



Building a Bridge to the Future



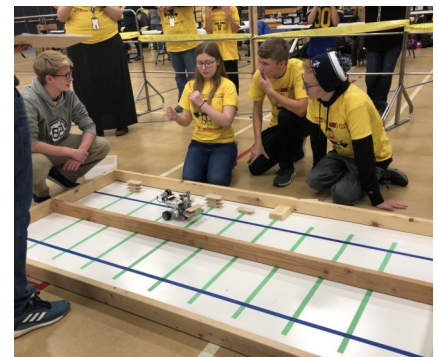
ZM MESSENGER



From ZM Schools



ZM had seventy-four grade 6 through 12 grade students competing Wednesday, December 11 at the IBM Lego Robotics STEM competition. We had nine teams place in the 24 placings. It was another very successful year and our program at ZM keeps growing and growing. Students competed in the long-term project and then the short-term where they were given directions on the competition and one hour to build and code their robot.



ZM is very proud of these energetic, competitive students. ZM also wishes to thank the coaches and the IBM mentors for their expertise in guiding the students throughout the robotics season.



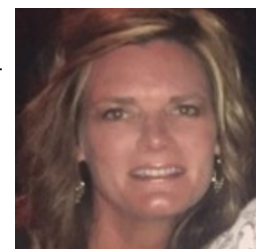
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STEM Forward is proud to announce the 2019-20 Outstanding Educator Award winners and nomi-

nees. The Outstanding Educator Award from STEM Forward recognizes K-12 professionals who strive toward the highest levels of excellence within their schools and community, with a focus on initiative and continuous improvement in every aspect of their work. The 2019-2020 Outstanding Educators and nominees will be celebrated at the Annual STEM Forward Dinner on January 8, 2020. The winner(s) will present a breakout session on their practice in the classroom/community at the Spring Educator Forum on April 8, 2020. ZM science teacher, Angela Heitmann, was named one of this year's Outstanding Educators by STEM Forward. Ms. Heitmann has taught at ZM Schools since 1997 and has proven herself to be an innovative teacher that keeps her students involved and learning at a high level. Congratulations!



Sharing this award with Ms. Heitmann is Burke Egler from Albert Lea Schools. Other nominees this year included John Bartucz, Rochester Public Schools; Paula Braun, Dover-Eyota Public Schools; Dan Devine, Rochester Public Schools; Katie Donlin, Byron Public Schools; Nate Pfeilsticker, Plainview-Elgin-Millville Public Schools; Alison Rumpca, Red Wing Public Schools; and Art Trimble, Rochester Public Schools.



## PARENTING CLASS: CHILD NUTRITION WITH A DIETICIAN

Struggle with a picky eater at home? Stuck on healthy meal ideas that your whole family will enjoy? Join your Hy-Vee Dietitian to learn about ways to get your child eating well. Your dietitian will give you tips on how to get your child to eat more fruits and vegetables, choose healthy snacks, and ways that you, as a parent, can be a role model for your child's healthy eating patterns.

**Monday, January 6 from 6:00-7:00 PM**

**Early Ed Center \$15 per person**

*\*Free childcare for children 1-6 years old available during presentation. Please register separately for childcare. You can register online at [www.zmschools.us](http://www.zmschools.us) on the Community Ed Store or call the Community Ed Office at 507-732-4244. The registration deadline is Thursday, January 2.*



## 30<sup>th</sup> Annual ZM Toy Show is Coming!

- Sunday, January 5, 2020  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- ZM High School Cafeteria  
705 Mill St, Zumbrota, MN
- Additional parking available in the back lot of the school
- Adults \$3, 12 & Under are FREE



## WHAT STUDENTS DO IN IGNITE CLASS

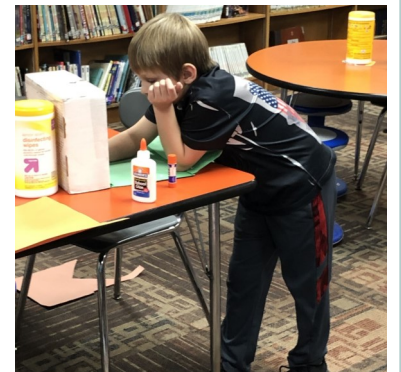
Students in grades 3-6 learn many things in Ignite with Ms. Sjolander, some of which includes practicing respectful listening skills, social and emotional skills, cultural growth, and responsible digital citizenship (teaching students to be responsible consumers and Internet users).



## AND IN W.I.N. (WHAT I NEED) CLASS



Third graders made dioramas of their favorite scene from George's Marvelous Medicine.



## VOCATIONAL CONSTRUCTION HOUSE

The 2019-20 construction class house is progressing nicely this year under a new advisor, Brandon Roth. An open house will be held in February with a house sale in the spring. The location of this year's house is 470 Lancaster Boulevard in Zumbrota. If interested in purchasing this home, you can contact Mr. Roth during school hours at 732-7395 and leave a message or at the building site during school days.





## AWARD WINNING ZM STUDENTS



**ExCel** - Excellence in Community, Education and Leadership – 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:

- a. be a junior in high school
- b. make satisfactory progress toward graduation
- c. participate in a MSHSL fine arts and/or athletic activity
- d. hold a leadership position(s) in their school
- e. work voluntarily in their community

ZM has named Soren Hellyer and Annika Angerman as this year's award recipients.

**Triple A**—Congratulations to this year's local recipients, Jakalyn Arendt and Grant Haferman.

The Triple A award is a Minnesota State High School League sponsored award that recognizes seniors who achieve high standards in the classroom, on the athletic field, and in the fine arts. This award elevates academic standards and creates a greater awareness of League-sponsored activities and their values. To be eligible for this award, a student must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, participate in League-sponsored athletics and fine arts, and comply with the MSHSL's Student Code of Conduct.

Jakalyn and Grant's applications will move on to sub-section four competition. We wish them the best!



## CAN'T GET TO THE GAMES?

ZM will be live streaming some of our games and activities this winter! We want you to attend activities and support our programs whenever you can, but if you can't make it here or know someone who cannot, some of our home games and concerts will be on youtube both livestreamed and saved for later viewing. Currently we will stream only home events from the gym and auditorium in Zumbrota so subscribe to our channel and check ahead to see what events we will be streaming.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtzS4h51p1xVzClcyK89Lhg>



Grade 4 Mitten Tree

## A Season of Giving



Grade 1 Bedtime Drive

## SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The school board held their monthly work session on Thurs., Dec. 12.

Mr. Harvey gave a construction update and possible timeline. The business manager contract was discussed and the board requested that SMS present their finance model to the full board before their contract is approved. Mr. Harvey will check with Todd Netze to see if he is available to present at Monday's regular board meeting.

The ten-year revised long-term facilities management revenue and expenditure plan and budget was approved as presented and the 2020-21 teacher and student calendar was adopted.

Mr. Harvey discussed the restructuring of administration beginning in the 2020-21 school year. Ms. Ahern would cover the primary school and her special education coordinator duties; Mr. Rasmussen, the elementary; and Mr. Anderson, the middle/high school. Mr. McAthie would assist as dean of grades 7-12 and the dean at the elementary would be eliminated. An administrative assistant would be hired to help with the special education duties. The new structure would mean less traveling for administrators between buildings and more participation in each aspect of their building.

Ehlers was named as the investment manager and official depository for the school during the bond sales. The World's Best Work Force Report and Plan were adopted as presented.

The 2019-20 Coordinator of Fiscal Services contract was approved as presented. Tony Brown was hired as the junior high wrestling coach and Jessica Whitlock as the assistant speech coach.

The board adopted a resolution relating to \$9,970,000 general obligation school building bonds, Series 2019A: authorizing the issuance, awarding the sale, prescribing the form and details and providing for the payment thereof. Jeff Seeley from Ehlers was in attendance to explain the bond sale and the upcoming February sale.

The board adopted a resolution relating to \$31,730,000 general obligation school building and facilities maintenance bonds, Series 2020A; stating official intent to proceed with and authorizing the issuance and sale thereof and providing for credit enhancement with respect thereto.

The following policies were presented for review and possible approval December 16: #535 Service Animals in Schools, #414 Mandated Reporting, #419 Tobacco-Free Environment, #421 Gifts to Employees and School Board Members, #510 School Activities, and #516 Student Medication.

The Truth in Taxation hearing and adoption was held Mon., Dec. 16 at 6:30 p.m. Information on the proposed levy was presented and the board adopted the levy in the amount of \$5,656,024.16.

The regular board meeting was held following the TNT meeting. The usual business, including payment of bills, was conducted.

Recognition was given to Triple A award winners Grant Haferman and Jaklyn Arendt (unable to attend due to a basketball game); to Soren Hellyer and Annika Angerman (also unable to attend due to a basketball game) in recognition for the ExCEL award; and to state cross country runner Natasha Sortland.

Mr. Anderson's report for the middle/high school was given by Mr. Harvey. Mr. Rasmussen reported for the primary/elementary school. There was no SPED report.

Mr. Harvey reported enrollment numbers for December at 1,315. The treasurer's report for the board was available for review.

Mr. Harvey informed the board that there would be a book study after the bond sale at the January 13 special meeting.

The board approved a contract with Nexus Solutions contingent on approval of the school attorney.

The following district policies were approved: #535 Service Animals in School; #414 Mandated Reporting; #419 Tobacco-free Environment; #421 Gifts to Employees and School Board Members; #510 School Activities; and #516 Student Medication.

The resignation of Jon Wicks and Tara Barrett was approved. The board approved a resolution supporting local decision-making authority for school boards, which will be sent to MSBA.

Jen Klein, co-advisor for the senior class, was in attendance to ask the board for a change in the senior class fundraiser. The board approved the request and the class will sell Casey's pizza cards.

SMS (School Management Systems) was in attendance to present what their company would provide for ZM if hired to be the business manager company. The board had the opportunity to ask questions and to meet the SMS employee who would be in the district two days a week. The board approved the hire of SMS to fill the business manager position at ZM. The board also approved the hiring of Forecast 5 for budgeting and budget forecasting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

### Pertinent Dates:

- 1/1/20 - Holiday/No School
- 1/2/20 - School Resumes
- 1/5/20 - FFA Toy Show, 9:00-3:00, ZMHS Cafeteria, Zumbrota
- 1/6/20 - Organizational Meeting, 6:00 pm, ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa with Work Session to Follow
- 1/8/20 - Early Release
- 1/13/20 - Special Meeting, 7:00 p.m., ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa
- 1/20/20 - No School/Teacher Workday
- 1/27/20 - School Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa

## INTERESTED IN SUBBING AT SCHOOL?

Make a difference in Zumbrota-Mazeppa Public Schools by becoming a Substitute Teacher or Substitute Teacher's Aide! No experience required, manage your own schedule, and get professional development support from Teachers On Call.

Parents, this is a great opportunity to:

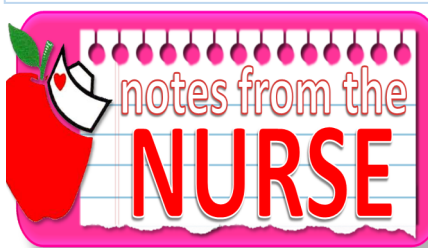
- Be involved in your child's education and help out in your local schools
- Turn your volunteer hours into extra income
- Maintain a flexible schedule—work when and where you want
- Get paid weekly and take advantage of bonus opportunities

Substitute Teacher's Aide positions are entry-level - all you need is your Diploma/GED!

Substitute Teacher positions require either a MN Teaching License OR a Bachelor's Degree (any field) and willingness to obtain your short call license!

Apply today and make a difference in a student's life!

Complete the application (computer or mobile device) at: <https://www.teachersoncall.com/jobs/apply-now> or call Julia Johnson at Teachers On Call for more information at (952) 223-8357.



**Health Offices:** Influenza season has arrived. It is not too late to get the flu vaccine! Vaccination helps prevent the severe outcomes of influenza.

**What are the symptoms of influenza?**

- Fever of 100 degrees or higher with a cough and/or sore throat.
- May also have fatigue, headache and body aches.

Check out the Influenza screening tool for parents: <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/flu/school/parentscreens.pdf>

The health offices continue to be quite busy with approximately 3,000 visits so far this school year. Please review infinite campus information to make sure emergency contact information is up to date so that we can get ahold of you when your child is not feeling well.

### Human Growth and Development Classes

The school nurse will be working with the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers to complete the Human Growth and Development Classes. The school website has been updated with information on the classes and links to the videos. For those interested, you can view the materials on the school website. If you would like to view them in person you can contact the school nurse and come to the school to view them. If you do NOT want your child to attend the class, please send a note to the office stating so. The classes will be held in February. A letter will be coming home to parents in December. Please call Tiffany Boraas, LSN at 507-732-1420 or email [tiffanyb@zmsch.k12.mn.us](mailto:tiffanyb@zmsch.k12.mn.us) with any questions or concerns.

## Check the Health Services tab on the school website for more information

### When to Keep Your Child Home:

- A fever of 100 degrees or more, stay at home until 24 hours after the temperature has returned to normal (**without the use of a fever-reducing medication.**)
- Diarrhea or vomiting, stay home **until symptom free for 24 hours.**

If you are keeping your child home because they are ill, please call/email the school to report specific symptoms and/or diagnosis. We are tracking illnesses and need up-to-date accurate information.

## FFA COMPETES REGIONALLY



The ZM FFA Poultry team, all 8th graders, placed 8<sup>th</sup> out of 17 teams at the regional contest held at Riverland Community College in Austin. This was this team's first poultry contest. Members are Solveigh Goldsmith, Cole Lohmann, Jack Boraas, and Gabby Perrotti.

The FFA Milk Quality team also competed that day and placed 5<sup>th</sup>. This qualified the team for the state convention, which will be held in April at the University of Minnesota. Members are Aly Dillon, Bobbie Rae Benson, Hailey Schliep, Emma Nelson, and Annika Trelstad. In addition, Emma Nelson placed 9<sup>th</sup> individually. Congratulations to these accomplished FFAers!



## LIONS PEACE POSTER CONTEST



Ms. Schmitt, Mason, Mr. Whitaker

The annual Lions Peace Poster contest was held for ZM's 6<sup>th</sup> graders recently. Lion Dick Whitaker announced the winners as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Mason Boraas, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Bakster Arendt, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Ember Shea, Honorable Mention: Melanie Rude, Honorable Mention: Genavieve Knaup.



Pictured left to right: Genavieve Knaup, Melanie Rude, Ember Shea, Bakster Arendt, and Mason Boraas.



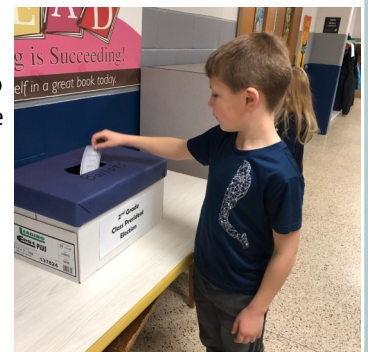
Mason earned the opportunity to compete at the regional contest held December 14 in Stewartville. He was one of only a few sixth grade students to participate. Students are required to be 11, 12 or 13 years old. Mason's poster received honorable mention at the regional contest. He competed against many talented, thoughtful artists at ZM and the region for this award!

## STORYBOOK CHARACTER ELECTION



Second graders learned about elections and the voting process by having a Storybook Character Election. After reading about 4 storybook characters the students had to work on an opinion writing piece on who they would vote for and make a persuasive poster for that candidate.

The class ended the unit by having a mock election with special appearances by all the candidates. We had 103 registered second grade voters and Molly Lou Melon won.



## KINDNESS RETREAT

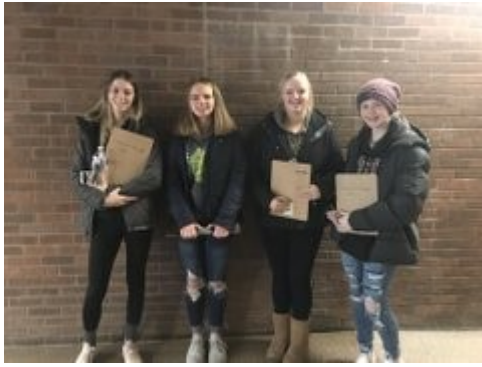
Sixth grade students held their annual Kindness Retreat where they come together as a class to contemplate, discuss, and create strategies for being their best at school and in their relationships with one another. School Counselor, Pamla Langley, planned the experience with the collaboration of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers and staff from the non-profit organization, Youth Frontiers, Inc., which is based out of Minneapolis.



High school students from grades 10 and 11 are nominated and invited to serve as student leaders for the event. Some of these students will also serve as mentors next year when the class transitions to 7<sup>th</sup> grade in Zumbrota.



*"A child's life is like a piece of paper on which every person leaves a mark" ~ Chinese Proverb*



Second graders used Flipgrid to share with each other their favorite coding activities.

The FFA small animals, fish, and wildlife, and floriculture teams competed at the University of Minnesota invite in December.



Congratulations to Ali Hunstad—she has signed with the University of MN—Mankato to further her education and basketball career!



High School Ceramics Class—Top left: Siddha hunt, Peighton Buck, Sydney Higley, Coleman Brooke, Grant Barns, Grayson Thede Bottom Left: Donna Trom, Tanner Mancilman, Kaitlyn Finstuen

## 2020-21 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We want to share with you information on the 2020-21 school calendar so that families are aware of changes and can plan accordingly. Next school year Zumbrota-Mazeppa schools will be starting the school year on August 17th. The reason for this is that most of our buildings will be undergoing major renovation during the summer of 2021. The early start will allow contractors a longer build period in the Summer of 2021. The student's last day of school for the 2020-21 school year will be May 11th and graduation will be held on May 14th.

The early start calendar required us to consider several factors as we developed it. The largest consideration is to keep the same amount of student contact days while also providing families flexibility during the early start period. To that end, students attending the State Fair will be excused from school during the 4-H/FFA encampment days. August 28th is a major 4-H show day at the Fair and we will not have school. We will also not have school the Friday before Labor Day so families have the opportunity to enjoy the holiday weekend. Students attending other pre-planned family trips also will be excused during this early start time.

We thank you for your understanding as we take time to upgrade and add on to our learning spaces. A copy of the calendar is included in this newsletter.

Thank you,

Mike Harvey  
Zumbrota-Mazeppa School Superintendent

