



# 88 MUSTANG MINUTES FALL/WINTER 2015 ISSUE



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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Superintendent's Corner
- Basketball Schedules
- Movie Screening
- Day of Service
- STEM at NH-M
- ...much more!

## Dates to Remember

- Wednesday, November 11 — Veterans' Day Assembly — 9:00 am
- Wednesday, November 25—Friday, November 27 No School— Thanksgiving
- Saturday, December 5 — Christmas Mustang Style — 7:00 am
- Wednesday, December 16 — Christmas Program — 6:30 pm
- Monday, December 21— Friday, January 1 No School — Christmas Break

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## SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

At the time of this newsletter, we are already nearly halfway through the 2nd grading period. Thanksgiving is in a couple of weeks.

We have a lot of things to be thankful for at NH-M: First, we are blessed with some of the most supportive and caring families that a community could ask for! Our faculty and staff is a collection of some of the most innovative, hard-working and compassionate individuals in education.

On the District level, we continue to operate with a balanced budget (in the "black") despite the fiscal woes plaguing many other school districts. NH-M Mustang gear continues to pop up all over the place (hoodies, t-shirts, license plate frames, etc.) showcasing how proud we are of our high-performing school!

The last of the old heating system (the air handler units located

on top of the 1947 wing) has been dismantled and replaced, which provides the gym with a comfortable yet VERY QUIET form of heat, without rattling the 2nd story classrooms and walls.

Next month, our District will begin selling energy back "to the grid" with the nearly completed solar panels. Energy will be produced and displayed in "real time" in our Junior High Science lab as it is purchased by Ameren.

The excitement over education in this wonderful learning community continues to grow...it truly is a GREAT day to be a MUSTANG! From our family to yours, have a **Happy Thanksgiving!**

Respectfully yours,

*Todd Dugan*

Todd Dugan

## EARL BAKER HONORED BY ISBE

Last month, our very own lead bus driver, **Mr. Earl Baker**, received the highest level of recognition from the Illinois State Board of Education. As part of their *Those Who Excel* Awards, ISBE recognized Earl with an award of Excellence. Currently in his 25th year of service to New Holland-Middletown, Earl received his award at a banquet held in Normal, Illinois on October 17 from new Illinois State Superintendent Dr. Tony Smith. This award is given annually to outstanding teachers, administrators, and student support personnel based on recommendations from administrators, parents and teachers. Earl was also honored with a resolution from the NH-M Board of Education and a plaque displayed in the school.



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## CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The NH-M Christmas Program will occur at **6:30 pm on Wednesday, December 16** at the NH-M School. ***School will be dismissed at regular 3:10 dismissal time on this day.*** The program will feature Christmas songs performed by the NH-M Band and Chorus students. Students should report to the school **no later than 6:15 pm.**



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## SUSAN G. KOMEN FOR THE CURE

At the October 22 Girls' Basketball Game at NH-M, our Beta Club recognized Breast Cancer Awareness Month by going "pink" for the game! In addition to offering \$1.00 off admission for anyone wearing pink, the Beta Club had pink NH-M Mustang t-shirts for sale. We still have several shirts left in a variety of sizes for \$12 (\$5.75/shirt is donated to Susan G. Komen). If you would like to purchase one, please contact Mrs. Leischner [lleichner@nhm88.com](mailto:lleichner@nhm88.com) or Mrs. Wall [swall@nhm88.com](mailto:swall@nhm88.com) or simply come to the school to purchase one!



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## VETERANS' DAY PROGRAM

As our District has done in years past, New Holland-Middletown has waived the holiday option in order to attend school on Veterans' Day. The reason for this revolves around the average teenager being unaware of what Veterans' Day is all about, except for another day out of school. This year, we will continue to attend school and honor those who have served. We will have a breakfast in the cafeteria for local veterans beginning at 8:00 am, followed by an assembly program beginning at 9:00 am in the gym.



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## K-4 SOCK HOP

Calling all students (and their parents) in grades K-4! The NH-M Beta Club is hosting a Sock Hop at the NH-M gym next Friday night (November 13) from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Put on your poodle skirt and your saddle shoes and join us as we "rock around the clock" for an evening of dancing fun at NH-M!



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## SHOP LOGAN COUNTY

Recently the NH-M Board of Education sold bonds and pledged a portion of our annual proceeds from the Logan County 1% Facilities Sales Tax in order to upgrade our HVAC system, provide air conditioning and the remodel of the primary wing. As our district enrollment increases, so does the percentage of Logan County School Facilities Sales Tax that NH-M receives. Currently our District receives approximately \$50,000 per year from this revenue. The more we shop in Logan County, the more it benefits the students, including New Holland-Middletown. So whenever possible, try to patronize our Logan County businesses!



## STEM CLASS AT NH-M

NH-M is now offering a semester-long enrichment class to 5th & 6th graders called STEM. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Taught by Junior High Math & Science Teacher Miss Hannah Durchholz, students are learning through hands-on, real-world experiences of problem solving. In addition to being challenging, the class also has the ability to engage students in applications of the content. Shown in this picture are 6th graders in the STEM class using code to program a Pac-Man game to move directions based on “high fives” given to students grounded or conducting from a Makey-Makey machine.



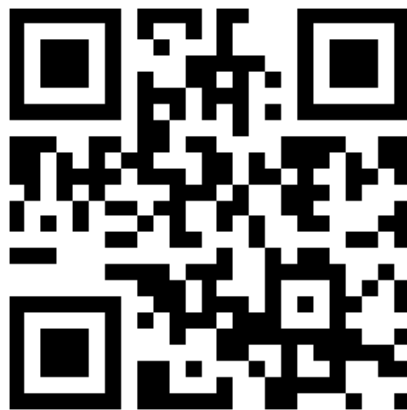
## MUSTANGS IN NEW HOLLAND

On a cold and rainy Saturday morning (Halloween), the members of the NH-M Mustang Varsity (6th-8th) Band debuted with a public performance at the New Holland Community Center for the village’s annual Fall Festival. The band played several pieces, some of which had just been learned the previous week. We are so excited at how far Mrs. Sarah Rheume has brought our Music program, and looking forward to future performances. Next month, they plan to tour three Logan County nursing homes and perform Christmas songs (along with the Chorus) for its residents!



## DAY OF SERVICE

At some point during the month of December, New Holland-Middletown faculty, staff and student body will be volunteering for a day of community service. Just as (if not more) important as instructing students in academics and curriculum is modeling service back to your community. But we need the community’s help! We plan on having our students spend a day around either or both towns doing acts of service and kindness. Ideally, we would like to have our students help an elderly couple with light yardwork, or painting, or unclogging gutters. If you are in need, or know of a family in need, please pass along this information to the school so that we can mobilize our volunteers ahead of time. We can’t wait to hear about some projects....we are ready to serve!



**NH-M #88**  
*Learning Is Our #1 Priority!*

**BOXHOLDER**  
**MIDDLETOWN, IL 62666**

