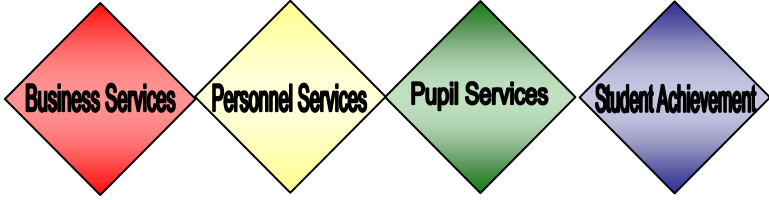




School District of New London



MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Kathy Gwidt

Director of Teaching and Learning

Date: February, 2012

Electronic Resources:

We continue to experiment with a variety of electronic resources that are being utilized in lieu of traditional textbooks and teacher resources. A set of an additional 32 SMART Responders is being added to the 9th grade Academy which gives teachers the ability to instantly track quiz results and lesson comprehension to gain insight into student learning and help increase overall retention and engagement. Nooks™ and Kindles™ serve as popular additions to middle and high school libraries, but expanding the use of eReaders to the classroom has proved problematic. These devices were not initially produced with schools in mind, so the proxy set up is extremely cumbersome for large scale implementation. Companies are scrambling to accommodate institutional need. The implementation of Electronic Grading and Reporting in grades 3-5 continues to enrich opportunities to communicate student progress with students and their families.



Virtual Learning:

We are gaining understanding of student needs as we work with a variety of learners who have chosen to take part in online learning through WI Virtual Schools. This diverse group of students range from those who are credit deficient to those who are seeking courses not offered at our site. We will expand the pilot to include students who find it difficult to fit the state's requirement of Personal Finance into schedules because of their plan to take numerous Advanced Placement (AP) courses during their junior and senior year. This opportunity is indicative of district efforts to ensure success for all students.



Biomedical Sciences:

Students highlighted in the photo learn by doing in *Principles of Biomedical Sciences*. In this class, students

dissect a sheep heart to better understand the internal and external structures of the heart.

This is a part of a simulation in which they work to solve medical mysteries. *Biomedical Science* classes will serve as anchor courses in the Health and Human Services Academy. Our teachers have sought training in Missouri the past two summers which allows them to present these *Project Lead the Way* classes. Two additional years of training are needed to continue course offerings, and we are fortunate that there is now a training center in Wisconsin. Jennifer Doran and Laura Turner look forward to participating in the *Medical Interventions* training that will be provided at Milwaukee School of Engineering.

4K Parent Outreach:

Wednesday, March 7 marks the date of our district's annual *Dr. Seuss on the Loose* parent outreach opportunity. Each 4K site is mandated to provide 87.5 hours of parent outreach which are flexible and varied in order to accommodate all potential participants. Be sure to stop by the Washington Center between the hours of 10:00 and 2:00 on Wednesday, March 7 if you would like to learn more about opportunities such as this.

