



July 2020

District Administrator

What Will School Look Like on September 1?



The past several months have been very trying for us as we navigate the coronavirus pandemic. Regardless, our obligation and responsibility to prepare for the 2020-2021 academic year is well underway. Recently a District survey was sent to

parents/guardians as an opportunity to gauge perspective and feelings of how the return to school may affect children and family structure. Data compiled from the survey will help develop a back-to-school process that will promote enhanced health and safety protocol awareness.

Regardless of personal opinion, we must all work to respect one another and foster a safe, functional, and learning environment that will support our mission to create "Success For All Students."

Currently, a District-wide reentry planning team is developing recommendations to support a safe return to the academic learning environment starting September 1. As a District, we will communicate expectations while respecting personal choice to create safe learning environments.

Adversity is something that we all have to encounter and soldier through during life experiences. The School District of New London is committed to creating, supporting, and fulfilling learning environments that will meet student and family needs. Together we will persevere through the unintended consequences of coronavirus while building a more robust educational school community.

B 212

With the continued focus to create safe learning environments, the July B212 recognition is given to the District 2020-2021 reentry planning team. Thank you for your efforts and commitment.



Director of Business Services

School Meals

The school meal delivery program concluded on June 30. The program included 70 days of breakfast and lunch service to children across the school district under 18 years old. A total of 99,297 breakfasts and lunches were served from March 23 - June 30. This is almost 200,000 meals that helped our students and families.



Amongst the Chartwells districts, this was second only to Neenah that has almost 7,000 students. This pandemic allowed Chartwells to clear out the freezer and utilize a lot of the commodities that would've expired if meals were not served. Commodities are ordered prior to the school year and orders cannot be changed.

As a reminder, the program is sponsored by the school district, DPI and USDA. The district did not incur additional expenditures that were not supported by additional revenue. Any unspent revenues remain in the food service fund for future program needs.

Thank you to all the drivers, support personnel, food service workers and all other staff, including the Board, that participated and supported the program.

July 1 Aid Estimate

The July 1 equalization aid estimate was released by DPI (Department of Public Instruction).

The Department releases their best estimate on July 1 to inform school districts on the approximate equalization aid they will receive on the October 15 official certification date.



This is a key number used by the Board of Education when setting the tax levy. This number is especially important to New London because state equalization aid is the primary source of revenue for our general operating budget (about 63% of revenue limit authority).

A key element to note is that **more or less** equalization aid does not mean more or less money to spend in the district's budget. More equalization aid offsets the contribution by local taxpayers towards the general operating budget if the Board levies to its full authority.

DPI's estimate for New London is \$15,998,914, which is 3% more (\$613,116) than 2019-20. This likelihood was shared with the Board last fall when the levy was certified indicating that the additional spending for the low revenue limit increase would be aided the following year.

If the estimate holds true, the mill rate would reduce from \$7.94 to \$7.64.

Please note, spending authority is determined by the state imposed revenue limits which are projected to increase for New London because the district is a low revenue limit district (\$9,700 - \$10,000 per pupil).

There is widespread speculation that a budget repair bill may be needed to balance the State of Wisconsin's budget. The timing of that would be significant to properly plan for adjustments.

I will keep the Board posted as we get closer to the budget hearing in September when more definitive data will be available.

Director of Pupil Services

Reentry Planning

The district subcommittee reentry team has met on several occasions to discuss and plan for staff and student reentry to the buildings. Many topics of discussion are underway ranging from changes in bussing, recess and lunch procedures to how instruction may look different in the traditional classroom areas. This team is comprised of school board members, administrators and teaching staff throughout the district. The team has sent out two surveys to gather feedback from families and staff on any concerns they have related to reentry in the fall.



PPE Purchases

PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) purchases have been planned to assist staff and students with the transition back into our buildings. The State Emergency and Operations Center along with the Department of Public Instruction has provided cloth masks for student use and infrared thermometers to the district. These will arrive in July for use in the fall. The reentry subcommittee is providing feedback on areas throughout the district that need to be addressed and then the pupil services and nursing staff will make these purchases and get the items in place in their proper locations throughout the district prior to the return of staff and students entering the buildings.



Director of Teaching and Learning

Instructional Readiness

New London teachers continue to prepare for the fall with work on aligning essential standards and becoming more technologically agile. We are excited to have increased and enhanced tools for online and in person learning in the fall.



Instructional Committee

The last instructional committee was held on June 10, 2020. We discussed how Instruction for the Spring of 2020 wrapped up, as well as the survey results from families and future topics for the team. Our next meeting is being held on July 15 at the District Office and will focus on instruction in the fall and CTE programming.

Summer School Success

Although we would much rather have a traditional summer program, our efforts to keep students connected over the summer include summer learning packets, credit recovery and summer strength and conditioning programs. Thanks to the instructors, students and families for your dedication.



Assessment Appointments

Elementary and ISMS students will have the opportunity to get some assessments taken care of prior to returning to school. These may include an iReady diagnostic and a running record to allow students, staff and families to see where their student is at related to reading and math achievement. These opportunities will be scheduled as appointments to allow limited numbers and personalized attention to students. Further information will be provided as these appointment

slots become available. If you do have questions, please ask your building administrator for details.

Free and Reduced Applications

All families are encouraged to fill out free and reduced meals applications each year. It cannot hurt to see if you qualify, as it is always kept confidential.



Paper applications are ready to go and updated on the district website in both English and Spanish.
<https://www.newlondon.k12.wi.us/parents/freereducemeals.cfm>

Printed copies are available at the District Office and in the drop box outside door 23 at the High School. Completed forms can be returned to the same locations. Families can start applying online through Family Access starting July 15 or through online registration once it opens.

Qualifying for Free and Reduced meals allows our district to continue to be eligible for other grant funding options; we thank you for applying should you feel you may qualify. If you have any questions about the process or application, please contact lbaehman@newlondon.k12.wi.us.

Walk-in support for Free and Reduced applications will be available from 8:00 a.m to 3:00 pm at the District Office on August 4 -7. Please bring household income information with you to assist in the process.

Registration

Packets have been sent to all 4K families. Please continue to return them to the District Office to secure your spot in our 4K programming in the Fall of 2020. Any child who turns 4 by September 1, 2020, is eligible to enroll.

All registration activities will take place **digitally only**; we will not be hosting registration in person. Student pictures will be taken during face-to-face instructional days. Families will receive further information in July and August. Please note the following dates:

- July 20: Skyward on-line registration opening date; available through Skyward Family Access and all fees are able to be paid online using eFunds.
- July 20 through August 12: Bilingual families will be invited for registration support by our Bilingual staff; families will be contacted for individual appointment times.
- August 4-7: Free and Reduced Application support available at District Office.
- **Critical Health Plans and Health Records will be very important this fall.** These have been used for students with health alerts such as asthma, diabetes and seizure disorders among others. If you think your child may need a health plan next year, please work with your child's doctors early in August to develop and adjust plans for students with critical health plans. A signed copy of this plan must be on file prior to the start of face-to-face instruction in the fall. **A new health care plan is required each school year.**

If at any time you have issues with your Family Access account, please email lbaehman@newlondon.k12.wi.us.

