



UNION SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

# SPRING BOARD

*Home of the Wolves*

FALL 2023

# Back to School

## TOOLKIT 23-24



### *What's Inside?*

- Welcome Back Messages
- Important Dates
- Food Service Updates
- Technology Updates
- Athletics Summary
- Code of Conduct
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- Announcements
- And More!

# SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



## Dear USCS D Community:

Welcome back to the 2023-2024 academic year! I am eager to begin our new school year, and see our students return to our classrooms, playing fields, and stages in the weeks ahead. This school year brings with it an opportunity to refocus our efforts on learning, student engagement, and fostering a culture in which students feel a sense of pride and belonging in their school community. I am optimistic about the year before us, and look forward to the work ahead.

This fall, the district will formally move toward a more robust implementation of our ParentSquare communication app that is designed to help improve the flow of information between our school district and families with regard to notifications, forms, sign-ups, and overall messaging. Your feedback during our community surveys spoke to the need for us to modernize some of our communications and to leverage technology as we do so. We are excited to undertake this endeavor and appreciate your support as we learn and grow with this communication tool.

Further, in May of 2022, the voters of our school district approved a capital project to improve our technology infrastructure. The cabling work began this summer, and construction efforts will continue for most of the first semester. We hope that upon the conclusion of this project, our technology posture as a school district will be more stable, modern, and supportive of student learning needs for years to come. Our other two projects relating to safety upgrades and plumbing improvements are currently working their way through the NYS Education Department review process and we anticipate work on those projects beginning in earnest closer to the end of this coming school year.

While these projects are in motion, we are looking ahead at addressing our continued facility needs and ongoing plumbing challenges across the district, while also addressing concerns about the bathrooms at the secondary level. The spaces are dated, not always in good working order because of aging infrastructure, inadequate in their design and ventilation, and have become spaces that students that not all students feel comfortable in using as a result. In May of 2024, we anticipate being able to present to voters a plan to modernize our bathroom facilities, affording us an opportunity to improve those spaces and their functionality for our school community.

I look forward to all that this year has to offer our students: a sound learning experience, quality extra-curricular opportunities, and most of all, the support of our community in all of their educational endeavors and pursuits. It remains an honor to serve as superintendent of schools here in Union Springs. Please enjoy the remaining days of summer. If I can be of any assistance to you in the opening days of school, please feel free to reach out at 315-889-4100 or [jpowers@unionspringscsd.org](mailto:jpowers@unionspringscsd.org).



Educationally yours,

Jarett S. Powers, Ed.D.  
Superintendent



## Mark Your Calendars

<b>Aug. 30-31</b>	Superintendent's Conference Days	<b>Sept. 20</b>	MS/HS Pictures
<b>Sept. 4</b>	Labor Day	<b>Sept. 21</b>	Grades 2 Parent Info Night
<b>Sept. 5</b>	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!	<b>Sept. 25</b>	BOE Meeting
<b>Sept. 5</b>	Pre-K Preview Day	<b>Sept. 28</b>	MS/HS Open House
<b>Sept. 11</b>	BOE Meeting	<b>Oct. 9</b>	Columbus Day (No School)
<b>Sept. 14</b>	Grades 1 & 4 Parent Info Night	<b>Oct. 10</b>	BOE Meeting
<b>Sept. 14</b>	Beginning Band Info Night	<b>Oct. 19</b>	NJHS Inductions
<b>Sept. 16</b>	Homecoming Dance	<b>Oct. 20</b>	AJ Smith Picture Day
<b>Sept. 19</b>	Grades 3 & 5 Parent Info Night	<b>Oct. 23</b>	BOE Meeting
		<b>Oct. 25</b>	NHS Inductions
		<b>Oct. 31</b>	AJ Smith Halloween Parade

FOR A FULL LIST OF EVENTS, VIEW OUR CALENDAR ON [WWW.UNIONSPRINGS.ORG](http://WWW.UNIONSPRINGS.ORG)

# HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



## Dear USCSD Community:

As we begin the new academic year, I am thrilled to start my third year as the Principal of Union Springs High School. It has been an incredible journey of growth and collaboration, and I am deeply committed to continuing our school's tradition of excellence and nurturing a positive learning environment. I am delighted to introduce Lynn Stock, our new 9th and 10th grade school counselor. Mrs. Stock has been hitting the ground running this summer to help prepare for the opening of school on September 5th.

I want to express my gratitude to all parents and guardians for participating in our survey in the Spring. Your feedback is invaluable to us as it helps us understand your needs and aspirations for the school. We have carefully reviewed the survey information as an administration team, using it to shape our programs and initiatives throughout the year.

Parental involvement plays a vital role in the success of our students, and we are dedicated to fostering effective communication between parents, teachers, and the school. To achieve this, we encourage you to utilize Parent Square. This user-friendly platform will enhance our ability to share important announcements, updates and engage in two-way communication effectively.

As part of our annual celebration of school spirit, we are excited to announce the Homecoming Dance on September 16th. This event is the culmination of our Spirit Week, during which students can show their creativity and enthusiasm with various themed days and activities sponsored by our Student Government.

Let's make this academic year one of growth, learning, and success for all our students. We value your support and partnership as we work towards creating a nurturing and engaging environment for our students to thrive. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us via Parent Square or the school office at 315-889-4110.

Some logistical information: Student arrival is 7:30AM this year, and dismissal is 2:20PM. We will have an academic support period from 2:20 - 3PM. Please encourage students to utilize this time for some one on one support in classes. Students who are ineligible need to stay after during this time three days each week; on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday.

The Union Springs High School Handbook, which includes our Code of Conduct and acceptable use policy, will come home with your students on the first day of school. Please review these with your student.



Sincerely,  
Jason Dentel  
High School Principal

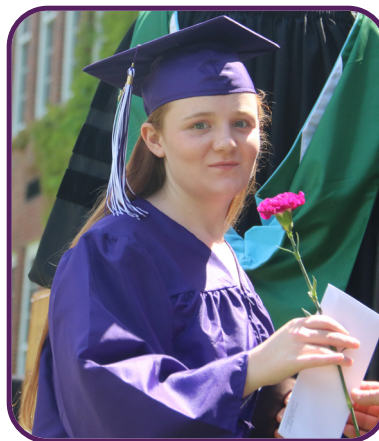


*Save the Date*

**MS/HS OPEN HOUSE**

**SEPTEMBER 28th, 5:30 - 8 PM**

Come meet our staff as we showcase our building!



## MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



### Dear USCS D Community:

I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying the last few weeks of summer. This time of year always makes me nostalgic for my own childhood. I spent sun up to sun down swimming in my neighbor's pool (I was the reigning champ at underwater somersaults), and riding around on my teal bicycle with my best friends and my younger sister, Bridget. My older brother, Danny, had an endless game of hoops going in our backyard and a homemade golf course built in the house (much to the chagrin of my parents). There was always a game of wiffle ball or badminton on the horizon with neighborhood friends. When I wasn't riding around the neighborhood, I was reading a new book. My wish for our students is that they find as much enjoyment in their summer as I did in mine at their age and that they carry this feeling of possibility, adventure and calm into our new school year. Summer is a time to recharge, to unplug, to get outside, and to take on new adventures. I want to see that same energy as we embark on the 2023-2024 school year.

As always, our commitment to academic excellence and creating a safe and inclusive learning environment remains steadfast. We will continue to prioritize the social-emotional well-being of our students and provide them with the support they need to thrive academically and personally. One way we continue to do that is by building the best network of support for our students through our faculty and staff. I wanted to take a moment, therefore, to introduce new staff to the middle school. Mr. Alec Targett, who has been a member of our Union Springs family, will be transitioning to our team from the elementary school. He will be teaching our general music and chorus classes this year. Mrs. Robin Haines will be joining the middle school as a new teacher assistant this coming year; she has over a decade of experience working with children, and we are thrilled to have her. Mr. Garret Komarisky (art) and Ms. Emily Ryan (math) will be returning again this year; they joined us midyear last school year, and we are grateful to have them on our team. Mr. Komarisky and Ms. Ryan are our new 8th grade class advisors as well. Mrs. Althea Suslik, one of our school nurses, will also be stepping into the classroom again to serve as our 8th grade health teacher.

In addition to our new staff members, we are also introducing a few new courses this year that I am particularly excited about. Our students will have the opportunity to take a new Lego Robotics elective course with Mr. Joe Palmiotto which will provide hands-on opportunities for students to explore the world of robotics, learn coding languages, and develop problem-solving skills. We believe this course will not only be engaging and fun but will also help prepare our students for the ever-evolving technological landscape. Moreover, all of our 7th grade students will be taking a new business class taught by Mrs. Lindsay Janssen. This course will focus on business communication, career portfolio, computer literacy, and entrepreneurship.

Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education. I am confident that with our dedicated staff, exciting new courses, and plans for the year ahead, we will continue to create a positive and enriching experience for all our students. I encourage you to stay connected with us throughout the school year. Our school website and social media platforms will be regularly updated with important information, upcoming events, and highlights of our students' achievements. We also welcome your feedback and suggestions as we work together to make this school year the best it can be.



Kind Regards,

Nora Haldeman  
Middle School Principal  
#WolfPack

## Save the Dates

### MIDDLE SCHOOL KEY DATES

#### MS/HS SCHOOL PICTURES

September 20

#### NJHS INDUCTION

October 19, 6:30 PM

## Middle School Musical

### SHOWTIME 1

Friday, November 3, 7 PM

### SHOWTIME 2

Saturday, November 4, 2 PM



## ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



### *Dear USCSD Community:*

Welcome to Andrew J. Smith Elementary! I am thrilled to share this letter with you as a part of our learning community. The staff at Andrew J. Smith continues the commitment of working collaboratively with all students, staff, and parents to achieve great things. Working together and staying connected are two hallmarks of a positive school environment.

This year's big district initiative is the launching of our new digital communication platform called Parent Square. Parent Square will increase our ability to connect with you regarding your child's success as well as stay up to date on upcoming events, your child's attendance and the day to day operations of your child's classroom. To ensure that our home school communication gets off to a great start, we ask that each family make certain your emergency contact information is up to date with the school.

In addition to the launching of Parent Square, we will continue to foster the social emotional side of education through the use of the Responsive Classroom, the Positivity Project and Positive Behavioral Systems and Supports. The three programs mentioned mesh together to provide students with a balance of school wide expectations, by promoting positive behaviors to ensure a safe learning environment all while building strong character based relationships with one another.

Whether your child is joining us for the first time or is a returning student, I look forward to welcoming them to the building on Tuesday, September 5th.

School hours for the 2023-24 school year are 8:45am- 3:30 pm.

Whether your child is joining us for the first time or is a returning student, I look forward to welcoming them to the building on Tuesday, September 5th.

As always, if I can answer any questions you might have please do not hesitate to contact me at [sladouce@unionspringscsd.org](mailto:sladouce@unionspringscsd.org) or be calling the office at (315) 889-4170.



Sincerely,

Mrs. Sheila LaDouce  
Principal of Special Programs

*First Day of School*  
**TUESDAY, SEPT. 5<sup>TH</sup>**

*Save the Dates*

**ELEMENTARY  
PARENT NIGHTS**

**PRE-K**

August 31, 5 pm

**KINDERGARTEN**

August 31, 5:30 PM

**GRADES 1 & 4**

September 14, 6:30 PM

**GRADES 3 & 5**

September 19, 6:30 PM

**GRADE 2**

September 21, 6:30 PM



# ATHLETICS



## Dear Athletes and Parents:

Welcome back and I hope that everyone is excited about another year in the Athletic Department. Teams will begin practicing on August 21 and getting ready for contest very shortly after that. The first big event of the fall is our Annual Jim Cufari Kick-off Classic pitting 8 local soccer teams in an early season soccer tournament in both the boys and girls divisions. The dates of the tournament are September 8th and 9th with games played in the afternoon and evenings. That weekend we will have night games for the Union Springs/Port Byron teams on Friday Night and the Championship games on Saturday. Just a week later we will have our Homecoming games. Volleyball will start the weekend with a contest vs. Spencer Van-Etten on Friday, September 15th and the soccer teams will take over on Saturday with a full day of games vs. Southern Cayuga on our main field.

I hope that you are all able to come out to watch and support our hardworking young athletes with games almost every day of the week. The schedule can be found on the school website under Athletics with changes made on occasion.



**GO WOLVES!!!!**

Todd Salls  
Athletic Director

**HALL OF FAME**  
*Nominations*  
**NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR**  
**CLASS OF 2023!**

Nomination forms can be found on the Union Springs CSD Athletic web pages!



# FOOD SERVICES

Union Springs schools are committed to offering well-balanced, nourishing meals every day at a minimal cost. We will continue to provide breakfast and lunch in all of our instructional buildings. Menus are planned based on nutritional guidelines, what kids like, and cost. We try very hard to limit fat and salt content within our meals, and our menus are audited for their nutritional value. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions regarding our services, or if your child has a food allergy, please contact our Food Services Manager, Kathy Smith, at (315) 889-4120.

**Union Springs Central School District once again qualifies for CEP, which allows all students one free breakfast and one free lunch a day. A' la carte items will be charged accordingly.**

# STUDENT ACCOUNTS

With *NutriKids*, every student has their own personal account they can use to pay for meals and a la carte items. We encourage parents to deposit money into their child's account, although students can still pay cash at the register. A prepayment credit system is offered by MySchoolBucks.com, which allows parents to deposit money into accounts online with a credit/debit card. Deposits can also be made by sending in cash or checks in a sealed envelope with the student's full name on the outside.

If your family qualifies for free or reduced price meals, student information is secure within the system, and meals are processed the same as they are for all students.



**Menus are available at the schools and on the Food Services page of our website:**

[www.unionspringscsd.org](http://www.unionspringscsd.org)

# CODE OF CONDUCT SUMMARY

## PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

This is a summary of the Code of Conduct adopted by the Board of Education of the Union Springs Central School District. The code contains the rules for conduct on district property and at district functions as well as the penalties for unacceptable conduct. The code applies to ALL individuals who come on school property and is not restricted to classroom instruction. Students, parents, visitors, and district employees all have certain responsibilities regarding the education of district students and are all subject to the code while on district property or at district functions.

Generally, the district expects:

- Students to come to school prepared to learn and to conduct themselves in a safe and respectful manner while at school.
- Parents to cooperate with the district in the education of their children and to communicate with appropriate school personnel regarding any questions or concerns.
- Teachers to be prepared to teach and to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect in the classroom.
- Administrators to promote a safe, healthy, and stimulating academic environment that is conducive to learning and student success.

### Student Rights and Responsibilities

All district students have the right to pursue an education in an atmosphere that is safe and conducive to learning, and to achieve all that they are capable of achieving and to be respected on the merits of their attributes as individuals. As citizens of the United States of America and residents of New York State, the students have the right to procedural due process guaranteed by The United States Constitution and New York State Education Law prior to disciplinary action taken against them. Students have the right to freedom of speech and expression which do not interfere with the educational process or infringe upon the right of others. Each and every student has the right to attend school and be free from discrimination in any form. Along with the rights comes responsibility. It is expected that all students of The Union Springs Central School District will conduct themselves with respect toward self, fellow students, teachers, and others. Furthermore, it is expected that all students will strive to achieve to their potential in all areas. Students should show respect for the district property and the property of others by following reasonable directions of the faculty and administration by fulfilling their classroom learning obligations. Display positive behavior and performance and always demonstrate a high degree of good sportsmanship.

### Appropriate Language

It is expected that all members of the learning community will use appropriate language and refrain from gestures that are profane, lewd, vulgar, or abusive while on school property or attending school sponsored events.

### Dress Code

All students, staff, and visitors are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. Students and their parents have the primary responsibility for acceptable student dress and appearance. Teachers and all other district personnel shall exemplify and reinforce acceptable student dress and help students develop an understanding of appropriate appearance in a school setting. A student's dress; grooming and appearance, including hair style/color, jewelry, including heavy weighted pocket chains, make-up and nails, shall: Be safe, appropriate, and not disrupt or interfere with the educational process; Recognize that extremely brief garments such as tube tops, net tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps, plunging necklines (front and/or back), and see-through garments are not appropriate; Ensure that underwear is completely covered with outer clothing; Include footwear at all times. Footwear that is a safety hazard will not be allowed; Not include the wearing of hats in the classroom except for a medical or religious purpose; Not include items that are vulgar, obscene, and libelous or denigrate others on account of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or disability; Not promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities. Students who violate the student dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offending item and, if necessary or practical, replacing it with an acceptable item. Any student who refuses to do so and/or repeatedly fails to comply with the dress code shall be subject to discipline up to and including suspension.

## Discrimination and Bullying/Harassment

The district prohibits discrimination or bullying/harassment against any student by another student, employee, or visitor on school property or at a school function that creates a hostile environment. Discrimination includes the use of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, weight or disability as a basis for treating another in a negative manner. Bullying (either physical, verbal, or psychological) is defined as a variety of negative acts carried out repeatedly over time. It involves a real or perceived imbalance of power, with a more powerful child or group attacking those who are less powerful. The complete district policy may be accessed in any administrative office [policy #7000]. Any act of discrimination or bullying/harassment, outside of school-sponsored events, which can reasonably be expected to materially and substantially disrupt the education process may be subject to discipline.

### Prohibited Student Conduct

The code contains a list of defined prohibited conduct, which is not meant to be exhaustive. Any conduct that violates the code, any federal or New York State statute, or any established practice of the district may be the basis for discipline. Students may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from school when they engage in conduct that is disorderly, insubordinate, disruptive, violent, or that endangers the safety, morals and the health and welfare of others. It is also a violation of the code of conduct if a student engages in any form of academic misconduct.

### Conduct on School Buses

The code also governs the conduct of students on school buses. Generally, standards of conduct that apply in the classroom shall also apply to conduct on school buses. All passengers are to obey the instructions of the bus driver. The district may suspend a student's right to ride the bus for any conduct that distracts the driver.

### Discipline

Students and any others who violate the code will be subject to disciplinary action. District officials may use a range of responses to address student misconduct. Before disciplining a student, district officials may issue a warning, conduct a parent conference, or provide counseling or mediation. Disciplinary actions may include a consequence from a sequential discipline schedule, a school or activity suspension, in-School Planning, a Superintendent's Hearing, personal liability, and police notification. Any person found in violation of the code shall be subject to appropriate criminal and/or civil penalties.

## Teacher Removal of Disruptive Students

The code authorizes classroom teachers to remove disruptive students from classrooms when classroom management techniques are ineffective. The code spells out the procedures that must be followed when a teacher removes a student from the classroom, including notice to the student and the opportunity for parents to meet with the principal. No teacher may remove a student with a disability from a class until the teacher has verified with the principal or the chairperson of the Committee on Special Education that the removal will not violate the student's rights under state or federal law.

### Due Process

Students are entitled to due process before the district imposes any discipline. In every case, the district must inform the student of the misconduct and investigate the facts surrounding the misconduct. The district must allow all students to present their version of the facts. Beyond this, the level of due process ranges from parent notification and informal conferences to a formal hearing pursuant to the Education Law #3214. Detailed procedures for dealing with misconduct by special education and disabled students are also in place.

### Visitors

The code also applies to visitors, who are subject to the authority of the building principal while on district premises or at district functions. All visitors must use the main entrance to the building and report upon arrival to the main office at A. J. Smith Elementary School and the Attendance Office at the Middle/High School to sign the visitor's log and receive a visitor's pass. The visitor's pass must be worn at all times while on district premises.

### Violations

The code contains a list of defined prohibited conduct, which is not meant to be exhaustive. Any conduct that violates the code, any federal or New York State statute, or any established practice of the district may be the basis for discipline.

## REVIEW OF CODE

Any person wishing to review the district's complete Code of Conduct may do so on our website, [www.unionspringscsd.org](http://www.unionspringscsd.org). In addition, each school's handbook is available in the school's main office and on their school homepage on the website.



## RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION

Did you know that our district can put support in place if your son/daughter is having academic and/or behavior difficulty in school? Each school is required by New York State to have a Response to Intervention (RtI) policy in place for at least Grades K-4. The goal of RtI is to help students academically BEFORE they fall too far behind.

Even though our district has an RtI process in place, it is our duty to inform all parents of their right to refer their child for an evaluation of special education services or programs if they suspect their child may have a disability. If, at any time, you suspect your child may have a disability, please contact our Principal of Special Programs, Sheila LaDouce, to submit a written request for an evaluation.

## NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Union Springs Central School District, in accordance with Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Title VI of The Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans With Disabilities Act, or the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, political affiliation, sex, age, marital or veteran status, or disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The Board of Education recognizes its responsibility to provide an environment free from harassment and intimidation in the career, technical or educational programs and activities it operates.

We do not permit discrimination by employees, school volunteers, students and non-employees such as contractors and vendors, as well as any third parties participating in, observing or otherwise engaged in activities subject to the supervision of the district. This includes recruitment and employment practices, pay and benefits, counseling services for students, access by students to career, technical or other educational programs, courses and activities. The board also prohibits harassment based upon an individual's opposition to the discrimination or participation in a related investigation or complaint proceeding under the anti-discrimination statutes.

This policy of non-discrimination and anti-harassment will be enforced on school district premises, in school buildings and at all school sponsored events, programs and activities including those that take place off school premises. Inquires or complaint should be forwarded to the Superintendent of Schools.



@UnionSpringsCSD

### What are the benefits of RtI?

- All students are assessed for their skills on a regular basis.
- It is proactive. Rather than taking a “wait and see” approach, students receive help as soon as there is evidence they are struggling.
- Additional supports are an add-on to, not instead of, the instruction students receive in the classroom.
- Students’ progress is monitored regularly to check for improvement or needs for adjustment to instruction.

To learn more about RtI, visit the Special Education page on our website, [www.unionspringscsd.org](http://www.unionspringscsd.org), or contact our Special Education team at (315) 889-4117.

### Grievance Procedure for Non-Discrimination Policy

The compliance officer for Section 504 and other grievances related to student activities is the Program Coordinator Sheila LaDouce telephone 315-889-4117. The compliance officer for all employee related activities is the Assistant Superintendent, Michael Wurster, telephone 315-889-4157. Both can be contacted in writing at the Union Springs School District Office, 239 Cayuga Street, Union Springs, New York 13160.

The compliance officer, upon request, will provide a copy of the district’s grievance procedure to any employee, student or other covered person.

A copy of each of the Acts and Regulations upon which this notice is based will be made available, upon written request to the district compliance officer.

## STUDENT RECORD ACCESS

Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), parents and students over 18 years of age have the right to inspect and review their child’s records or to request the amendment of records believed to be inaccurate or misleading. Student records are private unless the parent or student older than 18 consents to disclosure of personally identifiable information. (FERPA authorizes disclosure of personal information without consent in limited circumstances, such as criminal investigations.) The U.S. Education Department in recently released FERPA guidance, states that school districts may, in their discretion, release education records, including disciplinary records, to another educational institution, including a college, where the student seeks to enroll without obtaining parental consent.

## SAFETY, SECURITY AND MORE



@UnionSpringsCSD

### Safety Plans

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Safe Schools Against Violence in Education Act ("Project SAVE") requires all New York School districts to adopt district-wide and building-level safety plans.

The Union Springs Central School District (the "District") has adopted a district-wide plan and a building-level plan for each of the district schools, as required by Project SAVE.

#### The following is a summary of the district-wide plan:

The district-wide plan contains policies and procedures for responding to threats of violence or acts of violence by students, staff and visitors; prevention and intervention strategies; policies and procedures for contacting law enforcement officials, parent/guardians, and emergency responders in the event of an incident; policies and procedures regarding school building security; protocols for responding to incidents; and strategies for improving communication and the reporting of potential incidents.

#### The following is a summary of the building-level plans:

Each building-level plan contains policies and procedures for the safe evacuation of students, staff, and visitors in the event of an incident; designation of an emergency response team; designation of a post-incident response team; establishment of internal and external emergency communications; definitions of a chain-of-command; protocol for access to federal, state, and local mental health resources; procedures for review of the plan and for conducting drills; and policies and procedures for securing and restricting access to a crime scene.

Copies of the district-wide plan are available upon request at the office of the District Clerk.

### School Security

In our continuing effort to provide as much security as possible for the occupants of our buildings, we remind all visitors to immediately check in and get visitor passes at the main office at A.J. Smith Elementary School and at the attendance office in the main foyer at the Middle/High School.

### Solicitations

Sometimes in the fall, local businesses are approached by salespeople asking for donations to provide free book covers for our students. Please note that we have NOT sanctioned any such programs. If you are approached by anyone in this regard, please contact Valerie Castiglia in the district office at (315) 889-4100.

### Bus Safety

YELLOW FLASHING LIGHTS on a school bus mean the bus is preparing to stop and load or unload passengers. RED LIGHTS mean that loading or unloading is taking place.

NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law (1174) requires all motorists to ALWAYS STOP FOR A SCHOOL BUS WITH RED LIGHTS FLASHING on ALL roads, including multi-lane or divided highways, on school grounds, in driveways or parking lots. EVERYWHERE!

Each year in the United States, children are killed by motorists who pass school buses that have stopped to load or unload passengers. Please be careful! Obey the law and protect our children.

### Emergency Contacts

Please be sure that your child's school office has the names and phone numbers for anyone we should contact in the event of an emergency. Please notify your child's school office anytime there is a change, and be sure to review the change with your child.

### EMERGENCY & SCHOOL CLOSING INFO

Notice of school cancellations and delays will be broadcast on local radio and television stations and posted on the district homepage:  
[www.unionspringscsd.org](http://www.unionspringscsd.org).

### TRANSPORTATION

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call Transportation Supervisor, Andrea Lang, at (315) 889-5036.

**For our Back-to-School Tool Kit for parents and guardians, check out the Quick Links tab on the district's website, [unionspringscsd.org](http://unionspringscsd.org).**

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION



### Information About Possible Inclusion in a NYS Department of Health Survey

As part of a required school health examination, a student is weighed and his/her height is measured. These numbers are used to figure out the student's body mass index or 'BMI'. The BMI helps the doctor or nurse know if the student's weight is in a healthy range or is too high or too low. Recent changes to the New York State Education Law require that BMI and weight status group be included as part of the student's health examination. A sample of school districts will be selected to take part in a survey by the New York State department of Health. If our school is selected to be part of the survey, we will be reporting to New York State Department of Health information about our students' weight status groups. Only summary information is sent. No names and no information about individual students are sent. However, you may choose to have your child's information excluded from this survey report.

The information sent to the New York State Department of Health will help health officials develop programs that make it easier for children to be healthier.

If you do not wish to have your child's weight status group information included as part of the Health Department's survey this year, please print and sign your name below and return to the nurse in your child's school:

**Jane Bacon**, A.J. Smith Elementary School,  
26 Homer Street, Union Springs, NY 13034

**Althea Suslik**, USCS Middle/High School,  
239 Cayuga Street, Union Springs, NY 13160

Please do not include my child's weight status information in the 2023 –2024 NYS Department of Health Survey.

Print Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Print Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Notice of Parental Right To Request Information Regarding Teacher

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, you have the right to request specific information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teachers. The information that may be requested includes the following:

- If the teacher has met NYS qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas he or she teaches.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which the State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
- The teacher's college major; whether the teacher has any advanced degrees or certifications and, if so, the subject area of such degrees or certifications.
- If your child is provided services by any instructional paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

Requests for information about the qualifications of your child's teacher(s) should be directed, in writing, to the Superintendent's Office, Union Springs Central School District, 239 Cayuga Street, Union Springs, NY 13160, and should identify the teachers whose qualifications you seek, as well as the information requested from the bulleted items above.

### Schools Must Provide Addresses Unless Parents Decline

The No Child Left Behind Act requires that school districts send address information for all high school seniors and juniors to the armed services for recruitment purposes. However, parents have the right to request that this information not be sent for their children. To make this request, please contact the High School Counseling Office at (315) 889-4124 by September 30, and your address information will be removed from the list.

**Public Notification  
State Mandated Information Regarding  
Integrated Pest Management  
(Section 409-H of the State Education Law)**

New York State Education Law Section 409-H, effective July 1, 2001, requires all public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools to provide written notification to all persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff regarding the potential use of pesticides periodically throughout the school year.

The Union Springs Central School District is required to maintain a list of persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff who wish to receive 48-hour written notification of certain pesticide applications.

The following pesticide applications are not subject to prior notification requirements:

- a school remains unoccupied for a continuous 72-hours following an application;
- anti-microbial products;
- nonvolatile rodenticides in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- nonvolatile insecticidal baits in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;

- silica gels and other nonvolatile ready-to-use pastes, foams, or gels in areas inaccessible to children;
- boric acid and disodium octaborate tetrahydrate;
- the application of EPA designated biopesticides;
- the applications of EPA designated exempt materials under 40CFR152.25;
- the use of aerosol products with a directed spray in containers of 18 fluid ounces or less when used to protect individuals from an imminent threat from stinging and biting insects including venomous spiders, bees, wasps, and hornets.

In the event of an emergency application necessary to protect against an imminent threat to human health, a good faith effort will be made to supply written notification to those on the 48-hour prior notification list.

If you would like to receive 48-hour prior notification of pesticide applications that are scheduled to occur in your school, please notify the Union Springs Central School District in writing at 239 Cayuga Street, Union Springs, NY 13160.

For more information, please call the district office at (315) 889-4100.



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**Check out our website!**

[www.unionspringscsd.org](http://www.unionspringscsd.org)



**CONTACT US:**

239 Cayuga Street  
 Union Springs, NY 13160  
 Phone: (315) 889-4101  
 Fax: (315) 889-4108



Center for Instruction, Technology & Innovation  
 PUBLIC RELATIONS  
 Email: [cnypr@CITiboces.org](mailto:cnypr@CITiboces.org)  
[www.citiboces.org/publicrelations](http://www.citiboces.org/publicrelations)

# UNION SPRINGS

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

**UNION SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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## Rural Route or Boxholder