Union Elementary School



1070 Heald Hwy
Union, ME 04862
207-785-4330
Scott A. White, Principal
Allison Davis, Administrative Assistant
September 22, 2023



Principal's Message

The RSU40 School Board is moving forward with a Capital Improvement Bond Proposal to address many of the district's facility needs across all schools. Each citizen in our five towns will have a chance to vote their conscience at their respective towns on November 7th. There will be a public hearing at MVHS on October 26th from 6:00-7:30 where citizens can ask clarifying questions and provide their thoughts for or against the bond request.

It is important to note that school administration and school board members have tried to keep the Annual Operating Budget increases in check over the years to minimize the impact on taxpayers. As a matter of fact, based on the Maine Department of Education, RSU 40 is ranked 153 out of 239 school districts in per pupil spending. Most of our increases are due to creating and maintaining competitive salaries and benefits designed to hire and keep talented staff, mandated special education costs, electricity, heat, debt service to pay off what we owe on the MMS loan and the addition of public PreK in 4 of our 5 elementary schools. These are fixed costs which carry increases from year to year.

The Facilities Cost Center has been woefully and admittedly underfunded in an attempt to keep the budget down for decades; however as a result, our facilities are experiencing much needed repairs, replacements, and in some cases, requiring renovations and new construction. The link below, authored by Facility Director Brian Race, provides an outline of the capital improvements necessary for each building. We ask that you take a moment to review this document to increase your understanding of what the Bond represents and cast your vote on November 7th. Regardless of your opinion, it is important that you participate in this process. This is a clear example of why we do not have taxation without representation. Regardless of how you vote, your vote matters.

We encourage you to attend a walkthrough of the Union Elementary School and Central Office at 6:00-7:30 October 2nd to gain firsthand experience of some of the challenges facing this particular facility. Here is the link for the entire <u>Capital Improvement Plan for the entire district</u>, however, for your convenience, we wanted to highlight specific projects earmarked for Union Elementary and the Central Office projected to cost approximately \$4 million.

<u>Union Elementary School/</u> <u>Central Office</u>

- Repair/Resurface Parking Lot \$360,000
- Replace Windows \$300,000
- Replace/Repair Roof \$650,000
- Replace Domestic Hot Water Heater \$100,000
- Replace/Repair HVAC \$2,000,000
- Pneumatic Control Upgrade \$260,000
- Classroom Upgrades/Reconfiguration \$10,000
- Replace Fire Alarm System \$200,000
- Refurbish Walking Trail \$100,000
- Safety & Security Upgrades \$300,000







Dates to Remember

Tuesday, September 26th

5:30 p.m. Band Informational Evening for parents of 4th, 5th & 6th grade students

Wednesday, October 4th

School Picture Day

Friday, October 6th No School- Workshop Day

Monday, October 9th
No School- Indigenous Peoples' Day

Thursday, October 12th
Fire Prevention Presentations @ UES

Wednesday, October 18th
Early Release Day- dismissal @ 1:15

Band Informational Evening

The Union Elementary School Band will be having an information evening on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 5:30 in the music room. All 4th, 5th, and 6th graders are invited and encouraged to participate in band. The students have the option of choosing Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, and Percussion. David French Music will be our rental provider this year. If you think a rental might not be for you but you'd like to try an instrument, please see Mr. Phillips and we will figure it out. Hope to see you and your adults on the 26th!

Mr. Phillips, UES Music

Students recognized for positive behaviors!!

Our PBIS monthly theme for September is Respect/Manners- I will show respect by using good manners.

Congratulations to the following students for being recognized this week for our targeted positive behavior:

Pre K - Thatcher Skidgel & John Bickford Kindergarten - Caroline Girtman & Rinny Ilvonen

1st Grade - Tegen Bernardo & Gloria Grubb

2nd Grade - Brooks Snell & Caitlyn Fuller

3rd Grade - Aaliyah Stanton & Clancey Calderwood

4th Grade - Eli Wood & Sully Seeger

5th Grade - Angelika Stanton & Lauren Lorentzen

6th Grade - Jordan Elwell & Ashlynn Ott

Super Citizens





Student Feature: Hunter Esancy Grade: 5



I like UES because: I like playing football at recess and for the Medomak Youth Football. I'm usually a linebacker and like to tackle people. I also like P.E. I like that I get to put up the flags in front of the school.

My favorite books include: I like to read and listen to graphic novels.

My favorite tv shows and movies include: My favorite Netflix show is Raising Dion. It's about a boy who has superpowers, who lives with his mother. He has a friend named Pat who knows about his secret too and the series tells about their adventures.

My favorite singers and bands include: I like the song Sunroof by Nicky Youre **My Favorite foods include:** brownie, crab rangoons, teriyaki chicken, all seafood, vanilla ice cream.

My hobbies include: hunting, fishing, dirt biking, playing with my dogs Layla, Remy, and Clover; my cat Timmy, and riding my horse Kimmy.

When I grow up I want to be: a Canine Unit police officer and work in a restaurant and serve people.

If I could live anywhere in the world: I'd live in Washington DC or Alaska

















Thank you to the McKellar Family for their construction of the new bottle and can return for the UES PTC!! We would like to also thank Viking Lumber for donating the lumber and thanks also to RZR Ace Hardware in Waldoboro for giving a nice discount on the wire, hinges and handle that were used on the project.

Pictures Wanted!!!!

Each UES family is asked to submit one or two family or individual student pictures which show them having fun this summer. Pictures can be emailed to <u>Allison davis@rus40.org</u>. A slideshow is now running in the lobby but we would like to have more students represented! Students really enjoy seeing themselves "on tv."







Annual Online Registration

Parents must complete the On-Line Registration as part of the enrollment process. Thank you to all of the families who have completed their registrations! To date 85% of our families have completed this essential task. We hope to have this number at 100% by October 13th. Click on the link below to get started. All parents now have a log in and password. If you don't remember your log in or password contact Mrs. Davis in the office @ 785-4330 or email allison_davis@rsu40.org. If you need more assistance, please stop by the office and Mrs. Davis will walk you through the process using one of our computers.

Infinite Campus Parent Portal Web Link



Strawbridge School Photos

This year our school photos will be taken by Strawbridge Studios.

Picture packets will be sent home with students next week.

You can order online anytime. To pay online follow the directions in the flyer.

