

Voice of the Pines

Spring Edition 2011 - 2012

Newsletter for Residents of the Northland Pines School District



Dr. Mike Richie
NPSD Superintendent

Education Reform in Wisconsin

School reform begins to take effect in Wisconsin public schools when classes resume in September. The new law signed by Governor Walker in April is a bipartisan effort with the main focus on improving Wisconsin elementary children's reading scores.

Read to Lead is a renewed focus on reading and will require all students entering kindergarten to take a reading screener beginning with the 2012-13 school year. The screening is about being proactive and is meant to help teachers tailor their lessons to the strengths and weaknesses of each student, instead of one size fits all teaching style. Screeners will allow teachers and parents to catch problems early. This new law also requires all teachers graduating from elementary education programs to take a new and more rigorous license exam by the 2013-14 school year.

Educator Effectiveness will evaluate teachers and principals on multiple measures; however, fifty percent of the evaluation will be based on student outcomes and the other fifty percent will be based on educator practice. The Wisconsin Framework for Educator Effectiveness is a performance-based evaluation system for teachers and principals that will serve as the foundation for the state model. The primary purpose is to support a system of continuous improvement of educator practice – one that leads to improved student learning.

School Accountability Schools will be evaluated on multiple measures of growth and proficiency. Schools will be judged on the ability to move all students towards careers or college readiness. Schools/districts must provide parents with easy to understand information about the performance of their children's schools. All schools will be required to display their report card on the district home page for all to see.

What is the Northland Pines School District doing to prepare for school reform and the changes that will take effect in the very near future? Below are just a few examples of how the NPSD will address and prepare for the new Wisconsin school reform laws.

- Beginning with the 2012-13 school year, NPSD staff will start their workday at 7:30 a.m. and begin to prepare for the reform initiatives
- A new salary structure is being developed as teacher pay will be based on performance and benchmark indicators
 - Staff development/trainings will be available for staff
 - Regularly scheduled team, department, and grade level meetings will take place
 - Student data will be analyzed
 - Staff will be encouraged to participate in more rigorous teacher training opportunities
 - Instructional programs will be monitored and evaluated
 - Technology will be integrated into classroom learning
 - One-to-one technology for students will be piloted

As the 2012-13 school year comes to an end, I would definitely conclude it was a very successful year. Our staff has worked very hard and I am extremely proud of their dedication and commitment to all students and all they do to make the Northland Pines School District one of the BEST!



On Thursday, April 12 students and staff throughout NPSD participated in the National D.E.A.R. activity (Drop Everything and Read). Parents and grandparents were invited to come into the school and read together with their children, more photos on p. 23.



Jim Mulleady
School Board
President

Common Core Standards

Change is never easy. There are significant changes going on in several areas of education in the coming years. Nationally, the Common Core State Standards Initiative is a state-led effort coordinated by the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). The standards were developed in collaboration with teachers, school administrators, and experts, to provide a clear and consistent framework to prepare our children for college and the workforce, as well as to create consistency in the curriculum and expectations amongst public schools across the nation. Common Core provides guidance to districts and core standards to be presented through the curriculum to all students. All educators will be expected to teach these common core elements beginning with the 2012-13 school year. Additionally, state assessments are being developed to test students on their progress and proficiency on these common core elements. Results from these assessments will yield nationally comparable data on school performance.

It is all very new and not without criticism. First, educators will have to work hard to familiarize themselves with the new materials and consider different methodologies for delivery. These standards were developed to offer deeper learning of fewer standards so classroom teachers will be working to examine what adjustments need to be made to ensure students master the expectations. Each student is unique and learns in his or her own way; however, Common Core expects all students to be able to demonstrate knowledge of the standards. Additionally, Common Core will require teachers to continue to differentiate for students from varying background and resources. Secondly, education programs at the university level are in the process of teaching pre-service teachers to teach to the standards. It is safe to say that initial educators will need training and support along with their more experienced peers in learning how to present the Common Core. A third concern in the educational community is that adjusting to the standards may be "teaching to the test". Is it better to teach the concept or a specific detail?

Northland Pines is well on its way to integrating the Common Core State Standards. The staff is learning about the standards and how to integrate them into the classroom. Curriculums are being modified to make the Common Core part of every pupil's educational experience.

Our staff is terrific! They have not only taken on this challenge, but they have embraced the change! They are working on innovative and fun ways to introduce Common Core elements. It is another way that Northland Pines is displaying its leadership in education not only locally, but throughout the state!

Remaining 2011-2012 NPSD Board Meetings

The Board of Education invites and encourages community members to be involved and informed about issues affecting Northland Pines students. **All** regular board meetings begin at **6 p.m.** and **are held in the Northland Pines High School Large Group Instruction Room.** The school board meeting schedule for the remaining 2011-2012 school year:

Monthly Board Meetings

Mon. May 21, 2012

Mon. June 25, 2012

Northland Pines School Board Reorganizes at April 23 Meeting

Jim Mulleady - President

jmulleady@npsd.k12.wi.us

Mike Sealander - Vice President

misealander@npsd.k12.wi.us

John Sarama - Clerk

jjsarama@npsd.k12.wi.us

Holly McCormack - Treasurer

hmccormack@npsd.k12.wi.us

Eric Neff - Deputy Clerk

eneff@npsd.k12.wi.us

Mike Jovanovic - Member

mjovanovic@npsd.k12.wi.us

Mark Vander Bloomen - Member

mavanderbloomen@npsd.k12.wi.us

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Holly McCormack

Member: Eric Neff

Member: Mike Jovanovic

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Mike Jovanovic

Member: John Sarama

Member: Mark Vander Bloomen

POLICY, CURRICULUM & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Mike Sealander

Member: Jim Mulleady

Member: Holly McCormack

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

WASB Delegate: Mark Vander Bloomen

WASB ALTERNATE: Eric Neff

WIAA Representative: Mike Jovanovic

CESA Representative: Eric Neff

Online Evaluation Request



By: **Mike Richie, NPSD Superintendent**

As the Superintendent of the Northland Pines School District since 2004, I would like to invite you, our school district residents, to evaluate my job performance and offer your opinion on the direction that the Northland Pines School District is headed. Please complete the 360 Evaluation tool by logging on to the Northland Pines School District Website at www.npsd.k12.wi.us or go directly to the evaluation

at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DrMikeRichieSuptLeadershipReview>.

A 360-degree feedback (evaluation) is a performance tool that comes from members of an employee's immediate work circle and/or interested stakeholders. In the case of a school superintendent, it includes; staff, parents, district residents, community members and business owners/leaders.

The results from a 360-degree evaluation are often used by the person receiving the feedback to plan and map specific changes in their development or leadership style. In addition, it helps the person being evaluated to focus on what is working and what is not working in the eyes of the people completing the 360 evaluation. I will use the data/information received to be a more effective school leader.

Several studies (Hazucha et al., 1993; London & Wohlers, 1991; Walker & Smither, 1999) indicate that the use of 360-degree feedback helps improve performance because it helps people see different aspects that need to be changed in their work.

I am asking you, as a resident and taxpayer, to take a moment to log on and participate in this process. I am always looking for continuous improvement for myself and for the Northland Pines School District. The evaluation will remain open on-line until **Friday, June 1, 2012**. Thank you for your participation in this 360 Evaluation process.

S.O.A.R. Charter School Planning Well Underway

Please watch for more information on the proposed Northland Pines School District's new charter school, **S.O.A.R.-School of Options and Aspired Research**, to tentatively open in September, 2013 if we receive the grant award. Northland Pines will be notified mid to late summer from the Department of Public Instruction.

The S.O.A.R. Charter School will be located in a wing of the Land O'Lakes Elementary School and will be a 21st Century, Project Based learning center with an emphasis on technology, environmental conservation, and strong community connections for students in grades 5 - 7 beginning the 2013 - 2014 school year, and grades 5 - 8 for the following years. Watch the district website, www.npsd.k12.wi.us, for more information on S.O.A.R.



Log On to View New NPSD Promo Video

The Northland Pines School District is proud to announce the completion of a video promoting the students, staff, and educational offerings of our district and the communities that encompass our schools. If you have not seen the video yet, you can scan the included QR Code on this page or visit: http://youtu.be/Rtval_PyU4, it is also posted on our district website.



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

Final Coffee Klatch of School Year - May 22

Join District Administrator Mike Richie for coffee and conversation at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 22 at Eagle River Roasters, 339 West Pine Street in Eagle River.

Spring and New Beginnings

Margo Smith, District Business Manager



Spring is a time of new beginnings. We watch new life unfold in the form of baby birds, fresh green grass, apple blossoms, and farmers tilling their fields. Everywhere we look, it is a season of preparation.

In the Business Office, we are in a period of new beginnings as well. April and May begin the process of preparation for the next school year. There is much groundwork to be done; many plans to be laid and preparations made if we are to be ready for the kids we hear laughing in the glorious spring sunshine.

My colleagues and I often get a chuckle as we are asked time after time, "Oh, you work at the school so you get summers off, right?" In fact, we are as busy as spring bees. The spring and summer are actually our busiest seasons. "Why is that?" you might ask.

A typical day in the life of a school business official in April, May, or June might look something like this:

- There are many contracts at the District for goods and services, many of which expire June 30th. We address any needed renewals with bid requests and communicate with providers.
- Financial forecasts are completed for the Board to give them a financial picture of what the next few years could look like in light of legislation, enrollment, staffing levels, and other conditions.
- Insurance contracts are up for renewal July 1. We take a look at any new construction, improvements, etc. Staffing levels and payroll information is compiled for liability and workmen's comp purposes. All of the Districts insurance policies are reviewed, changes made, and submitted to our carriers.

- Budget information is dispersed and sent out to supervisors as we begin to compile data for the new 2012-13 fiscal year. We gather data, research trends, and compile information from the State for annual reporting and tax levy purposes.
- Any payroll contracts and benefit changes effective July 1 are reviewed, communicated to staff, and implemented in our software to be ready to go by July 1.
- Grants are monitored for proper spend down and reporting, amendments made if necessary, and brought to conclusion for June 30th reporting.
- Final year-end purchases are coordinated and decisions made as to monies yet available. At the same time, teachers are submitting requests for items needed for the fall.
- Fiscal year-end adjusting entries begin as accounts are examined for correctness and compliance with uniform accounting requirements. Our annual audit takes place in July.
- Of course there are always the recurring monthly accounting activities such as cash reconciliations, accounts receivable, and accounts payable, as well as all the correspondence that comes with running any type of business.

The list goes on, but you get the picture. While the building looks virtually empty to any passerby in the midst of summer, the Northland Pines Business Office is abuzz with activity.

Dreams of the upcoming season are a mixture of sun-dappled lakes and picnics with friends interspersed with revenue limits and Act 10. Thankfully, those of us living in this beautiful area can switch from work mode to recreation mode without having to leave our hometowns. Have a wonderful spring and summer!

Teachers Begin to "Unpack" Common Core State Standards

Dr. Maggie Peterson, Director of Pupil Services/Instruction



Northland Pines K-8 teachers have worked over the last two years on developing balanced literacy plans to guide instruction in English/Language Arts that are aligned with Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Teams of teachers have then worked to purchase materials to build classroom libraries that provide choices to develop lifelong reading practices by exposing students to different genres. Math teachers in grades 6-12 have focused on alignment with CCSS and our existing College Prep Math series, as well as engaged in collegial discussion about how to begin to teach to the standards.

In the 2012-13 school year, grades K-5 will begin the alignment process with their curriculum as well as preparing to purchase materials that reflect CCSS for use in the fall of 2013. All teachers at Northland Pines will be impacted by the adoption of CCSS in the curriculum they deliver to students and the materials they use to continue to facilitate high achievement in our students.

Congratulations to NPSD Retirees, Thank You for Your Service

Sue Chrisinger has been a teacher at Eagle River Elementary School since 1980. She will retire as a second grade teacher after 32 years, 15 of which she was a first grade teacher and the last 17 she has been the second grade teacher. She would like to note that “the staff here is wonderful and she could never have done what she does without them”.

Sue Hlavenka has been a part of the NPSD since 1990 and will retire as a high school math teacher after 22 years.

Linda Wagner began at Northland Pines in 1991 and will retire as the Activities Secretary and served in that position for 21 years. She says, “I will really miss everyone, especially the students.”



Sue Chrisinger



Sue Hlavenka



Linda Wagner

**Retirees as of 4/27/12*

Kohl Educational Foundation Recognizes Peters, NPHS German Teacher



The Northland Pines High School is proud to announce that a 2012 Herb Kohl Educational Foundation **Fellowship Award** was presented to **Christina Peters**, High School German Teacher. The \$1,000 awards are being made to 100 teachers, their schools, and 175 graduating high school students. The Herb Kohl Educational Foundation announced in early March the recipients of the 2012 Herb Kohl Foundation awards for students and teachers and Senator Kohl has been attending recognition luncheons throughout March and April to present the recipients with their awards.

The Herb Kohl Fellowship recognizes teachers who have demonstrated superior ability to inspire love of learning in their students, have motivated others, and have provided leadership and service both inside and outside the classroom. Each year the Herb Kohl Foundation awards 100 teachers throughout Wisconsin with \$1,000 Fellowships, and an additional \$1,000 grant is awarded to each Fellow’s school for use in innovative educational projects. Christina

Peters is the ninth teacher in the Northland Pines School District’s history to receive this award since it began in 1990.

The Herb Kohl Initiative Scholarship recognizes students who have demonstrated exceptional initiative in the classroom, and have shown strong promise for achieving success in college and beyond, but have not yet received other academic-based scholarships. In 2012 the Herb Kohl Foundation awarded 75 students throughout Wisconsin with \$1,000 Initiative Scholarships. Although the Northland Pines High School did not have a recipient of this scholarship in 2012, we have had three students who have received this award in the past.

The foundation also gave 100 Excellence Scholarship awards to students who have demonstrated excellence in the academic arena and have a high motivation to achieve, have displayed a broad range of activity and leadership outside the academic setting, and have shown strong promise for succeeding in college and beyond. Although the Northland Pines High School did not have a recipient of this scholarship in 2012, we have had nine students that have received

this award since its creation in 1990.

The Kohl Foundation Scholarship and Fellowship program was established by U.S. Senator Herb Kohl in January of 1990 and the Initiative Scholarship was established in October of 1997. To date the foundation has awarded \$7.8 million to Wisconsin educators, students and schools.

“Education is the key to the future of Wisconsin and our nation. I am very proud of the accomplishments of these students and teachers, and look forward to the great contributions they will make in the future”, Kohl said.

NPSD Employee of the Month 2011 - 2012

Congratulations to the recipients of the Employee of the Month award for the 2011-2012 school year:

- Sept. 2011 – Linda Zimmer, HS Phoenix Center Paraprofessional
- Oct. 2011 - Dr. Kathryn Tulppo, MS ASPIRE Teacher
- Nov. 2011 - Cynthia Spiess, Land O’ Lakes Elem. Third Grade Teacher
- Dec. 2011 - Tina Labeau, Eagle River K-8 Assistant Cook
- Jan. 2012 - Harold White, Technology/Computer Support
- Feb. 2012 - Brian Margelofsky, Activities/Athletic Director
- March 2012 - Holly Geiger, St. Germain Elem. Third Grade Teacher
- April 2012 - Jason Foster, HS Special Education Teacher

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 Board President Jim Mulleady, at jmulleady@npsd.k12.wi.us.



Matt Spets
Eagle River Elem.
School Principal

“As Advertised”

Due to the prolific over-stimulation of media we all experience on a daily basis and the prevalence on hype being such a major factor in advertising, news reporting, and pretty much anything that is published, blogged, discussed, filmed, or what have you – we inevitably experience disappointment when we actually experience something. All too often, things are hyped beyond reality and never live up to how they are portrayed. The Northland Pines School District and, more specifically, Eagle River Elementary School were sold to me as innovative, progressive, and very successful. If anything, these qualities of both the district and school were understated.

This year has been an amazing experience. I am pleasantly surprised and excited each day about the unique lessons, units, projects, and *mindsets* our staff members employ. I was told that in the past, the district invested heavily on differentiated instruction – if one spends even a portion of a day in any of our classrooms, he or she will leave experiencing not one smidgeon of doubt that this is the case. We have experts in student-centric instruction at each grade level.

What a luxury to have!

Perhaps the most effective way to illustrate my point is to share the fact that on both days Channel 12 visited our school to research feature stories – there were, just by chance, so many innovative lessons going on we had a difficult time focusing on the task at hand. In fact, I have since adopted a theory that the media could show up at ERES any random school day and find something happening in a classroom that would be newsworthy. To this day, this theory has not been disproved.

All that being said, our students are why coming to work each day is a true delight. I have never been in a school with such a positive, fun, and lovable student population. Although the ERES staff deserves a ton of credit for maintaining such a wonderful atmosphere – the community and, most importantly, the parents are without a doubt the main factor. The NPSD is truly a great district and we all should be proud to live, work, and attend school here.



Scott Foster
Land O' Lakes Elem.
St. Germain Elem.
School Principal

Many Achievements at St. Germain and Land O' Lakes Elementary Schools

Going to work this year at St. Germain and Land O' Lakes Elementary Schools has been a true pleasure. I came into this year with the goal of becoming part of the team, making relationships and trying to help improve these two great schools. I know our schools have made great strides this year. We now have better ways of helping our most struggling students (Power Hour), we have added great new staff, we now have Title One at St. Germain Elementary School, and we have improved our community outreach to just name a few things.

I know our students are going to share what is great about these two schools, but I must say that for me it is the staff and students! The only thing that makes me not want to have this year end is the great things we have planned for next year!

Four Year Old Kindergarten Registration for 2012-13

If your child is turning four on or before September 1, 2012 and has not registered for four year old kindergarten, you can do so by calling the elementary school in the area which you reside, or the Northland Pines Central Enrollment Office. If you are unsure of which school your child would attend, please contact the district office. The child's immunization record, home address and birth certificate must be provided to register.

- Eagle River Elementary School 715.479.6471
- Land O' Lakes Elementary School 715.547.3619
- St. Germain Elementary School 715.542.3632
- Northland Pines District Office 715.479.6487
- Central Enrollment Office 715.479.4123



A Year Gone By at the Middle School

It was a busy year with new experiences and challenges for students and staff. Together we have taken on new responsibilities, made new friends, renewed past friendships and gained some needed skills. It doesn't matter as much where we were at the beginning of the year, as long as we have made gains and taken steps forward. Students learn in different ways and at different times. As a staff, our goal is to allow students to grow and learn, and then celebrate their progress whenever it happens.

Students found their days filled with hands-on activities, a chance to explore cultures and countries, use new technology, create a masterpiece in art, enjoy the great outdoors in snowshoes, read a book, learn to play an instrument, build a roller-coaster and even cook breakfast. However, the day is not over. Students also participated in forensics, the Spelling Bee, a drama production, sports, and showed off their talents on stage. Learning and fun go hand-in-hand to help students become a well-rounded individual.

To help our students, staff members have been busy collaborating on best practice strategies to use in the classroom. Some teachers have worked together to make connections between their subjects with interdisciplinary units. Others have had training in Response to Intervention and provided students with support and interventions to help them improve skills to be more successful in the classroom. What about the differences in the way boys and girls learn? Our staff has addressed this through how the room is set up and the choices they offer students. Building relationships also plays a role in a student's day. Making a connection can sometimes help a student stay on the right path. What about a little fun experience? We have that too. The staff took an active role in providing opportunities like Girl Power Night, the Annual Talent Show, school dances, a ski trip, a trip to the performing arts center and so much more. Education requires a dedication to continuous learning, developing and sharing. A lot happens in a year that affects all of us for a lifetime!



Jackie Coghlan
Northland Pines
Middle School Principal



Jim Brewer
Northland Pines
High School Principal

A Community to be Proud Of

The 2011-2012 school year is quickly winding down, and as I reflect upon how the year has progressed, I am amazed at all that has occurred at Northland Pines High School. The year began with a personal transition for my family and me which has been terrific thanks in part to the outpouring of support everyone in the community has shown. That same type of support is reflective in the quality of education that is delivered at Northland Pines. We are truly blessed to live in a community that values education and recognizes the need to provide students with the tools which are necessary to become college and career ready.

Our facilities are top notch, our school personnel are dedicated and proud to serve the students and their families, and the collaborative relationship between the school and local businesses serve as a model for others to emulate. All of these attributes certainly set the framework for providing a quality educational experience for our students, but it is our students that make Northland Pines great. I cannot say enough about the natural characteristics of all of the students. They are respectful, cordial, and mindful about how fortunate they are to live in such a wonderful community. As the saying goes, "You need a whole community to raise a child," and all of us should be proud. I know my family and I could not be happier to be associated with such a terrific school district knowing all of us have a personal responsibility in helping to raise such fine students as those who attend Northland Pines High School. Thank you and GO EAGLES!

Spring Fever, Spring Clothing

We all had a flavor of great weather this March. Then reality hit and we are back to normal temperatures. When we had the warm temperatures it did bring a reminder to all of us that some students need to consider their choice of clothing. As a parent myself, I understand the difficulty of purchasing clothes that are appropriate for school. However, we still need to see students in class with attire that is not distracting. If a staff member does see a student with inappropriate messages or too short of clothing they will send the student to the office. I will then issue them a different shirt or a pair of sweats to get through the day. When these clothes are returned, we have them washed so they are clean for the next time they are used. I ask that when you see your child leave for the day to make sure they have clothes on that won't be a distraction in the building.

I also know it may be hard to think about but please consider this as well when you are purchasing clothes for next school year. If you have any questions, please call me at 715-479-4473, ext. 1601, or email jotilley@npsd.k12.wi.us.



Josh Tilley
Northland Pines HS
Dean of Students

Student Reflections on the 2011-2012 School Year

Eagle River Elementary School

By: Annalise Callaghan, Lauren Grosskopf, and Bailey Croker, ERES Students

Fifth Grade...Who knew what we were in for? Interesting events, extraordinary specials, three teachers, rotating classes, power hour, and a new principal are only a sampling of experiences from our final year at ERES. Whew. Now that's a lot of stuff!

An important aspect of fifth grade was the informative "Spread the Word to End the Word" rally. We will all take great life lessons from this experience. The "Spread the Word to End the Word" rally was a great opportunity to show the talents of some of our special students," said Mrs. Garasha. Many kids in the performance benefited from this rally. Our field trip to the Living History Museum in October was a fun group activity. A few other events we attended were some theatrical productions such as: the Norwegian Dancers, Guys and Dolls, Snow White, and our final elementary music concert.

Science is taught by the amazing, animated scientist Mrs. Weber. Who knew we would be digging for bones in owl pellets, testing different bird beaks, and learning anatomy? Fifth grade students always look forward to this unique science class. "I LOVE science and LOVE teaching kids," added Mrs. Weber.

The creative writer Mrs. Rickman has taught us skills such as public speaking, expository writing, and brought us the wonderful experience of *Youth Marketplace*. *Youth Marketplace* has taught us to work in groups and show normal fifth graders how to become entrepreneurs. "I think *Youth Marketplace* is a fantastic enrichment opportunity for all future entrepreneurs," commented Mrs. Rickman.

Mr. Skubal, the wise mathematician, has taught us how to add, subtract, and multiply fractions, algebra, elapsed time, and measurement. He always tells us true stories and life lessons to keep us motivated. "It is an excellent

opportunity to bring math alive to our students," said Mr. Skubal. Thanks for your wonderful direction – you are one wise guy.

Our specials this year have been exciting, informative, and delightful. Physical Education helps hearts and lungs and it strengthens your muscles. Mrs. Lamond and Mrs. Burr wrote a paper to get a grant for some fun and amazing equipment, and with this equipment we're able to play Frisbee Golf outside in the spring, ski and snow shoe in the winter, and participate in many more enjoyable sports. Another special is taught by the charming musician Mrs. Domek. She teaches voice lessons and shows us how to play instruments such as piano, guitar, recorder, and bells. Mrs. Niehaus is our astonishing art teacher who has taught us how to make totem poles, 3D eagle heads, and clay ornaments. "I love teaching art and helping students be creative," Mrs. Niehaus remarked.

Mr. Spets is the new principal for our last year of elementary school. He has turned out to be a great principal. He gives us high-fives in the hall and he was even crazy enough to do the Polar Plunge to raise money for the Special Olympics. "I love being the new principal," opined Mr. Spets. "I think that deciding to be the principal at ERES was the best decision I've made in my career."

It is time to say farewell to all of our elementary teachers and the younger students. We have performed our last grade school concert and completed our final grade school projects. We are faced with the unknown challenges of middle school. Are we prepared for this big challenge? Thanks to the awesome teachers and staff at ERES, we feel confident that we are prepared for the future journey into middle school.

St. Germain Elementary School

By: Anna Jackson, Kylie Rutta, Adam Sima, and Luciano Svetnicka, SGES Students

In surveying students at St. Germain Elementary, we learned that many students liked math because it challenged them to learn new things. Jacqueline Smith, 4th grade, said she liked learning the new processes. Luc likes studying about symmetry and Anna likes decimals. Chance, fifth grade, likes science because he likes to learn about animals and plants.

Gym was another favorite for rollerblading, games, the rock wall, skiing, and because of the challenge. Asher, from kindergarten, likes the crazy cars.

Kylie especially likes art and using the tempera paint, making wind chimes, and making illusions. Luc likes the writing activities because it is a time to express your feelings and talk about what your dreams are. "We can wish for something in writing, too. The teachers make it fun to write." The students have fun writing the DKG fiction stories in 4th and 5th grade. Third grade writes a book that they read to the rest of the school and visitors.

Mrs. Plank makes music fun doing the following, Spring Fling, D.A.R.E. graduation songs, learning recorders, and color day. We also like the fun game touch typing in computer lab. You get to learn how to use your home row correctly.

St. Germain Elementary School (cont. on page 9)

Land O' Lakes Elementary School

By: Cameron Ramesh and Hunter Indermuehle, LOLES Students

Here at Land O' Lakes Elementary School we want to help small friendships thrive into life long trusts. We could not do so without the love and care from the people around us. We aim to bring out the best in each other. The 3-5 grades have been trying to help the younger grades mature and achieve their biggest dreams. The younger grades were normally wild and rambunctious, but with the help from the people surrounding them they have grown into one big family.

The teachers at Land O' Lakes Elementary put a large amount of effort to try to make the students at Land O' Lakes be the best they can be. They take every student as they are. When they teach, they teach with a unique way that no one can duplicate. They give special love and care to every individual kid.

In every student shines a light that shows a new perspective on life. This light can only be found in a Land O' Lakes Elementary student. From the moment they start Kindergarten to when they leave 5th grade, the light has grown from a pin-prick to a whole sun. They will carry on this light all through their lives as a respectful and responsible Land O' Lakes Elementary student. There is a sense of pride in every student that shows just how grate-

ful they are to be going, or to have gone to Land O' Lakes Elementary.



Governor Walker Visits with Pines Students

On April 24 Governor Walker visited the Northland Pines High School. He met and answered questions from the entire district's fourth grade class (STG & LOL participated via Facetime). During his tour of the school he also viewed the building trades home and talked with the students involved in that class. He ended his visit with a press conference. Dr. Richie and some school board members had the chance to voice their concerns on the state funding formula and how it effects rural school districts like Northland Pines.



St. Germain Elementary School

(cont. from page 8)

Extra activities that are offered like Living History Encounter, the firemen coming to read with students, hundredth day celebration, sick of winter beach day created by Mr. Healy, and trips to the high school plays are fun. The 5th grade said that they like having D.A.R.E, Drug Abuse Resistance Education. The 4th graders learn a lot from their trip to Madison.

Power Hour helped us learn new skills and helped us get better at skills where we needed help. We learned about how different things work and how to make them work differently in our science fair.

But most people said that having friends and meeting new people are the best things in school. Friends will always be there for you especially when you are struggling in school. The students like recess because they can spend time with their friends.

Northland Pines Middle School

By: Noah Wittkopf, NPMS Student

When I reflect back on my middle school years as a Northland Pines Eagle, I look back at three good and rewarding years. I also think about three things, friends I have made, academic opportunities and extra-curricular events. Over the past couple years, I have made great friends; friends that I believe will be life-long. They support my decisions and help me through thick and thin situations. These years are said to be difficult, but with the aid of friends, it becomes much easier.

The academic opportunities offered through our district and the staff that surround us and support us help make this school a school to be proud of. I came to Northland Pines in fifth grade not knowing what to expect. I quickly got into sixth grade and thought it was a lot different than my stationary elementary years. We traveled from class to class and had eight teachers in one day, rather than one to three teachers. Seventh grade was a lot like sixth grade except that it was a little more work. Lastly, in eighth grade, where I am currently, it became more challenging because it became more project-based. Nevertheless, this school district has prepared me for all the years to come.

It has been through the extra-curricular activities that I have met the majority of my friends. I have participated in a number of athletic school sponsored events which I enjoy. The sports I took part in were hockey, soccer and cross-country. I have also had the privilege of being a part of the middle school student council for two years. All of these activities have helped strengthen my ideals and values.

After the reflection of these years, I realize the great time I had and how great of a facility we are blessed with. I will take what I have learned into my new years as a high school student next year. Although I look forward to my future in high school, I will always remember my middle school years.

Student Reflections from the High School

By: Alex Camp, NPHS Senior

My four years spent at Northland Pines High School has been filled with a tremendous amount of opportunities both in and out of academia that have helped prepare me for my future college career. The school has provided me with exceptional teachers and staff that are dedicated to their teaching career as well as the fact that they truly care about their students' educations. All of my teachers have been willing to help me during their free time in order for me to further understand their class material and when I understood the material better than my classmates, they challenged me by giving me harder material, furthering enhancing my education.

In addition to the wonderful teachers, the school has also given me the opportunity to pursue my many interests through numerous extra-curricular activities offered to students. From these extra-curricular activities, from student government to the music program, to sports, I have discovered who I am as an individual along with learning many life values such as leadership, responsibility and self-confidence.

To top off all of its wonderful characteristics, NPHS also has amazing, state of the art, facilities which make my school experience that much more enjoyable. We have computers available to us at all times, a fitness center, natural lit classrooms and an overall clean feeling. Overall, my high school experience has allowed me to discover who I am and allowed me to push myself both in and out of the classroom.

The Pupil Services Department of the Northland Pines School District offers programs and support for students and families in special education, at-risk, alternative education, personal learning plans, gifted and talented, school counseling and school-based health services. This menu of programs assist students in providing educational options to school success. Two of the students from the high school (Nelson and Krueger) share their thoughts and feelings about getting involved in activities as freshman and how alternative educational options can contribute to high school completion.

By: Taylor Krueger, NPHS Senior

I am Taylor Krueger and I'm a graduating senior class of 2012 from Northland Pines High School. If there is anything that I know, it's that without NPSD staff members Maggie Peterson, Linda Zimmer, Ryan Clark, and the Phoenix Center I would not have made it this far or even had the option of graduating. But look at me now, I'm moving to Milwaukee and starting college in the fall at the Aveda Institute of Beauty and Wellness where I'm specializing in cosmetology. None of this would have been possible without the privilege I've been given of being a part of this building.

I have been in the Phoenix Center for two years now, and I have learned so much. It's all about being responsible for your own education, and putting the effort in to gain or make up your credits. It's such a rewarding building and I will be forever grateful for the knowledge I've gained and the lessons I've learned from the Phoenix Center and everyone associated with it.

By: Lexi Nelson, NPHS Freshman

Freshman year is what you make it; it's as simple as that. It gives you a sense of freedom, and in most cases, a place that you fit in. I found my home this past year in the girls' hockey team, and in Project Unify. Of all the things I've learned this year the most important is to have fun with whatever you're doing.

Family. You may think that having one sister is hard, but this year I had twenty. As a hockey team, we enjoy winning and strive to make that our ultimate goal, but being in a high school sport means a lot more than that. Not only will I remember the girls on the team for the rest of my life, but I will remember the times we had and the memories we made. My favorite memory was at the end of the year banquet when we looked back on all the time we spent together, and we saw how we grew as a team and as individuals.

Project Unify is a club that stands up for acceptance. It is an inclusive club that joins both regular education and special education students. In Project Unify it's all about having fun. We meet up to hold events like ice cream parties and "Spread the Word to End the Word" rallies. I had the chance to fly out to Portland, Oregon, with our school coordinating team to attend a Special Olympics national conference. The conference was all about acceptance and figuring out a way to get others involved with the cause. It opened my eyes to see how other schools operate and was a learning experience from start to finish.

You may not be interested in hockey or Project Unify, but you will find a place where you belong. Ignore the anxiety or fears about freshman year, and just try your best to have fun with it. Like I said before, high school is what you make of it; so make it good.

NPSD Student Feature High School Student Emilie Robins



Our Student in the Spotlight for this issue is Emilie Robins, a NPHS Junior. Emilie is a PLP (Personal Learning Plan) student who has an extraordinary passion for music, especially the violin. Her talents and drive have not gone without recognition as she was recently named to the prestigious Wisconsin School Music Association's (WSMA) All-State Honors Orchestra on violin. She has also played in the Green Bay Youth Symphony for about five years and has been studying the violin since she was nine. Emilie enjoys sharing her talents by playing for the Northwoods Children's Museum's annual Tea Party and for the St. Germain Evangelical Free Church, along with performances at the school's music concerts.

Her skills and passion are not confined to just the violin. She has also studied piano from ages 6 to 14 and has competed for several years in the Wisconsin Music Teachers Association piano auditions. In addition, Emilie has competed at Solo/Ensembles since the sixth grade with the piano, violin, and voice. She has successfully made it to the State competition every year, and this year she performed "Ridente La Calma" as a Soprano solo and a violin solo of "Symphonie Espagnole" at the State Solo/Ensemble competition held on May 5. She has been singing in the NPHS's A Cappella Choir for the last three years and was named to the WSMA'S All-State Mixed Choir that performed last fall for the annual Music Teachers Convention. It is a very rare honor for a student to make it back-to-back years with WSMA All-State Honors, especially in different musical categories. Emilie was named to the GNC All-Conference Choir in 2011 and 2012.

Emilie works hard to balance her education and musical passions and furthermore manages to find time to enjoy running and volunteering. She is part of the NPHS Track and Cross Country teams. For the 2011-2012 school year, she was named to the GNC All-Conference Indoor Track Team and also to the GNC 2nd Team All-Conference in Cross Country, as well as the NPHS Cross Country team MVP twice. She continues to help with children's church, vacation bible school during the summer, and several other community service projects. This summer she will spend five weeks serving orphans and HIV/AIDS victims in India. Emilie is an excellent example of a student who follows her dreams and is not afraid to help others along the way.

Wisconsin State Capital Youth Art Month Exhibit

By: Beverly Niehaus, Middle School Art Teacher



Kali Kolehouse, (pictured left) a Northland Pines sixth grade art student, received a W.T.Graham Award, the highest youth art award given in the state, for her pastel drawing of a baby panda. Her drawing was part of the Wisconsin State Youth Art Month Exhibit which is held each March in the rotunda of the State Capitol Building in Madison.

The North Central Regional Youth Art Exhibition was held during February at the Marathon County Library in Wausau. From each regional show, only fifty pieces of artwork are selected to exhibit in the state show in March. In addition to Kali's drawing, artwork was also selected for the state exhibition from seventh grader Laine Vanden Boom and eighth grader Maddie Blaedow from the middle school; first grader Sophia Simac (pictured right) from Eagle River Elementary and second grader Brooke Liebenstein from St. Germain Elementary. The elementary art teacher is Amanda

Acklam. Bev Niehaus is the art teacher at the middle school.

The local Youth Art Month art show was held in March at the Olson Memorial Library in Eagle River. Two-dimensional and three-dimensional student work from the high school, middle school and elementary schools were on display, along with artwork from other area schools. A reception and awards ceremony was held on Thursday, April 12 to recognize all participating artists.



Northland Pines Receives “Standing Up for Rural Wisconsin” Award Two Years in a Row, Partnership with CornerStone

CornerStone Custom Builders Inc. and Northland Pines High School Building Trades Partnership was one of nine projects to receive the “Standing Up for Rural Wisconsin Schools, Libraries, and Communities” award recognized by State Superintendent Tony Evers on March 12 in Madison.

“These projects support the foundation of their rural communities and help students find a place and purpose in their lives,” Evers said. “The individuals and organizations that have come together to create these projects have truly embraced the importance of keeping rural Wisconsin strong for today and into the future.”

Glenn Schiffmann, owner of CornerStone Custom Builders Inc., and Mike Richie, District Administrator for Northland Pines accepted the award at the ceremony held at the State Capitol. Mr.

Richie was given the opportunity to explain the benefits we have seen from the students, staff, district, and community due to this unique partnership. “It was essential for us to keep this program for our students and community. We believed in it and so did the owners (and former graduates of the program) from CornerStone Custom Builders. By joining together, the Building Trades program has grown into a vital resource for our students and a rewarding experience for many local contractors. This program prepares and produces future builders, trade professionals, and business owners which are a few of the more prominent careers in our area.” stated Richie.

There have been 56 other award recipients since 2005 plus the 9 added in 2012. In 2011, the Northland Pines School District received this award for its partnership with YMCA of the Northwoods. To view all the projects honored with the award this year see the DPI press release located on the Northland Pines website at <http://www.npsd.k12.wi.us/pressreleases.cfm>.



Albino Deer Added to Display Case at High School

Another addition has been completed for the Northland Pines Wildlife display case located in the lobby of the high school. An albino deer, recovered by DNR Warden Tim Price, is the newest mount to be donated to the exhibit. The Albino buck was found near Manitowish Waters and was determined to have been killed by another buck during a late rut fight in the fall of 2010. It will join the educational display which now consists of a wolf, fawn, skunk, owl, otter, beaver, bobcat, duck, pine marten, and six fish. Ron Lax placed the albino deer in its new location on March 20, 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 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 this albino deer and most 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 have two bear cubs that were recovered by the DNR, added to the display.

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; or Tim Price, Conservation Warden at 715-892-0054.

Pictured is taxidermist Ron Lax.

Tick Talk - Protecting Yourself from Lyme Disease

Caryn Jacob, RN, NPSD School Nurse



Camping, hiking, gardening and just playing outdoors are all great spring and summer activities, but don't forget about the ticks that may be in the same environment! The Northwoods of Wisconsin has a very abundant tick population and also one of the highest rates of Lyme's Disease (tick-borne illnesses). And, over the last few years

Wisconsin has seen an increase in Lyme's Disease cases.

All ticks can transmit Lyme's Disease; it's not necessarily limited to deer ticks. In some species and life stages, ticks are so small they can be difficult to see but all hungrily look for animals and people to bite!

You can find ticks in various environments, but most often they are in or near wooded areas. They hide under leaves, in the grass and on branches, and in the height of the season they practically rain down from the treetops! Ticks also feed on birds and mammals, which play a role in maintaining them and the pathogens (germs and bacteria) they carry.

Prevention - There are some simple steps you can take to protect yourself and your family:

- Avoid tick-infested areas and avoid sitting directly on the ground.
- Avoid sleeping with pets and allowing pets on your furniture – ticks can travel from your furry animal and onto the skin of your family. Maintain your family pet under a vet's care by putting dogs and cats on tick medicine or using a tick collar.
- Frequent tick checks are probably your BEST protection from tick-borne illnesses. Perform an entire body

check (as well as your clothing) after being outdoors, even if you're just in your own yard. Use a hand-held or full-length mirror to view all parts of your body and **remove** any tick you find! (see tips for tick removal below). Check your children for ticks, especially in the hair.

- Removing ticks before they adhere to the skin prevents transmission of infection.

- Use EPA approved repellents with DEET (on skin and clothing) or permethrin (on clothing). Always follow product instructions!! Parents should apply this product to their children, avoiding the hands, eyes, and mouth.

- Showering within two hours of coming indoors has shown to reduce your risk of being bitten by a tick.

What to do if you are bitten by a tick:

- Remove an attached tick as soon as you notice it—teach children to seek adult help for tick removal. Improper removal can increase the chances of infectious transmission thus developing Lyme's Disease or other related tick-borne illnesses.

- Use a fine point tweezers and grasp tick by the head. Remove the tick with a steady pull straight up away from the skin. Never squeeze, twist, or yank the body of a tick, and never put substances or fluids on the tick.

- Watch for signs of illness such as rash, fever, or flu-like illness and contact your health care provider if these develop. Many rashes that do develop after a tick bite may not present as the "classical bull's eye" rash. You may see a solid red rash - possibly three inches in diameter or larger, and it may be smaller too.

Information taken from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website and various Lyme's Disease/Tick publications.

Required Vaccinations, Be Prepared for the 2012-13 School Year

Making sure your child is up-to-date on all his or her vaccinations is essential for back-to-school health! Don't wait until the very last minute to get your student vaccinated—take your child to the doctor for a check-up over the summer months. A physical exam may be needed to enter the next grade level or to take part in a school sports program. While you're there, be sure to ask your doctor if your child should receive any shots.

There are two different vaccines, Tdap and Varicella, that are now **required** by the Wisconsin Student Immunization law for middle and high school students. Parents **must** have their children vaccinated or sign a waiver at their school, by the first day of school.

Recommendations for both vaccines are made by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices for Disease Control and Prevention of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Students affected by this law include those entering grades 6 – 12. (Please refer to the NPSD website under "School Nurse" for "Immunization Law Changes—Age/Grade Requirements" and to print out a "Student Immunization Record").

Tdap is the vaccine that protects against a combination of diseases including tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough). Tdap vaccine will prevent pertussis infection from occurring and decrease the chance of outbreaks in schools. Children who have had pertussis should still receive a Tdap vaccine because the length of protection provided by the disease is unknown and the diagnosis can be difficult to confirm.

Varicella is the vaccine that protects against chickenpox. Two doses of Varicella are now required unless your child has had the chickenpox. If your child has had a history of the chickenpox disease, no Varicella shots are required.

Vaccines are available from your child's doctor or the Vilas County Public Health Department. **Please don't delay any longer, get a jump on the new school year and schedule an appointment for your student now with the Public Health Dept. at (715) 479-3656 or with your private health care provider.**

For further information or questions please contact your School Nurse, Caryn Jacob, RN.

Pines to Induct 5th Alumni Hall of Fame Class on June 1

On Friday, June 1 at 6:00 pm the Northland Pines School District will be inducting the fifth class into the Alumni Hall of Fame. The ceremony will take place in the auditorium of the high school. This year we will be inducting four past graduates of either Eagle River Union or Northland Pines High School.

A committee of twelve has spent a year planning and preparing for this induction class. If you would like to nominate someone in the future, they must meet the following criteria:

- Must have graduated from Eagle River Union/Northland Pines High School or served the district.
- Graduated from high school a minimum of twenty years before being nominated.
- Contributed to his/her individual field of work/study, individual community, or to society as a whole.

Nomination forms are available at: Northland Pines High School in the District Office, the Walter E. Olson Memorial Library, and WRJO radio station. On-line forms are also available on the district website at www.npsd.k12.wi.us. First click on the Northland Pines High School page, then click on Distinguished Awards, then locate Alumni Hall of Fame.

The following Northland Pines Alumni will be inducted into the Hall of Fame on June 1:

Dr. Scott Preisler graduated from Northland Pines High School in 1978. After graduating high school Scott attended Marquette University studying Biomedical Engineering graduating in May, 1981. Scott then entered the Marquette School of Dentistry graduating in May of 1985. He also received a M.S. degree in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery from the University of Iowa in June of 1990. Scott is a member of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, North Dakota Board of Dental Examiners, National Dental Board of Anesthesiology. Scott is a member of the American College of Dentists and is currently in private practice in Fargo, N.D.

Dr. Cynthia Nackers Munson graduated from Northland Pines High School in 1987. Following graduation Cindy studied abroad in Swansea, Wales in the United Kingdom. In 1991 she received a Bachelor of Science in Human Biology, Cum Laude from the U.W. LaCrosse. In 1994 she received the Doctor of Chiropractic, Cum Laude from Logan College. She has traveled to Ecuador providing Chiropractic and supportive care to communities recovering from an earthquake. She is an ambassador and advocate for health, wellness, fitness, education and lifelong learning. Cindy purchased the Chiro-Health Chiropractic Clinic in Plymouth, WI and in 2010 was named Wisconsin Chiropractor of the Year and in 2011 her clinic was named the Plymouth Small Business of the Year.

Dr. Donald Schmidt is a graduate of Eagle River Union High School. Following graduation he earned a Medical Degree from the U.W. in Madison and received post graduate training at Columbia University in New York City. Donald returned to Wisconsin to serve as Chief of Cardiology at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Clinical Campus. He served as Principal Scientific Investigator for the Milwaukee Heart Project launching and developing a search for a fully implantable artificial heart. He developed an innovative portable nuclear imaging gamma camera system for diagnostic testing throughout the world. Donald established the Milwaukee Heart Institute as a center for integrated cardiac care. Donald is also a published author of many books and articles on cardiac care.

Eric Jacobson graduated from Northland Pines High School in 1987. Following graduation Eric received a Bachelor's Degree from St. Norbert College and a Master's Degree from Georgetown University. While in high school Eric was a member of the National Honor Society and played on the 1986 State Hockey Championship Team. He was 1992 Soldier of the Year in the Wisconsin Army National Guard and also received Soldier of the Year in 1994 with the U.S. Army Europe and V Corp. Eric earned the Special Forces Tab, Green Beret in 1995. In 1999 he earned the U.S. Army Ranger Tab. In 2008 he received the MacArthur Award, Army Special Operations Officer of the Year. Eric has earned three Bronze Stars and two Purple Hearts and has five combat deployments to Iraq. In 2006 Eric earned a Bronze Star for Valor in the 2006 Battle of Diwaniyah, Iraq and is a 2007 Silver Star Recipient in the Battle of Najaf, Iraq.



Land O' Lakes Students Drop Everything and Read

Students and staff at the Land O' Lakes Elementary School participated in the National D.E.A.R activity on Thursday, April 12. It stands for Drop Everything and Read. Students in grades K-2 read with school principal, Mr. Foster in their classrooms. Students and staff in grades 3 - 5 found a comfortable spot and read in the library. During part of that time, third graders had the opportunity to read stories to the 4K class. Everyone had a great time! Pictured here are some third graders reading to their 4K friends.

More Food Service Options on the Horizon

By: **Jessi Bortolotti, Taher Food Service Director**



Spring has finally arrived and we are almost finished with the school year. This is a very busy time for everyone. Teachers plan a lot of fun field trips in the spring for their students. The Food Service Department wanted to remind parents that we can put together a sack lunch for students to take on field trips. Our sack lunches include a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, carrots or celery, apple or an orange, string cheese and milk. If your child has a peanut allergy, please contact the Food Service Director about substituting another sandwich. In addition to field trips we do have a lot of events at our schools that parents will be attending. Parents and grandparents are always welcome any time of the year to have lunch with their child or grandchild. Parents can charge their meal to their child's lunch account or pay cash during their visit. The cost of an adult meal is \$4.00.

There have been several changes over the school year regarding lunch. You may have noticed that we now have four separate menus for our students. There are three age groups and each fall under very specific guidelines and must meet certain requirements. On the Northland Pines website we do have some of the new regulations posted.

Please view these new USDA regulations, the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. If you have any questions about the new regulations and how the school lunch menu is planned based on these requirements, please contact Taher Food Service Director, Jessi Bortolotti at 715.479.4473 or email jbortolotti@npsd.k12.wi.us.

We will be putting out a survey in the near future to families in our District about the possibility of starting a breakfast program. We would like to hear from families if this is a program they would be interested in participating in and what they would like the program to offer. As we gather more information about the possibility of starting a breakfast program, we will notify families as to where they can take part in the survey.

Over the summer the Food Service Office will still be processing payments on lunch accounts. The Food Service Director will check phone messages and emails throughout the summer. New Free and Reduced applications for the 2012-2013 school year will not be sent out until after July 30, 2012.

Thank you for another wonderful school year! Have a safe summer and many laughs and great times with your families.

Elementary Art Students Make Connections through Field Trips

By: **Amanda Acklam, Elementary Art Teacher**

During the month of March the second grade students at Eagle River Elementary school took a field trip to Wausau to visit the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum. They had been studying dinosaurs in both their homerooms and in art class. The students participated in various activities including reading about dinosaurs, doing research on dinosaurs, writing about dinosaurs, and creating artwork about dinosaurs. Mrs. Jung's class was challenged to write an imaginary story based on the work of art the students created in art class. The unit was ended with a field trip to see the work of James Gurney, creator of the children's book series *Dinotopia*.

For many of these children, this was their first experience going to an art museum, and their enthusiasm and excitement was contagious. The docents at the Museum commented that our students were the best group of children they had seen, because they were so interested in what they were looking at. The Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum is always free to the public, and I encourage you to visit the museum the next time you pass through Wausau.

In Land O'Lakes, the fifth graders had an opportunity to take a walking fieldtrip to the Land O'Lakes Artisan Gallery (LOLA) where they experienced an artist critique of their own work with Kathleen Kimball a working artist from Arbor Vitae, and were introduced to Mary Jackl a fiber artist, who demonstrated on her spinning wheel. We are grateful for the time and energy these individuals and LOLA shared to make this valuable opportunity take place.

Pictured to the right: second grade ERES students had the opportunity to visit Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum, and try using water color pencils in the gallery.



Learning with Touchable Technology in Land O' Lakes

By: Cathy Benecke, Land O'Lakes K & 1st Grade Teacher

In this day and age when technology is everywhere, it is becoming more imperative that schools provide students with the skills to use technology devices in a productive way. Research suggests that many students may learn best through a hands-on approach to activities. By providing technology tools that invite hands-on interaction, we can almost guarantee that our students will be more engaged in the learning experience and would also be gaining knowledge of how technology can be used to enhance their learning for years to come.

The students at the Land O' Lakes Elementary School use touchable technology for learning on a regular basis. With our classroom SMART Boards, students can interact with computer programs and websites simply by touching the board. The large whiteboards make them great for larger group lessons, allowing everyone a clear view.



With our classroom iPad2, students can work independently or with others to explore educational apps. This touchable technology device is much like a handheld computer with a built-in keyboard. Rather than clicking a mouse, the user simply touches the screen. The iPad2 also features a built-in camera, which the students also enjoy using to take pictures or short videos. The device is light enough to be easily carried anywhere in the school, and the large screen makes it easy for several students to view the device at once.

We are also thrilled to announce that, thanks to our generous PTA, each classroom now also has an iPod. iPods are just like iPads, but smaller! Our special thanks goes out to our school PTA for helping our school provide touchable technology for all our students.

The built-in wireless capability of both the iPad and iPod makes accessing the Internet, and all the educational opportunities that it offers, effortless from anywhere in the building. And with the multitude of educational Apps (downloadable applications) available, teachers can further encourage learning by providing activities suitable to the varied ability levels of the students within the class.

We look forward to adding more technology devices in the future. For those of you looking to upgrade your own technology devices, please consider donating them to our school! We would welcome any donations of older models of iPads or iPods, and, you can rest assured, that they would be put to good use!

Rotary Exchange Student Shares her Experience at Pines

By: Fernanda Guzman Gonzalez, NPSD Rotary In-Bound Exchange Student from Mexico



Imagine saying goodbye to your family and finding yourself in a whole new place where you do not understand anything: language, culture, or the basic way of life. This is how I started this year. My name is Fernanda, and I am an exchange student from Mexico.

I think my exchange began when I received an e-mail that said that the next school year I would live in Eagle River, Wisconsin. I started to prepare for the exchange by going to a conference and learning about how to make the transition between living in Mexico and the USA.

After I first came to Eagle River, I visited NPHS. It was a very big school in a small town. It was just like in all the American movies. Incredible. When I searched online about Eagle River, it said that it is very cold, but I never realized *how* cold. One of the things that I like most about Eagle River is the snow. I had the opportunity to go skiing. I have to say that I'm really bad, and that the next day I was very sore, but I had so much fun! I also went tubing and ice fishing.

I have been able to visit Madison, the Mall of America, Hawaii, and Florida. This summer I will be able to visit Washington DC, New York, Philadelphia, and Boston. Throughout my exchange I have lived with three different host families who have helped me a lot. They've made me feel part of their families. This is very important to me because I realized that now I have more parents and siblings than I could have ever imagined. I made a lot of good friends from all around the world, and they have become my best friends.

At first I thought that the worst part was saying goodbye to my family in Mexico, but I now realize that the worst part is going to be saying goodbye to all the people that I have met here. When people told me that this was going to be the best year of my life, I didn't believe them, but now I know that they were right. I had the chance to learn a lot about sports, food, and everything to do with American culture. But perhaps the most important thing that I learned is that it doesn't matter what language a person speaks, the color of your skin, or what your customs are, we are all equal and can learn from each other. I certainly have.

“Madison or Bust” - Fourth Grade Visits State Capitol

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

“Madison or Bust” was the motto of the 2011-2012 fourth grade field trip to Madison. The phrase implies energy, commitment, and determination, which are all qualities these children possess.

Every year, the fourth grade children of the Northland Pines School District realize what an amazing gift they are receiving from the Northland Pines School Board, Dr. Richie, and all the elementary building’s PTA organizations. These groups supply the funds needed for two coach buses to take the children back and forth to Madison.

This year the children received a very special different kind of gift as well. Both Mr. Foster and Mr. Spets, elementary principals, decided to join the field trip. In addition to seeing all of the wonderful educational aspects of the capitol building, learning about the unique attributes of their state of Wisconsin at the Wisconsin Histori-

cal Museum, and getting bitten by the physics bug at the University of Madison, they had their principals there to play with and to share in their learning.

Taking children off of the school campus is becoming a very important part of learning. The world should and is becoming their classroom via the use of technology, taking wonderful trips such as the Madison field trip in fourth grade, the Washington D.C. trip in middle school, and even the Germany trip students take in high school. Children’s success is in part dependent on becoming global; learning cultures, politics, geography, biases, and traditions from other areas in



ERES Fourth Grade Students

Wisconsin, in the United States, and the world. It opens their minds to better understanding of those around them and it increases their ability to adapt and grow as a well-rounded educated person.

Thanks to all for helping our children in the fourth grade learn a bit more about their state and opening the doors to broader experienced young learners!

Wisconsin Federal Junior Duck Stamp

By: Beverly Niehaus, Middle School Art Teacher



Fourteen Northland Pines Middle School art students received awards at the state level of the prestigious Federal Junior Duck Stamp Competition. This competition is held each year in all fifty states, and promotes environmental and wildlife conservation education at all grade levels. The Best of Show award winner goes on to the national competition in Washington DC.

The contest is divided into four age categories, which are grades K-3, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12. Students select a species of North American waterfowl from the permitted species list, published by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Working from several sources, which may include different photographs, books, and actual taxidermy mounts, students created a color drawing or painting of the duck in its natural habitat. As part of the entry process, students are

asked to write a conservation message, which expresses their feelings about the importance of the conservation of our wildlife habitat and other natural resources. Drawings are created in the middle school art classes, and give students the opportunity to combine their love of art and science into a memorable and meaningful piece of artwork.

Our sixth grade students received the following awards: First Place - Megan Scholl, Second Place - Sophia Spiess and Carisa Scanlon, Third Place - Lauren Ritzer and Sidney Geiger, Honorable Mention - Gabby Herfindahl, Dawson Penn, Mike Scholl, Hadley Kruse, Jason Brewer, and Ashlin Messner. In the 7-9 category, eighth graders Samantha Hytry received a Third Place, and Hannah Yuds received an Honorable Mention. Seventh grader Michael Rosinski also received an Honorable Mention. All three of these students were state winners in previous years. This was Michael’s second year, Hannah’s third year, and Samantha’s fourth year in a row as a Wisconsin State Junior Duck Stamp winner.

NPMS Students Participate in World Education Games

By: Tara Petreikis, NPMS Math Teacher

Students in sixth grade participated in the World Education Games, March 6 -8. The students started this competition with the second annual World Spelling Day on Tuesday, the sixth annual World Math Day on Wednesday, and the inaugural annual World Science Day on Thursday. Students played against each other and others from around the world in sixty second mental spelling and math games.

Science questions were based on three levels: easy, medium and hard. Students were captivated by the fact that they were playing in real time.

Results of the 2012 World Education Games:

World Spelling Day Spellometer: 54,985,637

World Math Day Mathometer: 293,571,830

World Science Day Sciometer: 4,015,598

NPMS Spelling total - 10,966

Top Spellers: Mike Scholl - 352, Candice Helf - 306, Carter Staeger - 303, Rebecca Beyersdorf - 300, and Matt McGill - 248.

NPMS Math total - 15,210

Top Math: Carter Staeger - 621, Trent Fessenbecker - 585, Aaron Mutka - 512, Cody Jantzen - 401, Taylor Madl - 391.

NPMS Science total - 5,284

Top Science: Laura Garling - 117, Megan Scholl - 113, Cody Jantzen - 109, Ethan King-Polich - 106 and Aaron Mutka - 106.

Eagle River Second Grade Performs Play



Mrs. Saltenberger's second grade Eagle River Elementary School class performed a play titled Yeh Shen for parents, relatives, friends, and the K-2nd grade students Friday, April 13th. The play is a Chinese version of the fairy tale Cinderella. The students tried out, memorized their lines, acted their parts, and designed scenery and their costumes. They practiced for about two weeks and did an outstanding job during their two performances. Mrs. Sawalski, Title 1 paraprofessional, helped with the play.

YMCA of the Northwoods Summer Programs

The Father/Daughter dance was a huge success with many elementary school girls going to dinner and dancing with their dads (or significant family loved ones). Thanks to all who participated. We are already looking forward to next year.

We don't want to forget our sons and mothers, so the Eagle River YMCA has planned the first annual Mother/Son fishing outing! Register and meet us at the T docks in Eagle River on Yellow Birch Lake Saturday, June 2. Moms and sons will be assisted by life long fishermen on the do's and don'ts of fishing. Bait, poles, lures and life jackets are provided, although we will not be leaving the dock. \$10 per couple, kids get a brand new lure to take home!

The Iron Eagle competition is starting. Any high school student with a desire to challenge themselves to extreme feats is welcome to join. Training is lead by certified personal trainer of the YMCA, Kevin Schweer. The athletes are directed in ways to strengthen their bodies all summer. The official competition is held right before the football season starts. The only cost to the student is sweat and effort and willingness to push themselves to a higher level. Inquire at the Y, last year's winner was Lukas Ferber.

Midnight Moonshine Run is coming July 7th! Challenge yourself to get ready to run 5K at midnight in the heart of Eagle River. The run raises funds for our scholarship program called The Strong Kids campaign. This program provides financial assistance to those who wish to participate in Y programs or membership, but don't have the money to do so. We have helped Vilas county residents keep an eye on well being for years, so please help support your community by participating in the run! New this year are chip timing and dri wick t-shirts. Group rates are available. Get all of your family or all of your friends together and challenge one another for a worthy cause.

Enjoy your summer and visit the Y. We are so proud to be a part of the community within the Northland Pines High School. Visit www.ymcaofthenorthwoods.org or call 715-479-9500 for more information or to register.

NPMS Students Learn about “Lumber From the Land”

By: Todd Wilfer, NPMS Science Teacher

Back in January, eighth grade Northland Pines Middle School students participated in the “Lumber From the Land” project. With guidance from WDNR Forester Jill Nemec, students initially performed an ecological assessment of the site. Trees were then marked, felled and cut into workable lengths. Horses were used to skid the logs to an on-site mill where they were milled into workable lengths of lumber. The lumber was transported to school where it was stacked and monitored for moisture levels by the students.



The lumber has dried to a point where students have recently been able to use it as a material in their classes. In Technology Education, students have built wagons resembling those of early settlers. These wagons will be used in U.S. History classes on a project focusing on westward expansion. Students will use the wagons in ways which will help them understand how settlers on the Oregon Trail had to be creative while cross-

ing dangerous terrain through the Rocky Mountains.

Students have also worked on a Model Shed project. This project allowed students to understand the processes involved with the framing of wooden structures. Students built miniature walls and trusses which were then assembled to create a miniature shed.

In Design and Manufacturing classes, students will build more elaborate and decorative furniture items for their

final project. The “Lumber From the Land” project produced a wide variety of boards and structural lumber that students will be able to use for these projects. What students choose to



build was entirely up to them. Projects from the past have included end tables, gun racks, shelves, fishing rod racks, hockey equipment lockers, bird feeders and bird houses.

In art classes students have been using the material that was not turned into lumber as a medium. Currently, students have been involved in wood-burning. For this project student works needed to relate to nature or wood.

The lessons learned from this project both in and out of the classroom will remain with the eighth grade students into the future. Middle School teachers Mr. Govek, Mr. Beyer, Mrs. Niehaus and Mr. Wilfer would like to thank everyone involved that helped make this project a suc-



cess. This project was made possible through a grant that was received from the Land O’ Lakes Fish and Game Club. Their generosity was greatly appreciated.

FREE! Play Disc Golf at Northland Pines School District

Are you ready to have some fun for free! All you need to bring is a frisbee or disc to play our disc golf course. Disc golf is played like golf. Instead of clubs and a ball you use a flying disc or frisbee.

Thanks to the Carol White Physical Education Program Grant, the Northland Pines School District is very fortunate to have an 18 hole disc golf course designed by Lifetime Disc Sports. The first nine holes are located behind the K-8 building and an additional nine holes are located on the school grounds behind the high school building. Parking is available in the high school parking lot by the Phoenix Center and behind the K-8 building.

You will find a map of the course on the NPSD website: www.npsd.k12.wi.us/high/discgolcourse.cfm

So, get out and get moving and enjoy a beautiful day on the Disc Golf Course. Any questions contact Trina Burr, Physical Education Teacher at 715.479.6471 ext 4310, or email tburr@npsd.k12.wi.us.



Living History in Our Nation's Capitol

Middle School Students Visit Washington D.C.

By: Harlan Leusink, Ryan Prod, and Jim Beyer, Middle School Teachers

Students and teachers rarely get the opportunity to experience the artifacts and places in history with their own eyes. For this reason, history is often a subject that is difficult to visualize and understand. Recently, seventh and eighth grade students at Northland Pines Middle School were given this very opportunity. Thirty-three students, along with six chaperones visited Washington D.C. as well as the Gettysburg Battlefield. Students were led by middle school teachers Jim Beyer, Ryan Prod and Harlan Leusink. They were also joined by Jen Lifschutz, Deana Lindbom and Marla Mesko. The five-day trip included trips to numerous monuments, memorials and historic sites.

The first day of site-seeing began with a trip to the White House. There students were able to observe one of our fundamental rights, the right to peaceably assemble. Students were able to see the 24-hour protest of nuclear war. The day concluded with visits to the National Archives and Arlington National Cemetery. Many students found Arlington particularly moving. Seventh grader Anna Hayes re-

marked, "My favorite part was visiting Arlington National Cemetery and realizing what all those people had sacrificed for our freedoms."

The second day was highlighted by visits to a variety of different monuments and memorials as well as a tour of the Capitol Building. Students were given the chance to view these marvels of architecture as well as learn a great deal about the people they were built for. The monuments visited included the Washington



Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam Memorial, Korean War Memorial, WWII Memorial, and the Jefferson Memorial. Students also visited the Supreme Court and the Library of Congress.

The third day included visits to Mount Vernon and the Gettysburg Battlefield. Students learned many new things about George Washington and his life outside of politics and war. Mount Vernon also provided a glimpse into life during the 18th Century. The entire group then made the two hour trek to Gettysburg, the site of the Civil War's most pivotal and costly battle. This site provided 8th grade students with a firsthand look at an event covered in their American History class. Sophia Svetnicka commented, "I opened my textbook and saw a map of Gettysburg and it was neat because I had just been there and I understood it after seeing it firsthand." The Gettysburg Visitor's Center also allowed students to view a variety of artifacts and depictions of this historic battle.

Unfortunately, our trip did have to come to an end. For many students this will be a once in a lifetime trip. The memories and experiences they had on this trip will stay with them throughout the rest of their lives.

Pines High School Forensics Team Competes at State

By: Amber Tilley, NPHS Language-Arts Teacher

On April 20 and 21, the NPHS Forensics team competed at the Wisconsin High School Forensics Association State Competition. All competitors medaled, and out of 22 team members, 10 received gold medals, nine received silver medals, and three received bronze medals.

Receiving a gold medal requires a perfect 25 out of 25 score. Students who achieved the gold medal score are Jessica Anderson in Play Acting, Rebecca Anderson in Play Acting, Alex Camp in Play Acting, Benn Gober in Play Acting, Mason Hakes in Radio Speaking, Tim Hartwig in Solo Acting, Kaitlin Nellesen in Four-Minute Speaking, Katie Piper in Poetry, Sam Puffer in Play Acting, and Elle Tryczak in Play Acting.



Silver medals were awarded to students who earned 23 or 24 points out of 25. Students who earned silvers are Brie Fuller in Play Acting, Jia Gonitzke in Play Acting, Allison Hartwig in Play Acting, Pam Hartwig in Play Acting, Kirsten Klessig in Prose, Katie Kuchenbecker in Play Acting, Yvonne Polack in Play Acting, Katie Prigge in Play Acting, and Christian Svetnicka in Extemporeous Speaking.

Bronze medals are awarded to students who earn a 20, 21, or 22 out of 25. Earning bronze medals are Aisha Calix in Solo Acting, Angelique Gaffny in Solo Acting, and Fernanda Guzman Gonzalez in Four-Minute Speaking.

Coaches of the NPHS Forensics Team are Amber Tilley and Ann Hewitt.

Pines Academic Decathlon Wraps up Season with Distinction

By: Alan Tulppo, NPHS Social Studies Teacher

The Northland Pines High School Academic Decathlon Team competed at the 29th annual Wisconsin Academic Decathlon held March 15 and 16 at the Wilderness Resort in Wisconsin Dells. Two team members, Zach Munnik and Rebecca Anderson, earned distinction at this year's event. Munnik, a senior, earned a bronze medal for his essay and Anderson, a sophomore, won a Top Scholar trophy.

The competition covers material from the following curriculum areas: art, economics, language and literature, music, mathematics and science.

In addition to the curricular areas mentioned above, decathletes also prepare and deliver formal and impromptu speeches and write an essay based on a piece of literature related to the annual theme. The theme for 2011-12 was "The Age of European Imperialism."

The first competition for Northland Pines was held in Tomahawk, at which the team finished second, earning them a spot at the WIAD Regional Competition at the University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point. At the regional event, the team placed second among all Division 3 Schools throughout the state and earned a spot at the WIAD State Event which was held in Wisconsin Dells on March 15-16.

Each high school team consists of nine full-time students and is made up of three Honor (3.75 to 4.00 GPA), three students in the Scholastic (3.00-3.74 GPA) and three in the Varsity (0-2.99 GPA) category. All nine students write all the tests and the top two scores in each category determine the team score. In this way, the program offers the appeal of mental competition to all achievement levels at a school. Decathletes must be enrolled as full time students in grades 9 – 12 in public or private high schools. Wisconsin Academic Decathlon is a non-profit, extra-curricular, high school program and charter member of the United States Academic Decathlon. Wisconsin maintains the ranking of fourth largest participating state, among 36 nationwide, in its 29th year of competition.

For more information about the NPHS Academic Decathlon Team or to find out how you can volunteer or support the team, please contact Alan Tulppo at Northland Pines High School or email atulppo@npsd.k12.wi.us.



Third and Fourth Grade Happenings in Eagle River

By: Gayle Daniel, 3/4 Grade Multi-age Teacher

Have you ever heard of a cylinder shaped grocery store or a zoo animal's cage made of parallel craft sticks? How about a scalene triangular day care or hemisphere gate entrance at the city dog park? Well, Mrs. Hoffman's, Mrs. Lechleitner's and Mrs. Daniel's classes made Geometric Villages using just that. Following an intense geometry study, these classes constructed villages using recycled products. The teachers were able to assist the students' understanding of math (angles, shapes, lines), social studies (good and services, plat maps) and oral presentation (projection, eye contact), along with teamwork and cooperation in this fun-filled project based learning experience.

On Friday, March 2, students wrapped themselves up for the day and ventured across the campus to participate with Klondike Days. Because it had just snowed 18", students



were able to experience what winter life was really like for the frontier people of that time period. The students visited a bakery, blacksmith, trading post, carpenter, fur trader, and music man. They were able to watch how metal is made into useful tools, how to erect a moveable home, hatchet

throwing, beading and cooking on an open fire. Students also enjoyed samples of venison, parched corn, and carrots. Finally, students were able to learn about the history and safety of firearms. Klondike Days was truly a worthwhile day for everyone.

Another occurrence for this group of children was on Thursday, March 29 when Mr. Ted Ritter, Vilas County Invasive Species Coordinator, stopped by to present. He informed the students of invasive species right in our area and what we can do to deter the spread of these invaders either in the water or on land. This was followed by creating posters for a state-wide contest with the Department of Natural Resources. The theme of the contest this year is, "Stop The Spread, By Boat or Tread." Watch for these posters at local boat landings as we are hoping to work with area lake associations to mount the posters as reminders for all residents and visitors to clean off their boats, trailers, and shoes to not spread invasive species.

Lastly, our district held an assembly, "Spread the Word To End the Word," on March 7. Our students decided that they wanted to show their support by creating a Tolerance Quilt. This quilt shows that each of us is unique, special, and significant, but when we work together for acceptance, we can become one. The students' paper quilt is still hanging in the lobby of ERES showing everyone how important it is to accept all people just the way they are and that together we can do anything.

Project UNIFY Team Travels to Portland, Oregon

By: Emily Rhode and Robin Indermuehle, NPSD Teachers and Project UNIFY Team Members



Project UNIFY Team Invited to Portland, Oregon!

“Portland? Portland, Wisconsin? Portland, Oregon! In a month! Are you serious?” was the reaction Emily Rhode, Robin Indermuehle, Lexi Nelson and Nikki Deditz had when Special Olympics Wisconsin (who could

bring any of their 20 Project UNIFY schools in the state to the Special Olympics Project UNIFY National Professional Development Conference in Portland, Oregon) chose to bring the Northland Pines School Coordinating Team because of their outstanding progress as a Project UNIFY (PU) school in their first year of existence. On February 21 they boarded a plane and flew to Portland Oregon.

In Oregon, they met with other PU teams from all over the U.S. They went out on the town with a group from Texas, went ice skating with a group from Hawaii and mingled with groups from Indiana, Pennsylvania, Colorado, Utah, Arizona and Washington. Much of the conference consisted of the different states telling their stories. They were amazed to hear all the wonderful activities that are happening around the country. What they enjoyed even more was listening to the passion the students had for being agents of change in their schools! Most adults don't show the compassion, dedication and motivation of those students. Wow!

The team came back with new ideas on how to include students with all sorts of differences in activities. They were exposed to opportunities that can help students understand and appreciate differences instead of being afraid of them. There were practical seminars on fundraising and the nuts and bolts of how to set up PU in schools. They were grateful to realize that they are so lucky to be in this district where there aren't problems finding a space to meet, getting administrative approval for events, or finding other staff willing to help. They were reminded over and over again of what a great district they are a part of!

Lexi Nelson, one of the student representatives, learned how to communicate effectively to both a staff and student body and experienced new ways to get people involved. She wants to implement a unified education class, start a peer partner class, and get a bigger group of people in the PU club at NPHS.

Nikki Deditz, also a student representative, loved meeting new friends, learning about their schools and how they run their PU programs. Her motto during the conference was “Be Involved!”.

Emily Rhode, a staff representative, became even more appreciative of the support from the Northland Pines

School District administrators, staff, families, and community. Lack of support was a reoccurring frustration for many PU schools at the conference. The success of the Northland Pines High School Project UNIFY program is the result of many individuals who believe in the program and its mission. She is grateful for the support and looks forward to continued growth and success.

Robin Indermuehle, another staff representative, was so impressed by the pervading aura of acceptance throughout the conference. The conferences she's used to attending are conferences where everyone is trying to impress everyone else. Not there. Participants take for granted that everyone else is amazing and skip ahead to enjoying and appreciating that fact. What a great way to live!

Northland Pines PU students were busy this year! Here are some of the activities they were involved in:

- Parade in Downtown Eagle River for Austin Kluever who made it to the State Special Olympics Bowling Competition
- Unified Snowshoeing with a Relay Race at Klondike Days
- Fans in the Stands at State Winter Games in Wausau
- Learn to Skate Unified Sport with a skills competition between periods of HS Boys Varsity Game
- Northland Pines Lady Eagles Dance Team Unified Sport with a performance at the Special Olympics Wisconsin State Indoor Tournament
- Assisted with the NPSD Cares Toy Drive
- Coordinated the “Spread the Word to End the Word” Campaign including all the schools in the district
- Implemented “Get Into It” Curriculum at the elementary buildings
- Participated in the Polar Plunge in Wausau

Watch for more to come!



NPHS student representatives Nikki Deditz and Lexi Nelson with some friends from Texas ready to ride the MAX light rail into town for dinner.

Summer Camps, Athletics and Activities

Middle School Jump Start Band Clinic (students entering 6th grade or first time band Students) **Free!**
August 13-17 (10 a.m. - noon) Contact Mr. Bautz 715.479.4473 ext. 0802 or 262.442.4964.

NPHS Summer Marching Band Camp (students entering grades 8 -12) **Free!**
June 27-29, July 2-3 (6 - 8 p.m.) and performance in the July 4th Parades in Conover and Eagle River. Contact Mr. Bautz 715.479.4473 ext. 0802 or 262.442.4964.

Summer High School Athletics - Contact Days.
The WIAA allows high school coaches five days of unrestricted summertime coaching contact between June 7 - July 31 to instruct practice, clinics, or coach their athletes entering grades 9-12. Listed below are the dates and contact info for NPHS coaches holding summer contact days.

- Volleyball:** Mondays, July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30. All dates 8 - 10 a.m. (Margo Rogers 715-892-4565)
- Boys Soccer:** July 16 -20 at 5 - 7:30 p.m. (Larry Favorite 715-891-0442)
- Football:** July 23 -27 at 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. (Jason Foster 715-891-5952)
- Cheerleading:** Wednesdays, June 6 - July 25 Grades 7 - 12, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. (Kristina Parker 715-891-1588)
- Boys Basketball:** June 7, 27, 28, July 10 and 12 (Ryan Clark 715-550-0908)
- Girls Hockey:** TBD
- Boys Hockey:** July 15, 18, 20, 21, 22 at 8 - 10 p.m. (Charlie DePuydt 715-891-4071)
- Girls Soccer:** July 16- 20 at 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. (Wendy McCormack 715-891-2955)

WIAA Sports Physicals: Any student planning on participating in a High School Sport must have a WIAA physical card or alternate year card on file before the first day of practice in order to participate.

Fall Athletic Start Dates:

- Monday, August 6 Fall Sports Parent-Athlete-Coaches Meeting, HS Commons/Auditorium, 6 pm
- Monday, August 6 First Practice for HS Boys’ Soccer
- Monday, August 6 Equipment Issued for HS Football
- Tuesday, August 7 First Practice for HS Football
- Monday, August 13 First Practice for HS Volleyball, HS Cross Country, & HS Fall Cheerleading
- Monday, August 20 First Practice for HS Fall Dance

For a complete list of summer weight room and field house hours, BFS Training (Bigger-Faster-Stronger) and youth baseball, football, basketball, hockey, and cheer camps visit www.npsd.k12.wi.us/summerofferings.cfm



Pictured here are family members sharing books together at the April 12 D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything and Read) activity.

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

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POSTAL CUSTOMER

May - September 2012

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|-------------------------------|---|
| Thurs. May 17 | MS Band Commission Concert, HS Auditorium 7 pm |
| Fri. May 18 | Land O'Lakes Elementary Spring Fling Concert, LOL gym, 1:30 pm |
| Sat. May 19 | HCPA "A Tribute to John Denver", HS Auditorium, 7:30 pm |
| Mon. May 21 | School Board Meeting, HS LGI, 6 pm |
| Tues. May 22 | Coffee Klatch, Dr. Richie, 8:30 am, Eagle River Roasters |
| Thurs. May 24 | St. Germain Elementary Spring Fling Concert, STG gym, 1:30 pm |
| Mon. May 28 | No School - Memorial Day |
| Wed. May 30 | HS Cabaret Concert, HS Commons, 6 pm |
| Fri. June 1 | Alumni Hall of Fame Awards Ceremony, HS Auditorium, 6 pm |
| Sun. June 3 | Class of 2012 Graduation, HS Fieldhouse, 1:00 pm |
| Wed. June 6 | End of 4 th Quarter |
| Wed. June 6 | Last Day for Students |
| Thurs. June 7 | Last Day for Teachers |
| Mon. June 25 | School Board Meeting, HS LGI, 6 pm |
| Tues. Aug. 21-Thurs., Aug. 23 | New Staff Inservice |
| Tues. Aug. 28-Thurs., Aug. 30 | Teacher Inservice |
| Tues. Sept. 4 | 2012-2013 School Year Begins, First Day of School for Students |

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REMINDER: Beginning September, 2012 the student school day will run from 8:25 a.m. to 3:25 p.m. More information in the Back to School Edition of Voice of the Pines, August, 2012.

Have a Safe and Happy Summer!

Follow us all summer! Visit the district website at www.npsd.k12.wi.us for information. Northland Pines School District can also be found at www.facebook.com/npsd1. "Like" us to get feeds from the district and to have access to photos, links and much more.

