



Building a Bridge to the Future



ZM MESSENGER



Kindergarten Registration for the 2021-2022 School Year and information regarding the Bridge to Kindergarten program has been mailed out. If you did not receive and have a child starting Kindergarten next school year please contact Amy at the Primary School 507-732-7848



Ms. Debner's Reading class had a zoom meeting with author Elles Miles who writes the Puppy Place and Kitten Corner books. She is on the bottom of the screen. Ms. Debner reports they had a "very cool experience"

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- PAGE 2..... SCIENCE UPDATE
- PAGE 3.....SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
- PAGE 4..... MINUTES CONT.
- PAGE 5..... MUSIC AWARDS
- PAGE 6..... NOTES FROM THE NURSE
- PAGE 7..... END OF YEAR NOTE FROM NURSE
- PAGE 8.....SUMMER MEALS
- WHAT'S COMING UP?**
- 4-24—PROM
- 5-10 —SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION
- 5-12— EARLY RELEASE
- 5-24-SCHOOL BOARD MEETING—7PM
- 5-19-LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
- 5-21-GRADUATION



The ZMPI Gymnastics Team took 2nd place at state! Congratulations!



program. They have been attending training sessions and working tirelessly (during a pandemic) to be ready to fully implement the new Inspire

Science curriculum next year (2021-2022)!

Grades K-9 SCIENCE curriculum update!

The Minnesota Department of Education defines science as the active study of the natural and human-made world, including the processes, structures, designs, and systems. Science students use their senses and tools to observe, record and analyze data about the world, develop explanations based on evidence, and design solutions to problems. Scientifically literate young people can understand basic science concepts, use skills for doing scientific investigations, solve technical problems and design technologies for today's world.

MDE reviews Academic Standards in subject areas on a rotational basis, the science standards were reviewed in 2018-19. The final draft of the 2019 K-12 Academic Standards in Science has been approved by the Commissioner of Education for planning purposes. The standards were submitted for Minnesota Rulemaking with a recommendation of full implementation by the 2023-24 school year.

The Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) ask educators and students to approach teaching, learning, and monitoring student progress in new and different ways, grounded in students making sense of phenomena and solving problems using the three dimensions of science together (cross cutting concepts, science and engineering practices, and core ideas).

Our teachers at ZM have been digging into the research behind NGSS, learning about the new standards, and have been practicing with implementing lessons from the new Inspire Science

We are thrilled to embark on the new standards with a brand new science curriculum at ZM!

Inspire Science sparks students' curiosity through fascinating real-world phenomena. Students investigate, problem-solve, argue, and discuss scientific phenomena to make sense of the world from their perspective. We've already been hearing positive feedback from teachers regarding the depth of learning, critical thinking and problem solving skills that our students are enhancing both because of the new standards and new curriculum.



Students learning about the uneven heating of the Earth in science lab.



School Board Meeting Minutes:

The School board held their regular monthly meeting on Monday March 22 beginning at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Anderson reported MCA's started and the MSHS will finish this week. Senior Scholarship night will be in person. Teachers are preparing to move from their classrooms for the summer. Jake Smith will take care of the summer session. May have a 2nd session in August. Mr. Anderson thanked Liffrig's for the donation, the MSHS will be purchasing a bleacher section that students can eat outdoors at.

Mr. Rasmussen reported MCA's started today for 6th and 4th grade students, he thanked Ms. Langley and Ms. Holst for help with troubleshooting. Thank you to Mr. Schumacher for the MCA Video. Building meetings are going well. They are starting to plan for summer session/targeted services. He thanked the teachers, para's and custodians for all they have done all year.

Ms. Ahern thanked the news record for the article in the paper about the new addition. The teachers and students love the new space as it is giving them more structure during the day. Kindergarten enrollment papers were mailed last week. Bridge to Kindergarten will be August 9th - 12, they will learn the routine and structure in the Kindergarten environment. This will help prepare them for the regular start of the school year. ESY dates have been set. It will take place June 14 - July 1.

Mr. Harvey reported that enrollment was currently at 1271.

Old business:

The board discussed the current SRO contract as it is up for renewal. Mr. Harvey reported that Goodhue County provides a SRO to Pine Island. He has spoken with Goodhue County and they would provide us with a SRO. Brian Grudem spoke on behalf of the City of Zumbrota, the City of Zumbrota will collaborate with Goodhue County on this proposal. Goodhue County will extend the same contract to Zumbrota-Mazeppa School District as they do for Pine Island.

The board agreed to move forward and collaborate with Goodhue County for a SRO.

The board discussed the addition of a 4th grade and 6th grade section due to class sizes. They will move forward with adding more sections.

The board discussed the Pine Island Activity Agreement. Mr. Harvey, Mr. McAthie and Mr. Brown met with Pine Island to go over agreements for Gymnastics/Golf/Soccer. At the end of the season the cost is divided between the two districts.

New Business:

The consent agenda, including payment of bills was approved as follows:

1. Approval of Minutes-3/22/2021 Meeting
2. Approval of Hires
 - A) Derek Hatten, 9th Grade Baseball Coach
 - B) Tyler Magnuson, Cougar Care, 5-10-2021
 - C) Mackenzie Markham, Cougar Care, 4-6-2022
 - D) Eleya Jensen, Cougar Care, 4-12-2021
 - E) Marc Melcher, SPED Teacher, starting 21-22 school year
3. Approval of Resignations
 - A) Caitlin Miller, 7th Grade Volleyball Coach
 - B) Micayla Ryan, Preschool Teacher, effective end of 20-21 school year
4. Approval of Tenure
5. Approval of Reassignment
 - A) Shelby Latusek, from Jr High Softball coach to Assistant Softball Coach beginning in the 20-21 school year
 - B) Katie M. Kennedy, from Assistant Softball Coach to Jr. High Softball Coach beginning in the 20-21 school year
 - C) Dannielle Kelley - from Title teacher to 2nd Grade teacher
6. Approval of Childcare Leave
7. Approval of Terminations
8. Approval of Fundraisers
9. Approval of Donations
 - A) \$200 - United Redeemer Church Women - Water bottles/winter clothing/hygiene items/snacks
 - B) \$200 - Eileen Bjorngaard - Water bottles/winter clothing/hygiene items/snacks
 - C) \$2000 - Mazeppa BP-Money was split between 3 buildings and used towards playground/outdoor equipment
10. Approval of Grants
11. Approval of Lane Changes
12. Approval of Bill Consideration
 - A) Ms. Peters - Reviewer



Went/Lohman motion to approve a resolution to terminate the teaching contract of Michelle Zidlicky.
 Miller/Lohmann motion to approve a resolution to terminate the teaching contract of Ellen Dankers
 Wendt/Lohmann motion to approve a resolution to terminate the teaching contract of Samantha Kleese.

Jessica Holst presented the new Language Arts Curriculum. The committee unanimously agreed on Amplify at the cost of \$132,000. The school will need to purchase activity workbooks each year with the approximate cost of \$23,00 per year. Roth/Miller motion to accept the Language Arts Curriculum as presented.

Mr. Harvey gave an update of ESSR and GEAR Funds. These funds are from the Federal level. The amounts are coming out now. ESSER 2 dollars should be coming in the next few weeks. Does not know when ESSR 3 Funds will be available.

Mr. Harvey went over options for the next building phase. Nexus provided 4 options.
 Lohman/Miller motion to move forward with the Band and Auxiliary gym plan.

Mr. Harvey gave a Covid 19 Update. He reminded us that we need to still be vigilant, we are not yet in the clear. Quarantine rules are still in place. Teachers and staff have done an excellent job during this difficult year.

Prom and Graduation are being planned. Prom is set for April 24th. Graduation is May 21st. Graduates will be given 4 tickets for family or friends which will allow for social distancing in the gymnasium.

Jean Roth Thanked everyone for the year they have put in. She thanked Officer Shannon Clemenson for all she did, She is appreciated by many.

Pertinent Dates:

1. 4-24 - Prom
2. 5-2 Early Release
3. 5-19 Last day of school
4. 5-21 Graduation
5. 5-24,25,26 - Teacher work days

The meeting was Adjourned at 9:00 PM



ZM Schools is offering free breakfast and lunch for children ages 0-18 through a state waiver program. This program is similar to the Grab 'n Go meal program that ran this past summer. The waiver for the free meal program will only be in effect until December 31, 2020 or earlier if funds are exhausted.

Meals are free to any child age

0-18. ZM requests that the distance learners (NOT the hybrid students) also use this form for ordering meals. (Students currently in school, including hybrid students, are already covered under the free meal program explained in the article above).

To order breakfast and lunch for the week, parents/guardians should complete and submit the form each **Monday by 8:00 a.m.** Meals will be available for pick up by an adult or child/student between 1:30-2:00 p.m. each Wednesday at Door 1 in Mazeppa or the Primary School Door in Zumbrota. It is important that the meals are picked up promptly between the required time frame. Questions? Call 507-732-1400.

Note that the parent/guardian needs to submit a new order form each Monday to ensure an accurate count for Wednesday pick up. The form is available on the school website (www.zmschools.us) under the "What's Happening".

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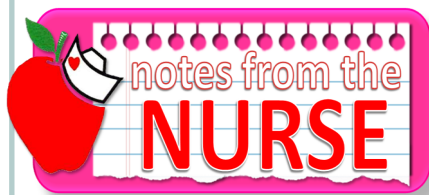
Congrats to the following HS Choir students that participated in solo/ensemble contest on April 1, 2021. Due to the Covid-19 guidelines, schools were able to choose how they wanted to run their contest this year. Zumbrota-Mazeppa vocal teacher, Susan Peterson, chose to hire a judge and have the students perform in-person at ZMHS. The students worked incredibly hard throughout the past months on their solos and ensembles, and I am excited to announce that students receiving superior ratings for the day were Annika Angerman, Kaylee Peterson, Bridget Downes, Natasha Ludington, Sierrah Hamilton, Kyle Moyer, Cece Kimber, Izzy Flicek, and Kirsten Betterman. Receiving excellent ratings were Rachel Krinke, Emerson Bengston, Makayla Rodriguez, Bobbie Rae Benson, Maggie Mullhol-



**Dodge County Boys
Hockey placed 2nd at
the State Hockey Tour-
nament!**

**Zumbrota Mazeppa
Wrestling were
State Participants!**





We have had all our 7-12 students all back in the building since 3/15/2021. Grades 7-9 returned the week of 3/1/2021 and 10-12 returned 3/15/2021. It

is wonderful to have the students back in the buildings.

In the months of February and March, Zumbrota Mazeppa Schools had 19 positive cases of COVID-19 (5 Staff members, 5 High school students, 2 Middle school students, 5 Elementary student and 2 preschool aged students). 11 of these cases had no close contacts identified in the school. 110 students were quarantined and 13 staff from the remaining 8 positive cases (1 case was affiliated with a ZM sports team).

Shortened Quarantine:

Shortened quarantine is NO longer an option for Preschool or Middle/High School students as they are not able to maintain 6 feet of distance during the school day. It is also not an option for students who need to ride the bus to and from school for the same reason.

Another reminder regarding shortened quarantine is that those students that qualify for shortened quarantine, can shorten quarantine to return to school, but **must complete the full 14-day quarantine before returning to sports practices/games.**

ZM schools must continue to follow the MDH COVID-19 Decision Tree:

Even if you shorten quarantine you should be watching for symptoms for the full 14 days. During your 14 days if you have even 1 symptom "less common" or "more common" you will need to stay home, be evaluated by an MD and/or have a negative COVID test before returning to school. Siblings will be sent home/must stay home if quarantined student has 1 symptom during this time period.

If you are a household member you are **NOT** able to shorten quarantine .

Please let the nursing staff know if students have been identified as a close contact or if anyone in the household has tested positive for COVID-19.

Student COVID-19 Testing:

MDH announced the recommendation for all school-age youth returning to school, youth sports, or extracurricular activities, and their families, to get tested every two weeks through the end of the school year. While it is not a requirement, regular testing complements other safety measures already in place, such as masking and social distancing.

Variants of COVID-19 are a new version of the virus and often more contagious. Minnesota is seeing a sharp increase in school-related COVID-19 cases because of the new variant B.1.1.7 that has the potential to infect many students during an outbreak. Getting tested regularly is the best way to know you are healthy. If you don't have symptoms and have not been close to someone with COVID-19, you do not need to stay home while you wait for your test results. Getting tested every two weeks from now until the end of the school year can help

keep schools open and sports operating, and ensure we are limiting the spread of COVID-19.

There are options to get tested and each option is available to you at no cost.

Visit a community testing site, get tested through your health care provider, or ordering an at-home test kit.

Order test at home kit: [COVID-19 test at home \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/testsites/athome.html\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/testsites/athome.html)

Students choosing to test at home may bring their at-home test kits into the health office to be mailed in with the staff tests on ZM's staff testing days only (4/14/21, 4/28/21 and 5/12/21).

How the at home saliva kit works:

- Students or families order tests through the [Vault-at-Home program](#) (remember tests are no costs to Minnesota residents).
- Students complete their test at home.
- Students seal their sample tube and place it in the biohazard bag. The biohazard bag then gets sealed in the shipping bag that came with the test. The shipping label sticker is attached to the bag.
- Students bring their sealed shipping bag with the shipping label to school health office on your designated onsite testing day.

Staff Updates:

ZM continues to offer the optional staff saliva testing every 2 weeks (Dates remaining 4/14/21, 4/28/21 and 5/12/21).

School staff (teachers, paraprofessionals, bus drivers, kitchen staff and custodians) have all been offered the COVID-19 Vaccine. Majority of ZM staff who were interested in getting the vaccine will have completed their second dose by the end of this week.

TRAVEL REMINDERS:

The CDC **recommends no travel (no domestic travel and no international travel)** during COVID-19. Travel increases the chance of getting and spreading COVID-19. Read the CDC's information on [traveling during COVID-19](#) and the CDC's [after you travel information](#), which recommends individuals get tested 3-5 days after travel and stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel, even if the test comes back negative. This is a recommendation and is not being required by ZM schools currently.

MDH states that given the high level of COVID-19 spread in our communities, any unnecessary travel is highly discouraged. If you must travel outside the state or country for work, study, medical care, or personal safety and security, do what you can to protect yourself and your family.

If you have questions or concerns, please call 507-732-1411 or email: tiffanyb@zmsch.k12.mn.us

End of the School Year Notes from the School Nurse.....

Student Health Conditions: Please update the nurse if your student is given any new medical diagnoses during the school year or over the summer months so that we may assist in keeping students safe and healthy in school. Studies have proven that healthy students learn better and it is our job to help students stay healthy and safe.

Medications: The end of the school year is approaching fast! Any/all medication in the health offices must be picked up by an adult by the last day of school, Wednesday, May 19th. Medication will not be sent home with students. If they have not been picked up by the last day of school they will be disposed of. We will NOT store medication over the summer. We appreciate your help with this.

Immunizations: Immunizations the school has on record are viewable in Parent Portal in Infinite Campus. Kindergarten 7th grade and 12th grade students will NOT be able to start school in the fall without up to date immunizations records on file with the school.

Incoming Kindergarten student requirements:

DTP – 5th dose

Polio – 4th dose

MMR – 2 doses

Varicella- 2 doses

Hep B – 3 doses

Incoming 7th grader requirements:

Tdap booster

Meningococcal

Incoming 12th grade requirements:

Meningococcal booster

If you choose to file exemptions for any immunizations, forms are available on ZM school website under Parents/Health services/Immunizations, or you can contact the school nurse at 507-732-7848. Students will not be eligible to attend the first day of school in 2019 until we have up to date immunizations on file.



ZM Elementary Art Class

Last Day of School is May 19, 2021



**Goodhue County
Child & Family Collaborative**
Strong Families. Resilient Children.

ADVERSITY, RESILIENCE, & BUILDING CONNECTIONS WITH YOUTH

Discover how experiences, both negative and positive, change the brain and how we can all build strong foundations for the kids and families in our communities.

April 30th | 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM
Virtual



REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Register at gccfc.org