

Blazer Blast

The official e-newsletter of University High School



Sept 18, 2015

Butterflies Prepare to Take Flight at UHS

University High School's butterfly garden, a project organized by sophomore Becca Elliott has been the talk of the school this fall. The garden itself was planted this spring with funding from Carmel Green Teen. The garden is currently in full bloom, featuring common milkweed, the food source needed for Monarch caterpillars. Other butterfly-friendly flowers provide nectar as food for adults. UHS faculty and students have identified several Indiana butterflies on site and a handful of Monarchs as well! If you spot one on campus, snap a photo and tag it with #UHSButterflyGarden.



In our freshman science classes, pairs of students are raising monarch caterpillars as a collaborative project with a 4th grade class at The Orchard School. Students are measuring caterpillar growth and survivorship. UHS freshmen will analyze and share the results of the data collected. The emerging adult butterflies for the project will be tagged with unique identification codes through Monarch Watch. This will allow students to track the butterflies' activity and travel throughout the school year. The hope is that at least a few of our Monarchs will make it to the overwintering sites in either southern California or Central Mexico.

To ensure that this is a community effort, each class has also "adopted" two caterpillars and given them names. They are currently in chrysalis in the front lobby. These will also be tagged when they become adult butterflies. **UHS is planning a special butterfly release ceremony during school on Friday, Sept. 18.** All are invited to attend.

<http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?ca=126d8d7c-4386-441a-8d22-42bb00fed94c&c=7a07d580-7f28-11e3-949c-d4ae5292c4bc&ch=7a0d53c0-7f28-11e3-949c-d4ae5292c4bc>