



LIONS

NEWAYGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

February 2015



*Experience the
Lion Pride!*

NPS to Complete Facilities Study

Last spring, the NPS organization began a multi-year Dynamic Planning process. Vision, mission, and promise statements were developed as well as targets and priorities for the next 1-5 years. While there are many areas in which improvement can occur, one of the items that came out of the planning process was the acknowledgment that the school buildings at NPS need some attention.

As a result, NPS is moving forward and working with TowerPinkster and the Christman company. Individuals from these companies have toured our facilities extensively and will put together a list of building needs that can and/or should be addressed. At this time, we know we have some old boilers, outdated control systems and roof work that needs to be done. We also know that our Vera Wilsie and Velma Matson buildings take a good deal of time and resources to keep in adequate condition for students. As we move through the winter and spring, we will be scheduling meetings and discussion forums with staff, parent, and community groups to get input on what the community will support with our facility needs.

Duct Taping the Principal? This is exactly what all 5th Grade Students did to NMS Principal Mr. Reyburn! The students met a Book-It Reading Challenge by dropping everything and reading for an entire afternoon during National Book-It Reading Week in November. Mr. Reyburn agreed to be duct taped to the wall in the 5th grade hallway by each student when all students reached their goal.



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New Teachers for the 2014-2015 School Year. Ms. Crabb and Ms. Grugett began teaching at NPS in September. Ms. Baynes joined us in December. Welcome!



Hello!

My name is Joann Crabb and I am the new Special Education teacher at Nawaygo High School. I grew up in Dubuque, Iowa and have only lived in Michigan a little over 3 years. I previously worked at Providence Christian High School as their Academic Counselor, which allowed me to do a variety of tasks as well as work with struggling students. Currently, I am working on my Masters in Educational Leadership with an Emphasis in Special Education Administration through Grand Valley University. In my free time I enjoy traveling and spending time with my family. In April, my husband and I are looking forward to welcoming our second child into the world! So far, this has been a great year and I am excited to be a part of Nawaygo Public Schools!



Hello!

My name is Jen Grugett and I am the new 8th grade math teacher at Nawaygo Middle School. I was born and raised in Portland, Michigan but have also lived in Kalkaska, Michigan and Raleigh, North Carolina. I earned my degree from Aquinas College with a math major and business administration minor with added education courses to earn my teaching certificate. My husband is an assistant principal for Muskegon Orchard View Upper Elementary and we have two children who are attending NPS. I enjoy spending time with my family, reading, hunting, fishing, sports and running every day. I am enjoying my time at the middle school and am looking forward to a great rest of the year!



Hello!

My name is Katie Baynes and I am the new Director of Bands for Nawaygo Middle school and High school!! I grew up in Linden, Michigan and went to Grand Valley State University where I received my degree in Music Education. I spent last year as a band director in Brownsville, Texas and now live in Sparta. I love band, marching band, jazz band, winter drumline, and all things music!!! I am very happy to be a part of the community of Nawaygo!

Vera Wilsie Elementary

DHS and Vera Wilsie Elementary are hosting a non-perishable food drive to start an emergency food pantry located inside the school. If you would like to participate, please feel free to drop items at the DHS office located inside Vera Wilsie Elementary between 8am-4:30pm.
For more information please contact Mr. Adam DeShano, principal at 231-652-6371

FOOD DRIVE! FEBRUARY 2 - 6

Items Needed:

Canned Meats, Cereals, Pasta, Jelly or Jam, Tuna, Rice, Pasta Sauce, Macaroni & Cheese, Peanut Butter, Soups (dried or canned), Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruits and Juices, Beans (dried or canned).



Vera Wilsie Elementary

Thanksgiving Friendship Feast

On Tuesday, November 24th, Mrs. Seabrook's first grade class and Miss Kaiser's kindergarten class got together for a Thanksgiving Friendship Feast. The first graders dressed as the Pilgrims and the kindergarteners dressed as the Native Americans. The students brought in supplies for stone soup and trail mix and combined all of the ingredients to make a tasty feast. They shared food and conversation with friends to help understand what the meaning of Thanksgiving is. Afterwards, they shared what they were thankful for, which was each other.



This Christmas season the first grade classes were joined by some high school students in Mrs. Gillette's sociology class. The older students talked with and observed the younger students as they worked together to complete a Christmas mural. The students shared Christmas traditions, stories, and yes, even wish lists for Santa. In first grade, it is always a great time when a wonderful learning experience is engaging and involves BIG kids. Thank you high school.



This year's Kindergarten classes continued the long standing tradition of walking to down town Newaygo to decorate the Tree of Hope. Each student decorated their own ornament. Some students even had their picture taken with Santa! We had a wonderful time!



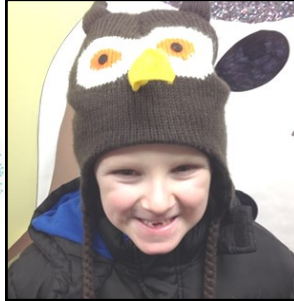
The Hats of Vera Wilsie

As the frigid weather continues, students not only stay warm, but do it in style. Here are some of the students responses when asked, "What do you like most about your hat?"



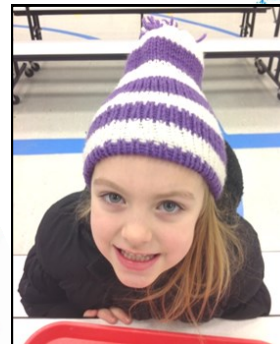
Reagan Bird

"It has eyes, ears, and it has a mouth."



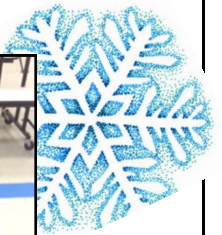
Brayden Cook

"I like the beak because it is yellow."



Addison Thayer

"Because my mom bought it for Christmas."



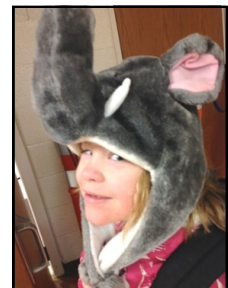
Riley Dawes

"I like that it has a bow on it. I like bows!"



Blake Olson

"It's a hat!"



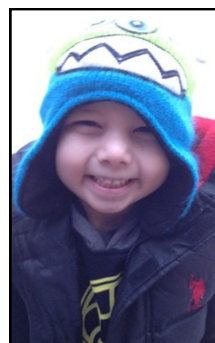
Angela Combs

"That it is big and keeps my head warm."



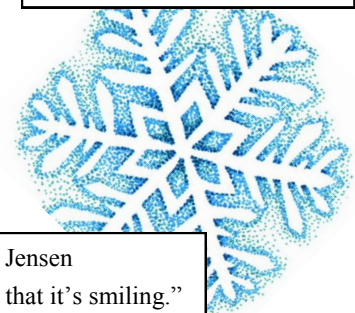
Lola Stapelton

"It has little balls on it."



Arden Jensen

"I like that it's smiling."





Vera Wilsie Elementary students in Ms. Kaiser's kindergarten class and Mrs. Seabrook's first grade class buddy up to make Thinking Maps writing double bubble map come to life. The students worked together to complete a double bubble map comparing first grade students to kindergarten students. They talked about what things were similar and what character traits are different. This double bubble map as shown behind the students is on display in outside the gym of the Vera Wilsie and will be used to write a compare and contrast essay.

Mrs. Nelson from Nelson's Farm Market visited the first grade classrooms at the Vera Wilsie. She brought plants with her in different stages of the life cycle and explained the procedures farmers have to go through to get a good crop. These real life experiences align with the first grade science curriculum and her demonstrations make the science real and easy for beginning learners to grasp. She told the children that technology is part of her farming with the use of robots to help manage the crop. Mrs. Nelson also left a bag of apples for each class to enjoy. The students in some classes enjoyed graphing the apples they preferred to eat after tasting them and Mr. Wittenberger's and Mrs. Seabrook's classes met together to make applesauce. What a delicious learning experience! Thank you Mrs. Nelson.



During Art Class, kindergartener Gabriel Mull proudly shows off his Pete Mondrian painting!



Dads Making a Difference!

A huge thank you to Ryan Randolph and Wally Dawson for making a difference on their child's life, and the lives of many other students at Vera Wilsie! Ryan and Wally were the first two to participate in a program aimed at getting more male role models to volunteer at the Vera Wilsie.

Volunteers participate in many aspects of the school day including food service, recess, greeting students before school, and classroom help. These volunteers have created memories for their children that will last a lifetime, and allowed other students the opportunity to have another male role model in their lives.

Whether you are able to volunteer just one day a year, or once a week we will be happy to have you be a part of our Vera Wilsie family. Fathers, grandfathers, or uncles, who want to volunteer please feel free to call the office so we can get things rolling! (231) 652-6371



Ryan Randolph and his daughter Taylor



Wally Dawson and his son Dylan

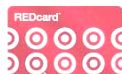
Vera Wilsie Elementary

The Vera Wilsie Elementary School has become very creative in finding ways to help our school with no-cost programs. Listed below are the incentives we have found to be most valuable for us.. Any contribution you make helps us greatly.

It's as simple as 1-2-3:

- 1)Purchase products that help benefit us
- 2)Clip
- 3)Return to our school, we'll do the rest!

Designate our school and Target donates a portion of your credit card purchases made to your school.



We accept Campbell Soup Labels, Box Tops for Education, & Spartan Labels (UPC Symbols).



Plumbs Cards - Pick up your Plumbs card at the elementary office and slide it each time you shop. Our school receives register points to purchase supplies and playground toys.



We also collect all makes and models of used printer, fax and toner cartridges, as well as cell phones.



greenschoolproject

AmeriGas School Days Program - Help earn your school cash when you turn in your Original AmeriGas propane receipt to us.

Thank you, parents, for participating in the art department fundraisers!



This clay bird came out of the first batch that was baked in our new kiln at the Velma Matson.



★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
 ★
 ★
 ★ During Art Class, First grader, Jacob
 ★ Tazelaar, gave Piet Mondrian art "two
 ★ thumbs up!"
 ★
 ★
 ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★



Velma Matson Upper Elementary

Second Grade Makes a Difference

For the Christmas season, second graders wanted to help make a difference for children in their own community. Instead of doing a gift exchange, students donated birthday cake mixes, frosting, sprinkles and candles for Love Inc.'s Birthday Bag program. This program allows families who shop at the pantry to obtain a Birthday Bag for their child. It includes everything they need to make the child's birthday a special occasion. The second grade students were able to donate supplies for approximately 75 birthday bags. Love Inc. distributes about 15 birthday bags per week to families. What a great opportunity for our students to give back to their own community!



Mrs. Franks' 2nd grade class entered the gingerbread house competition that was sponsored by La Belle de la Riviere Bed & Breakfast. The students partnered up with a classmate and made a plan on how they wanted their gingerbread house to look. With many different candy choices that were donated by parents, grandparents and other family members, the students turned their gingerbread houses into a spectacular little Christmas village. With the help of Mrs. Bauer, Grandma Jo and Grandma Bromley, the students created a village on a 24 x 24 base starting with frosting, candies and sprinkles. The village had trees made out of Reese's Peanut Butter cups and sugar ice cream cones, snowmen fishing, roasting marshmallows and sledding. Students even made sidewalks to connect the houses. Many people were able to view the village during the Christmas walk in downtown Newaygo. Our class took first place in the competition!



Velma Matson Upper Elementary



Title I Family Night

On November 18th, parents of 1st through 4th grade Title students attended the Title I Family Night at the Velma Matson Upper Elementary School. Parents learned about the additional programming for reading and math support that are offered by Newaygo Public Schools. Students whose skills need extra support qualify for these programs.

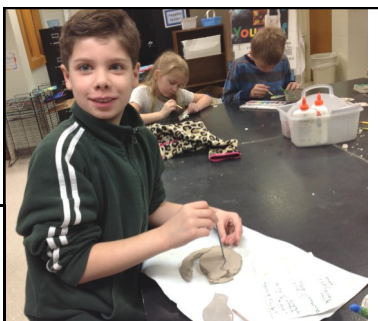
Using the new Ipad, students were able to show their parents the computerized reading program that they work in daily! This web-based reading intervention supports the students reading development with fun learning games individualized for each child based on their skill level. The kids also got to pick out some new books for their at-home libraries! The night wrapped up with an entertaining bedtime story.

On the way out, each family was given a goody bag! The bag was filled with pop, popcorn, snacks and a brand new game- all the things needed for a night of family fun. Thank you to all the parents who work hard to support their child's education. You are part of your child's winning team!



Fourth graders learned about tints and shades while painting these winter castles. Fine job, Atilano!

What We do in Art Class!



3rd grader, Andres, is learning how to carve a clay bird from a slab.



3rd grader, Shaylee Schwartz, shows off her kiln-fired clay bird. The kiln was purchased through proceeds from Square 1 art orders and the Daddy/Daughter dance.

Unlike other fund raisers, Tools 4 Schools requires no selling of anything, simply do your grocery shopping at Plumb's Value Rite Foods and have the cashier scan our Tools 4 Schools card.

Every dollar of your shopping transaction gives our school a point. At the end of the campaign we redeem those points for great teaching tools for our students, including Apple iPads, computers, sports equipment, microscopes, books, literally hundreds of items all FREE from Plumb's Value Rite Foods.

Our sponsoring community supermarket location:

Plumb's Value Rite Foods

193 W. River Valley Dr.

Newaygo, MI 49337



The more groceries your purchase using our schools' card the more our students benefit.

If you do not have a Plumb's Tools 4 Schools scan card, let us know, and we will send one home with your student!

Middle School

The Newaygo Middle School has begun its first year with the National Junior Honor society. In November, 7th and 8th Grade students were nominated by Staff to become a part of the Junior Honor Society. They were nominated for achievements in scholarship, leadership, citizenship, service, and character. The following students were inducted:

8th Grade

Sarah Behnke
Mya Berwald
Ryan Brummel
Daniel Charette
Reagan Coleman
Casey Deater
Samantha Dosch
Daniella DuChemin
Noah Graff
Molly Hurrel
Conner Swinehart
Shelby Wright

7th Grade

Madison Berwald
Sophia Frisbie
Megan Grant
Quinn Hefferan-Nordlund
Celeste Huisman
Noah Painter
Kyla Rounds
Jessica Sanchez
Dylan Seidletz
Samantha Toth

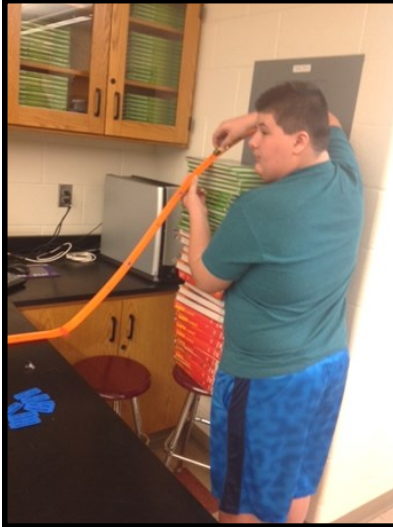


The National Honor Society Students coordinated three hat days in which they collected money and were able to go shopping and purchase 30 toys to donate to Toys for Tots in Newaygo County. Honor Society students will also be involved with tutoring students, going to a leadership conference, planning a community service project for both a local charity and a global charity. Congratulations to these students for their achievement.

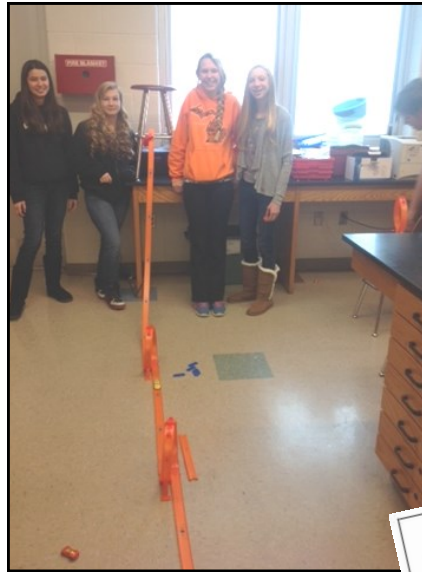


Middle School

Mrs. Bush's Engineering ELO class is checking out *Speedometry*, a fun, interactive way to learn about science, math and engineering! *Speedometry* uses Hot Wheels toys to explore velocity, gravity and kinetic energy. It engages students in the areas of science & math and leads them to explore a particular problem. They then explain their findings, deepening their knowledge through elaboration and evaluation.



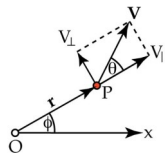
Jeremiah Kuhns is getting ready to release a car.



Samantha Dosch, Lyndsey Frey, Sarah Ryman and Sarah Benke show off their fully constructed track.



Claire Melvin, Justin Menken and Jaiden Hawkins attempt a double loop in their track.



Cole Dirette is intently constructing a loop in his team's track.

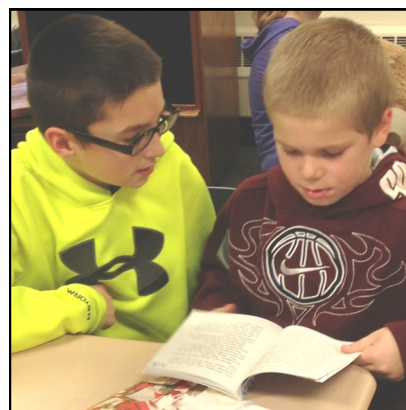
Middle School

Project Citizen 7th Annual Christmas Book Giving

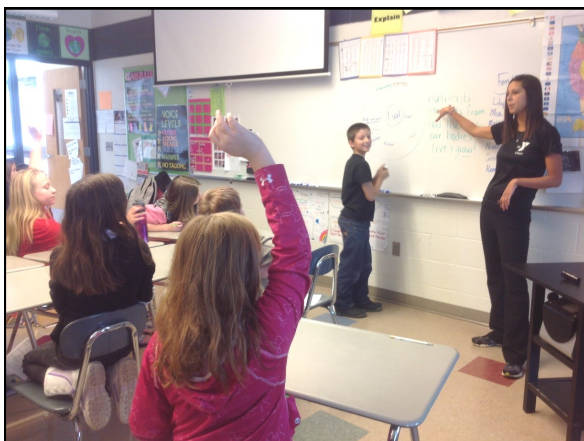
On Tuesday, December 16th, the 5th grade Project Citizen students visited the Vera Wilsie and Velma Matson to deliver new books to every kindergarten, first and second grade student. Four hundred books were purchased with funds provided by the Newaygo PTO.

All of the fifth grade students enjoyed wrapping the books in festive paper in preparation for delivery to the K-2 students. Each 5th grade classroom had the opportunity of visiting 3 or 4 classrooms. They delivered a book to each student and also read with them. Each classroom had a surprise visit from Santa too!

The fifth graders had a fantastic time with this Project Citizen activity. Our hope with this project is for the Vera Wilsie and Velma Matson students to see the 5th grade students as positive role models and to have fun reading! The fifth graders are learning the importance of reaching out, giving back to the community and becoming responsible citizens!



Mrs. Harkness' 5th grade students completed a 6 week Nutrition in Action Program offered by the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids. Mrs. Erica Jordan, Nutrition in Action Program Instructor used an approach to promote physical activity and encourage healthy eating habits. Students were engaged in this program during several interactive activities; exercise, creating a recipe book and extension activities to reinforce nutrition concepts. At the end of each class, students learned how to make a healthy snack and had fun test tasting it too! According to the YMCA, students who eat healthier foods and get regular exercise are more focused, miss fewer days of school, and get better grades.





Fifth Grade Project Citizen students recently volunteered at True North Community Service. The students unpacked, sorted and displayed toys, bikes, clothes, electronics and more to prepare for the Children's Christmas Program and Toys for Tots.



NMS October Student of the Month

5th Grade: Jaxi Long & Mitchell Payne

6th Grade: Rachel Karrip & Wyatt Mortensen

7th Grade: Ali Karrip, Kyla Rounds & Carson Bush

8th Grade: Abby Murray, Hannah Dodd, Michael Lyon & Conner Swinehart



NMS November Student of the Month

5th Grade: Glenn Toth & Hannah Postma

6th Grade: Ashton Stephens & Jaylee Long

7th Grade: Ronald Porter, Yulissa Alvarez-Diaz & Nakia Rake

8th Grade: Brandon Sekach & Arianna Miguel



High School



Mrs. Boyd's Lifelong Wellness class was excited to invite in guest instructor, Laura Weaver (Kiper), to teach some dances to their class. Laura is a former Newwaygo High School graduate and currently teaches dance at North Pointe Gymnastics & Dance in Fremont. She also teaches different types of Zumba classes at the Fremont Recreational Authority (the old Fremont High School building).

The Newwaygo Varsity Girls Basketball team had a blast with the 4th - 6th grade girls basketball players at the annual "Lady Lion" event. This year's youth basketball players came to the high school to play games, make posters, eat dinner and cheer on their J.V. and Varsity girls' teams. Go Lady Lions!



Mrs. Boyd's and Mr. Barrette's Physical Education classes took a road trip to Fremont Lanes for a fun hour of bowling. Leandra Mackenna and Conner Mathis earned "Top Bowler" status. A big "shout-out" goes out to Fremont Lanes for allowing us to come over and bowl during the day! Thank you!

High School



The Newaygo Chapter of the National Honor Society is proud to announce the 2014 inductees to our chapter. Sawyer Biegalle, Jackson Boyd, Jeremiah Eaton, Emma Finkler, Douglas Fleese, Adam Holeman, Molly Janusz, Kelsey Longcore, Conner Mathis, Robert Mendham, Alex Mercer, Shelby Moomy, Riley Newfer, Paige Niederer, Kendra Rounds, Amanda Schultz, Breanna Trevino, and James Warren. To qualify to be a member, each student must have been in attendance at Newaygo for at least one semester, be a Junior or Senior, and show qualities of Leadership, Service, Character and Scholarship. In the fall of each year students who exemplify these qualities are invited to submit a profile to the faculty council for consideration. The council then recommends students for membership based upon these profiles.

The members of the National Honor Society would like to thank Mrs. Grodus for the inspiring speech she gave at the induction ceremony. Additionally, a big thanks goes out to Mr. Youmans, Dr. Mathis, Ms. Knight and Ms. Rodriguez for helping pull off the ceremony.



Danielle Durst, an English 2 Honors Student, recently had her poem "The Traveler's End" published. Newaygo High School Administration and Staff are very proud of Danielle's talents in writing. She is the daughter of Pamela and Daniel Durst. Congratulations Danielle!



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November / December

Students of the Month!



Bottom Row: Viviana Hernandez, Faith Smith, Carlee Arends and Felicia Heimler.

Top Row: Jesse Dempsey, Zachariah Hall and Adam Holeman.

(James Harrington is not pictured)

Honorable Mention: Alexis Bocker, Brandon Verberg, Emma Holmes, Logan Hindenach, Bobby Lawrence, Kelsey Longcore, Mercedes Wiles and Dallas Miller.

District News

Personal Finance Runs Payroll Simulation

The Personal Finance classes had the opportunity during first semester to participate in a semester long payroll learning simulation. The activity involved completing bi-weekly time sheets, calculating gross and net pays and calculating other payroll deductions. The activity culminated after Christmas break with a lesson on W-2 forms and completing the 1040ez tax form.

Thanks to the know – how and support of our Business Manager, Mrs. Blamer whose help was crucial to the simulation. She created an excel program which was utilized to calculate the bi-weekly payroll with relative ease. Students were paid an hourly wage for each day of class attendance. Being tardy to class resulted in pay being docked.

All in all it was a good learning experience bringing the personal financial details of the work world and class lessons together.



LIONS

NEWAYGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Lunch Prices for 2014-15 School Year

Velma Matson/Vera Wilsie Elementary	\$1.50
High School/Middle School	\$1.75
Adult Meals	\$2.75
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

Where to Get Information on School Closings

In the event that NPS needs to close due to inclement weather, school closings will be posted on the following:

WZZM 13

WOOD TV 8

FOX 17

NPS District Facebook page

NPS District Twitter feed

NPS Skylert School Messenger instant notification system

AYSO SOCCER REGISTRATION: Jan. 17 / Feb 21 / March 7 @ Brooks Township from 10-12:00

Cost: \$60 for new registration, \$35 for returning players

Contact person: April Janke 652-6557

Newaygo Public Schools
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Newaygo, MI 49337

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9th Annual Partner Fun Bowl



Join us for a fun night of bowling with a partner!
Games include traditional & Non-traditional
frames that include "Fun Frames" and "Bingo"!

WHEN: March 7, 2015.

Bowling starts at 7:00 p.m.

Please arrive early to get everyone registered.

WHERE: Underdog Lanes, White Cloud

Cost is \$30.00 per team.

All proceeds go to the Newaygo High School
Baseball Program.



**MAKE SURE TO PIN THE DATE ON
YOUR CALENDAR!**

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.