



88 MUSTANG MINUTES WINTER 2012 ISSUE



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Superintendent's Corner
- Volleyball Schedule
- School Events
- Illness Information
- Weather Closing Info
- ...much more!

Dates to Remember

- Tuesday, December 18
— Grandparents' Dinner/Christmas Program —
11:00am/6:00 pm
- Thursday, December 20
— 2:00 pm Early Dismissal
- Friday, December 21—
Friday, January 4 —
Winter Break
- Monday, January 7 —
School Resumes
- Friday, January 11 —
2nd Quarter Awards Assembly 8:30 am (Early Dismissal @ 11:30 am—
School Improvement)

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SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

It is hard to believe we are nearly halfway through this school year!

This year has seen a remarkable amount of resurgence both within the school walls and within the two communities of New Holland and Middletown.

First, I would like to thank everyone who came out and supported our First Charity Car Wash to benefit needy students. Thanks to an extremely giving community and an extra generous donation from **New Holland Banking Center**, NH-M now has nearly \$1,000 to spend on needy students. This is for any student in economic need of school-related supplies. Already, this fund has supplied students with clothing, coats, and sports equipment needed for athletics. The purpose of this fund is to ensure that no student is denied educational opportunities due to economic hardships. We plan to use this fund to *"take care of our own"* here at NH-M.

Holidays were celebrated "Mustang Style" this year, thanks to Ms. Kuhlman and the 8th grade class sponsoring the 1st Annual **"Boo at the School,"**

drawing over 100 people to attend a trick-or-treating session at the school on Halloween. Next, the *NH-M Community Supports Education 501(c)* group sponsored Breakfast with Santa at the New Holland Community Center. Again, the community showed its support by attending in large numbers.

What has been the most fun about these events is not necessarily the funds raised or reason behind the events, but has been the chance for the community to come together to show their support behind our great school district! It's what makes serving the community in this capacity so rewarding!

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 **Mrs. Amy Schmitz**. Amy is our school secretary and district bookkeeper, hired to replace the recently retired Loretta Sowers. Amy joins NH-M from Wells Fargo Home Mortgage in Springfield. Originally from Orange County, California, Amy and her husband Chadd now live in Sherman with their two daughters, Emily and Megan. In her spare time, she enjoys reading and fishing with her family. She loves her new position, and is excited to be joining the NH-M learning community!

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The NH-M Christmas Program will occur at **6:00 pm on Tuesday, December 18** at the NH-M School. The traditional Grandparents' Lunch will also take place that same day at 11:00 am. The evening program will consist of performances from K-2, 3-4 grades as well as the Junior High Chorus and Band students. Finally, a special visitor will make an appearance at NH-M!



ILLNESSES: WHEN TO KEEP CHILDREN HOME

School attendance has always been positively linked with student achievement, so it is not always an easy decision to keep a sick child at home. Oftentimes keeping a sick child home results in some parents missing work. However, in the following instances sick children truly need to stay home in the care of an adult in order to recuperate and avoid spreading the illness at school:



- * **Fever** — Any fever of 100 degrees or higher should dictate the child not attend school until they have been **fever free for 24 hours** without the aid of ibuprofen or Tylenol.
 - * **Diarrhea/Vomiting** — Children with these symptoms should be kept home until they have been symptom free for 24 hours.
 - * **Cough** — Deep and uncontrollably coughing children belong at home even without a fever.
- For more information, please contact your family health care provider.

NH-M ORNAMENTS

NH-M Community Supports Education is selling NH-M Mustang Christmas ornaments to benefit their fundraising efforts to equip NH-M students with technology. The ornaments are pictured to the right, and are for sale at the NH-M School office. They will also be sold at the NH-M Christmas program. Each ornament comes in a gift box for \$10. There is a limited quantity available. If you would like to order one, please call the school at 445-2421.



VOLUNTEERS

Whether it is making photocopies, reading with students, supervising lunch/recess, or working with small student groups, NH-M greatly appreciates community volunteers at our school! Many opportunities exist for community members to volunteer at our school. Additionally, we are very proud of our school and view this as another opportunity to show off the great things happening here daily. For opportunities to volunteer at NH-M, please call the school at 445-2421.



4TH GRADERS MAKE HOPI PROJECTS

Recently, the 4th graders in Miss Sallie Traeger's class concluded their unit of study on Southwest Native American tribes, including the Hopi. As their culminating activity, students created "hands-on" projects representing their culture. Final projects included models, Kachina dolls, pottery, games, diary entries and maps. This unit was an exciting way to teach the Social Studies content while assessing students' content mastery in an alternative method, rather than the traditional pencil and paper method.



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.

JUNIOR HIGH SOUP KITCHEN



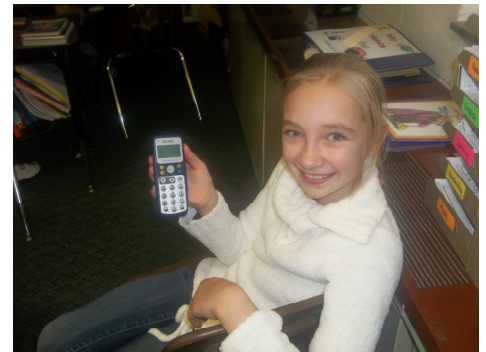
Junior High students in Mr. Jerry Neisler's US History classes recently re-enacted the historic soup kitchens that were common during the Great Depression. Students were able to dress for the parts as they portrayed hungry and unemployed workers from the 1930's. A favorite soup of the era, carrots and broth, was served to students as they displayed their misfortunes through signs and speeches.



NEW TECHNOLOGY ARRIVES AT NH-M



NH-M is excited to unveil new technology available for students purchased with Federal grant funding (Title II). The SMART classroom responders allow students to input answers to teacher-created assessments on the SMART-boards on a device similar to "texting" on a cell phone. Results are instantaneous feedback for students as they can immediately see visually how well they performed. Teachers can also utilize this technology to increase student engagement, while constantly assessing for student mastery. The 4th grade student pictured to the right described using the responders as "fun."



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

