



# BULLDOG

News and Views from the School District of New London

# bulletin



## 2020 | THE ONES TO REMEMBER

### Diplomas on the Doorstep

# Congratulations!



High School Administration and Staff delivered diplomas to Seniors on Friday, May 29.

# FIRST DRIVE UP DELIVERS SEEDS AND SMILES

Lincoln School hosted its first-ever Lincoln School Cares Drive-Up Event on April 24. As students and families drove up outside the front of Lincoln School, they were met with smiles (under masks, of course) from teachers and staff who shared flower seed packets with a

motivational message that read, "You can bloom no matter where you are." This event was a fun way for the Lincoln staff to stay connected with our students while having to be apart. Staff was thrilled to see so many students that they miss so much!!





# ONE LAST TEST FOR THE CLASS OF 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic surprised the class of 2020 with one more final exam. This wasn't your traditional multiple-choice or essay exam. It wasn't going to test reading, writing, or math. It wouldn't help students get into college or improve the district's state-wide report card. This test was a "real-world-let's-see-what-you-are-made-of" kick in the teeth. It was a test that would measure a student's resilience, mental toughness, self-discipline, creativity, compassion, and required an ability to adapt, adjust, and overcome.

How would the graduating class of 2020 respond to their final few months of public education being ripped away from them? How would they respond to their high school athletic careers suddenly ending and losing the opportunity to participate in clubs, and activities? No more concerts, assemblies, dances, school calzones, stories from Mr. Koeller, or unsolicited advice from their favorite principal. How would they respond to the possibility of not having a traditional graduation ceremony?

It came as no surprise to those of us who have worked with the class of 2020 over the last four years that they passed the test with flying colors. The class of 2020 has handled adversity, tragedy, and now a worldwide pandemic head-on. Students demonstrated the intangible skills that are often more valuable in life than an essential standard or learning target. Students worked hard, asked questions, advocated for themselves and others, showed compassion, and refused to quit. It wasn't easy, and it wasn't the way it was supposed to end, but they adapted, adjusted, and overcame.

Each year as graduation approaches I reflect on the graduating class and hope that we have prepared them to be college and career ready and responsible contributing citizens. As I reflect on the last four years with the graduating class of 2020, I have no doubt they are ready.

I would like to thank the New London community, parents, local business and industry, and everyone else who helped us recognize and celebrate the class of 2020.

Class of 2020, thank you for making me a better principal and for making NLHS a great place to work and go to school.

**Brian Yerkey**  
**PRINCIPAL NLHS**



## ISMS Band Keeps Strumming with Band Chat Fridays & DQ Challenges

Band Chat Friday has been taking place each Friday morning at 9:00 AM for ALL New London Middle School band students. Each week there is a new themed musical Kahoot game with a mystery staff member to join the friendly competition. A few staff members include Patty Grossman, Tony Porath and Mrs. Pinch. So far, band students have beat all the teachers they have played against!

Many band students have taken advantage of signing up for individual virtual band lessons using Google Meet. This has been a great way for students to continue to gain knowledge and skills on their instrument...and have a lot of fun playing music at home!

"I scream, YOU scream, we ALL scream for ICE CREAM." Band students have been going "Above and Beyond" and taking part in weekly band challenges and earning a chance to win a coupon for DQ by doing so. Challenges have included creating a podcast episode, performing a mini-concert for family members, or making their own band meme.

# 7th Grade ELA Gets Creative!

Seventh grade language arts students have been working really hard throughout distant learning. In the last couple of weeks students have been completing choice boards. Choice boards allow students to have a voice in their learning because they are able to choose the assignments they want to complete. Students were able to showcase their experiences with distant learning through journal entries, letters to friends/family, poetry, and/or drawings. As usual, the seventh grade students did an outstanding job! Here are a few examples of some of their work.



## Poem

by **ANDRIC BAYER**

In March, I was told  
That the school was going to close  
I did not know how to feel  
My mind kind of froze.

At first, I felt happy  
Then kind of sad  
And sometimes I even  
Felt a little mad.

Then in April  
They canceled the rest of the year  
And in my mind  
I was full of fear.

I decided  
To do my very best  
To finish my homework  
And every test.

The thing I miss the most  
Is seeing my friends  
But I know this is not forever  
It isn't the end.

## Quarantine

by **CLAIRE KLOTZBUECHER**

Quarantine has really got me messed up,  
I never would ever think something like this would come up.  
Never realized how much we have till now,  
and how it can all go like just wow.  
The ability to go to school and see friends is a huge privilege,  
and from what I see on social media this is doing some damage.  
We will never complain about school again,  
because once it's gone it's too hard to explain.  
It may seem really hard now, but it'll get better,  
because no matter what we'll come out of this together.

## Herb Kohl Teacher Fellowship Award Winner!



The School District of New London is proud to announce that New London High School teacher Missy Porath has been awarded a 2020 Herb Kohl Teacher Fellowship Award. Educators are chosen for their ability to inspire a love of learning in their students and ability to motivate others, and for their leadership and service within and outside the classroom.

The website, <https://www.kohleducation.org/teacherfellowship/public/>, states the purpose of this award is to “recognize and support teaching excellence and innovation in the State of Wisconsin. Our goal is to support teachers in the pursuit of their unrealized goals for their classrooms or professional development. Each Kohl Fellowship recipient will receive a \$6,000 grant and each recipient’s school will receive a matching \$6,000 grant.”

Congratulations to Missy Porath on her accomplishment.

# Percy Practices Social Distancing



There is no doubt there are pets out there wondering why masters are working from home and even more so, why aren't these kids at school? Another "pet" that is playing a different role during social distancing is Percy the Bulldog, the beloved New London mascot. New London elementary schools received a grant a number of years ago to afford each building their own mascot costume and during distance learning, Percy has been very busy!

It started with a Google Meet with Readfield kindergarten students in Ellen Flannery's class. Students were excited to find out that they guessed correctly, after being given three clues. The guest's favorite song, "Who Let

the Dogs Out", favorite past-time, fetch and reading, and first name starts with a "P." Students were quick to ask questions such as what is your favorite food and why is your name Percy?

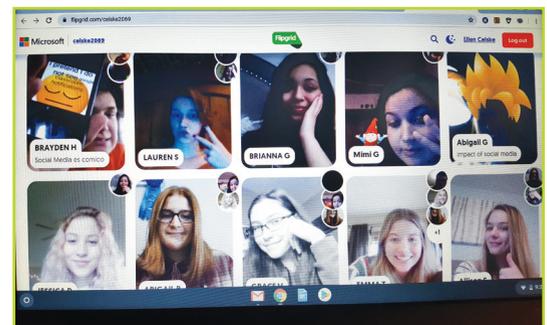
Percy quickly found his way through distance learning joining Meets and appearing in many slide shows celebrating our students. Most recently Percy surprised a young man from Sugar Bush Elementary who has truly been a distance learning "rock star."

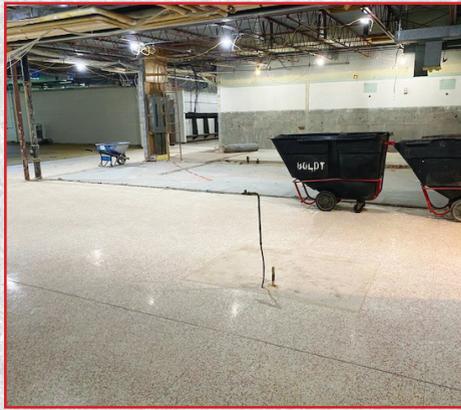
Of course Percy wishes we could all be together but is thankful that technology has allotted him the opportunity to spread some cheer and some Bulldog Pride!



## Staying Safe and Saving Money

**\$4,292, 14 COLLEGE CREDITS, AND 1 YEAR OF HARD WORK.** Safer at home did not prevent 33 seniors from finishing up their dual credit Spanish 202 course through the University of Wisconsin - Green Bay. During the stay at home period, students stayed the course for learning with online video discussions, writing journals electronically, and collaborating on shared docs. By transitioning to online learning, the Spanish 4 students enrolled in the dual credit course, completed their learning, and jump started their college education with 3 college credits. In addition, those students who earned a final grade of a B or better, also received an additional 11 retroactive credits...for free. This is a \$4,292 savings in tuition costs. Way to jump start your future!





## WHILE THE STUDENTS ARE AWAY, REMODEL SURGES FORWARD

The Parkview Elementary School addition and renovation is underway. With the passing of the referendum in the fall 2018 election, Parkview Elementary and Readfield Elementary schools were able to do updating on their facilities. After a year of planning, both projects were able to get started in March.

With the school closures, construction and remodeling were able to begin sooner than expected. At Parkview ground was broke at the end of the March for the new addition that is being added which will be an additional classroom and multipurpose room. As soon as the school was completely packed up, construction crews were able to begin on the remodel on the inside. This project at Parkview entails many new details that will provide updated facilities for student learning. Some projects at Parkview include updating the existing student bathrooms, adding another set of student bathrooms, bringing up to date the heating and cooling systems, electrical and window updates, and flooring changes. These are just of few of the changes taking place.

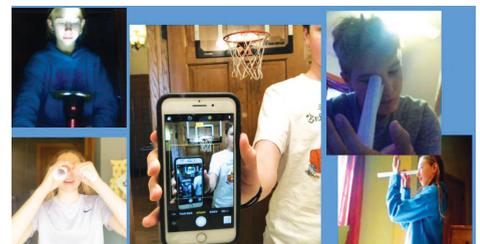
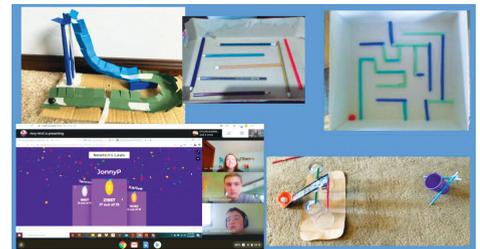
The students and staff are excited to see all the changes happening and cannot wait to get back to the building in the fall of 2020. A special thanks to the maintenance and support staff that helped to quickly pack up the buildings so construction could begin. Also, thanks to Hilker Warehousing LLC (Tom and Lori Hilker) as they graciously donated three semi reefers to the district to pack up Readfield and Parkview Elementary Schools for the summer projects.



## Exploring the World of Science - from Home!

Eighth grade science students have been busy at home exploring science and keeping their brains active. First, they finished up the light and color class by taking a self-guided virtual tour of San Francisco's Exploratorium. They focused on researching mini projects called "Science Snacks" - an extensive collection of activities that challenge students to explore important concepts like color, reflection, and refraction in a hands-on way. Many of the projects used everyday materials like flashlights, mirrors, water, glasses, and even paper and cell phones.

For their next unit, they learned the basics of Newton's Laws of Motion and chose projects and activities from choice boards. The choice boards offered students the option to make simple devices like marble mazes, catapults, and roller coasters. They also had the option to read articles about rockets and sports or play digital games alone or with the class in Google Meets. No matter which options they chose, students took the time to explain how they demonstrated Newton's Laws.





# Getting Back to the GREEN Zone



In April, Mrs. Tate, the school counselor from Lincoln Elementary School, initiated a video project where staff shared their favorite Zones of Regulation strategies for “Getting Back to Green.” Zones of Regulation strategies are used with students to help understand their emotions and learn ways to regulate those emotions. When students are in the “Green Zone,” their brains are ready to learn. The Zones model uses four colors to help students identify how they are feeling at the moment given their emotions. By understanding how to notice their body’s signals, learn what triggers them, read social cues and consider how their behavior affects those around them, students learn to

improve emotional control, self-regulation, self-awareness, and problem-solving abilities.

Teachers at Lincoln Elementary School were asked to send in a picture showing their favorite strategy. Mrs. Tate then created a video, which was shared with students during online learning. The hope was that students could learn and employ new strategies in dealing with any anxiety they may have been feeling given the new mode of learning they were encountering. It was a fun way to remind students about their strategies and help out each other.

## Virtual Talent Show is a Hit

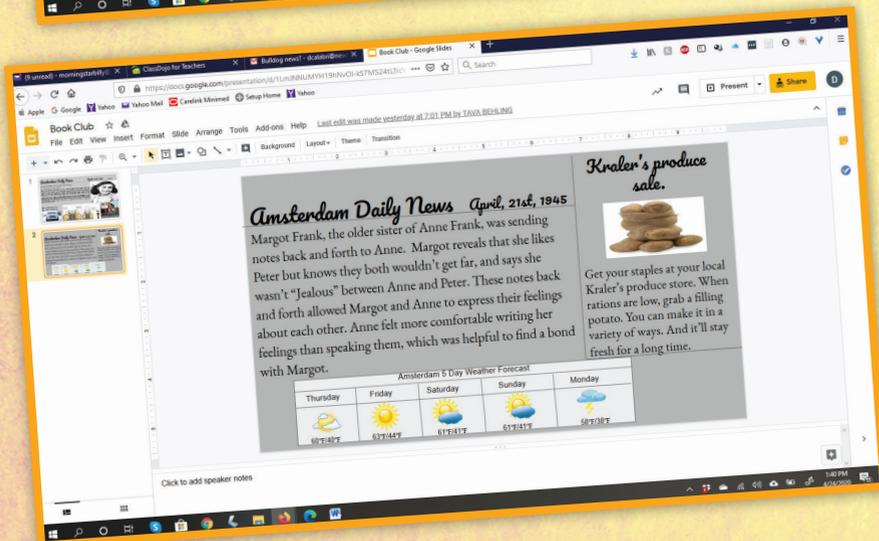
The goal of the elementary staff was to do the best we could to continue with the end-of-year activities through a virtual format. One of the traditional end-of-year activities was the annual talent show held at our four elementary buildings. Everyone has talents, but with young children they are still in the process of self-discovery of finding what talents they possess. The talent show is wildly popular among our student body. Students have the ability to sign up to do a solo or perform as a group. Giving the students an opportunity to perform in front of an audience is not only fun but also a learning experience of important soft skills needed for success in adult life. Students who participate in the talent show build self-confidence, self-esteem, and overcome stage fright. When they perform in groups they are learning the importance of cooperation, communication, and team building skills. These skills are needed in any career they enter as adults. When our talent shows are held in person, the student audience practices their whole body listening skills and learning how to appropriately cheer on and encourage our presenters. The talent shows also help connect the school and family. Children who sign up for the talent show are practicing outside of school with their families. With continued parent support and encouragement, the talent shows have always been a great success.

of 49 talents presented. Being able to record their talents opened up more options for student entries. The variety of solo and group entries included: singing, dancing, instrument playing, cattle showing, dirt bike and four wheel riding, gymnastics, comedy, and magic acts. There was even entries by Percy doing a layup, Mrs. Grable’s dog sawing logs, and Nya, Parkview’s therapy dog, doing a variety of tricks. Everyone did an amazing job. All of us at Lincoln, Parkview, Readfield, and Sugar Bush are very proud of all who participated!



# Ripping Headlines from the History Books!

The 4th grade students at Parkview created some awesome newspaper articles to reflect the historical fiction books they read in their book clubs. Students started with a blank Google Slide and created the entire project virtually. They were tasked with researching products that were available at that time to make an advertisement. They had to check on the weather forecast for that part of the country and needed to create a cartoon of an event in the story. They used Story That to create the cartoon. A picture and publication headline had to be included. The students showcased their knowledge as well as their creative talents. Here are some examples from Mrs. Calabria's Class.



# Thank You!

Congratulations to our Retirees for this year from the New London School District. Thank you for the many years of dedication, hard work and commitment to the students, staff, district, and community. You will be missed.



**Callie Cochran Hager** was hired by the School District of New London for the 2001-02 school year as a High School English teacher. Before coming to New London, she taught in Colorado. Callie had a passion for writing and was involved in the Fox Valley Writing Project. She also served as a dual credit instructor for Fox Valley Technical College and taught Advanced Placement literature.



**Lori Flury** has spent her entire career in the School District of New London. She has been in the Vocal Music Department for 37½ years and was instrumental in building the show choir program into what it is today.

Students involved in her program have gone on to Kids from Wisconsin, as well as careers in the arts.



**Bob Oudenhoven** was hired by the School District of New London for the 2010-11 school year. He has taught both Social Studies and Career/Technology Education. Bob initially worked in the private sector which

brought relevant skills to our programming. He also taught dual credit courses and serves as an adjunct instructor for Fox Valley Technical College.



**Cheryl Yandre** was hired by the School District of New London in the 1996-97 school year. Her journey as an educational assistant began at the elementary level, and through the years she has transitioned with

students through the Middle and High School programs. She has a passion for serving our students that goes beyond the classroom and remained flexible to our program needs.

# SENIOR HONORS EARTH DAY WITH ECO CHALLENGE WALK

New London High School senior, Teja Ross, created a challenge for the New London Community related to her School of Enterprise Marketing project about pollution. Teja researched and learned about the negative effects of pollution on our environment and wanted to make a difference in our community. Her challenge was called the New London Community Eco Walk Challenge in honor of Earth Day.

Families were encouraged to take a walk and clean up their community! The challenge took place from April 27 to May 3. It was a great way for families to get out of the house and support our community. Families cleaned up local parks and many rural streets and highways while also spending quality family time together outside. Thank you to the members of the New London community for participating in the challenge and cleaning up our community.



## Sugar Bush Staff Enrichment Activity

Sugar Bush staff came together to create a bitmoji challenge as a fun enrichment activity for students and families during the last week of school.

### The activity:

Create or share your existing Bitmoji to provide the last week of the school Bitmoji Challenge for students and their families. The app or extension Bitmoji is well-known to some and not so much for others. Essentially the app allows anyone to create a cartoon image or avatar of themselves to share in a variety of ways. In this case, staff's Bitmojis are all pictured around the Sugar Bush school sign and students and families will be able to guess who is who in the world of Bitmoji.

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW LONDON IS EXCITED FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO OFFER GRADE LEVEL ENRICHMENT PACKETS FOR GRADES K-6 THROUGH THE MONTH OF JUNE. THE PACKETS WILL ALLOW STUDENTS TO CONTINUE PRACTICING SKILLS IN CORE SUBJECT AREAS WITH A FLEXIBLE, VIRTUAL CHECK-IN WITH FACILITATORS. LOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION TO COME!

**Summer  
District Office Hours**  
Building hours will vary and will be posted on the District's website  
<http://www.newlondon.k12.wi.us/>

### PUPIL NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT:

It is the policy of the School District of New London that no person may be denied admission to any public school or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil services, recreational or other program or activity because of the person's sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, color, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability.

### Thank you to the following *Bulldog Bulletin* contributors:

- ▶ Brian Yerkey
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