



88 MUSTANG MINUTES SUMMER 2019 ISSUE



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Dates to Remember

- Friday, August 16 —
First Day of School
— 1:30 pm dismissal
- October 9th and 10th
Parent/Teacher
Conferences — 4:00-
7:00
- Friday, October 25
— 1st Quarter
Awards Program @
8:30 am in the NH-M
Gym
- Thursday, December
12 — Holiday
Concert (6:00pm)
and Spaghetti Dinner
(5:00pm)

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SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

That time is upon us again. A time when the parents jump up and down for joy and the students dread and complain. School is starting.

Over the past few months, I have been working with the Board of Education on the development of a 5 Year Strategic Plan. The plan is designed to provide the Board, administration, faculty, and community with a vision and direction of the types of goals and projects to be completed over the next five years. As with any plan, it can change. But this document becomes the driving force of our work. It provides a goal and a target for all of us to understand and strive towards. The focus of the Strategic Plan impacts these six key goal areas: 1) Academic Achievement, 2) Fiscal Responsibility, 3) Technology Advancement, 4) Community Engagement, 5) Positive School Culture, and 6) Facilities Improvement. Each of these areas will have a goal, performance indicators, and yearly tasks established over the next five years.

The district has also adopted a new science curriculum. The resource is the Discovery Education TechBook. This online resource provides a vertically aligned curriculum for our students from Kindergarten through 8th grade and

provides a variety of hands on activities, enrichment projects, and leveled reading resources. Ultimately, the goal is to use this product to improve STEM achievement for our students, critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and reading in the content area skills. For the first time in a long time, our students will have a high quality science resource and instructional experience.

The last major piece of information is a thank you to State Farm Insurance Corp. This summer the district received a grant providing new desktop computers and laptops for our teachers. The corporation donated 25 computers to the district. This donation coupled with the use of Title Funds and other grant funds is the cornerstone for the following technology improvements; new laptops and computers for teachers, new IPADs for Kindergarten, new Chromebooks for 3rd and 6th grade students, and new J-Touch boards in Kindergarten through 4th grade classrooms. I am looking forward to highlighting these improvements to our community throughout the year.

"Keep Calm and Mustang On!"
Welcome Back!

Respectfully yours,
Marc Campbell, Superintendent

STAY INFORMED

If you are looking for information fast regarding events occurring at NH-M, information on procedures, or forms, or extracurricular activities. There are three simple things to do

- 1) Check the website at: www.nhm88.com.
- 2) Follow us on Facebook at: New Holland-Middletown ESD 88
- 3) Follow me on Twitter: @NHM88_Supt
- 4) Google Classroom Pages: Each teacher will be maintaining a Google Classroom page which can be accessed through the district site.
- 5) One Call Now System: Throughout the year the district will be sending out approximately 25 parent updates through the robo-call system. Please make sure your phone numbers are up to date.

MEET THE NEW TEACHERS!

MRS. LEWISON— 2ND GRADE TEACHER



Hello! My name is Keri Lewison. I grew up in rural Sherman where my dad raised cattle, horses, chickens, and dogs. My childhood consisted of catching chickens, collecting eggs, bottle feeding calves, climbing trees and round bales, helping my dad bale hay, and playing in the creek. I also have great memories of when we would go horseback riding at my dad's friend's home in Hillsboro. I graduated from Williamsville High School and moved on to the University of Illinois at Springfield to become an elementary teacher. One of my greatest accomplishments was graduating from UIS summa cum laude (highest honors). I have one younger brother who recently left the Air Force, got married, and lives in Missouri. He and I are very close. I got married in 2016 and my husband and I welcomed our daughter in 2018. We also have a pitbull/boxer mix named Hera. In my spare time, I love reading, crafting, scrapbooking, cooking, decorating, and spending time with family. This will be my 7th year teaching and I feel very blessed to be a part of New Holland-Middletown! Go Mustangs!!

MR. ROTHE - SCIENCE TEACHER



I am Clayton Rothe. I will be the new science teacher at New Holland/ Middletown. I am so excited to start this position. I myself grew up in a small town and love the feeling of knowing everyone in the community. I was valedictorian of my high school class. I then went to Illinois College to get my degree. I loved science in high school and hope to inspire students to love science.



MS. MESZAR - BAND/CHOIR/MUSIC

My name is Jillian Meszar and I am from Rutland, Massachusetts. I received my Bachelor's degree in Music Education at the University of New Hampshire this past spring and am thoroughly excited to work with the New Holland-Middletown Elementary School District and its community this year as the new music teacher! As I am new to Illinois, I am looking forward to learning the area and meeting new people as the year progresses. Some of my favorite hobbies include writing music, cooking and gardening! Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have over the course of the year, and I look forward to meeting you all soon and having an amazing school year!

BOARD OF EDUCATION “WHAT WE BELIEVE”

In conjunction with the work regarding the 5 Year Strategic Plan of the school district, the Board of Education has also worked hard to establish the core values and beliefs that anchor the work of the district and the support of our students. At the August Board of Education meeting the Board will take action to approve the final version of the “What We Believe” statement. That statement reads as follows...

We, the Board of Education of New Holland-Middletown, believes ...

- Providing a high-quality education to our students through clearly articulated vertically aligned curricula and advanced educational technology.
- Educating our students includes supporting the development of their academic, social, and emotional skills and well-being while providing experiences beyond the classroom.
- Maintaining a quality facility is a key component for our student’s education.
- Financial wellness and financial conservatism are essential values to the future and sustainability of our school district.
- Education of our students must include partnering with parents and must be valued by the community.
- Communication is essential to maximize the success of our school and the engagement of our community.
- Our expectations of performance must incorporate supporting our students to develop the skills to be successful in an ever changing 21st Century society.



MEGAN PERKINS—1ST GRADE

My name is Megan Perkins and I am so excited to be the new first grade teacher! After graduating from Illinois State, I spent two years teaching in a bilingual Spanish-English kindergarten classroom. I love coffee, snow, shopping, and spending quality time with family and friends. I am originally from the Kankakee area, but relocated to Lincoln in anticipation of my upcoming wedding to my fiancé, Dustin Woolard! I'm excited to become familiar with Lincoln and make the area my home, but I'm even more excited to meet the people from New Holland - Middletown!



UP COMING EVENTS

One of our primary goals with the newsletter publication is to notify the public of upcoming events at the school. Below is a summary of the scheduled events at this time. We hope to see you at the events.

- July 29 & 30: Softball Tryouts
- July 31: Registration in the Library from 10:00am to 6:00pm
- August 5: Baseball Tryouts
- August 14: Teacher Institute Day #1 & Board of Education Meeting at 7:00pm
- August 15: Teacher Institute Day #2 - Supply drop-off from 1:30pm to 3:30pm
- August 16: First day of student attendance - 1:30pm dismissal
- September 2: No School - Labor Day
- September 4: Instrument Rental Night
- September 5: Meet the Teacher Night at 6:00pm
- September 6: Grandparents Day!
- September 18: Board of Education Meeting at 7:00pm
- October 9-10: Parent Teacher Conferences with the Book Fair from October 7th - 10th
- October 10: 5th Grade Woods Foundation Trip to Chicago
- October 14: No School - Columbus Day
- October 18: End of the First Quarter with Early Dismissal at 1:30pm
- October 25: First Quarter Awards Ceremony in the gym at 8:30am
- October 31: Halloween Costume Walk and Trunk or Treat



NH-M #88
Learning Is Our #1 Priority!
Current Resident

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