



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW LONDON

Monthly Update

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR • BUSINESS SERVICES
PUPIL SERVICES • TEACHING AND LEARNING SERVICES

December 2023

District Administrator

Donation of High School Technical Education Shop Car

Recently, the New London High School received a donation of a shop car to support curriculum instruction in the advanced power sports class.

Thank you to Bill Krostue, Mick Schmidt, and Bob Ebben, who donated the 2009 Chevrolet Impala sedan to be utilized by students and our District technical education certified staff. The recent donation of a vehicle lift by Plach Automotive will allow students to position the shop vehicle to provide hands-on teaching and learning experiences.



District Parent Advisory Council

On November 1, the School District of New London's Parent Advisory Council met. The goal of the District Parent Advisory Council is to create an opportunity for cooperative conversations with parents and community stakeholders with the intent to support our District mission statement of "Success for All Students." Our next meeting will be on January 24.

Board of Education Student Representative

Student perspective and feedback are invaluable at all levels within our school community. One way to further support student input is developing a Board of Education student representative. As a non-voting member of the Board of Education, an opportunity for student updates and perspective would be part of the monthly meeting protocol to continually strive to meet our District mission of "Success for All Students."

Appreciation of Community Generosity

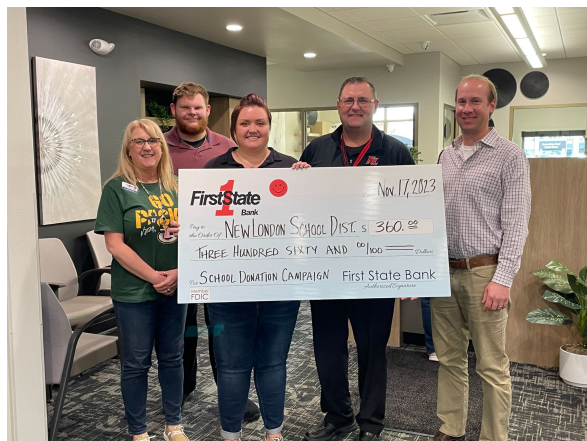
The School District of New London is sincerely grateful for our community generosity that continually is recognized throughout the year to support our students, families, and



school community. Specifically, during December, community organizations, clubs, and civic groups go above and beyond to ensure students' basic needs can be met in various unique ways.

First State Donation

First State Bank of New London recently donated \$360.00 to the School District of New London from their recent personal checking account opening initiative. Thank you, First State Bank Branch Manager Meagan Buchholz and community members who directed their donation to the School District of New London.



The School District of New London experiences firsthand how community generosity puts a smile on a child's face from winter clothing, family resources, and additional support through the holiday season. My sincerest gratitude of thanks to all who go beyond while continually thinking of others with their generosity.

B 212

The December B212 “Extra Degree of Effort” recognizes our School Resource Officer Police Liaison team of Ben Schmidt, Earl Ruckdashel, and Steve Elliot. Officers Schmidt, Ruckdashel, and Elliot support students, families, District staff, and our school community while promoting quality citizenship traits and safety. Thank you for your 212 efforts to support the School District of New London.



Director of Business Services

Facilities Committee

The Facilities Committee met on November 27. The topics are noted below with summary notes after the items.

- A. Continued discussion on enhancements to athletic facilities

Mr. Yerkey and Mr. Sloma provided an update on the list compiled by Mr. Sloma over the summer. There were many topics that were discussed at the meeting but the research on potentially getting water to the stadium is what we will continue to evaluate options for.

The list covered did not introduce any new items; all were previously included in earlier capital projects plans but were not approved in a referendum brought to the community, able to be funded, or not recommended for consideration by the committee to the full Board.

Lastly, the committee wrapped up this agenda item with the knowledge that a focus of the Continuous Improvement Strategic plan addresses Sustainability Planning under the Financial and Operational Section.

The goal is to continue to target items from the referendum passed in 2018 but to continue to revise the 10 year capital projects plan used for the 2018 referendum.



- B. Review of snow removal bids

Board took official action on the bids at the November 27 meeting.

- C. Review of high school roof bids

Committee reviewed options and bids and tonight's agenda includes a recommendation.

- D. Review of 2024 school bus purchase bus bids

Bids were received for six buses for the 2024-25 budget. The committee will continue to review options to make a formal recommendation at a future meeting.



- E. Review of Sugar Bush heat pumps options

The committee supported updating the pumps if the need arises.

Property Tax Bills

Property tax bills are likely in the hands of many property owners. A few notes are summarized below to help answer any questions:

- The levy approved by the Board was 21% higher than 2022.
- The mill rate (5.95) approved by the Board was 7% higher than 2022.
- Property valuation increased by 13.2%.
- Depending on the municipality the property tax owner lives in, the net school property tax impact could vary significantly.
- Overall, taxpayers will see an increase to the school portion of property taxes.

A key factor to share when discussing the tax bills this year was the District's ability to secure more funding as a low revenue limit district. New London still is at the floor (\$11,000) for the revenue limit per student and also is below the state average (7.18) for mill rate.



The business services webpage also has many documents that show approvals by the Board: <https://www.newlondon.k12.wi.us/district/businesssvcs.cfm>

Please encourage any property tax owner that has questions to contact the district office, and we would be happy to help them with any questions they might have. Many Mukwa residents will see a much higher increase because of the reassessment; that is not anything the Board can control.

Director of Pupil Services

Bulldogs of Character at the Winter Wonderland Parade

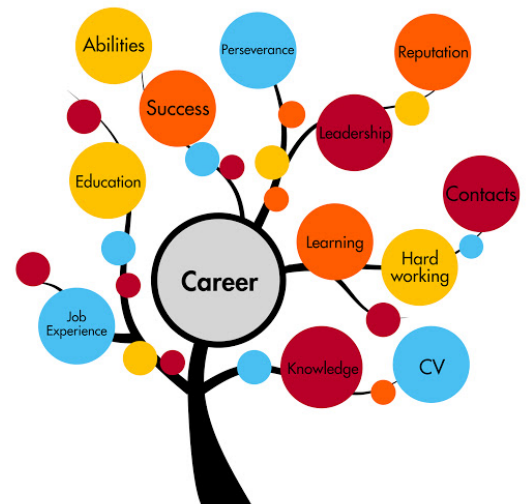
The Bulldogs of Character organization participated in Winter Wonderland on the Wolf parade that was sponsored by the New London Chamber of Commerce. This was the annual Holiday of Wonder parade. Students from the elementary schools rode the hay wagon float which was pulled by Martin Farm. Percy the Bulldog and the Bulldogs of Character groups also handed out candy to citizens that came to watch the parade. The parade was held on Friday, December 1, 2023.



Academic Career Planning for 2024

All future freshmen and their parents will be receiving information about the Academic and Career Planning process soon. This will occur on Monday, January 8, 2024, at the High School. New London strives to engage our students in a variety of opportunities during their high school career. Our goal for the Academic and Career Planning Process is to make sure all students and families are informed consumers of the educational options New London High School has to offer. An overview of the scheduling process, graduation requirements and career and college readiness advice will be available in the Academic and Career Planning materials.

The first focus will be on 9th grade scheduling and ACP planning. The high school counselors will be creating a presentation to share with parents with all the resources included. The high school counselors will share the slide show with

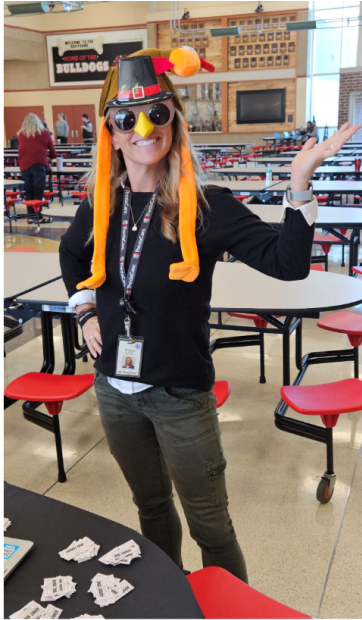


everyone. They will also create a scheduling video with step-by-step directions on how to schedule classes. The presentation will cover scheduling, pathways, academic planning, and a variety of other information. The counselors will also be presenting something similar on a smaller scale to all 8th grade students the week before Monday, January 8, 2024. The counselors will inform all parents/students about the scheduling process; they will also visit the middle school in mid January and meet with each student individually to discuss and check their schedule selections.

Turkey Trot on November Inservice Day

Eighty-four staff members participated in the Turkey Trot on November 13 during their lunch hour. A drawing was held after the Turkey Trot and 5 staff members were awarded Festival Foods gift cards to help with their Thanksgiving Day shopping. Pictured

below is Megan Skalla, our health coach, who organized the trot.



Director of Teaching and Learning **RVA**



Students and families who are looking to transition from RVA for the second semester need to apply and notify our office ASAP and no later than January 5, 2024, to assure a smooth transition. Notify the building principal, Brett Pickarts or Lesley Baehman of your interest in returning.

There is currently a waitlist for all second semester enrollments, so families looking to move to online learning should apply NOW to be added to the list. <https://ruralvirtual.org/>

Registration and Enrollment

Registration packets for 4K will be sent in the month of January for children who will turn 4 by September 1, 2024.

Students who did not attend 4K but are interested in either 4K or 5K next year will also be able to register if they turn 5 by September 1, 2024.

Families who do not think they are in our census or are new to the area can call Lesley Baehman at (920) 982-8447 or email lbaehman@newlondon.k12.wi.us to request a packet be sent.

Our census numbers, class plans and staffing needs are dependent on updates from families on their fall plans; please help promote this information.



ACT 20 and Reading Legislation

I plan to present on Act 20 and Literacy in January or February, and review it with our Instructional Committee on January 10, 2024, at 7:00 a.m. They are behind on the timeline for many of the requirements but continued clarity and information can be found on the DPI website at: <https://dpi.wi.gov/wi-reads/act-20-faq>.

Again, as a district we are ahead of many others in our second year of implementation of American Reading Company. If you do have time to review the link above prior to our January meetings, it may be helpful.



Student Scheduling

Student scheduling will also begin in the month of January. It is a good time to review all the great things New London has to offer when we look at the course guide, programming and student opportunities.