

BULLDOG



News and Views from the School District of New London

bulletin

TEACHERS HELPING FUTURE TEACHERS

New London staff participated in the 6th annual Higher Education Day in January. The New London Education Association (NLEA), which is a professional teachers' organization in New London, wanted to raise funds for future teachers. The teaching programs in UW colleges have seen a decline in education students. The NLEA wanted to encourage and remind local students that the profession of educating others is a rewarding career choice. A scholarship for \$1000 is designated to go to a local graduate going into the field of education. It is presented to the student at the high school awards ceremony. Higher Education Day was established to raise money toward this scholarship. All staff dresses in their alma mater 'gear' for the last day of semester and makes a \$5 donation to the scholarship fund. This year we had record participation, raising \$890.



2021-2022 OPTIONS FOR ALL LEARNERS



New London schools are committed to offering options for all students with a promise for virtual opportunities for families who have found success in that platform.



Registration and Open Enrollment are now open, please call Lesley Baehman at 920-982-2011 or email lbaehman@newlondon.k12.wi.us for more information.

NEW LONDON POLICE OFFICERS SHARE THE IMPORTANCE OF READING WITH STUDENTS

Elementary students had some guest readers in their classroom. The New London Police Department has been recording and posting various book titles being read by officers for the School District of New London elementary students.

The idea came from a request for the Police Department to read books to elementary students. Officer Schmidt and Officer Wilson devised a way to work with Casey Zempel, the Video Producer for the City of New London to produce the videos.

What started with just a couple of titles shared to the elementary schools has grown into its own video catalog. The first couple of recordings from Officer Schmidt and Officer Wilson received such positive feedback from students and staff, that the cataloging of books began to increase. To make the videos more user-friendly and easily accessible, Tony Techlin, Instructional Resource Coach for the School District of New London, and Mr. Zemple collaborated to design a Google website to host the videos. This website has now been shared with all elementary staff and students, making it available for students to enjoy at home through the school website (Note: this website is restricted to students and staff of the School District of New London). One such example is Officer Wilson's



recording of Who Stole the Mona Lisa for Mrs. Teasdale's future art lesson. The students will enjoy a crime story told by a police officer!

This experience has become an awesome way for the New London Police Department to continue their reading presence with the younger students and being able to be even more accessible to read to classes than ever before. As always, the Police Officers continue to share their reading talents and book requests are always welcome!

Elementary Spelling Bee Went Virtual This Year



This year, in place of the traditional spelling bee, New London elementary schools participated in an online testing platform developed by the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Students between the grades of K-4th were able to participate. The winners were announced by January 22nd. Between the four elementary schools, there were 18 student participants. The top spellers tied with 24 correct words. Way to go Bulldogs!!

TOP ELEMENTARY SPELLERS WERE (in alphabetical order):

Tate Blank
Brooklyn Koelb
Emily Otis
Jayme Tesch
Natalie Thompson



BIKE DONATION TAKES STUDENTS TO VIRTUAL HEIGHTS

The New London High School (NLHS) Fitness Center received an incredibly generous donation from Robin Salzwedel, VP of Operations for the Matrix Fitness/Johnson Health Tech Company, located in Madison, WI. Matrix donated five new H7xe hybrid bikes fully stocked with an integrated touch screen display, Vista Clear Television Technology, Wi-Fi and Bluetooth capabilities, charging dock, and immersive Virtual Active program and virtual trainer.

Students can use all the features available from spin training and course races to hitting distance, speed, calorie or heart rate targets set by the Physical Education staff. Students can also utilize the Virtual Active program which comes with a virtual trainer who takes users on rides through various parts of the world chosen by the rider. Some options students can choose from are mountain biking in Oregon, trail rides along the California Coastline, and a cruise through the streets of Paris. Resistance is automatically adjusted based on elevation changes and follow what the rider views on the screen. The NLHS Physical Education department is very grateful for the generosity of Robin and the Matrix Fitness/Johnson Health Tech Company. Their efforts will help make the fitness center that much more enjoyable for students and staff. They have allowed students and staff a unique opportunity to utilize some state-of-the-art equipment that is typically not used at a High School Fitness Center.



Student Wins NCWIT WI Award for Aspirations in Computing

AnnaLynn Seehafer has received the Wisconsin NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing (AiC). The award, powered by the National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT), recognizes 9th-12th grade students who self-identify as women for their computing-related achievements and interests, as part of an effort to encourage a diverse range of students to choose careers in technology.



Award recipients were selected from more than 4,200 applicants from all 50 U.S. states, Washington, D.C., Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, U.S. overseas military bases, and Canada for their outstanding aptitude and aspirations in technology and computing as demonstrated by their computing experience, computing-related activities, leadership experience, tenacity in the face of barriers to access, and plans for post-secondary education.

Each recipient will receive recognition and prizes; induction into the AiC Community of nearly 20,000 technical individuals who self-identify as women; access to resources, scholarships, and internship opportunities; and more.

"Encouraging young women's interest in technology careers is critical: our workforce needs their creativity and unique perspectives to produce technology that is as broad and innovative as the population it serves," said NCWIT CEO and Co-founder Lucy Sanders.

New London Educator Wins NCWIT WI Educator Award for Aspirations in Computing

Samantha Kable has been awarded the NCWIT — WI Educator Honorable Mention Award for 2021. The award, powered by the National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT), recognizes teachers who support young women in computer science and information technology.



Samantha is a 22-year veteran of the School District of New London; predominantly teaching mathematics until she was interested in adding her computer science to her teaching degree. In 2019, she received her WI 1405 Computer Science License from MTEC. Currently, Samantha is teaching Geometry, Exploring Computer Science, Introduction to Computer Programming, and Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles. She is extremely passionate about the importance of technology as a 21st century skill essential for today's youth.

New London Business Comm

This school year Tyson allocated \$30,000 to be distributed to the School District of New London instructional projects. Teachers were encouraged to write mini-grant applications for resources to enhance student learning and instruction. A huge Thank You goes out to Tyson Foods for this donation and continued support for education! Approved projects are listed below, visit our Facebook page for more details and specific classroom impacts.

Donations

- SDNL- Math for Little Hands and Now I Know My ABCs; 4K students
- Four-Year-Old Kindergarten - Play is Really the Work; Mrs. Sternhagen
- Kindergarten - All About Phonics; Mrs. Peterson, New London Connect
- Kindergarten - Desk Kits; Mrs. Larson, Parkview
- Kindergarten - Do You Hear What I Hear?; Mrs. Van Alstine, Lincoln
- First Grade - Slumberkins Reading Buddies; Mrs. Tesch, Sugar Bush
- First Grade - Read What You Need; Mrs. Olk, Parkview
- First Grade - Making Virtual Fun Again; Mrs. Pelot, New London Connect
- First Grade - Excited About Reading; Mrs. Vakirtzis, Parkview
- Second Grade - Indoor Recess Creative Play; Mrs. Hinde, Sugar Bush
- Second Grade - Get Charged by Being Ready to Go; Mrs. Winkler, Lincoln
- Third Grade - Reading Challenge; Mrs. Hoover, Sugar Bush
- Fourth Grade - Building Understanding with Fraction Blocks; Ms. Besaw, Parkview
- Fourth Grade - Eye Catching Books; Mrs. Minster, Sugar Bush
- Fourth Grade - Learning Digitally - Minus the Digital; Ms. Parker, Parkview



Community Supports Education



- Special Education - Wiggle Room to Focus; Mrs. Walbruck, Sugar Bush
- Zones Room - Books, activities, and tools; Mrs. Pagel, Parkview
- Elementary Physical Education - Quality Updated Equipment for Engaged Learning; Ms. Hardy
- Lincoln Bilingual - Biliteracy with Engaging Books; Ms. Retzlaff, Lincoln
- OT/PT - Achieve Movement; Mrs. Schmidt
- ISMS Library - Makerspace Expansion; Mrs. Kovalaske
- ISMS Bulldogs of Character - A new Percy the Bulldog Costume
- ISMS Spanish - Character Kits; Mrs. Hurst
- ISMS Special Education - Overcoming Hurdles; Mrs. Korth
- NLHS Metals - Boxing Out and Planning for Learning; Mr. Jaglinski
- NLHS Advanced Construction - Enhanced/Interactive Trophy Case; Mr. Gruentzel
- NLHS Math - Wacom One Tablet; Mrs. Kamba
- NLHS Math - Flipped Learning on the Go; Mrs. Thorne
- NLHS English - Diversity Library; Mrs. Vantassel
- NLHS Social Studies - Delivering Education; Mr. Lawton
- NLHS Fitness Center - High-Definition Television for Lessons to Teach Myth vs Reality; Mrs. Yerkey
- NLHS Special Education - Flexible Seating and Classroom Library; Mr. Doran, Mrs. Mellin, Mrs. Diley, Mrs. Laufenberg
- NLHS Physical Education - Mobile Yoga Practice; Mrs. Schulz
- NLHS Library - Graphic Novel Collection; Ms. Dickrell
- Catalyst Academy - Hands on Math; Ms. Krueger

Thank you

“Zen Shorts” Has All of Parkview Reading

Parkview School has been very busy READING! Staff and students have all been studying the book *Zen Shorts* by Jon Muth. This book has 3 short lessons within the story. They each deal with character building lessons such as forgiveness, caring, and empathy. As part of our All School Read, each class completed several activities which culminated at the end of February with the movie ‘Kung Fu Panda’. In addition, each class created a set of ‘Zen’ shorts to hang on a laundry line in the hallway. The “shorts” each have a character pillar on them and an example of what it means. Then students decorated the shorts as they pleased. Each student will now receive his/her own copy of the book to keep at home. What an awesome way to promote reading AND good character!



7th Graders Spread Kindness To Peers

On Monday, February 15, 7th grade students spread kindness at the middle school by writing compliments to each other. Each student put a piece of paper on their locker in the morning. During each language arts class, students were given ten minutes to write on as many lockers as possible.

Students learned about the importance of focusing on the positive and uplifting their peers through the power of words. At the end of the day, students had the opportunity to read all the positive comments on their lockers. They all took their sheets home to hang in their rooms which affirmed how wonderful they are! The goal was to remind students of all the great qualities they possess!



SUGAR BUSH FIRST GRADERS LEARN THE VALUE OF A DOLLAR

Sugar Bush 1st graders have been working hard this year to earn money in the classroom. Using classroom “currency”, students earn money for weekly jobs in the classroom. They can earn bonus cash by helping others, completing their work, showing improvement, and being present all week. They can also earn bonuses for collecting pride points!

The classroom economy helps students learn valuable life skills such as organization, the value of saving, and delayed gratification. Rather than being told the importance of these skills, they actually experience them.

Each Friday, the class store opens and students are able to purchase different passes with their money. Some popular passes include gum passes, a tech break, a drawing pass, lunch with a teacher, and inside recess.

First grader, Ali Olson, has been saving her money all year and has earned \$1,000! Way to go Ali!



Generous Community Donors Help Students See Color

Gloria Mihna, a parent whose children have already graduated from the School District of New London, has generously donated several thousand dollars worth of eyeglasses. These glasses, manufactured by the EnChroma corporation, assist students who are color-blind with being able to see color and correct that disparity in their vision.

Mrs. Mihna was able to meet with several of those students and distributed their glasses to them. She was also able to watch their reaction as they were able to use their glasses for the first time. The remainder of the donation has been distributed throughout the district to students who have been identified as having a color-blind impairment.

As a result of the publicity received from WBAY, Channel 2 news story, and the Press-Starr article in the paper, an additional citizen from the community stepped forward as well to purchase 5 additional sets of the EnChroma Color Bind Glasses for students in our school district. A special thanks to Debra Radmer who was a parent of former students who graduated from our district and is currently a grandparent of a student in our district. Debra donated over \$1,000 to purchase the glasses for the students in need of this service.

The School District of New London would like to sincerely thank Gloria Mihna and Debra Radmer for their incredible generosity and continued dedication to the success of students in our district.





Helping for the Holidays



ISMS Staff Give the Gift of Generosity for the Holidays

The Intermediate/Middle School (ISMS) has once again proven what an amazing team they have at their building. Just before Christmas the office staff put their heads together and decided to help out some people in our community rather than purchasing Christmas gifts for each other. The staff reached out to Mission of Hope and learned that there would be no gifts under the tree for any of the adults or children staying there. Knowing the need at Mission of Hope, the office staff reached out to the entire ISMS staff for donations. The generosity was overwhelming!! In two days, ISMS raised \$515 to help put a smile on the faces of total strangers. With this donation the staff at ISMS was able to fill the Mission of Hope list of needs along with getting some extra goodies. Clothes, snacks, a gift card to Kwik Trip and a bit of cash were some items purchased.

It is giving from the heart and sharing our good fortune with those in need that brings a smile and gratitude to the staff at ISMS.



A TREE OF THANKS

The Lincoln Student Council decided to make a Thankful Tree to brighten up the foyer in the building. On the hearts students wrote what they are thankful for such as family, school, pets, friends, sports and food. This tree also served as a reminder to others that everyone has many things to be thankful for even during a pandemic. The student council members who participated are: Therese Mariano, Elizabeth Campbell, Jaidyn Cartwright, Ethan Schendel, Andrew Rathman, and Clay Marsh.

"Stuff the Turkey" Food Drive Breaks Record

Readfield Elementary students rallied together, with the direction of their Student Council, during the month of November to "Stuff the Turkey". Grade levels competed against each other in a friendly competition to see which class could gather the most food items. Student Council was beyond thankful when the totals rolled in--a record 850 food items were donated to St. John's Food Pantry in New London. A new school record! While the students were not able to deliver the items in person, they willingly helped to box up and load the delivery van.



Thank you to the following *Bulldog Bulletin* contributors:

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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.