

September 2025

The Grade Gazette

Mt. Zion Grade School



Special points of interest:

- * Second Step
- * Fall Fundraiser
- * Book Fair
- * Community Club News

WHY THIS NEWSLETTER IS IMPORTANT!

As a rule, there is little reason for us to send out a plethora of flyers about school wide events. To keep those items to a minimum, I do my best to include all events for this month and the next (see the last page) in this newsletter. While we have the District Calendar, it is not

necessarily used for all things happening at Mt. Zion Grade School. This newsletter is the major source of information for our-school-wide events. I intend for this newsletter to be concise and to keep the information in one spot. I have already typed too

much. A monthly Fridge Calendar is also attached for quick reference. Plus, you will find important links within. If you happen to lose your email, please check our webpage for the "[Principal's Newsletter](#)"

Teaching Good Citizenship with Second Step & Common Sense Media

We are set to begin another year of Second Step for social emotional learning. This year we will begin using the [Second Step Digital](#) program. This program helps children learn to persevere through challenges, manage emotions, build

relationships, and solve conflicts. Our elementary students will also learn about staying safe on the internet and learn about the proper use of AI. A district team has chosen to use the [Digital Leadership and Citizenship](#) curriculum

from [common sense media](#). The team has created a pacing guide for each grade level and this program will begin soon. More information about the digital citizenship program will come from your child's teacher.

FALL FUNDRAISER "Rocking at the Grade"

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Mt. Zion Grade School will hold it's "Rocking at the Grade" fundraiser here in our gym again this year. It is a "dance-a-thon" format with nearly 100% of the funds going directly to the Student Activity Account; a minor percentage of our income will go to student prizes. All profits will go **directly** back to the students in the form of assemblies, instructional tools, playground equipment or surfac-

ing, field trip transportation, etc. To reward students, a tiered prize program will be used. Each year we profit at least 3 times as much compared to a traditional sales fundraiser. *This fundraiser does so well that it is the only fundraiser we have scheduled for this year.* We are setting our fundraising goal for the "Rockin' The Grade" event at \$15,000. We will hold this event on Friday, October

24 from 10:00-11:00 AM, with each classroom performing their own chosen dance. More information about this event will be sent out later towards the end of this month. Yes, guests are invited. More on that later.



YOUR COMMUNITY CLUB

Go to:

[Community Club
Webpage](#)

To find out more

Our Mt. Zion Elementary Community Club parent organization is the main avenue for parents to volunteer and assist our school. The Community Club arranges volunteers for parties and special events, such as You Rock! Club and Grandparents Day. The Community

Club is also our main partner in fundraising efforts. All parents of Mt. Zion Grade School students are members of the Community Club and each is encouraged to participate in our events and Community Club meetings. They will be in touch.

Community Club Board

President: Kaitie Kunzeman

Treasurer: Brittani Garner

Secretary: Stephanie Croft

Volunteer Coordinator: Janie Ruffner

Fundraising Chair: Emily O'Connell

Event Co-Chairs: Candace Hott & Angie

Rushing

BOOK FAIR SEPTEMBER 15-19

Online Book Fair

[http://
efairs.literati.com](http://efairs.literati.com)

to learn more.

The Library and the Community Club are pleased to announce that we will soon be holding the Literati Book Fair from September 15-19 in the school library. During the school day, the book fair will be open, Mon-Thurs 8:30-2:30. On Friday the book fair will be open

8:30-Noon. **Our Family Night will be, Thursday, September 18, from 3:30-7:00 PM.** Purchasing books for your child is a great way to instill enthusiasm for reading. In addition, every purchase helps the library to increase it's collection of books and other materials. If your

child is unable to attend the night event, they will still be allowed to purchase books during their library classes and other times that week.

Also, see the sidebar for information on the efair.

EVENTS CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER

September 1..... Labor Day—No School

September 15-19..... Book Fair

September 18..... Family Night Book Fair 3:30-7:00

September 17..... Constitution Day

September 23..... Picture Day!

Mt. Zion Grade School



September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 LABOR DAY NO SCHOOL	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
BOOK FAIR Monday-Thursday 8:30-2:30, Friday 8:30-Noon						
		School Board Meeting 6:30 PM at District Office		Book Fair Night 3:30-7 PM		
21	22	23 Picture Day! 	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

CONTACT US:

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School Hours

Regular Attendance Day

8:00-8:20 Morning Recess

8:30-3:00 Instruction

Early Dismissal Day

8:00-8:20 Morning Recess

8:30-11:35 Instruction

FOOD SERVICE— BREAKFAST ONLY

Office Hours

7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

We're on the web!

www.mtzion.k12.il.us

Coming In October

- October 10..... Parent/Teacher Conference Day—NO SCHOOL
- October 13..... Columbus Day—NO SCHOOL
- October 14..... Board of Education Meeting 6:30 PM @ Central Office
- October 17..... 1st Quarter End
- October 24..... MZG Rocking at the Grade Fundraiser
- October 23..... Quarter 1 Report Cards Available
- October 31..... You Rock! Club