



July 2022

District Administrator

America Farmers Grow Community Fund

Recently, the School District New London was recognized with a \$5,000 award from America Farmers Grow Community Fund.

The America's Farmers Grow Communities program is a singular effort seeking to give \$5,000 grants to a variety of rural nonprofits, education efforts and rural initiatives in a streamlined way. We believe farmers know best which institutions and programs in their communities deserve funding, so we partner with them to direct the grant money.

Since 2010, the America's Farmers programs has awarded over \$60 million to nonprofits, schools and ag youth organizations across rural America. From 3D printers and STEM education for small schools, to funding food banks in underserved areas, the America's Farmers programs help lift up and support rural communities, one grant at a time.

Thank you John and April for the nomination and grant application which supported the recent award acknowledgement.



Kids from Wisconsin

The Kids from Wisconsin troupe will again perform at New London High School auditorium on Wednesday, July 27, at 7:00 p.m. Thank you to the New London Lions Club for sponsoring the performance for our greater school community.

Congratulations to New London High School student Kayden Kloehn for being selected as an understudy singer for the 2022 Kids from Wisconsin troupe.

"Kayden Kloehn is excited to have been chosen as an understudy for the 2022 Kids From Wisconsin tour! This fall he will be a senior at New London High School. Kayden has performed in the high

school musical since 6th grade, winning a Best Supporting Actor award from the Centerstage Awards at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center for his role as Franz in Rock of Ages. He also is a member of the award-winning show choir group Vision, and previously Vocal Motion, winning 2 Best Soloist awards. He has also worked with choreographers from the touring companies of The Phantom of the Opera and A Christmas Story. He couldn't be happier to represent New London in this season of Kids!"

Tickets: General admission tickets are available at these New London locations:

- First State Bank (NL branch)
- Wolf River Community Bank (NL branch)
- New London School District Office
- New London Chamber of Commerce

Or

Order tickets from the New London School District at (920) 982-8530.

Or

ORDER ONLINE at

<https://nlkidsfromwi.brownpapertickets.com>

Transition to the 2022-2023 Academic Year

Although the official start date to the 2022-2023 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 2022-2023 academic year.

B 212

The July B212 extra degree of effort recognizes our Director/Administrative team, who are actively engaged over the summer months preparing for the start of the 2022-2023



academic year. Thank you for your continued leadership and fulfillment of responsibilities to ensure we strive to meet our mission statement and foster “Success for All Students.”

Director of Business Services

Bus Garage Open House

OPEN HOUSE @ THE NEW LONDON BUS GARAGE!

JULY 20, 2022

9:00am-12:00pm & 3:00pm-6:00pm

Come check out a bus and the garage while enjoying snacks and refreshments!

- We will walk you through the steps it takes to become a bus driver
- Paid training and a \$500 sign on bonus

- If you're a coach, get paid to drive and coach the team
- Not a coach? Get paid to drive the team and enjoy watching the sporting events
- We will work around any schedule you may have
- Drive routes before or after school
- Need full time, part time and weekend drivers
- No sitter needed, bring your kids with you while you drive a route or trip

July 1 Equalization 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 66% 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 \$16,687,721, which is 1.2% more (\$200,300) than 2021-22. If the estimate holds true, the mill rate will likely fall to close to \$6.00.

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). Aid has been decreasing to the district but revenues have not over the past three budgets.

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

Storm Damages Update

A second storm this year on June 15 arrived causing damage to several trees in the district but the most significant damage was to the tower sending wi-fi signals to Readfield and Sugar Bush schools.



There is a tower on top of the Middle School that sends a signal to the water tower at Floral Hill and then down to Readfield for internet service. The tower at the Middle School also sends a wi-fi signal to Sugar Bush. Both dishes at the Middle School and Sugar Bush were blown 'off-center' from high winds and will need to be realigned.

The tower at Readfield was blown over during the storm just missing the building. Early estimated costs of the replacement are just under \$50,000. A significant portion of that expense will be covered by insurance minus the deductible and depreciation.

Director of Pupil Services

Mental Health Grant—Additional Funding for 2022-23

The Mental Health Grant applied for last year will be awarded money for a second year. The School District of New London will receive an additional \$56,000 to be spent during the 2022-23 school year. This money is earmarked for any costs related to mental health initiatives and Social Emotional Learning. An example of how this money is spent includes our Sources of Strength program at both New London Intermediate/Middle School and also at New London High School.

Bulldogs of Character

The Bulldogs of Character, accompanied by Percy the Bulldog, have been visible around the community all summer. Percy started his summer activities by participating in Youth Fishing Day. 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. Additionally, Percy has also been participating in the summer reading program offered to all children at the public library this summer.



Director of Teaching and Learning

Free and Reduced Applications

Beginning the fall of 2022, lunch fees will return. As a result of COVID, these fees have been waived by the government for the past 2 years for ALL students.

As families prepare for the fall, many may be worried about the return of these costs. Free and Reduced paperwork is available as part of registration which opens on July 18, 2022. This data is held highly confidential. We will have additional support available for families who are filling this out for the first time.

We encourage ALL families to fill out this paperwork, as the percent that qualify also impacts the amount of federal grants we receive. These grants help all students in the district and help keep our budget in line.

Families who have any questions about the process or application should contact lbaehman@newlondon.k12.wi.us.

Rural Virtual Academy



Families who applied to RVA will be notified by RVA of the need to confirm their participation by July 25; please watch email for this notice. If they do not respond, their spot will be given to another applicant. There were a few students who participated in RVA last year that were not successful in keeping up with the work load or expectations. Those students have been notified that they will return in person.

Registration

Beginning July 18, 2022, all current and new families will need to log in to Family Access to confirm registration information for each child. This process confirms communication preferences, emergency information and health records. 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 18: Skyward on-line registration opening date; available through Skyward Family Access and all fees are able to be paid online using eFunds.
- August: Bilingual families will be invited for registration support by our Bilingual staff; families will be contacted for individual appointment times.

Please help remind families to visit our website for registration details and links for new families to register. If families do need access to a computer to complete registration, please contact their school office to set up an appointment.

June 28 and 29 Professional Development

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 also had a number of curriculum resource trainings available for staff. Thank you to all who attended.



Feedback was helpful to guide our future planning.

American Reading Company



Love • Literacy • Liberty

Materials have begun to arrive and we held our first day of training for K-8 staff on June 29, 2022. Initial response from staff was positive and support for implementation will continue with 5 additional coaching days built into this year. Intermediate and Middle School staff will continue to look at the other units to complement efforts in literacy.

Advanced Placement (AP)

Advanced Placement exam results are in. Congratulations to all, regardless of their score for setting high expectations for achievement. Most notable this year include the English Literature and Composition (Joanna Ledgerwood, instructor) and Calculus BC (Tami Thorne, instructor) results noting 100% of the students who took the AP test passed the test. Computer Science (Samantha



Kable, instructor) had an 84% pass rate which is also impressive. Congratulations to all students who were able to achieve a score that will transfer to a post secondary institution as well as those who successfully took a rigorous course during high school.