



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW LONDON

Monthly Update

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR • BUSINESS SERVICES
PUPIL SERVICES • TEACHING AND LEARNING SERVICES

September 2024

District Administrator

Start of the Academic Year

The 2024-2025 academic year began on September 3, 2024, with schools across the District opening their doors once again after months of summer vacation. Students and parents/guardians were



excited to return, and the day was filled with enthusiasm as students caught up with their friends and met their new teachers for the year.

To kick off the academic year, schools had planned various events such as orientation programs and open houses. These provided ample opportunities for parents/guardians and students to familiarize themselves with the school's facilities and learn about the upcoming academic year, co-curricular activities, and building procedures.

The start of the 2024-2025 academic year was an exciting and informative time for everyone involved. The orientation programs and open houses effectively set a positive tone for the year.

New Certified, Support, and Supervisory Staff

The start of the 2024-2025 academic year welcomed new certified and support staff members to our Bulldog family. Over the past month, new staff members have gone through in-service training and professional development initiatives to become familiar with the School District of New

London. The School District of New London formally welcomed our new staff to our school community on August 27 at the all-district convocation.



High School:

Michael Charlesworth - English
Scott Winkler - English
Morgyn Zielke - Counselor
Emily Horn - Office Assistant, Catalyst
Karen McGlin - Health Aide
Riley Schussler - Student Success Coordinator

High/Intermediate Middle School:

Samantha Alger-Feser - School Psychologist

Intermediate Middle School:

Justin Ranek - Vocal Music
Coral Newton - Special Education
Kay Krejcarek - Speech/Language Pathologist
Nadine Grundy - ELL/Bilingual
Cody Clark - Social Studies
Jessica Fietzer - Educational Assistant
Deanna Pingel - Educational Assistant
Taren Redmann - Educational Assistant

Elementary:

Kristin Brock - ESL/Bilingual, Lincoln
Becca Beschta - Elementary, Sugar Bush
Kansas Crain - Educational Assistant, Parkview
Jaimie Green - Educational Assistant, Parkview
Ashley Klabunde - Educational Assistant, Lincoln
Ana Rosas - Bilingual Tutor, Lincoln

District:

Taylor Ryan - Payroll Specialist
Marc Marsh - Transportation Supervisor

STEP Program

During the 2024 -2025 academic year, the District's Senior Tax Exchange Program (STEP) will again be an active initiative to support instructional and District programming. The program allows senior citizens, 62 years of age and older, whose primary residences are in the School District of New London and who pay property taxes on these residences, to work in the District in exchange for property tax credit. Pay is \$6.50 per hour. Two (but not more than two) eligible residents of the same property may share work to meet the \$429 maximum amount for each primary residence, but combined pay cannot

exceed \$429. This \$429 amounts to a maximum of 66 work hours per household.

STEP programming provides individuals the opportunity to contribute within the District by providing students and staff support which promote:

- Increased one-on-one learning experiences
- Increased small group learning experiences
- Positive social and emotional interactions
- Cross-generational experience
- Improved support from retired members of the community
- Opportunity to demonstrate the “great things” schools are doing
- Opportunity to increase community awareness of the changes in our schools
- More help in and out of classrooms

On September 18 at 11:00 a.m., STEP program director Patty Grossman will welcome and prepare STEP workers for the academic year. If interested in learning more about the School District of New London Senior Tax Exchange Program, please contact Patty Grossman at 920-982-8532 Ext. 2288.



B 212

The September B212 Extra Degree of Effort recognizes the high school student Bulldog Peer Mentor Team led by high school staff members Megan Bergel and Jacqueline Schommer. Student team members led activities during back-to-school open house events and Freshman orientation to support a positive start for the 2024-2025 academic year. Great Job!



Director of Business Services

Pack it Up for Kids

The Rotary Club of New London has sponsored a backpack program for school supplies for several years. This program has evolved to provide backpacks for free and reduced students of the school district.

This year approximately 200 backpacks with school supplies have been distributed to students across the district. This is a great community event because there are local businesses that sponsor funding as well as many individual community members as well.



This year there was also a family that donated 48 backpacks to the Intermediate Middle School because of their connection to Mrs. Kelly Keach. A huge thank you to that family.

Our students across the district really appreciate the support to start the year with a new backpack and supplies.

Transportation Update



The start of the transportation year is off to a great start. Marc Marsh and the team have the transportation department up and running.

Each year there are new stops, different riders, new drivers, childcare points and an abundance of other changes many stakeholders work through the first few weeks of school.

Marc, Tara, Josh and all of the bus drivers are doing their very best to ensure safe, reliable transportation for students each day.

Below is a note about the route structures to start the school year:

- Readfield = 3 AM/PM routes & 1 4K noon routes
- Sugar Bush = 2 AM/PM routes & 1 4K noon route
- In-Town = 12 AM/PM routes
- In-Town = 2 4K & 1 EC noon routes
- Special Education = 2 routes
- Van Route = 4 routes
- Rawhide route

We thank everyone for their patience and understanding as normalization happens and routines can be established.

Director of Pupil Services

Family Donation, #Chloe Cheer

Amy and Jon Eckelberg donated hundreds of dollars worth of school supplies for #Chloe Cheer to the students in the School District of New London. Amy (Manske) Eckelberg is a 2008 graduate of the School District of New London. Her daughter Chloe would have been entering 4K this year at Readfield. She was born in 2019 and passed away in her sleep at 9 months old due to an underlying medical condition. In memory of her honor and in celebration of what would have been her first day of school. Amy and Jon donated over 38 backpacks, 60 packs of crayons, markers, colored pencils and binders. Via #Chloe Cheer, they were also able to get donations that included 151 scissors, folders, notebooks, art box kits, clay, classroom snacks and safety glasses. They also donated a large supply of glue and glue sticks. The School District of New London would like to thank Amy and Jon for their tremendous generosity to the students in the School District of New London.



August Inservice

During and prior to the August inservice, all the district staff were able to participate in trainings related to Safety Training. These include Bloodborne Pathogen Training, Mandatory Reporting, CPR, Medication Administration and Epi-Pen and Glucagon Training. In addition, on August 21, the paraprofessional staff attended an inservice that contained a full 8-hour day of training sessions related to safety.



Donation of Color Blind Glasses

We continue to have a supply of Color Blind eyeglasses for distribution to students in need of this resource. 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.



Ms. Mihna also makes frequent donations to our caring closet as well as the homeless shelter and Bridge Thrift store to support the families in our district and our community.

Our sincere thanks to Gloria Mihna for her incredible generosity and continued dedication to the success of students in our district.

Jenny Penn, school nurse, is working to distribute these glasses to students who would benefit from them.

Director of Teaching and Learning

Back to School In-Service

The Back to School in-service for certified and support staff took place on August 20, 21, 27, 28, and 29. Building and district-level leadership

established in-service and professional development initiatives.

On August 27, Mark Duerwaechter from Rise Leadership presented the keynote address on Authentic Confidence. Mr. Duerwaechter discussed research developed by School District of New London alumnus Ben

Fauske on how individuals communicate with one another. District staff had the opportunity to identify which authentic confidence communicator traits they associate with communicating. Communication profiles were identified for all staff who were in attendance. profiles included Peacekeeper, Friend Maker, Inquisitor, Negotiator, Driver, and Convincer.



Instructional Committee Meeting

On August 15, the Instructional Committee met to align the leadership structure for the 2024-2025 academic year. During the meeting, updates on the curriculum focus for 2024-2025 were identified in the areas of high school math and science. Additionally, status updates on ACT 20 and District training were shared. Committee goals were established to continually examine and further promote an understanding of educational programming within the District while establishing an every-other-month meeting schedule.

