



March 2020

District Administrator

Public Health

Over the past month, governmental agencies and news media have shared information about COVID 19, otherwise known as the coronavirus. Even though COVID 19 appears to be isolated to various parts of the world and specific locations within the United States, locally, we must remain vigilant to ensure our District is aware of best practices to avoid exposure.



With direction from our District nurse Susan Resch and support health services team, current and regular communication with our school community are ongoing to promote healthy, school environments. Daily evaluation of student sickness is communicated with county health officials when triggered to monitor District health.

Along with COVID 19 awareness, our local efforts are ongoing to address the annual flu virus season, which has affected our school community.

A continued theme from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) public health is that individuals should take everyday preventive actions to stop the spread of germs and taking flu antivirals if prescribed and recommended. CDC always recommends daily preventive measures to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water
- Parent/guardians do not drop off your sick child at school
- Stay home when you're sick
- Cover your nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing

- Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms

The COVID19 situation is continuously evolving and changing. We understand there is uncertainty involved in this situation. As a District, we will plan to keep our school community informed as deemed appropriate by District, County, State, and Federal agencies. We encourage the school community to contact our District school nurse or local public health department if you have further questions.

Motivating Children

It is not that uncommon for a child to say, "that is good enough." Our society often accepts the idea of being average as acceptable. When the fact is that most children can exceed their current achievement levels. Today's children are challenged to do their best in school, at home and even in work environments as they lead busy lives. One of the primary keys to developing productive young adults is to build in daily motivation practices that keep children focused.



The following suggestions are helpful practices that can motivate children not to be satisfied with the phrase, "that is good enough." The following points of interest are from "Resources for Educators," which address recommendations for developing motivated children.

- **Offer Praise:** Never underestimate the power of a "Good Job!" Children crave approval, even children that seem to do all of the right things all of the time. A positive response, such as a smile, can be a great incentive. Whether it's for washing a sink full of dishes or passing a math quiz, a word of encouragement will show children that one notices their hard work. A child's self-confidence will soar, and they will want to keep on trying.

- **Show Interest:** Let children know that what they are involved in is important. When a parent/guardian expresses curiosity about what their child is engaged in, children respond by giving their best effort.
- **Use Consequences:** Experts agree that punishing children for not doing what they're supposed to do doesn't always produce improved results. However, linking consequences to performance can provide a reason for children to get the job done while giving them a greater sense of control over their life.
- **Encourage Problem Solving:** When children run into a problem, avoid solving it for them. Instead, give hints that help them discover the answer. The more children do on their own, the more confident they will feel about their work, and the harder they will try.
- **Manage Stress:** One may not realize it, but stress can zap a child's energy. Feeling that they can't get everything done can keep children from trying to do anything. Help children to simplify their schedule to regain the motivation they need to focus on what's most important: school, family and friends, exercise, and relaxation.
- **Establish Expectations:** Parents need to set high standards for their children at home and in school. Students whose parents expect them to do well in school have a better chance of learning success. Encourage children to give their best effort in everything they do. Children should know that some things may be harder than others, but there's no excuse for not trying.
- **Provide Choices:** Children, like adults, are more motivated by their interests. Allowing children to make decisions will give them a sense of control and encourage them to tackle the job at hand.
- **Accept Mistakes:** Some children are afraid of trying new things because they think that making a mistake means they failed. When a child messes up, tell them you believe in them and give them a chance to try again. Treating errors as opportunities instead of failures shows that one values effort, not just achievement.

As a school community, we must make it a point to identify or re-identify what motivates our children. Parents/guardians are encouraged to communicate frequently with their child's classroom teacher and/or school personnel to identify motivations that may work outside of your home environment. Creating

motivation for children can be as simple as becoming an active listener and acknowledging the daily challenges all children face.

Be 212 "The Extra Degree"



Our Be212 "The Extra Degree " recognition for March goes out to Lynn Schall, an ISMS math instructor. Recently Mrs. Schall presented a breakout session at the CESA 6 "Spring into Success" professional development event at Neenah High School on February 17, 2020. Mrs. Schall's 212 effort demonstrated her willingness to share relevant math concepts with fellow educators from our CESA 6 region. Thank you, Mrs. Schall, for displaying the extra degree of effort to Be212!

Director of Business Services

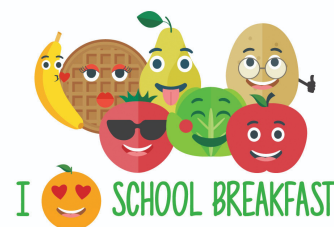
Scholarship Donation

Update from March Report: The Disabled Citizens have disbanded, and they have transferred all assets to NEWLASS per family request. This organization received funding from the family of Keith Niemuth in his name. Renea Grody and Nancy Maslow were contacted and wanted the remaining funds to go to NEWLASS for a student pursuing a future education in Agriculture. A final check was received and a total of \$55,000 was received. Thank you again to the organization and family.

School Breakfast Week

The week of March 2-6 was National School Breakfast Week.

This proclamation is meant to increase awareness about school breakfasts that are available to our students when they arrive at school.



Eating breakfast is an important component to helping students achieve academic success. School breakfast programs can play a vital role in ensuring that all students have access to a nutritious breakfast to start the day if families are interested.

Total Compensation Meeting

The Total Compensation Committee met March 4 to review the following agenda items:

- 2020-21 compensation goals
- 2020-21 CPI impact by group
- 403(b) enhancements
- Supplemental wage budget

The committee will meet again in the next few weeks as they form a recommendation to bring to the full Board in April/May for approval of wage increases for contract distribution for the 2020-21 school year.

Director of Pupil Services

March 20 In-Service

Our in-service on Friday, March 20, will focus on mental health and safety programming throughout the entire day. Professional and support staff will be in attendance all day and all presentations will take place at the High School.

Topics presented will include: *5 Stones*-Human Trafficking Awareness Program, *Hidden in Plain Sight* Drug Awareness program, and various law enforcement representatives discussing multiple safety and awareness topics. We will also host another session of *Stop the Bleed* Training.

We will offer sessions on Suicide Prevention, Adolescent Mental Health First Aid, and Non-Violent Crisis Intervention training.

Additionally, we are excited to partner with staff members from Emanuel Lutheran and Most Precious Blood for this training.

Outside Counseling Resources

Our school counseling program has been working with many outside counseling agencies over the past few years and has added a few more partnerships this year. We have created a memorandum of understanding with these organizations to assist our students and families with accessing mental health services on campus. The

following is a list of some of the partnerships that we currently have in place.

Outside Counseling agencies available to support families/students of the School District of New London:

Samaritan
Sherman
Catalpa Health
Open Trails Counseling
Rawhide Counseling Services
Psychology Associates of the Fox Cities –
Counseling Specialists LLP
Balke Counseling LLC
GJB Health Services
Psychiatric Consultants
Esprit
Nourishing Eden
Integrity Counseling Services
Evolve Counseling Services
REACH Counseling
Sexual Assault Crisis Center
Purple Lotus Counseling

Additional support for families in crisis is always available by calling 211 or United Way of the Fox Cities.

Director of Teaching and Learning

WI Forward Exam Window

Wisconsin Students in Grades 3-8 and 10 will be



participating in the Wisconsin Forward assessment during the March 23-May 1 testing window. We will have students testing at various times

throughout that window in each of our buildings. Please watch for details from your building on testing schedules.

Please encourage your child to do well on these tests through positive discussion of the importance of taking his/her time to read all directions, passages and questions; choosing the best answer given the information, and checking answers. Let them know that their best effort on the test is important to you. If you have any questions about this assessment, please do not hesitate to ask your child's principal.

Dr. Seuss on the Loose

February 28, 2020, was a day filled with fun for our youngest bulldogs. Thank you to all current and future 4K students who participated.

Additional thanks to our Community Collaborative instructors who hosted this event as well as ISMS Student Council and Catalyst students who assisted with the fun. Special thanks to James Kelly from Yo DJ Entertainment and Marta Wesenick who provided Zubma activity for our students.



Students who turn 4 by September 1, 2020, who have not yet signed up for 4K next year should be sure to call (920) 982-8447 to get their spot secured.

Post Secondary Fair

On March 11 from 8:30-11:30, New London High School is hosting a Post-Secondary / Job Fair for our students. We will also be opening our doors to three other area high schools. During this event, students have access to Post-Secondary



Institutions, military, and businesses and continue to explore their own interests and talents on their quest for college and career

preparation. This fair is one of the many steps we take to make sure all students are college and career ready. This year, Ted Neitzke from Cesa 6 will address students grades 9-12. This year has an enhancement in that students will have the opportunity to apply for summer work placement.