



## PROPOSED GOALS FOR 2002-2003

### COMMUNITY RELATIONS

1. Continue the work of the District Community Relations Advisory Committee.
2. Develop policy and procedures for the District and building web sites.
3. Improve communication and collaboration with our Booster groups.
4. Develop a program for post-graduate surveys.

### CURRICULUM

1. Maintain and improve the district report card initiatives.
2. Incorporate and align new content and operating standards into district practices and courses of study.
3. Review and update the district Continuous Improvement Plan including the use of technology.
4. Develop curriculum benchmarks for grades 6-12.
5. Prepare for change in the state proficiency testing program.
6. Form building committees to develop plans for the use of the additional student time for the 2003-2004 school year.
7. Reconvene the Technology Advisory Committee.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Develop a district professional library.

2. Develop a clearinghouse for professional development opportunities.
3. Review and improve staff evaluations and accountability.

### FACILITIES

1. Complete a replacement plan(s) for capital improvements (roof, heating, parking lots, remodeling, replacement buildings, etc.)
2. Continue the Superintendent's Facilities Advisory Committee, site visits and recommendations to the Board of Education.
3. Review of space for existing programs and investigate the use of alternative/modular space.
4. Begin a review of district elementary attendance areas and potential increases in student population.

### FINANCE

1. Monitor the Five-Year Forecast.
2. Provide the planning to develop financing for capital improvements.
3. Revise Treasurer's monthly financial statement.

### OTHER

1. Develop a long-range plan for the district looking five and ten years in the future.
2. Develop a policy and procedure to add new sports to the athletic program.

**Upper Sandusky Exempted Village Schools**  
390 W. Walker St.  
Upper Sandusky, OH 43351

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit #1  
Upper Sandusky  
OH 43351



## Upper Sandusky Exempted Village Schools Newsletter

Superintendent's Office  
390 W. Walker St. • Upper Sandusky, OH 43351  
(419) 294-2306

Web Site: <http://uppersandusky.k12.oh.us>

December 2002

### BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Patricia Frazzini  
John Loverich  
Russell Lee  
Dr. Betty Lok  
Deborah Rellinger

### ADMINISTRATION

**Robert Elsmore**  
Superintendent

**Scott Armstrong**  
Treasurer

**Timothy Myers**  
High School Principal

**James Clifford**  
High School Ass't Principal

**James Wheeler**  
Union School Principal

**Michael Walton**  
Union School Ass't Principal

**Michael Courtad**  
East Elementary Principal

**Laurie Vent**  
Marseilles Elementary & South Elementary Principal

**Carl Deckler**  
Supervisor of Buildings, Grounds & Transportation

**Janine McMillan**  
Curriculum Coordinator

**Jim Frye**  
Technology Coordinator

Old man winter has certainly arrived earlier than usual this year. A reminder about weather delays and cancellations might be helpful. When it is necessary to delay or cancel school, every effort is made to have a decision before students are picked up by the bus. Several members of the district staff do check the roads and we communicate with our neighboring districts to arrive at a decision regarding a delay or cancellation. It is important to note that our district covers 300 square miles and conditions may vary from one end to another.

Once a decision is made to delay or cancel school, the area radio stations are notified as well as Toledo Channel 11 and 13. Please do not call the school or the bus garage for that information. There are not enough phone lines or staff to answer the calls. The staff is busy calling the radio and television stations. The radio stations carrying delay and cancellation information include: WYNT, WDIF, WMRN, WFIN, WKXA, WBVI, WKTN, and WXML.

As a general rule, once we start picking up students in the morning we will complete the routes. The same thing goes in the afternoon, only under very severe circumstances will school be dismissed early. We do not want children going home to empty houses or worse yet not being able to get inside. Finally, if we have a bus that is running late, we work with the radio stations to get that information on the air.

Thank you for your help when weather is a problem and have a safe and happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

*Robert Elsmore*  
Robert Elsmore  
Superintendent



### SPECIAL EVENTS

**2002**  
**December**  
23 *Christmas Break*  
*Merry Christmas!*

**2003**  
**January**  
6 *School Resumes*  
11 East School Recycling  
13 Music Parents Meeting

17 End of Second 9 weeks  
20 *No School - Martin Luther King Day*  
25 Marseilles Recycling

**February**  
8 East School Recycling  
10 Music Parents Meeting  
13 Marseilles K-1-2 Music Program  
17 *No School - President's Day*  
21 South School BBQ, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

**Mission Statement:** The mission of the Upper Sandusky Schools is to provide a safe child centered and developmentally appropriate environment where learning is a positive, exciting, and dynamic lifelong process.



### MRS. HINESMAN'S THIRD GRADE AT UNION ELEMENTARY

The third graders had a great first nine weeks of school. Our year started out with performing skits to demonstrate respect at the first A.C.E.S. (Awesome Children Exceptional Students) assembly. We studied communities, animal life cycles and characteristics, and human body systems. In math, we have learned many skills such as estimating, writing fractions, memorizing math facts, measuring in inches and centimeters, telling the time and temperature, and computing mentally. In language arts, we are working on proficiency type questions after each story and using Jan Cosner's formula writing to practice our writing skills. I've been seeing some wonderful paragraphs this year! Many of the third graders have been busy completing the Fast ForWord program. Thanks to parent and middle school volunteers, the students have had the opportunity to work in small groups and to be tutored by an adult each week. Also, I have been able to hold weekly reading conferences with my students.

### LARGE PLANTS, WHAT THEY NEED AND HOW THEY GROW

Autumn was here. How did we know? The color of the leaves on the trees! East third graders studied a unit on plants. What better way to study germination, parts of a plant, and photosynthesis than to study the largest plants in this area, our trees!

Our unit began with an observation safari around the neighborhood. Students used many of their senses in gathering data about the growth, needs and differences in various trees. Most of our specimens were collected from the ground. Our collecting was expanded when Judi Lambrite offered to let us collect a variety of leaves off of the trees in her front and back yards. We appreciate your help with our study!

After bringing the leaves back to our classroom, students then completed hands-on activities trying to prove through experimentation the need for plants to have sunlight, water and air. They also discovered what the effects on plants were if any one of these was omitted.

Once we gain an understanding of the process of photosynthesis, students will know why the leaves of broadleaf trees change color and fall from the trees as well as how trees make their food.

Students continue to further their knowledge by creating their own leaf, seed, and tree projects. Oral presentations will be given in class so students may share their knowledge. Another focus of the informal speech is for each student to explain in a logical sequence the process they went through in creating their projects.

All of the students would like to thank you, Upper Sandusky, for this beautiful natural resource, which provides us with such a wonderful learning environment.



### MARSEILLES STUDENTS HAVE FUN LEARNING ABOUT OHIO

In the year 2003 we will be celebrating Ohio's Bicentennial. To help children learn more about Ohio in an exciting and enjoyable way, the Marseilles Boosters provided students with a trip to the Ohio Corn Maze. Marseilles students from the first grade through the fifth grade enjoyed a hayride around the corn field which was shaped like the State of Ohio. The guide told them about the states surrounding Ohio and other features of the state. The students also enjoyed a "Turnpike Hike" during which their knowledge of Ohio was tested. Then students were led into the corn maze to hunt for clues and special places in the field. Following their visit to the corn field, students enjoyed a picnic at the Waterworks Park in Carey. It was a fun and informative day!



### VISITING JAPANESE STUDENT TEACHER

We would like to give a warm welcome to Natsuka Takahashi. Natsuka is from Hyogo, Japan, where she lives with her parents and two brothers. She is a senior student at Osaka

International University in Japan. Natsuka arrived on Saturday, October 19th for a three month stay in the United States. She has lived in England for six months, studying English. During her stay here, she will be teaching at South, Marseilles, and St. Peter's Schools. Origami, calligraphy, Japanese language, games, and Japanese culture are some of the exciting plans that Natsuka has for these students. She says that Americans are a very friendly people. Her goal is to learn as much English as possible while she is visiting, do some sight-seeing, and try American foods. German chocolate brownies are already a favorite food for Natsuka.



### FUN IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Thanks to the wonderful weather we had this fall, the elementary physical education classes at South and East were able to go outside and enjoy the sunshine.

The younger elementary classes worked on basic skills like throwing, kicking and skipping. These skills are great for developing coordination. We also worked hard at jumping rope. Some of the children are very good. This is great exercise!

The upper elementary students have recently started a unit on "Lifetime Activities." We have discussed many activities that we can continue well into adulthood. We have done activities such as Bocce, paddle games, frisbee, and walking. We have talked about activities, like swimming, bicycling, and canoeing. Hopefully, these are some fitness ideas the family can do together. Up next for the lower elementary will be beanbag skills and games. The upper elementary will soon be starting volleyball skills. Play with your children! Keep everybody moving!

### UPPER SANDUSKY ACADEMIC BOOSTERS

The Upper Sandusky Academic Boosters Organization was formed in 1998 to act as a support group to the Upper Sandusky School District, at all grade levels, by recognizing and encouraging academic achievement and effort. Our membership consists of any person interested in enhancing the academic program of the Upper Sandusky Schools.

Each year our organization has provided funding for various activities and events related to academics. In 2001-2002, we provided in excess of \$4,000. Following is an example of how our funds have been used:

- Each year we buy the chenille Academic Letters that are awarded to high school students at the Honors Program for maintaining a 3.5 or better GPA for 3 nine weeks.
- We provided funds to purchase awards for the middle school and elementary Honors programs.
- We funded the AAA program at the high school which promoted Academics, Attendance and Achievements. Awards were given for each of the first 3 quarters.
- We provided breakfast for students at the elementary and middle school level during proficiency test week.

- We paid the entry fee for the Quiz Bowl team to enter tournaments.
- We provided a day at a Mud Hens baseball game as an award for students doing well on the proficiency test, and for middle school "Students of the Month."
- We offered mini-grants to teachers to buy something extra for their classroom. Any teacher in the District could apply for any amount up to \$100. All teachers who applied in the spring of 2002 were granted their request. (Totaling \$2,300)

Our funds are acquired almost entirely through our yearly membership drive. We also sponsor the half-court shot at all home girls' and boys' basketball games. In the past we received funds from "Kiss the Pig Contest" at Union School. We also have "Upper Sandusky - Home of the Rams" license plate frames available for \$3.00 each.

The Academic Boosters organization meets on the fourth Monday of each month, from September through April, excluding December. We meet at 6:30 p.m. in the high school library, and the meetings are usually very brief. Anyone is welcome to attend. Suggestions and new ideas are always needed.

Thank you for your support!

### Become a Member of the Upper Sandusky Academic Boosters 2002-2003

Annual Membership Categories	
\$10.00	Orange
\$25.00	Black
\$50.00	Silver
\$100.00	Gold
\$500.00 or more	Platinum

You can help support this organization by joining the Upper Sandusky Academic Boosters.

Please complete and return the form below along with your donation.

Yes, I would like to become a member of the 2002-03 Upper Sandusky Academic Boosters Organization.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: Upper Sandusky Academic Boosters

Mail to: US Academic Boosters

Upper Sandusky High School

800 N. Sandusky Ave. • Upper Sandusky, Ohio 43351

Yes, I would like to serve as a committee member.