



Building a Bridge to the Future



ZM MESSENGER

Community meetings



Wed, October 2
Small Gym, Mazeppa
6:00 pm
&

Wed, October 9
ZMMS/HS Auditorium, Zumbrota
6:00 pm

The ZM School District is moving forward with a new plan to renovate and expand existing facilities after hearing feedback from over 800 district residents—a majority of which indicated they would like a new plan to put to vote. The new plan is focused on addressing the top concerns from the last referendum and breaks the proposed projects into three parts to be voted separately.

Learn about the new plan during the upcoming public meetings. You will have an opportunity to ask questions and view the proposed plan on **October 2 and 9** during two public meetings. **Plan to attend!**

More election info on page 3

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WHAT’S COMING UP?

- 10/2—Sch Bd Info Mtg, 6:00 pm, Mazeppa Site Small Gym
- 10/9—Sch Bd Info Mtg, 6:00 pm, Neuman Auditorium, Zumbrota
- 10/14 - School Board Work Session, ZMMS/HS Media Center, Zumbrota
- 10/17 & 18 - No School/MEA Conferences
- 10/28 - Public Information Meeting to Discuss Commissioner’s Review & Comment followed by Regular Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m., ZMMS/HS Media Center, Zumbrota
- 10/29 - Scheduled Grade 7-12 Conferences
- 11/1—No School/Teacher Workshop

IMMUNIZATION CLINICS

ZM Schools is partnering with Homeland Health Services and Goodhue County Health to offer flu shots to students on:

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29

- 9:00-11:00 AM IN MAZEPPA
- 12:00 –2:30 PM IN ZUMBROTA
- COMMUNITY CLINIC (for ages 6 months and older) IN THE ZM CAFETERIA IN ZUMBROTA

Registration is required and must be completed by October 24 at 11:00 pm. Immunizations will be billed to the child’s insurance and will be provided at low cost to those without insurance. The link for registration can be found on the ZM School website (www.zmschools.us) under “News You Need to Know” as well as under Health Services located under the Parents tab. Contact school nurse Tiffany Boraas at 507-732-7848 or email tiffanyb@zmsch.k12.mn.us if questions.

NEW ZM STAFF

There are many new faces at ZM this year. Pictured are the new teachers: Front Row: Christina Ryan, Elementary SPED; Kristi Roth, Grade 1; Danielle Kelley, Title I; Lenora Oliver, MS/HS Art; Back Row: Ashley Dewitz, Kindergarten; Stephanie Adams, Primary SPED; Chelsie Lockner, MS/HS Guidance Counselor; and Brandon Roth, Vocational Construction.

There are also eight new paraprofessionals: Sarah Dennison, Elizabeth Ramer, Jessica Winters, Melissa Fitzgerald, Tara Barrett, Tracy Nelson, Amber Havican, and Suzanne Griffin. In addition, Rachel Propst will be filling the open nursing position in the schools.

ZM welcomes all the new employees this school year!



HOW DO I VOTE? TWO WAYS:

✦ At the polls November 5 between 7:00 am & 8:00 p.m.

-Goodhue County residents vote at Zumbrota City Hall

-Wabasha or Olmsted County residents vote at Mazeppa Community Center

✦ Or vote by absentee ballot

-Complete an ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION (available on school website www.zmschools.us or from the MN Secretary of State website)

-Return application to ZM District Office, 343 3rd Ave NE, Mazeppa, MN 55956 or via email to brendaw@zmsch.k12.mn.us

OR

-Vote at the District Office in Mazeppa between 7:00 am and 4:00 pm. weekdays.



Thanks to Mazeppa Lions for their donation of dictionaries to all third graders!! Happy spelling all!



Students learned and practiced bus safety during September. Thanks to Kennedy Transportation for the help!



ZM HOMECOMING HELD SEPTEMBER 23—27



Queen Claudia Gunhus &
King Zach Hutton



Homecoming Royalty Court



Grade 4 showed their spirit by wearing green on color day



It was a fun-filled Homecoming week at ZM. Many events were held during the week, including coronation, powder puff football, sporting activities, pep fests, and the great tasting tailgate party held prior to the football game.

Pictured to the left are elementary teachers getting “toilet-papered” at the pep fest by students. Whoever ran their roll out first won!

WHAT IS ON THE BALLOT?

Election day is November 5. A school board member will be elected to fill an appointed position that will expire Jan. 1, 2021. Stephanie Miller has filed for the position. In addition to the school board election, there are three questions for school district residents to vote on:

QUESTION 1:

Shall the board of Independent School District No. 2805 (Zumbrota-Mazeppa), Minnesota, be authorized to issue general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$38,585,000 for acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities, including but not limited to, safety/security and heating/ventilation improvements, technical/trades education learning space expansion, auditorium upgrades, classroom addition and renovations, Zumbrota cafeteria expansion and Mazeppa kitchen and cafeteria code compliance upgrades and expansion?

QUESTION 2:

If School District Question 1 is approved, shall the board of Independent School District No. 2805 (Zumbrota-Mazeppa), Minnesota, be authorized to issue general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$3,350,000 for acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities, including but not limited to, Mazeppa gymnasium construction to replace WPA gym which will become a dedicated school cafeteria?

QUESTION 3:

If School District Question 1 is approved, shall the board of Independent School District No. 2805 (Zumbrota-Mazeppa), Minnesota, be authorized to issue general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$4,945,000 for acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities, including but not limited to, Zumbrota gymnasium construction, track facility improvements, baseball field renovations to accommodate new gym and enhanced child safety busy parking, and accessibility upgrades to athletic fields including spectator seating?

GO TO PAGE 2 FOR VOTING INFORMATION



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The ZM School Board met September 9 for their monthly work session. Items for discussion included the following: Susan Peterson, music teacher, was in attendance to ask the board to switch the music program trips to even years beginning in 2022 in order to avoid conflict with the Close-Up program trips. Action on this will be taken at the September 23 regular board meeting. Jen Lohmann, Community Ed director, was present to give an overview of the community education programs, including preschool, childcare, adult programs, and early childhood. Mr. Harvey explained the levy certification process. He recommended that the board certify the maximum at their September 23 meeting. The Goodhue County Ed District's restrictive procedures were adopted. Policies for board review included #652 Inclusive Educational Plan, #651 Program Evaluation, #650 Evaluation of the Instructional Program, #649 Guidance, #648 Students at Risk, and #647 Kindergarten Entrance. Mr. Harvey handed out the first of the informational flyers for the upcoming referendum in November. He also discussed the upcoming plans for meetings, etc. The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

The regular monthly meeting was held September 23. Recognition was given to the Mazeppa Lions for their donation of dictionaries to third graders and to Lake City Schools for their donation of low-cost lunchroom tables.

Reports: Mr. Anderson reported for the middle/high school. He reported that several school-wide state-mandated safety drills have been completed, including fire and ALiCE lockdowns. There is a focus this year on building relationships between students and staff. The addition of Ms. Lockner as the grade 9-12-counselor has allowed for more focus on college and career readiness.

Mr. Rasmussen reported for the primary/elementary school. Preschool conference attendance was at 98.7% in the elementary and 98.6% in the primary. The primary gym is nearly completed, and the Fall Benchmark testing was completed in record time this year, allowing services to begin much earlier than usual.

Mr. Harvey reported that enrollment for September was 1,232 and with preschool added it was 1,327. The treasurer's report was available for review.

The 2019 Pay 2020 levy for certification was adopted at the maximum amount. The board approved moving the music program trips to even years beginning in 2022 in order to avoid conflicts with other student trips. The board approved the following reviewed district policies with the exception of #648 Students at Risk, which will be reviewed by the policy committee and revised: #652 Inclusive Educational Plan, #651 Program Evaluation, #650 Evaluation of the Instructional Program,

#649 Guidance, and #647 Kindergarten Entrance. Mr. Harvey updated the board on the upcoming building referendum. A flyer will be mailed this week to district households. Information meetings will be held October 2 in Mazeppa and October 9 in Zumbrota.

The consent agenda was approved as follows: Minutes were approved for 8/26/19 and 9/9/19. New hires included Rebecca Robertson, Program Teaching Assistant, beginning 9/16/19; Sarah Dennison, Paraprofessional, beginning 9/9/19; Jen Klein and Katie Kennedy, Co-Advisor HS Student Council, beginning in the 2019-20 school year; Alexis Bohmbach, Program High School/College Assistant, beginning 9/10/19; Elleya Jensen, Program High School/College Assistant, beginning 9/9/19; and Benjamin Burns, Program High School/College Assistant, beginning 9/16/19. Resignations were accepted from Madelyn Fitzgibbons 9/12/19, Kalli Olson 9/20/19, and Jenna Stene 9/24/19, all Cougar Care high school assistants. Childcare leave was approved for Marnie Vondal beginning 11/19/19 through 1/17/20. Lane changes were approved for Susan Peterson, MA+10; Katie M. Kennedy, MA; Rebecca Sjolander, MA; and Caitlin Miller, BA+10.

The board re-approved the Q-Comp Memorandum of Understanding; there were no changes from previous memorandums. The postage meter lease with Advanced Business Systems was approved for another 63 months.

Election judges were appointed for the November 5 election: James Perrotti, Michael Hammes, Gladys Vagt, Zola Harvey, Sherry Miller, Vicki Arendt, Randy Nardinger, Blaine Hentz, Theresa Osgood, Sharon Gruhlke, Faye Gabrielson, Judy Hofschulte, Kathleen Olson, Dori Klein, and Alternate, Sara Betcher.

The board approved hiring a full-time substitute para beginning in the 2019-20 school year. Minutes were available from the Goodhue County Education District and the Southeast Service Cooperative. There were no minutes from WETC.

Pertinent Dates:

- 10/2 - Public Information Meeting, 6:00 pm, Small Gym in Mazeppa
- 10/9 - Public Information Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Neuman Auditorium, Zumbrota
- 10/14 - School Board Work Session, ZMMS/HS Media Center, Zumbrota
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Future agenda items include the auditor's report and referendum. Meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.



THREE GREAT OPPORTUNITIES TO WALK TO SCHOOL!

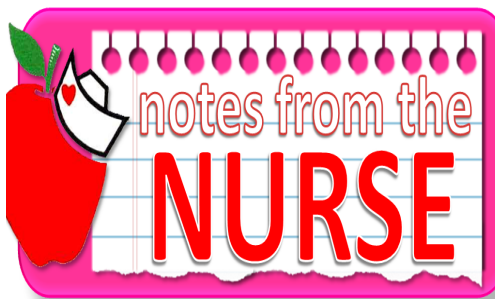
Wed., September 25

Wed., October 2 - also National Walk -Bike to School Day

Wed., October 9

Buses will drop students off at either the empty lot next to Hub Food Center in Zumbrota or at Cooper's Park in Mazeppa. Staff will be available to ensure the safety of the students and parents are also welcome to walk/ride bike along with students.

This is a fun, lively day for students and everyone is encouraged to participate.



Please join me in welcoming Rachel Propst, LPN to Zumbrota Mazeppa schools. She started with us in September of this school year. She will be working in the Mazeppa health office on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and will be working in Zumbrota health office on Tuesday and Thursdays.

The school year is off to a great start!!! Please help us to keep your kids safe while at school: If your child needs to take **ANY** medications (**self-carry or to be administered by a nurse**) or has a health need that would require an emergency health plan at school please make sure to get the correct paperwork filled out and returned to the health office as soon as possible. Forms are located on health services page of the ZM website. www.zmschools.us Location: Parents tab, Health Services - choose either Health Conditions or Medication. Please call Rachel or Tiffany with any questions at 507-732-1414.

COLD AND FLU SEASON IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

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 a fever of 100 degrees F or higher (be sure to take the temperature before giving fever-reducing medicines such as Tylenol), sore throat, or 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: www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/flu/school/parentscreen.

SEPTEMBER HAS SPRUNG!



Grade 1 practicing with math blocks



A **HUGE** thank you to Prigge's Flooring for donating many carpet squares to the primary music classes—makes sitting on the floor so much more comfortable!



What is better than a good book?



Doing monkey math with an iPad app



Left: Our preschool teachers put on their boots and helped clean up during the recent flooding in the preschool building.

Right: 5th graders are practicing being scientists by generating scientific questions about what makes the best paper rocket and then testing their hypothesis with an experiment!



NOTICE OF CONCERT CHANGES: Due to MCA testing, the 5th grade band/music concert will be held Tues., April 21 and the 6th grade band/music concert will be held Tues., May 5. Mark your calendars now so you don't miss out!