be competing in the Minnesota North Star Regional competition March 28-31. HR Imaging will be given a one year agreement to do school and sports pictures in 2018-19. He congratulated the dance and wrestling teams, as well as the PIZM gymnastic team, on their state participation this year. The school musical, "Legally Blonde", will be held March 23-25.

Mr. Rasmussen reported for the primary/elementary school, noting the various concerts and field trips taking place. He thanked Goodhue County Rural Electric for their presentation to 4th graders on electrical dangers and he thanked Ms. Sjolander for her work during Black History Month. The February "I Love to Read" month activities are winding down with the celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday on Friday.

Ms. Ahern reported that ESY planning for summer has begun. It will be held the last three weeks of July for qualifying students.

Mr. Harvey reported that the February enrollment was 1,195.

PERTINENT DATES

- * 3/5 & 13—PreK-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4-8 pm
- * 3/7-9—Grade 5 Eagle Bluff Trip
- * 3/12—School Board Work Session, ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa 7pm
- * 3/14—Early Release
- * 3/16—Blood Drive, 9am-2pm, ZMHS Gym
- * 3/22—Gr 3 Concert, ZMES Gym, 7pm
- * 3/26—School Board Meeting, ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa 7pm
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- * 3/29—No School/Comp Day
- * 3/30—No School/Holiday

3M VISITING WIZARDS

Grade 4 students were treated to a visit from volunteers from the 3M Visiting Wizards program. The focus is on making science fun! They talked with students about energy transfer and use and gave the students the opportunity to work hands on in small groups with electrical generating and magnetic materials.



Continued page 8

Looking for a part-time job? Drivers are needed now for this school year. Contact Kennedy Transportation at 507-732-7670 and speak with Scott.



BUS DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY

February 28 was the day set aside to recognize and appreciate our school bus drivers. ZM Schools is proud to partner with Kennedy Transportation for our school transportation needs. They provide outstanding service to our school, keeping our students safe and on time for school and events—all with a smile! **Thank you Kennedy Transportation!!**



Health Offices: We are seeing an average of 940 students per month through the health offices for injuries, illnesses, medication administration, and health conditions. Please be sure to have current emergency contact information in the Parent Portal. We are still seeing symptoms of influenza (fever and cough), strep throat, and the stomach illnesses (vomiting/diarrhea).

Immunizations: Please check the Parent Portal in Infinite Campus to see if your child is current with school immunizations. Letters were sent home with 6th grade students reminding them of immunizations needed before 7th grade. Letters were also sent home to 11th and 12th grade students who need their Meningococcal booster, which is due at age 16.

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.

Eagle Bluff Grade 5 Field Trip: If your child needs to take medication on this trip, please complete a Medication Authorization Form (under Health Office at www.zmschools.us). Please return the completed form to the office with the medication by February 28, 2018. If you are a chaperone, you may administer medication to your own child. ***Please do not bring the medication in to the office the morning of the trip.*** Thank you!

Check out the recently updated Health Services tab on the ZM school website.

COUNSELOR NOTES

Registration for the 2018-2019 school year for students in grades 7-12 is taking place the week of February 5 through February 15. Students should have brought home their form for a parent signature. Students registered online during their advisor time. All materials and descriptions of classes are on the front page of the school website (www.zmschools.us)



If you have questions regarding registration, please call or email Angela Hunstad at 507-732-7395 or ahunstad@zmsch.k12.mn.us

All juniors should have received a letter regarding the ACT Prep course that will be offered at ZMHS on March 4. This is a six-hour course that will teach you skills on how to take the ACT test, as well as offer several opportunities to take practice tests. Contact Angela Hunstad if you have questions.

The Book Fair will open for business soon! Online shopping begins February 28 and runs through March 13. Stock up on good books for the rest of the winter by visiting the Book Fair during Parent-Teacher Conferences or by ordering online at these sites:

Elementary: <http://www.scholastic.com/bf/zumbrotamazepamidschool>

Primary: <http://www.scholastic.com/bf/zumbrotamazepaelemschool1>





FFA CELEBRATES NATIONAL FFA WEEK FEBRUARY 19—23

The ZM FFA Chapter was especially busy during National FFA Week, but this group of high achieving students is actually very busy year round! Below is a summary of this active group’s activities this year (so far!)

- * Members attended National FFA Convention in Indianapolis in October.
- * Three members attended the Region Leadership Conference in January, and one went to Region Greenhand Camp in December.
- * Kyra Nichols has been elected to serve as the 2018-2019 Region VIII secretary.
- * The FFA fruit sales was a success again this year. Money raised from our fruit sales went to purchase holiday gifts for families in need in our community, \$500 was donated to Camp Courage, and 3 members were sponsored to participate in the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics of Southeast Minnesota.
- * 455 people attended the FFA toy show on January 7.
- * Members have competed in the following Career Development Events (competitions) this year: dairy judging, livestock judging, soils, small animals, floriculture, parliamentary procedure, and extemporaneous speaking.
- * **Members celebrated National FFA Week with the following activities: served breakfast to school staff, had a petting zoo for the primary school students, and hosted Ag Olympics for high school students.**



FFA’ers placed 8 out of 16 at the region small animals contest—their first year competing! Pictured below are members after returning from buying holiday gifts for our community members, at the 2017 National FFA Convention, and members participating in our ditch clean up service project this past fall.



Casey Dykes placed 2nd in FFA Extemporaneous speaking and qualified for state!

At left, is the 2017-18 Chapter photo.



The treasurer’s report to the board was available for review. He informed the board that February 28 is Bus Driver Appreciation Day and he took the opportunity to thank Kennedy Transportation for their dedicated service to our school.

The board approved the following items: approval of the cell phone stipend of \$780 per year for the Community Education/Early Childhood Coordinator for 2017-19 and the dental insurance premium of \$66.34 per month for single and \$132.67 per month for family for the Coordinator of Fiscal Services for 2017-19. The board approved the review with no changes of the following district policies: #203 Methods of Operation, #203.5 School Board Meeting Agenda, #204 School Board Meeting Minutes, #205 Open Meetings and Closed Meetings, #206 Public Participation in School Board Meetings, #208 Development, Adoption, and Implementation of Policies, and #421 Gifts to Employees and School Board.

The Teachers on Special Assignment agreements for Chuck Ohm; Tim McAthie; Grant Voth; and the Peer Reviewers, Tony Brown, Selene O’Reilly, and Rebecca Sjolander were approved as presented. The World’s Best Workforce plan that contained the revised and approved MDE QComp goals was approved.

Amber Jentsch was hired as the long-term substitute teacher in grade 3 and Elizabeth Lee in grade 1. Claudia Vanderborgh was hired as a long-term substitute teacher for the 2018-19 school year in science. Dawn Guse and Michelle Jentsch resigned as student council co-advisors effective June 30, 2018 and primary Title I paraprofessionals, Danelle Dykes and Jennifer Moore, resigned as of 3/2/18 and 2/23/18 respectively. The district Wellness policy was revised to add Michael Harvey as the designed official for policy oversight and removing Gary Anger’s name.

A presentation from Preston Euerle of R. A. Morton was given on building and facilities planning.

There were no future agenda items and the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.



Kelly, Josh, & Lars of Goodhue County Coop Electric shared electrical safety with 4th graders who were finishing their unit on Energy and Electricity.

BLOOD MOBILE

Be a lifesaver and volunteer to give blood during the annual ZM Blood Drive.

WHEN: Friday, March 16

WHERE: ZM MS/HS Gym

TIME: 9:00 am—2:00 pm

For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact Amy Matuska at amym@zmsch.k12.mn.us or call the high school at 507-732-7395, ext. 1132.



ZM After Prom Needs You

ZMHS parents—you are invited to ZM After-Prom working meetings on

Sundays at the Zumbrota VFW at 6 pm: March 4, March 18, & April 15.



If you are unable to attend but would like to assist, please send an email to ZMafterprom@gmail.com.

For many decades, ZM After-Prom has provided safe entertainment for students after the conclusion of the prom dance through the overnight hours. The aim is to keep students safe, and to allow parents (who aren’t chaperoning!) to sleep, worry-free.

ZM After-Prom has been a volunteer-led endeavor. New volunteers are needed each year, and all parents are expected to contribute in some way. Please consider attending these meetings or volunteering.

The prom event is April 28-29!