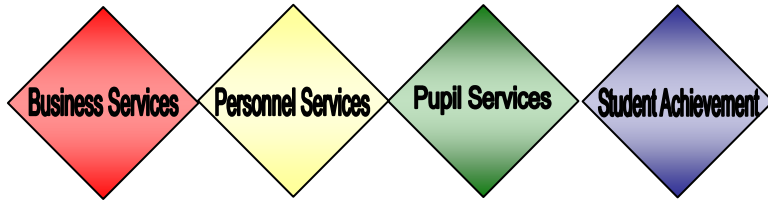




School District of New London



MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Kathy Gwidt

Director of Teaching and Learning

Date: September, 2010



Four-Year-Old Kindergarten:

On September 2, we welcomed 143 four-year-old kindergarten students to classrooms throughout the district. Informational parent meetings and Open House sessions were provided at each site during the last week in August.

Additional outreach opportunities are currently being planned. Teachers will complete *Creative Curriculum* training in the upcoming week, and additional literacy resources are being ordered. We are off to a great start, but recognize that there is still much to do to ensure a successful 2010-11 school year.

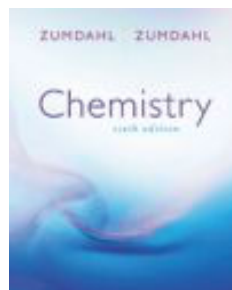
Updated Resources:

As we continue our efforts to develop easily accessed and understood learning targets we find the need to update resources that aid us in providing rigorous and relevant learning opportunities.

In the past months we have upgraded the following text resources:

- Accounting
- Anatomy and Physiology
- AP Chemistry
- Biology
- Calculus
- Math (grades 4-5)

Whenever possible, electronic resources accompany student and teacher text resources.



Mentoring:

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) clearly outlines mentor requirements for Wisconsin school districts, which include:

- The school district must provide ongoing, collaboratively developed orientation for the initial educator.
- The school district must provide support seminars that reflect educator standards and district goals.
- The school district must provide a qualified, trained mentor for the initial educator.

We welcomed four new teachers to the district this year. This group has joined second year initial educators and their mentors in seminars and Moodle online learning opportunities.

We are fortunate to have many trained mentors who are dedicated to aid initial educators in many ways. Mentor expectations include:

- Welcome the new teacher and ensure he/she understands expectations as well as supports available for an effective start to the school year.
- Meet with the new teacher on a weekly basis (20-30 minutes).
- Reflect weekly in Journals or Collaborative Logs.
- Participate in all district support seminars.
- Complete Moodle assignments in a timely manner.
- Assist the new teacher in arranging observations of model educators.
- Collaborate with the new teacher as he/she begins to work toward the development of the Professional Development Plan.

We are proud to have been recognized as one of the DPI's Promising Mentor Programs, and look forward to effectively serving our initial educators in the upcoming school year.