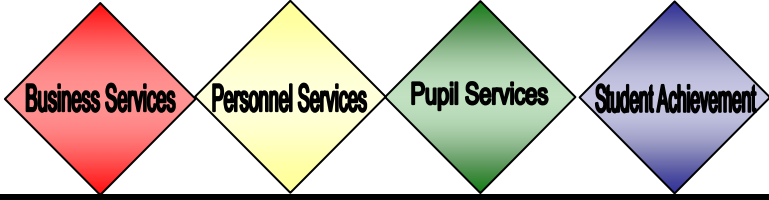




# School District of New London



## MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Bill Fitzpatrick  
 District Administrator  
 Date: September 9, 2010

### Start of School

Last week we began another school year. This was especially challenging yet very rewarding as we saw the start of 4-year-old Kindergarten as well as the transition to our 5-6 Intermediate School, 7-8 Middle School and focused efforts to improve the learning success of our freshmen students. I believe that our staff has stepped up to the new challenges. I will ask the building principals to give us a very brief update about the start-of-school activities at their respective buildings. You will note that we want to highlight the Intermediate/Middle School start-up at this meeting. Terry Wetzell and Joe Green will be the final report and will go into their assessment of the first couple of weeks in a bit more detail.

### Federal Jobs Bill

As you are aware, the federal government has injected another shot of money into schools across the country for the expressed purpose of retaining or creating jobs. New London's allotment is approximately \$447,000. We continue to get updates and revisions to the spending guidelines. I have included the framework that we will use to allocate these funds within the spirit and letter of the law. As these one-time funds must be expended prior to September 1 of 2012, we intend to ascertain the anticipated funding shortfall for next year's budget and will reserve that amount in order to eliminate the need for mass layoffs next year. We will then allocate any remaining balance to the salary and benefit costs of 4-K and any staff members that were originally on layoff but were subsequently called back. We do not anticipate using these funds to call back individuals that were laid off due to enrollment loss or program changes. This process will ensure that our proposed budget which anticipates a reduction in the tax levy to be balanced.

### Healthy Kids Initiative

Deborah Johnson, Executive Director of the Wolf River Area Healthcare Foundation, Bill Schmidt, President/CEO of New London Family Medical Center and I met with Paul Jaden of the Green Bay Chamber of Commerce. The purpose of the trip was to learn more about an initiative that is focused on a community response to the issues of childhood health and obesity. We learned that they are making a business case for joining forces with community resources, to respond. Although we understand that the physical health of our students plays a major role in their success in school, this is not a problem that the school owns, but is one that is affected by many factors including

nutrition, and lifestyle choices of the family. The business aspect is rather simple, healthier kids translates to lower insurance rates. Furthermore, it doesn't take a university study to tell us that healthy kids grow up to be healthy adults and that is the workforce on which our business community will depend on in the future.

This is a great opportunity to expand our community partnerships. So that we keep this within our established goals, we will incorporate it under our "Early Intervention" objectives. A taskforce is being created which will include at least two members of our Phy. Ed. staff and two student representatives.

### WASB Selects "Tech Fest" for Presentation in January

WASB informed us that they have accepted our proposal for inclusion on the State Education Convention held in Milwaukee in January. Our proposal entitled: "Bringing Technology to Your District – Tech Fest 2010" is slated for Thursday, January 20. The School District of New London strives to encourage and improve innovative use of technology in our classrooms. Tech Fest is an event that brought together vendors, teachers, and technology in our high school gym. Participants in the presentation will find out the impact this event had on staff's knowledge and enthusiasm for classroom technology to improve student achievement.

### Next Generation Schools

We continue to engage with others in our CESA 6 initiative to describe the next generation of public schools. I have included a draft of a promotional piece that is being developed. I will continue to be a part of this initiative during this year. Work groups are being formed to bring more detail to the framework and to begin the process of enlisting stakeholders in the process.

