



88 MUSTANG MINUTES SPRING 2017 ISSUE



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Superintendent Farewell
- Sports Schedules
- PARCC Testing
- Community Survey
- Educator of the Year
- ...much more!

Dates to Remember

- Friday, March 16
— No School —
Teachers' Institute
- Thursday, March 29 — 1:30 pm
Early Dismissal
- Friday, March 30
— Friday, April 6
— Spring Break
- Monday, April 9
— School Resumes

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SUPERINTENDENT'S FAREWELL

As I'm sure most people have heard, I have accepted the position of Superintendent at another school district (Bunker Hill CUSD #8) at the beginning of the next school year.

While I am absolutely thrilled with the prospect of bigger challenges and bigger opportunities, it was an extremely tough decision to leave NH-M. I can honestly say that it has been an absolute pleasure serving the good people of this fine learning community these past six years, and will always look back at my time at NH-M very fondly.

I'm extremely proud of the faculty, staff and Board of Education for all that we've been able to accomplish in the past six years, including

- Security upgrades
- Heating/Air Conditioning
- Primary School renovation
- 1:1 Digital access and devices
- Curriculum upgrades

And this list could continue, but at the same time, the Board has been able to consistently lower the tax rate by 14 cents over 6 years and still maintain a balanced budget in what was probably the worst economic times for Illinois public schools in the history of the state.

You have much to be proud of in this school district, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for allowing me to serve as the leader for this district. I truly enjoyed this opportunity, and hope that I am leaving the district better than when I arrived.

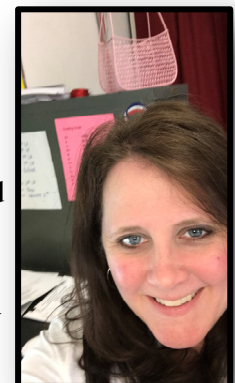
Respectfully yours,

Todd Dugan

Todd Dugan
Superintendent

MEET THE MUSTANGS

Each issue, we will spotlight a member of the NH-M faculty/staff in this column. In this issue, we will meet **Mrs. Patience Williams**. Mrs. Williams has joined the NH-M faculty this year in her current assignment of Junior High English-Language Arts teacher. Originally from Pleasant Plains, Patience and her husband and their three children now live in Heyworth. Prior to joining NH-M, Patience had taught for four years in the Deer Creek-Mackinaw District before staying home with her youngest child. She is thrilled to return to teaching, and wants her students to grow into better students as well as better people through a love and appreciation for literature and writing.



COMMUNITY SUPT SEARCH SURVEY

The New Holland Middletown ESD 88 Board of Education is conducting a search for a new superintendent/principal. The selection of a new superintendent is probably the most important decision a board of education has to make; therefore, the Board has hired the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) to assist in this process.



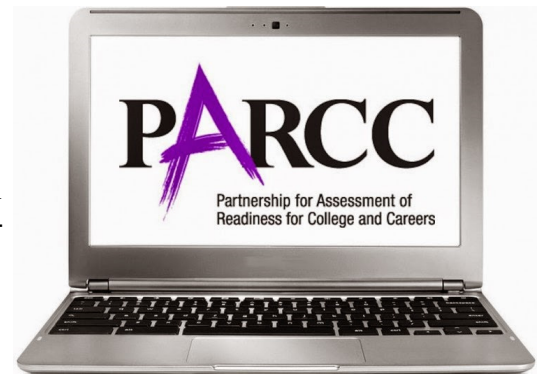
The Board of Education is seeking everyone's input in the search process. The Board requests that all board members, all staff, all parents and community members complete an online survey provided by the IASB. The results will be tallied and used by the Board and Screening Team to develop a brochure to advertise the position.

The survey can be accessed at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/77FGDSS>
The survey deadline is: March 7, 2018 at 11:45 p.m.

Thank you for taking time to complete the survey.

PARCC TESTING SCHEDULE

NH-M #88 would like to remind parents of the annually required PARCC testing administered to all students in grades 3rd-8th as required by law. This year, students will test during the week of **March 12-16, 2018** with makeup testing administered in the following week. Please try to reschedule and/or avoid unnecessary absences and appointments during this testing window. NH-M #88 thanks everyone in advance for their understanding.



NH-M TEACHER WINS EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

4th NH-M teacher Mrs. Darcy O'Connor was recently named as the Illinois Computing Educators as the Educator of the Year for 2018! Ms. O'Connor was presented with her award at the Illinois Computing Educators (ICE) State Conference, held February 26 – 28, 2018, at the Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel and Conference Center in Schaumburg, IL. Each year Illinois Computing Educators selects one educator in each of two categories – one classroom teacher and one technology administrator/specialist, for this prestigious award. Educators are nominated for this award by colleagues, fellow teachers, students, and school administrators who feel that the nominee has made outstanding contributions to the integration of technology and the improvement of teaching and learning in their school or district.



Congratulations, Darcy! NH-M #88 is so proud of you!

8TH GRADUATION DATE

At its regularly-scheduled January meeting, the NH-M Board of Education voted to set the date for this year's 8th Graduation ceremony for **Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 6:30 pm.**



VISION & HEARING SCREENING

On **March 5, 2018**, NH-M #88 will contract with a service provider to offer mandatory vision and hearing screenings. Vision screenings are provided to all students in grades K-2nd and 8th, and hearing screenings will be administered to all students in grades K-3rd, Special Education and referrals. Again, due to the Logan County Dept of Public Health discontinuing this process, NH-M #88 will be contracting with Lincoln ESD #27 in order to continue offering this service to our students.



SPRING CONCERT

The Annual NH-M Spring Concert returns this year under the direction of Mrs. Sarah Rheume, our talented Band/Chorus and General Music teacher. The concert will be held in the NH-M gymnasium on **Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 6:30 pm**. This concert is free, open to the public and will include performances from the Chorus and Band students.



ISU EDUCATION CAREER FAIR

In order to combat the increasing teacher shortage across Illinois, NH-M #88 attended the annual Illinois State University Education Career Fair on Tuesday, February 27. According to latest polls, nearly 1 in 7 public educators are ISU graduates and continue to be the state's largest producer of teacher candidates. While only anticipating vacancies, NH-M #88 is ensuring that the district will continue to employ highly-qualified teachers in order to deliver the very best instruction for students of the 21st century.



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

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