

March 1, 2021

Dear Union Colony Family,

The Colorado Department of Education is debating whether or not to require the state assessments this year given the difficult circumstances. According to Albert Einstein, “The measure of intelligence is the ability to *change*.” I believe our intelligence has been adequately assessed.

In last month’s [newsletter](#) we shared some exciting *changes* happening to the Preparatory campus this summer. Here’s what’s happening at the Elementary School this summer as well:

- The students will immediately experience *change* in the classroom:
  - **Flexible Seating:** Naturally, students learn best when they are most comfortable. Union Colony Elementary desires to adapt seating options to the individual learner. These sites have some examples:
    - <https://www.weareteachers.com/best-flexible-seating-options/>
    - <https://www.lakeshorelearning.com/products/featured-assortments/flexible-seating/>
    - <https://deskcycle.ca/809/children-using-deskcycle/>
  - **Interactive Technology:** Each classroom will be equipped with web-based, interactive whiteboards or tables that are grade level appropriate. Digital displays are so much more engaging for today’s learners.
- Everyone will notice some facility *changes* too:
  - **Media Center Renovation** - the existing computer lab/library will be getting a major facelift. The Design Advisory Team (DAT) is meeting regularly to determine the best way to proceed. We plan to have a modern media center that includes an outdoor classroom and possibly a greenhouse.
  - **Expansion:** We’ve run out of office and storage space. We’ll be adding some outdoor storage in order to free up interior space which will be used to create learning centers for all our specialists.

The above Elementary improvements and the Preparatory campus completion are being funded by the [bond](#) passed in 2019.

**Summer School:** Each building is working on summer school opportunities. More information will be coming soon from your building administrators.

*Change* usually brings with it a level of anxiety, because *change* often involves the unknown. Union Colony, as a whole, is embracing the *change*, facing the unknown,

and evolving. On an individual level, I encourage us all to, “Be the *change* you wish to see in the world.” ~ Mahatma Gandhi

Sincerely,  
Jim Anderson  
Director