

Voice of the Pines

Fall Edition 2012 - 2013

Newsletter for Residents of the Northland Pines School District



State School Report Card Initiative Launched



Dr. Mike Richie
District Administrator

The theme that our State Superintendent Tony Evers is using this year is **Every Child a Graduate - College and Career Ready**. This means higher expectations, accountability and reform initiatives for all school districts in the state. Educator Effectiveness, Statewide Student Information System, Higher Expectations Measuring Student Learning and School Report Cards, just to mention a few. My article will focus on the School Report Card initiative.

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has issued a **School Report Card** for all public schools in Wisconsin. The School Report Card will help parents understand how their child's school is doing and where it can improve. The new report cards will help all Wisconsin public schools get a better picture of how well they help children learn, advance to the next grade, and graduate ready for college and career. According to DPI, the goal of the Report Card is to help every student in a Wisconsin school succeed, graduate, and be ready to pursue further education and a career.

Keep in mind, the School Report Card is just one part of a new, statewide accountability system for schools. DPI worked closely with parents, educators, and members of the business community to develop the system. The Governor, State Superintendent, legislative leaders, and DPI staff worked with educators throughout Wisconsin and with the U.S. Department of Education to shape the new accountability system. This system, and the report cards, will continue to evolve in future years.

Each school will earn a "score," called an accountability index score, from 0 to 100. This score is displayed on the school report card. The accountability index score that your school receives is based on the school's performance in four priority areas:

1. **Student Achievement** in reading and mathematics on state tests
2. **Student Growth** measured by year-to-year improvements in achievement

3. **Closing Gaps** in performance between specific student groups (comparing English language learners, low-income students, students with disabilities, and members of racial or ethnic group with their peers)

4. **On-track/Postsecondary Readiness**, including graduation or attendance rates, reading and math achievement, and ACT participation and performance.

In addition, the School Report Card displays the school's performance on three areas of student engagement:

- **Test Participation Rate** in reading and mathematics state tests
- **Absenteeism Rate** measuring chronic absenteeism
- **Dropout rate** measuring the number of students dropping out of school

A school is placed into one of five ratings—based on its performance in the above areas. *It's important to note that the 0 to 100 accountability index score is not a "percent correct" measurement, so the scores are not the same as grades.* The new statewide accountability system will include ways to spread effective practices of high-performing schools and support to help struggling schools improve.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Significantly Exceeds Expectations | 83 – 100 |
| 2. Exceeds Expectations | 73 – 82.9 |
| 3. Meets Expectations | 63 – 72.9 |
| 4. Meets Few Expectations | 53 – 62.9 |
| 5. Fails to Meet Expectations | 0 – 52.9 |

Overall the Northland Pines School District scored very well on the recently state released Report Cards:

Land O' Lakes Elementary School

75.1 Exceeds Expectations

Eagle River Elementary School

74.9 Exceeds Expectations

Northland Pines High School

73.9 Exceeds Expectations

St. Germain Elementary School

72.7 Meets Expectations

Northland Pines Middle School

69.6 Meets Expectations

We will now work at each building level to develop and implement any necessary improvements. A school's accountability score reflects many measures that factor into a school's performance. The accountability score will

Dr. Richie (continued on page 2)

Dr. Richie *(continued from page 1)*

help school staff determine what areas the school does well in and where it needs improvement. The School Report Card provides detailed information about the performance of student groups at the school, including racial groups, disability, poverty, and English language learners.

School Report Cards will come out every year. School Report Cards are publicly available on the DPI website, organized by district.

The School Report Card is designed to inform parents and the community, and to spur discussion about our children's learning. Parents can:

- ✓ Bring the School Report Card to parent-teacher conferences and talk about the student achievement data on it.
- ✓ Ask how you can help your child improve and be on-track to graduate.
- ✓ Ask school staff what steps the school is taking to help students succeed and improve.
- ✓ Support your child's learning and your child's school.
- ✓ Ask your school principal how parents can help the school improve.
- ✓ Attend school events/activities with your child.
- ✓ Volunteer to help at school events or to work one-on-one with children to improve their skills.
- ✓ Join your school's parent group to learn more about school programs and efforts that make the school a better place for all students.

If you have any specific questions regarding the Report Card or questions regarding the score for any of our schools please contact the building principal. He/she will be happy to discuss our results/scores with you.



Strong Leadership Holds Costs Down

Jim Mulleady, NPSD School Board President

The Northland Pines School District met Monday, September 24 for the Annual Budget Meeting. The Annual Meeting is a bit different as it is the taxpayers and public's opportunity to make motions and become an integral part of the decision making process for the District. I am pleased to report that a budget of \$23,957,764 with a levy of \$16,736,681 was unanimously passed for the 2012-2013 school year.

What does this mean to the taxpayer? The levy is the amount that the school district is asking the taxpayers to pay so that is a very important value. The levy for 2011-2012 was \$20,993,921 so we are asking for 18.76% **less** than the previous year.

How will this affect my property taxes? It will have a great effect on property taxes for residents within the Northland Pines School District. The estimated levy rate for 2012-13 is 5.05774 per thousand of assessed valuation. This is making an assumption of decreased equalized valuation of 1.87%. This compares with last year's mil rate of 6.22559 per thousand of assessed valuation. The amount a homeowner paid last year was \$623 for a \$100,000 home. The amount a homeowner can anticipate for that same \$100,000 home would be \$506. That is a decrease of 19.6%.

This District has done a tremendous job in trying to hold costs down. The District makes every attempt to maximize taxpayer value. There are so many people to thank for their contributions but I mostly wish to thank the staff. When one looks at other school districts around the state, we are so fortunate to have the best buildings and the finest staff.

The Northland Pines School Board was proud to be notified by the National Association of School Superintendents (NASS) that they had awarded our District Administrator, Mike Richie, with their prestigious honor of 2012 National Superintendent of the Year. Mike's leadership and vision for our district, along with his efforts for continuous improvement has been the driving force for many great things throughout the district. However, he makes it clear to the board and community that he does not accomplish these tasks alone. He credits the district's accomplishments to his dedicated staff, hardworking students, and supportive community. This was showcased in a District Celebration held on October 22, where Mike also received his award.

Mike Richie has done a tremendous job for us at Northland Pines. He has helped get our budget in order. Mike has dramatically improved our test scores, and improved our curriculum. He has made himself extremely visible in the community with regular newsletters, emails, podcasts and more. He is very involved with the community by being an integral member in the Rotary and other organizations. Mike is a vocal advocate for our students and has made the school district the centerpiece of the area. I cannot thank him enough for all of the things he has brought not only to this school district, but to the community.

Northland Pines Board of Education

Jim Mulleady, President
Mike Sealander, Vice President
John Sarama, Clerk
Holly McCormack, Treasurer
Eric Neff, Deputy Clerk
Mike Jovanovic, Member
Mark Vander Bloomen, Member

Land O' Lakes Elementary Again Honored at State Level



State Superintendent Tony Evers praised Land O' Lakes Elementary School for being among 132 schools in the state that received Wisconsin School of Recognition honors for the 2012-13 school year during a special Oct. 2 ceremony at the State Capitol in Madison.

Evers welcomed, from left: Dr. Mike Richie, Shirley Erickson (5th grade teacher), Cynthia Spiess (3rd grade teacher), and Scott Foster (principal) to the recognition event. To be recognized, schools must be among those with the highest poverty rates in the state, have met adequate yearly progress goals under federal education law for the past two years, and have student achievement on state mathematics and reading assessments that is higher than schools with similar poverty levels and grade configurations.

"The staff and administration of these schools are committed to forging partnerships among teachers, parents, administrators, other school staff members, and the community to create an educational environment that supports children's learning," Evers said.

Scott Foster, Land O' Lakes Principal, stated, "Land O' Lakes Elementary school is a special place for students to learn and grow socially". He highlights that TEAMWORK is what it takes to be recognized for this special award and compliments the entire staff for this accomplishment and the students' success. He adds, "Other key team players in our student's success are our PTA and community partners; our local art gallery - LOLA, food pantry, community garden, library, and Conserve School (to name just a few). They contribute immensely to the success we have seen with the students." Land O' Lakes Elementary has received this wonderful honor two out of the last three years. "The major key to our success is that all staff work hard and truly believe that all of our students can and will succeed. No one quits until we reach that goal!" said Principal Foster.



All American Kids Club Receives Recognition and Grant

New this year, Eagle River Elementary School established an *All American Kids Club*. The club has approximately 80 members with students from kindergarten through fifth grade. This club was created and is facilitated by Eagle River Elementary School Kindergarten Teachers, Sarah Simac, and Nanci Foster.

The club was created to instill and nurture a sense of pride and patriotism in elementary aged students through monthly correspondences with veterans and active duty military personnel. The *All American Kids Club* meets twice per month after school.

On October 15, The Wisconsin Retired Educators' Association (WREA) Foundation honored Eagle River Elementary School in recognition of its *All American Kids Project*. In addition to the award, The *All American Kids Club* received a \$2000 grant from the WREA to help fund activities and expenses.

Clara Welch, WREA Foundation Liaison stated "My colleagues from WREA are honored to recognize you for your good work. We congratulate you on this award. *All American Kids* is making a difference in many lives, and you inspire us. You are an outstanding role model for the educational profession. Through the efforts of the entire school district and community, your project will have a lifelong impact on many individuals."



If you have the name and address of a veteran or active duty soldier that you would like to receive a mailing from the All American Kids Club, please submit it electronically on the club's website: www.tinyurl.com/allamericankids or contact Sarah Simac, ssimac@npsd.k12.wi.us, (715) 479-6471, ext. 3215 or Nanci Foster, nfoster@npsd.k12.wi.us, (715) 479-6471, ext. 3213. In addition, if you would like to help with the All American Kids Club or make a donation please contact Sarah Simac or Nanci Foster.

Pictured at the award presentation on October 15 (L to R) are: David Bennett, WREA Executive Director, Nanci Foster, NPSD Kindergarten Teacher, Carol Lamp, President, WREA President, and Sarah Simac, NPSD Kindergarten Teacher.

Response to Intervention Implementation Continues

Dr. Maggie Peterson, Director of Pupil Services/Instruction



The Northland Pines School District will be entering the 3rd year of implementing a Response to Intervention system to increase student achievement. During the 2011-12 school year, teachers reviewed screening data in reading and math to determine additional instruction for students in every grade level. At the elementary level, students participated in Power Hour, designed to supplement the core instruction in reading and math for all students.

At the middle school, some students were able to receive additional instruction during resource that increased reading levels and math performance. At the high school, interventionists worked with students struggling in English or Math courses on the skills necessary for success at that level, giving students additional tools that can generalize into all coursework.

This school year, the Response to Intervention (RtI) practices will deepen as the district prepares for changes to special education practices. For many years, students that had difficulties learning were considered for evaluation and if they met criteria, qualified for services in special education under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). At this time, the special education department is using information on student progress from their

success in interventions; however, we continue to measure student intellect and achievement as part of the evaluation for special education services in the area of learning disabilities. Beginning with the 2013-14 school year, Northland Pines will be using only the results of the Response to Intervention based services and the students' progress to determine the need for special education.

There are several touted benefits of a well-implemented RtI system. One of the most commonly cited is that students no longer need to "wait to fail" before services can assist their learning because students get help promptly within the general education setting. Secondly, an RtI approach has the potential to reduce the number of students referred for special education services while increasing the number of students who are successful within regular education. Since an RtI approach helps distinguish between those students whose achievement problems are due to a learning disability versus those students whose achievement problems are due to other issues such as lack of prior instruction, referrals for special education evaluations are often reduced. RtI techniques have been favored for reducing the likelihood that students from diverse racial, cultural or linguistic backgrounds are incorrectly identified as having a disability. Finally, parents and school teams alike find that the student progress monitoring techniques utilized in an RtI approach give teachers better information on all students so that instruction can be adjusted at the classroom level.

Gifted Education in an RtI System

Response to Intervention (RtI) applies to many areas of education and student performance, including serving our highly able students. In an RtI system and a differentiated classroom, students who have strengths and gifts in areas can be challenged to learn something new in every subject every day. At the elementary level classroom teachers can use screening data, classroom performance and pre-test results where appropriate to cater instruction to student strengths, interests and learning preferences.

Applying an RtI system to all children helps meet the needs of all children in the class through tiered instruction. At a Tier I level, students participate in the general curriculum with differentiation for a students' strengths where necessary, looking to challenge and stretch students' learn-

ing. While some special projects can be designed to challenge students in Power Hour, students also receive differentiation in the general classroom based on each student's unique needs.

At a Tier II level students who may need additional support and instruction adjustments are identified based on overall classroom performance. Differentiation of the general curriculum at this level is deeper. Consultation with staff knowledgeable in gifted education is often part of service at this level, as well as discussion with parents about a student's educational need. Services can include curriculum compacting, independent learning contract and/or acceleration in some content areas.

At the Tier III level students who have needs that are outside the general curriculum and typical course of study would have their needs met

through a Differentiated Education Plan (DEF) that can include many of the techniques already mentioned, but includes a yearly meeting for those that require unique adjustments to their education to ensure access to high quality instruction at their level. At Northland Pines case management is handled within our School Counseling offices as part of the Pupil Service Department. The district Gifted and Talented Committee began work on this model during the 2011-12 school year and will finalize adjustments to the district Gifted and Talented Plan during this school year.

Questions regarding issues related to Response to Intervention and Gifted and Talented services can be directed to Dr. Maggie Peterson at 715.479.8989.



Risk Management - A Joint Effort

Margo Smith, District Business Manager

One of the primary responsibilities of a business manager is risk management. What exactly is risk management? Risk management involves doing everything within our control to reduce risk to our students, faculty, parents, and administration in all forms. This broad definition encompasses many types of risks. Risk, and subsequent liability, has many faces. A more obvious risk is that of injury to anyone entering our building and grounds. We are all subject to risk to our bodies through accidents whether it is from a slip in the parking lot to a sports-related injury. What about those not so obvious risks?

The risks we must manage here at the District are many. Some of the risks we must properly manage to avoid liability include:

- Safeguarding of private information only to be viewed by authorized staff, including medical records;
- Food handling and storage safety;
- Cybercrime by insiders or outsiders including improper use of technology;
- Records retention to comply with statutes;
- Proper disciplinary or reward methods;
- Appropriate conduct by district staff towards parents and students;
- Athletic injuries in school sponsored activities;
- Risks occurring due to inclement weather;
- Traffic control and transportation safety.
- Emotional damage through bullying or scare tactics;
- Discrimination issues that could be contrary to state or federal law.

While it would be impossible to foresee every event that may occur, adequate risk management is a key to continued educational and financial success within a district.

The Northland Pines School District is a member of the School Insurance Risk Management Consortium. This consortium provides ongoing training and resources to help districts deal with its exposures to various risk factors. As part of this consortium, we attempt to be pro-active in avoiding occurrences that could have been

prevented. We are also rewarded by the consortium with lower rates on our workmen's compensation for training credits achieved through the consortium. Safety alerts are sent out to our District through the consortium consultant (currently A. J. Gallagher). The Business Manager attends quarterly trainings presented by risk management specialists in regard to many subject matters, and passes relevant information on to building staff.

Our independent District safety committee meets quarterly to bring to light any new or potentially dangerous circumstances in regards to physical safety. Our school nurse also provides an integral piece in facilitating preventive measures such as flu shots or responding quickly to student injuries.

The safety of our District population relies heavily on a well-trained staff. Joint cooperation of our safety committee, crisis plan administrators, HIPAA officers, community partners in fire, law enforcement, transportation, food service, as well as teachers, administrators, and support staff are essential. Staff trainings which may seem costly on the surface are a proven payback as compared to costly injuries, legal battles, and most importantly irreparable injury to a person's physical or emotional health.

Watch our website and newsletters for safety alerts in the upcoming months, as we continue to provide safety tips as part of our ongoing educational efforts.



Military Night Honoring All Veterans

Northland Pines High School Fieldhouse
(Parking and Entrance is behind the High School)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18

Each Veteran and one guest will be admitted
FREE to the basketball games!

Honoring our military with food and a special presentation.

FEATURING:

Boys Basketball Games vs. Wittenberg-Birnamwood

5:45 p.m. Boys Freshman and JV Games Begin

6:15 p.m. Dinner Served in High School Commons

7:00 p.m. **Military Night Presentation** - Color Guard, Speakers,
Military Branch Hymns

7:30 p.m. (approx.) National Anthem followed by start of
Boys Varsity game



4K Outreach and Impact of School Report Card

Matt Spets, Eagle River Elementary School Principal

There simply cannot be a similar district to Northland Pines that more successfully secures and effectively utilizes community/business partnerships to enhance teaching and learning. Of course, the great community in which we live and work and the generosity of the local businesses deserve all the credit in the world for programs such as Guides for Grades in the middle school and the high school Building Trades partnership with CornerStone Custom Builders. In the early elementary education realm, we have followed suit. The 4K staff has created a new partnership with the Northwoods Children’s Museum (NCM).

4K students attend school two full days per week, either Monday and Wednesday or Tuesday and Thursday. Our new partnership features a once per month outreach event to be held at NCM. These events are open to the students and their family members. The NPSD 4K staff will work in conjunction with the NCM staff to provide unique and beneficial learning experiences for our students.

As part of this agreement, an annual family membership for the family of each 4K student will be provided. Students and their families will be encouraged to visit the museum all year. There is no doubt that toddlers and early elementary-aged children reap many learning benefits from spending time at the NCM. The learning centers, activities, events, and programming all contribute to an increase in early literacy, early math, and basic academic skills. Our goal is to help facilitate a more frequent patronage of the NCM by the families of our youngest students – which will lead to better prepared students.

It might feel like this article is about two unrelated topics. This is definitely not the case. Developing beneficial community/business partnerships that will lead to an increase in academic skills are exactly the kinds of strategies we will initiate as the full impact of the new state-issued school report card is better understood. The School Report Cards are about improvement – which we are expected to experience each year.

To accomplish this, we will carefully examine how we use our finite duration of instructional time. The staff at ERES has already started to work to create more learning opportunities. Music Instructor, Mrs. Domek, started the Lunch Bunch Choir for grade five students. Our morning supervision plan allows students who arrive early to have either fitness, reading time, computer lab time, or homework time before the day begins. All of the aforementioned organized activities allow students to be better prepared for the school day. In addition, many grade level teams, departments and staff members are discussing additional ways to create more reading and math time for each student.

The important thing we need to remember is that each person in the school community - from the bus driver to the custodian to the paraprofessional to the teacher to the parent/guardian - plays a vital role in the success of each student. There are many opportunities for all stakeholders to help us reach our school goals.

Mark Your Calendar!
 Eagle River Elementary School
PINES PALOOZA
 Friday, January 4, 2013 1:30 - 3 p.m.
 NPHS Auditorium
 All School Assembly
 Student Awards and Recognitions
 PBIS Initiative
Parents and Guardians invited to attend!

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Land O’ Lakes Elementary Recognized for Success

Scott Foster, Land O’ Lakes Elementary Principal/Director of Technology

When this year started the Land O’ Lakes staff had the same excitement and passion that they do each and every year to make this year the best ever. Just days before students arrived excitement grew with the news that Land O’ Lakes Elementary was selected as a 2012-13 Wisconsin DPI School of Recognition. None of the staff comes to work for any type of award or recognition; however it is wonderful to know that what we are doing is being recognized. This is the second time in the last three years that this staff has reached this significant milestone.

Being a DPI School of Recognition demonstrates that we are able to reach quality marks on state assessments with any type of student population. This goes to our staff and communities goal to see every student at Land O’ Lakes Elementary succeed, we will not leave anyone behind. I stress that this a team effort! Not just all staff members, but parents, grandparents, and community members going above and beyond to help students be successful.



Principal Foster (continued on page 7)



Building a Culture of Engaged Learners

**Gayle Daniel, St. Germain Elementary School Principal/
Director of Curriculum & Instruction**

The start of the school year at St. Germain Elementary has been wonderful. Our students are learning and teachers are excited. We have a few new faces, new programs, and a 1:1 iPad classroom. Our newest faces include Jeff Waltz, Second

Grade Teacher and Katera Ruth, 4K Paraprofessional. Both of these people have been a wonderful additions to our dedicated staff.

We have started our Eagle Feathers program. Whenever an adult sees a student being respectful, responsible or safe, the three pillars of PBIS, the student will receive a coupon. These coupons are then sent to the office and placed in our weekly drawing. If drawn, the students name is then transferred to a paper eagle feather and placed on the outlined eagle hanging in the cafeteria. Eventually our entire eagle will be covered with feathers showing that St. Germain is full of respectful, responsible and safe students. This is our part of the PBIS, Positive Behavior Intervention System, being used district wide.

We have also started SPLAT, Super Place for Learning Amazing Things. This name was created by one of our students in a contest to rename Power Hour, which is a 30 minute daily learning block. During our SPLAT time, students are attending a specialized group working on specific academic needs. These groups can be focused on below, at or above grade level skills. Additionally, these groups are extremely fluid which means as students master the focused upon skill, they can move to a different learning group. These groupings were created using the AIMSweb data received following our beginning of the year local assessment and teacher recommendations. Some groups are even focusing on service learning opportunities.

As for curriculum, our District has also completed revisions to the elementary report cards. This change was necessary due to the State of WI adopting the CCSS, Common Core State Standards. These report cards will show all the new standards for English/Language Arts (ELA) and Math. These lengthy report cards will allow families to see exactly what skills and benchmarks their children will need to accomplish by the end of the school year.

All K-12 English/Language Arts teachers are now using the web-based tool, Curriculum Companion. This tool includes all of the ELA Standards and organizes them into modules. While working as grade levels or departments during our 7:30 a.m. meeting times, teachers are able to collegially develop units of instruction. Additionally, teachers are using Lync, a web tool which allows for them to connect using technology. This makes for quick long-distant communication without travel or expense. Teachers have found it extremely useful and beneficial in aiding their instruction.

Our 6-12 Math Department has also been hard at work. During their 7:30 meeting time, they continue to improve the CPM (College Preparatory Math) program. These teachers are developing and revising their assessments so they align with CCSS.

All other departmental teams and grade levels continue to work hard and make the best decisions possible for our students. They are communicating on the needs of children, academics, standards, resources, and any other necessity that will improve the education of NPSD students.

NPSD has always been a very proactive district. Our teachers are willing to work hard to move our students forward. With the help of our generous community and dedicated families, we can be assured that all NPSD students will be college and career ready.

Principal Foster *(continued from page 6)*

I mentioned the passion of our staff, which I am proud to be part of. With the success we have had there is always a chance we could take a breath and enjoy the success our students are having. Our passion and drive will not let us do that. When we were in Madison to accept our award, I was able to attend a session on what schools that have received the award for over five years are doing. The great news is we are doing a lot of the same as far as how we deliver our curriculum and support struggling students. The other key item that was addressed is that we will not rest on our success; we are always looking for ways to improve.

We have many challenges coming, new standards, new state testing, and an ever changing world. What has served Land O' Lakes Elementary very well up to this point will continue to help us with continued success. We are fortunate that our students attend a school that has staff that cares about them, works as a team, works very hard, is passionate, and strives to have every student succeed. Combine that with a great community, and we can look forward to many more successes!



Northland Pines Middle School is on the Move

Jackie Coghlan, Northland Pines Middle School Principal

One of the big changes this year has been the early start time for staff. This time has provided opportunities for all staff to be able to attend meetings no matter what they are involved in at the end of the day. Staff members are able to collaborate on strategies to support

students and plan grade level activities. They also are able to focus on specific needs of students with the help of interventionists. This interaction helps students to see that all staff are involved in their education no matter what the subject area.

Staff at the middle school decided on several goals to work towards during the school year. One goal focuses on developing the middle school PBIS program to foster respect, responsibility and positive interactions. To accomplish this goal a team is exploring and designing a program that meets the needs of the middle school students while enhancing current programs. The team is working on common goals and expectations through a matrix, creating visual learning tools, selecting incentives and developing a character education component. The end result will provide a safe, friendly and productive environment. This is part of a district-wide program that will be unique for each building level.

The second goal focuses specifically on academics to reduce the number of students who score in the minimal or basic in math and/or reading on the state test. As the new state report card gets rolled out, staff at the middle school want to be proactive to help all students be as successful as they can be. This means providing more reading and writing opportunities in all classes, not just language arts. The language arts curriculum will be strengthened by focusing on the common core state standards and adjusting curriculum to meet learning targets. The common core state standards are infused in the math series that is used at the middle school. Applying and reinforcing math skills in daily activities will also be emphasized in all classes.

The other aspect that students and staff are involved with is technology. Technology continues to be a part of our lives so we are extending the learning experiences and the tools that are used into the classroom. Students are exploring apps on iPads and learning how to apply them to accommodate their learning needs. The one to one pilot in social studies allows students to go beyond the textbook to discover information from new sources. Students are actively looking for more information to add to the discussion and support what they are learning. Our students are growing up with technology, so we need to make their experiences meaningful.



Shedding Light on Social Media and Your Student

Josh Tilley, Northland Pines High School Dean of Students

Parents are having a difficult time with their children and their knowledge of social media. Texting and Facebook are the two primary outlets that students use. However, there are as much as two hundred other types of social media that students throughout the nation tap into. Some of these are flickr, twitter, digg, classmates, and kiwibox, to name a few. A simple google search of "social media" will show you a large list.

I bring this up because of the growing concerns of what is being stated on different sites. Almost weekly I have a parent or student talking to me about what is being said about them on the internet. Unfortunately, many parents don't realize how mean other students can be to their own child. I do make an attempt to get the student(s) to realize how hurtful they are but am not successful all the time. Please take the time to talk to your child about this. I would also suggest that you look at their Facebook (or any other form of social media) page. Who are they friends with? Why do they have "600" friends, when they probably don't personally know many of those people. What pages do they frequently look at? If all parents took ten minutes each week to check their child's social media, hopefully this would prevent headaches for their child and possibly others as well.

I hope this sheds some light and it gives parents a reason to monitor what their child is doing. If any additional concerns come up, please contact me.





Collaboration will Yield Success at the High School

Jim Brewer, Northland Pines High School Principal

It is commonplace for educators to reflect upon ways to increase student learning and improve the academic and social educational environment for all students. This year, the high school staff put their words into action by creating three outstanding building goals. If the goals are achieved,

we, as members of the Northland Pines community, can be extremely proud of our youth and educational staff for raising the bar and expectations. I am very confident that through collaboration and dedication by all constituents we will be successful in our efforts. Concerns about not reaching our goals exist, but as the late great American opera star Beverly Sills once stated, "You may be disappointed if you fail, but you are doomed if you don't try."

One of the goals that we are trying is related to the ACT. Our goal states that Northland Pines ACT scores will rank in the top ten percent of all the public schools in the State of Wisconsin by the 2016-2017 school year. Currently, Northland Pines is ranked in the top thirty percent. We just posted the highest ACT scores Northland Pines has seen since 2007 and were above the State average in every category measured. Our current data indicates that our students are doing well, but we believe they can do better. We have begun to increase our student preparation in ACT by providing more resources and training for our staff who have been instrumental in helping students understand the structure and questioning of the ACT. We have begun to analyze historic data to see if there are existing curriculum gaps preventing students from achieving higher scores. We have also begun to research high performing districts to see if there are any methods that they employ which we may want to replicate. Our focus on the ACT comes at the same time as the initiative proposed by State Superintendent Tony Evers. Dr. Evers is including in next year's state budget that all students participate in the ACT Suite. If that budget proposal is accepted, our goal of increasing the ACT scores becomes even more relevant as it relates to the direction of education in the State of Wisconsin.

Our second building goal is that each department will participate in a minimum of one interdisciplinary activity or unit during the current school year. This goal relates to the emphasis on collaboration across disciplines and to improve educational effectiveness throughout the district. Traditionally high schools are what I would call "siloes" into departments. Each department teaches their content with little regard to what is being taught across the hall. An emphasis by us at Northland Pines is to break down those isolated barriers and force collaboration between departments to help ensure that our students have meaningful and relevant learning opportunities. Staff is working every other Tuesday on interdepartmental collaboration to align curriculum and generate ideas on how to better connect the various content areas.

The final building goal is geared towards student participation. The goal is to increase school spirit by having 90% of NPHS students participate in at least one club, sport, or activity during the school year. Studies continuously show that students who are engaged in co-curricular or extra-curricular activities achieve higher academic performance than their peers who were not involved in such activities. Northland Pines currently offers a plethora of opportunities geared towards getting students involved. Recently, many staff members have created new clubs such as Astronomy, H.O.S.A, D.E.C.A., and others which are in the designing stages. All of this is so students can be a part of the positive and productive events that transpire at Northland Pines. Finding a niche for all students so they feel comfortable, confident, and connected to this great educational institution is a priority of us here at the high school.

Having lofty measurable and obtainable goals is only one part of the equation of increasing student achievement and engagement. Actions have already been taken towards achieving these goals but it is imperative that we get support from all constituents. Please assist us at the high school as we continue to strive to provide a world class education for our children. Our students deserve the best and with your help, they will achieve success.

Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

Monday, November 12, 2012	All District Schools (4K – 12)	11 AM – 7 PM
Thursday, November 15, 2012	STG, LOL, ER Elementary	3:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Thursday, January 31, 2013	STG, LOL, ER Elementary	3:30 PM – 7 PM
Thursday, February 7, 2013	Middle School	4 PM – 7 PM
Thursday, February 21, 2013	High School	4 PM – 7 PM



NPSD Activity Schedules and Ticket Information

Brian Margelofsky, Northland Pines Activities Director

Schedules for the 2012-13 Northland Pines Activities can be viewed on our district website at: <http://www.npsd.k12.wi.us> Athletic Sports Schedules, the NPSD Fine Arts Schedule, the H.S. Fieldhouse and Fitness Center Schedules are all available for viewing and printing.

Please visit the Great Northern Conference web page for conference game schedules, rosters, stats, and driving directions to event locations by going to www.greatnorthernconference.org/g5-bin/client.cgi?G5genie=141. Additionally there is a link to all GNC school's home page from this site.

The Activity Bus for High School and Middle School students will be available three days a week on **Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday** for students participating in after school activities. The buses depart at 6:05 p.m. from the Middle School and at 6:15 p.m. from the parking lot behind the high school.

NPHS Fieldhouse Track Open for Public Use

The public is welcome to utilize the indoor track for walking and running from 5:30 - 8:15 a.m. and 1 - 3 p.m. daily, and from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. on evenings when there are not events in the fieldhouse. Please log on to www.npsd.k12.wi.us for evening availability for using the indoor track.

Presenting the 2013 NPHS Musical



Friday, February 8 at 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 9 at 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 10 at 2:00 p.m.

NPHS Auditorium

\$5.00 Adults \$2.00 Students/Seniors

Tickets on sale January 28th NPHS Office

One of the most explosive movie musicals in recent memory bursts onto the live stage with exhilarating results. When Ren and his mother move from Chicago to a small farming town, Ren is prepared for the inevitable adjustment period at his new high school. What he isn't prepared for are the rigorous local edicts, including a ban on dancing. The heartfelt story that emerges is of a father longing for the son he lost and of a young man aching for the father who walked out on him. To the rocking rhythm of its Oscar and Tony-nominated top 40 score and augmented with dynamic new songs for the stage musical, FOOTLOOSE celebrates the wisdom of listening to young people, guiding them with a warm heart and open mind.

Support Eagle Athletics!

The 2012 - 2013 Northland Pines athletic season passes are available to purchase in the High School Activities Office or at the ticket table of HOME sporting events.

Prices:

Adult \$25 (up to age 62)

Family \$40

Seniors FREE! (age 62+)

All children living in the Northland Pines School District (public and private) are encouraged to attend events free of charge! Senior passes are available to pick up in the District or High School Office, or at games. Passes cover all regularly scheduled HOME sporting events. They are not honored at away events or for WIAA Tournament games.

K-12 Parents Invited to Join Music Boosters

Started in 2009 by enthusiastic parents, the Northland Pines Music Boosters is an organization dedicated to enriching the experiences of students enrolled in general music, choir, and band. The Boosters assist with travel expenses, music events, scholarships, special needs like new choir robes, and much more. The auditorium sound shell is one example of a Booster project.

Parents of K-12 music students are considered members. Monthly meetings are in the middle school band room 6 - 7 p.m, Dec. 6, Jan. 10, Feb. 14, March 14, April 11, and May 2, 2013. Everyone is welcome! Please contact Kelly McGill with questions, kamcgill@hotmail.com or 715.542.1614.

Pines Welcomes New Staff Members

Jessica Adamovich is the new 1/ 2 grade looping teacher at Eagle River Elementary School with first graders this year. She is a NPHS graduate and earned her Bachelor's of Science degree in Education with a minor in Earth Sciences from UW-Green Bay. She was a student teacher with the district last semester and her long term professional goal is to obtain her master's degree in reading. She enjoys spending time outdoors with her husband, Brad, and their one year old son, Brock. She also enjoys reading, running, sports, and traveling.

John Biggs is the new Homebound Instructor for the district.

Katie Carey is the new Middle School and High School Math Teacher. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics with a minor in Psychology and a secondary teaching certification from University of Michigan. She previously taught Geometry, Algebra II, and Trigonometry at University Liggett School in Grosse Pointe Woods, MI. She enjoys cooking, hiking, and all outdoor activities in her spare time.

Kayla Chaplin is the new Paraprofessional at the Middle School and Eagle River Elementary School. She holds an Associate's degree in Elementary Education and will earn her Bachelor's degree in Education after she completes her student teaching. She aspires to earn her Special Education license and enjoys working with children with special needs. In her spare time Kayla is a co-leader for Girl Scouts, enjoys scrapbooking, stamping cards, babysitting, cooking and baking.

Patricia Darr is the new Kindergarten Teacher at Eagle River Elementary School. She attended UW-Platteville where she earned her Elementary Education major and Early Childhood and Adaptive Education minors. She received her Master's degree in Elementary Reading & Literacy from Walden University. For the past six years she was a teacher in Watersmeet, MI. She aspires to obtain her Reading Specialist License. Her and her husband, Mark, have two daughters, Rynn (5) and Ryley (3) and a hunting retriever dog named Scrappy. In her spare time she enjoys hunting (grouse, turkey, deer-with bow), snowboarding, reading and trap shooting.

Tami Davis is the new Fourth Grade Teacher at Eagle River Elementary School. She received her Elementary Education/Language Arts Bachelor's degree and is in the process of obtaining her Master's degree in Education from Michigan State University. Tami hopes to "inspire, challenge, and help students develop a love of learning that will last a lifetime!" She is very active and enjoys playing tennis and soccer, along with many other sports. Tami likes being outside and is looking forward to hiking, kayaking, and enjoying this beautiful area. She is also a huge Packer fan.

Stephanie Grassl is the new ASPIRE Paraprofessional at the high school. She has a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from UW-Eau Claire. She enjoys working with

kids from different backgrounds/struggles and currently works for Options Counseling Services along with this position at Pines. She and her husband Adam have a five year old son, Owen, and a one year old son, Jarrett, and a dog, Carly. In her spare time she enjoys doing anything outside; walking the dog, biking, running, playing at the park. She also likes reading on her Kindle.

Jeff Janssen is the new Special Education Teacher at the Northland Pines High School. He earned his Bachelor's Degree from UW-Oshkosh and is working on additional licenses through St. Mary's University in Minnesota. Jeff has worked in a variety of part-time positions in the district over the past five years and is the Auditorium Manager for the high school. He also enjoys working at a variety of the afterschool activities. Jeff is married to Kate (Choir Director at NPHS and NPMS) and they have a puggle puppy named Wrigley. His hobbies include fishing, hunting, and watching the Packers and Badgers (but is a Cubs fan). He is a member of the Eagle River Fire Department.

Kim Lewandowski is the new Kindergarten Teacher at Eagle River Elementary School. She received her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from UW-Stout and her Master's from Viterbo. She has been teaching for the last 12 years. Kim received Kohl Fellowship award and is currently working towards earning National Board Certification. Her and her husband, Scott, have one daughter, McKenzie. She enjoys spending time with her family, judging muskie tournaments and scrapbooking.

Forrest Mann is the new Middle School and High School Band Director. He received his Bachelor of Music Education: Instrumental from UW-Stevens Point. Forrest was a Teaching-Artist for the first Very Young Composers Project in Wisconsin. He is a composer and plays trumpet for his main instrument. He is engaged to be married to Bridget in July of 2013. He loves to listen to and play music and looks forward to working with all his students to make some fantastic music together. In his spare time he is an avid moviegoer and enjoys spending time outdoors.

Jason Meier is the new District Technology Support person. He has an Associate's degree in Computer Support Specialist and Criminal Justice. He and his wife enjoy spending time together and with their dog. Jason also enjoys computer gaming, fishing and camping.

Jessica Parling is the new Fifth Grade Teacher at Eagle River Elementary School. She received her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and minors in Science and Spanish from Concordia University Wisconsin. She and her husband have a 1 ½ year old daughter that they enjoy playing outside with and camping. She also likes making stained glass and reading.

Wendy Pluedeman is the new Activities Secretary at the Northland Pines High School. She previously worked 10 ½ years with Mayville School District doing payroll,

activities and scholarship bookkeeping. She has four grown children and moved to Eagle River with her husband two years ago. She has appreciated the kind and receptive people in the area and in her free time goes boating, fishing, snowmobiling and enjoys baking.

Katera Ruth is the new part-time Paraprofessional at Land O'Lakes and St. Germain Elementary Schools.

Julie Schiddel is the new Building Secretary at Eagle River Elementary School. She graduated from NPHS and received her Associate's degree for Administrative Assistant from Nicolet College. She has worked in the sign business for the last 15 years doing many tasks. She volunteered with the Caring for Kids Project and within two years, Julie and two other moms were able to present their vision of a new playground for the town of St. Germain. Through hard work, determination, and many presentations and fundraisers they were able to accomplish a very large goal and brought their vision to reality. She has been happily married for 11 years and they have three children (ages 9, 6, and 4 – all girls), one dog, one cat and several fish. She loves being outside; camping, hiking, boating, fishing, swimming, snorkeling, and biking. Julie enjoys running and did her first triathlon this year and participated in a 5K mud run obstacle course to raise money for breast cancer.

Scott Subach is the new Business Education Teacher and DECA Advisor at the high school and middle school. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Business and Marketing Education from UW-Whitewater. He was the operations manager for UW-Whitewater Television and personal

finance teacher for Elkhorn Area School District prior to joining the staff at Pines. He aspires to run his own business some day and enjoys writing business plans and watching the stock market. He likes baseball, basketball, football, hockey, ping pong, bumper pool and going to garage sales. He has a puggie dog named Charlie Brown.

Lynn Wilkie is the new Special Education Teacher at Eagle River Elementary School. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Eastern Illinois University. She is currently attending UW-Stevens Point working towards her Master's degree in Early Childhood and Special Education. Lynn and her husband, Brett have two dogs – Bear and Harley. She loves the outdoors, especially snowmobiling, skiing, hiking, boating and camping. She loves to bring the outdoors into the classroom as much as possible.

Jeff Waltz is the new Second Grade Teacher at St. Germain Elementary School. He attended UW-Platteville with a major in Elementary Education and a minor in Social Studies. He spent 14 years teaching in the Kettle Moraine School District. While there he formed a Recess Committee, served on the Principal Advisory Committee, and was the Overnight Outdoor Education Teacher for the past three years (3 day-2 night field trip). Jeff and his wife, Sara have a six year old daughter (Eliana) and a 3 year old son (Nolan). In his spare time, he enjoys searching for big northern pike, playing any sport, spending time with his family, writing for children, hiking, running, church activities, and ice fishing.

2012-'13 School Year New Staff





Gayle Daniel
STG Principal &
Director of
Curriculum



Aiko Schickel
CRS Secretary



Lizanni Snedden
ERES General
Paraprofessional



Stephanie Grassl
HS ASP/BI
Paraprofessional



Jacob Meier
District Technology
Support



John Biggs
Horseboard
Instructor



Katera Ruth
LOL & STG P/T
Paraprofessional



Wendy Pluedeman
Activities Secretary



Kayla Chaplin
ERES P/T Early
Childhood
Paraprofessional



Jessica Parling
ERES Grade 5

Front Row (l to r): Kim Lewandowski (ERES Kindergarten), Jessica Adamovich (ERES Grade 1 Loop), Tami Davis (ERES Grade 4), Lynn Wilkie (ERES SPED Multi-categorical)

Back Row (l to r): Kathryn Caray (MS/HS Math), Forrest Mann (HS/MS Band), Jeff Janssen (HS SPED Multi-categorical), Jeffrey Waltz (STG Grade 2), Scott Subach (HS/MS Business Education), Patricia Darr (ERES Kindergarten)

NPSD Employment and Job Openings

The Northland Pines School District will utilize its website www.npsd.k12.wi.us as the **primary location** to advertise job openings in the district; this will be an effective, efficient, cost saving measure for the district.

If you are interested in vacancies, please visit www.npsd.k12.wi.us and click on **Human Resources, Employment Opportunities**. If you have questions regarding job openings, contact Susie Block at the district office either by email at sblock@npsd.k12.wi.us or by phone at (715) 479-6487, Option 1, Ext. 2.

NPSD Alumni Spotlight - Jesse Jefferson, NPSD Class of 2002



Jesse Jefferson P.E., a 2002 graduate of Northland Pines High School, was awarded the 2012 ASCE Wisconsin Section Young Engineer of the Year Award from the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). The award was presented at the ASCE Wisconsin Section Annual Meeting on September 7 at the Country Springs Hotel in Pewaukee, WI.

This recognition is awarded annually to a member of the Wisconsin Section of ASCE who must be 35 years of age and is judged on attained professional achievement as measured by:

- *Registration as Professional Engineer (P.E.) and having practiced in the State of Wisconsin for at least three years.*
- *Demonstration of interest in self-improvement through participation in evening courses, workshops, seminars, or other means.*
- *Service to the advancement of the profession.*
- *Evidence of technical competence, responsibility for significant engineering projects, integrity and high professional ethics.*

- *Contributions to public service outside of professional career.*

Upon graduation at Northland Pines, Jesse attended Michigan Technological University in Houghton, MI where he graduated in 2007 with a Bachelors of Science degree in Civil Engineering with a focus in transportation design. He began his professional career at HNTB Corporation in Minneapolis, MN and later moved within the company to Milwaukee, WI.

As Vice President of the ASCE Younger Member Group, Jesse is active within his local Branch, leading teams for Habitat for Humanity, school outreach assignments and the successful STEM Expo held at the Milwaukee School of Engineering on September 15. He also helps shape national transportation policy by involvement on committees with the Transportation Research Board in Washington, D.C.

Jesse has played a leading role in engineering design teams on mega-projects in Wisconsin and Ohio including the \$1.8 billion I-94 N-S Reconstruction in Milwaukee, the \$800 million Milwaukee to Madison High Speed Rail Project and the \$287 million I-90 Cleveland Innerbelt Reconstruction Project. Currently, he is a lead roadway designer with the \$1.9 billion I-94/I-894/US-45 Zoo Interchange Reconstruction Project in Milwaukee.

Jesse is the son of Becky Jefferson and Dan Jefferson of Eagle River and lives with his wife Jennifer and dog Stella in Milwaukee.

Northland Pines Employee of the Month

Congratulations to the recipients of the Employee of the Month award for the 2012-2013 school year:

September 2012

**Kyle McMahon, Special Education Paraprofessional
Eagle River Elem. and Northland Pines Middle School**

October 2012

**Mark Deditz, Fourth Grade Teacher
St. Germain Elementary School**

Any person may nominate any employee for this award by writing a brief email explaining why the employee should receive the award. All nominations can be emailed for consideration to either Mike Richie, District Administrator, at mrichie@npsd.k12.wi.us or to Jim Mulleady, Board President, at jmulleady@npsd.k12.wi.us.

Northland Pines School District Mission Statement

Northland Pines School District is dedicated to empowering all individuals to reach their potential.

We will be accountable and work together to:

- Model what is expected
- Nurture a safe, healthy, and trusting environment
- Provide a challenging and engaging curriculum
- Promote life-long learning
- Build school, family, and community partnerships
- Celebrate cultural diversity, talents, and strengths
- Thrive in a global society
- Foster continuous improvement

Attention Non-Residents
of the Northland Pines
School District

This newsletter is provided to all residents of the Northland Pines School District. The most affordable process used to circulate this newsletter throughout the district is to use saturation mailing. It is costly to avoid a few non-residents from receiving our newsletter. We apologize for your inconvenience but wish to provide important information to all residents. Thank you.

Continuing to Improve our Healthy, Delicious Lunches

Jessi Bortolotti, Taher Food Service Director



We are already finishing our first quarter of school; time goes quickly in the Northland Pines food service department. We have been busy preparing healthy tasty meals for our students. You may have heard of lunchroom boycotts across the country due to the new USDA guidelines. We are happy to say we have not had any problems in our cafeterias and we

have received many compliments this year on our menu.

Taher has been working towards meeting the new guidelines for several years. We have been offering students fresh fruit and vegetables for a long time and have always promoted whole grains, and low fat meals. The students at Northland Pines I am happy to say were already eating very healthy and following many of the new guidelines that were passed last year. I would like to thank our students for participating in our healthy lunch program and also to thank the parents and staff that promote healthy eating at home and at school. Healthy eating habits start at home and it is obvious by the amount of fruit and vegetables we go through every day that our students are learning to eat well at home.

We encourage the families and our community to be involved in healthy life styles for our students. We have started our Wellness Committee and we are always looking for people to contribute. We discuss a variety of topics; physical fitness, sports, school lunch, after school pro-

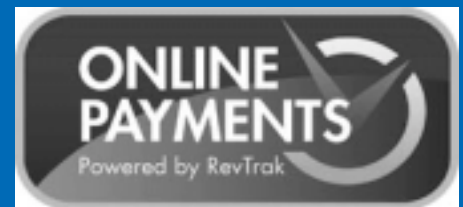
grams, healthy eating at home, recess and other topics that relate to our district's Wellness Policy. If you are interested in being a part of this committee please contact Jessi Bortolotti, FSD. This committee meets once a month after school.

Families who participate in the Free and Reduced lunch program must have a letter for the 2012-2013 school year in order for their benefits to continue. If you did not receive a letter that your application has been approved or a letter stating you have been approved through Direct Certification you must get your application in before October 19, 2012. The 2011-2012 Free/Reduce status will expire on October 19, 2012. If you do not have your approval letter for 2012-2013, your status will be changed. Once an application is approved it **cannot** be back dated. You will be responsible for all charges accrued up until the date of approval. Families who have received Temporary Status for Free lunch must have a new application sent in before your temporary status expires. Your original letter of approval will have the date of expiration on it. Applications are available on the District website or you may pick one up at all of the districts school offices. If you need an application mailed to you please call Jessi Bortolotti, Food Service Director at 715.479.5800 or email jbortolotti@npsd.k12.wi.us

We look forward to serving our students at Northland Pines and always invite family to have lunch with our students. Hope to see you at lunch.

Online Payment for Lunch and School Fees

The Northland Pines School District provides parents an easy way to pay school related fees. We have established a secure web store, powered by RevTrak. Our new web store offers parents a convenient payment option when adding money to food service accounts or paying school related fees.



Online payments can be made using a Discover, VISA or MasterCard credit or debit card. Click on this icon on the district website.

Northland Pines Project UNIFY Club Announces Unified Sports®

In collaboration with NPHS Boys' Basketball Coach Ryan Clark and the high school basketball teams, Northland Pines High School Project UNIFY Club is proud to announce a new Unified Sports® opportunity. Beginning November 13, participants will meet in the NPHS field house to engage in an inclusive basketball training program.



Students with and without disabilities will practice basketball skills for several weeks before demonstrating their skills during a half time performance of a varsity game on Friday, December 14. This recreational sport opportunity for Special Olympic athletes and athletes without intellectual disabilities will promote social inclusion and increase sport knowledge. If you are a student or have a student who is interested in participating, please contact Emily Rhode @ 715-891-5902 for more information.

S.O.A.R. Charter School on the Horizon for NPSD

Dr. Mike Richie, District Administrator

There has been much discussion and excitement throughout our school district regarding the implementation of a charter school. On April 18, 2011, the Northland Pines School District hosted a community information meeting regarding public charter schools. The presenter was Barry Golden from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. After this presentation, the consensus was that NPSD should proceed with further research on charter schools.

In September of 2011 the first Charter School Committee meeting was held; this newly formed committee consisted of over 40 individuals throughout our school district including parents, business owners, community members and school district personnel. A number of meetings were held throughout the course of the year. Committee members also visited other successful charter schools throughout the state of Wisconsin. The committee decided to pursue a charter school planning grant through the Department of Public Instruction. **In August 2012, we received official notification that the Northland Pines School District was awarded a \$175,000 planning grant.** The name S.O.A.R. (School of Options and Applied Research) was given to this new charter school by the committee.

The committee, through research and district surveys, reached a consensus decision that a project-based charter school would be pursued for grades 5, 6, and 7 for the first year and grades 5-8 the following years. The group felt that at this age, more opportunities are needed for our students.

The charter school will be housed in the Land O'Lakes Elementary School building and the students will experience a very unique learning opportunity. The district will begin accepting enrollment applications on January 2, 2013. The charter school will open in September of 2013, and current Land O' Lakes Elementary Principal, Scott Foster, will also take on the role of charter school principal. We will continue to post new information on our S.O.A.R. website.

Timeline of the development of the charter school:

April 2011	DPI presentation to the community
September 2011	Formed charter school committee
October 2012	Committee members visit other successful Wisconsin charter schools
April 2012	Submitted planning grant application to DPI
August 2012	Received S.O.A.R. Charter School planning grant for \$175,000
September 2012	Planning/designing S.O.A.R. Charter School
November 2012	Create S.O.A.R. Charter Board
November 2012	Develop charter contract between NPSD and S.O.A.R.
January 2013	Hire S.O.A.R. teacher
January 2013	Registration begins (45 students cap for year 1)
January 2013	Begin writing/designing curriculum and programming
September, 2013	S.O.A.R. Charter School will open


Visit the S.O.A.R. website <http://www.npsd.k12.wi.us/soar> for information on the vision of the new charter school, or scan in this QR code.



S.O.A.R. Partners
 Conserve School
 Land O' Lakes Library
 LOLA - Land O' Lakes Artisans

Northland Pines Charter
S.O.A.R.
 School of Options & Applied Research

- Project-based Learning
- 21st Century Learning Skills
- Student Centered
- Multi-age Groupings
- Technology Driven
- Environmental Conservation
- Community Connections
- Grades 5th-8th

www.npsd.k12.wi.us/soar 

(715) 547-3619

Located in Land O'Lakes Elementary School
 6485 Town Hall Road
 Land O'Lakes, WI 54540

ERES Students Explore and Learn in Greenhouse & Garden

By: Gretchen Yagow, ERES 3/4 Grade Looping Teacher

If you haven't investigated the wonderful greenhouse and community garden at the Northland Pines High School, it's something you should definitely put on your "to do" list. We all know what a fantastic educational facility the high school is for our high school students, but all children in our district have the opportunity to learn there as well.

Recently, third graders from Mrs. Yagow's and Mrs. Brendemihl's classrooms and Eagle River Elementary second graders spent time with Mrs. Indermuehle's students in the greenhouse and community garden. There the elementary students were instructed by the high school students on how dirt is made from a compost pile, how seeds spread and take root, why a greenhouse is so important to plants with specific needs for best growth, and what plants need in the way of nutrition and water. They then traveled out to the community garden where they could see what



types of plants produced best inside and what plants needed to be outside. They learned how some plants grow on vines where others have sturdy stalks, and still others grow from a bushy plant.

As a result of this time spent in the greenhouse and garden with Mrs. Indermuehle and her students, the elementary students have a first-hand visual of plants growing, what they need to grow, and how to care for them. As the kids walked back to the elementary building, you could hear the children share with each other their eagerness to take science classes when they get to the high school. How wonderful it is to know that the experience they all had those mornings didn't just teach them about plant life, it also taught them to appreciate and look forward to what lies ahead for them in this district!

St. Germain Fire Poster Winners



Pictured are St. Germain Elementary students Kely Neff, grade 3, and Gabe Smith, grade 2 with their winning State Fire Posters. Presenting to them are St. Germain Firefighters Phil and Judy Kohouts. Phil is also the fire inspector as well as a first responder with the department.

Northland Pines Community Coat Closet

The Northland Pines Community Coat Closet is up and ready for the taking!

NPHS ACT: Teen Suicide Prevention Awareness Council, is continuing its' efforts to make sure no one in the community goes without a coat this fall, winter and spring seasons. We take in coats and jackets that you no longer need or use, clean them if necessary and hang them in the Community Coat Closet for the taking.

Northland Pines High School Community Coat Closet

- Need a jacket? — TAKE ONE!
 - No questions asked.
- Forgot your jacket? — BORROW ONE!
 - No questions asked.
- Have a jacket to donate? — Drop it off in the LMC, we will clean it and put it in the closet.

LOCATED UNDER THE STAIRWELL AT THE YMCA ENTRANCE, DOOR

**Sponsored by NPHS ACT:
Teen Suicide Prevention Awareness Council
It's OK to ask for help!**

Northland Pines 6-12 English/Language Arts Teachers Unpack the Curriculum Companion

By: **Becky Pokrandt, NPMS Grade 8 ELA Teacher/Content Area Specialist and
Mary Wait, NPHS Grades 9 - 12 ELA Teacher/Content Area Specialist**

New for the 2012-13 school year is a technology-related curriculum tool called the Curriculum Companion. This program was adopted by the Northland Pines School District to aid in the Common Core State Standards alignment process within the English Language Arts Department.

The Curriculum Companion focuses on the four strands of the English Language Arts standards: reading, writing, speaking and listening. These strands are the driving force behind which standards/instruction are met throughout each of the four quarters. Units or modules are developed by teachers with the intent to not only cover the necessary curriculum but to also increase the rigor

and sophistication of the lessons from year to year. Teachers within the ELA departments at both the middle school and high school have attended trainings for knowledge of how to unpack and implement this tool within their individual classrooms. In addition, collaboration among teachers within both buildings has allowed for opportunities to expand current units of study and develop common assessments across grade levels.

Specifically, at the high school, ELA teachers are currently examining the Curriculum Companion requirements for English I and adapting the existing curriculum in order to implement changes by second semester. This same process will follow with English II and III. The elective English courses will become aligned in the fall of 2013. All high school ELA teachers have worked closely to create common writing rubrics which align with the 6 Traits of Writing and the Common Core State Standards.

The ELA teachers at the middle school have begun to work closely with one another to align not only at grade level but across the grades. Various best practice strategies have and will continue to be infused into each lesson. Common assessment tools/rubrics are being developed for use at each grade level as well. Plans are underway for a variety of celebrations to showcase students' performance task achievements. In addition, the newly adopted balanced literacy approach will broaden and enrich the culture of reading within the students. Classroom libraries have been updated and offer a wider range of literature for all students' reading choices.

Continual review and collaboration of the 6-12 Common Core State Standards and the Curriculum Companion will be ongoing as the year progresses.

A Flower Explosion at St. Germain Elementary

By: **Holly Geiger, Third Grade Teacher**

The third graders in St. Germain have been learning about many different flower parts and how they contribute to the seed making process. Students were engaged in the hands-on dissection of a variety of flowers to try and identify these parts. It was really cool to see the stamens and anthers on the lily as they were very visible. Students collaborated with each other about their discoveries.

Mrs. Marquardt from Trigs Floral supplied the flowers and gave additional information about flowers and about being a horticulturalist. Students took pictures using their individual iPads and recorded a short movie clip about their findings. The app, Comic Book, was used in creating the student's view of their learning by including the pictures they each took and adding text to explain their discoveries.



Connections in California

By: **Tami Davis, ERES Fourth Grade Teacher**

Students in Ms. Davis' 4th grade class received their first letters from pen pals in Fairfax, California this week! Students were very excited to learn more about the 4th grade children from California.

Throughout the year, students will practice how to write, e-mail, Skype, and use technology to communicate with this diverse group of students two thousand miles away. While they are getting to know their individual pen pal, they will also be exploring the similarities and differences between California's climate, economy, and how the region compares to Wisconsin.

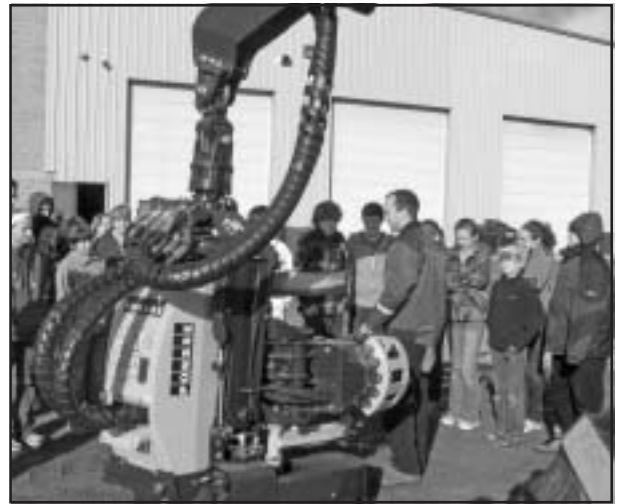
We are so excited and fortunate to have this fantastic learning opportunity!

Middle School Students go on Heavy Metal Tour

By: Rob Govek, NPMS Technology Education Teacher

On October 10, the Northland Pines Middle School Design and Manufacturing students participated in a Heavy Metal Tour sponsored by the North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board and Nicolet College. Ponsse North America, Inc. was the first stop of the day. At Ponsse, students learned about techniques used in primary manufacturing, which included how trees are harvested and processed into workable lengths.

The second stop was at Hypro, where students witnessed secondary manufacturing in action as they watched Hypro employees turn brakes for John Deere tractors on CNC lathes. The trip concluded with a tour of the Trade and Industry Programs at Nicolet College where students were given a tour of the Welding and Power Tech Labs and learned about pneumatics, hydraulics and welding processes. Not only was this a great opportunity for students to see manufacturing in motion, but also an eye opener regarding the possibilities of a future Gold Collar Career.



District Hosts Celebration Night on October 22

The Northland Pines School District hosted a Celebration Night on October 22 that began with over 20 displays of student artwork, school highlights, technology in the district, community partnerships, and musical entertainment from the 7-12 Combined Choir and High School Jazz Band in the high school commons.

The main program was in the auditorium from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and included a number of speakers highlighting the progress and achievements the district has made over the past nine years. The formal presentation of the National Association of School Superintendents (NASS) "Superintendent of the Year" Award was given to Dr. Michael Richie, District Administrator. The event was closed with a social in the commons area where the displays could again be admired.

Thank you to all that came out to join the Celebration Night and all the staff, students, board members and community that have attributed to the many successes the district has seen.

Reading is Fun in the L.M.C. (Library Media Center)

By: Pamela Heeg, NPHS/LOL Library Media Specialist

Land O'Lakes LMC is a great place to gather!

In Library Class we are working on learning the Dewey Decimal System, locating books, doing research projects using not only books but approved websites and databases. Students are able to access our catalog of information online from any computer anywhere that has Internet access. All grades did some work with Fairy and Folk Tales this fall. Babushka Baba Yaga spent a day telling her stories.

The High School LMC is the place to find it all.

The Northland Pine High School LMC is open every morning at 7:30 a.m. for students to come in and do homework, read a book or magazine, research using all of our materials and databases, type up papers and to confer with other students. We remain open until 7:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and until at least 3:30 on Fridays. The public is welcome to come in and use the LMC and computers after school from 3:30 until close. We have added lots of new books and databases for recreation and research.

Are you interested in volunteering? We could always use some extra help. Give Mrs. Heeg a call and arrange a time that works for you! (ext. 0301). The LMC is also sponsoring a **Weekly Trivia Contest**. Students must answer the question correctly, in complete sentences and cite where they found the answer using MLA format. Weekly winners choose a prize from the display case. At the end of the year all winners will be able to enter the final contest for a much larger prize.



Three Animals Added to Wildlife Display

A few more additions have been completed for the Northland Pines Wildlife display case located in the lobby of the Northland Pines High School. Two black bear cubs, recovered by DNR Warden Tim Price, and a white weasel are the newest mounts to be donated to the exhibit. The bear cubs were a result of a car kill near Hwy J and Madeline Lake Road in July of 2011 and are now placed in the large animal display case. The weasel was mounted by Mr. Lax about 20 years ago for Gene Christen who wanted to donate it to the school's small animal exhibit.

These new arrivals will join the albino buck, wolf, fawn, skunk, owl, otter, beaver, bobcat, duck, pine marten, brown trout, rainbow trout, and four brook trout in the educational display cases. Ron Lax placed the new mounts in the display cases on May 23, 2012.

This educational wildlife display is made possible with the time and talent of many volunteers. Stephanie Daniel, a 2008 NPHS graduate and a recent graduate of the Art Institute in Schaumburg, IL, painted the background for the small animal display case. Rick Lax donated his time in designing the display and also creating all the fish. Ron Lax, Rick's father, donated his time in mounting the bear cubs and albino deer and many of the other animals. The animals are donated from members of the community or recovered from the DNR. We are currently in search of funding to construct the nature setting for the large animal display case and also taxidermy donations for birds to be mounted.

The goal is to obtain more animal mounts and song birds. We continue to look for unique smaller mounts for the case and are also seeking any donations of larger animals. Even with the generosity of the above individuals, there are still costs that need to be covered to make these exhibits possible. The Northland Pines School District not only makes requests for animals for the exhibit but also seeks any kind of monetary donations. The district has set up an account to allow for improvements to the display and creation of any additional displays.

If you would like to make a donation or have further questions, contact: Mike Richie, District Administrator at 715.479.6487 option 1, ext. 1; Rick Lax, Lax Taxidermy at 715.547.3710; Ron Lax at 715.479.1877; or Tim Price, Conservation Warden at 715.892.0054.



The NPHS Madrigal Singers proudly announce....

The 2012 NPHS Madrigal Dinner

Monday, December 3, 2012

6:00 pm Dinner & Performance

Doors Open at 5:30 pm

NPHS Commons

Adults: \$10.00 NPSD Students: \$6.00

Tickets go on sale Nov. 19, NPHS Office



See you there for a night of fine food, music, theater, and cheer!

YMCA of the Northwoods Events Mark Your Calendar!

Hours of Operation: M-Th 5:30am-8pm; Fri 5:30am-7pm; Sat 7am-1pm; Sun noon-4pm.

12 Days of Fitness: Beginning December 1

The Fit for Life Program: (formerly the biggest loser) offering additional services to aid in weight loss. Program run by CPT Kevin Schweer and Program Director/CPT Julia John along with a professional nutritionist and others. Look for the entry form in the Vilas County News review in December, for your chance at getting this \$1500 value for free. The chance to start a new life can also be purchased through the Y for \$299 (members) \$375 (non-members). An outstanding value!

Ski Brule Trip: January 18. Signups will be at the Y, online at www.ymcaofthenorthwoods.org or forms will be in school.

Adventure Alley: babysitting Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9am-11am, ages 6 months-9 years Non-members pay \$3 and members are free. Guardian must remain in the building.

Father -Daughter Dance: March 16, watch for details!

Through the Looking Glass - Land O' Lakes

By: Amber Maile, LOLES Fourth Grade Teacher

For the first round of Power Hour, the third through fifth grade classes of Land O' Lakes Elementary School dove deeply into learning about and understanding the history of Land O' Lakes. Students were broken into groups and became experts on many areas of history. Some chose to focus on the Gateway Lodge, while others wanted to learn about the old town of Donaldson (previously located in the area of the town dump) and still others the history of the Land O' Lakes school/Town Hall.

Students took a trip to the Northern Waters Museum and enjoyed several "resident expert" speakers from the community that came to share their wealth of knowledge. It was a great experience! Currently, students are making videos, PowerPoint presentations and brochures to showcase the knowledge they have gained. There will be a fair open to the public where the students will demonstrate their expertise for the school and community. Please watch for the date and come learn more about our wonderful community.



Using Art to Teach Positive Behaviors in Our Schools

By: Amanda Acklam, NPSD Elementary Art Teacher

As this year began, the fourth graders throughout the Northland Pines School District were challenged to create illustrations of positive behaviors they would like to teach the younger students in our three elementary schools.



The students began in groups of three, where they brainstormed ideas for safe, respectful, and responsible behaviors for a given area of the school. This corresponds with Pines-Pride, the PBIS initiative being implemented this year.

Some groups decided to talk about the playground in their art, while others chose to illustrate positive behaviors in the classroom, hallway, bus, or cafeteria. Once they had their ideas they wrote sentences to describe the safe, responsible or respectful behavior they wanted to teach. Their sentences were typed, their drawings carefully crafted, and the images were both hung throughout the halls and copies were made into a book.

The book created by each fourth grade class is going to be spiral bound, given a bar code and be available for checkout by students in the elementary school library! The student authors and illustrators are excited to be leaders and teachers of Pines-Pride, and to share their books with the students in our schools.

Thank You to St. Germain PTA for Donating \$6500

It takes a community to have excellent schools and St. Germain is fortunate to be part of a great community. The St. Germain PTA has donated **\$6,500.00** to help St. Germain Elementary students be learning in a 21st Century School. The funds donated were put towards adding a Smart Board in one classroom as well as purchasing a laptop and syncing/charging cart for iPads. The cart will assist in a pilot of all third graders using iPads as well as syncing and charging the other iPads in the building.

A big thank you goes out to this wonderful parent organization that helps the school and its students on a regular basis!



Engineering Students Gain Valuable Experience with Bike Project

By: Josh Fuller, NPHS Technology Education Teacher

For the second consecutive year Technology Education students at Northland Pines High School have teamed up with Great Headwaters Trails to assist the group in creating a network of connected bike trails in our area. Great Headwaters Trails (GHT) is a nonprofit organization with the goal of developing approximately 40 miles of family friendly bicycle-pedestrian trails in eastern Vilas County. GHT is planning on completing the project by 2020. One year ago Carlton Schroeder of the GHT approached the school looking for a few students that would be interested in engineering work relating to the bike trail project. Three students, Walker Nelson, Cody Heller, and Greg Chamberlain, assisted the group in the engineering and design process for portions of the planned bike trail system that will link Eagle River, Conover, Land O Lakes, St. Germain, Phelps and the Three Eagle Trail to Three Lakes. This school year Great Headwaters Trails was once again looking for student assistance and two students. Paige Healy and Jacob Tosch happily took advantage of the opportunity.

To assist the GHT group, the two current students are utilizing their math, science, engineering, and CAD skills to plan out various segments of

the future trail system. Current projects include final engineering design work on a 5.5 mile trail segment between Conover and Phelps, preliminary engineering design work for the approximate one-quarter mile of trail system through the Conover business area, and conceptual planning to locate a trail through the two main parking areas of downtown Eagle River from the Dairy Queen to Riverside Park.

It is apparent that everyone involved with this project is enjoying the collaboration. According to Carlton Schroeder, "GHT has been very pleased with this support from NPHS and especially pleased with the enthusiasm and valuable work provided by the students." High School Principal Jim Brewer is very happy that the GHT group and Northland Pines students can work together on a project like this and that both parties can benefit greatly from it. He also said about the project, "I am excited that Northland Pines students have this unique opportunity to work on a project of this na-

ture, where they can work on a real world project and learn directly from industry professionals. When asked about the opportunity, senior Paige Healy said, "It's a neat experience being instructed under actual engineers on a real life project and working in the field." and added, "It will be cool when it's finished knowing that you contributed to the design process of the project." The other student working on the project this semester, Senior Jacob Tosch agreed, also saying "It's a great opportunity because we are giving back to the community by helping design these bike trails." While the general public won't be able to use the completed bike trail system for a few more years, Northland Pines students are already taking advantage of them by gaining a valuable educational experience.

Alumni Hall of Fame Seeking Nominations for 2013 Class

The Northland Pines High School Alumni Hall of Fame Committee is calling for nominations for its 2013 class. The committee inducted its first members the spring of 2008 and continues to induct new members annually.

The Alumni Hall of Fame was created to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of Northland Pines and Eagle River Union High School alumni and to have these Hall of Fame members be role models for all future students. They are looking to add new members. If you know of an alumnus who would be a good role model for our students and has been out of high school for 20 years, please nominate them.

The committee also accepts nominations for friends of the Northland Pines School District that may have contributed to its success other than being a student. We invite you to visit the Alumni Hall of Fame located inside the front entrance of the Northland Pines High School. Please stop by and see the sign and plaques of the current members. Nomination forms are available next to the display and on the district website. **The deadline for applications is January 31, 2013.** The Hall of Fame has been run solely on donations; if you would like to be part of the Hall of Fame through a donation, please contact Jim Brewer, Northland Pines High School Principal at 715.479.4473 or jbrewer@npsd.k12.wi.us.

Family Fun Open Climb, Open Gym

Saturday, December 1, 1 - 4 p.m.

NPHS Fieldhouse

FREE! Open to the public.

Monetary and Food Pantry donations accepted.

Climbing Wall, Volleyball,
Basketball, Batting Cages,
Snowshoeing, Cross Country Skiing

(Outdoor activities weather dependant,
childcare available for parents using climbing wall.)

Notice of Child Find Activity, Student Privacy and Parental Access to Information

School Board Policy #2416, www.neola.com/northland-wi/

The school district must locate, identify, and evaluate all children with disabilities, including children with disabilities attending private schools in the school district, regardless of the severity of their disabilities. The school district has a special education screening program to locate and screen all children with suspected disabilities who have not graduated from high school. Upon request the school district will screen a child who has not graduated high school to determine whether a special education referral is appropriate. A request may be made by contacting Dr. Maggie Peterson, Director of Special Education for Northland Pines School District at (715) 479-8989 or by writing her at 1800 Pleasure Island Rd., Eagle River, WI 54521.

Annually the district conducts developmental screening of pre-kindergarten children. Each child's motor, communication, and social skills are observed at various play areas. The information is used to provide the parent with information relating to their child's current development and to provide suggestions for follow-up activities. Parents learn about community services available to them and speak with representatives of agencies serving families. The information from screening is also used to determine whether a child should be evaluated for a suspected disability. When school staff reasonably believe a student is a child with a disability, they refer the child for evaluation by a school district Individualized Education Program (IEP) team. Developmental screening will be part of the kindergarten screening this spring. Watch for the dates at your local school.

A physician, nurse, psychologist, social worker or administrator of a social agency who reasonably believes a child brought to him or her for services is a child with a disability has a legal duty to report the child to the school district in which the child resides. If the child attends a private school in another school district, the child should be reported to the school district where the child attends school. Before referring the child, the person making the referral must inform the child's parent that the referral will be made. The referral must be in writing and include the reason why the person believes the student is a child with a disability. Others who reasonably believe a student is a child with a disability may also refer the child. A referral for Northland Pines School District may be sent to Maggie Peterson at the school district address above.

The school district maintains pupil records, including information from screening and special education referral. All records directly related to a student and maintained by the school district are pupil records. They include records maintained in any way including, but not limited to, computer storage media, video and audiotape, film, microfilm, and microfiche. Records maintained for personal use by a teacher and not available to others and records available only to persons involved in the psychological treatment of a child are **not** pupil records.

The school district maintains several classes of pupil records.

- "Progress records" include grades, courses the child has taken, the child's attendance record, immunization records, required lead screening records, and records of school extra-curricular activities. Progress records must be maintained for at least five years after the child ceases to be enrolled.

- "Behavioral records" include such records as psychological tests, personality evaluations, records of conversations, written statements relating specifically to the pupil's behavior, tests relating specifically to achievement or measurement of ability, physical health records

other than immunization and lead screening records, law enforcement officers' records, and other pupil records that are not "progress records." Law enforcement officers' records are maintained separately from other pupil records. Behavioral records may be maintained for no longer than one year after the child graduates or otherwise ceases to be enrolled, unless the parent specifies in writing that the records may be maintained for a longer period of time. The school district informs parents when pupil records are no longer needed to provide special education. At the request of the child's parents, the school district destroys the information that is no longer needed.

- "Directory data" includes the student's name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, photographs, degrees and awards received, and the name of the school most recently previously attended by the student.

- "Pupil physical health records" include basic health information about a pupil, including the pupil's immunization records, an emergency medical card, a log of first aid and medicine administered to the pupil, an athletic permit card, a record concerning the pupil's ability to participate in an education program, any required lead screening records, the results of any routine screening test, such as for hearing, vision or scoliosis, and any follow-up to the test, and any other basic health information as determined by the state superintendent. Any pupil record relating to a pupil's physical health that is not a pupil physical health record is treated as a patient health care record under sections 146.81 to 146.84, Wisconsin Statutes. Any pupil record concerning HIV testing is treated as provided under section 252.15, Wisconsin Statutes.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and section 118.125, Wisconsin Statutes, afford parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") the following rights with respect to education records:

- **The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of receipt of the request.** Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the records(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. The school district will comply with the request without unnecessary delay and before any meeting about an individualized education program, or any due process hearing, and in no case more than 45 days after the request has been made. If any record includes information on more than one child, the parents of those children have the right to inspect and review only the information about their child or to be informed of that specific information. Upon request, the school district will give a parent or eligible student a copy of the progress records and a copy of the behavioral records. Upon request, the school district will give the parent or eligible student a list of the types and locations of education records collected, maintained, or used by the district for special education. The school district will respond to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of the records. A representative of the parent may inspect and review the records.

- **The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes is inaccurate or misleading.** Parents or eligible students may ask the school district

Child Find (continued)

to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the district decides not to amend the record, the district will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and the right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

• **The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information in the student's education records, except to the extent that federal and state law authorize disclosure without consent.** The exceptions are stated in 34 CFR 99.31, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act regulations; Sec. 9528, PL107-110, No Child Left Behind Act of 2001; and section 118.125(2)(a) to (m) and sub. (2m), Wisconsin Statutes. One exception that permits disclosure without consent is disclosures to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the district has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the district discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. The district discloses "directory data" without consent, unless the parent notifies the district that it may not be released without prior parental consent.

• **The right to file a complaint with the U. S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA.** The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20202-4605.

Rev. 9/30/05

Thank You to Area Fire Departments

October was Fire Safety Awareness Month. Some of the elementary students throughout the Northland Pines School District toured their local fire stations and learned about fire safety. Other students learned about fire safety from firefighters that came into the schools. Pictured here is Bella Nowak, 4K student at Eagle River Elementary School enjoying the tour.



Emergency School Closing/Delays

When we do a school cancellation or closing for inclement weather, the notification is for all of the following: Northland Pines School District, Christ Lutheran School, Early Childhood, and Head Start. Closings are done only after careful consideration and conversation with the Vilas County Sheriff's Department, the Highway Department, and Schilleman's Bus Service. Announcements of school closings are made via the following media:

RADIO STATIONS:

Eagle River – WRJO 94.5 FM/WERL 950 AM

Antigo – WACD 106 FM/WATK 900 AM

Rhineland – WHDG 97.3 FM, WRLO 105.3 FM, WRHN 100 FM, WOBI 1240 AM, WMQA 95.9 FM, WLKD 1570 AM, WCYE 93.7 FM, and WXPB 91.7 FM

Wausau – WSAU 550 AM & 99.9 FM, WRIG 1390 AM, WDEZ 101.9 FM, WIFC 95.5 FM, WOZZ 94.7 FM

TV STATIONS:

Channels 7 (WSAW), 9 (WAOW), and 12 (WJFW)

INTERNET/SOCIAL MEDIA:

All of the stations listed above will post the closings/cancellations on their websites, however you will find school closings posted on our website home page at www.npsd.k12.wi.us, on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/npsd1, and on our Twitter page [@npsd1](https://twitter.com/npsd1).

In addition, the NPSD will use the **AlertNow Rapid Communication System** to communicate with parents and staff via a phone call, email, or both, if deemed necessary.

• Northland Pines School District
• 1800 Pleasure Island Road
• Eagle River, WI 54521

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November 2012 - February 2013

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Mon. Nov. 12	NO SCHOOL – District Wide Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences, 11 am – 7 pm
Thurs. Nov. 15	All Elementary Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences, 3:30 am – 7:30 pm
Wed. Nov. 21 – 23	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Recess
Mon. Nov. 26	School Resumes
Mon. Nov. 26	School Board Meeting, HS LGI, 6 pm
Fri. Nov. 30	American Red Cross Blood Drive, HS LGI, 9 am – 2 pm
Sat. Dec. 1	Family Fun Open Climb, Open Gym, HS Fieldhouse, 1-4 pm (see page 21)
Mon. Dec. 3	HS Madrigal Singers Dinner, Commons, 6 pm
Fri. Dec. 7	ERES Kindergarten Concert, HS Auditorium, 1:30 pm
Sat. Dec. 8	Headwaters Council for the Performing Arts “Mac Frampton Christmas Show” HS Auditorium, 7:30 pm
Thurs. Dec. 13	MS Holiday Music Concert, HS Auditorium, 7 pm
Fri. Dec. 14	ERES Holiday Concert, HS Auditorium, 1:30 pm
Fri. Dec. 14	Project UNIFY’s Unified Sports Presentation, HS Fieldhouse, 7:30 pm
Mon. Dec. 17	HS Band/Choir Holiday Concert, Auditorium, 7 pm
Mon. Dec. 17	School Board Meeting, HS LGI, 6 pm
Tues. Dec. 18	Military Night at Boys Basketball Game, 6:15 pm
Mon. Dec. 24 – Jan. 1	NO SCHOOL - Winter Break
Wed. Jan. 2	School Resumes
Wed. Jan. 2	Charter S.O.A.R. Enrollment Period Opens
Fri. Jan. 4	ERES Pines Polooza, HS Auditorium, 1:30 pm
Fri. Jan. 11	NO SCHOOL - Staff In-service
Sat. Jan. 12	Community Theatre Play, HS Auditorium, 7:30 pm
Fri. Jan. 18	NO SCHOOL - Staff In-service
Sat. Jan. 19	Headwaters Council for the Performing Arts “Church Basement Ladies II” HS Auditorium, 7:30 pm
Mon. Jan. 21	School Board Meeting, HS LGI, 6 pm
Thurs. Jan. 24	End of 2nd Quarter
Wed. Jan. 30	MS District Spelling Bee, MS LGI, 9 am
Thurs. Jan. 31	Coffee Klatch with Dr. Richie 8:30 am, Eagle River Roasters
Thurs. Jan. 31	All Elementary Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences, 3:30-7 pm
Thurs. Feb. 7	MS Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences, 4 - 7 pm
Fri.-Sat. Feb. 8 & 9	NPHS Musical “Footloose” HS Auditorium, 7 pm
Sun. Feb. 10	NPHS Musical “Footloose” HS Auditorium, 2 pm
Thurs. Feb. 21	HS Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences, 4 – 7 pm
Fri. Feb. 22	Middle School Talent Show, HS Auditorium, 7 pm
Sat. Feb. 23	Headwaters Council for the Performing Arts “Celtic Fire” HS Auditorium, 7:30 pm
Mon. Feb. 25	School Board Meeting, HS LGI, 6 pm