



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW LONDON

Monthly Update

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

July 2021

District Administrator

Eagle Scout Court of Honor

Recently five School District of New London alumni and current students received the prestigious Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout recognition. Congratulations to Ben Grumann (2020), Brett Krake and Bredon Gardner (2021), Juniors, Riley Krake, and Connor Jones.



The School District of New London is proud of your commitment to leadership and community service!

Transition to the 2021-2022 Academic Year

Although the official start date to the 2021-2022 academic year is over a month and a half away, family conversations about grade level and school transitions are undoubtedly ongoing. The following excerpts from the “National Network of Partnership Schools which is supported by John Hopkins University”, shares thoughts and strategies to prepare for the upcoming annual academic transition that are part of every school-age child and family.



Making a smooth transition is a challenge that students meet at every school level. They wonder: Will I be prepared? Make new friends? Be happy? Working with educators, parents can help ease students' transitions from home to pre-k, pre-k to

kindergarten, elementary to middle, middle to high, and high school to post-secondary programs.

Changing schools is both frightening and exciting. Leaving a familiar, comfortable school to go to the next—often larger—school may create anxiety for even the most confident students. At the same time, progressing to the next level may bolster children's self-esteem—making them feel more “grown-up” at each stage of schooling.

As students and parents/guardians prepare for the upcoming academic year, I encourage you all to actively engage in conversation about expectations, goals, and anxieties that may exist.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to contact your building principal or school personnel to discuss the transition for a successful 2021-2022 academic year.

B 212

Our July B 212, “Extra Degree of Effort,” goes out to all District staff who are contributing as summer school teachers, coaches, advisors, and administrators. Without question, learning does not stop over the summer months. My sincere thank you to all staff supporting summer school opportunities for our school community.



Director of Business Services

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 64% 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 \$16,499,423, which is 4% more (\$641,990) than 2020-21. 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 could reduce from \$7.85 to \$7.28. In past years, the estimate has been more than the final equalization aid due to private school vouchers impact and other factors. This year with some uncertainty of the final state budget we should exercise caution in that number.

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 (\$10,000 per pupil). The budget currently being reviewed by the Governor does not include an increase in revenue limit authority.

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

Lumber Donation

Tigerton Lumber (Mike Schulke) donated 614 board feet of Kiln dried lumber to New London High School for use in the Woods Program. Board Member, Chris Martinson was able to assist in securing this donation. We appreciate Tigerton Lumber's support of the district and all involved who helped make this donation a reality.



Director of Pupil Services

Status of Mental Health Grant and Homeless Grant

A Mental Health Grant and a Homeless Grant have been applied for on behalf of the School District of New London. The status of both grants will be announced and awarded to districts sometime in July. As soon as we hear the status of our applications, the Board will be notified on the amount received from both grants.

Bulldogs of Character

The Bulldogs of Character, accompanied by Percy the Bulldog, have been visible around the community all summer. Percy has attended all the Concerts in the Park sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Percy has also been seen distributing freeze pops to all concert goers and anyone else enjoying the park during the concert series in the evenings. Percy has also been participating in the summer reading program offered to all children at the public library this summer.





CPR training and NVCI training In Progress

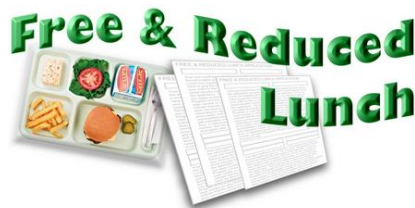
Lindsey Uvaas has been working throughout the summer to update our staff on their CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) training. In addition, Megan Diley

and Brenda Fischer have offered several sectionals of Non-Violent Crisis Intervention (NVCI) training to our staff. We hope to get all the necessary staff updated on both of these trainings before we return for August inservice.

Director of Teaching and Learning

Free and Reduced Applications

As discussed briefly last month, we will be asking all families to fill out the Free and Reduced paperwork this year as a part of registration. It will be available



as a part of the online registration process, but printed forms will also be available upon request.

Although the Board of Education voted to waive a number of fees this year and the federal lunch program will remain free for all this year, the results of these applications impact our district in a number of manners. Many federal funding formulas and grant calculations use the percent of families that qualify for free or reduced lunch in their funding formulas. With fewer and fewer filling out the form since they know fees will be waived, the district runs the risk of losing federal funding.

Please know having all families fill out the forms helps the district and is appreciated. This data is held highly confidential. We will have additional support available for families who are filling this out for the first time.

Families who have any questions about the process or application should contact lbaehman@newlondon.k12.wi.us who will also be hosting support sessions in early August.

Registration

Families who registered for RVA virtual instruction will be notified by RVA of the need to confirm their participation by July 25. We have had a number of our families notify us they will be attending traditionally with us since vaccines are available and COVID seems to be under control. The handful of families that remain fully virtual will be coached by Gloria Peterson and Anne Ferge and have all courses and programming facilitated by RVA.

The Next Generation Academy program will continue to serve high school students as it has in the past with hybrid options for learning. We have picked up a few homeschool families with interest in this option.

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. They may request an appointment for support at any time. Please note the following dates:

- July 19: Skyward on-line registration opening date; available through Skyward Family Access and all fees are able to be paid online using eFunds.
- August 2-6: Bilingual families will be invited for registration support by our Bilingual staff; families will be contacted for individual appointment times.
- August 2-6: in person support available at District Office.

Please help remind families to visit our website for registration details and links for new families to register.



June 29 and 30 Professional Development
Professional Learning Communities

In a district focused on local essential standards, effective team planning, and collaboration, this two-day retreat focused on these facts and instilled structure, accountability and routine into our system at a building, district and content level. We will continue this learning throughout our 2021-2022 school year. This was such a great opportunity for our staff. Thank you to all who attended.

Presenters, David Jones and Troy Gobble were impressed by our facilities and food service and noted that with a culture that focuses on students, we are set up for success.

All make-up requirements for those who did not attend are due August 5, 2021.

