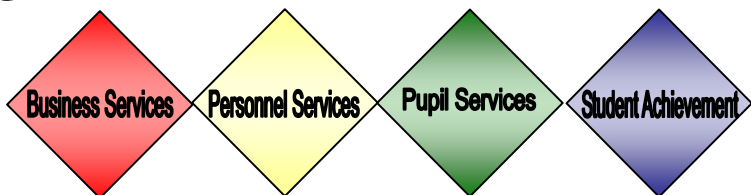




# School District of New London



## MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Bill Fitzpatrick  
District Administrator  
Date: January 2011

### Election Timelines

The following is a timeline for the spring Board election:

- January 11 (Tuesday)      Verification of Declarations of Candidacy  
Drawing of lots for Ballot Order  
Mrs. Schlais, Board Clerk drew lots to determine the order in which names would appear on the April ballot.  
1<sup>st</sup> on the ballot – Kim A. Schroeder  
2<sup>nd</sup> on the ballot – Jason Pues  
3<sup>rd</sup> on the ballot – Keith A. Steckbauer
- March 14 (Monday)      Deadline for supplying municipal clerks with ballots
- March 28 (Monday)      Send notice of election to Press
- April 4 (Monday)      Publish notice of election

If any Board members have any questions, please contact Jill Willner.

### Politics of Education

Governor Walker was recently sworn into office and the legislature is being called back into session to begin debate related to the state budget and other policy issues. We have been informed by those in the know in Madison to expect the impact to be swift, ugly and painful. Last year we received a revenue limit increase of \$200 per student and ended up having to cut our budget by \$500,000. The latest word is that we should plan for zero revenue limit increase. That would mean another million dollars of cuts may become necessary. We have been assured that these debates will not be dragged out into the fall of the year after it becomes too late to make staffing or program decisions. Things will become more clear in the next two or three months.

### SLATE Conference

Last month Kathy Gwidt, Joe Pomrening, Terry Wetzel and Michele Green attended the 1<sup>st</sup> annual *School Leaders Advancing Technology in Education (SLATE)* Conference. This comprehensive educational technology conference was designed by leading education associations to meet the needs of all educators. I have invited the participants to share their experience and insights as they relate to future considerations during the report portion of our meeting on Monday.

### Board / Administrator Planning Session

On Wednesday, January 26, we will be conducting our semi-annual planning session from 12:30 until 5:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held in room B119 at the High School. We will not be serving lunch so plan to eat prior to the meeting. We will have refreshments and snacks throughout the afternoon. From there we will join the Executive Council of the teachers union (NLEA) for dinner at Rawhide Boys Ranch. Dinner will begin at 5:30 and the evening should conclude by 7:30 p.m.

Our planning session will take on a bit more significance as we are nearing the end of our Strategic Plan (2005-06 thru 2010-11). For the past several years we have been revising and adopting annual goals that are articulated with the strategic plan. It is our intention to update the Strategic Plan for another three year period (2011-12 thru 2013-14) and to establish annual objectives for 2011-2012 at the meeting.

The dinner meeting following is an attempt to build better relationships and to get to know each other on a more personal level. We will also engage in discussion around a current topic that is of mutual interest. I promise to make this a very productive day for all.

### Joint State Convention

The Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB), The Wisconsin Association of School Business Officials (WASBO) and the Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators will host the 90<sup>th</sup> State Education Convention in Milwaukee. Pre-convention workshops will be conducted on Tuesday, January 18, with the convention conducted Wednesday through Friday, January 19 – 21. Keynote speakers included Dr. Yong Zhai, Jeannette Walls and Sir Ken Robinson. Those attending will receive a brochure listing numerous concurrent sectionals. New London will be represented by Michele Green, Donna Young and Paula Titterton who will be presenting our "Tech Fest" on Thursday.

### Emergency & Crisis Training

In light of the events involving an armed intruder at Marinette High School prior to the holidays, we will be conducting a training session in collaboration with the New London Police Department during our next early dismissal on Wednesday, January 12. We will be discussing preventive measures as well as steps to take should we ever be confronted with such an incident at school, at the mall or any other situation. The police will share what can best be done as well as how we must work in collaboration with one another. They will share their training insights and will conduct a Q & A session. Staff will then go through a facilitated process to discuss their particular environments and have the opportunity to think about how they might respond should they ever be confronted with such an event. We are also planning a simulated event involving staff and police at some point near the beginning of next school year.