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News and Views from the School District of New London



The School District of New London proudly presented its annual Veterans Day program at the Intermediate/ Middle School where you could find students, staff, families and community members celebrating the service of veterans. Middle School choir and band students performed stirring renditions of patriotic songs, including 'Taps'. School District of New London's Lisa Smith, spoke of her 20-year career as an aviation structural mechanic in the Navy. Service by reservists, such as First Sergeant, Bret Magolski, was highlighted.

This special occasion allowed opportunity to share our gratitude and appreciation to those in uniform serving today and to those who have served in the past. Thank you, Veterans!





The annual *Bilingual Program Gathering* offered students and their families opportunity to share their culture with others within our schools and community. This family event offered displays of student work, parent information stations to include a table from the New London Public Library, face painting and activity stations facilitated by *Culture Club* members. The potluck supper and piñata served as a highlight to the evening which was enjoyed by all in attendance.



Students from the Next Generation Academy and Catalyst Academy recently toured Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC), participated in a question and answer session with FVTC Ambassadors and enjoyed lunch on campus. They were provided the opportunity to experience programs and course offerings during their visit.

FVTC serves about 50,000 people annually, more than any other technical college in Wisconsin. Many School District of New London teachers are certified to provide dual credit offerings which allow FVTC entrants a jumpstart on their post secondary program.

# **Empowering Students**

## to Step Into the Role of Healthcare Professionals

Working with the same equipment and tools used by lab professionals, Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Biomedical Science students are empowered to find solutions to some of today's most pressing medical challenges. New London students are provided opportunity to participate in the full range of PLTW Biomedical Science courses which include Principles of Biomedical Science, Human Body Systems, Medical Interventions and Biomedical Innovation.

Activities connect learning to life and students work together to step into the roles of biomedical science professionals. This was the case for students enrolled in *Biomedical Innovation*. This group enjoyed a presentation by flight nurse, Jeff Grimm, which helped to better understand how he provides critical care outside of the hospital setting. Other learning

included a tour of the emergency department and analysis of medical equipment.

Senior, Haley Lewallen explained, "This trip was incredibly inspirational and gave real insight to the health field and its bustling atmosphere. It definitely reaffirmed our thoughts on what we want to pursue as careers and how excited we are for our futures in health care."

Students in this final course report career aspirations ranging from athletic trainer, dentist, nurse, cardiologist and work in radiology. This nationally certified program has been proudly offered to New London students over the past seven years. We are grateful to local healthcare professionals who serve in an advisory capacity and validate the knowledge and skills in our curriculum while giving students access to real-world learning experiences.





#### Stuff the Turkey

Readfield Elementary School's Student Council has been busy organizing a competition they call, *Stuff the Turkey*. Classrooms collect food items and deliver them to St. John's Pantry. During this season of Thanksgiving, there are many activities such as this taking place throughout the district.



## **Community Partnerships Enhance Student Services**







When families, community groups, business and schools band together to support learning, young people are more apt to achieve, enjoy and excel in school. The School District of New London is grateful for partnerships that continue to make a positive difference for the children we serve. Here are just a few examples.

Healthy Smiles for Waupaca County, provides a school-based dental sealant and fluoride program. This group recently performed oral health screening, fluoride varnish placement, dental sealants and checked on children who were provided referrals for dental treatment. These services were offered at no charge to families. Statistics show one in three Wisconsin children are living with untreated dental decay, the most preventable chronic disease in the United States. According to Oral Health America, approximately 75 percent of teeth sealed remain cavity free,

compared to less than a third of teeth without sealants.

Waupaca County Flu Shot Clinic, provided immunizations to students in 4K through eighth grade at no cost to families. Getting vaccinated can reduce flu illnesses, doctor visits, missed school days and prevents flu-related hospitalizations. The flu vaccine offers the best defense against getting the flu and spreading it to others.

*New London Lion's Club*, provided vision screening for 91 four-year-old kindergarten students. The Lions have been trained in the use of Autorefractor cameras to help diagnose eye problems at an early age. The Autorefractor uses infrared imaging to diagnose many common eye conditions so children can be treated if concerns arise. If vision screening suggests a concern, a complete eye exam by an Ophthalmologist or Optometrist is recommended.

### TRULY AN 'ADVENTURE'

It was wet, cold and truly amazing! The fourth annual *Adventure Program* backpacking trip was the wettest ever. Students hiked nearly 20 miles and endured three days of rain. Despite conditions, they all eagerly said they would do it again.

This backpacking trip consists of three days of hiking and camping which gives students a small taste of what backpacking can be. Students hike 3 ½ miles with full backpacks to and from their campsite and tackle a 10 mile hike on their second day. During this time they practice basic camp setup, packing skills, fire starting skills, hiking skills and general gear use. Aside from backpacking skills, they also stretch their people skills while living in close quarters for the weekend.



This year students had every right to complain about the difficulty of the trip, but they came together and worked through the discomforts Mother Nature threw at them. They displayed tremendous character to the very end. This is one trip students are sure to remember for many years to come.

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## Engaging Students in STEM with Robotics

There is a growing societal need to enhance Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) learning in classrooms. This is why Intermediate and Middle School staff provide opportunity for students

to explore robotics during their Intervention/Enrichment time, and they have a lot to show for their efforts.

Students build, modify, drive and program Vex IQ robots to navigate the game *Ringmaster*. Vex is a program designed to enhance STEM principles through the context of robotics. Participants are exposed to robotics and coding while relying on teamwork to ensure a successful outcome.





# COUNSELING COMPANY

## Creative Counseling Services

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, one in five children and adolescents experience a mental health problem during their school years. Examples include stress, anxiety, bullying, family problems, depression, learning disabilities as well as alcohol and substance abuse.

The School District of New London is excited to partner with two local agencies to provide option for students to participate in onsite mental health services. The Counseling Company by Rawhide provides services at the High School and Intermediate/Middle School. CHAPS Academy provides services at Lincoln Elementary and Parkview Elementary. Counseling services are funded through individual family health insurance.

School Counselors at each building have referral forms for families to complete as there is a limited amount of space for each service. Please join us in welcoming these agencies to our school communities.



## Percy's Pro Shop

#### Your Holiday Shopping Headquarters

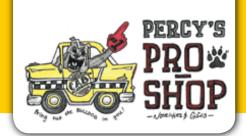
Percy's is now open for its fifth season. Here you can find a wide variety of Bulldog apparel including items from Nike, Under Armour and Jansport. The store is organized, managed and operated by high school students interested in careers related to business and marketing.

This year's managers are Parker Fermanich, Addy Graber, Josie Tuchscherer, Reegan Franzmeier and Josie Hintzke. Managerial duties include hiring and training employees, ordering and pricing apparel, promotion and the overall operation of Percy's Pro Shop. Percy's employees 28 additional students who benefit from this real-world retail experience.

Percy's Pro Shop is located within *Water Street Vintage* in downtown New London. They will be open through January 31 and shopping hours include:

Monday through Friday 10:00-6:00 Saturday 10:00-5:00 Sunday 11:00-4:00

Check out their website at <a href="http://percysproshop.wix.com/percys-pro-shop">http://percysproshop.wix.com/percys-pro-shop</a>. You will be sure to find something for everyone at Percy's Pro Shop.





TODAY'S FFA

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

These efforts were recently reinforced by a visit from State FFA Officer, Elisha Riley, of Waupaca. During this session, middle and high school agriculture classes experienced a variety of leadership activities which highlighted the importance of teamwork and collaboration. They also learned about the National FFA organization and opportunities that are provided to those involved. FFA members spent time with Elisha and *Found their Why*, this year's Wisconsin State FFA theme. They identified the importance of activities they planned for the year and how these activities impact the community and members of the New London FFA.

A representative group recently attended the 90th National FFA Convention in Indianapolis. This experience provided opportunity for the team to learn more about agriculture-related careers from harvesting and the production of cranberries to tours of Kendrick Forest Prod-

ucts and a John Deere planter facility. Students participated in workshops, viewed

agriscience exhibits and attended the 7th general session of the National FFA Convention; where they were inspired by Jon Petz, motivational speaker, *to be the difference*.

Today's FFA has evolved in response to expanded opportunities available in agriculture and its need to hire skilled and competent employees in fields related to science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Students report learning is not only relevant but a lot of fun!

Mrs. Crystal Retzlaff leads this local organization and teaches both science and agriculture classes. Her knowledge and passion has encouraged continued growth in programming and opportunities for New London students.



# Walking Wednesdays Taking Steps to Promote Health and Wellness

Every Wednesday, Intermediate and Middle School students and staff can be found walking the track before the start of the school day. The IS/MS *Fuel UP 60* team used 'National Walk to School Day' as the starting point for this year-long effort. The gym will be open for *Walking Wednesdays* during the winter months.





Bulldog Soccer Captains present a donation of nearly \$2000 to representatives of Theda-Care New London Breast Cancer Center.

#### Student Athletes Support Local Cancer Center

Fall sports teams joined together as one Bulldog family in support of our local cancer center. Soccer, football, volleyball, swim, cross country and tennis players all came together to show support for local families impacted by cancer. As teams, these athletes fight together each day, each

game and at each event, but they understand that their fight on the field, course or court is not nearly the same as the fight others go through when affected by cancer.

To show their support and highlight awareness, teams sold brightly colored shirts and raised over \$2,000.

All proceeds were presented to the local ThedaCare-New London Breast Cancer Center.

Thank you to fall athletes, families and fans who supported this project in any way. Beside dollars, we send encouragement and well wishes to those who are fighting this fight.



#### 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.