

## WHAT'S COMING UP?

**3/1**—No School/Teacher Inservice. Cougar Care/Bright Beginnings Open. Large Group Contest at ZM.

**3/3**—Gr 4 Concert, 7:00 pm, ZMES Gym

**3/7 & 15**— Parent-Teacher Conferences, 4:00-8:00 pm

**3/11**—FFA Donkey Basketball, 7:00 pm, ZMES Gym

**3/14**— School Board Work Session, 7:00 pm, ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa. **NOTE CHANGE of DATE:** Gr 6-8 Solo/Ensemble Concert, 7:00 pm, ZMHS Auditorium

**3/15 & 22**—Early Childhood Screening

**3/17**—Gr 3 Concert, 7:00 pm, ZMES Gym

**3/18**—Red Cross Bloodmobile, 9:00-2:00 pm

**3/21**—HS Solo/Ensemble Concert, 7:00 pm, ZMHS Auditorium

**3/24**—End 3rd Quarter.

**3/25**— No School/Holiday. Cougar Care/Bright Beginnings Closed

**3/28**—No School/Comp Day. Cougar Care/Bright Beginnings Open. School Board Meeting, 7:00 pm, ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa

### It's time for DONKEYBALL!!

Friday, March 11  
7:00 pm  
ZM Elementary Gym

Tickets available from FFA members or in the school office  
\$6 adult, \$3 student, Preschool free



This newsletter is offered in color online at [www.zmschools.us](http://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

February 2016



Zumbrota's Covered Bridge

### ZUMBROTA-MAZEPPA PUBLIC SCHOOLS A BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE



Mazeppa's Walking Bridge

### ELEMENTARY PLAYGROUND UPDATE AND CHALLENGE

We are excited to announce that thanks to generous donations from the Mazeppa Lion's Club, Neptune's, the Mazeppa Fire Department and other contributors we have raised \$45,000 for a much needed playground at Zumbrota-Mazeppa Elementary School.

The current playground is unsafe for use and does not meet requirements to enable children with disabilities to use it. The Bank of Zumbrota is now stepping up to offer a **"\$5,000 Challenge"** to local businesses and those interested in making a donation. They will match up to \$5,000 worth of donations from our community until **March 31**. If the entire match is made, we will have raised enough funds to pay for the entire playground!

Thanks to playground grants acquired by the ZM Schools, we will be able to obtain \$75,000-\$80,000 worth of playground equipment for our \$55,000 target. Checks can be sent to or dropped off at any of the ZM Schools and written to the ZM Schools with "Playground Fund" on the subject line.



### BOOK FAIR

Stock up on some good reads for the rest of the winter by visiting the Book Fair at parent-teacher conferences or these online sites:  
Elementary - <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/zumbrotamazepamidschool>  
Primary - <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/zumbrotamazepaelemschool1>  
**Online shopping begins March 2 and runs through March 15.**



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### CAT'S PAJAMAS

Put this date on your calendar for an evening of great entertainment!



**Monday, March 21**

**7:00 pm—Neuman Auditorium  
ZMHS in Zumbrota**

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$12 for adults.  
Available at Crossings or high school office

Special performance by the  
ZMHS Guys' Group

If you wish to preview this group, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LcdJsDI35Ak>  
Partial proceeds will benefit the ZMHS Choral Department.

## DIRTY CAR?? GREAT FUNDRAISER

The ZMHS marching band kids in grades 9-11 are selling Kwik Trip Car Wash Cards as a fundraiser to help pay for their trip to California this summer. All proceeds from sales go directly into the student's individual accounts.

Each card is good for **5 ULTIMATE** washes. This wash is one level below the top wash offered at Kwik Trip Stores. The cards are good at **ANY** Kwik Trip no matter what the location. They can also be used at ANY Kwik Star Store as well. You can buy the same card the students are selling at the store for \$36, or you can buy them from one of the band kids for the same price - \$36!

**The band students will make a profit of \$16 on every card they sell.**

If you were to pay for five washes of the same quality one at a time without the card, the cost would be \$45. It's like you are getting one wash free if you buy a card instead. The cards are good for 2 years after the first use. If you wait 10 years to use it, it will still work and expire 2 years afterwards.

They make great gifts! Ask the High School band members about it!



## BLOODMOBILE

The annual National Honor Society sponsored Bloodmobile is coming Friday, March 18 from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. If interested in donating this life-giving gift, contact the high school office at 732-7395 or Amy Matuska at amym@zmsch.k12.mn.us to set up an appointment. Your giving will save a life!

**Help  
save  
lives**



## PAC

The Spring PAC (Parents/Athletes/Coaches) meeting will be held Monday, March 7, at 5:30 pm in the HS. All Athletes must register for their spring sport under the Activities tab on the school web-site ([www.zmschools.us](http://www.zmschools.us)). The online registration process takes the place of the MSHSL health/parent permission forms we have used in the past. If you were out for a fall/winter sport, go to the activities tab and log into your family account - all of your information is saved. You will need to update the sport, sign electronically, and submit. You will then be directed to the school store for activity fee payment.

Athletic fees: Gr 7-8 \$80.00 Gr 9-12 \$105 Family Max \$360

Reminder - You must have a current athletic physical signed by a physician on file at the school. Athletic physicals are needed every three years (typically in the 7th and 10th grade).

If you are out for one of the following sports you and a parent should be in attendance: Softball, Track, Golf & Baseball.

We look forward to seeing you on March 7th!

***K-12 PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES WILL BE HELD MARCH 7 AND 15 FROM 4:00—8:00 PM***

***Please make an effort to attend on one of these dates—help your child succeed!!***

## NHS RECEIVES “STAR OF NORTH” RECOGNITION

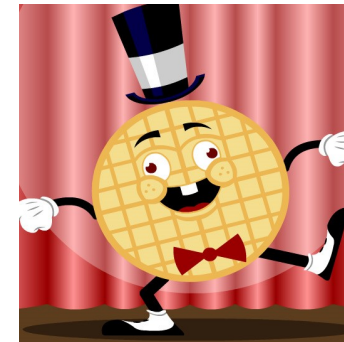
ZM's National Honor Society was recognized for their donations to the Feed My Starving Children fund in December. They were honored with a plaque when they attended NHS Senator John Kline's "Star of the North" volunteer recognition Lakeville.

Thanks to NHS for their great community service!

Pictured from left to right is Aricka Roberson, Rebecca Steffes, Katelynn Mehrkens, Calley Gunhus, Bethany Renken, and Breana Haag.



## YUMMY WAFFLES



Time once again for the annual Track and Field Fundraiser! Mark your calendar and enjoy a delicious breakfast or lunch of Belgium waffles, topped with your favorite accompaniments! Your support helps fund the ZM Boys/Girls Track and Field program.

**Saturday, April 2 from 8:00 am until noon**

**NOTE: This year's waffles will be served at the ZMHS Cafeteria in Zumbrota. Cost is \$7 if purchased from track athlete, \$8 at the door.**

## WINTER SURVIVAL COURSE

Three ZM high school students are participating in a Winter Survival Course this year. The purpose of this course is to teach students the skills needed to survive in the outdoors such as how to build a fire, how to construct a shelter, along with encouraging leadership skills. The students will have an overnight experience the first week in March and put their newly learned skills to the test.

Students participating are Ryan Kothenbeutal, Tyler Siewert, and Riley Morrow.



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.

### STATE BOUND

For the tenth consecutive year, the ZM Dance Team earned a spot in state competition. The team placed 11<sup>th</sup> in Jazz and 12<sup>th</sup> in Kick.

The team danced their hearts out and had a great time both on and off the floor. They were encouraged with great community and fan support and they were thrilled to be going for the 10<sup>th</sup> year in a row.



In addition, the team earned Academic All State Honors with a Team GPA of 3.818; and, all seven of the ZM Seniors earned Academic ALL State Honors.

Great work Ladies!!

### FEBRUARY HAPPENINGS



Primary students raised over \$5,000 during their Jump Rope for Heart month! Dollars will be donated for heart research and our students got healthier!!

Primary students also celebrated 100 days of school in February—their teachers celebrated too!! Pictured are first grade teachers dressed to be 100 years old.

7<sup>th</sup> grade ROAR winners were Casey Weber and Mattilyn Stensland and 8<sup>th</sup> grade winners were Luke Krier and Kristine Moore.



### SNOW WEEK FUN

Snow Week was celebrated the first week of February in the middle and high school. Students beat the winter blues with dress up days and dodgeball tournaments. Craig Hillier, a motivational speaker, spoke to students and the week ended with an Airband Concert. Six student groups performed in the concert.

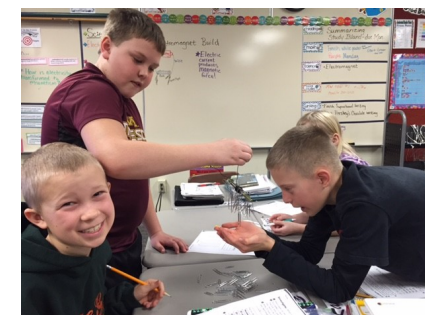
A fun week for all as winter moves on!!



### ELECTROMAGNETISM IN GRADE 4



Fourth graders learned about magnets and how they work when they built electromagnets in science class. Teams competed to see how many paper clips they could pick up with their magnets; the high was 91 paperclips!!



### RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS ABOUND AT ZM

Juniors from Mrs. Flynn’s and Mr. Smith’s advisee groups promoted “Random Acts of Kindness” when they read to kindergarten students. What a great way for students to show “kindness”!!



## FIRST GRADE COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS



First graders have started learning about computer science and have been doing an introduction to coding (the programming behind videos games, computer programs, etc.). They are given the basics by their teacher and they investigate how to "code" on their iPads.

It's amazing what they can already do by themselves!!



## SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The board of education held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, February 22 in the high school media center. The regular monthly business was conducted, including payment of bills.

Recognition: School Board Appreciation Week was recognized by Superintendent Anger. He publicly thanked the board for their service throughout the years. Nancy Bremer was recognized on her nomination for office professional of the year by the Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals. She was nominated by administration and staff for her dedication and service. The Mazeppa Lions Club was thanked for their generous donation of \$20,000 toward the elementary playground equipment purchases.

Mr. Anderson reported for the middle and high school. Snow Week was held February 1-5. Students in grades 8, 9, and 11 recently completed the student climate survey from the Minnesota Department of Education. Registration for grades 7-11 has been completed and sections are now being finalized. He congratulated the dance team and the wrestling team for their berths at state competition.

Mr. Rasmussen's report was given in his absence by Mr. Anger. Guest readers from the community have been reading books to K-2 students. The first round of practice MCA tests have been completed. There is still a first grade substitute teacher position open beginning in April. Students recently completed their Jump Rope for Heart month and a celebration will be held soon.

Mr. Anger reported that the February enrollment was 1,159. The treasurer's report to the board was available for review.

Patron Input: Richard Sylak was in attendance to report on a solar garden being proposed for the city of Zumbrota. This garden would be in direct view of several construction house lots the school owns. Each board member was given a packet of information for their review.

Old Business: Mr. Anger reminded the board of a Goodhue County Education District evening of learning February 25 from 5:30—8:30 in Red Wing.

Personnel: Terin Olson was hired as a special education assistant beginning February 8. Ben Sand was approved for a lane change from BA+30 to Masters. Jon Yusten's retirement at the end of the 2015-16 school year was approved with many thanks for his many years of service and dedication to the students and the FFA program.

Mr. Anger handed out a book from UNESCO, who recently completed a facilities audit of the school. The audit pointed out areas of strength and weakness in the school buildings. The average age of the ZM buildings is 45 years, making ZM's buildings some of the oldest in the state.

Some of the key areas for dollar savings included recalibrations to the heating and cooling systems, retrofitting all lights to LED bulbs, replacing older bathroom fixtures with water efficiency units, replacing and fixing building seals, and looking into the possibility of a solar project to save electrical costs. Mr. Anger explained if the school was to enact these changes, the dollar savings would pay for many other projects that are needed in the next few years. Copies of this audit are available in the Superintendent's Office in Mazeppa if the public wishes to review.

It was decided that the buildings and grounds committee, along with community members, would comprise a committee to review and recommend facility changes.

The board approved the school calling for dental insurance proposals for 2016-17 with bid approval at the March meeting.

A bid was received for the 2014-15 vocational construction house for \$265,000, which the board approved.

Mr. Wendt reported for the Goodhue County Education District, Mr. Grudem for the Southeast Service Cooperative, and Ms. Hinchley for the Wasioja Education

*Continued on page 5*

## FEBRUARY IS LOVE TO READ MONTH



Students in the primary school celebrated "I Love to Read Month" in many ways.

Shown here is Mrs. Ferguson's first graders, along with their decorated door!



## TIMBERWOLVES CHALLENGE

These dedicated readers in third grade got their basketball tickets for participating in the *Starting Five Read to Achieve* program sponsored by the Minnesota Timberwolves.

In order to qualify for tickets, students needed to read at least 500 pages in a month. Great job gang!

Pictured are Anthony Perrotte, Kaila Huneke, Michael Winkels, Gage Sorby, and Taite Raasch.



## BOARD MEETING MINUTES, *continued from page 4*

Technology Cooperative. Mr. Hinrichs also gave a report from the Section 1 committee, of which he is a member. He will bring an update on tournament funding at the next meeting.

Pertinent Dates:

- March 1 – No School, Teacher Inservice
- March 3 – Grade 4 Concert, ZMES Gym, 7:00 pm
- March 7 – K-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4:00-8:00 pm
- March 11 – FFA Donkey Basketball, ZMES Gym
- March 14 – School Board Work Session, ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa, 7:00 pm; Grade 5-8 Solo Ensemble Concert, ZMHS Auditorium, 7:00 pm
- March 15 – Early Childhood Screening. K-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4:00-8:00 pm
- March 17 – Third Grade Concert, ZMES Gym, 7:00 pm
- March 18 – Red Cross Bloodmobile, 9:00-2:00 pm
- March 21 – High School Solo Ensemble Concert, ZMHS Auditorium, 7:00 pm
- March 22 – Early Childhood Screening
- March 24 – End of Third Quarter
- March 25 – No School/Holiday
- March 28 – No School/Comp Day. School Board Meeting, ZMES Media Center, Mazeppa, 7:00 pm.

The board adjourned to a closed session after the regular meeting to discuss a student matter. The closed session and regular meeting were adjourned at 7:56 pm.