

# SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW LONDON

## Monthly Update

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

## November 2020

## **District Administrator**

## **School Board Election Timeline**

The timeline for the April 6 election is:

\*November 24 (Tuesday) Publish notice of election (*Press Star* publication on November 19)



\*December 28 (Monday) Deadline for non-candidacy for incumbent

\*January 5 (Tuesday) Deadline for filing for School Board 5:00 p.m.

\*January 12 (Tuesday) Verification of Declarations of Candidacy; drawing of lots for ballot order

\*April 5 (Monday) Publish notice of election (*Press Star* publication on April 1)

\*April 6 (Tuesday) Election

\*April 26 (Monday) School Board members take office

Board members who are up for re-election are Mark Grossman, Connie Neely, and Terry Wegner. The term of office for the school board members is three-year terms. Please let us know if there are any questions.

## <u>B 212</u>

With the first quarter of the academic year complete, the November B212 extra degree of effort recognition goes out to our students of the School District of New London. After stepping away from face-to-face at school instruction in March 2020, our students have returned to the 2020-2021 school year with great character and courage. With the return to the academic year, students have taken on multiple instructional delivery formats adapting to face-to-face at school instruction, virtual



digital/distant at-home learning, and A/B cohort in grades 6-12. Congratulations to the students of the School District of New London. Your B212 extra effort is

commended!

### Parent/Guardian Return to School Pulse Survey

A sincere thank you to all who recently completed the parent/guardian return to school pulse survey. Information gathered will be evaluated to further support student success.



#### **Meeting School Community Needs**

In an ever-changing society, now more than ever as a District, we must strive to meet the needs of our school community. Reflection from just one year ago has pushed our school community to embrace change and find solutions to support student success. As a District, we remain focused on creating student opportunities while supporting relevant learning experiences. Together we must not lose sight or focus by distractions that deter us from our mission to foster "Success For All Students".

#### Everyone is a Leader

With the recent fall elections near completion, leadership styles have been pressed on us all to reflect how one relates to leadership. One must not overlook the individual ability to lead. As a school community, we are appreciative of our student, District, family, and community leaders that set positive examples for others to follow. Look no further than oneself to reaffirm one's internal leadership strengths.



#### Leadership is for everyone

- Allow members the ability to become leaders
- "You" set the leadership example
- Leaders that are closest to their colleagues/individuals have opportunities to be most successful
- Leadership is an observable set of practices that everyone can employ in some way or another
- Leadership can be learned through selfawareness and effort

## **Director of Business Services**

#### Wisconsin Department of Agriculture Inspection

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture inspected and reviewed the sanitizing, disinfecting practices and materials currently being utilized due to the Covid-19 outbreak on our school buses and in the schools. There were no violations noted during the inspection.

#### Facilities Committee

The committee met on October 14 and the agenda topics are noted below:



- A. Review and discuss next steps in building capital projects at schools
- B. Review and discuss maintenance budget update
- C. Update on High School lightning strike damages
- D. Update on Building Service Group organization
- E. Discuss snow removal contracts
- F. Review and discuss transportation budget
- G. Update on board approved contingency expenses from Parkview and Readfield projects

A summary of these topics is summarized below:

- Potential project work at the Intermediate/Middle School and High School Tech Ed will be discussed at the November 9 meeting.
- Further investigative work on the potential cost of construction of tennis courts at New London High School. This is in lieu of paying the City for maintenance costs on City courts.
- Snow removal bids will also be on the agenda for the November 9 meeting.
- Our insurance company has approved expenditures from the August lightning strike and the district is working through the insurance company's recommendations for replacement.
- Building Service Group was purchased by SSC which is a subsidiary of Compass Group. We work with Compass Group already because Chartwells is a part of that company. There are no changes to our agreements or pricing with this transaction.
- Further research and audit will be done on Transportation operations during the 2020-21 school year.
- The library and classroom furniture has been ordered and should arrive in the next few weeks.



## **Director of Pupil Services**

## Fastbridge Training Completed

School psychologists Jessica Rice and Matt Sullivan have offered several staff trainings over the past few months to train the special education staff on the use of the Fastbridge progress monitoring tool. The special education and intervention teachers are



using this tool to conduct progress monitoring in both the areas of reading and math to continue checking and tracking progress that students are making towards their academic goals.

#### ACCESS for ELLs Testing Coming Soon



ACCESS for ELLs is an English language proficiency assessment administered to Kindergarten

through 12th-grade students who have been identified as English language learners (ELLs). It is given annually in Wisconsin to monitor students' progress in acquiring academic English. ACCESS for ELLs has extended their window this year. Students are now able to test from November 10 through February 26. This window is now two months longer than the typically allotted time frame for testing. This allows districts more flexibility to get students on campus during a longer window to complete assessments.

#### **Tyson Grant Received**

The Bulldogs of Character group received a \$650 grant from Tyson Foods to support initiatives and programming related to event planning for the Bulldogs of Character throughout the 2020-21 school year.

Thank you to Tyson Foods for their generous donation and support of our district programming.



## **Director of Teaching and Learning**

#### Mentor Trainings Continue Throughout the Year

The mentor meetings continue to occur on a monthly basis and offer an opportunity for both our mentors and our mentees to make connections and work through district-wide initiatives and expectations. These meetings offer a regular opportunity for the new teachers to ask questions and probe further into tools and strategies they can utilize to help students succeed. Recent mentor meeting topics have included: the teacher effectiveness project and special education resources for staff.

#### End-of-the-Quarter Report Cards



November 3, 2019, marked the last day of the first quarter for our students. As a reminder, quarter grades are being sent November 12; grades K-4 in Thursday folders and Grades 5-8 via Family Access.

New London High School

reports grades on a semester basis.

#### **Tyson Continues to Support Education**



Tyson has allocated \$30,000 to be distributed to the School District of New London instructional projects.

As of the time of this report, \$19,000 has been claimed.

Teachers were encouraged to write a mini grant application for resources to enhance student learning and their instruction. Categories that have been awarded include: Applied Learning, Literacy and Language, Mathematics and Science, Health and Sports, Special Education. Purchases have included books, instructional technology, educational kits or games, computers and tablets, personalized learning and diversity. New London is proud to be in a community that honors education and inspired by the 37 projects that have been funded thus far!

#### School Report Cards: Parent's Right to Know

Due to COVID 19 and the unexpected school closures across the state and the missed assessment data as a result, DPI created school and district report cards will not be issued for the 2019-2020 school year. At the time of this report, all state required assessments will remain required for the 2020-2021 school year.

