



November 2021

District Administrator

School Board Election Timeline

The timeline for the April 5 election is:



*November 23 (Tuesday) Publish notice of election (*Press Star* publication on November 18)

*December 24 (Friday) Deadline for non-candidacy for incumbent

*January 4 (Tuesday) Deadline for filing for School Board 5:00 p.m.

*January 11 (Tuesday) Verification of Declarations of Candidacy; drawing of lots for ballot order

*April 4 (Monday) Publish notice of election (*Press Star* publication on March 31)

*April 5 (Tuesday) Election

*April 25 (Monday) School Board members take office

Board members who are up for re-election are Pete Bosquez and Tina Ruckdashel. The term of office for the school board members is three-year terms. Please let us know if there are any questions.

Wisconsin Association of School Boards Recognition

School District of New London school board member Mark Grossman has been recognized by the Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) for his commitment to professional development.

Mark Grossman has earned Level 1 recognition by attending training opportunities focused on student achievement and improving public education by the Wisconsin Association of School Boards and/or the National School Boards Association.

The WASB's Member Recognition Program tracks the professional development of board members, who may be awarded one of five achievement levels based on a point system. Members receive points by attending the State Education Convention, participating in workshops and a variety of other professional development activities.

As it stems from a board member's journey to deepen their understanding of school governance and leadership, member recognition reflects the member's commitment to their community.

The Wisconsin Association of School Boards is a nonprofit association that provides information and services to Wisconsin school boards in the areas of school law and policy making, bargaining, legislation and leadership development.



WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS

B 212

The Intermediate School Middle School Student Services Team is recognized for their B 212 efforts in launching Sources of Strength, coordinating our Family Engagement Events, and partnering with organizations including the Center for Grieving Children and Harbor House to meet student needs within a small group setting. Gretchen Sasse, Theresa Reynoso, Jessica Rice, Erin Marsh, and



administrative assistant Tammy Esser continue to give their B 212 extra effort and go above and beyond to do great things for students and our school community.

First State Bank Donation

Thank you to First State Bank's donation of \$780! First State Bank pledged a \$20 donation to local schools for every new account opened. Customers were able to choose the school to which the bank would make a donation. Thank you customers and First State Bank for this donation in support of our local schools!

Connections Committee

On November 3, the Board of Education Connections Committee met to review and strategize ways to promote the School District of New London. Spectrum Reach shared statistical data and web presence video updates. The current digital communication campaign runs through December.

Updates were shared on the District social media Facebook platform. Discussion on the continuous effort to share content with the school community was prioritized. It was noted that Facebook is evolving as a social media platform with current features, branding, and usage capabilities.

The establishment of additional community engagement activities will be targeted for the second semester of the 2021-2022 academic year.

The following Connections Committee was set for January 5, 2022, where the formal evaluation of the Spectrum Reach Fall digital campaign will be prioritized.

Director of Business Services

Construction Class Projects

The Construction Class (Mr. Gruentzel) has been working on a concrete unit that has helped the school district. A new pad was poured near the Metals Shop and additional concrete down by the track



where the shot put and discus throwers practice and compete.

The work they did allowed for the district to purchase the supplies but a large portion of the labor was provided by our students who also got to learn and experience a trade that will be of value to them either in future work or personal need. Thank you to the students and to Mr. Gruentzel for facilitating.

Boldt Donation

The concrete work noted above for the discus and shot put area is in a difficult location to haul in concrete. Trucks are large and space is limited to drive without creating damage to the grounds or potentially to a contractor's equipment who would transport the concrete to be poured.

Boldt donated a concrete buggy to haul the concrete. This is a generous donation because we rented one, and the donation eliminated renting a second one to complete the project. We thank The Boldt Company for the donation and appreciate their partnership.

Director of Pupil Services

Child Development Days

On Tuesday, October 12, 2021, the special education team conducted one of their child find activities. Child Development Days took place at Lincoln Elementary from 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Over 30 families brought in their students aged 2.5 to 4 years old to be screened in multiple areas including: gross and fine motor skills, speech, communication, cognition and medical concerns. The early childhood staff organized this activity, and they were supported by our school psychologists, speech and language pathologists as well as our occupational and physical therapy department. Congratulations to the early childhood department for the excellent turn out at this event. The next Child Development Days will be held on Tuesday, January 25, 2022.

Upcoming BOC Events

Percy, the bulldog mascot, has been on the move. He has recently been sighted at all the Character Traits assemblies at the elementary schools. He also participated in the Haunted Trails activity on October 29. If you are looking to spot Percy at any upcoming activities, he will be on the Bulldogs of Character float during the December 4 Winter Wonderland on the Wolf parade, and he will also be

decorating trees at the Thern Historical Farm during the holidays.

ACCESS for ELLs Testing



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 testing window is about to open. Students will be testing this year from December 1, 2021, through January 28, 2022.

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 4, 2021, marked the last day of the first quarter for our students. As a reminder, quarter grades are being sent November 11; grades K-4 in Thursday folders and Grades 5-8 via

Family Access. New London High School reports grades on a semester basis.

School Report Cards: Parent's Right to Know



The public portal for school achievement results has been opened. When looking at these results, please note the following information:

- The tests were modified for COVID 19
- Students who did not take the test are counted in our results as not proficient
- We were advised not to compare results from year to year

I will be reviewing those results later this evening.

School report cards have not yet been released at this time. Each year, the state releases a school report card for every public school and district. At this time, the draft report cards were released to assure data quality and final report cards are expected to be released to the public later in November. Once released, we will update the link on our website regarding the reports as well as other information we feel is important to share.

A few cautions on the school report cards for this year:

- The rubrics were changed
- The data includes gap years
- The formulas changed
- They added category weights and a target group

With these changes, I caution you to compare our overall score to years past and to really wait until we can look at the results together (again, has to be after the public release).

When asked about our school and our report card, remember, we do not set this criteria. It is best to celebrate our success and know what we have achieved.

I look forward to presenting on this topic once the embargo on data is lifted.

Rural Virtual Academy



New London virtual students continue to work through the RVA curriculum with continued communication with our district. Parents who are looking to have students connect to activities or sports

will be getting an updated letter later this month. We have received our first quarter billing which included a credit for our learning coordination. Thank you to all who are helping this first year go smoothly.