



Urban Update

Urban Update is published quarterly for the parents and students of Urban Middle School.

OCTOBER 2017

Urban Middle School

1226 North Avenue

Sheboygan, WI 53083

Dr. Ted DiStefano, Principal
459-3681

Mr. Michael Hendricks, Asst Principal
459-3682

Happy Fall !!!

Another great year at Urban Middle School kicked off with an all building 'Move in Night.' We were very pleased with the turnout and really enjoyed seeing everyone back and excited for a new school year. As part of our Fall events, the building kicked off our annual fundraiser during the last week in September. Remember that all money raised is used for student activities, student initiatives, and special projects. Five years ago, the students began raising money to replace the sign in the front of the building and to add a Digital Message Board. We were fortunate to partner with the Community Recreation Department to complete the sign this fall. It is a great way to communicate with the public and share the amazing things happening at Urban. We thank you for supporting our all school fundraiser!!

We have had questions about the use of Guided Study Halls at the middle school. If your child has selected this class, they are expected to bring work to class each day. This class is designed to allow students to receive help from teachers on a regular basis during the school day. If your child does not have work, they must have a book to read during class time or they will use the MyPath Online Learning Pathway software to help build academic skills across the core subject areas.

Urban Middle School is pleased to announce that breakfast is free to all students each day. This is part of a Federal program, so if we do not use it we will lose it. Please encourage your children to eat each morning at Urban. Breakfast opens at 7:00 A.M. for all students with staff supervision.

Just a reminder that students will be outside of the building until the the 7:30 A.M. bell unless the temperature or wind chill is below zero or it is raining/snowing.

Have a wonderful fall!

Sincerely,

Dr. Ted DiStefano
Principal

Notes from the Assistant Principal

Welcome to the beginning of another school year. I am excited to start the new year in a new position. My name is Mike Hendricks and I am the Assistant Principal at Urban Middle School. I come to SASD with 13 years of teaching high school mathematics and as well as coaching and supervising athletics in the Kewaskum and Cedarburg School Districts. My family and I are new to the area and are excited to begin the next chapter in our lives. Next year our son, Andrew, will begin 4K.

I am extremely excited to be a part of a school community of enthusiastic students, dedicated parents, and an invested, dynamic teaching staff! The first couple weeks have been a great experience and I am looking forward to helping continue to create an excellent learning atmosphere for our students, teachers, and parents.

I wanted to quickly remind everyone of the attendance procedures for students arriving late to school. If you have any questions, feel free to call me.

- **7:40 – 7:50 AM**
 - Considered tardy for school
 - First time they will given a warning by their 1st hour teacher
 - 2nd Tardy = 10 minutes after school with the teacher
 - 3rd Tardy = 20 minutes after school with the teacher
 - 4th Tardy = 30 minutes after school with the teacher
 - 5th Tardy or more = the teacher will write a major office discipline referral for each tardy resulting in after school detention
- **7:50 – 8:00 AM**
 - Lunch Detention for that day
 - Time with teacher related to above points
- **Later than 8:00 AM**
 - After school detention
 - 2 lunch detentions that will begin on the day it is issued
- **Later than 8:15 AM**
 - It will be considered an unexcused absence for that period and each additional period
 - The student will also receive the same consequences for an 8:00 AM arrival

We are continuing to offer rewards for appropriate behaviors during the school day. Students will receive URBAN BUCKS from staff members and can collect them for various rewards. Some of these rewards are individual, but some are advisory group rewards. Encourage your child to obtain these great rewards.

We are continuing to use new tools from Google to increase students' learning environments both in and out of the classroom. Some of our teachers are working on changing to Google websites and Haiku that may include information about homework and/or classroom events. This is a great way to stay in touch with your son or daughter's teacher and to be informed of homework and other assessments the teachers are using with the students.

This year we will be hosting some great activities for students and we are always looking for parents and community members to help participate in the exciting environment we have at Urban Middle School. If you are interested in helping out during the year, please stop in our office and ask one of our

secretaries for a volunteer form to help with our school activities. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me.

Have a great year and GO KNIGHTS!

Mike Hendricks
Assistant Principal
mhendricks@sasd.net
(920) 459-3682

Middle School Athletics Off and Running!

Our Middle School Athletics are making a comeback after a 35 year absence from SASD. Cross Country and Volleyball teams at Farnsworth, Horace Mann, and Urban have been competing and practicing since the first day of school. Our Cross Country team has 55 athletes from across the district and our 7th and 8th Grade girls Volleyball teams have between 20-25 students on each roster. This is a fantastic start to our Middle School Athletics this school year!

Our next season is boys basketball. The sign up sheet is currently available on each school's Interscholastic Athletics webpage. The first day of practice is October 24th. If your student is interested in playing boys basketball they need to complete a physical, sign an athletic code and concussion form, and pay their \$10 fee. Please bring all of these items to your school's office. To help our office staff please have all forms completed at the same time.

If you have any questions feel free to contact:

Nate Hinze
Athletic Director (Farnsworth, Horace Mann, and Urban)
459-6492
nhinze@sasd.net.

Advisory Time

Dear Urban Middle School Families:

This is a busy time for your middle school child who is learning many new skills in school. They may be reading chapter books, writing stories, using graphs, or starting to play a musical instrument. These are all important skills for children to learn.

Another area of learning that requires specific skills is social-emotional learning. These important skills are often overlooked. This is the realm where children learn how to understand and manage their feelings, how to make friends and be a friend, and how to solve social problems. Learning takes place throughout the day—in the classroom, on the playground, and at home. Children learn by watching and listening to how teachers, family members, and friends interact with one another.

We will be using a curriculum called the Second Step program during advisory time to help students think about, develop, and practice positive social skills. Research tells us that children who learn and use these skills are more likely to get along with others and do better in school. The Second Step program is divided into four units: Located on the back of this letter.

All students are given the chance to develop these skills through classroom weekly lessons, classroom discussions and extension activities. If you would like more information about Second Step for the Middle School please visit <http://www.secondstep.org/middle-school-curriculum>.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ted DiStefano
Principal

WIN

At Urban Middle School we have designated time during the day for WIN (What I Need) services. Your team of teachers and other staff review your child's grades, learning growth in class, STAR growth, FORWARD exam results and behavior (be respectful, be responsible, be safe and be productive) in order to determine what they need. The focus is on meeting students at their current level and moving them forward academically. Each WIN round lasts about 9 weeks with chances for WIN changes 4 times per school year.

We have four overall groups: Enrichment, Targeted, Selected and Intensive. All of these groups work on reading, writing and/or math skills in all content areas. Within the enrichment and targeted groups, students will rotate three times. Each rotation will last about ten weeks. In selected and intensive settings, some students may work for longer periods of time and not rotate, but the focus in all groups continues to be academic growth for all students.

Goal Setting "Green" Folders: What will teachers will be discussing in goal setting with students?
How do I know I'm learning? How do I know I'm progressing?

Items to include -

STAR (Assessment in both Math and Reading)

AIMS Web (progress monitoring) struggling learners as we want to make sure that they are making academic gains.

Specific assessments (tests) that help teachers pin point where students are struggling in a particular subject area.

Grades - These are monitored on a consistent basis and reviewed across the entire team at the end of each intervention round.



Reminder to Parents:

When calling your child(ren) in absent, tardy, or for an appointment, please call the main Urban line, 920-459-3680, and press #5. This line is available 24 hours a day. You can leave a message with your child's name and grade/team. For absences greater than 2 days, a homework request can be submitted to the attendance office, or students may go to their teachers Haiku pages to find out their assignments.

School Closing Information:

If early morning weather conditions warrant the possibility of closing schools for the day or delaying the start of school, please tune into any of the following radio or television stations for information on delays or closings.

WBAY-TV 2 WTMJ-TV 4 WFRV-TV 5 WITI-TV 6

WXER-104.5 WJUB-1420 AM WHBL-1003 AM WJTT-98.1

Visit our district website at www.sheboygan.k12.wi.us

Got Your Shots?

The Wisconsin Immunization Law requires students entering grades 6 and 12 to show proof of having received two doses of the chickenpox vaccine or report a history of having the disease. Students entering grades 6, 9 and 12 need to show proof of having received a dose of Tdap or tetanus containing booster within the past 5 years. Please review your child's record and see if you child meets School Law Requirements.

School Facilities Available:

Sheboygan Area School District school facilities are available for private group use. Rental rates vary depending upon facility and personnel needed. Cafeterias, classrooms, gymnasiums and pools may be rented. Call the Sheboygan Recreation Department at 459-3775 for details.

Box Tops for Education

Once again, Urban Middle School will be participating in the Box Tops for Education Program. Last year, our school raised over \$400.00 for students in need. Money earned goes to help students who are unable to purchase necessary school supplies, pay for field trips, pay for allied arts projects, etc. Please take the time to clip the Box Tops off of all General Mills products for our school. Box tops can be given to Mrs. Preder in room 124 or put in the BoxTops Box in the Main Office.

In addition, Urban will also be participating in "Labels for Education". This will be another avenue for our school to gain free educational merchandise. Labels for Education can be found on the following products: Campbell's, Pepperidge Farm, BIC Stationary products, GLAD Food Storage, Emerald Nuts, Dannon kids yogurts, Pop Secret popcorn, Post Cereals, and Time Inc. magazines sold at retail.

Thank you in advance for helping our school earn free money by participating in these programs.

Kim Preder
Box Top and Labels for Education Coordinator

SASD CELLULAR TELEPHONE POLICY

Parent permission is no longer required for a student to possess a cell phone at school. However, the only time they are allowed to be used are with teacher or staff permission. ***For that reason, the telephone needs to be turned off or silenced and then put away from the time students enter the building to the end of the day, including all breaks.*** After school, at dismissal time, cell phones can be used to arrange for rides home. If students stay after school for a planned activity, phones again must be turned off and put away. Phones may not be loaned to others unless teacher permission is secured. If a student is observed using a cell phone in class, during lunch, or in the hallway during the school day, the phone will be taken away, a bottomline referral will be written, and a parent will need to pick up the phone in the school office. Additionally, if the phone becomes disruptive to the school environment or the rules above are violated, permission may be terminated.

LUNCH ACCOUNTS

Lunch applications will be available during registration at all schools starting August 1, online at www.sheboygan.k12.wi.us and at School Nutrition at South High in Room 138. New online applications will also be available...more information to follow.

Reminder that the schools have drop boxes for payments. Call your school for the exact locations. Payments dropped at the schools will be deposited within 2-3 business days OR online payments can be made at www.MySchoolBucks using your child's i.d. #. This is an online payment service that provides parents the ability to securely pay for meals, monitor student cafeteria purchases and receive email notifications for low account balances for a fee. If you need assistance with the enrollment process, please call MySchoolBucks Customer Support at [1-855-832-5226](tel:1-855-832-5226). **Please be aware that there is a \$2 fee for every online deposit made into your child's account, regardless of deposit amount.**

Team 6-1

Mrs. Johnson-Language Arts, Mr. Mueller-Social Studies, Mr. Simmer-Science, Mr. Waara-Math

Hello! My name is Mr. Waara and I'm the new sixth grade math teacher for team 6-1. I taught at Cooper Elementary School for the previous 18 years, mainly in second and third grade. I'm excited to be teaching sixth graders at Urban this school year.

During the first month of school we have reviewed using multi-digit numbers with adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing. Also, we have worked on estimation, prime and composite numbers, order of operations, and exponents.

We are now moving on to finding the LCM and GCF of a pair of numbers. The student's first chapter test will be coming up in the next couple of weeks.

Is your child remembering to re-charge their Chromebook every night?

In Mrs. Johnson's ELA class we work on reading comprehension and writing skills, grammar and word study.

First of all, students should be reading at least 20 minutes a night, five nights a week, or at least 100 minutes during the week. This is their primary homework. They need to "log" at least 3 books on a Google form that is linked to my Haiku ELA Home page, by the end of the quarter.

We also do spelling, or word study, in my class. We already took one spelling test and are on our second unit on prefixes. The words can be found on my weekly ELA agenda page. If you are wondering what Haiku is, please ask your child to show you his or her Haiku page! This is a great tool that we use for class every day.

I hope your child is enjoying Urban Middle School so far. All of us on Team 6-1 are impressed with our new students and looking forward to a great year!

Does your child have earbuds?

In Mr. Simmer's science class this year we have started out working on the metric system and learning how to measure in grams, liters, and meters. We have also worked on converting these measurements to the different sizes. I am also excited to be starting a new science curriculum this year. This new curriculum is aligned with national science standard to help our students prepare for taking the science part of the Forward exam.

Does your child know your phone number?

Students in Mr. Mueller's social studies classes will be studying the areas to the north and south of our country after reviewing some of the map and geography skills developed in previous years. We will revisit how our form of government works so that we can compare it to Canada's and then some of the countries of Latin America. Throughout, we will be focusing in on the history, geography, and cultures found throughout the Western Hemisphere.

Does your child know their address?

Learning Today Leading Tomorrow

Team 6-2

MS. FRAZIER: SCIENCE
MRS. LOUKO/MRS. PFISTER ELA
MS. LALLY: SOCIAL STUDIES
MRS. VANDEWATER/MRS. ALBRIGHT: MATH

Please check out your child's **HAIKU** page for **important information**.



PowerSchool

Haiku is now part of the PowerSchool family

Parent Teacher Conferences

November 16 3:30 pm-8:30 pm
November 17 7:30 am-12:30 pm
(No School on the 17th)



**Maywood Environmental Center
Outdoor Adventure Day
Friday, October 13th**



Welcome Back! From Team 7-1

Mrs. Bohman: Math, Ms. Dust: Language Arts, Mrs. Matczak: Science & Mr. Zablocki: Social Studies

Language Arts

This year has gotten off to a great start! We began the year getting to know each other and building our classroom community. In addition, we began to get into our daily routine as students got used to coming into the classroom and getting started on their daily warm up. These warm ups consist of journal writing, grammar, and silent reading.

We are currently working on building our skills with providing textual evidence to support inferences, theme, and point of view. This is a skill we will practice all year! We'll get started by working on a few pieces by Gary Soto.

As we continue throughout the quarter, we'll move into a novel unit. As we read [Anything But Typical](#), students will continue to practice these skills, learn more about autism, and practice working with the element of literature.

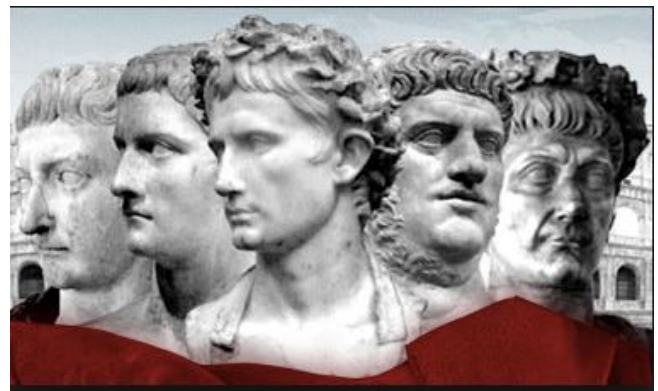
*Keep an eye out for your Haiku Parent Code coming home! This is where you can check daily agendas, find electronic resources, and homework!

Social Studies

This year in Social Studies class we started off with our G.R.A.P.E.S. project. The students created slide show presentations using the six big ideas about Social Studies.

Next, we are entering into the Roman Empire. We will focus on why the mighty Roman Empire collapsed and what ideas or inventions from the Roman Empire are still prevalent in today's world.

Then will be leaving the Roman Empire and discovering the life of the Middle or Dark Ages on the continent of Europe.



Science

We began the year learning how to Think and Read Like a Scientist. We are now putting those skills to work as we tackle the New Science Dimensions curriculum. This curriculum is new for all grades K-8th.

Our first Module of learning centers around Geological Processes and the History of our planet Earth.

Students will have the opportunity to use a workbook, an online ebook and participate in both hands-on labs and virtual labs.

Your PowerSchool(aka Haiku) invite will be sent home with your child soon!

Math

Math 7 students have been working with Integers. We have learned some basic rules associated with various operations. We also have been focusing on reading and pulling out information from story problems.

Advanced 2 students have started the year in the wonderful world of equations. This chapter is the foundation for what we do throughout the year. We have learned how to isolate and solve for missing variables, and are also working on creating equations from story problems.

Remember to ask your child for your Haiku Parent Code! They were given this last week. Take a look at the page if you get a chance. :)

Team 7-2 News

Mrs. Brown-Social Studies

Mrs. Buechel - Science

Mr. Horzen-Math

Mrs. Scharenbroch-Language Arts



Mrs. Scharenbroch's language arts class has gotten off to a great start! We have begun the year learning our routines for using Haiku and doing a warm-up related to grammar or journaling. Next we will be working on making inferences, theme, and point of view. We will also be reading the novel *Anything but Typical*, and continue focusing on the elements of literature. Finally, we will soon be doing Stems vocabulary quizzes, so watch for your students to come home with a list of words to study and interact with every other week!



This year in **Science**, we have a new textbook series, which aligns with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). So what does this mean for your child? Critical thinking will be used and students will need to apply this in solving problems. It will be different at first for the students to adjust, but I am confident they will prevail! As a result, they will become more independent learners.



For **Social Studies**, we started the year with GRAPES - the six big ideas of social studies. The slideshow projects the students made helped them apply these concepts to their life, and helped us get to know each other a little better. We will be working on the Roman Empire for the first few chapters. Students will do some geography, reading and classroom activities to help them learn about Rome in Medieval Times!



Mr. Horzen's advanced math class is off to a fast start this year. We are currently working on solving different types of equations. After finishing this chapter we will move on to talking about inequalities. Students should make sure they have a calculator with them each day. Exciting things are coming in the future!

In **Math 7** we have started the year talking about integers and different types of problems involving integers. The next unit will cover rational numbers, which include fractions and decimals. Students should have a calculator if possible each day for our equations unit that starts around November. It will come in handy each day. Our beginning of the year has been fast and furious, and the students are doing great. Onward and upward!

Team 8-1



Mrs. Detienne: Science

Mr. Fleuchaus: Math

Ms. Kirsch: Social Studies

Mrs. Lichucki: Language Arts

We are excited about the new year and are looking forward to great 8th grade class. Our curriculum will prepare our students for high school and beyond!

Science: We completed a lot of experiments as we wrapped up our metric measurement unit. Students will be using their scientific instruments and lab skills throughout the year. The rest of first quarter will be centered around biology and the study of cells and heredity.

Language Arts: Students have been introduced to the year long procedures for writing with the Writer's Notebook, independent reading with the Reading Log, and vocabulary enhancement with the Latin Cognates packet. A major focus for the first quarter will be reinforcing reading strategies and analyzing literary elements with fiction and nonfiction text.

Math: Students will be practicing order of operations and solving equations.

Algebra: Students will be solving equations, graphing and writing linear equations, and solving linear inequalities.

Social Studies: Students have already started to learn about National History Day and the process we will be using throughout the year

Team 8-2

Ms. Eklund: Language Arts -- Mrs. Radke: Math
Mrs. Wenninger: Social Studies -- Ms. Zimmermann: Science

You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose.

--Dr. Seuss

Social Studies

We are off to a great year! History is ALIVE! We started the school year off by learning what it is like to be a historian. By investigating our past it can tell us how we are all a part of it. We learned what the differences between primary sources and secondary sources are in order to help us determine what sources we use are truly trustworthy. The next unit of study was on Christopher Columbus, is he a hero or a zero? Students had to read a variety of articles from many different perspectives and come up with their written argument! The hard part was trying to convince their peers why they think Christopher Columbus is a hero or a zero! The next unit of study will be on the American Revolution and students will learn just how we are free today!



-Mrs. Wenninger

Math/Algebra

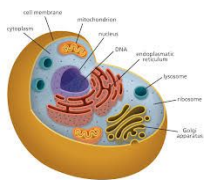
Math 8: We are off with a strong start in our Equations unit. Our next unit will be focused on Transformations. Please be sure your child has graph paper, a calculator, and a ruler for class! We will be using these everyday and we have several students that don't have any. Graph paper will be necessary for the upcoming chapter on graphing equations.

Algebra: In Algebra, we started the year with a review on Solving Linear Equations. Our next unit will be on graphing and writing linear equations. Please be sure your child has graph paper, a calculator, a ruler, and colored pencils!

~Mrs. Radke

Science

In science, we are delving into the world of biology. What makes us similar? What sets us apart from one another? Students will be learning about cells and their organelles, organ systems, reproduction, heredity, and growth. The unit will culminate with an optional dissection of a fetal pig.



-Ms. Zimmermann

Language Arts

In ELA (English Language Arts), we're starting the year with fiction! We read Ray Bradbury's "The Veldt" as a whole group, and students will be making their own story selections in reading workshops. Additionally, students are studying Greek and Latin roots with quizzes every third Friday. The quarter will end with the writing of a narrative "chapter" for the book *Seedfolks* to be written from a fictional character's point of view.



- Ms. Eklund

Shelf Life

THE IN AND OUTS OF URBAN MIDDLE SCHOOL'S LIBRARY

Chromebook Care

Here are some tips for keeping your Chromebook in tip-top shape!

- Fully charge your Chromebook each night
- Keep your Chromebook and charger safe from younger siblings and pets
- Do not eat or drink while using your Chromebook
- Turn your Chromebook completely off once a day
- Make sure Chrome is up-to-date (see Mrs. Kiel or Mr. C. if you are unsure how to update Chrome)
- Do not download, click, or open anything you are unsure of

Library Lessons

Urban students visit the library every two weeks with their language arts class. During these visits, students may have a library lesson and will check out library materials.

During the month of September, students participated in a variety of library orientation lessons. Each grade has a different activity to make rediscovering the library fun and exciting. Take a moment to talk to your student about which activity they participated in.



Pokémon Go



Clue



Digital Breakout

Last Page

Start saving, Urban's library will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair during Parent-Teacher Conferences in November. A book fair is a great place to grab the hottest books for your reader. Watch more details on Urban's website at the end of October.

All proceeds support Urban's library & Books on Bikes.



PLEASE SUPPORT
Urban Middle School's Annual Fall
Fundraiser

****Please make sure to put your phone number on the order form so we can send you a reminder call the night of delivery! (If you put a cell number we will also send you a reminder text.)***

This is YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO HELP!

The Student Council showed a PowerPoint presentation the day of kick off with ALL of the ways this sale benefits each and every one of us here at UMS so we can continue to do things **THE URBAN WAY!**

WE NEED A TEAM EFFORT FROM
STUDENTS AND PARENTS.
CAN WE COUNT ON YOU?

ONLINE SHOPPING:

Shopping Made Fun And Easy!

Visit www.cherrydale.com and click on “Go Shopping”.

Shop for featured items in your Cherrydale Farms fundraising catalog and exclusive online products!

Send E-mails to Friends and Family

Make sure you register at www.cherrydale.com/FRURBSW

and SHARE with your friends and family via email, text and social media! If you UPLOAD A VIDEO to the website, you are automatically enrolled to possibly be selected by ERIN BOWMAN to be in her official video!

www.cherrydale.com/FRURBSW

IMPORTANT DATES:

Sales Begins: TODAY

Sale Ends: 10/18/17

Delivery: 11/15/17

MONEY COLLECTION:

While it is up to you on how you collect money, please **DO NOT** turn it in until delivery on 11/15/17. If possible, please **have checks written out to you** and write **ONE CHECK** payable to **Urban Middle School**.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- All order forms should be returned no later than October 18th.
- Please do NOT turn in money with the orders. Wait until delivery day.
- Please retain the PINK copy of your order form and turn the White and Yellow copies to your advisory teacher.
- Please make sure your child's name is printed clearly at the top of each of the order forms you turn in.
- Please make sure to put your phone number on the order form so we can send you a reminder call the night of delivery! (**If you put a cell number we will also send you a reminder text.**)

Beginning of the Year Events

OCTOBER 5TH Team 6-1 Maywood Fieldtrip

OCTOBER 13THTeam 6-2 Maywood Fieldtrip

OCTOBER 13TH.....Middle School Mixer @ Horace Mann

OCTOBER 17THPicture Retake Day

OCTOBER 27TH.....NO SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 3RD/6TH.....End of 1st/Beginning of 2nd Quarter

NOVEMBER 16THParent Teacher Conferences 3:30-8:30PM

NOVEMBER 17TH.....NO SCHOOL/Conferences 7:30-11:30AM

NOVEMBER 22ND.....Early Release @ 1PM

NOVEMBER 23RD & 24TH.....NO SCHOOL

DECEMBER 22ND.....Early Release @ 1PM

DECEMBER 23RD-JANUARY 1ST.....NO SCHOOL

JANUARY 2ND.....School Resumes

**Stay tuned for our next issue of the Urban Update coming
in January!**