

Urbandale Viewpoint



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Incredible! This would be the word I would use to describe my first six months in the Urbandale School District and community. What a joy it is to work in a school system that puts the focus on kids. My own personal beliefs are very much aligned to the district values and beliefs on quality and continuous improvement. As for the community, I heard early on that “we are big but we are small.” It’s true. While the city of Urbandale is located within the Des Moines metro, it still has a small-town feeling where people have strong relationships with one another. Being a person who values the importance of positive relationships, I am grateful to be a part of the Urbandale community and school system. I firmly believe the levels of relationships we enjoy are part of what makes us “Uniquely Urbandale.”

In the few short months I’ve been here, I have met many caring and wonderful people, including students, teachers, support staff, district leaders, school board members, parents, city employees, business leaders, and community members. The work we are engaged in to continually improve our system of education in order to make it more relevant, inspiring, and meaningful for all learners requires hard work



and takes the efforts of all stakeholder groups. Our teachers and support staff are some of the most dedicated, compassionate, and professional educators I’ve seen. Our students are consistently reaching new achievement levels in both academics and activities, while finding time to serve and support our community. I’m often awestruck by our talented students and enjoy learning from and with them every chance I get. We as a district are definitely very good and working toward greatness.

As the second half of our school year gets underway—make it a great one!

With gratitude,
Steve Bass



URBANDALE
COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Educational Equity Statement

No student enrolled in the Urbandale Community School District shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in the District's programs on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, religion, marital status (for program), ethnic background, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, age (for employment) or socio-economic background (for program). The policy of the District shall be to provide educational programs and opportunities for students as needed on the basis of individual interests, values, abilities and potential. If you have questions please contact the district office at 11152 Aurora Ave, Urbandale, IA or call 515.457.5000. The district's Equity Coordinators are Dr. Keri Schlueter, Coordinator of Student Services; Mark Lane, Director of Human Resources; and Crista Carlile, Director of Teaching and Learning.

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WEBSTER ELEMENTARY NAMED 2015 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

"This honor recognizes your students' accomplishments and the hard work and dedication that went into their success," U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said in a video message to awardees.

"Your journey has taught you collaboration, intentional instruction and strong relationships in school and with your community. You represent excellence—in vision, in implementation and in results—and we want to learn as much as we can from you."

Urbandale is celebrating an extraordinary achievement by one of its elementary schools. In September, Webster Elementary was designated a 2015 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. The national award uses standards of excellence evidenced by student achievement measures and research-based indicators of school quality to honor schools based on their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing the achievement gap. Webster Elementary is being

"This truly is the result of a commitment on the part of our staff, students, and our families to create a school environment where everyone can succeed at the highest of levels."

recognized for exemplary high student performance over the past five years and is one of only five Iowa schools to receive this highly coveted distinction. The U.S. Department of Education honored 285 public and 50 private schools nationwide at a recognition ceremony November 9–10, 2015, in Washington, D.C.



"It is an honor to receive this recognition for our school," said Dr. Greg Carezza, Webster Elementary Principal. "This truly is the result of a commitment on the part of our staff, students, and our families to create a school environment where everyone can succeed at the highest of levels."



**1 OF
ONLY 5
IOWA
SCHOOLS**



Since 2010, Urbandale has been embedding Quality & Continual Improvement practices throughout the District in order to create a systems approach for improvement that increases engagement, improves achievement, encourages collaboration and ignites a renewed passion for learning. This constancy of purpose is woven throughout every facet of the district which results in not only a common language for how the District will improve but clarity as to what's needed for improvement and most importantly, a profound understanding for why this improvement is critical for student achievement and success.

Continual improvement and personal growth are fundamental tenets at Webster Elementary and all Urbandale schools. Teachers work together as grade level teams in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) to design and deliver instruction that benefits all students. Through careful lesson planning, teachers are encouraged to create lessons that are based on the characteristics of effective instruction. Teachers spend a significant amount of time using current assessment data to differentiate instruction to meet all student needs. Through this collaboration, a strong sense of commitment has developed to ensure that all students are successful in attaining key learning targets.

Instructionally, the Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) process is utilized to make learning targets clear and assess student progress toward those goals. Each teacher has successfully used the PDSA cycle to involve students in the understanding of key learning targets being covered in class and the monitoring of their progress toward those key goals.



Urbandale congratulates Webster Elementary for being selected by the U.S. Department of Education as a 2015 National Blue Ribbon School. It is an extraordinary honor and one that reflects the hard work, dedication and perseverance of all Webster students, staff and families.

PRESCHOOL PRE-REGISTRATION 2016-2017

Our Urbandale Preschool Team would like to extend a warm welcome to all incoming preschool families. Three-year-old preschool is currently offered on the traditional school calendar at Olmsted Elementary and Webster Elementary. Four-year-old preschool is currently offered on the traditional school calendar at Olmsted and Webster, and on the flexible (year-round) school calendar at Rolling Green Elementary.

Program options at each location for the 2016-2017 school year will be finalized after pre-registration and will be based on the specific pre-registration information that families provide.

Pre-registration will begin on Wednesday, January 20, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. All preschool pre-registration information can be found here:

UrbandaleSchools.com/preschool



KAREN ACRES: CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Over the past five months, students and staff at Karen Acres Elementary have had the opportunity to see science, technology, engineering, art, and math brought to life to an even greater degree as their building is being transformed right before their eyes. Currently, 90% of the site work is completed. Electrical service to the building has been updated. Site utilities are in place and footings have been dug and poured. Concrete masonry unit walls in the main office area are up as well as precast concrete walls, bar joist and decking over the gym and office addition.

The second graders have been enjoying their newly renovated classrooms since occupying them on December 11, 2015. New carpet, countertops, increased square footage, and casework with improved shelving and cubbies for the students were part of the renovations. The

third graders transitioned to their new classrooms today, January 8, 2016. Both grade levels are grateful to be given the opportunity to finish their school year in their new spaces.

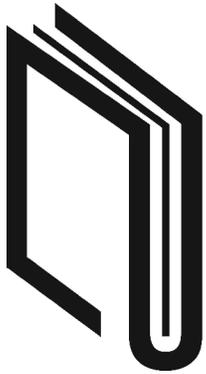
Throughout the spring, construction will continue in two additional existing classrooms with occupancy expected during the spring break timeframe. Work will continue on the additions and remodeling will start in the remaining areas during summer break.

Students, staff, and families have enjoyed watching the progress being made on the gym, within classrooms, and new office area—despite the inconveniences that come along with a large construction project. Patience and careful planning as each of the construction phases are completed will certainly be worth it come this summer as the project is currently scheduled for on-time completion in August 2016.

URBANDALE EDUCATION FOUNDATION

In 2015, the **Urbandale Education Foundation (UEF)** awarded **\$7,000** in grants to Urbandale educators, provided over **\$25,000** in scholarships to UHS graduates through Urbandale Dollars for Scholars, and connected over **800** alumni through the Urbandale Alumni Association. Urbandale Dollars for Scholars

and Urbandale Alumni Association are part of the Urbandale Education Foundation and are united by one common mission: *to enhance opportunities for Urbandale students, teachers and staff.*



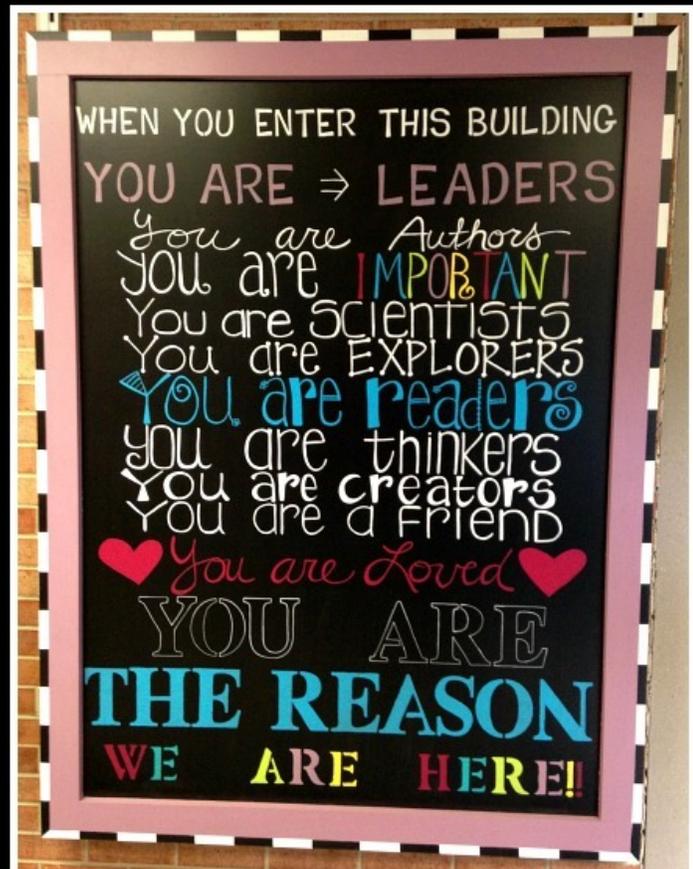
URBANDALE
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION

The UEF cordially invites you to the 3rd Annual Brad Peyton Memorial Golf Tournament on **Monday, June 27, 2016**, at Hyperion Field Club. We had a fantastic turnout last year with 144 golfers, 40 sponsors, and over 25 volunteers. Register to play, become a sponsor, or make a donation to help support Urbandale students & teachers!

SEEKING NURSING & ASSOCIATE SUBSTITUTES

- Are you interested in making a positive difference in the lives of Urbandale students?
- Do you enjoy building relationships and helping others reach their potential?
- Would you like to feel a part of a system that values your contribution?
- Are you looking for a meaningful position that fits within school hours?
- Are you available 1 or 2 days a week?

If you've answered 'yes' to these questions, we'd love to hear from you! We're currently seeking **nursing and associate substitute positions**; even if you're only available every other week and/or one or two days a week, we welcome your contribution. To learn more about available positions visit our [Applitrack site](#) where you'll see a list of substitute positions available as well as all **career opportunities** in the **Urbandale Community School District**.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION MEETINGS

Plan on attending a Kindergarten Registration Meeting!

All elementary schools within the Urbandale district will provide full-day kindergarten programs. A child must be 5 years old by September 15, 2016, to be eligible for kindergarten. We recommend all families with incoming kindergarten students attend a Kindergarten Registration Meeting as it will be an excellent opportunity for parents to learn more about the 2016-2017 school year. The meeting may not hold the attention of younger children; thus, parents are encouraged to make child-care arrangements if possible during this time. If you need help determining which school your child would attend, please contact Sandy Walters (515) 457-5011 or walterss@urbandaleschools.com. We look forward to welcoming your family!



UrbandaleSchools.com/learn

Jensen Elementary • February 18 • 5:30–6:30 p.m.

Karen Acres Elementary • February 25 • 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Olmsted Elementary • February 22 • 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Rolling Green Elementary • February 16 • 6:00–7:00 p.m.

Valerius Elementary • February 18 • 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Webster Elementary • February 23 • 6:30–7:30 p.m.



For all kindergarten registration information and a full list of documents needed for enrollment, visit:

UrbandaleSchools.com/learn

FACILITATORS OF CURRICULUM & PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Overview

This fall, Urbandale had the opportunity to enhance leadership throughout the district by implementing the Teacher Leadership and Compensation (TLC) program. We have three Facilitators of Curriculum and Professional Learning, seven Instructional Coaches, and 42 Model Teachers collaborating to ensure the continued improvement of learning in all classrooms.

Facilitators of Curriculum and Professional Learning (FCPL) work as part of the Teaching and Learning department to provide leadership in curriculum, instruction, and assessment, as well as lead professional learning for teachers. Michelle Cole, Steve Mefford, and Lindie Truitt make up this highly talented team.

What's New

Our team of FCPL are working collaboratively with building and district administrators to define our Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS) system and instructional framework. This work provides clarity and focus on meeting the needs of all learners in our district. We are continuing the work of last year by meeting with department teams to clarify learning targets, align common assessments and resources, and continually improve instruction. Some examples of this work include, supporting UHS English and Social Studies departments as they implement new courses and materials aligned to the Iowa Core and UCSD Board-approved curriculum. Additionally, we have been working to support implementation of new units of instruction at the elementary level for newly aligned resources and assessments. Lastly, the state has approved the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and teachers are in the process of unpacking the standards.

"I have really enjoyed the opportunities the Facilitator of Curriculum and Professional Learning role has provided me this year! Being able to collaborate with so many teacher teams and administrators to strengthen our education system beyond the walls of one classroom has been especially rewarding. I am continually inspired by the passionate professionals I work with and look forward to each opportunity to bring learning to life for all our Urbandale students!"

~ Lindie Truitt

"I am thrilled to be in a position where I can positively impact the instruction of our students by working with our amazing teachers and principals. Helping teachers more effectively understand and implement the curriculum will have an incredible impact on what they can do with students and student successes in the classroom."

~ Steve Mefford

"I have found that curriculum work is extremely complex and challenging. I love working with teachers, instructional coaches, and administrators throughout the curriculum process. It's inspiring to work with such passionate and thoughtful colleagues all over the Urbandale Community School District."

~ Michelle Cole

UHS ADMINISTRATORS RECEIVE AWARDS

Iowa State University selected Dania Wilson, Urbandale High School Assistant Principal, as the 2014 Jordan Larson Award recipient. As shared by Dr. Greg Robinson, the Jordan Larson Award is considered the MVP award for graduate students in the Educational Administration Program at Iowa State University.

"I was honored to win the Jordan Larson Award from ISU and I am also honored to be able to work in the Urbandale Community School District each and every day," said Dania Wilson. "Both my graduate work and my administrative profession have been shaped by the outstanding work of the teachers at UHS and the wonderful administrative team. I couldn't be luckier to have



such a supportive team."

The Jordan Larson Award is in memory of Dr. Jordan Lewis Larson, a long-time school administrator in Iowa, who served as the superintendent in Ames from 1935–1940, as well as superintendent in Dubuque in 1940. After moving on to the superintendency at Mt. Vernon, New York, Dr. Larson was elected to the Presidency of the American Association of School Administrators and served during 1954 and 1955. This award for excellence is supported by a foundation grant made by Superintendent Larson's daughter-in-law, Colleen Larson.

Dania Wilson & Tim Carver

School Administrators of Iowa named Tim Carver, Associate Principal at Urbandale High School, the 2015-16 Iowa Assistant Principal of the Year.

Recipients are selected using the Iowa Standards for School Leaders, which focus on a vision of learning; the presence of a school culture and instructional program that is beneficial to student learning and staff professional development; a safe, efficient, and effective learning environment; work with parents and the community; fairness, integrity and ethics; and an understanding of the larger political, social, economic, legal, and cultural context in which we operate.

"This humbling honor is shared with the entire Urbandale High School team, and I feel it has come



about as a result of our team's focus on learning and commitment to building positive relationships," said Tim Carver. "I also want say 'thank you' to SAI for their support of leaders in Urbandale and across the state in our work to continuously improve education. Likewise, I am grateful to be a member of the Urbandale Community School District where quality and continual improvement are the driving force behind all we do within our system."

Carver has served as an administrator with the Urbandale Community School District since 2005. A committee of Iowa assistant principals selected Carver for the award. He will be recognized at a State Capitol ceremony in May 2016 and at SAI's Annual Conference in August. As Iowa's recipient, Carver is a candidate for the National Assistant Principal of the Year.

NOTABLE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Jensen Elementary



November Caring Corps Food Drive

Jensen Student Council organized a food drive to provide 12 local families with a Thanksgiving dinner! Collaboration and leadership were essential for this very special event to come together.

Great teamwork!

Fire Department Visit

Urbandale Fire Department visited Mrs. Muehlenthaler-Holmes Kindergarten class. Students had a fantastic time learning about fire safety and enjoyed meeting 'real' firefighters!



Meet To Read

Jensen second grade and fifth grade students enjoy time reading and listening together. Students have an opportunity to continue building their reading skills, helping one another if they get stuck, and developing caring friendships.



NOTABLE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS (CONT'D)

Karen Acres Elementary

Positive Thinking Promoted by Fifth Graders

Fifth grade students in Mr. Maertens' and Mrs. Brinker's rooms worked collaboratively to paint ceiling tiles that included messages centered on a growth mindset. Some examples of the messages were, Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work, When nothing goes right, go left, and I don't make excuses, I make results. The tiles are located in the hallway leading out to the playground for all students to see each day.



Second Graders First to Experience Renovated Classroom Space

Garrison Hager, age 8, said that there's much more carpet space that is soft and clean. He added, "I'm excited to soon be getting our intercom installed!"

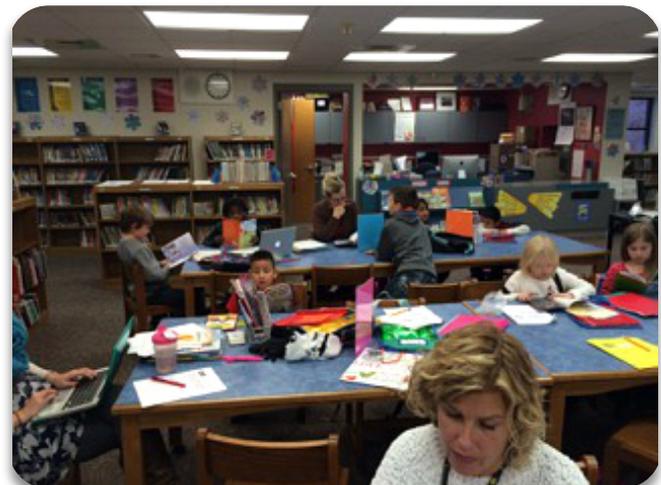
Allison Olson, age 7 1/2, said that the carpet is pretty and they have a little more space where they can lie down to read and work. She said, "It's bright with lots of colors. We have a nice sink. We have more space for our backpacks because we have little cubbies. There are two hooks to put our backpacks and a spot for our lunch box. We have more space to scoot back."



Kassidy Winters, age 8, likes the larger and more colorful carpeted space. She also likes the cubbies for storage and to hang her items. Both girls commented that there's more space to walk between desks and move around the room.

KA Homework Club

Karen Acres is proudly entering their 8th year of offering a weekly Homework Club. On Tuesdays each week students have time to read silently, finish math homework, receive tutoring, and get extra practice in any academic area. Homework Club begins right after school, and concludes at 4:30. The program was originally created to provide second language students with a quiet space and teacher assistance with challenging homework. The program is completely run by staff volunteers, and has been well-received by students and families.



NOTABLE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS (CONT'D)

Olmsted Elementary

Olmsted kindergarten English language learners show pride in their home countries as they point to their photos on the world map display. This project was an initiative of ESL Teacher Maggie Peterson. The large world map is in a hallway near the front door where it is seen daily by students, staff, and visitors. There are 64 students from 14 countries represented. Some of these students recently moved here; others have been here their whole lives when they immigrated with their parents. The map has provided an opportunity for students to show pride in their roots, and for students to learn about each other. The map was also enjoyed by parents at parent-teacher conferences, especially the parents of the students pictured.



GenYP from the Urbandale Chamber of Commerce has adopted five classrooms at Olmsted. This group, consisting of over 20 young professionals, volunteers at least one person in each classroom each week, where they spend time helping students read.

The evening of December 1st was Kindergarten Literacy Night at Olmsted. The event was a great success, with a book in each child's hand at the end of the night thanks to a grant from the Urbandale Education Foundation.



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NOTABLE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS (CONT'D)

Rolling Green Elementary

A great lunch and photo booth made Grandparent Day a huge success. Over 100 visitors! We're looking forward to celebrating Children's Day on April 29th and having lunch with parents and grandparents again. Thank you to our Rolling Green families for your support and participation.



The Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads Of Great Students) are very active this year! They provide classroom and playground volunteers and serve as great mentors for our students. We're thankful for all of the time they dedicate to our school.

Project Based Learning has connected with the Urbandale Chamber to showcase businesses in Urbandale that provide products and services throughout Iowa, the United States, and the world. Students learned about Insta-Pro, Pivot Works, Pepsi, Friedrichs Coffee, and Interstate Battery.



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NOTABLE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS (CONT'D)

Valerius Elementary



Our first annual Donuts with Dads event was a huge success! We had a wonderful turnout, and students were able to enjoy breakfast with their dads and grandpas and connect with other Valerius families.

Our wonderful 4th and 5th grade Valerius voices performed a holiday music medley at Merle Hay Mall. The shoppers certainly enjoyed pausing to take a break from the hustle and bustle of their shopping to enjoy the talents of our singers!



This year, Valerius teachers have found many creative and fun ways to integrate technology with learning. Through the use of multiple technology platforms, we demonstrate our commitment to enabling students to excel in a fast-changing, global society. All students have access to Chromebooks, iPads, and MacBooks. Additionally, this fall we have added enough machines to enable our 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students to each have a Chromebook to use throughout the day.



NOTABLE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS (CONT'D)

Webster Elementary

Run Around Webster (R.A.W.) Race

This fall, the Webster Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) held the third annual Race Around Webster day. Students in all grades, Pre-School through Fifth, enjoyed the opportunity to run around our school to raise money for the great things that our PTO does all year long! Students in grades PK–2 had the opportunity to run a mile to support the cause, while students in grades 3–5 completed a full 5K race! The school raised important funds that help

us to provide funding for field trips, our school library, instructional materials, and books for our reading room! We are thankful to all of the parents, grandparents, and community members who volunteered to support the race! It was a beautiful day filled with much fun and excitement!



pleasure for the students and staff to welcome Tyler to Webster Elementary School. We now have many of his books in our school library!

Author Visit

On Monday, September 21, 2015, Author Tyler Whitesides famous for the Janitors series in junior literature, visited Webster Elementary School to talk with students in grades 3–5 about his books, his career as a writer, and how to get hooked on reading! It was the first author visit that we have had in a long time at Webster! The students listened intently as Tyler talked about his job, how he gets ideas for his great books, and the joy he gets from helping students to discover a love for reading and writing! It was a

Student-led Assemblies

A large focus of our work this year at Webster, for both students and staff, is our focus on “The Leader In Me” framework as a means for encouraging student leadership in all grades at our school! As a part of our work, we have encouraged grade levels to have student-led assemblies where we learn more about the 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens. Learning about the 7 Habits from our students is a much more meaningful, and enjoyable, way to learn about leadership! The students have done an excellent job presenting their assigned Habits and the students have done an excellent job learning (and practicing) the habits as a result! We are thankful for our student leaders and look forward to getting more students involved as the year goes along!



NOTABLE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS (CONT'D)

Urbandale Middle School

Thanks again for supporting our 17th annual ESL Clothing Drive! We wanted to say a big THANK YOU for all your generous donations, for Clive Mini Storage, Urbandale Middle School staff, the UMS PE department for their flexibility, and for everyone who helped with set up. This year we collected 335 boxes of clothes and only 38 boxes were left over that went to our UHS Clothing Closet. We were able to distribute almost 300 boxes of clean clothing to our ESL families. This would not be possible without the generosity of the Urbandale community and the many people who helped along the way.



On Friday, December 18, 2015, we welcomed Mark Wills, education coordinator at the Iowa Hall of Pride, to share inspiration with students regarding hope, perseverance, and seeing a positive future for themselves. Mark's position focuses on educational outreach as he spent most of his early professional life working with at-risk kids and families and was able to fulfill his dream of teaching and coaching. Later, through his outreach work at the Iowa Hall of Pride and the Robert D and Billie Ray Center, Mark has facilitated workshops with educators, coaches, business professionals, community leaders, elected officials and high-achieving athletes on integrating character and ethical systems into their culture and climate. Mark has also served on boards and committees for the Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute, International Cooperating Ministries, Fellowship of Christian

Athletes, and was a selected panelist for the National Forum on Character in Washington, D.C. (photo courtesy of Iowa Hall of Pride)

The Nike ReUSE A SHOE program encourages people to donate used shoes to several programs in the community by recycling worn shoes. The program pays a dollar for each pair of shoes. Urbandale Middle School Student Senate collected 336 pairs of shoes from September 28th through October 30th. On November 24, 2015, the City of Urbandale presented a check for \$336 to UMS. Thank you to the City of Urbandale for recognizing the hard work of our students. We are proud of the collaboration and dedication it took to make this important event happen: congratulations UMS students!

(photo courtesy of City of Urbandale)



NOTABLE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS (CONT'D)

Urbandale High School

Each year, the World Food Prize Foundation hosts approximately 200 high school students from around the world during a three-day Global Youth Institute. UHS Junior, Lauren Johnson, was selected to attend the Global Youth Institute and 2015 Borlaug Dialogue which took place October 15th-17th in Des Moines. Johnson had the opportunity to meet world leaders, interact with Nobel and World Food Prize Laureates, participate in large-scale volunteer work, and exchange knowledge and ideas with students, educators, and professionals regarding pressing global food security and agricultural issues.



On the evening of Tuesday, November 3, 2015, Urbandale's Key Club, the high school branch of the Kiwanis Club, wrote positive and inspiring messages on sticky notes for every UHS student. This group of 20 students then placed the 1,300 notes on student lockers as a way to brighten up every student's day the following morning. Not only did the sticky notes stay up to greet students the next morning, but as we looked around the halls, many students kept them up even days later. Kindness connects us all!

On Friday, October 2, 2015, 19 Urbandale High School students from the Spanish for Heritage Speakers IV Class attended the 2015 Latino Youth Summit at the University of Iowa and achieved 2nd Place. Eight teams competed in the Latino/Latina History Competition that covered Latin American history with the U.S., arts, literature, sports, government, activism, and Latino history in Iowa. To achieve 2nd Place is an exceptional honor and the District congratulates these sharp-minded, talented students, their families, and Mrs. González for this remarkable accomplishment. Well done!



Back row UHS Students: Yarazeth Domínguez Estrada, Leslie Ramos, Vanessa Lara Leyva, Angeles García Moreno, and Steven Naula. (Alternate — not pictured María Ayala). Front Row: University of Iowa Competition Judges.

NOTABLE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS (CONT'D)

Metro West Learning Academy

Every school year, WOI Local 5 teams up with Bankers Trust to present deserving schools with The One Classroom at a Time Education Grant. Educators must submit detailed proposals for how the school would benefit from the grant and then are notified if their proposal has been selected. We were thrilled to have Social Studies Teacher Chris Covington win a \$1,000 grant! Funds will be used for special projects such as CultureAll guest speakers and field trips. From left to right: Bankers Trust Jean Johnson, Superintendent Steve Bass, Chris Covington, WOI Stephanie Angleson, & Coordinator of Student Services Dr. Keri Schlueter.



Students and staff enjoyed working together in order to support Meals From the Heartland. We learned more about food challenges facing our world and how we can contribute to solutions while packaging hundreds of meals for those in need. From left to right: Leigh Stamer, Ian Njuhi, Chris Covington, Spencer Ruhlow, Spencer Stripe, Zacara Roberts, and Dyann Kruidenier.

Students and staff had the opportunity to participate in Urbandale's Fall Yard Clean-Up Day. It was a day full of giving back by lending a hand to our Urbandale neighbors. Seeing how many residents appreciated the hard work of students really helped put the day in perspective and reaffirmed the belief that every action we take to make positive contributions in our world comes back to us ten-fold. We had aching muscles the next day but no one was complaining as we were full of the gratitude that had been extended to us on this special day.



ACTIVITIES ACHIEVEMENTS

CROSS COUNTRY

- The Girls Cross Country Team was the Class 4A State Champion.
- Individual placewinners at the State Meet included: Julia Noah (2nd), Elyse Prescott (4th), Mickey Cole (8th), and Neanagit Malow (14th).
- Mickey Cole, Carly Klavins, and Julia Noah were named IATC Academic All State.
- The Boys Cross Country Team qualified for the State Meet.
- Michael Westphal was named to the IATC Academic All State Cross Country Team



FOOTBALL

Caleb Bright was named Class 4A, 1st Team All State.

JAYWALKERS

The Urbandale Jaywalkers placed 4th at the State Dance Team Competition in Jazz.



INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL MUSIC

- The Urbandale Marching Band received its 32nd consecutive Division I Rating at the State Marching Band Contest in October.
- Kelsi Riley, Jonah Penningroth, Aaron Pettorini, Noah Torstenson, Tom Plank, Robert Muller, and Brittany Schultz were selected as All-State Instrumental Musicians.
- Joel Andrews, Ashlan Burton, Ryan Ferguson, Julia Hutton, Emma Kuehl, Becca Lehman, Raelynn Meade, Tyler Miller, Spencer Pack, Jack Pearson, and Marin Vidovic were selected as All-State Vocal Musicians.



ACTIVITIES

ACHIEVEMENTS (CONT'D)

SOCCER

Senior Mackenzie Brees was named 1st Team All State; Mallary Erbes was named 2nd Team All State.



SOFTBALL

- Urbandale placed 6th at the State Softball Tournament, making its first appearance in Fort Dodge since 2002.
- Skyler Shellmyer was named 1st Team All State and Bella Crow was named 3rd Team All State for the J-Hawks.

TENNIS

- The Urbandale Girls Tennis Team qualified for the State Meet and placed 4th.
- The Girls Doubles team of Abby Reis and Brynn Reichardt were the State Runner-Up.



TRACK

- The Urbandale Girls Track Team placed 3rd at the State Track Meet
- Sisters Lexus Lovan and Jamaica Lovan placed 1st and 2nd respectively in the Girls Long Jump at the State Meet.
- The Girls 4x800 Meter Relay team of Trina Moreno, Julia Noah, Maddie Carver, and Mickey Cole placed 2nd at the State Meet.
- The Girls Shuttle Hurdle Relay team of Billie Mottet, Mallary Erbes, Bailey Mottet, and Sydney Lafrentz placed 2nd at the State Meet.
- AJ Foley placed 2nd in the Boys 400 Meter Dash at the State Meet.
- Jake Heinrich placed 2nd in the Boys Shot Put at the State Meet.



VOLLEYBALL

Sami Hillmer was named Class 5A, 2nd Team All State.



DATES TO REMEMBER

**Remember Late-Start
Wednesdays!**

District-wide Dates:

January 15	Rolling Green Elementary Only—No School (Reading & Math Day: Register through Urbandale Community Education)
January 18	No School (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)
January 20	Online Preschool Pre-Registration for 2016–17 begins at 6:00 p.m.
February 12	Rolling Green Elementary Only—No School (Reading & Math Day: Register through Urbandale Community Education)
February 15	No School (District In-Service 'Cabin Fever Day'/Presidents' Day)
February 16	Rolling Green Elementary Kindergarten Registration Meeting 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
February 18	Jensen Elementary Kindergarten Registration Meeting 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
February 18	Valerius Elementary Kindergarten Registration Meeting 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
February 22	Olmsted Elementary Kindergarten Registration Meeting 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
February 23	Webster Elementary Kindergarten Registration Meeting 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
February 25	Karen Acres Elementary Kindergarten Registration Meeting 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
March 1	Due date for Open Enrollment applications (1st–12th grade students) 2016–17 school year
March 11	No School (Recess day)
March 14–18	No School (Spring Break)
March 21–25	Rolling Green Elementary Intersession
April 1–15	Online Student Registration begins within this time frame for 2016-17 school year
May 2–6	Rolling Green Elementary Intersession
May 26	Last day of school for students (subject to change based on cancellations)
May 26	UHS Commencement, Knapp Center, Drake University at 7:00 p.m.
May 30	No School (Memorial Day)



DISTRICT MISSION: *Teaching all—Reaching all*

DISTRICT VISION: *Urbandale will be a school district that brings learning to life for everyone.*