

# UCHS NEWSLETTER

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UNITY COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL

Happy \* New \* Year

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Principal: Mr. Graeme Gieni  
Vice Principal: Mr. Ken Parker  
Box 1000 Unity, SK S0K 4L0  
Phone: (306) 228-2657  
Fax: (306) 228-2228  
Email: [uchs.lskysd.ca](mailto:uchs.lskysd.ca)

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# BETWEEN THE BELLS

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With the arrival of some warmer weather and a new semester, spirits are high here at UCHS. With the new semester, I would like to remind all parents & guardians that Edsby is our form of communication, attendance management, and grade updates.

Previously this year, I have spoken to engagement @ UCHS. Now let us discuss achievement. Part of our school goal is to provide intentional planning, assessment, and feedback, as we remain deeply committed to recognizing the unique strengths, needs, and aspirations of every student in our school community. Each semester brings renewed opportunities to ensure that learning is not simply something that happens to students, but something that happens with them and for them.

Our staff thoughtfully design learning experiences for all students while providing the support needed for growth. Through ongoing assessment, we gain valuable insight into each student's progress, allowing us to celebrate successes and respond when additional guidance & support is needed.

We know that every student arrives with their own story, talents, and ambitions. Our role as a staff is to create an environment where those strengths are recognized and nurtured. From designated classroom spaces, the learning lab, the ACE space, gyms, labs, or library, learning takes place in many spaces within UCHS- and that is something we are proud of. I'd encourage you to read the Support Report within this newsletter, to further help with awareness of the support spaces created within our building and the important role they play in contributing to student success.

Together, through partnership with families and staff, we are building a school culture where every student feels seen, supported, and inspired to succeed.

Mr. G

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# WELCOME TO UCHS!

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## MR. TYLER MERILEES



Hello UCHS! I am thrilled to be joining the UCHS community as a new teacher this school year. I am beyond excited to get to know the students, staff, and families that make this school so special. This semester, I will be teaching Social Studies 9, Psychology 20, Physical Education 7, and Wellness 10. I am looking forward to engaging with students across these different subject areas. A little about me: I grew up in Lloydminster, SK, and completed my Education degree at the University of Saskatchewan. I majored in Biology and minored in Mathematics. My passion for sports extends beyond the classroom—I love both playing and coaching. I've spent the last three years coaching lacrosse in Saskatoon and had an incredible opportunity last summer coaching the Jr. Rush team in Oakville, Ontario. I am eager to build strong, positive relationships within the school and the wider community.

## MISS SKYE LANDRIE



Hi! My name is Skye Landrie, and I am very excited to be completing my Bachelor of Education student internship at Unity Composite High School until June. I grew up on a farm just outside of Glaslyn, Saskatchewan, and have been living in Saskatoon for the past few years while attending the University of Saskatchewan. During my time at UCHS, I have the privilege of being in Mrs. Partington's classroom, where I will be teaching some English Language Arts, Social Studies, and Leadership, as well as in Mr. Clark's classroom for History 10!

In my free time, I enjoy music, singing and learning guitar, riding horses, spending time outdoors, and being involved in community and creative projects. I am very grateful for the opportunity to learn from the staff and students at UCHS and look forward to being part of the school and community in the coming months!

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# WE ARE WARRIORS!

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## WARRIOR OF THE MONTH

TANNER LAWRENCE



The Student Council would like to recognize Tanner Lawrence as the Warrior of the Month. They notice Tanner welcoming new students to the building and making them feel at home, as well as stopping to say hi or chat with many people in the hallways. She makes students at UCHS feel seen and welcome. During our 12 Days of Christmas events, Tanner consistently showed up and demonstrated her school spirit. We appreciate her efforts to be involved in our activities. Congratulations Tanner!

## ORDINARY JOE

WYATT ANDERSON



Mrs. Wood - Wyatt is always engaged and ready to learn in science, asking great questions and consistently sharing his ideas with the group.  
Mr. Wood - Wyatt is enthusiastic and engaged. He's open minded and quick to make a connection and witty joke! Congratulations Wyatt!  
Mrs. Gartner - Wyatt is a fantastic role model of our three beliefs. He is empathetic and kind, he consistently works to the best of his ability and his positive contributions during class discussions are very much appreciated.

Mr. Clark - Wyatt is a diligent student who takes his learning seriously. Wyatt regularly participates in classroom discussion and is always willing to share his learning and help his peers.

Mr. Wakelin - Wyatt does great in the shop he works hard to ensure that he completes his work to a high standard and helps his classmates with their projects when they have questions.

Ms. Kostyna - Wyatt is a real go-getter in Art class- he loves a good challenge and is willing to do what it takes to get things done. He consistently brings creative ideas to his group work, and can be quite the performer when needed!

Mrs. Hyrnuik - Wyatt is a responsible student who cares about his education. He is a lead in the classroom who helps others.

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# SUPPORT REPORT

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## **Words Matter**

Recently, we have heard students describing tutoring as “special education.” This idea is not only inaccurate—it can unintentionally carry a negative message about both tutoring and special education, causing hurt feelings and confusion.

### **Tutoring is a strategy, not a label.**

Students attend the Learning Lab for many reasons: to catch up after an absence, strengthen a specific skill, prepare for exams, or build confidence. Students of all ability levels—high achievers included—access tutoring and the learning lab space within UCHS. It’s an opportunity, not a diagnosis.

### **Special education deserves respect, not comparison.**

Special education is a structured, individualized system of supports for students with identified learning needs. It involves specialized planning, expertise, and advocacy. Treating it as something negative—or simply “needing help”—misrepresents its purpose and value.

### **Why this matters.**

When time in the Learning Lab is dismissed as “special education,” it sends two damaging messages:

- That getting help is something to be ashamed of
- That special education is something to look down on

Neither message reflects our values at UCHS or supports student well-being. It creates a stigma and embarrassment that is misguided and unnecessary. Learning looks different for every student, and seeking & accepting support is a sign of awareness and maturity, not failure.

### **A Note for Families.**

We encourage parents to talk with their children about the words they use and how those words affect others. Casual comments can carry unintended weight—especially for students who already feel vulnerable. Respectful language helps create a school culture where students feel safe asking for help and supporting one another. At Unity Composite High School, all students need to feel confident and comfortable to ask for and accept help when needed.

Needing support is normal. Seeking help is smart. Accepting help is growth. And every form of learning support exists for the same reason: to help students succeed. When we respect each other, we teach empathy—and that lesson matters just as much as academics.



# TELEMIRACLE SOUP SALE

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**FEBRUARY 25 @ 12:20**

**"Fill bowls. Warm hearts. Help Saskatchewan Families"**

**Brought to you by Leadership 20**

**Competitors from the community welcome.**

**Please contact the school for more information or to register.**

**The public is also welcome to come purchase soup that day 12:20-12:55.**



**TELEMIRACLE 50**

**FEBRUARY 28 – MARCH 1, 2026**

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## SKY PLUS

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**This past semester, we had students enrolled in several courses through the division's Sky Plus Blended Learning Program. In addition to the in-person classes offered at UCHS, Sky Plus has students enrolled in Sciences, Psychology, Mental Health/Wellness, Agriculture, Wildlife & Habitat, and Emergency Services, just to name a few. The UCHS homepage has a link to the Sky Plus page which lists all available classes.**

**I am the Sky Plus supervisor, so if you have questions, you can reach out to me by email at [donna.hoffinger@lskysd.ca](mailto:donna.hoffinger@lskysd.ca) or call the school and ask for me. You could also contact Sky Plus Program Coordinators Sarah L'Hoir at [sarah.lhoir@lskysd.ca](mailto:sarah.lhoir@lskysd.ca) or Shawn Whyte at [shawn.whyte@lskysd.ca](mailto:shawn.whyte@lskysd.ca) for more information.**

# CURLING INFORMATION

**UCHS  
hosts**



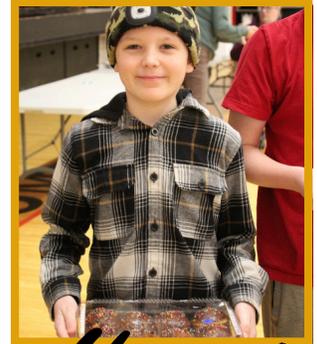
**Junior  
District Curling**  
February 25-26

**Regional  
Mixed & Doubles Curling**  
February 27-28

**@ the Unity Curling Club**  
Come out and enjoy the action!

# JANUARY THROUGH THE LENS

## Grade 8 Dessert Auction

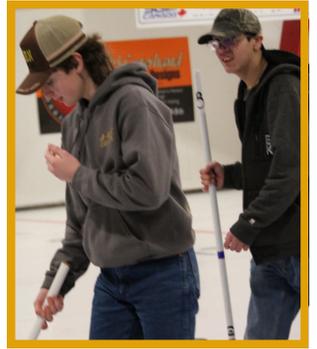


*yum!*

*yum!*

# JANUARY THROUGH THE LENS

## Grade 8 Curling Bonspiel ~ Final Exams



# FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Semester 2 Begins 	3	4	5	6 Basketball: • Sr. Boys @ Watrous • Sr. Girls @ Preeceville	7 Basketball: • Jr. Boys & Girls Districts Wrestling @ Moose Jaw Archery @ Macklin, Stettler
8	9 Early Dismissal	10 Sr. District Curling	11 Sr. Girls B'Ball @ Kindersley	12	13 Archery @ Altario	14 Happy Valentine's Day 
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<h1>February Break</h1>						
22	23	24	25  Soup Sale!  Host Jr. District Curling	26	27 Sr. Girls B'Ball @ Birch Hills Host Regional Curling	28 Archery @ Wetaskiwin

*Be your own voice, not an echo.*