

NPS Keeps School Safety at the Forefront



Schools are tasked with so many things. Most important, however, is the safety and health of students while they attend school. NPS has been very proactive in this regard. The things we have purchased or implemented over the past couple of years are described below. School safety is a broad topic and encompasses many things. There are physical (building and grounds) aspects of school safety and there are student social and emotional aspects of school safety.

PBIS – Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

All three of our school buildings are actively involved in a grant program to assist with the implementation of PBIS. Michigan’s Integrated Behavior and Learning Support Initiative (MIBLSI) provide our Leadership team and our Building PBIS teams with training, support, and resources to effectively implement PBIS in our schools.

PBIS is not a “pass out rewards to help students feel good” program. PBIS is a system of supports using a multi-tiered approach to social, emotional, a behavior support. School staff create building-wide expectations for students and teach behaviors early and often. Our students come to us from a variety of backgrounds with varying expectations at home. The more we explicitly state and post expectations and teach and re-teach those expectations, the better our student outcomes become.

OK2SAY & Michigan Cyber Safety Initiative (CSI)

OK2SAY - All of our students in grades 6-12 attended an OK2SAY presentation given by the Attorney General’s office earlier this year. This engaging presentation gave students the encouragement and resources to confidentially report tips on potential harm or criminal activities directed at students, employees, and schools.

CSI – All of our students in grades K-5 attended a CSI presentation given by the Attorney General’s office earlier this year. This program teaches students the importance of making safe and smart choices in a technologically evolving world.

Installation of Secure Entrances at all School Buildings

Thanks to the support of the Newaygo community passing the most recent bond issue, we were able to build/renovate a new elementary school with safety features and install safe and secure vestibules at the middle school and high school. During the school day, our buildings are locked to outsiders and visitors must be “buzzed in” by school staff and go through the office.

Be nice program at the High School

This wildly successful program is present in many schools throughout West Michigan and was developed by the Mental Health Foundation of West Michigan. This program is in our High School and directed by Ms. Erica Boyd. It is a mental health education, bully and suicide prevention initiative that creates a positive cultural change through simple daily actions. Students learn how to Notice, Invite, Challenge, and Empower (hence the letters n.i.c.e.) themselves and their peers.

School-Assigned Police Officer

Thanks to the collaboration of the City of Newaygo, Brooks Township, Croton Township, and Garfield Township, our schools now have funding for a police officer in our buildings on a full-time basis. Officer Mitch Rood is available to respond to crimes in and around our building as well as work proactively with principals, staff, and students to make NPS as safe as possible. Each school year he will teach 35 different classes from the TEAM curriculum designed for school liaison officers to our students. Officer Rood along with area law enforcement provide training for our staff for lock-down situations as well.

Behavioral Specialists at the Elementary and Middle Schools

As a part of our school improvement planning process, we identified needs and secured Title and Section 31a (At-risk) funding to establish full-time Behavioral Specialist positions. These individuals have social work backgrounds and are able to work with our students and families who need assist with managing behavior. Ultimately, this helps to keep all students and staff safe.

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

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ORGANIZATION

School Nurse

Students come to us with a variety of needs. Some needs that are medical in nature (diabetes, asthma, allergies, etc.) can be very serious require schools to have in-house expertise to assist these students and families. We also need a skilled professional to manage medications in our schools. The school nurse helps all students and staff work to keep our kids healthy and safe. Through providing assessment, intervention, and follow-up with students and families, our students stand a better chance of staying healthy and safe and able to learn.

What Else Can Be Done?

With the help of Officer Rood, we secured a sizeable grant to purchase some more items to help keep our schools safe. We plan to purchase window film to install near and around offices and entrances, trauma kits, and panic alarm and tracking software. NPS is planning to make these purchases over the next several months. Stay tuned as these things are added, we'll be sharing more information.
Sources: www.pbis.org, www.michigan.gov/ok2say, www.benice.org

**November Citizens
of the Month**



bottom row:
Daniella duChemin and Kate Haan
top row:
Jaylee Long, Bre Spencer, Ryder Kirk



Mara Johnson



**November Students
of the Month**



Justin Boverhof and Rebecca Perkins

Newaygo High School Homecoming 2018 Court: "Experience the Lion Pride"

Pictured left to right: Emmerson Goodin, Gregory Hearth, Haley Stefans, Bradley Holmes, Princess Quinn Hefferan-Nordlund, Prince Carson Bush, Queen Shea Russell, King Zachary Rodriguez, Breyana Spencer, Dylan Moore, Breanna Marvin, and Kade Bhuyan



The be nice. program is being implemented at Newaygo High School this year. The project was created by the Mental Health Foundation of West Michigan. Its goal is to promote a positive school environment and encourage good mental health by teaching students to **notice, invite, challenge, and empower**. While it is a proactive bullying prevention initiative, it goes far beyond that, seeking to educate students on the impact their words and actions have on the way others think, act, and feel.



This can be a difficult subject for those who are struggling with the way they are being treated, but addressing it is necessary and beneficial. We want all of our students here to feel safe and proud of who they are.

Students and staff are being educated about this topic by student leaders from the be nice. Leadership Chapter. The NHS Chapter has worked hard at presenting the information to the student body (during advisory classes) and that will help to kick off the initiative school-wide.

We want the idea of be nice. to continue to gain momentum in our school, so discussions and activities will continue throughout the year. Any discussions you can have at home will help keep our students thinking about the importance of their actions and their own personal value.

Misty II Through Great Lakes Energy Grant

Mr. Francis recently received a grant for \$2000 from Great Lakes Energy to help with the purchase of a Misty II robot. This money, coupled with funds from my Newaygo Micro Grant and funds from my Go Fund Me page (most of these donations came from former NHS students) cover 90 percent of the cost. This robot is a powerful AI enabled system coupled with limited machine learning abilities that will allow my advanced students an output device worthy of their coding efforts.





Newaygo Middle School Respect Effect Group attended NCRESA Middle Schools Leadership Retreat. During the retreat, students were involved in leadership activities, “get to know you” activities, and learning pros and cons of their leadership style. Fremont, White Cloud, Grant and Hesperia middle school student were also present at the retreat so students were able to meet other school leaders.



The Newaygo Middle School National Jr. Honor Society and a small group of Project Citizen 5th Grade students volunteered at True North Community Services. The students sorted toys, inventoried toys and displayed them in preparation of the Children's Christmas Event held at True North annually providing a place for families in need to shop for families for the holiday season. Thank you to True North for allowing NMS students to volunteer and give back to our community as well as Newaygo Transportation Department for getting us to and from the event. Happy Holidays from the National Jr. Honor Society and Project Citizen.



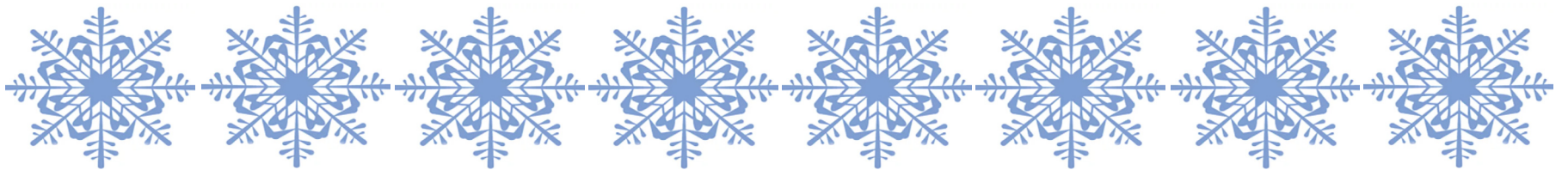
Representative Scott VanSingel visited Mrs. McVicker's and Mrs. Youmans' class to discuss how a bill becomes a law. He also explained what his duties and responsibilities are as a state representative. Rep. VanSingel sponsored H.B. 5853 to have the Karner Blue Butterfly as a state symbol. The kids had a great time! Thank you for visiting our classroom Rep. VanSingel!!



Fifth grade science students have been learning about decomposers while learning about the movement of matter between plants, animals, decomposers, and the environment" (NGGS standard 5-LS1-1).

Students generated ideas to try to keep food from molding and have been observing their plates daily for mold growth. Plates with little to no mold growth after 8 days are the cinnamon plate, the plastic wrap plate, and the cold plate. Plates that are generating a lot of mold growth are the salt plate and the sugar plate.

Students also got to work with worms. They observed the worms to see if they liked to burrow and also did an experiment to see if worms preferred damp paper towel or dry paper towel. The results after one minute: 68 worms were found to be fully on the damp paper towel compared to 13 worms fully on the dry side. There were also 30 worms that were anywhere from 1/4-3/4 % on the damp side. Fifth graders are learning that they practice math in science too!



Newaygo Middle School Running Club Takes On the St. Nick Kick

Newaygo Middle School students trained for 8 weeks with the Running Club to prepare for the St. Nick Kick. After running in the sun, rain, wind, and even snow, many of the Running Club members and other Middle School students showed up ready to tackle the course. The training paid off! Maria Riddering, Aydn Carlson, and Maddie Couch placed in the top three in their division for the 5k. Maria ran her heart out and placed 4th overall for females! One of our high school helpers, Kate Haan, finished 1st in her division and 2nd place overall for females! Hunter Yearsovich and Zachary Spaulding finished in the top two of their division for the 5k as well. Our other high school helper, Phoenix Montoya, finished 1st in his division for the 5k! Garrett Wolven made us all proud by being the only one under 12 to run in the 10k and finishing in under an hour. Way to go, Garrett! For many of these students, this was their first race, and they certainly showed their Lion Pride!



NPS' Young Artists



#1 - Reindeer
by Gracelynn Mays, 1st grade



#2 - Tree
by Kolten Vawter, 1st grade



#3 - Snowman
by River Borkowski, 3rd grade



Violet Borkowski, Mrs. Maat,
and River Borkowski



Tred Long and big brother, first grade
artist, Deekan Long

Newaygo Elementary students had artwork on display at The Stream for Newaygo's Christmas Walk. Artwork was chosen for originality of design and workmanship. Many students and families came out to enjoy and support the artists. Artwork can be viewed at The Stream for all of December.



Landon Stogner, poses
with his "Up Close Snow-
man"



Congratulations to third grader, Violet Jenerou! Her holiday card competition design was chosen out of over 900 entries by Newaygo County Artsplace! The design was made into greeting cards that can be purchased through The Artsplace. Second picture is with Artsplace board member and previous Newaygo teacher, Mary Anderson.



4th grade students started the school year in our brand new school! The students and parents attended open house anxiously waiting to see what the new building looked like. Our 4th grade students have adjusted well to our building. The playground has a soccer field, ga-ga pits, swings, spinning toys and a zip-line. During recess, the boys and girls are surely enjoying all the equipment along with basketballs, hula-hoops and skip-its. It is a great area for our kids to get exercise. Inside our classrooms, the students have plenty of room for relaxing in beanbags as they enjoy their favorite books. In our new library, the boys and girls can sit on nice benches reading as they overlook our town of Newaygo. The new cafeteria is spacious enough to enjoy a yummy warm breakfast and lunch as they visit with their friends. We hope to see everyone on January 12th from 2:00-4:00 at our Newaygo Elementary Building dedication.



Officer Rood Makes a Splash In the Elementary!



Low five anyone? The bus ride was good, and Kiera Graham is ready for school!

This year Newaygo Public Schools has introduced a new school assigned police officer. Officer Mitch Rood with the Newaygo Police Department has been working with students at all grade levels to provide supports and create relationships that all of our students can benefit from. At the elementary level, students experience positive interactions with Officer Rood which include attendance, safety classes and every day interactions. This is done while working on teams to make the schools safer with emergency planning, supervision, Please be cer Rood him at the

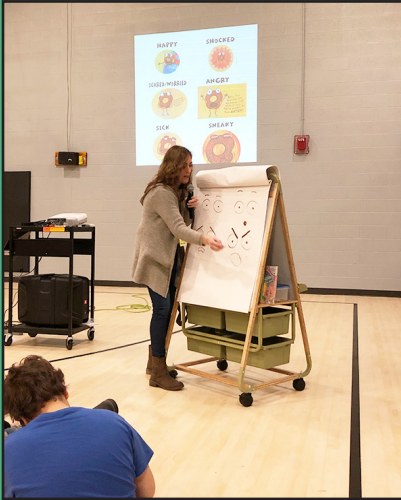


Officer Rood takes time to eat lunch with Landen Bell.



Geneva Toppel is all smiles before class!

The Newaygo Elementary School had the pleasure of having Laurie Keller visit the students on Monday, December 3! Laurie Keller is a Michigan author of Potato Pants!, Arnie, and many other amazing picture books. She taught us how to illustrate a book. She introduced that there are various simple ways to use a circle and line to make a variety of different facial expressions for your character. So cool! All of the students came prepared to the assembly with paper and a writing utensil so that they were able to illustrate right along with Laurie! This assembly was made available by a Fremont Area Foundation Literacy Grant. THANK YOU to the Fremont Area Foundation for their generosity!!





1st Year Members, Inducted Fall 2018

7th Grade: Aubri Blenman, Lauren Bull, Elaine Chen, Gavin Culver, Madison Christensen, Lillyann Cook, Olivia DeJohn, Jaxon duChemin, Madelyn Garbrecht, Sophia Hathaway, Mia Janke, Elsha Jibson, Sydnee Kirk, Josiah Long, Mathew Miedema, Maria Riddering

8th Grade: Alexandria Bruwer, Bryce Decker, Addyson Gorby, Bryce Grubgett, McKade Hurrle, Lyda Lathrop, Emma Mortensen, Olivia Sinkler

2nd Year Members, Inducted Fall 2017

8th Grade: Sarah Andrews, Sofia Briggs, Grant Harkness, Iris Herrera, Connelly Hefferan Nordlund, Grace Painter, McCaiden Rienstra, Nicholas Ruehmeier, Emma Youmans, Libby Young



The Project Citizen 5th grade students honored Veterans and current military personnel by creating cards for the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans, sharing stories and taking pictures of family members who have served and/or serving our country, and creating a Wall of Honor in our school. The NMS Art Club collaborated with Project Citizen and created a large American Flag near the Wall of Honor with handprints of all the NMS students. Each hand includes a sentence describing what America means to them! Thank you to Mrs. Hurrle, Art Club Advisor, for displaying the amazing flag, Ronica Froese, mom of 5th grade student, Dylan Froese, for delivering the cards to the Veteran's Home for Project Citizen, families for sending in your special pictures of family who have served and the NMS staff for having your students trace and cut handprints for the flag. We appreciate your Patriotism and taking the time to honor our Veterans!

Mrs. Harkness and the Project Citizen 5th Grade Students

The students at Newaygo Elementary School bundled up as they walked downtown to hang their handmade Christmas ornaments on the tree. The boys and girls in kindergarten through fourth grade made ornaments with bird seed, peanut butter, pretzels, marshmallow, Fruit loops, cheerios and ice cream cones. These ornaments not only make the tree look beautiful, they also help feed the animals in the winter. The tree was also decorated with beaded candy canes, paper snowflakes, stars made out of sticks, and many other ornaments that helped make the tree look spectacular!



On Friday evening, kids, adults, grandparents, aunts and uncles stood around the Christmas tree in the park waiting for Santa to arrive. As the crowd counted down and the lights came on, the faces of everyone around the tree lit with the Christmas spirit. The boys and girls were so excited to show which ornaments they made. Families enjoyed the celebration as they walked downtown visiting the stores and restaurants, rode in the horse drawn sleighs, sampled food from the food carts, as well as finding Santa Clause so their children could get a picture with him. The streets were busy with families and friends celebrating. Thank you to the chamber members and Beaver Tree Service for organizing such an exciting event for our community!





Second grade students have been working hard on science this year! Our first unit was called Material Magic - and this unit developed the idea that by taking advantage of the properties of materials, we can solve many problems in our lives. Through hands-on investigation, students explored the material properties involved in meeting basic needs (such as clothing and cooking). We are currently working on our 2nd unit - called Work of Water. This unit helps students develop the idea that water is a powerful force that reshapes the earth's surface. Students see that water isn't just something we drink. It carries sand to create beaches, carves out canyons and valleys and, as ice, scrapes entire areas flat.



On Friday, October 19, the 2nd grade students took a field trip to Heritage Farm. Students were able to see how apples are pressed to make delicious apple cider. Each student was able to try a cup of cider right after it was made! For a fun challenge, students had to work together in



groups to find their way through the corn maze. Lastly, students took a hay ride throughout the farm. They learned about elk, bison and many other animals and the adaptations they have. It was a great trip and many students said they wanted to return to Heritage Farm with their families!



Kindergarten celebrated the autumn season with their annual, "Harvest Festival." Each kindergarten student was able to invite a special person to come and spend time in each kindergarten classroom to do autumn-related activities. Some of the activities included; creating turkey headbands, stringing noodle necklaces, and transforming an Oreo cookie into a turkey snack.



Through the efforts of a number of individuals NPS has started an "All Girls" weight lifting program for students in grades 7-12. Over the summer Mr. Van Essen offered to run two segments of weight training, one for the boys and one for the girls. His efforts jump started an interest in getting stronger for our female athletes. I attended these summer sessions to help and learn. Once the school year began I was able to get a time slot for the girls in the weight room and picked up some more expertise through the addition of Ms. English, who helps out on Thursdays.

Although our numbers were small, we had a dedicated core group. Of these young ladies, Breyana Spencer and Eva Mcneese were determined to increase our numbers. I suggested that they do some presentations designed to educate NPS girls about the positives of weight training. They took this challenge and ran with it. They did a presentation at the high school for interested girls and Mr. Bush let them do a presentation for all 7th and 8th grade girls. With the help of Mr. Fansler and Casey Deater, they successfully communicated what a wonderful opportunity this is for our girls.

As a result of their efforts we now have 20+ girls attending weight training every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:40-4:30. The girls who now participate are a mix of athletes and non-athletes, most came with limited knowledge of weight lifting, but all are working hard to improve themselves.



Newaygo Athletics Fall Recap & Honors

The 2018 Fall Season brought in a CSAA Championship, a playoff win, and state finalist. The Boys soccer team won a CSAA Conference Championship for the first time, Football picked up a playoff win against Morley Stanwood, and Ryan Brummel ran at Michigan International Speedway for the Cross Country State Finals for the second and last time in his career.

Post Season Honors include:

Soccer: CSAA Conference Championship

CSAA All-Conference First Team: Angel Guevara, Francisco Rios, Noah Painter, Jasper Sanderson and Adrian Briones

Honorable Mention: Jonathan Soto

All-District: Angel Guevara, Francisco Rios, Noah Painter, Adrian Briones

All-Region: Angel Guevara

All-State Honorable Mention: Angel Guevara

Football: CSAA All-Conference First Team: Connor Swinehart, Zach Rodriguez, Michael LaFontsee, Noah Graff, Andrew Goodin, Carlos Magana, Braden Benjamin

Honorable Mention-Khade Bhuyan

1st Team All-Area Division 5-8: Connor Swinehart, Noah Graff, Mike LaFontsee

Honorable Mention: Andrew Goodin

All-Area Dream Team Division 1-8: Noah Graff

2nd Team All-State: Noah Graff

Volleyball- CSAA All-Conference First Team: Mya Berwald

Honorable Mention: Lily Ruehmeier.

MIVCA Team Academic All State

MIVCA Individual Academic All-State: Daniella duChemin, Sage Beerman, and Alexis Hall

Cross Country: CSAA Honorable Mention-Ryan Brummel and Sophia Frisbie.

MITCA Academic All-State: Ryan Brummel

Congratulations to all of our athletes, and best of luck to our winter athletes (Basketball & Wrestling).



The Newaygo Athletic Boosters were involved in the River Country Chamber of Commerce Logging Festival Parade in downtown Newaygo! Approximately 30 Newaygo High School Athletes represented multiple sports during this event. Many athletes volunteered time at the hot dog eating contest and log cutting contest to help the River Country Chamber of Commerce. Thanks to all involved. LION PRIDE!



NEWAYGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
2018 - 2019 School Calendar

December 21	Half-Day of School - Begin Christmas Break
December 22-January 2	No School - Christmas Break
January 3	School Resumes
January 7	Late Start
January 14	Late Start
January 18	Half-Day of School - End of First Semester - Teacher Records in p.m.
January 21	Late Start
January 28	Late Start
February 4	Late Start
February 11	Late Start
February 15-18	No School - Winter Break
February 25	Late Start
March 4	Late Start
March 11	Late Start
March 18	Late Start
March 18	Parent - Teacher Conferences - Grades K - 4 - 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
March 19	Grades 5 -8 Lion Pride Night 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. & P-T Conferences 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
March 19	Grades 9-12 P-T Conferences 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. & Lion Pride Night 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
March 21	Parent Teacher Conferences - Grades K-12 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
March 22	End of Third Marking Period
March 25	Late Start
March 29 - April 7	No School - Spring Break
April 8	Late Start
April 15	Late Start
April 19	No School - Good Friday
April 22	Late Start
May 24	Half - Day of School
May 27	No School - Memorial Day
June 4	Half - Day of School - Teacher Records in p.m.
June 5	Half - Day of School - 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 (February 18), and/or the end of the school year.

2018-19 Administration

Peggy Mathis, Superintendent	652-6984
Kristin Melvin, Business Manager	652-6984
Brad Reyburn, H.S. Principal	652-1646
Sarah Rodriguez, Assist. H.S. Principal	652-1646
Steve Bush, M.S. Principal	652-1285
Jim Grugett, Assist. M.S. Principal	652-1285
Candy Wells, Newaygo Elem. Principal	652-2100
Adam DeShano, Newaygo Elem. Assist. Principal	652-2100
Bud Gould, Dir. Building & Grounds	652-9313
Chris Cronk, Dir. Transportation	652-1112
Mary Anne Charette, Dir. Food Service	652-9286
Scott Van Essen, Director Athletics	652-1646
Walter Aslakson, Technology Director	652-1646

Please consider donating blood at our
2nd Annual Blood Drive!

Our goal is 28 blood procedures!

Newaygo High School

01/23/2019

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

200 East Street

Newaygo, MI 49337



Please go to: https://donate.miblood.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/108262
to schedule an appointment

or contact Donna Grodus at NHS, 231-652-1646

Missed a previous newsletter or want additional copies? NPS newsletters are archived at: www.newaygo.net --> District --> Newsletter



Save the Date! BUILDING DEDICATION

Saturday, January 12, 2019

2:00 pm to 4:00 p.m.

Newaygo Elementary School – 29 E. Post

Student-led Tours

Light Refreshments



This year Newaygo Public Schools will offer the Michigan Seal of Biliteracy to all high school graduates who exhibit language proficiency in a language other than English. The Seal of Biliteracy will be awarded to students receiving a high school diploma and who have demonstrated intermediate high proficiency on a MDE approved language test. It has been created to encourage students to study a different language and celebrate their hard work and dedication. Students will receive a medal during the Senior Awards ceremony and a gold seal on their diploma. The Seal provides employers and universities a way to identify individuals with strong biliteracy skills. If you have any questions about the Seal of Biliteracy please contact Tina Ratliff at tratliff@newaygo.net

**NPS is always accepting applications for
Substitute Cooks.**

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



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SCHOOLS**