



*Experience the
Lion Pride!*



August 2016

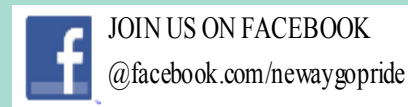
**Welcome to the 2016-2017 School Year
NPS Back to School Events**

Please mark your calendars

Grade	Building	Event - Date/Time
K-1	Vera Wilsie Elementary	Open House - August 25 - 5:30-6:30 p.m.
2-4	Velma Matson Upper Elementary	Open House - August 25 - 5:30-6:30 p.m.
5-6	Newaygo Middle School	Open House - August 17 - 6:00-8:00 p.m.
7-8	Newaygo Middle School	Open House - August 18 - 6:00-8:00 p.m.
9	Newaygo High School	Freshman Orientation - August 16 - 6:00-7:30 p.m.
10-12	Newaygo High School	Student Registration - August 16 - 12:00-4:00 p.m.
		Student Registration - August 17 - 8:30-2:30 p.m.
New Students in grade 9-12	Newaygo High School	New Student Orientation - August 18 - 8:30-3:00 p.m.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: MONDAY, AUGUST 29

Students and families should be aware that the first day of school for students in all of Newaygo County is August 29, 2016. NPS has also incorporated Late Starts on designated Mondays so that teachers can work in Professional Learning Communities (PLC's). Details about this process can be found at www.newaygo.net --> Curriculum --> PLC.



What's New:

- Memories By Susan Gross Pg. 2
- Free & Reduced Meals Pg. 2
- School Calendar Pg. 3
- NMS E.T. Cyber Cafe Pg. 4
- Board of Education Pg. 5
- NPS/State Policies Pgs.5 & 6
- Administrative Changes Pg. 7
- Facilities Update Pg. 7

Newaygo Public Schools
360 S. Mill Street, P.O. Box 820
Newaygo, MI 49337

RURAL ROUTE BOX HOLDER
POST OFFICE BOX
OR OCCUPANT

U.S. Postage Paid
CART PRESORT
Permit No.1
Newaygo, MI
NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION

**Visit us at
www.newaygo.net
to stay current with events!**

Memories By Susan Gross

Thirty-four years ago I had never heard of Newaygo. The first I knew of it was when a friend of mine pointed out the posting for a part time Spanish and English teacher that had appeared in the Hope College job listings. I had not planned to apply for a part time job but gave it a go since it seemed like the type of school I would like to teach at.

The first person I met in Newaygo was Betty Gross, the then high school secretary. (Little did I know that years later I would meet her son and marry him.) Betty ushered me in to Edward Grodus's office for my first interview for a bona fide teaching position. (My first year teaching had been at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin,

as a teaching assistant which I liked but it only paid \$5000 per year.) Ed and I talked for over an hour. I'm not sure what all we talked about but it included my experience as a student in Spain, my background, and my education. I didn't know at the time that a long interview was a good sign. Three days before school was set to start, I was excited to get a call from Ed telling me that I got the job. Scary! I soon met tons of people and, with a very short time to prepare, my new students.

Of the principals I've worked under, but Mr. Grodus was the best! Despite what I consider his worst failing, his temper and penchant for yelling when he lost it, he was consistently fair and caring. Most people knew, and still know, his great big heart and love of education. Nothing got past him. Teachers, students, and support staff alike knew that they must tow the line or be in big trouble. And, fortunately for me, we shared the same shortcoming. I too have a bad temper and tend to yell when I lose it. Not every principal would have accepted this bad habit in a teacher. So, regardless of my temper, I kept my job and worked hard at creating the best lessons and learning environment I possibly could with the tools I was given.

As life went on, I considered moving on. I thought to be a good teacher I needed to experience different school systems and different ways of doing things. I applied for jobs at schools that were closer to where I grew up in the hopes of moving closer to my family. None of them panned out. After years of teaching and living in Newaygo, I'm certainly glad I stayed. I have taught the children of my first students and felt appreciated by most of my students and their parents. I always cared for all my students, sometimes even more than they cared about themselves. For those who supported me throughout the years, I am sincerely grateful to have had your influence in my life. I will continue to be a part of this community. It has been an interesting ride!



Free and Reduced Meal applications for students are located in every school office. You may also print one from the District website www.newaygo.net.

Any questions should be directed to Mary Anne Charette, Director of Food Service, 231.652.9286



Newaygo Public Schools 2016-2017 School Calendar

August 23, 24, 25	Professional Development Days
August 29	First Day of School for Students
September 2-5	No School – Labor Day Weekend
October 3	Late Start
October 10	Late Start
October 17	Late Start
October 24	Late Start
October 28	End of First Marking Period
November 7	Late Start
November 14	Half-Day of School – K-12 Parent-Teacher Conferences; 1:00-4:00 & 5:00-8:00p
November 15	No School – Deer Day
November 17	Parent-Teacher Conferences; 5:00-8:00p
November 23, 24, 25	No School – Thanksgiving Weekend
November 28	Late Start
December 5	Late Start
December 12	Late Start
December 21	Half-Day of School – Begin Christmas Break
December 22-January 2	Christmas Break
January 3	School resumes
January 9	Late Start
January 16	Late Start
January 20	Half-Day of School – End of First Semester – Teacher Records in p.m.
January 23	No School
January 30	Late Start
February 6	Late Start
February 13	Late Start
February 16	Half-Day of School – Begin Winter Break
February 17-20	No School – Winter Break
February 27	Late Start
March 6	Late Start
March 13	Late Start
March 13	Lion Pride Night – Grades K-4; 5:00-8:00p
March 14	Lion Pride Night – Grades 5-12; 5:00-8:00p
March 20	Late Start
March 24	End of Third Marking Period
March 27	Late Start
March 31-April 7	No School – Spring Break
April 10	Late Start
April 14	No School – Good Friday
April 17	Late Start
April 24	Late Start
May 29	No School – Memorial Day
June 8	Half-Day of School – Teacher Records in p.m.
June 9	Half-Day of School – Teacher Records in p.m. – Last Day of School

Late Start = School will begin one hour later than normal and morning bus routes will run one hour later in the morning on these days.

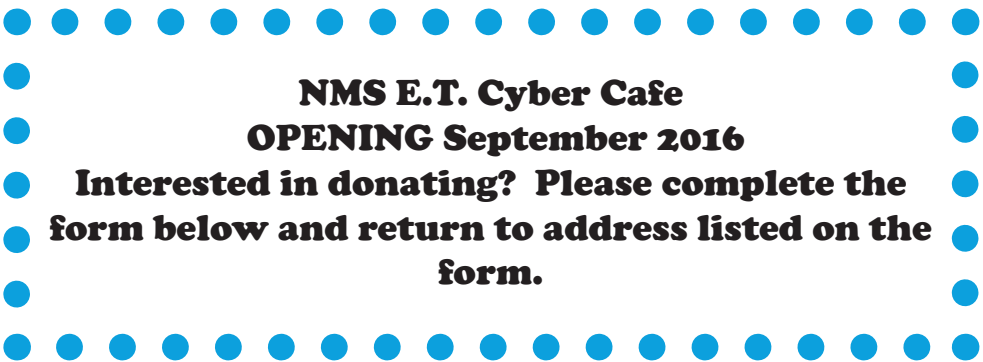
Alternate Days of Instruction. If additional days of instruction are needed to comply with State

Requirements of minimal number of hours of instruction (1,098) they will be added at Winter Break (Feb. 20)

and/or the end of the school year.

The Newaygo Middle School Entrepreneurship and Technology (E.T.) Club would like to thank the following organizations, business, families and individuals for sponsoring the NMS E.T. Cyber Cafe. Sponsorships are recognized on funds, grants and/or materials donated. Thank you! The NMS E.T. Club, Mrs. Harkness and Mr. Reyburn

Fremont Area Community Foundation
Latitudes & Steelheads-Max, Abby & Josephine Zamarripa
Magna Mirrors of America -Newaygo Division
G-M Wood Products, Inc.
Spectrum Health Gerber Memorial
Newaygo County Career Tech Center
White Cloud Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation
Sui Generis Home Furnishings
The Chesley's
DonorsChoose.Org
Wesco
HomeTown Pharmacy
Newaygo Printing & Copy Center
State Representative Jon Bumstead
Larry & Joyce Lethorn
Mortensen Family
Postma Monument
Newaygo Auto Mall
Michigan Water Education Association
Burger King
Heather Briggs
Debby Black
Deb Iwema
Carolyn Hummel
NMS Newspaper Club
NMS Parents, Students & Staff
Central Michigan University
Western Michigan University
Ferris State University
Wayne State University
University of Michigan
Michigan State University
Grand Valley University
Cleary University
Ohio University
Muskegon Community College
Aquinas College



NMS E.T. Cyber Cafe
OPENING September 2016
Interested in donating? Please complete the
form below and return to address listed on the
form.

SPONSORSHIP FORM 2016

Name:_____

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State:_____ Zip Code:_____

Phone Number:_____

Email:_____

Indicate business, family, or school name on one line for promotional print and sponsor wall:

Check the sponsorship opportunity you are interested in:

☐

Top Level Sponsor: \$5,000 Acknowledged as the official E.T. Cyber Cafe Sponsor on all E.T. Cyber Cafe signage, sponsor wall, and on printed promotional material.

☐

Doctorate Sponsorship: \$2,000 Acknowledged as a sponsor on E.T. Cyber Cafe furniture, sponsor wall and on printed promotional material.

☐

Master's Sponsorship: \$1,000 Acknowledged as a sponsor on an E.T. Cyber Cafe electronic, sponsor wall, and on printed promotional material.

☐

Bachelor's Sponsorship: \$500 Acknowledged on sponsor wall and on printed promotional material.

☐

Associate Sponsorship: \$250 Acknowledged on printed promotional material.

Total Sponsorship Contribution::_____

Please make checks payable to Newaygo Public Schools, memo: E.T. Cyber Cafe.

Please copy this sponsorship form and check for use as your tax-deductible contribution. Send form and payment to the Newaygo Middle School, 850 E. 76th St., POB 820, Newaygo, MI 49337 Attn: Jaime Harkness, E.T. Cyber Cafe Coordinator. If you have any questions, I can be reached by email at jharkness@newaygo.net. Thank you, in advance, for your support.

Visit us at
www.newaygo.net
to stay current with
events!

Organizational & Regular Meeting
Monday, July 18, 2016.
The Newaygo Public Schools Board of Education held an Organizational and Regular Meeting on Monday, July 18, 2016.
The Board Held an Organizational Meeting and took the following actions:
Approved policies regarding Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses for Board Members, and Board Position Vacancies, as were approved in March 2008;
Established the third Monday of each month at 6:00 o'clock p.m. in the high school library as the dates/time/place for regular meetings, established the date for the Board's Work Session as Monday, June 5, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the high school li-

brary, and established July as the month for future organizational meetings;
Designated banks and depository;
Designated the Times-Indicator as the school district's official newspaper;
Designated the school district's attorney firms;
Appointed assistant secretaries and assistant treasurers;
Approved the Legal Reference Note.

During the regular meeting the Board hired Dana Ackley-Hernandez – Kindergarten Teacher, Erin Simmons – Kindergarten Teacher, and Arriel VanSingel – JV Volleyball Coach.
A letter of resignation was received by Sarah Murphy, Bus Driver.

The Board of Education took the following actions regarding Old Business items:
Approved the Cross Country Overnight Trip Request.

There were no Major General Fund Expenditures.

The Board of Education considered the following New Business items:
Increase in Lunch Prices;
Student/Staff/Parent Handbooks for 2016-17;
Resolution for School Calendar Option for 2016-17.

Board of Education Meetings
The Board of Education meets on the third Monday of every month. Meetings are held in the Library of the Newaygo High School, 200 East St., Newaygo, MI 49337. Meetings are open to the public and begin at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Education Meeting Minutes are available on the district website. www.newaygo.net
Anyone with questions regarding any meeting of the Newaygo Public Schools Board of Education is invited to contact any member of the Board of Education or Superintendent Peggy Mathis at (231) 652-6984. Minutes of any meeting of the Newaygo Public Schools Board of Education are available for review in the school district's administration office, 360 S. Mill Street, Newaygo, MI 49337.

Board of Education
Bret Brummel, President
Vince Grodus, Vice-President
Jim Badgero, Treasurer
Jackie Malsom, Secretary
Reid Sherwood, Trustee
Jann Holeman, Trustee
Melissa Swinehart, Trustee

The Newaygo Public Schools Newsletter is published by the Newaygo Board of Education and Administration. All news for this publication should be sent to the Administration Office, 360 S. Mill St., P.O. Box 820, Newaygo, MI 49337. All submissions should be sent to the attention of Jessie Borkowski, Editor. Newaygo Public Schools is committed to the policy of nondiscrimination in relation to race, religion, sex, age, national origin and handicap in all of its programs.

Required Immunizations
Michigan law requires that all students must be immunized against communicable diseases in order to attend school. The State of Michigan Health Department and Newaygo County Health Department determine the requirements and exclusion date. Newaygo students who are not up-to-date on their immunizations will be excluded from school. Rules are that DTP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis) and TD and Polio boosters are required after 4 years of age. NO MATTER the number of doses given before 4 years of age. Two MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) vaccines are required, being at least one month apart. There are also 3 doses of Hepatitis B required. Effective 2002-03 school year Varicella (chicken pox) immunization is required. Only one dose is required if received on or after 1st birthday but prior to the student's 13th birthday OR 2 doses are required one month apart if the child received the first dose after their 13th birthday. These diseases are very serious and life threatening. Keep your child up-to-date with immunizations.

Student Harassment
It is a violation of school policy, and often of law, for any student to harass or intimidate another student or staff member. If a student is the victim of any unwanted sexual conduct or communications or of derogatory communications or conduct concerning his/her gender, religion, race, ethnic group, or disability, the student should report such behavior to the office. All reports shall be kept confidential and shall be investigated as soon as possible.
Staff Harassment
It is a violation of school policy, and often of law, for any staff member to harass or intimidate another staff member or student. If a staff member is the victim of any unwanted sexual conduct or communications or of derogatory communications or conduct concerning his/her gender, religion, race, ethnic group, or disability, she/he should report such behavior to his/her supervisor. All reports shall be kept confidential and shall be investigated as soon as possible.

As we begin a new school year, it will be helpful to review a few items concerning our school bus routes and policies. There will be single morning and afternoon bus routes. All students will ride the same bus to and from school. Students should arrive at their assigned bus stop each morning five minutes prior to the scheduled pick up time. Pick up times will be similar to last year.

Preschool parents, you must be at a bus stop before a child will be dropped off. It is not mandatory that parents of kindergarteners be at the bus stop, but it is very helpful to the child and the drivers if the parent is visible. Please be sure your child wears the bus tag for the first couple of weeks of school to help with correct bus assignments. Parents, when you make changes for child care or when a student changes residence, staff at the bus garage must be notified in writing. A separate written notice of the change should be given to the child's school. Children are assigned to buses based upon the child's address the school has on file. Children will be dropped off at the address that is on file.

We ask when you are filing out your transportation forms that you choose only one place for your child to be taken, either home or sitter, not both. Your child may be picked up at one location and dropped off at another, but your child needs to be dropped at the same place all week. If you are changing sitters and a permanent change needs to be made, please give us 48 hours notice of the change.

Students may ride their assigned bus to and from school, according to the school policy. Bus changes are not allowed on a daily basis. Any permanent change must be received in writing and approved by the transportation supervisor before it will be implemented.

It is important to note that Newaygo Public Schools transports more than 3,000 students each day. These policies are designed to protect our students.

Please review the bus rules with your child before the school year begins.

Pest Management

As part of our pest management program, pesticides are occasionally applied. You have the right to be informed prior to any pesticide application made to the school grounds and buildings. In certain emergencies, pesticides may be applied without prior notice, but you will be provided notice following any such application. If you need prior notification, please submit a letter to : Dr. Peggy Mathis, Superintendent., Newaygo Public Schools, P.O. Box 820, Newaygo, MI 49337.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Newaygo Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, color, national origin, religion, disability, or any other protected characteristics in its education programs, activities, administrations or employment policies, as required in Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments, Executive Order 11246, as amended, Section 799A and 845 of the Public Health Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Equal Pat Act.

Inquiries concerning the application of, or grievances for, any of these regulations should be addressed to Peggy Mathis, Newaygo Public Schools, 360 S. Mill Street, P.O. Box 820, Newaygo, MI 49337.

NPS Drug Policy

In accordance with federal law, the Newaygo Public School Board of Education prohibits of use, possession, concealment, or distribution of drugs on school grounds, in school or school approved vehicles, or at any school-related event.

Drugs include any alcoholic beverage, anabolic steroid, any controlled substance as defined by state statute, or any substance that could be considered a "look-a-like" controlled substance.

Compliance with this policy is mandatory. Any student who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, in accordance with due process and as specified in the student handbooks, up to and including expulsion from school. When required by state law, the district will also notify law enforcement officials.

If you are aware of a student who is victim to alcohol or drug abuse, please contact the child's principal, counselor, or social worker immediately. At Newaygo Public Schools, we are concerned about our students and will readily facilitate the process of providing help through programs and services available in the community.

Memo to Parents Regarding Blood Borne Pathogens

Federal regulations from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to restrict the spread of hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immune deficiency virus (HIV) in the workplace are designed to protect employees of the District who are, or could be, exposed to blood or other contaminated bodily fluids while performing their job duties.

Because of the very serious consequences of contracting HBV or HIV, the District is committed to taking the necessary precautions to protect both students and staff from its spread in the school environment. Part of the Federally mandated procedures include a requirement that the District request the person who was bleeding to consent to be tested for HBV and/or HIV. This information would then be provided to the exposed employee and the treating physician to determine proper medical treatment. The law does not require parents or guardian to grant permission for the examination of their child's blood, but it does require the District to request that consent. Although we expect that incidents of exposure will be few, we want to notify parents of these requirements ahead of time. That way if the situation does develop, you will understand the reason for our request and will have had an opportunity to consider it in advance. These are serious diseases, and we sincerely hope that through proper precautions and cooperation, we can prevent them from spreading. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact you child's building principal.

NPS is always accepting applications for Substitute Bus Drivers and a Substitute Bus Aide.

Interested?

**Contact Chris Cronk,
Transportation Director
231-652-1112**

Administrative Changes @ NPS....



NPS Administrative Changes for the 2016-2017 School Year

We are pleased to announce the following changes in the administrative structure beginning with this school year.

Steve Bush – Middle School Assistant Principal

Steve has been in the NPS district for several years first as a teacher and then as the Velma Matson Upper Elementary Principal. He will be the Assistant Principal at the Middle School.

Adam DeShano – Velma Matson Upper Elementary Principal

Adam has been an elementary principal here at NPS and also served as the athletic director for one year. He is moving to the Velma Matson principal position,

Candy Wells – Vera Wilsie Principal

Candy has been an elementary teacher in the district for several years and through an extensive selection process, was selected as the new leader for the Vera Wilsie building.

Kristin Miedema – Athletic Director

Kristin has been working as an academic interventionist at Newaygo High School and is now adding Athletic Director duties to her responsibilities, utilizing her degree in Sports Management.

These are all familiar faces at NPS and we look forward to their new roles

Facilities Update...

Newaygo Public Schools Facilities Update

As the result of the successful school bond election in May, we are in the planning process for a new/renovated elementary school. While currently there is no dirt being moved or demolition occurring, that does not mean a lack of activity in this regard. Over the summer, regular meetings with staff were held with TowerPinkster to gather input on design. Much of the design resembles the pre-bond plan, but the outdoor "steps" that were integrated in the open area have been removed.

Staff gave input on classroom, kitchen and cafeteria design, as well as common spaces, like offices, media center, etc. TowerPinkster (Architectural Firm) has been working on the architectural drawing as well as structural, electrical, mechanical, heating and cooling, landscape, and other system(s) design. Next, The Christman Company (Construction Manager) will put dollar amounts on everything to see where we are financially compared to the initial allocated amount. Adjustments will have to be made if we are over/under budget with the goal of completing the design phase soon.

We have not begun any work on the high school or middle school this summer but plan to work on those designs next summer. Planning will continue and transition will begin as we shift 2nd grade from Upper elem to Lower elem at the end of next school year and actual physical work on the building begins. Stay tuned!

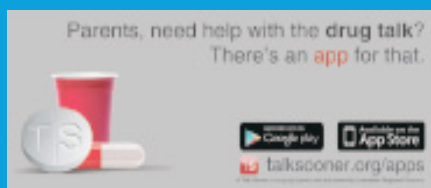


JOIN US ON FACEBOOK
@facebook.com/newaygopride

Lunch Menu for
Monday, August 28

Pizza
Raw Carrots & Dip
Fruit Choice

Visit us at
www.newaygo.net
to stay current with
events!



2016-17 Administration

Peggy Mathis, Superintendent652-6984
Cindy Blamer, Business Manager652-6984
Jackie Knight, H.S. Principal652-1646
Sarah Rodriguez, Assistant H.S. Principal652-1646
Brad Reyburn, M.S. Principal652-1285
Steve Bush, Assistant M.S. Principal652-1285
Adam DeShano, Velma Matson Upper Elem652-2100
Candy Wells, Vera Wilsie Elem. Principal652-6371
Bud Gould, Dir. Building & Grounds652-9313
Chris Cronk, Dir. Transportation652-1112
Mary Anne Charette, Dir. Food Service652-9286
Kristin Miedema, Dir. 9-12 Athletics652-1646
Walter Aslakson, Technology Director652-1646



Lunch Prices for 2016-17 School Year

Velma Matson/Vera Wilsie Elementary	\$1.75
High School/Middle School	\$2.00
Adult Meals	\$3.00
Reduced Meals	\$.40

Monthly Lunch Menus can be found on the NPS website.
www.newaygo.net

*Menu subject to changes due to conditions beyond our control. The National School Lunch Program prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex or handicap.

Mary Anne Charette, Food Service Director
(231) 652-9286

First Day of School for Students August 29, 2016

School Day Times for 2016-17

Vera Wilsie (Grades K-1) 8:20a – 3:25p
Velma Matson (Grades 2-4) 8:15a – 3:20p
Middle School (Grade 5) 8:07a – 3:12p
Middle School (Grades 6-8) 8:12a – 3:12p
High School (Grades 9-12) 8:05a – 3:02p

Thought about becoming a substitute teacher?

NPS needs you!

Please contact PESG for details.

866-SUBPASS or www.subpass.com



PESG
EDUCATIONAL STAFFING SOLUTIONS

NPS is always accepting applications for Substitute Cooks.

**Interested candidates should contact Mary Anne Charette,
Food Service Director at 231 652-9286.**

