



# SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW LONDON

## Monthly Update

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

### October 2023

#### District Administrator

##### Wisconsin School Board Week

October 1-7 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.

##### B 212

The November B212 Extra Degree of Effort recognizes our building-level administrative assistants who have shown exceptional skills in navigating our back-to-school processes with students, staff, and the school community. Their hard work has ensured a smooth transition into the academic year.



##### Engaged and Connected Survey

Fall School Perceptions surveys are currently being

conducted among students, staff, and parents/guardians as part of our District's continuous improvement journey. The survey data will be evaluated to identify the District's strengths and explore opportunities for growth as part of our Engaged and Connected Key Performance Indicator.

The survey window will close on October 18, after which the collected data will be analyzed. Based on the analysis, strategies will be identified to support further continuous improvement within the School District of New London. We extend our gratitude to all the students, District staff, and parents/guardians who have participated in this survey.



##### Wisconsin Association of School Boards 2023 Business Partnership Honor Roll Recipient

Recently, Plach Automotive was nominated by the School District of New London Board of Education as a Wisconsin Association of School Boards 2023 Business Partnership Honor Roll recipient.

The School District of New London would like to recognize Plach Automotive for their recent donation of an automobile lift in the career and technology education department at New London High School to support automotive education.

Additionally, the School District of New London recognizes Plach Automotive for their constant and continued support of our District. Over the years, Plach Automotive has provided students with numerous employment experiences and opportunities.

As a business and individual community leader, Plach Automotive has enriched the school experience for the New London school community.

#### Director of Business Services

##### Custodial Vacancies

Parkview Elementary and the Intermediate/Middle School had vacancies to start the school year. Lori Henderson started at Parkview last week but we were unable to fill the vacancy at the ISMS. Jill Stern will remain in that position until we re-post the position. We welcome Lori to the district and are excited that she is joining our custodial team.

##### Substitute Bus Drivers

The school district is in need of substitute bus drivers to join our school bus driving team. If you know of anyone that might be a great candidate, please contact the transportation department. The district pays for training if they end up driving for the district and there is an incentive to join the team after driving 50 times. Our local drivers provide the training and preparation to pass the written test.



## **Director of Pupil Services**



### **Catalyst Academy Board Update**

On October 2, 2023, 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, Jo Collar-Vice President, Connie Neely-Clerk, Natalie Doemel-Member. Kasey Kaepernick and Emily Marcus (instructors at Catalyst Academy) also attend every board meeting. The next Board meeting will be held at the Catalyst Academy building.

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

The middle school has had their kick-off events for the year with Sources of Strength Suicide Prevention training. Middle School had their first event on October 4, 2023, at Bubolz Nature Center and their



first official meeting on October 10. The High School is still in their planning

stages for the upcoming school year. The peer leaders in the middle school have been identified for the 2023-24 school year. The students engaged in a full day of learning what the program has to offer and their role in developing that program. The High School has been using Sources of Strength for many years; the Middle School is entering the third 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**

### **School Report Card/ Accountability Reports**

Get ready: This information is pre-service for next month.

At the special meeting of the Board of Education in November we hope to have the District and Building Accountability reports available and the embargo

lifted. In order for us to have meaningful transparent conversations, we need to review the purpose of the reports.

The State Accountability and Assessment requirements are meant to set a starting point for personal and district data reflection.

Although our first instinct is to compare and look at ranking or score changes, it is instead a range and meant to guide districts into their own deep reflection and data analysis.

On October 3, 2023, the draft reports were released. With that, our administrative team began their work.

- 1) Is it accurate?
- 2) Was it what we expected?
- 3) How did we do compared to the state averages?
- 4) Which data is confusing or needs a deeper dive?
- 5) Does the source data reflect outliers that we should eliminate?
- 6) Are the goals we set in the spring and summer still relevant?

Our goal is to remain at MEETS EXPECTATIONS and at or above the state average and to continue to focus on the things we prioritize with deeper analysis. Hours of training go into understanding the scores.

In November, I will share the report as well as local data and summary to help understand the state of our district and students.

In the next month, please take some time to review the following:

- <https://dpi.wi.gov/accountability/resources>
- [https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/accountability/pdf/Report\\_Card\\_Guide\\_2022-23\\_Final.pdf](https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/accountability/pdf/Report_Card_Guide_2022-23_Final.pdf)



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF  
**Public Instruction**

### **Instructional Committee**

Our last Instructional Committee held on September 28, 2023, was focused on continued learning related to both the school report card and our practices with student intervention. Beyond the information shared

in the topics above, we reviewed our handbook for intervention which is found on our Title I webpage. We also talked about enrollment trends and data being more than just numbers.

I would encourage each of you to review the handbook to grow in your knowledge of how we address student achievement and needs throughout the school year. Our next meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2023, at 7:00 am at the District Office. [Title I page](#)  
[Data and Intervention Handbook](#)

**ACT 20 and Reading Legislation**

State legislators continue to work to interpret and build process for executing the requirements to ACT 20 which impacts the programming offered related to literacy. As promised, I will continue to keep the board updated on their progress. One concern is that as with most legislation, there is not necessarily funding allocated for putting the requirements in place. There four areas of impact:

Topic	Current	Future
Curriculum Grades K-3	Great news! Our current programming will meet the required changes.	We may need to submit a program description, but not much to do in this area.
Assessments	Our current assessment calendar will be very similar to what is required by the new legislation.	We do not know the approved screener or assessment names as they have not been determined. Based on this decision, training may be needed.
Intervention	Again, great news, our Title I practices and process are very similar to what is being asked.	Review of policy for promotion related to assessment and intervention will be needed, but cannot be done until legislative decisions are made. (July 2025 or 2026)
Training	This will be an area of	All instructional staff grades K-3

	investment of both fiscal and human capital.	will need to attend required training prior to the fall of 2025.
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Continued clarity and information can be found on the DPI website at: <https://dpi.wi.gov/wi-reads/act-20-faq>.

Again, as a district we are ahead of many others in our second year of implementation of American Reading Company. I will continue to update you as details become available.