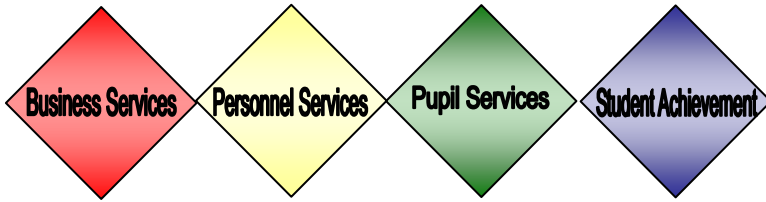




# School District of New London



## MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Kathy Gwidt

Director of Teaching and Learning

Date: November, 2009

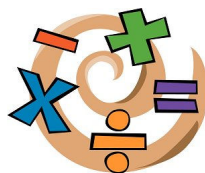
**Making Mathematical Connections:** There will be an Informational Session on November 11 to share detail and encourage participation in the upcoming *Making Mathematical Connections* professional development opportunity.

*Making Mathematical Connections* is a program developed by the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh in partnership with seven school districts in Northeastern Wisconsin. It is funded through a federal Title IIB math grant which totals \$554,972. The goal of this project is to provide teachers in grades 4-8 the opportunity to deepen their mathematics knowledge for teaching.

Participants will receive 4 graduate credits each year for participating in the program, have availability to math coaching opportunities and will attain resources for their classroom. Participants will be asked to make a two-year commitment to the program.

The content focus in 2010 will be Numbers and Algebra. In 2011 the content focus will be Geometry and Measurement. Subject to funding, there will be a third year in 2012 with a Probability and Statistics focus. Each mathematics content topic will be addressed through active engagement in mathematics problem solving, followed by a focus on children's thinking on the topic, and its connections to the curriculum.

We are very fortunate to be included in this opportunity to build capacity and look forward to filling the twelve spots allotted for district participation.



### **Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam (WKCE):**

In recognition of possible H1N1 outbreaks this fall, the DPI allowed districts to begin testing at any time after test books arrived. We took advantage of this recommendation, and all full group testing in our district will be completed by November 13. The assessment window ends on November 27.

Although the WKCE will continue to be administered for at least two more years, the Next Generation Task Force is working on the development of a new assessment system. These new assessments for students in elementary and middle schools will likely be computer-based with multiple opportunities to test during the school year to track student growth. High school tests will provide more information on college and workforce readiness. Check out the *New Balanced Assessment System Plan for Wisconsin*: <http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/nbasp.html> for additional information.

### **Mission Leadership Team – Response to Intervention:**

Our Mission Leadership Team (MLT) continues to work toward the understanding and implementation of Response to Intervention (RtI).

RtI refers to a multi-tiered system that addresses the academic needs of all students by using evidence-based instructional practice, progress monitoring and data-informed problem solving.

The RtI Action Team shared forms that have been developed to support the process of implementation. These documents can be found on our staff website <http://www.newlondon.k12.wi.us/1700staff.cfm>

All MLT participants were charged with building level tasks that will aid their building in moving forward with implementation whether they are in the stages of planning, execution, feedback or evaluation.