# SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW LONDON



# Monthly Update

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

## October 2022

# **District Administrator**

#### **Wisconsin School Board Week**

October 2-8 was recently recognized as Wisconsin School Board Week. As a school district, we appreciate the time and effort our Board members contribute to the success of the School District of New London.

### **New To the Bulldog Family**

Congratulations to our newest employee members of the Bulldog family as they begin their journey to foster "Success for All Students." As a District, we welcome their active involvement to support and lead within the School District of New London, welcome aboard!



NAME	ASSIGNMENT	BUILDING
Alissa Davis	Reading, Assessment and	ISMS
	Differentiation Teacher	
Tiffany Klemp	Speech/Language	LN
Jason Liegl	Math	HS
Anne Prochnow	Special Ed IDS	ISMS
Brooke Ritchie	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts	ISMS
Robert Smith	Art	HS
Miranda Stern	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Science	ISMS
Matthew Sullivan	School Psychologist	LN
Tori Tayek	4K/5K	SB
Jordan Thompson	Special Ed	ISMS
(long-term sub)		
Erin Vande Guchte	Special Ed	HS
Trevor Wetzel	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math	ISMS
Ted Williams	Vocal Music	ISMS
(long-term sub)		
Joan Barraza	Bilingual Tutor	LN
Stacy Blindert	Custodian	PV
Chivon Bohm	Ed Asst	PV
Kristina Buelow	Ed Asst	LN
Melinda Doss	Ed Asst	ISMS
Nadine Grundy	Bilingual Tutor	ISMS
Abigail Hernandez	Bilingual Tutor	ISMS
Jenna Herzfeldt	Ed Asst	PV
Dawn Hetzel	Ed Asst	LN

Rachel Kohler	Ed Asst	HS
Dorea Lauer	Ed Asst	ISMS
Jayne Murphy	Ed Asst	LN
Lori O'Connell	Ed Asst	SB
Cassandra Reger	Ed Asst	SB
Jill Stern	Custodian	ISMS
Tayla Westphal	Ed Asst	SB

#### **Connections Committee**

The Connections Committee met on September 26 to review the recent Spectrum Reach digital and image campaign. The campaign intended to promote the School District of New London to targeted audiences seeking information about educational opportunities within our District.

Updates were shared with the current partnership by the New London Chamber of Commerce, the City of New London, and the School District of New London to develop marketing strategies to promote all entities involved. In addition, a joint meeting with the District Connections Committee, the City of New London, and Chamber of Commerce representatives will be established.

Further discussion took place on the creation of a video document to share building enhancements completed in the Intermediate Middle School over the past nine months. The intention will be to share the video documentary on the District webpage. As well, the committee discussed potential development of one-minute videos to highlight District programming and initiatives.

With the intent to further connect our school community, a discussion to explore the development of a parent satisfaction survey was shared. Potential involvement from our District Parent Advisory group could be utilized to ensure the survey framework and content is relevant to support the growth and advancement of desired needs for our school community.

# **Board Development Opportunity**

Unfortunately, the dates for the Board development opportunity do not coincide with Mr. Nietzke's

schedule. The Board will need to discuss if any of the following dates will work at 5:00 p.m.:

- Monday, December 5
- Tuesday, January 31
- Tuesday, February 28

#### B 212

The October B212 Extra Degree of Effort recognizes our District strategic planning group, which is dedicated to a growth mindset of continuous improvement for the School District of New



London. On October 19, the planning team will again meet to develop strategies and leadership skill sets to foster "Success For All Students."

## **Director of Business Services**

#### **Facilities Committee Meeting Recap**

The Facilities Committee met on September 26 and discussed the agenda items below. I added general discussion points around each topic.

A. Update on tennis court proposals and funding collaborations

The project design is almost complete and will be sent out for bid in late November. The committee will review bids and then report to the full board. The City of New London is not able to bond for the collaborative funding at this time.



B. Review and discussion of Hatten Stadium shared costs request

The request to share in this cost was pulled back.

C. Review and discussion of potential Sugar Bush Elementary contract with Somerville

The committee recommended a contract be presented to the Board when received.

Review and discussion of hazardous transportation areas and in-city routes



The committee discussed policies and administrative guidelines related to transportation. The walking area was

discussed along with the complexities of transportation. Future topics will update the committee on transportation programming.

#### E. Updates on future year budgets

The committee discussed the challenges related to budgets in this area. It is likely that it will be necessary to skip a bus capital purchase during the 2023-24 school year. School van purchases are needed and will be budgeted for.



#### **School Donation**



The family of Carl Gloede donated \$1,500 to the four elementary schools in memory of Carl. Carl was passionate about schools and the New London Community. Carl was a former school board member for 12 years and

worked in our schools.

Carl's family asked that the funds go to the elementary schools so the funds could impact many children. We thank the family for the donation and express our condolences for their loss.

# **Director of Pupil Services**

#### **Bilingual Program Night**

On Monday, October 3, 2022, the district wide



the district wide bilingual staff presented a literacy program to celebrate Hispanic Heritage month. This event was open to all members of our school community. We had a very large

turn out from families who have students that participate in our bilingual program. A dinner was served to students and families, and



games, books and prizes were available throughout the event. Stuart Stotts, the children's entertainer also provided a program full of literacy connections and entertainment for our families and students. Congratulations to the bilingual staff on a well-organized event.

#### **Catalyst Academy Board Update**

On October 3, 2022, the Catalyst Academy Board had their first board meeting of the school year. The Catalyst board meets every other month on the first Monday of each month to discuss items related to the Catalyst Academy. The current Catalyst Academy governing board now consists of the following members: Susan Moore-Board President, Natalie Doemel-Vice President, Jo Collar-Clerk, Connie Neely-Treasurer, and Anna Doemel-member.

#### **Sources of Strength Peer Leader Training**

Both the middle school and high schools have had their kick-off events for the year with Sources of Strength Suicide Prevention training. Middle School had their kick off event on September 28, 2022, and



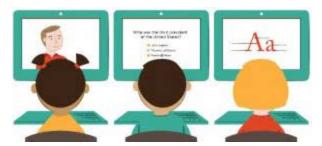
the High School had their event on September 21, 2022. The peer leaders in each building

have been identified for the 2022-23 school year. The students engaged in a full day of learning what the program has to offer and their role in developing that program in both the Middle School and High School. The High School has been using Sources of Strength for several years; the Middle School is entering the second year of using this program. The mission of Sources of Strength is to prevent suicide by increasing help-seeking behaviors and promoting connections between peers and caring adults.

# **Director of Teaching and Learning**

#### **Instructional Committee**

On September 21, 2022, the Instructional Committee reviewed the role of the Director of Teaching and Learning to better understand my duties, timelines and ongoing efforts. We also discussed phase 2 of American Reading Company implementation. Based on the number of new staff in the ISMS and the potential for implementation more seamlessly, we will continue with units 2-4 in grades 5-8.



With only two teachers per grade level this is a manageable task and the ISMS is more eager to have thematic units to complement their current instruction. We also determined our meeting schedule and next topics for instructional review. At our next Instructional Committee meeting on November 2, 2022, we will focus on reviewing the High School core areas and career pathways and continue to monitor course requests and American Reading Company as needed.

#### **State Data Becomes Public**

On September 29, 2022, the state made student assessment results available through the online public portal of WiseDash. This includes all state results for all assessments taken in the 2021-22 school year through the Wisconsin State Assessment System (WSAS).



Per the press release from WI DPI:

The WSAS consists of the Forward Exam given in Grades 3-8 and 10, the ACT Aspire given in Grades 9 and 10, the ACT

with writing in Grade 11, and Dynamic Learning Maps given across all tested grades to students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. The WSAS is administered each spring and is a snapshot in time intended to show how Wisconsin students are progressing toward grade-level expectations. The WSAS results are one measure to help teachers and schools understand where students are academically at a given time and help them determine where additional support may be needed. Results from the WSAS are a foundational component of the state-legislated school and district report cards that will be issued in November. The DPI urges caution when making cross-year comparisons in statewide assessment results between 2019, 2021, and 2022 due to differences in tested populations.

Parents and students have already received their personal results; this data shows data trends and

averages. We reviewed our local data in the spring of 2022. New London prides itself on using local data and is working to identify key performance indicators that will assist in understanding our own student achievement and systems. Overall the state saw growth over last year's results. The full press release from the state can be found at: https://dpi.wi.gov/news/releases/2022/wisconsin-

https://dpi.wi.gov/news/releases/2022/wisconsinstudent-assessment-results

#### **School Report Card**

Now that student achievement data is public, the state begins to finalize the school report cards for districts and schools throughout the state. The preliminary, draft reports have been shared to allow us to check data quality and to challenge errors. The final reports will be released in November (plan for November 15, 2022). Again, based on our local data review in the spring of 2022, we continue to look to identify our own metrics for monitoring success.

## **High School ACT Prep**

New London High School continues to promote both college and career readiness with opportunities for students to practice and prepare for the ACT. The results of an ACT test can provide input and information for students' personal and professional growth for college, career and military options. Here are the important dates for this effort.

- Wednesday, October 19, all 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students will complete a practice ACT exam. The following week each will receive a personalized results report that includes a study guide to improve skills and scores in the future.
- Monday, November 14, all 11th grade students will participate in an ACT Bootcamp from 8:00-12:00. NLHS has partnered with the <u>Academic Tutoring</u> <u>Center</u> in order to provide students with proven strategies, tips, and tricks to improve performance on the ACT.

This is the 3rd year that we will be using this program to get our students prepared for the ACT.

 Tuesday, March 7, will be the official ACT exam at NLHS. Only Juniors will report to school.

Students also have the opportunity to sign up for study sessions during Intervention and Enrichment in the coming months.

This is the 3rd year that we will be using this program to get our students prepared for the ACT. Our Juniors who test this year for the state will be a

testament to the success of this program for instruction as we will have data



starting from their freshman year.

#### **Parent Teacher Conferences**



Parent teacher conferences take place at the end of October. Each building will share further details and options for scheduling with parents as these approach.