

## University of Northern Iowa UNI ScholarWorks

---

Malcolm Price Laboratory School Newsletter

Malcolm Price Laboratory School

---

2-1992

# PLS Newsletter, v2n5, February 1992

University of Northern Iowa. Malcolm Price Laboratory School

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/mplsnews>

 Part of the [Education Commons](#)

*Let us know how access to this document benefits you*

---

### Recommended Citation

University of Northern Iowa. Malcolm Price Laboratory School, "PLS Newsletter, v2n5, February 1992" (1992). *Malcolm Price Laboratory School Newsletter*. 91.

<https://scholarworks.uni.edu/mplsnews/91>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Malcolm Price Laboratory School at UNI ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Malcolm Price Laboratory School Newsletter by an authorized administrator of UNI ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@uni.edu](mailto:scholarworks@uni.edu).

# PLS • NEWSLETTE R

Malcolm Price Laboratory School

Volume II, Issue V

University of Northern Iowa

February 1992

## A Vision for the Future

by Linda Fernandez

Over the past several months, Laboratory School faculty began working on a jigsaw puzzle. This was not just any ordinary jigsaw puzzle. Ours presented a vision of the school with all of its interlocking pieces and interdependent parts. To create this puzzle, we worked in phases.

First, we defined what we wanted our students to know, be like, and be able to do when they ultimately receive a diploma from Northern University High School. That is, we created a picture of what the finished puzzle would look like, defining our common vision for all students and summarized it in the following five statements:

1. Students will be literate communicators who perceive, integrate and express concepts mathematically, scientifically, aesthetically, linguistically and technologically.
2. Students will be self-directed learners who use positive core values to monitor and evaluate their progress and assume responsibility for their own physical, emotional, intellectual, social and aesthetic development.
3. Students will be complex thinkers who identify, access, integrate and use available resources and information to reason, make decisions and solve complex problems in a variety of contexts.
4. Students will be involved citizens who take the initiative to contribute their time, energies, and talents to improve the welfare of themselves and others and the quality of life in their local and global environments.
5. Students will be collaborative contributors who use effective leadership and group skills to foster, develop, and sustain supportive relationships with and between others in culturally diverse work, community, and family settings.

The puzzle wasn't complete with these statements alone. They told us what the finished product would look like. That is, they set our vision, but they also ushered us into the next phase of our work.

We next began looking at the instructional program. We examined the individual pieces carefully to see that they fit together and each contributed to the total picture. Through this process, (called "articulation" by educators

our course content, that which students are taught at each grade and level, would be shaped and coordinated to fit together. For example, content presented in high school home economics should be coordinated with health class offerings in order to avoid unnecessary repetition. Each aspect of the instructional program should fit with the others, just like a jigsaw puzzle. The result of a well-planned, well-articulated school curriculum is similar to a completed jigsaw puzzle. Then the whole picture comes into view.

In upcoming issues of the PLS Newsletter we will update you on other phases of our puzzle's progress. We will share our advances in defining our focus on developmentally appropriate practice, our mission in teacher education and outreach, and implementation of our strategic plan.

## New Attendance Law

by Nick Teig

On May 23, 1991, a new school attendance law was signed by Governor Branstad. This new law has made significant changes in the attendance procedures of Iowa schools. Price Laboratory School is making every effort to understand and comply with the new law. The Department of Education is charged with the development of the rules to implement the law. As we receive these rules we will continue to make changes in our procedures. For your information, the following is a synopsis of the law and how it affects our students and their parents.

### APPLICABILITY OF THE COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE LAW

Children between the ages of 6 and 16 are compelled to receive education, and each child's parent, guardian, or legal custodian\* is the person held responsible in the law for compelling the child's education.

### ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance at Price Laboratory School means that students are required to attend for 180 days, with the recognition of "reasonable excuses" for absenteeism.

The truancy law (see Section H) requires schools to report the number of truant children and those who have accumulated 15 unexcused absences over a three-year period to the Department of Education.

#### ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement of the compulsory education law begins with school officials. For truant children, "school officers" shall make the effort using "every means available" to get the child to attend. If the parent of the child refuses to cooperate with these efforts, the truancy officer shall refer the matter to the county attorney.

#### PENALTIES

The penalties for a first, second, and third or more offense are as follows:

1st -- up to 10 days in jail or up to a \$100 fine or up to 40 hours of unpaid community service ("simple misdemeanor" on the parents record)

2nd -- up to 20 days in jail and/or up to a \$500 fine, or an unspecified number of hours of community service in lieu of a fine or jail sentence ("serious misdemeanor" on the parent's record)

3rd or more -- up to 30 days in jail and or a fine of up to \$1000 or an unspecified number of hours of community service in lieu of a fine or jail sentence.

-----  
\* A legal custodian, when not a parent or guardian, is the person or entity that has court-ordered custody of the child.



### Be a Good Fan by Displaying Excellent Sportsmanship

N.U. Athletics is now in the midst of the winter sports season. The philosophy of the N.U. Athletic Department emphasizes sportsmanship from both the student and adult in both victory and defeat. Take a minute to read the following article which follows that philosophy.

## How to be an All-Star Parent

by Rob Gilbert, Ph.D

How do you define an all-star parent? Very simply, he or she is a parent who is a good sport and a great fan.

To become an all-star parent of an athlete, there are times when you must stop parenting. When your son or daughter changes into uniform and becomes an athlete, you also have to change from parent to fan. Your job on the sidelines or in the stands is not to be a parent, but to be your child's greatest fan.

There's no trick to learn here. You already know how to do this. Remember how you behaved when your baby was learning to walk? You were a fan and a supporter, weren't you? You applauded the "downs" as well as the "ups."

You never said things like, "What's taking you so long?" "How come the kid down the street is walking better than you?" "Why do you keep making the same mistakes over and over again?"

You were the world's best and most appreciative audience.

Why should it be any different now that your child is an athlete? Your job is not to be the coach (unless you are the coach) or the expert. You are there so that you can share the thrill of victory, and the agony of defeat - together.

Three "B"'s for the All-Star Parenting

- BE THERE
- BE POSITIVE
- BE SEATED

**BE THERE** - You can never hope to be an all-star parent unless you show up at games. Regardless of the skill level of your child or the success of the team - go to the games. Be supportive. Don't be a fickle, fair-weather fan.

**BE POSITIVE** - On the sidelines, if you can't say something positive, don't say anything at all. Nothing good comes from repeating negative statements, and nothing negative comes from positive ones. If you can't be positive, at least be silent.

**BE SEATED** - Even though it's good to be positive, it's not good to overdo it. Don't stick out. Be an admirer - not a cheerleader. Players should not confuse your voice with the public address system.

Once you start to become a positive, acknowledging fan, an interesting thing may happen. your child will want you at the games. When this happens, you will know that you are considered to be an important member of your child's personal all-star support team.

## **Take Charge of your Body Personal Safety Plan**

by Marilyn Teig

Each year in the United States over 2.5 million cases of child abuse are reported. In Iowa, 26,000 cases were reported in 1990. Closer to home, Black Hawk County reported over 1,000 cases last year. Child abuse is passed on from generation to generation unless efforts are made to stop the cycle of abuse.

The best way to prevent physical, emotional or sexual abuse is to educate. Children must be given tools to take care of themselves in order to protect themselves and to take charge of their own body.

The Family and Children's Council of Black Hawk County is an agency whose goal is to strengthen families and to assist parents in parenting skills and to help prevent child abuse through education. This organization has as one of its missions to educate children with a program entitled "Take Charge of Your Body." This curriculum was written in 1985 by several volunteers of the agency including Clare Struck, elementary guidance counselor at Price Lab School and has been presented to over 2300 students in the past year in Black Hawk County. This prevention program teaches children how to say no to touches that they don't want and to help protect themselves from sexual abuse. It is a personal safety plan.

One out of four girls and one out of six boys will be sexually abused before the age of 18. Sexual abuse is one of society's greatest secrets. The abuse thrives on coercion, secrecy and bribery. While it is never the child's fault that this happens to them, the child suffers great guilt and shame as the victim. The trauma of sexual abuse is long range and will continue into adulthood if it is not disclosed and proper treatment obtained.

The Take Charge curriculum was presented at Price Laboratory School during the 1988-89 school year. It is recommended that the curriculum be presented every two to three years so the children will be aware of their safety plan. Therefore, the curriculum will be presented at Price Lab this spring. There will be a parent program on March 10 for all interested persons. The curriculum will be available including all the audio visual material that the children will be presented in their classrooms. On March 25 the program will be presented to your child at school. We encourage parents to discuss the topic with your child at home after the presentation at school.

Our goal is to protect children. Please join us the evening of March 10. If you have further questions, please contact Clare Struck, PLS Guidance Counselor.

## **The Wizard of Oz NUHS Spring Musical**

Color and excitement will burst from the PLS stage March 6, 7 and 8. Munchkins will cavort, villains will menace, and four brave adventurers will set out in search of brains, a heart, courage and a way back to Kansas. PLS students are already preparing to bring to life The Wizard of Oz, L. Frank Baum's classic story about Dorothy Gale, the whimsical farm girl lost in a magical dreamland, and what she learns as she tries to find her way home. The musical score by Harold Arlen and E. Y. Harburg includes songs known and loved by generations: "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," "Ding-Dong! The Witch is Dead," and of course, "We're off to See the Wizard." Combining a talented cast of almost two hundred students, colorful, cartoon-like sets, imaginative staging, and extravagant special effects, this production promises to be one of the most exciting, as well as one of the most lavish performances PLS has seen in many years.

The cast features Julie LaMendola, Scott Clausen, Tim Bastron and Brian Dedrick as Dorothy, the Scarecrow, the Tin Woodman and the Cowardly Lion. Theresa Girsch will play the Good Witch of the North, Kim Nicholson will play the Wicked Witch of the West, and Bob Poe will play the great and terrible Oz. More than one hundred elementary and middle school munchkins will greet Dorothy's appearance in Oz, and the Emerald City will be filled with throngs of middle and high school Ozians.

Heading up the whole project is a closely integrated creative team consisting of Rick Vanderwall, director; ted whang, musical director; Scott Jackson, choreographer; Kelen Panec, costume designer; and David Schachterle of Signs and Designs in Cedar Falls, set designer. In addition, Michael Fanelli, orchestra; Melanie Griffith, elementary music; and Leonard Upham, band, are providing invaluable musical assistance.

For director Vanderwall, this undertaking fulfills a long-standing ambition. He says, "I have wanted to produce a show that takes advantage of the unique N/K through 12th grade structure of the Laboratory School. The Wizard of Oz provides that opportunity. It will be fun."

To find out, pick up a ticket for one of the shows: March 6 at 8:00 PM, or March 7-8 at 2:00 PM. Tickets are \$5.00 for adults, \$4.00 for senior citizens and students, and may be reserved starting February 3rd by calling 273-6047 or 273-2752.

# Malcolm Price Laboratory School Calendar February 1992

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

						<p style="text-align: center;"><b>1</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:00am F/S BB-New Hartford</p>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 8:30pm F/S BB-Union (G-H, B-T)	<b>4</b> 5:00pm BSW-Charles City 6:30pm BB at Ackley	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 4:30pm BSW-at Waterloo East 7:00pm Theatre Panache	<b>7</b> 6:30pm BB-Union	<b>8</b> 9:00am F/S BB-Dike (G-H, B-T) 7:00pm GBB-Walnut Ridge IHSSA State Large Group Contests
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 4:30pm BSW at Vinton 6:30pm F/S BB-Denver (G-T, B-H)	<b>11</b> 4:00pm JH BB-Grundy Center (G-T, B-H) 6:30pm BB-BCLUW (at Conrad)	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7:00pm Speech Contests at NU High	<b>14</b> 6:30pm BB-Denver	<b>15</b> 6:30pm BBB-Janesville Spring Track Begins
Dorian Orchestra Festival			Northern Festival of Bands			
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 8:00pm H.S. Concert (Band, Orch., Chorus)	<b>21</b> 7:00pm J.H. Dance	<b>22</b> All-State Festival Large Group GBB Districts BSW Districts
Girls Basketball Sectionals			Tall Corn Jazz Festival			
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> BBB Districts	<b>25</b> GBB Districts	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> BBB Districts	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Dist. Individual Speech Contest
Northern Vocal Arts Festival			BSW State			GBB Regionals

## Travelmates

by Diane McCarty, 4th Grade Instructor

Travelmates? What are they? Who are they? What are they doing?

The fourth grade sections of PLS have begun a geography project, and they're not quite sure where it will take them!! This project is called TRAVELMATES. Since it is difficult for the students to do a great deal of traveling in actual miles during the school year, they selected "special friends" to do the traveling for them! Each fourth grader chose a doll, bear, or stuffed animal from home to be his/her Travelmate. A dog tag with a class picture was placed around each Travelmate's neck. The school's name, address, and phone number was also included on this dog tag. A copy of what the project is about was included on the opposite side.

Nadene Davidson and her Fundamentals of Home Economics students assisted by developing a pattern and helping the fourth graders in safely sewing a backpack that the Travelmate needed. With Mrs. Davidson's expertise and her class's capable sewing abilities the task was completed beautifully. The materials and goods necessary for this part of the project were supplied through a small grant from the graduate college.

The backpack became a necessary part of the traveling gear for the Travelmate. This way the Travelmate would have a diary packed so someone could record its journeys. The cover of the diary reads, "Dear Friend, Please sign my diary. Include places I've been and sights I've seen. A souvenir or, best yet, a photo of you and me together would be wonderful! My only form of transportation is from person to person, so please pass me on. Sincerely, (Travelmate's name) P.S. Please assist me in sending home an occasional postcard!"

The Travelmates had a send-off party before Thanksgiving. Liz Matthis came to PLS and reported about the project on KWWL. Most of the Travelmates began their adventure sometime between Thanksgiving and the end of Christmas break. They are supposed to start arriving back at school around April 15. We have already heard from Monty while he was in San Diego. A flight attendant was going to take him to Munich, Germany next. Sylvester Stalone was writing from Omaha and Nikki was traveling to Flint, Michigan. These Travelmates have seen some wonderful sights!! Tracking the Travelmates will also be a fun adventure for the fourth graders.

When the Travelmates start arriving back to school in April, the fourth graders will create a trip itinerary from the diary, plot locations on a U.S. and world map, and calculate miles traveled, using a distance key. Their

letter writing skills will also be practiced, as the fourth graders correspond to those who wrote to them and kept them posted on the happenings of the Travelmates.

Sound Exciting? The fourth graders and their teachers, Miss Wolfe and Mrs. McCarty, think so!! The outcome of this project will be a fun learning experience that will expand the fourth graders' interests and make them geographically aware of other parts of the world.



*Design by Tom Culbertson*

## The Northern Iowa Young Peoples Dance Theater

A new performing arts program has found a home at Price Lab School! The Northern Iowa Young Peoples' Dance Theater has been founded with an initial grant from the Iowa Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance. The purposes of the NIYPDT are to :

1. provide motivated and interested young people with an opportunity to nurture and develop their love for dance, and
2. promote cultural diversity, ethnic awareness, and global understanding through the exploration of international dance.

Founders of the NIYPDT are Susan Koch, Assistant Professor of Health Education; Melanie Griffith, Price Laboratory School music instructor; Kathleen Kerr, Assistant Professor of Dance; and Cynthia Ensign, Associate Professor of Dance. Dance instructors will be selected from the UNI International Dance Theater members (university students) under supervision of the board of directors. In this, our initial year, the dance company will be open to any 6th grade student who is interested in dance. If you would like additional information about this group, please contact Melanie Griffith at 273-2600.

## **Budget Crunch Hits the Yearbook Threatening Extinction in 1992**

Expressions & Impressions, the 1991-92 annual, will very likely be the last yearbook published at NU High. The book is no longer self-supporting, and the school budget cannot be stretched to cover its deficit. Because of the small number of books produced, the sale price of a book, even at \$27 each, covers only approximately three-fifths of the cost of producing it.

To help the yearbook break even this year, and to convince the administration that the same can be done in 1992-93, a group of student volunteers have offered to help contact potential advertisers. This winter ad sales campaign will have to produce approximately \$2000 to be successful.

What can you do to help? First, notify the yearbook advisor, Marjorie Vargas (273-2294), if you or anyone you know would like to buy an ad. Second, watch your mail. Letters will soon be mailed to the parents of seniors offering them the opportunity to buy a 1/8 page "Senior Salute." Professional friends are also being contacted to buy a book for their waiting rooms. Finally, and above all, buy a 1991-92 yearbook on February 18, if you haven't done so before Christmas. It may be a greater collector's item than ever.

---

## **Elementary Student Council Minutes**

November 20, 1991

The meeting was called to order at 11:45 by President Joe Ostby. Secretary Mike Williams read the minutes from the last meeting. President Joe Ostby read a letter about Geography Awareness Week and a T-shirt day during the week of December 1-7.

Dr. Nielsen told us we have three jobs to do:

1. Select a day.
2. Make a handout for home and teachers.
3. Summarize the data:
  - Cities
  - States
  - Countries
  - Continents.

Joe Smith moved that T-shirt day be on December 5. Rachel Rusley seconded. The motion carried.

A committee of students, Kyle Schultz, Elizabeth Gansen, Cari Simpson, and Daniel Clark, volunteered to

make the letter for T-shirt day.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:12.

Michael Williams  
Secretary

Wednesday, December 4, 1991

The meeting was called to order at 11:50 a.m. Secretary Mike Williams read the minutes of the last meeting. President Joe Ostby read a note reminding students to wear T-shirts on December 5 as part of National Geography Week. Dan Clark moved that we read this note in each of the elementary classrooms. Nathaniel seconded the motion. The motion carried. Joe displayed a worksheet which would be used in each class to record all the places where T-shirts were from. It included Place, Country and Continent. Mike Williams moved and Rachel seconded that we adopt this worksheet. The motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Michael Williams  
Secretary

Wednesday, January 8, 1992

The meeting was called to order by President Joe Ostby at 11:45 a.m. Secretary Michael Williams read the minutes from the last meeting. They were approved.

Kate Stater was introduced as the temporary representative from Mrs. McCarty's class.

Nathaniel moved that we turn over to Mrs. McCarty's class the results of the T-shirt day for National Geography Week celebration on December 5. Rachael seconded the motion. Mike suggested that they take a map and put pins in the places represented by T-shirts on that day. The motion carried.

Mrs. Struck suggested that we consider having a Black History assembly in March instead of February, because she will be returning from Africa at the end of February and would like to share some of her experiences with the school. It was suggested by various representatives that we have creative drama, puppet skits, African songs, and dances at the assembly as well.

Dr. Nielsen suggested that we survey the classes to get suggestions for the Black History assembly in March. A form will be sent around to each classroom and to each representative.

Nathaniel moved we adjourn. Rachael seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Michael Williams  
Secretary

## Announcements

### From Paul Waack, Athletic Director:

If your son or daughter has brought home any white P.E. towels or athletic towels with a white and orange stripe, we would appreciate if you would have them returned to the Elementary and Secondary Office, Rm. 120.

### Early Dismissal or School Cancellation

Announcements of early dismissal or school cancellation are made just as soon as a decision has been made to cancel school or to dismiss early. Please do not call the school. Instead, tune to one of the following radio stations:

KUNI	KWWL
KFMW	KWLO
KBBG	KCFI
KOKZ	KWAY

**IMPORTANT:** You need to listen specifically for PRICE LABORATORY SCHOOL. PLS will be announced separately from the Cedar Falls Schools.

### Address Changes

If the label on this newsletter contains an error, please notify Judy Junker at 273-6136. We attempt to keep all address changes updated, but at times we will miss one.

### Dress for Winter Weather

Please be certain that your elementary child is coming to school dressed for the weather. In general, we will go out to recess when the temperature and/or windchill is above zero.

### Thanks to Volunteers

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered their services to Price Laboratory School. You are invaluable to us. If you signed up and have not yet been contacted, don't give up hope, because we may get to your number. We had an overwhelming response this year!

### Secondary Grade Reports

First semester ended on January 16. Grades are being processed and if they have not been mailed yet, they will be in the near future. If fees are still owed, there is a billing included with the grades.

### Open Discussion on Budget Cuts

Parents are invited to attend an open discussion on the budget cuts and bus issue (see letter enclosed). This important meeting will be held at 7:00pm in the North Cafeteria on Thursday, February 6, 1992. Please come and ask questions and give suggestions.

### PTP Carnival--"Its Cool to Support Your School"

All New Carnival--Saturday, April 18, 1992--10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - new games, new food, unique raffle prizes, bake sale. If you would like to help, contact your homeroom parents. If you have any questions, contact Jody Landau, PTP Carnival Chair, at 277-7588.

### Thanks to Library Volunteers

Many thanks to parent volunteers Kathie East, Debbie Hanks, Marian Hyde, Mary Nielsen, Janet Pine, Rita Rusley, Susan Stater, and Virginia Thulstrup who help in the library. They have designed and put up bulletin boards, typed, shelved books, inventoried SIRS materials, and done a myriad of other tasks. It is not too late to volunteer! If you are interested, please call Gail Froyen at 273-2638.

### Final Sale Day Set for 1991-92 Yearbook

Tuesday, February 18, will be the final opportunity to buy the 1991-92 NU High yearbook, Expressions & Impressions. Contrary to the practice of recent years, no extra copies are being ordered for sale in the fall. Students who want a copy should bring \$27 to the lobby ticket window before school, at noon or immediately after school on February 18. Names can no longer be embossed on the cover. The book will be delivered soon after school starts next fall.

### Elementary Summer School Program

Despite the budget cuts, we anticipate again offering a summer program from June 15-July 17, 1992 for students ages 4-12. Program descriptions and registration information will be included in the March PLS Newsletter.



**Malcolm Price Laboratory School  
University of Northern Iowa  
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613**

"UNI is an equal opportunity educator and employer with a comprehensive plan for affirmative action."