

# Zumbrota-Mazeppa Public Schools



Zumbrota's Covered Bridge

## A Bridge to the Future



Mazeppa's Walking Bridge

**Independent School District No. 2805**  
343 Third Avenue NE, Mazeppa, MN 55956  
507-732-1400 [www.zmschools.us](http://www.zmschools.us)

**ZM High School/Middle School**  
705 Mill Street, Zumbrota, MN 55992  
507-732-7395

**ZM Elementary School**  
343 Third Avenue NE, Mazeppa, MN 55956  
507-732-1420

**ZM Primary School**  
799 Mill Street, Zumbrota, MN 55992  
507-732-7848

Dear ZM Schools Families,

ZM Schools has revised and adopted their District Wellness Policy for the 2019-20 school year. As was the policy last year, students and family members will not be allowed to bring food birthday treats into the schools.

There are several reasons for this decision. For some of our families, it is a financial hardship to purchase treats for a class. It can be a difficult situation for a child of poverty to deal with other students bringing treats while they are unable to. We also have a growing number of students with life threatening allergies who are unsafe in areas with foods to which they are allergic. We have established safe dining practices for these students in our lunchrooms and need to ensure their safety in the classroom as well.

Along this line, we also ask that you do not bring balloons into the school due to latex allergies.

Lastly, most of the food items brought in for birthdays are unhealthy. If we multiply the number of treats by a class full of kids, we have a high number of days in which unhealthy items are consumed in our classrooms.

We want to assure parents that we will still make each student's birthday a special day at school. Our teachers have plans to recognize each student on their birthday. This policy change has been implemented in countless other districts throughout Minnesota and the change has gone well. In no way are we trying to take the fun out of school or birthdays, we are simply trying to keep our kids healthy, happy, and safe.

The complete revised Wellness Policy is available in the school website, [www.zmschools.us](http://www.zmschools.us).

Thank you for your cooperation in these areas.

ZM School Board and Administration

Jean Roth, Chair  
Angie Bredehoft, Clerk

Michael Harvey, Superintendent  
Jason Lohmann, Vice-Chair  
Amanda Peters, Director

James Wendt, Treasurer  
Stephanie Miller, Director