

Unity Composite High School

Newsletter

February 2025

In this months newsletter:

- Principal's Pen
- Fruit Sale
- SADD
- Library Winners
- Basketball
 - Grade 7
 - Senior Girls
- Student Success Stories
- March Calendar

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Semester 2 Important Dates

- Early Dismissal Dates:
 - March 10
 - April 14
 - May 26
- Holidays/Non-Student Days:
 - March 17
 - Easter Break: April 18-25
 - May 5
 - May 19
 - June 26-27
- **FINAL EXAMS: JUNE 20 – 25**

Grade 7 & 8
Ski Trip
Rescheduled for
Tuesday
March 4th!

Senior Track & Field
will start in early
April.
Open to grades 9-12.
Listen for
announcements.

Principal's Pen

Although spring is still a few weeks away, the recent stretch of warmer weather has certainly lifted spirits as we return from February break. Unfortunately, the weather wasn't quite as cooperative before the break, leading to the cancellation of our ski trips. Since the ski hill is unable to accommodate us on another date, we will be issuing refunds. While we share in the disappointment, we look forward to making the most of the milder winter conditions with other outdoor activities in our physical education classes in the coming weeks.

With the second semester now in full swing, this is an important time to focus on growth and progress. I encourage you to check in with your student about their courses, workload, and achievements. Edsby remains the best way to stay up to date with grades and attendance, and as always, our school-wide goal—From Attendance to Achievement—reminds us that every moment in class matters. The learning experiences that come from being together each day cannot be taken for granted.

On the other side of this focus is our attendance practice. Please ensure you and your student are familiar with the attendance benchmarks we use to monitor achievement and programming. All student policies, including attendance guidelines, can be found in the Student Handbook section of our UCHS webpage.

Thank you for your continued partnership in supporting our students. Together, we are Building Citizens and Striving for Excellence.

Mr. Melnyk

Fruit Sale Wrap-Up

UCHS conducted its second major fundraiser of the year. FreshForward provided a variety of apple/citrus options to customers.

This Fruit campaign generated a total of \$2114.10 for our various student-based programs. A total of 606 items were sold with 27 donated to the Unity Food Bank. Sales were down compared to last year's campaign. Hopefully some high quality product will create an increased demand in our next campaign.

The product is scheduled to arrive in mid-March. At this time your seller will be delivering your product.

Thank you to all customers and the communities for your continued support of the Fruit Sale.



SADD

SADD would like to thank the Delta Coop for supporting us in our Telemiracle Fundraiser, Do-nut Drink and Drive. Thanks to their donation of donuts in February, SADD was able to raise \$300 for Telemiracle. Coming March 10 – 14 is our SADD Awareness Campaign.

We will have various activities throughout the week, so listen to the announcements for updates! We are also bringing in a speaker on March 13 to share a message of driving safely and resilience. We are partnering with SGI to bring Sandra LaRose to Unity to speak. We look forward to sharing her message with you.



Library Winners

Throughout January, the library offered students a chance to win exciting prizes! Every time a student checked out a book from the stacks, their name was entered into the draw. A huge congratulations to January's lucky library winners, Mikaela Hennings and Jude McGonigle! While it seems the photos of their prize moments have mysteriously vanished (sincerest apologies for that!), we're still celebrating their wins. Keep those pages turning, UCHS!



February brought a *heartfelt* event to the library - Spread Some Kindness Week! Throughout the week, kindness notes were scattered around the library, inviting students to grab a bit of positivity and pass it on. Each note found was an opportunity to enter their name into the prize draw. A huge thank you to everyone who spread kindness throughout UCHS - your thoughtfulness is truly appreciated! The winners were: Brooke Bartley, Oaken Jedlicka, Jada Poitras, Chester Miller, Finnley Ducherer, Alexis Pitt, and Riley Bartley! Keep spreading that kindness, UCHS - the world needs more of it!



Grade 7 Basketball

This year we again able to field grade 7 basketball teams. This is such a great experience to learn the game and required skills and to have fun. Both teams played a number of games where they practiced and showcased their skill and teamwork. Almost all games were against grade 7-9 teams. There were wins and losses. Due to the weather, there were also postponements and cancellations. Overall, all players were able to improve, exhibit our 3 Beliefs and begin their UCHS Warriors Basketball careers. Thanks to Kasey Parker, Zayden Wagner, Ethan Stifter, John Aguinaldo, Bill Leibel, Graeme Gieni and Jeremy Wagner for coaching. Also, thanks to the very supportive parents. Way to go, Warriors!



Senior Girls Basketball

The Sr Girls basketball team heads into their final tournament of the season with a 15 - 10 record. The last tournament is their annual Pink Tournament and they have set their sights high to raise funds for Breast Cancer Research.

We hope to see everyone out at the Pink Game on Friday, February 28 at 5:45pm where the Warriors will take on Langham.



Student Success Stories

Compassion

Compassion means we care about others, treat them with kindness, and feel a strong desire to help people in need.

Compassion is empathy in action.

Taenslee Wagner



Taenslee Wagner continues to show compassion in math class, especially when contributing to discussions with her peers, which happens often in Math 7. She is caring and patient, and always has an open mind to listening to what her peers have to say in class discussions. She strives to make all conversations a safe place, where all her peers feel that they can share their opinions and their knowledge, which encourages her peers to speak up more around her. Thank you, Taenslee, for being such a good partner to your classmates, and for always giving them an opportunity to participate during group work as well.

-submitted by Ms. Gartner



Ethan Ruberry



Everyone lets their effort slip sometimes. Falling off the horse and getting back on is what life is all about. We often prioritize things in our lives and then other things seem to get away on us. Ethan let his Accounting work get away on him and started to fall off the horse. When he realized that he was sliding, he immediately got back on and realized he has a responsibility to get this credit. He is now using his class time effectively, asking questions and trying his very best to make sure he finishes his work and understands it. Thanks for being responsible, respectful and choosing to learn, Ethan!

-submitted by Mrs. Poitras

Alli Busse



Compassion is showing kindness and being sensitive those around you. This month I would like to recognize Alii Busse for the virtue of compassion. Alli is kind and considerate to her classmates and teachers. She always includes those around her in discussion and is quick to help where needed. Alli is sensitive to the feelings of others and takes a genuine interest in those around her, by asking how they are doing or giving genuine compliments that can make someone's day. Thank you for being a kind and compassionate student in our school.

-submitted by Mrs. Clark



Kingston Meredith



When I think of a student who exemplifies compassion, I think of Kingston. I have personally witnessed Kingston's compassion on numerous occasions in and out of the classroom. If there are student's arguing or having a rough moment and Kingston sees it, she steps in to help. She truly cares for other people and wants everyone to be happy around her. She is thoughtful and kind without even trying, and she will always offer her help if she sees someone struggling. Kingston is the type of person who makes the world a better place.

-submitted by Mrs. Hrynuik

I would like to recognize Kingston Meredith for taking the next step in basketball. In addition to playing on the Jr. Girls team, helping out the Jr. NBA program, she is now officiating. She has officiated two games so far this year and looks comfortable running up and down the court in a new official's uniform. She even called a couple of fouls (with confidence). Thank you Kingston for helping out the Warrior basketball program. Also, given this month's theme is compassion, I wish to acknowledge that Kingston is a caring student that will always greets others with a smile or will check in with her peers when they are having a rough day.

-submitted by Mr. Parker

Blake Welsch



Blake's compassion shines brightly on the ice during curling practices. Whether he's patiently helping teammates perfect their technique or offering words of encouragement after a tough shot, his kindness never goes unnoticed. Blake's sportsmanship sets an example for everyone—he celebrates victories with humility and handles challenges with grace. His positive attitude and unwavering support make him not just a great teammate, but a role model for sportsmanship on the ice and off. Thank you, Blake, for being a great Warrior.

-submitted by Mrs. Snell



Stella Purington



Stella sets an example of kindness and compassion in her school community. Whether it's checking in on her classmates during a tough lesson or offering words of encouragement, she always makes sure those around her feel supported. Her thoughtful nature creates a positive and inclusive atmosphere, helping her friends feel valued and understood. Stella's genuine care for others not only strengthens her friendships but also inspires others to be more mindful of the people around them, showing that a small act of compassion can have a big impact on a student's success and well-being.

-submitted by Ms. Svenkeson

Avyne McLean



Over the years I have known Avyne in many arenas. She is an athlete, a singer, a performer, a volunteer, a fan, and a student. She is also one of the most compassionate people I've ever known. In situations when others may look away or feel uncomfortable, Avyne's empathy kicks into high gear and she doesn't look away. She reaches out. She offers support. She includes and clarifies. Even in times of conflict, she almost always shows an awareness of the feelings of others. Her direct communication disarms others and aids them in problem solving. Now listen, she's not perfect. She has a huge capacity for hilarity, fun, living on the edge, and pushing boundaries, but that does not negate her helping heart and compassionate point of view. Her goal to become a child counsellor is a perfect fit for someone with an understanding spirit and ample empathy.

-submitted by Mrs. O

Weston Agar



Weston Agar exemplifies compassion towards his peers through his willingness to collaborate with others in a constructive way. Weston's cooperative demeanor allows him to embrace, accept and appreciate the ideas of others. He actively participates in class discussions and frequently assumes a leadership position which showcases his supportive and inclusive nature towards his peers. Weston demonstrates compassion by assisting peers, particularly when brainstorming ideas in art. Weston regularly offers words of encouragement to his classmates, embodying our theme of compassion by wanting those around him to succeed and do their best. Keep up the amazing work, Weston!

-submitted by Mrs. Steinhubel

Dylan Gavel



Dylan Gavel had a fantastic Foundations 20 class. Each day, Dylan carried out his responsibilities by paying attention in class, contributing to class discussions, working through assignments, and asking for assistance when needed. But that is not all. Dylan also spent a good majority of his time helping others who were having difficulties in this subject. He very patiently answered questions, explained his responses, and guided his peers in the right direction. I know that this help was very much appreciated. Thank you, Dylan, not only for working hard to achieve your own success in this class, but for taking the time to help others succeed as well. Keep up the good work!

-submitted by Mrs. Gartner



Macyn Weber & Jenay Bishop



Macyn and Jenay have exemplified our belief of choosing to learn through their dedication and positive attitudes last semester.

They approach every lesson with curiosity and determination, embracing challenges rather than avoiding them. Whether tackling difficult concepts, engaging in discussions, or supporting their peers, they consistently show resilience and a love for learning. Even when material is complex, they ask thoughtful questions and view mistakes as opportunities to grow.

Their commitment goes beyond completing assignments—they actively seek to improve and make the most of every opportunity. By choosing to learn with perseverance and optimism, they set an inspiring example for their classmates. Their hard work demonstrates that learning is not just about knowledge but about growth and character.

—submitted by Mr. Wood



Alyssa Coons



Alyssa is a member of the Senior Girls Basketball team. She is compassionate. Her inclusivity and fun, positive nature enhance the team environment and make her teammates feel valued and comfortable.

She works hard, asks good questions, and is very supportive. Thanks for all your positive contributions to our team and the school environment.

—submitted by Mr. Melnyk



Chloe Moscrip & Tejasvi Nedenuri

This month I would like to recognize the efforts of Chloe and Tejasvi who have put in many hours helping to score keep basketball over the last month. Both girls were vital to our Jr. Boys tournament especially, where they stayed for most of the day scorekeeping several games throughout the tournament. They have also volunteered to score keep games during the week. Both girls have already completed their required volunteer hours for the year, but we willing to sacrifice their time to help out the UCHS community. Thank you, Chloe and Tejasvi, for your willingness to get involved and help out, your efforts have not gone unnoticed.

- submitted by Mr. Clark



Jamal Starchief



Jamal continues to demonstrate compassion in the sport of wrestling. While he is an absolute force on the mat, he never sacrifices sportsmanship, always representing his opponents and showing compassion to his teammates. In practice, he is not just a powerhouse but a supportive mentor, allowing his teammates to work though techniques while keeping them accountable. He shares his knowledge, pushes others to improve, and never hands out free passes, ensuring everyone around him grows stronger. Jamal proves that true strength isn't just about overpowering others, it's about lifting them up and showing compassion while also staying at the top of his game.

-submitted by Ms. Huber



Lilirae Dillon



Lilirae Dillon is often found at the end of the day in my classroom putting everyone's chair up when the other students and I have all forgotten. She is in the hallway first thing in the morning with a smile and a kind hello. She is willing to help not only when asked to, but also before you even have a chance to ask. She has genuine concern for her peers and respects those around her.

Not only does Lilirae demonstrate compassion and respect, but she has embraced the other beliefs at UCHS as well. She has become more responsible and hard working as the year progresses. Now that she is settled in as a Warrior at UCHS, she is doing her best to choose to learn. She has made some positive and impressive changes in term 2 to bring up her grades. Her efforts to improve her quality of work is commendable.

Great work, Lilirae!

-submitted by Ms. Partington



Unity Composite High School

I was stumped. I couldn't recall a specific example of outward compassion. I tried to think of a moment where a student or group of students demonstrated this important virtue in a way that deserved recognition. After some thought, I came to this conclusion: It's because of the culture at UCHS. Wait, no compassion? That can't be right. Actually, I think it is—because of the culture. A culture of kindness. Of respect. Of caring. I see students exemplifying these values every day. And because of that, there are fewer instances in our school that require outward acts of compassion. It's woven into our daily interactions, on a class-by-class, moment-by-moment basis.

To me, this means UCHS is bursting with compassion!

-submitted by Mr. Orobko



March



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Basketball:  • Sr. Boys @ Kindersley • Sr. Girls Host Pink Tourn. Host Regional Curling  Pink Dance 9 pm	1
2	3 Grade 8 Immunizations	4 Grade 7 & 8 Ski Trip	5	6	7 Basketball: • Sr. Girls Conferences Host Provincial Curling 	8
9	10 Early Dismissal	11 SkyPlus Place-Based Day in Wilkie	12	13 SADD Guest Speaker	14 Basketball: • Sr. Boys & Girls Regionals 	15
16	17 PD Day No School HAPPY St. Patrick's DAY	18	19	20 Hoopla 	21 Badminton: Junior @ JPII & Maidstone	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 Badminton: • Junior Home Tourn.	29 Badminton: • Senior Home Tourn. • Junior @ Mclurg
30	31					

Let's make this a month to remember!

