



EXPERIENCE
THE LION PRIDE!



November 2019

Fox 17's Food Fight Friday: Feeding America

Recently, Newaygo High School participated in a food drive sponsored by Fox 17 and Feeding America West Michigan. Fox 17's reporter, Sarah Grimmer, has been travelling around to different West Michigan high schools for the last month to see who can collect the most weight in nonperishable food items. Sarah and her cameraman visited NHS on Friday, October 11, and our Lions were there to show their school spirit! Mr. Listh lead the marching band as they played our fight song and other music. Mrs. Lathrop and the Student Council organized games like Donut on a String, Hungry Hippo, and Tug-of-War for the students to play. The PBIS Student Squad made posters, and the cheerleaders were there with our Lion to get everyone pumped up. Some of our students - Sam Toth, Alicia Olson, Sophia Frisbie, and Parker Christensen were interviewed by Sarah Grimmer so they could talk about our school and what we were able to do to collect the food. After the fun and games were over, we learned that the students and families at Newaygo High School donated over 1,200 pounds of food, which is equivalent to 1,073 meals! We would like to say thank-you to those who donated and participated in the event so we could show West Michigan our Lion Pride!



Students Hudson Harkness, Sophia Frisbie, Olivia Lacy, Alexis Feutz, and Jenna Lavette held donuts as Sarah Grimmer from Fox 17, Taylor Hills (teacher), Branden Listh (teacher), Cassie Westgate (teacher), and Brad Reyburn (principal) tried to eat them.

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

Newaygo Elementary:
231.652.2100
Newaygo Middle School;
231.652.1285
Newaygo High School:
231.652.1646

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

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

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OR OCCUPANT

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CART PRESORT
Permit No.1
Newaygo, MI
NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION

Part 2: New Staff Join the Team

Last month, we featured new staff members, Corinne Gerke (NMS), Taylor Hills (NHS), and Craig Thompson (NHS). Meet the rest of our new NPS Lions!



Sarah Coutts – 1st Grade Teacher

Sarah is from South Lyon, Michigan and is a GVSU graduate. She is excited to guide and teach our young students!



Amy McAlister – 1st Grade Teacher

Amy has several years of teaching experience at the elementary level in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. She and her family recently moved to the Newaygo area.



Rachel Younts – 3rd Grade Teacher

Rachel is a graduate of Holton High School and completed her undergrad at Cornerstone University. She is ready to immerse herself in Lion Country!



Shannon Rouston – Assistant MS/HS Band Director

Shannon is from the east side of the state, graduated from Western Michigan University and will be working with our musicians in grades 6-12.



Nicole Reagan – Behavior Therapist

This is Nicole's first year at NPS and her position is funded by grant money obtained by Family Health Care. Her office is at NMS but she is available to work with any student/family in grades K-12.



Hayley Jacobs – 3rd Grade Teacher

Hayley is originally from Grant and graduated from GVSU. During the 2018-2019 school year, she served as a long-term substitute teacher in the White Cloud school district.

New Staff Join the Team



Michael Wemmer – College Advisor
Our College Advisors come from MSU and provide guidance to our H.S. students for 2 school years as a result of grant money from the Fremont Area Community Foundation. This is part of the MCAN – Michigan College Access Network.



Lisa Piccard –High School Counselor
Lisa earned her bachelor's degree from CMU and her masters from WMU. She has several years of experience as a High School Counselor at Kenowa Hills High School.



Adam Neading has joined the NPS Staff as a part-time Tech Support Employee working with Walter Aslakson.



Mrs. Christina Wetherell has been hired as the Superintendent Secretary. She is coming to us from Bethany Christian Services where she worked as a Human Resource Specialist. She and her husband live in the area, and they have a son in 1st grade at NES. Welcome to our Lion Family!



These educators attended the National PBIS Leadership Forum. The purpose was to learn from scholars and other school district personnel from around the country about PBIS systems and how to bring best practices back to NPS.
Standing: Candy Wells, Torrie Schultz, Jen Grugett, Shelly Hance, Matt Painter and Nancy VanHall
Front Row: Erin Simmons, Melissa Painter, Cassie Westgate, Gena Dietz and Shea Klomp

The Arts at NPS



Blocks can be art too! Second graders, Lilli Nichols and Erdrick Burke, enjoy creating three dimensional artwork at exploration time in the art room.



Fourth grade artists learned about Mexican folk art, which is known for its use of bright colors, lines and patterns. Scott Barton, Tucker Wasmiller, Mason D'Lamater and Jack Mercer proudly display their art.



Kindergartners have been learning that lines are EVERYWHERE! After experimenting with drawing various types of lines, the students learned painting techniques to paint their lines. Then, what do you do with the beautiful papers? Make line monsters, of course!

Adrianna Defoy and Gavin McLaughlin proudly show off their monsters. Charlie (Charlotte) McGarry added legs and feet to her monster so that it could walk!



The Arts at NPS



NPS first, second and third grade artists were involved in creating a large mural for the new elementary school. Each student created their own unique “quilt square”, while learning some pretty cool math words, like “quadrant”, “diagonal” and “semi-circle”. Students then worked together to arrange their quilt square onto a larger panel, rotating their piece until it looked “just right”.

Keith Hoogerhyde adds his paper quilt design to a bigger panel.
Mrs. Sipperley’s third grade students work together to arrange their quilt squares.
NPS kindergarteners stop to admire the finished piece.



Students in Mrs. Harkness’ Social Studies Class painted pumpkins like the world! Continents and oceans were painted on the pumpkins, as well as latitude and longitude lines, which helped students practice map skills.
Thank-you to all parents and students who donated pumpkins!

(left to right) Sydney Sherwood and Emma Escalante, Alexis Newfer, Darin Saylor, Kyle Burleson, Alyssa Echtenaw, Ryland Puleo and Tristan Jordan, and Justin Ogg, Miabella Vanrooyen

Flexible and Comfy Seating



Thanks to Donor's Choose and all the gracious donors, Mrs. Phillips' class can sit back and learn in comfort. The students love all the options they have now and seem to be so much more engaged.



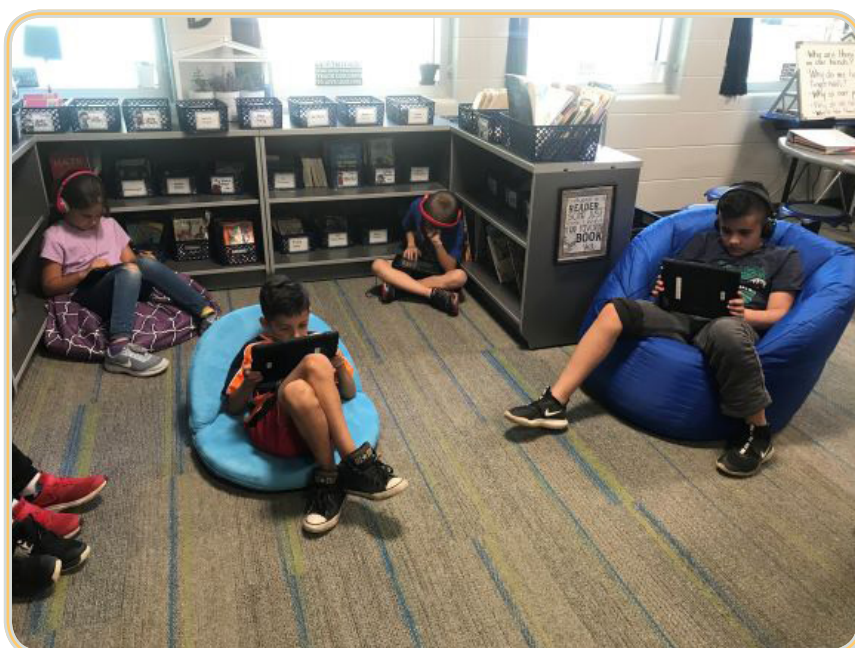
Natalie and Michelle



Zayne, Louie, and Amyrah



Kayne, Dru, Peyton and Nash



Rogelio, Michelle, Zachary and Enedino



Preston and Keaton

Camp Newaygo Adventures

The 3rd grade students attended Camp Newaygo for their field trip. Although it was quite a stormy day, they were able to venture out on the wetland trail, participate in some time travel, and learn about the water cycle. Getting students out of their normal routine and giving them the opportunity to learn through their own experiences has helped the teachers use these moments throughout the curriculum. Thanks to the Fremont Area Foundation for helping fund a portion of this trip.



NEWAYGO HIGH SCHOOL
DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS:

LITTLE WOMEN

A DRAMA ADAPTED BY MARISHA CHAMBERLAIN
FROM THE NOVEL BY LOUISA MAY ALCOTT
PLAYSCRIPTS, INC.

DECEMBER 21, 2019
2:00pm and 6:00pm
DOGWOOD CENTER FOR
PERFORMING ARTS,
Fremont, Michigan

TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR
\$3.00 STUDENTS
\$5.00 ADULTS
CHILDREN 3 and under FREE

Mark Your Calendar

Science Sock Experiments in Mrs. Painter's Class



Sadie Westgate

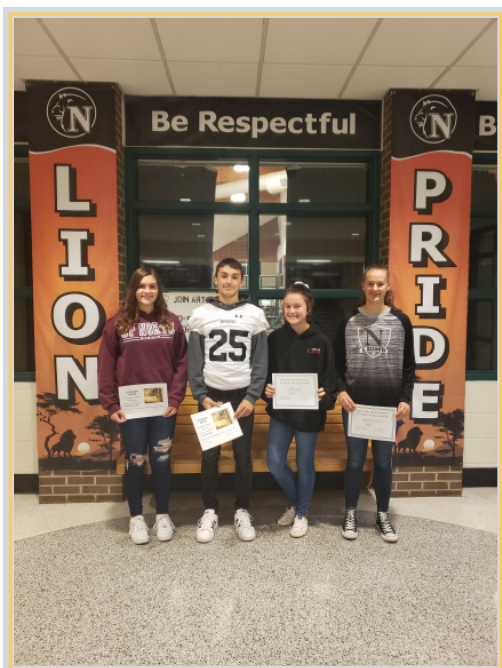


Violet Borkowski



Natalie Lopez

NHS Citizens and Students for September

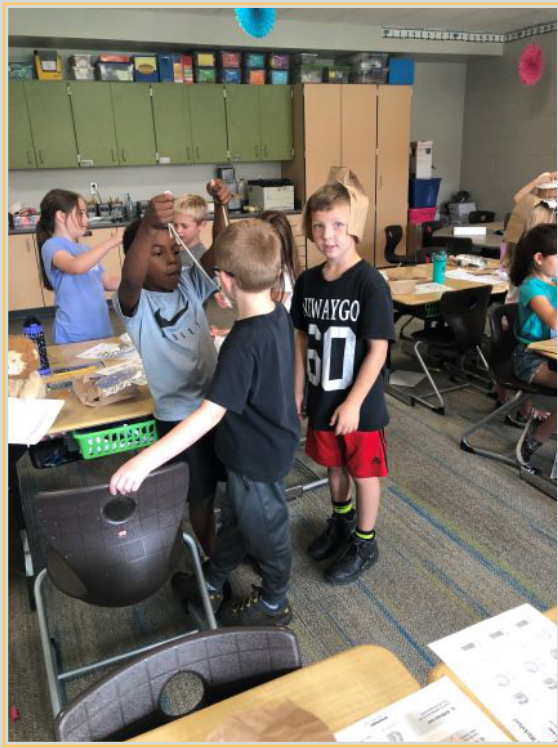


Pictured from left to right:

September Citizens of the Month:
Aly Karrip and Jayden Joseph

September Students of the Month:
Grace Painter and Kate Hann

Hats Off to Mrs. Voshel's Second Graders



Nyzeer Moore, Christopher Metzler and
Jax Bisel



Oliva Hunt



Dixie McKinney



Robotics at NHS

NHS is gearing up for its first season of competitive robotics! To date, it looks like we will be able to afford to field three teams, thanks to some assistance from the school, individual contributions, GoFundMe, and grants we've attained through VEX Robotics. Our newly minted team members have been hard at work learning the rules of the game, designing uniforms, and gearing up for our first robot build. The Robotics team offers students the opportunity to have hands-on experiences in building, programming, and operating robots in a competitive, fast-paced environment.

For the last two and a half years, we've been building and programming Lego's EV3 robots, which has helped prepare us for this transition to competitive robotics. Our EV3s are capable little critters that leverage the computational powers of an ARM9 CPU running Linux to control motors, gears, and sensors, which students then program to accomplish specific tasks.

Through a grant sponsored by Great Lakes Energy, NHS will be adding a very powerful robot named Misty II to our line-up as well. Misty is a small free-roaming AI-powered bot with computer vision and limited machine learning capabilities. Misty is an incredibly powerful piece of technology that will give NHS students the opportunity to work on (and with) some seriously advanced robotics. Misty will drive our tech curriculum for the foreseeable future, giving our students an output device that requires students to learn and use Python, JavaScript, and C#.

The future of robotics is looking bright at NHS!

Teacher/Author in Lion Country



Halloween Night On Monster Island: A Local Author's Book

It's that time of year where people subject themselves to creepy, scary, frightening haunted houses and terrifying movies. While some prefer to go the route of pumpkins and beautiful fall decor, there is no denying the gory and petrifying scenes are most popular!

Clark Roberts, a resident of Newaygo County, authored a book titled Halloween Night on Monster Island. In this holiday themed book, a group of kids tour a Halloween theme park, and things turn terrifying quickly.

The story is aimed at 3rd through 8th grade students, but in reality, older students and adults alike would enjoy this spooky tale.

Roberts answered some questions for N3 about his book and the experience of writing and publishing the story.

You can purchase the book at this Amazon link: Halloween Night On Monster Island

What is the publisher of your story?
Junior Deadman's Tome

How much does the book cost?

\$9.99 for the paperback

\$2.99 on kindle


Free if you have the kindle unlimited membership

How long did it take you to complete?


Each night I committed to writing 1,000 words. After the first draft I did 3 major revisions and then edited my final manuscript to send off to publishers. All in all, it took roughly two months from start to finish.

What inspired the theme of this book?

The first year my daughter participated in Halloween she wore a Gecko costume (Gecko is a character from the cartoon P.J. Masks). Even after Halloween had long passed she enjoyed dressing up in that costume from time to time. This led to me writing a horror short story about a family whose daughter turned into her Halloween costume (a Komodo Dragon in that story). Eventually an offer was made for me to write a kid's book, and I thought the idea of kids turning into their costumes could be a really fun concept to explore. The idea needed a bit more for an actual book (a slim one), so I coupled it with an amusement park being shut down to the public for a group of cousins to enjoy on Halloween. I remember loathing waiting in line for rides when I was younger, and I think a lot of kids fantasize about having an entire theme park for their very own amusement.



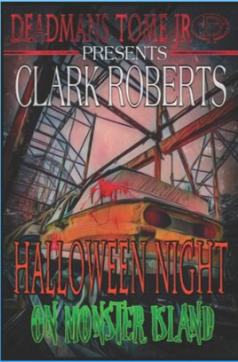
Thank you Mr. Bailey!



Mr. Bailey, NMS English Teacher, is an accomplished author. (He writes under the pseudonym Clark Roberts.) He recently published a book and donated the profits from the sales of that book to the basketball programs here in Newaygo and Coleman, MI (his home town).

Thank you for using your talents to help our kids! We appreciate it!

The book, Halloween Night on Monster Island, is aimed at 2nd - 7th graders and is available for purchase from Mr. Bailey or on Amazon.



Check out Mrs. Mick-Mercer's entire interview with author online at <https://www.nearnorthnow.com/>

Fifth Grade Native American Projects

Students in Mrs. Harkness' Social Studies Class created replicas of Native American villages representing the Eastern Woodland, Plains, Pacific Northwest, and Southwest Indians, as well as the Mayans, Aztecs and Incas. Projects were on display in the middle school library during conference week.



Virtual Reality

By Cortney Datema

Virtual reality, A technology that allows so many new opportunities to the people in the world that may not be available to them in real life. Just by my experience with this technology, I think this is a good technology let me explain why from my experience.

My experience with this technology in Ms. Bush's 8th Grade Computer Enrichment class is an experience I probably wouldn't get again. It was amazing, so unbelievable! The National Geographic VR exploration was breath-taking! It made me feel like I could fall off the cliff as I was climbing. When I was in the middle of the snowstorm it felt like I was actually lost in the storm. It was like another world that I controlled. When I did the Caribbean exploration, it felt like I was a photographer that was taking samples and pictures of the coral and telling the information to the other scientist. It was an extraordinary experience. I really thought that I was under the stars when I did the Aurora Borealis Expedition. I learned that it was also known as the "Northern Lights". It was stunning! It was so real! When Ms. Bush was reading of the facts, I felt like I was a star gazer with an Instructor telling me all about the dazzling lights in the sky. It made me feel like I was dreaming.

My experience with this technology has been spectacular. It is like I was really in another world. A vacation or an escape from reality. It really was mind blowing! It made me feel like everything that was outside at that moment didn't exist. It was a phenomenal experience that I would love to do over and over again.



8th grader Cortney Datema listening to directions given by the Oculus Quest VR.



8th grader Jazzlyn Baker kayaking in VR Antarctica.

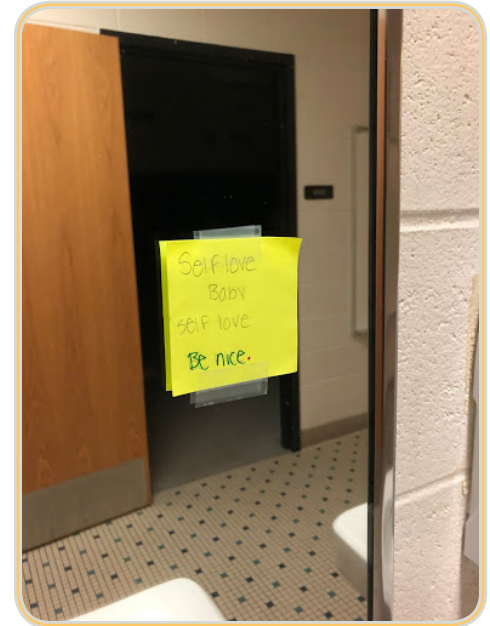
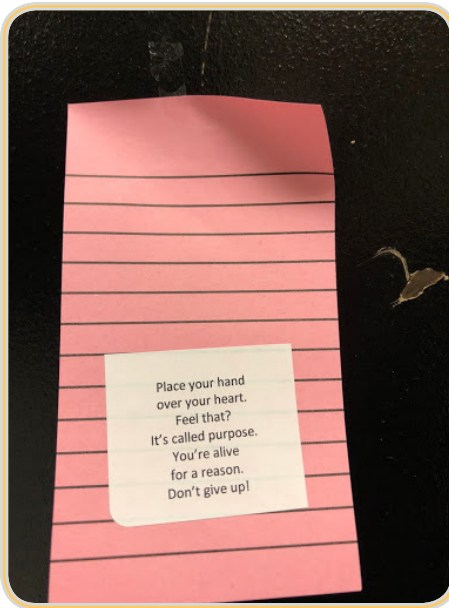


8th grader Josiah Long ice climbing in the National Geographic VR experience.

NHS 'be nice'

The NHS 'be nice.' Leadership Team has been working hard at spreading awareness for National Suicide Prevention Week (Sept. 9-13) and National Mental Health Awareness Week (Oct. 7-13).

For suicide prevention week, members wrote encouraging messages on sticky notes and placed one on each locker in the school. The group also made posters to hang around the school and posted positive self-esteem messages on the bathroom mirrors.



National Mental Health Awareness Week

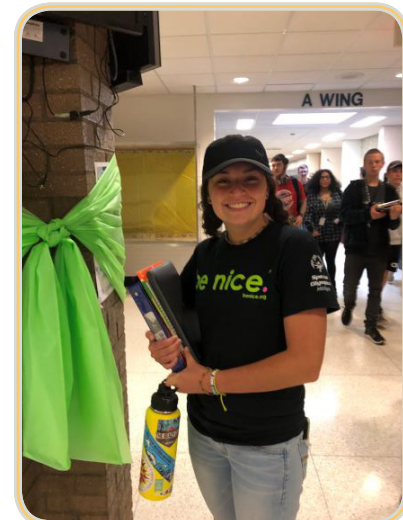
The 'be nice' Leadership Team created a Spirit Week. Monday was 'Give 5 High-fives'; Tuesday was 'Wear Green' (lime green is the color that represents mental health awareness) and give 3 compliments; Wednesday was sit with somebody new at lunch or invite someone to your table; Thursday was 'Perform three Random Acts of Kindness'; and Friday was "Wear your 'be nice.' t-shirt and purchase a wristband for a \$1.00 to wear a hat.



Connelly Hefferan-Nordlund, McCaiden Rienstra, Grace Painter and Sofia Briggs



Kyndall Knash and Aliyah Garza



Sophia Frisbie



Homecoming 2019



King Jacob Jibson and Queen Melissa Zazzo



Freshmen: Nick Ruehmeier and Barbara Toth
 Juniors: Jeffery Arnold and Olivia Lacy
 Sophomores: Carlos Tovar-Pineda and Sidney Lay
 Seniors: Melissa Zazzo and Jacob Jibson, Taylor Davis and Nathan Biegalle, Savannah Hill and Francisco Rios

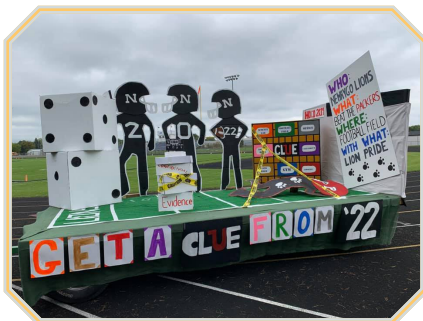


Princess Sidney Lay and Prince Carlos Tovar-Pineda

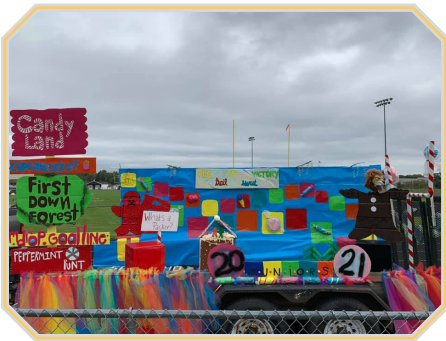
Homecoming Floats



Freshmen



Sophomores



Juniors



Seniors



Seniors Sophia Frisbie, Jessica Sanchez, Madison Berwald, and Aly Karrip hold Spirit Jug!



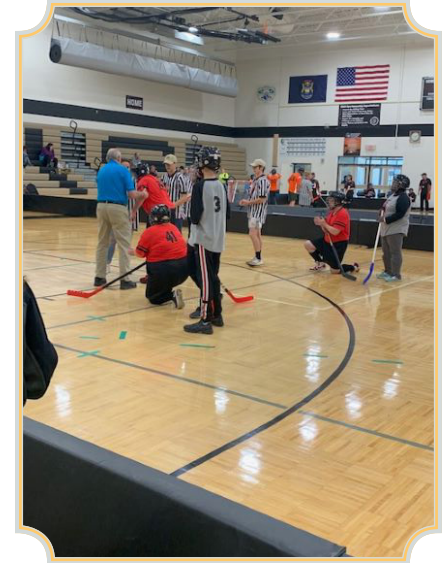
Homecoming Pep Rally

Special Olympics

NHS Hosts Annual Regional Special Olympics in Floor Hockey

For decades, Newaygo High School has been the host for The Regional Special Olympics. One of the reasons the Special Olympics Committee likes to host it here in Newaygo is because of the student volunteers and their willingness to help others. On Saturday, October 26, thirty high school students gave up their Saturday to help over 200 Special Olympians and their coaches. The students volunteered in areas such as reffing, score keeping, time keeping, sports skills, movies, serving lunch, registration, N-Den concessions, giving out awards, and lastly cheering on the athletes. If you see any of these student volunteers, feel free to thank them for showing their Lion Pride!

Thank-you Mrs. Crabb and Mrs. Westcott for organizing the event!



One Good Thing in Lion Country



One of the many highlights was when Wyatt Mortensen went above and beyond for one of the athletes. While Wyatt was reffing, it became evident that an athlete was struggling to play his best because of his shoes. After this athlete scored a goal, Wyatt challenged him to score another goal and told the athlete that if he did, Wyatt would go home and get a pair of his own shoes for the athlete (they just happened to be the same size). Well, with the encouragement from the other refs and scorekeepers, the athlete made the goal and Wyatt followed through on his word and gave the athlete a pair of his shoes! You can see in the picture how excited the athlete was to receive such a nice gift from a total stranger! If you see any of the students that helped with Special Olympics, feel free to give them a shout-out because without them, the day would not have gone as smoothly!

Law Enforcement and Students Play with True Lion Pride

Officer Mitch Rood, Newaygo County Sheriff's Deputy Justin Visser, and NHS Assistant Principal Craig Thompson take on some of our students in basketball during lunch at Newaygo High School.



Project Citizen

Newaygo Middle School Project Citizen 5th Grade Students hosted a food drive at NMS during the month of October! Approximately 500 cans and boxes of food were collected and donated to Love, Inc.

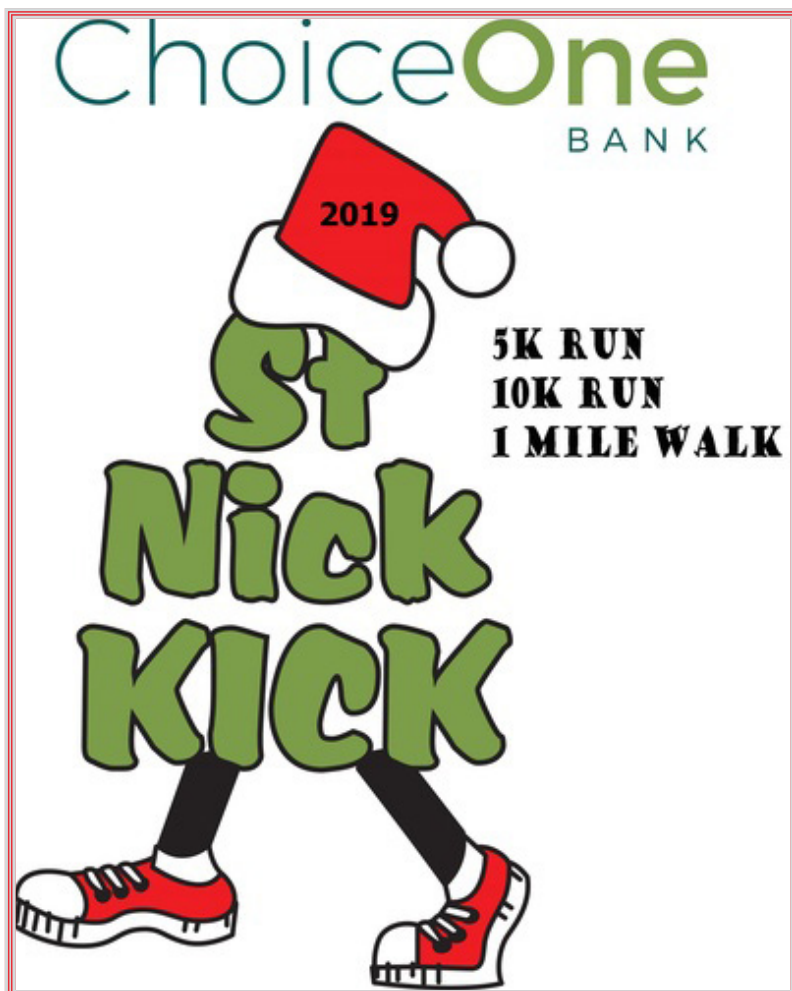


NEWAYGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2019- 20 School Calendar

August 19,20,21	Professional Development
August 26	First Day of School for Students
August 30-Sept. 2	No School - Labor Day Weekend
October 7	Late Start
October 7	Parent - Teacher Conferences - Grades 5-12 - 4:30 - 8:00 p.m.
October 10	Parent - Teacher Conferences - Grades 5-12 - 4:30 - 8:00 p.m.
October 14	Late Start
October 21	Late Start
October 25	End of First Marking Period
October 28	Late Start
November 4	Late Start
November 7	Parent - Teacher Conferences - Grades K - 4 - 4:30 - 8:00 p.m.
November 11	Late Start
November 11	Parent - Teacher Conferences - Grades K - 4 - 4:30 - 8:00 p.m.
November 15	No School - Deer Day
November 18	Late Start
November 25	Late Start
November 27	Half-Day of School - Begin Thanksgiving Break
November 28-29	No School - Thanksgiving Weekend
December 20	Half-Day of School - Begin Christmas Break
December 23-January 3	No School - Christmas Break
January 6	School Resumes
January 6	Late Start
January 13	Late Start
January 17	Half-Day of School - End of First Semester - Teacher Records in p.m.
January 20	Late Start
January 27	Late Start
February 3	Late Start
February 10	Late Start
February 14-17	No School-Winter Break
February 24	Late Start
March 2	Late Start
March 9	Late Start
March 16	Late Start
March 16	Parent - Teacher Conferences - Grades K - 4 - 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
March 17	Grades 5 -8 Lion Pride Night 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. & P-T Conferences 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
March 17	Grades 9-12 P-T Conferences 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. & Lion Pride Night 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
March 19	Parent Teacher Conferences - Grades K-12 - 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
March 20	End of Third Marking Period
March 23	Late Start
April 3- April 10	No School - Spring Break
April 13	Late Start
April 20	Late Start
May 22	Half - Day of School
May 25	No School - Memorial Day
June 3	Half - Day of School - Teacher Records in p.m.
June 4	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 (first on February 14 and then on February 17), and/or the end of the school year.



9th Annual St. Nick Kick is a family-friendly 5K /10K run, that also includes a 1 mile walk for all ages.

Race kick off is at 10:00 am on Saturday, December 7th, with early registration from 9:00am-9:45am. The race starts and ends at Newaygo High School. Race proceeds benefit the Newaygo High School Cross Country Team.

Race pricing includes early registration pricing thru November 15th and includes either a long sleeve cotton t-shirt or a short sleeve tec-shirt.

Same day registration is also available: \$35.00 for adults and \$25.00 for students (k-12) at 9:00 am - 9:45 am under the ChoiceOne Bank St. Nick Kick Tent in the Newaygo High School Cafetorium (t-shirts are not guaranteed for same day registrations).

The annual event now attracts some of the best competitive athletes from around West Michigan. The River Country Chamber thanks Choice One Bank in 2019 as the Main Event Sponsor, as well as several local sponsors for supporting this year's event. SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE please contact events@rivercountrychamber.com or call 231.652.3068

Contacts: Alexis Mercer; Race Coordinator 231-286-0593 ybmerc10@gmail.com OR Denise Anderson 231-652-3068 events@river-countrychamber.com

NPS Board Members



Back Row (left to right): Vince Grodus, Bret Brummel, Melissa Swinehart, Reid Sherwood
 Front Row (left to right): Morgan Heinzman, Jami Schultz, Tom Frisbie

Officers & Trustees
 Vince Grodus, President
 Morgan Heinzman, Vice President
 Melissa Swinehart, Secretary
 Bret Brummel, Treasurer
 Tom Frisbie, Trustee
 Jami Schultz, Trustee
 Reid Sherwood, Trustee



No School- November 15
 Deer Day

October is National Principals Month



Steve Bush, Jim Grugett, Adam DeShano, Craig Thompson
 Brad Reyburn, Candy Wells

N

Thank you for your leadership and
 dedication to Newaygo Public Schools!



Employment Opportunities at NPS

Bus Drivers and Substitute Bus Drivers
 Contact Chris Cronk at 231.652.1112

Substitute Aides - Special Education & General Education
 Contact the respective Building Principal or Assistant Principal

Substitute Food Service Employees
 Contact Mary Anne Charette at 231.652.9286

Substitute (Guest) Teachers
 Contact www.EDUStaff.org or call 877.974.6338

Please go to the district website for more information
www.newaygo.net --> District --> Employment Opportunities

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**NEWAYGO PUBLIC
 SCHOOLS**