



# 88 MUSTANG MINUTES WINTER 2014 ISSUE



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### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Superintendent's Corner
- Volleyball Schedule
- School Events
- After-School Program
- Building Upgrades
- ...much more!

### Dates to Remember

- Tuesday, December 16  
— Christmas Program  
— 6:30 pm
- Friday, December 19 —  
1:30 pm Early Dismissal
- Monday, December  
22—Friday, January 2  
— Winter Break
- Monday, January 5 —  
School Resumes
- Friday, January 9 — 2nd  
Quarter Awards  
Assembly 8:30 am
- Monday, January 19 —  
No School in  
Observance of Martin  
Luther King, Jr. Day

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## SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

It's hard to believe that we are rapidly approaching the halfway point of the 2014-2015 school year! The Christmas season is almost upon us, and NH-M will be collecting unopened toys for its annual Toys for Tots campaign. If anyone would like to donate, please bring them to the school no later than December 17.

The construction due to the HVAC upgrades are almost completed. Already students are more comfortable, especially in the primary wing with new heat that is more evenly distributed and virtually silent (as opposed to the older 60-amp electric heat motors). While GRP Mechanical is managing the overall project, most of the work has been completed by local pipefitters, carpenters, painters and electricians from Champaign, Peoria, Springfield and even right here in Middletown! Not only will this save our district in energy costs

moving forward, but a state grant from Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) paid for a portion of the heat/boiler replacement!

As always, please feel free to stop by the school and have a look around. While you may not have children attending this school, we still consider you a vested stakeholder, and are very proud of this school. We are always looking for a reason to show it off!

From all of us at NH-M ESD #88, thank you for your continued support. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year— enjoy the time with your families!

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. This month, we will meet **Miss Lindsey Moore**. Originally from Taylorville, Illinois, Ms. Moore graduated from Benedictine University in Springfield in May, 2012 where she graduated with a degree in Elementary Education. Prior to coming to NH-M, Miss Moore taught Junior High Math. She currently resides in Taylorville with her two cats, Oreo and Mona Lisa. Miss Moore is loving the small town atmosphere here, as well as teaching the younger students!



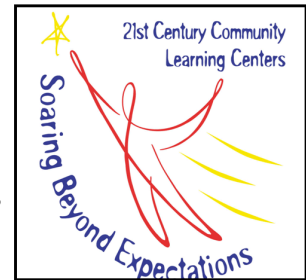
## CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The NH-M Christmas Program will occur at **6:30 pm on Tuesday, December 16** at the NH-M School. The traditional Grandparents' Lunch will unfortunately not be held this year due to Lincoln Community High School's discontinuation of their catering service. ***School will be dismissed at regular 3:10 dismissal time on this day.*** Students should report to the school **no later than 6:15 pm.**



## 21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS PROGRAM

NH-M is pleased to offer an after-school tutoring program for selected students. This program, 21st Century Schools, is funded through a Federal grant administered by the Tazewell County Health Department. This program currently has openings for up to 20 students, and focuses on providing students with a healthy afterschool snack, homework help, First Choice curriculum on positive choices and conflict resolution, and 20 minutes or so of physical exercise. It meets on **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:15 to 4:30 pm.** If interested in having your child participate, please call the school at 445-2421.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

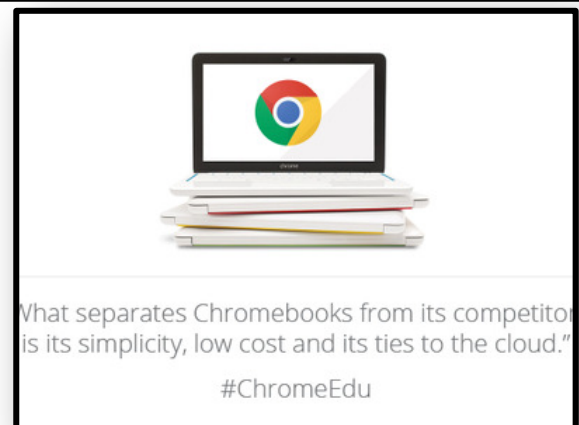
The following events are being offered to all NH-M families in order to support the NH-MCSE's ongoing mission to provide financial assistance that will enable NH-M #88 to become a world-class school district:

- **Saturday, December 6** — Christmas Mustang Style beginning at 7:00 am at NH-M School in Middletown
- Saturday, February 21 — Cosmic Bowling at Logan Lanes in Lincoln
- Saturday, April 18 — Annual "Running with the Mustangs" 5K & Family Fun Day



## CHROMEBOOKS

Last year, when NH-M became the very first school in Logan County to pilot 1:1 with Google Chromebooks. Since that time, many districts around us have adopted similar measures (Chester-East Lincoln, Midwest Central) with more in the works! To those that wondered why NH-M chose the Chromebooks, it was the affordability along with cloud-based computing skills, rather than learning "apps" for which the Apple iPad is known. While these tablets are working out great for our K-2 students, our older students are now learning how to access the web, utilize available technology, and learn the basics of cloud computing. As of third quarter of 2014, the Chromebooks have now surpassed the Apple iPad as the top selling device for education (Lee, 2014). Chromebooks start at \$199 and range in price up to \$299, depending on the manufacturer. NH-M initially purchased Samsungs, but are looking heavily at the newly redesigned Dell Chromebooks in the future. Thus far, the Chromebooks have been achieving their goals of increasing student access to online resources and the level of engagement while learning.



## WEATHER CLOSING INFORMATION

In the event that a school day must be cancelled because of inclement weather conditions or other emergencies, the following stations will be notified by 6:30 am whenever possible:

WTAX (1240 AM)                      WDBR (103.7FM)                      WABZ (93.9 FM)                      WQQL (101.9 FM)  
WYMG (100.5 FM)                      WJBC (1230 AM/93.7 FM)                      WBNQ (101.5 FM)                      B104 (104.1 FM)  
WICS Channel 20 Springfield                      WCIA Channel 3 Champaign                      WHOI Channel 19 Peoria  
NH-M will also be using its automated system *One Call Now* to notify parents of school closings, in addition to our Twitter (<http://www.twitter.com/esd>) and the website ([www.nhm88.com](http://www.nhm88.com))

## CATCH SCHOOL

NH-M is proud to be the first school in Logan County to pilot the CATCH (Coordinated Approach to Child Health) program districtwide! This program is supported at no charge to the District thanks to the support of the Logan County Healthy Communities Partnership and the Logan County Health Department. This organization is driven by their mission to transform Logan County into the healthiest community in America, and the CATCH provides healthy, active instruction and nutritional education into all subject areas. In addition to providing NH-M with thousands of dollars' worth of free equipment, CATCH also provides all teachers with classroom resources on health.



## BUILDING UPGRADES

Earlier this year, NH-M entered into an energy-saving, performance-based contract in order to improve the heating/cooling efficiency of our building. After being posted to the public for bidding, GRP Mechanical was selected to complete the project, installing 97% efficient boilers to replace the 60% efficient boiler.

As part of the project, primary classrooms were enclosed with the new heat systems. While nearly complete, this project has greatly improved the learning environment of NH-M (comfortable temperatures, safety/locking doors and quiet classrooms) while also guaranteeing an energy savings! This project was paid for by the Logan County Facility Sales Tax, not through property taxes.



# NH-M #88

*Learning Is Our #1 Priority!*

**BOXHOLDER  
MIDDLETOWN, IL 62666**

