

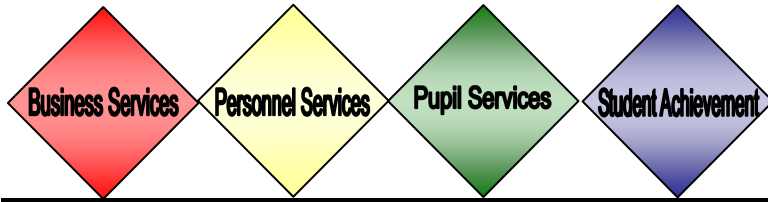


School District of New London

BOARD OF EDUCATION

MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Ann Christopherson
Director of Pupil Services
Date: March 2009



TEEN SYMPOSIUM

Eighteen leaders of tomorrow participated in the Fox Valley Teen Symposium in February. Every year New London High School Freshmen participate in this opportunity. The purpose of the daylong event is to bring leadership skills back into our high schools. Students from differing organizations participated in training, which started with a service learning survey. Upon completion of the surveys, students were given their individual results, connecting their personal preferences to one of four service learning areas – social issues, community activism, environmental issues, and healthy, safe communities.

Students were connected with possibilities throughout the Fox Valley in an opportunity to give back to community through interest areas. It also provided networking activities to further involve youth.

The teens also listened to Carl Olson, a motivational speaker who spoke to “energized everyday leadership” – or – the opportunity to take a concept to action.

Students were given this opportunity through the Outagamie County Pre-Action Network and funding through Title IV-A, Safe and Drug Free monies.

THE GAME OF LIFE

On February 25th, a group of New London High School juniors, identified as students with disabilities, spent their day at Fox Valley Technical College participating in a day called, “The Game of Life.”

Students could have a tour of the campus and learn about the potential to attend a technical college. The primary focus of the day was to encourage students with disabilities to become a greater participant in their life’s decision-making processes. Sectionals included: Working Well With Others, Speak Up For What You Need, Keeping Your Job, What Employers Look For, Banking Basics, Financial Tips & Traps, and Independent Living.

The day afforded opportunity to focus on life’s possibilities after high school. Transition coordinators from each district in the Fox Valley area coordinated the day’s sectionals. Wendy Dallman, NLHS Special Educator, was a coordinator of the event.

“PLUS” TO “PATHS”

Originally our new alternative program for Middle and High School at-risk students was to be called “PLUS” – Positive Leverage for Underachieving Students. After some deliberation, there is a great deal to be said for the positive influences of a program title. The program will now be “PATHS” – Positive Alternatives Through High School.

