

Voice of the Pines

Winter Edition 2012 - 2013

Newsletter for Residents of the Northland Pines School District



Safety and Crisis Management in a Changing World



Dr. Mike Richie
District Administrator

Due to the tragic event that took place at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT on Friday, December 14, 2012, school districts across the nation are reviewing and revising their crisis and emergency procedures. The Northland Pines School District conducted a crisis review meeting on January 9 with our internal crisis team, local law enforcement and Vilas County Emergency Government. These meetings will be ongoing and changes will be made and implemented in our current crisis management plan.

NPSD has always had emergency plans and procedures in place; however, changes are being recommended by Homeland Security, FBI and law enforcement officials based on what has been learned from other school crises. Over the next few months, our crisis team will work with the above agencies and others to make our schools even safer. Our number one goal is to protect our students and staff at all times.

Ty Peterson, Vilas County Deputy Sheriff, explained to us in our meeting that all schools, students, staff, parents, community members and visitors can expect a **new normal** when it comes to school safety. What we mean by a **new normal** is that all school districts across the nation will be implementing security changes including stricter access and monitoring of entry into schools and classrooms; the public will need to adhere to these new procedures as they will become the **new normal** everywhere. A complete report will be available upon completion of our review.

The following are only a few examples of what our crisis team will be working on in order to improve the safety and security in our schools:

- Review, update, and validate all emergency and crisis management plans.
- Coordinate response plans with all law enforcement, fire, medical personnel, and bus company.
- Conduct exercises of emergency and crisis management plans.
- Raise awareness among employees by conducting staff trainings.
- Ensure staff is aware of their roles and responsibilities during a crisis.
- Raise community awareness of potential threats and vulnerabilities.
- Ensure that all emergency communications equipment is present and operable.
- Practice emergency communications plans and systems.
- Report suspicious activity to proper authorities.

You may notice the presence of a uniformed police officer in our schools, a police squad car parked by any of our schools or a police officer having lunch with our students in the lunch room on a regular basis. This is an effort to have law enforcement presence in our schools for student safety and to serve as a visual deterrent.

We all know that a crisis can happen anywhere in a big city or small town, urban or rural areas, and at any time. We must be prepared and proactive in how we handle any type of crisis. Everyone must understand that changes in procedures will take place and these changes will be designed to protect our students and staff. I am asking for your complete cooperation and assistance to help ensure the safety of our students and staff. All of our safety measures must be followed by everyone who enters our schools and remember this is the **new normal**.

NPSD 4K REGISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING

If your child will be four years old on or before September 1, 2013 they can register for four year old kindergarten for the 2013-2014 school year.

Th. March 7 Eagle River Elem. 3:30 – 7 pm
Fri. March 8 St. Germain Elem. 11:30 am – 3:30 pm
Th. March 14 Eagle River Elem. 11:30 am – 3:30 pm
Fri. March 15 Land O'Lakes Elem. 11:30 am – 3:30 pm

Families may register at any location. Students entering five year old kindergarten as students new to Northland Pines School District can register at any of the 4K registration options. Students who attended 4K in the 2012-2013 school year do not need to reregister.



NORTHLAND PINES SCHOOL DISTRICT REFERENDUM INFORMATION



Northland Pines Exceeds Expectations Jim Mulleady, NPSD School Board President

In today's news you won't hear a lot of stories about how your local government agencies are working hard to provide the highest in taxpayer value. Thanks to a great amount of help and creativity from our District Administrator, teachers and staff in the district, we have

found numerous ways to save money and stretch our previous three year referendum money into four years. Some of the specific items that were done include changing health care providers and implementing a high deductible health plan along with a health reimbursement account (HRA) and a health savings accounts (HSA). District employees now pay 12% for their health and dental care plans as well as 50% of their pension plans. The district also reduced the cost of post retirement benefit plans by reducing the number of years of eligibility. The mileage reimbursement was also reduced from 100% of the Federal rate to 50%. Staff has scoured the internet to find slightly used equipment to use in Tech. Ed. and science classes, saving the district thousands of dollars. Many of these changes were painful; our staff has been very cooperative and understanding of the district's financial status and the state of the Northwoods' economy.

The District has also increased revenues by marketing the District. I realize that marketing a school district may seem to be unusual or unnecessary. However, since the era of Open Enrollment began in 1998 it has become a necessity. There was a time in the past when our district experienced lost revenues as high as \$323,874 (2005-06 our worst year of open enrollment) where that money was redirected by the state and given to other school districts. The district now attracts more students than it loses

to other districts through Open Enrollment and reports revenue gains, such as \$150,000 in the 2011-12 school year. This transformation amounts to \$473,874 in resources to the district and will continue to grow as our Open Enrollment numbers 'in' prevail over our 'outs'.

While we have worked hard at saving dollars, the district has also excelled in performance. Our district test scores are well above the state and national averages. We were one of the few districts in the Northwoods to receive "Exceeds Expectations" in the new Department of Public Instruction (DPI) Report Card grading system of schools. We have also been awarded two "School of Recognition" Awards for Land O'Lakes Elementary School; a Standing Up for Rural Schools Award, Wisconsin Rural Schools Alliance Award, Wisconsin Leadership Institute Award, Wisconsin School Public Relations Association Awards, and Special Olympics of Wisconsin Recognition Award for our outstanding extra curricular programs for our special education athletes. Very few districts receive recognition and we are very proud to be recipients of all of these awards.

Our District Administrator, Dr. Mike Richie, was also the recipient of a national honor as he was chosen as the **2012 National Superintendent of the Year** by the National Association of School Superintendents (NASS). This is a very prestigious award and one that was well deserved. Mike has been a great leader for the district and we are quite fortunate to have him as our District Administrator.

In this world where so many things are negative, I wish to point out the positives. The Northland Pines School District is doing great things and doing it in a cost effective manner. Our students, families, staff, taxpayers and communities all benefit as a result. On behalf of the Northland Pines School Board, please become informed and remember to vote on Tuesday, February 19.

WHY ARE THERE TWO QUESTIONS ON THE REFERENDUM BALLOT?

Question #1 asks for \$2.7 million per year for the next three years to exceed state revenue limits to maintain current school district programs and operations. We will be using some of this money to update our technology infrastructure and student technology needs.

Question #2 asks for \$240,000 for the 2013-2014 school year only to exceed state revenue limits to construct additions to existing walls and to construct new walls for fire safety purposes at the 4K8 building. This has been recommended by the fire department. Student and staff safety is not at risk. The additional walls will prevent fire and smoke damage to the building in the event of a fire and will allow more time for the fire department to fight and control any fire.

NORTHLAND PINES SCHOOL DISTRICT

VOTE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19



How has NPSD Reduced its Operating Costs?

- ☑ Drafted & implemented Professional Staff Handbook
- ☑ Drafted & implemented Support Staff Handbook
- ☑ Implemented \$5,000/\$10,000 HSA/HRA Health Insurance
 - 2010 \$139,980 savings
 - 2011 \$181,491 savings
 - 2012 \$350,000-400,000 savings (estimated)
- ☑ All employees now pay 12% of health insurance benefit
 - Estimated savings of \$169,000 per year
- ☑ All employees now pay 12% of dental insurance benefit
 - Estimated savings of \$15,000 per year
- ☑ All employees now pay half to their Wisconsin retirement
 - Estimated savings of \$566,000 per year
- ☑ Changed life insurance from WEA to Epic
 - Estimated savings of \$10,500 per year
- ☑ Changed long term disability insurance from WEA to Epic
 - Estimated savings of \$11,550 per year
- ☑ Changed dental insurance from WEA to Delta Dental
 - Same cost but better benefits to each employee
- ☑ Reduced post-retirement benefits for certified staff
 - Estimated savings of \$65,000 per person
- ☑ Mileage reimbursement reduced to 50% of federal rate
 - Estimated savings of \$10,000 per year
- ☑ Aligning High School & Middle School Bell Schedules, 2013-2014
- ☑ Changed support staff full-time status from 32 to 37.5 hours
- ☑ Created a pay scale range for support staff
- ☑ Converted food service to Taher employees
 - Estimated savings of \$25,000 per year
- ☑ Sick leave bank will be phased out

Top 10 Lowest (out of 367) K-12 Taxing Districts in Wisconsin for 2012 - 2013

1. Gibraltar Area	\$2.60
2. Washington	\$3.58
3. Drummond	\$3.83
4. Mercer	\$4.89
5. Three Lakes	\$4.94
6. Green Lake	\$5.00
7. Northland Pines	\$5.10
8. Sevastopol	\$5.12
9. Elcho	\$5.49
10. Niagara	\$5.61

The tax rate for Northland Pines (\$5.10) applies to a taxpayer's real estate tax bill for the NPSD taxes only. If you own a house that your local assessor assessed at \$100,000, you will pay \$5.10 per thousand of assessed value. Assessed value is not the same as fair market value. As a comparison, the highest tax rate for a school district in the State of Wisconsin is \$16.58 per thousand.

This amount is \$360,000 less than the 2009 operating referendum.

REFERENDUM DOLLAR AMOUNT:

Question #1: \$2.7 million per year for three years.

Question #2: \$240,000 for year one only.

The 2009 operating referendum money (\$2.9 million) expired on June 30, 2012.

"The Eagle River Area Fire Department has recommended that the K-8 building in Eagle River be retrofitted with fire and smoke barriers designed to contain fire and any smoke to specific zones. This was confirmed in 2008 when an outside firm conducted a fire protection study. In the event of a fire it would limit the damage and shorten the time the building would not be usable."

Patrick Weber, Fire Chief

BUDGET SHORTFALL 2013 - 2016:

2013 - 2014:	\$2,544,039
2014 - 2015:	\$3,098,476
2015 - 2016:	<u>\$3,534,022</u>
Total Shortfall 2013 - 2016	\$9,176,537
Proposed Referendum	- <u>\$8,100,000</u>
Remaining Budget Shortfall	(\$1,076,537)

Average of \$3,058,845

Mental Health Services Available Through Collaboration with Impact Counseling

Dr. Maggie Peterson, Director of Pupil Services



Rural communities have a history of barriers for consumers to obtain mental health services for children for a variety of reasons - transportation, scheduling and a scarcity of providers are often issues for families trying to access services for their children. Northland Pines is entering into a collaborative relationship with Impact Counseling to offer mental

health counseling in schools. Licensed therapists will be available one day a week at all schools and are trained to build emotional strength skills in dealing with anxiety, depression, alcohol and drug abuse issues, social and family issues.

The goal of providing outpatient mental health services within the school environment is to improve access to clinical mental health services to children, adolescents and their families with respect to the child and family's needs. The heart of Impact's school based therapy service is in addressing the mental health symptoms of the child/adolescent that interfere with the quality and success in their daily life in a setting that is therapeutic and convenient for the client and the family. Interventions will ad-

dress coping and management of concerns and symptoms of the individual with inclusion of the family to assist in goal-setting, treatment planning, and stability for positive outcomes. Therapeutic intervention within the school allows children, adolescents and their families a therapeutically favorable location to address and achieve the most positive outcomes.

Children and adolescents that will benefit from outpatient services are those who are struggling with attendance, struggling with academic success, demonstrating irritability, withdrawing from others, experiencing difficulty concentrating, experiencing changes in sleeping or eating habits, changes in mood and affect, engaging in self-harmful behaviors and demonstrating challenging behaviors. Those who have experienced trauma, loss or other significant stressors, those who are in transition from another treatment facility and those who are identified by parents or teachers with concerning behavior and emotional functioning at home, school or in the community.

Mental health services are funded by third party payers such as private insurers, Badger care or medical assistance and self pay plans. For more information or to make a referral, contact Impact Counseling, LLC at www.icsclinics.org/index.html or Dr. Maggie Peterson at 715-479-8989.

Additional Course added at Nicolet College for Students with Intellectual Disabilities

After two successful pilot classes for students with intellectual disabilities, Northland Pines is continuing to work with Nicolet Area Technical College, Headwaters, Incorporated and the Rhinelander School District to offer a new class on the Nicolet Campus. As a compliment to the first class, Soft Skills for Employability, a second course has been developed for the spring semester. Employability Skills, running from January 28 through the end of May, will focus on work habits for success, career exploration, supports available through area agencies, steps for job applications and self-advocacy.

For more information contact, Dr. Maggie Peterson at 715-479-8989 or mpeterson@npsd.k12.wi.us

Northland Pines School District Mission Statement



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

We will be accountable and work together to:

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

Northland Pines Board of Education

- Jim Mulleady, President*
- Mike Sealand, Vice President*
- John Sarama, Clerk*
- Holly McCormack, Treasurer*
- Eric Neff, Deputy Clerk*
- Mike Jovanovic, Member*
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What do we Really Need in our Schools?

Margo Smith, District Business Manager

As we approach this season of referendums for many of our local schools, many people will take some time to contemplate as to whether or not they should support their local referendum. When I am out in the community, sometimes I hear comments relating to our schools: "Why do they need a fitness room? We went outside and played when we were kids." "Why do we have to provide a lunch? Let the parents pack lunches." "We need to charge the parents more fees. If parents want their children to have some of these classes they should have to pay for them."

When as taxpayers we are funding our schools, it is appropriate for us to ask questions. It is also appropriate for each of us to look at our value systems and beliefs in seeking the answers to our questions with our eyes wide open to the world around us.

Some of us will need to be convinced that there truly is a need before we are willing to open up our pocketbooks to support a referendum. We look to our district leadership to provide answers to some of our questions. Sometimes we will be satisfied with those answers, and sometimes we will not be satisfied. Our individual biases, life experiences, reasoning skills, and values will lead us to decision.

We all have a different definition of what is needed in our schools. A global manufacturer may realize a need for increased foreign language skills, while considering

the music program secondary. A music therapist, on the other hand, may deem the arts as invaluable in working with disabled children. A marketing firm may notice a shortage in creative, artistic employees needed in their graphic design departments, whereas the arts could be viewed as secondary to medical employers looking for graduates with science and technology skills.

While there is oftentimes not a right or wrong answer to many questions, in fairness to our kids, we need to take the time to ask the questions and understand that our answers will affect the lives of our community's children. What kind of balanced education is needed in our community to prepare our kids for life after high school? Where is that balance between necessity and luxury? As the NPSD Business Manager, I have to prepare needed financial information and be ready to have accurate information ready for our administrative staff so they are able to make decisions based on student needs as well as financial realities.

The days of our forefathers are gone. Our kids are facing complexities that those of us from prior decades could not have imagined. Do we have enough to provide a safe, healthy learning environment? Do our community schools have enough programs that allow children to explore their particular strengths? Do we truly provide children from all socio-economic backgrounds a free public education? What is necessary programming as opposed to unnecessary programming? Not an easy question with any easy answer.

Please invest the time in our children to ponder, ask questions, and express yourself through the polls when the time comes.

300 Dinner Bags Donated to Food Pantry

Students at Northland Pines Middle School, Eagle River Elementary, St. Germain Elementary, Northland Pines High School and Christ Lutheran School worked together to collect food items to fill over 300 Thanksgiving Dinner Bags for the Vilas Food Pantry. The effort was also helped by Prince of Peace Church, First Congregational Church, St Mary of the Snow's, Our Savior Lutheran Church, St. Peter's Church, First National Bank, River Valley Bank, Associated Bank, M & I Bank, Mid-Wisconsin Bank, People's State Bank, Schilleman's Bus Service and some members of the community.



The bags were filled with all the fixings for a tasty Thanksgiving dinner. Monetary donations were also given to help pay for the cost of the meat to make the dinner complete. The efforts of students, staff and community members helped to show how rewarding it can be to help someone else. The Thanksgiving Bags were coordinated by Jacqueline Coghlan, Northland Pines Middle school Principal and a member of the Vilas Food Pantry Board. Thanks to all individuals who contributed in any way to make our food drive a success and provide a happier Thanksgiving to many families.



Join District Administrator Mike Richie for coffee and conversation at 8:30 a.m. at Eagle River Roasters, 339 West Pine Street in Eagle River, on the following dates:
Thursday, March 21, 2013
Thursday, May 23, 2013



Exciting Times Throughout the District!

**Scott Foster, Land O' Lakes Elementary Principal/SOAR Charter School Principal/
NPSD Director of Technology**

I can honestly say I am not sure if I have ever been as busy or as excited during a school year. With my three roles in the district there is always plenty of work and things to do. This year the work load has been a lot, however what is happening cannot be any more exciting and worth every minute.

As the principal of Land O' Lakes Elementary, our school is having a great year. Our student enrollment is at an eight year high. Our new students have had a positive impact on our school and our previous students have done a tremendous job of welcoming them into our Land O' Lakes family. The teachers are working very hard to implement Common Core Standards in Math and Language Arts. This has been a tough challenge for students and staff,

but both have risen to the challenge. One data point that I challenged our students and parents with was better attendance. I am proud to say we have seen improved attendance during the first three months of school.

In the Northland Pines Technology Department we have been busy implementing and planning for new ideas. Our 1:1 pilots are going very well. We are gaining a lot of new information that we will use as we plan for the 2013-2014 school year. A parent forum on technology was held, and we received great feedback that we are using already and for future planning. We have also participated in quality staff development that is allowing our staff to provide our students with a 21st Century Education.

The SOAR Charter School has had numerous accomplishments since the start of the school year. We have had multiple board meetings and have completed a charter contract between SOAR and the Northland Pines School District. We have held parent nights which were highly attended and have opened enrollment for students who plan on attending SOAR in the fall of 2013. The other big accomplishment is the announcement that Don Anderson will be the first teacher at SOAR. Don is currently a Special Education teacher at Eagle River Elementary School.

It has been exciting to accomplish all of these new things and have a plan to do so much more. These accomplishments are rewarding because they are so good for our students!

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What is our Vision, and How does it Help our Students?

Matt Spets, Eagle River Elementary School Principal

As a leader, I often hear the term *vision* used in multiple settings for many reasons. Every company, every school, every district, every initiative...all have their own *vision*. In my mind, the vision of Eagle River Elementary School should define how we (all staff) collectively see ourselves working to live up to the goals we set and the mission of the NPSD. As a staff we have spent some time this year thinking about what it is that we are really working for (the kids) and how do we see ourselves doing this to the best of our ability. After much thought and collaboration, our staff's vision is:

We respectfully work together across grade levels and disciplines to develop innovative learning opportunities, programs, and services to meet the unique social, emotional, and academic needs of all students by creating a safe and fun learning environment while promoting positive relationships throughout our school and the NPSD community.

There are literally hundreds of things that happen with individual students on a daily basis that are examples of staff working to fulfill this vision. Differentiated instruction, positive behavior interventions and supports, social thinking programs, Power Hour, and interdisciplinary lessons are all general, school-wide concepts that help us realize our vision. On a more specific scale, we educators have a system that integrates three processes in order to best help each specific student.

We have started an **Accountability Team** which will analyze and synthesize our student achievement, attendance, behavior, and demographic data in order to guide our entire staff in setting goals and understanding exactly what type of help all students need to increase learning outcomes. The **Cultural Awareness Action Group (CAAG)** is a team of staff that volunteers their time to analyze and implement culturally responsive practices. Being culturally responsive is the essence of our vision and means we will take into account factors beyond the control of students and parents while setting our goals and suggesting ways ERES can meet the needs of at-risk learners. When individual students are not making academic progress or behavioral gains as they should be, our **Problem Solving Team** takes an individualized approach to each student's particular skill set while determining the best strategy for the student's teacher to utilize.

In a nutshell, our vision will guide our processes, philosophies, and actions as we work together as one cohesive team to fulfill the common goal of providing the best education possible to each student.





Together We Can Do Anything

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

It is difficult to believe that our first semester of school has already concluded. Many events, much learning, and an immeasurable amount of smiles have been seen at St. Germain Elementary School. We have had two Color Day events, completed AIMSweb testing, been involved in enriching activities, and started a community service project; all of this while standing on the values of our District-wide Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS) theme of "Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible."

On January 30, staff and students joined family and friends in the cafeteria to support each other through applause and praise for our second Color Day of the year. Students were awarded for their accomplishments in areas such as reading, math, physical education, showing citizenship, and perfect attendance. Some students even won backpacks provided by Camp's Supervalu. Others were praised for accumulating reading minutes by representatives from the St. Germain Volunteer Fire Department who created a successful reading incentive program for students which encourages the enjoyment of reading. The end of this event concluded with the singing of our school song which was created by retired fourth grade teacher Mrs. Coshun's Class of 2001. Color Day is always a fun event for everyone.

The end of the first semester means another round of AIMSweb assessments, our local screener which monitors student progress. Most of our students showed wonderful growth from the beginning of the year to present. Some of the students showing less growth will participate

in the next round of intervention classes that work on specific skills in math and/or reading. For those students scoring at a sufficient level or above, they will participate in a variety of enrichment classes, such as Literature Circles, Rhyme Time, and Destination Imagination.

During the first semester another enrichment class completed by students in Grades 3-5 was creating brochures for local businesses. Ten different businesses came to school several times throughout the activity to educate the students on their businesses. They also informed the students on the business' goals, main consumer focus, customer base, etc. The students then created brochures highlighting the information shared. The culminating activity brought all business owners and students together for an afternoon for reveals. These businesses included First National Bank, St. Germain Women's Service Club, Moon Beach Camp, St. Germain Chamber of Commerce, Plum Lake Library, Paul's Rent-All, Knocker's, Camp's Supervalu, Earth Sense Energy Systems, and Eliason Realty. Thank you to each of these businesses for supporting St. Germain Elementary.

During November, our fourth grade teacher, Mr. Mark Deditz was awarded Staff Member of the Month. He has developed many academic opportunities for our students and stresses the importance of community. The St. Germain Elementary Recycle Club, which he supervises, is now accepting aluminum cans. The Club will recycle all donated cans and then decide which area civic organization their earnings will be given to. In an effort to always give back to the community that greatly supports our school, this is certainly one way our students can assist through a service learning opportunity.

Pines Adopts New Curriculum Standards

By: Gayle Daniel, St. Germain Elementary School Principal/NPSD Director of Curriculum & Instruction

The K-12 English/Language Arts Curriculum continues to make improvements in the NPSD. All elementary as well as middle and high school ELA teachers have met to work on unit planning using the new Common Core Standards to guide their production of units. These new standards include more intense rigor, use of technology, application to real-world, and embed the importance of fiction and non-fiction literature. These standards are in no way the standards of old. No longer are students reading a story out of a basal reader and answering questions on a worksheet. Today students are expected to read from a variety of texts (novels, magazines, how-to, poetry, manuals, articles, etc.), analyze their findings, investigate how these findings are connected to social issues of their community, the USA or the world, and report their findings using technology (Prezi, Power Point, app creation, Story Maker, etc.) Elementary teachers are now infusing Science and Social Studies content more than ever into their ELA units instead of having separate, disjointed lessons. The new standards have allowed for more connectivity in education. The middle and high school levels even have Literacy Standards in the Social Science and Technology areas which asks these content area specialists to assist students in speaking, writing, and thinking like scientists, like mechanics, like historians, like chemists, like woodworkers, like computer technicians. All of these changes are focused on preparing our students so they are college or career ready and able to compete on a global level.

As you can imagine, the way we educate our children must change to keep up with the ever changing demands of the world. Technology, medicine, industry, every facet of our world needs workers and thinkers. It is our responsibility to prepare the next generation. We can confidently prepare our students to face this new world, with the help of dedicated educators and our supportive Northwoods community.



Oh, Those Middle School Years

Jackie Coghlan, Northland Pines Middle School Principal

Take a flashback to your middle school or junior high years; it might help you better understand your own middle schooler. Pretty scary isn't it? The life of the middle schooler changes from day to day. It might be called "the wonder years" or the "roller coaster

years"; sometimes we wonder who that child is or whether this is an up or down day. Middle schoolers are becoming somewhat independent as they become more responsible for their classes, the choices they make and the activities they take part in. However, the flipside is that they need guidance and support. One day they are capable of handling whatever they are confronted with and prefer not to have an opinion from an adult. The next day they come to adults for help and can't seem to do anything for themselves. Each day is a new adventure.

Middle schools provide students with many opportunities to develop academic skills, acquire fundamental knowledge, determine their interests and special talents and experience a sense of belonging. Academics are very important during the middle school years and can give us a sense of how successful a student may be, not only in high school but also in college. Classrooms allow students to engage in the use of technology, research, problem solving, cooperative learning and utilization of community resources. Students achieve when activities are re-

lated to their out-of-school lives and when they can use skills learned in seeking solutions to real problems. Classroom instruction varies and teachers use a variety of strategies to help meet the diverse needs of students. Middle school students do not all learn in the same way, at the same pace or even on the same day. Teachers continually work to guide students so they can explore, expand, and share the skills and information that they learn.

Students can also learn through co-curricular activities. They might be improving their public speaking skills through Forensics or testing out their acting skills in the 8th grade play. What about the aspiring artists and musicians? How about the practice it takes to become a skilled athlete? A variety of talents are showcased at the Annual Talent Show. Student Council helps to develop leaders. Students also learn lifelong healthy activities like cross country skiing, snowshoeing or biking to use in a recreational setting. When students take advantage of these opportunities, they can become more self-confident as they take on new challenges.

March is Middle Level Education Month. This celebration is one way we can share with parents and community members the importance of middle level education and the abundant contributions these young adolescents offer our community. Middle level schools know the importance of meaningful participation of parents, families, and community and business leaders in helping to foster the development of the young adolescent.



Continued Collaboration

Jim Brewer, Northland Pines High School Principal

One year ago, I wrote an article for the Voice of the Pines titled "Collaboration is Key". In this article, I described how impressed I was with the tremendous community support and collaboration that had taken place at Northland Pines High School up to that time. I can unequivocally say the collaborative effort between the community and school to provide an enriching educational experience for our students is second to none. The educational impact that these collaborative endeavors has upon the students cannot be measured by a single assessment but by the understanding that we are providing them with the content knowledge and skills necessary to be college and career ready. Our students are gaining real world applicable experiences from leaders in the various fields of society and that type of exposure could not happen without the genuine support of everyone in the community. The list below is just one example from one teacher of the educational collaboration that has taken place at Northland Pines High School this past semester.



- **Paul Hennes from the Eagle River Chain O' Lakes Association** has met with members of the Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports Committee to see how the association can lend support to NPHS.
- **Mariquita Sheehan, Conservation Specialist for Vilas County** is working with the science department to develop a garden showcasing how native plants can be used in landscaping while creating an outdoor lab for NPHS students.
- **Brendan and Jenny Tuckey of Evergood Farm** led students on a tour of their organic farm and explained farm practices, demonstrated tools, and discussed pros and cons of making a living growing organic produce in the Northwoods.
- **Mary Ann Lambrecht, Master Gardener** brought in mature produce for students to experience seed saving from a variety of vegetables.
- **Debra Jircik, co-founder of Seed to Seed Edible Garden Project** spoke to students on the history of corn, its many species, and how the genetically modified form is used.

Principal Brewer (continued on page 9)

Principal Brewer *(continued from page 8)*

- **Anne Small of the Northstate Mycological Club** led students around campus identifying the array of wild mushrooms that grow in our area.

- **Jessi Bortolotti, NPSD/Taher Food Service Director** spoke to students about the care and planning that goes into making our school lunches healthy.

- **Moria King and John Bigley, members of the Oneida County Beekeepers Association** brought in local honey to taste test, the equipment needed to beekeep and most impressive, a live hive of bees!

- **Ted Ritter, Invasive Species Coordinator from Vilas County** spoke to students about invasive species found in our area and addressed why we should be concerned about them.

- **Licia Johnson from the North Lakeland Discovery Center** talked about what it was like to be a naturalist, brought in pelts and skulls to look at, and demonstrated wildlife monitoring equipment used at their center.

- **Tim Kratz, Research Scientist and Director of Trout Lake Station and Carol Warden, Aquatic Invasive Specialist** took students on a tour of Trout Lake Station, explained some of the research being done and discussed career options in natural resources.

- **Kevin Gauthier, Lakes Biologist with the WDNR** explained how he works to improve the lakes in our region.

- **Timothy Price, Conservation Warden with the WDNR** described what he does to help protect our natural resources in Northern Wisconsin.

- **Adam Grassl, GIS Analyst with Vilas County** showed students how he can help other resource specialists by

using information already in the system to make maps for very specific purposes.

- **Bob McGregor, Silviculturist from USFS** described what he does to improve the forest and explained different career paths available within the USFS.

- **J.W. Toumey Nursery Staff** took students on a tour that showed them how this site takes seed from the Eastern United States National Forests and raises tree seedlings to plant back in those forests.

- **Ron Lax, local Taxidermist** brought in mounts, forms and stories that showed students how taxidermy is done.

- **Jaime Remme, Ranger Forester with the WDNR** brought in and explained some of the equipment he uses daily and gave students a sample of what he does.

- **Jamie Merckx, Field Director for Whitetails Unlimited** explained to students what he does and how he procured the "greatest job in the world."

As you can plainly see, students enrolled in Mrs. Indermuehle's courses have had the pleasure of learning from some of the leading experts serving our community in a wide variety of capacities. Many more examples of educational collaboration, too numerous to list, are occurring in every classroom at Northland Pines High School and none of these opportunities would be possible without the tremendous collaborative efforts of those living in and around our community. On behalf of the students, staff, and administration, I thank you all for your generosity and willingness to help our students succeed academically, socially, and emotionally in a safe, healthy, and supportive learning environment. Thank you and GO EAGLES!

Working Alongside Others

Josh Tilley, Northland Pines High School Dean of Students

It has been a blessing to be invited to committee meetings outside the high school. I find that they are usually in one of three categories: sports related, professional, or community involvement. I would like to talk about the community involvement meetings that I have been a part of in the last few months.

Recently I had the pleasure to attend meetings where the high school was asked to collaborate with outside agencies. At the first meeting, a decision was made to have our students work alongside local Wisconsin DNR officials in building kiosks for boat landings under the "Kids Don't Float" program. These kiosks would house life jackets for those who found themselves short a life jacket. When the patron would come back to the landing after a day on the water, he/she would put the life jacket back for someone else to use. Money was donated to help pay for the materials for the kiosks and to purchase the life jackets. This gives our students an opportunity to see a project that they work on in school be used for community use. The more students do this, the more they take ownership and pride in their community.

Staff members had the opportunity to participate in trainings in partnership with Prevent Suicide Wisconsin, at a "train the trainers" conference. This is an opportunity where staff learn how to work with students who are struggling with suicidal thoughts. Using new techniques and becoming aware of classic signs of suicide is just the beginning of what these staff members will learn. The monies for this are also paid for by donation.

I work with local courts to ensure students are attending school which has been a wonderful, effective partnership. Over the years it has produced results that the whole community can be proud of. In fact, the high school had a 97% attendance in September of this school year and a 95% attendance for every month since then. Keeping this collaborative effort will continue producing these great numbers.



Tilley (continued on page 10)



Students Giving Back to the Community

Brian Margelofsky, Northland Pines Activities Director

Some of the most visible representatives of the Northland Pines School District are the students that participate in activities, clubs, or on sports teams. They are seen on stage, the playing fields, previewed in the newspaper or on TV. They are proud to represent NPHS in uniform and equally as proud of the good work they do for others when they are not at school. Community service gives students of activities, clubs, or teams the opportunities to make contributions back to the communities that support them year around. I've highlighted some of the specific examples, however, there are many – many more.

- **Boys' soccer** players annually clean-up the Vilas County Fairgrounds after the Cranberry Fest weekend
- Annually the **Student Council** sponsors and provides snacks, drinks, and volunteers for three blood drives.
- Members of the **baseball and softball teams** umpire for youth little league teams in our area.
- **Volleyball** held a "Pink Event" that raised money which was donated to Breast Cancer Foundation.
- An advanced **NPHS Science Class** partnered with the community garden and they raised food and vegetables which were donated to the Vilas County Food Pantry.
- The **National Honor Society** assisted 71 registered families in the area with a toy drive this holiday season.
- Many students and teams participate in Project UNIFY which offers opportunities for special needs students to participate with their peers.
- Each spring the **entire NPHS student body** participates in an Earth Day spring yard clean-up where they rake leaves and perform other duties for our elderly citizens and other public areas.
- Many **activities, clubs, and teams** volunteer for area events like Klondike Days, Relay for Life, Cranberry Fest, and Pond Hockey providing assistance so these events run smoothly.
- **Boys' hockey** organized a fundraiser and donated their 50/50 raffle proceeds to a local cancer patient undergoing treatment.
- During the holidays, **many students and clubs** rang bells for the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Drive.
- The **NPHS football team** provides crews for set-up, take down and volunteers to run the Northwoods Children's Museum annual Birthday party and Relay for Life cancer walk-a-thon.
- Many **student activities and teams** acknowledge a night where admission to the event is in the form of a non-perishable food item that is donated to the Vilas County Food Pantry.
- The **track teams** host the "All Comers Meet" which invites community members of all ages to compete in a fun day of track and field events with prizes.
- For two seasons the **boys' basketball team** has sponsored a "Military Night," in which they invite the local military veterans to a dinner and serve them a meal followed by a ceremony before their game.
- The **NPHS girls' basketball team** secretly sponsors a family in need with Christmas gifts.
- **Several classes, teams, clubs** collect and donate food for holiday food bags for families in need.

As I composed my list of student community involvement I'm impressed as my list covers a spectrum from small to very large and ultimately seemed endless. I'd like to note that many of the projects are repeated throughout the year by various groups. These service projects enable our students to get into communities and offer the opportunities to give back. The cause is the most important aspect of these service initiatives, but team building, pride, and leadership development come hand-in-hand with completion projects. Most important it's a chance for our students to give back to the communities and say thank you!

Tilley *(continued from page 9)*

Another meeting that I have been asked to be a part of is one that I will be working alongside police in training to learn about new drugs that people are getting involved with throughout the country. As I attempt to stay ahead of the curve, I will see the signs of these new drugs to keep them out of our schools.

Whether it's working with the DNR, court officials, or other agencies, keeping involved in community organizations helps everybody, both in and out of schools. If you would like to get involved, please call me at 715-479-4473 ext. 1601.



NPHS girls hockey team was challenged by their coach, Patrick Schmidt, to fill their hockey bags with food within one week for donation to the Vilas Food Pantry. They collected 20 duffle bags of food to donate.



NPSD Students Participate in Dental Sealant Program

Caryn Jacob, RN, Northland Pines School District Nurse

A **FREE** Dental Sealant Program was offered to the second and sixth grade students in The Northland Pines School District. The programs took place at Land 'O Lakes and St. Germain Elementary Schools in early December, and in Eagle River Elementary and Middle School, January 24-25. This program is provided by the Northwoods Dental Project of the Vilas County Health Dept.

Dental Sealants are a thin plastic coating that is painted onto the chewing surfaces or grooved areas of the back teeth or molars. Sealants protect these grooves by "sealing out" plaque and food. It is safe, simple and painless. And, with proper care like tooth brushing and dental visits, sealants are 100% effective in preventing cavities on these surfaces and can last up to ten years!

Prior to the sealant program taking place, the dental staff from the Northwoods Dental Project did a Power Point presentation which cov-

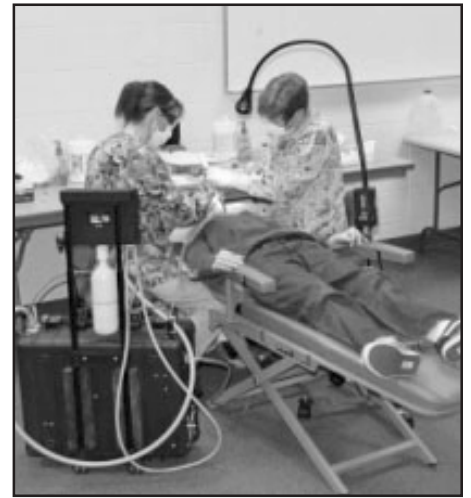
ers nutrition, tobacco use and oral health. It also included an activity with disclosing tablets which gives the students an idea of how well they are brushing their teeth. This year these presentations were done as part of Mrs. Weber's sixth grade science classes in the middle school.

Along with the Sealant program, Toothprints and Fluoride Varnish are offered. Toothprints is a child safety tool that uses your child's bite for identification. It is a wafer-like wax material that the child bites on, and is also offered **FREE** through Seal-A-Smile and donated by Orthodontist, Dr. Darrell Schmidt. The bite impression takes place the same day as the sealant program and is sent home with your child for safe keeping.

Fluoride varnish is simple, painless and only takes a couple of minutes to apply. After the teeth are checked, a thin layer of fluoride varnish is painted on the teeth then dries almost immediately! The varnish leaves a coating of fluoride that remains on the teeth until brushed or wiped off after 6 hours. Little to no

fluoride is ingested and is perfect for children with home well water systems. For best results, it will be applied 2-3 times throughout the school year.

Each of the students that participated in the program received a dental supply bag to take home, and a letter was sent home explaining what services were done and any suggestions for further treatment. We can help our child to have a healthy mouth by getting sealants!



Pines Students Compete Strong at District DECA Competition

By: Scott Subach, NPHS/NPMS Business Teacher and DECA Advisor

Two Members of the Northland Pines High School DECA Chapter received honors for their efforts at the annual DECA District #4 competition on Saturday, January 5 in Green Bay. DECA is an international association of marketing students.

Over 700 students from the region gathered at Preble High School to take part in an array of business related competitive events. Most students at the event take two exams related to their content area of choice and perform two role plays that are judged by business professionals. Students participating in role plays typically have ten minutes to solve a complex problem related to marketing, finance, hospitality, or management. Participants must present their findings in front of a judge that assumes the character of their supervisor or manager.



Although it may be an intimidating process for students unfamiliar with the competition, first time participants for NPHS DECA made quite an impact. Freshman Annie Fuller took home 4th place overall in her event, "Principles of Marketing." Adding to the medal total for Pines was senior Brie Fuller, who received a top finish in the economics testing portion of her "Sports and Entertainment Marketing Event."

NPHS DECA Advisor Scott Subach feels that this is just the first of many accomplishments for the club and for these two competitors. Next on the slate for NPHS DECA will be the planning and implementation phases of a community service project that will help students gain leadership and project management experience, while at the same time giving back to a local cause.

Legumes and Pomegranate, Introducing New Foods

Jessi Bortolotti, Taher Food Service Director



Food Service continues to prepare hot meals for the students at Northland Pines. This year we have been introducing new menu items, such as a variety of new bean salads. The legume requirements for the new guidelines related to the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 requires us to menu a minimum of a ½ cup of legumes weekly. The students are becoming accustomed to a variety of legumes on the menu. We serve black beans, pinto beans, garbanzo beans (chic peas), butter beans, navy beans, and kidney beans. In the beginning of the school year students were unsure about the new bean salads but after being introduced to the different beans and the tasty ways we prepare them, they are taking more helpings of these dishes. We believe that slowly introducing new menu items to students and preparing them in a variety of ways is a great way to introduce the new foods.

Four years ago broccoli was not an item that went over very well with the students. We now roast our broccoli and lightly season it with salt and pepper and it has become one of our student's favorite hot vegetable. Finding new ways to keep the students interested in the menu and also provide a nutritious meal can be a challenge at times but overall we are seeing great participation in our lunch program.

In January, we served pomegranate seeds and the students loved them! Those who were unsure about them at first came back and asked for more. We also gave samples of pomegranate juice to students. It is very satisfying to see students venture out of their comfort level and try new items.

Did you know food service can also provide a sack lunch after school? Many students go straight from class to a sport or after school activity. Sometimes students do not return home from school until after dinner time. Food Service has sack lunches we can provide for after school that contains milk, string cheese, choice of PBJ or deli sandwich, choice of one - apple, orange, carrots, or other vegetable depending on availability and a bag of baked chips for \$3.25. We ask that parents call the Food Service Director at least one day ahead. The student's lunch account will be charged for the meal and the lunches will be available to pick up after 2 p.m.

If you have questions about our school lunch program please contact me. If you would like to participate in the lunch program but may be in need of assistance, we have Free and Reduced lunch applications available on-line or in any of our school offices. If you have filled out an application in the past and were denied you can reapply at any time, as financial situations can change. Thank you for continuing to let us share our passion for food with your children at Northland Pines.

NPSD Wellness Committee Offerings

Northland Pines has a new Wellness Committee made up of staff, board members, students, parents and members of our community. The purpose of the Wellness Committee is to promote healthy lifestyles for our students and families. We look at different areas in our lives that can be a struggle at times to live as healthy as we would like to be.

Exercise is always a challenge to fit into our daily routines. For many families we feel pulled in too many directions and we don't have the time for exercise. At Northland Pines we have options that are of no cost to our students. After school Brad Dodge, Middle School Physical Education teacher, runs a weight lifting program available to students in middle school or older. This class is not just for the guys, we encourage the girls to lift weights as well. We know the guys like to lift weights and build muscle but it is also very important for girls to lift weights. Of the estimated 10 million Americans with osteoporosis, about eight million or 80% are women.

There are two types of exercises that are important for building and maintaining bone density: **weight-bearing** and **muscle-strengthening** exercises. You are never too old to start a weight lifting routine to prevent this disease. It is also a great time for parents to hang out with their child and catch up on the day's events. There is no cost to the student or parent for doing this after school. If you have questions contact Brad Dodge at bdodge@npsd.k12.wi.us.

Walking or running in the field house is available to our community and is open to the public at no charge. Times available are from 5:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. and from 1 - 3 p.m. when school is in session and from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. on evenings there are not events in the field house.

The Wellness Committee is also focusing on diet and nutrition. Many times families are rushed and have become dependent on eating quick and convenient food, not always what is the most nutritious. We will be offering families and all community members an evening cooking class to share new ideas for dishes that are quick, nutritious, and budget friendly.

Wellness Committee (continued on page 13)

Third Annual ERES Kindergarten “Ice Castle”

By: Sarah Simac, ERES Kindergarten Teacher

Eagle River Elementary School Kindergarteners constructed the third annual “Kindergarten Ice Castle”, made completely out of hundreds of plastic gallon jugs. Firefighters from the Eagle River Area Fire Department worked with the kindergarteners to build the castle during the third week in January. In addition to building the castle, firefighters worked with kindergarteners on a variety of hands on activities - counting jugs, designing the castle, building castles on the SMARTBoard and out of legos.

The “Ice Castle” was built in the ERES PK-8 library and is on display for all of the students and staff to enjoy. Kindergarten students and teachers look forward to building the castle all year. Thank you to the Eagle River Area Fire Department for making this a fun learning event for our kindergarten students!



Volunteer Opportunities at Northland Pines

The Northland Pines School District has many volunteers that assist our staff with the classroom, tutoring, afterschool activities, sporting events, special events, projects, and much more. We are always looking for people to contribute any time or special talents to aid in the development of programs for the students. If you have extra time you would like to share, have a special area of interest, possess extensive knowledge, or have a unique talent that may be a great learning experience for the students, please contact us with your desire to contribute. Please contact the principal/director below for the grade level/activity to which you would like to volunteer your time.

NORTHLAND PINES HIGH SCHOOL

Jim Brewer, Principal, 715-479-4473 ext. 0211
 Josh Tilley, Dean of Students, 715-479-4473 ext. 1601
 Brian Margelofsky, Activities Director, 715-479-6286 ext. 1

NORTHLAND PINES MIDDLE SCHOOL

Jackie Coghlan, Principal, 715-479-6479 ext. 4112

EAGLE RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Matt Spets, Principal, 715-479-6471 ext. 3111

LAND O' LAKES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL/SOAR CHARTER

Scott Foster, Principal, 715-547-3619 ext. 2013

ST. GERMAIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Gayle Daniel, Principal, 715-479-6471 ext. 3317

Wellness Committee

(continued from page 12)

Dinner time can be a great time to catch up with the children in your home and also a great learning opportunity. Having the family involved in preparing the meal will seem less like work and more like fun. As we finalize upcoming cooking dates, we will send out information to the community. These classes are designed for the whole family to be a part of or just one member can attend.

If you have any questions about the Wellness Committee or would like to attend one of our upcoming meetings, please contact Jessi Bortolotti, FSD, Taher at 715-479-5800.

Northland Pines Employee of the Month

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

September 2012

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

October 2012

Mark Deditz, Fourth Grade Teacher St. Germain Elementary School

November 2012

Carol Pluedeman, Special Ed. Paraprofessional Eagle River Elementary School

December 2012

Jone' Davis, Library Media Specialist 4K - 8 & St. Germain Elementary School

January 2013

Nanci Foster, Kindergarten Teacher Eagle River Elementary School

Any person may nominate any district employee for this award by writing a brief email explaining why they should receive the award. All nominations can be emailed for consideration to:

Mike Richie, District Administrator, at mrichie@npsd.k12.wi.us

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

District Gains Valuable Items at Nicolet \$1 Surplus Auction

By: David Justice, NPHS Technology and Engineering Instructor, Vocational Education Liaison

This past October, Nicolet College held an auction of school equipment that they were no longer using and/or needed. Schools from our area attended the auction and were given the opportunity to bid on items that they wanted for their respective districts. In the event that more than one district wanted a specific item, which was the case for most of the equipment, school names were put in a hat and the school that was drawn was allowed to buy the equipment for \$1.00. Representing our district was high school Principal Mr. Brewer, science instructor Robin Indermuehle and technology and engineering instructor Tim Lehman.

To say this was a beneficial endeavor for our district is an understatement. Due to the efforts of the above three people, our district was able to receive about \$10,000 worth of school supplies, manuals, textbooks and equipment. The following is a partial list of items that was purchased for our district. For our science department they got a lot of glassware including; Erlenmeyer flasks in various sizes, large graduated cylinders, test tubes in multiple sizes, watch glasses, micropipettes, thermometers, microscope slides, calorimeters, calipers, paper sorter, and office supplies. The estimated value of the supplies and equipment is \$5,000.

The remaining items purchased will be used in our technology education and maintenance department which include a 1999 Polaris ATV which was used by our small engines instructor Mr. Justice to demonstrate how to trouble shoot a no start and rebuild a carburetor of a small ATV engine. Once repainted to match the school colors, the ATV will be used by our maintenance staff to groom the baseball fields this spring. Also received for the small engines classes were textbooks, repair manuals and teaching curriculum of outboard motors. Two Mercury outboard motors with stands were purchased, one forty horsepower and one six horsepower which are in good condition. Technology education instructor Mr. Lehman received a 3' by 8' cork board and SMARTBoard to be used in his classroom. The estimated value of items for our maintenance and technology education department is \$5,000.



This was a wonderful opportunity for members of different departments to work with Mr. Brewer, have a lot of fun and be able to bring valuable assets to be used by students and our district at such a low cost. A special thank you to Mr. Brewer, Mrs. Indermuehle and Mr. Lehman for taking the time out of their busy schedules to secure these items for our district. The items obtained from this auction will help to educate students with rigor and relevance at an incredible value.

Northland Pines has a new online store for apparel: www.Shop.MyLocker.net Northland Pines School Locker #EH765 Use this Promo Code to get \$9 off your Order! #BT445

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Northland Pines School Locker #EH765

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Eagle River Elementary's All American Kids Club Learn from Local Veterans

By: Nanci Foster and Sarah Simac, ERES Teachers and All American Kids Club Advisors

The Eagle River Elementary School All American Kids Club has been busier than ever! We currently have names and addresses for 458 veterans and active duty service members. In addition to sending holiday stockings and cards, the All American Kids Club had a special treat in December. Members from the Eagle River VFW came and gave an interactive and fun presentation about the American flag.



The students learned a lot and a great time was had by all! If you have any questions about the All American Kids Club, would like to participate, or receive mailings, please contact club advisors Sarah Simac, ssimac@npsd.k12.wi.us or Nanci Foster, nfoster@npsd.k12.wi.us.

2013 Memory Project, World-Wide Service Learning

By: Beverly Niehaus, NPMS Art Teacher

Art students at Northland Pines will again take part in a world-wide service learning project called "The Memory Project – A Portrait of Kindness." This project idea was conceived by former St. Germain resident and UW-Wisconsin graduate Ben Schumacher in 2004 to encourage art students to create portraits for children in orphanages around the world. His goal is to create a special memory for these children who have few possessions and no photographs of their youth. Since its beginning, more than 30,000 portraits have been created and delivered to children in 33 countries around the world.

Our students will create portraits for children in Jamaica which will be completed and mailed by March 1, 2013. Four of the high school students who participated in 2012 by creating portraits for children in Afghanistan, are excited to be part of this year's program. Freshman Samantha Hytry and seniors Kirstin Klessig, Aisha Calix, and Lauren Gonitzke are working several mornings each

week before school with Mrs. Niehaus on their portraits. Seventh graders Sophie Spiess and Megan Scholl and eighth graders Shelby Foster and Mariah Miller are participating for the first time. They will work on the portraits during their art classes, homeroom and other available time at the middle school.

When the portraits are delivered, the children are photographed holding their portraits, and the photos are returned to the artists who created them. The obvious joy on the faces of the children provides a wonderful thank you to the artists. This is an excellent opportunity for our students to share their talents and make personal connections with youth in other parts of the world. For more information about this project, check out thememoryproject.org on the school district website.

ERES Kindergarten Learn about Jobs

By: Nanci Foster and Sarah Simac, ERES Kindergarten Teachers

In the Eagle River Elementary Kindergarten classes, January is Job Month. The students learn about jobs through a variety of interactive literacy and technology based activities. Our culminating activity is Job Day. Each child dresses up or brings the tools needed to do their job. This is a great activity to open up their world to all of the different jobs that are available.



Northland Pines Academic Decathlon (ACADEC) Team Advances to State

By: Alan Tulppo, NPHS Social Studies Teacher, ACADEC Coach



Congratulations to the NPHS Academic Decathlon (ACADEC) Team on their stellar performance at the regional competition on Friday, January 11. The team took home six awards and placed second in their division and advanced to the Wisconsin Academic Decathlon State event on March 14-15 at the Wilderness Resort in Wisconsin Dells.

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Sixth Grade Students Apply Newton's Third Law of Motion

By: Laura Weber, NPMS Sixth Grade Science Teacher

If you happened to walk by the NPMS sixth grade science room in January, you may have heard some unusual sounds coming from the room. They were the sounds of whizzing and screeching followed by a "Yeah!" and some clapping! The excitement was from the culminating project for a chapter on Forces. Students were to create a scooter or vehicle powered by Sir Isaac Newton's Third Law of Motion. This law states that every action has an equal and opposite reaction, and it is that reaction that was responsible for sending their vehicles the 1.5 meters to the finish line.



The students not only needed an understanding of Newton's third law, but needed to take into consideration the forces that would be acting upon their vehicle. The forces they considered were sliding friction, rolling friction, fluid friction and gravity (the weight of their vehicle.) At times they needed to reduce the amount of friction, and at other times, they needed to increase the amount of friction on the waxed classroom floor. Many students were surprised at how easy it was to make something move.

Most of the vehicles were created out of recyclable items and traveled either on the ground, through the air, or in one case, on water. As the teacher, the best part of the project was when a student couldn't get his/her vehicle to travel the 1.5 meters, and watching the other students jump in with suggestions. We all wanted everyone to succeed! What a great feeling to be able to watch them apply the concepts and work as a team to accomplish an objective. Looks like we have engineers in the making!

Internet Safety & Digital Citizenship

By: NPSD Technology Committee

What is Internet Safety? What is a Digital Citizen? Why are they important? These are questions that are being asked by teachers and parents. This means that we need to teach the students how to be safe, responsible, and respectful while on-line. Times have changed over the years, consequently what we need to teach our students has changed. We have gone from "McGruff the Crime Dog" talking about stranger danger and how to stay safe in the real world to educating our students about the dangers of on-line predators. In addition, we need to educate them on how to be proper Digital Citizens.

Students live in a digital age where they are very comfortable. One challenge we face is students are able to say and do things online that they might not do in person because there is an element of anonymity. What students do online will stay with them forever, which is a hard concept for them to grasp. If students make poor choices now, it may hinder their continuing education or careers.

The job of teachers, parents, and community members is to help instill in our students that what you say and do on-line matters just as much as how you act in the "real" world. This can be tough because many students have a better grasp on technology than the adults in their lives.

There are many things we can do to help our students stay safe on-line and to have a positive digital identity. Common Sense Media is a great website to help parents and teachers with these topics. At the elementary level we have started to incorporate lessons on these topics and we use the lessons from Common Sense Media. To learn more about Internet safety and helping students become responsible digital citizens, visit www.commonsensemedia.org

ERES Mystery Reader!



The ERES kindergarten students in Mrs. Lewandowski's class enjoy having Mystery Readers come to their room to read a story. The students are given clues as to who it may be, and they are never sure who might show up! Pictured here as the Mystery Reader is parent Naomi Bill.

Elementary Students Share their Artistic Talents

By: Amanda Acklam, NPSD Elementary Art Teacher

Each year the elementary students from across Northland Pines School District have many opportunities to share and exhibit their artwork with the community. This year continues this tradition for our students. Beginning in October, the local fire departments come into our schools to teach fire safety and sponsor the annual fire prevention poster contest each year. Students in all three elementary schools created fire posters to share what they have learned about fire safety. The winning student work adorns the fire barn in Eagle River!

The children at Land O' Lakes would like to thank Dr. Painless Pete Schindelholz for sponsoring the second annual holiday card contest and his generous donation to the art department. This year, with a lot of competition, Sofia Lane's design was selected by Dr. Pete's office as the winner and was printed on the holiday cards he mailed out to many of his clients and friends.

Every kindergarten through fifth grade student at Land O' Lakes Elementary School will participate in the exhibition of their original 2-D and 3-D art work at the LOLA (Land O' Lakes Artisans) Gallery located on Highway B in downtown Land O'Lakes. Through the support of LOLA

Gallery and local supporters of the arts, each child will have a piece of his or her artwork framed for the show! The student exhibition will run from March 17 - 23. The PTA will print select artwork onto notecards for sale in the gallery as well.

The Olson Memorial Library in Eagle River is the host to multiple art shows and competitions each year, and our elementary students will be exhibiting work at the library during their Youth Art Month show in March. It is through the support of our community that the students in our schools have these amazing opportunities, and that the children can see what their art can do!

Pictured above with the winning design (L to R): Principal Scott Foster, Dr. Pete, Sofia Lane, and Mrs. Acklam.



Connecting NPHS Students Globally in the World Languages Department

By: Christina Stuber and Jennifer Weber, NPHS World Language Teachers

As world language teachers who have studied abroad, we wrote letters to our families and friends weekly and made phone calls home monthly. This year NPHS senior Jon Collins is studying abroad as a Rotary Youth Exchange Student to Germany where he can email daily, post updates on Facebook, have followers on Twitter, and most recently, Skype with Frau Stuber's German students to interact live with classmates back home.

The students learned more about his study abroad experience and were able to ask questions about daily life and culture in Germany from one of their peers. Other speakers to the German class have included 2010 NPHS graduate, Sarah Ludwig, who shared her college study abroad experience in Lüneburg, Germany and our current Inbound Rotary Youth Exchange Student from

Germany, Jana Warnecke. Last year Inbound Rotary Youth Exchange Student, Fer Guzman Gonzalez, visited Señora Weber and her Spanish Club students to share a presentation about her life in Mexico. This year Spanish and German classes will collaborate as we invite Jana as our guest speaker during National World Languages Week to speak about her experience as an exchange student and life in Germany.

Travel opportunities abound as two NPHS students who have studied Spanish will be traveling this March to China. Our news continues as four Spanish Level III students learn even more as they volunteer their time tutoring native Spanish speakers in English after school. Finally, plans for a Spanish Club trip to Costa Rica and a German Club trip to Germany, Austria and Switzerland during Spring Break of 2014 are currently underway. What a great time to be a World Languages Student at NPHS!

NPHS Senior Scores Perfect 36 on ACT



Congratulations to Christian Svetnicka, NPHS Senior, for scoring the highest possible composite score of 36 on the ACT exam! This is an extremely rare and significant accomplishment.

"On average, less than one-tenth of one percent of all test takers earn the top score. Among ACT-tested U.S. high school graduates in the class of 2012, only 781 out of more than 1.66 million students earned a composite score of 36." - According to the ACT Organization.



Local Expertise Shared in 4th Grade Wildlife Study

By: Joy Turpin, ERES Fourth Grade Teacher

In November, as part of our science study of animal classifications and adaptations, we invited five local wildlife/animal experts into our classroom to engage us in conversation, thought, and understanding of the wildlife culture that surrounds us here, at home, in the Northwoods of Wisconsin. Prior to their coming, students compiled a list of questions for the specialists to consider and respond to. Questions included; Are fox part of the coyote family? What is the biggest parasite in the world? How much honey can a bee produce in one day? Which animals can become camouflaged? What are some animals that use mimicry? How do animals get rabies? How many sea anemones can a clownfish have a symbiotic relationship with?

Mike Peczynski, a wildlife biologist with the US Forest Service, shared slides, furs, posters, and compasses with students as he discussed bear hibernation, wolf packs in the area, the use of trail cameras and radio collars in tracking and monitoring animals and concerns for the dropping number of bat species due to white nose syndrome.

Michele Wood, a wildlife manager with the DNR, discussed trail maintenance, consumptive and non-consumptive animals and added the word 'crepuscular' to our already familiar categories of nocturnal and diurnal.



Although not able to attend in person, apiarist and Mayor of Phelps, **Colin Snook**, shared a video he'd produced on bee behaviors and dialogued with students in the classroom via Skype. Did you know that honeybees must tap 2 million flowers to make one pound of honey? Equally fascinating is the idea that if you move a bee's hive just a few yards away from its original location, the bees will not be able to relocate it!



Ecologist and common loon expert **Sandy Gillum** mesmerized students as she described the haunting and variable calls of the loon where upon we all tried to mimic the tremolos, wails, yodels, and hoots! She brought with her a captivating loon and chick mount, posters, and autographed the class's copy of her book, *Loon Summer*. One student even got to dress up in 'loon attire' and practice a take-off!

Sheri Buller, assistant director at Trees For Tomorrow, described the differences between reptiles and amphibians. One characteristic we found particularly compelling was that although all snakes are born from eggs, some spe-

cies, such as garter snakes and rattlesnakes, incubate their eggs internally. The eggs hatch inside the mother and babies emerge as live young! Sheri was accompanied by a mystery guest, one who resides on the Trees for Tomorrow campus, one whom she pulled out of a burlap sack... "Google", the massive, mighty python! And for the students, one who was delightful to the touch!

The two week long hands-on, interactive study was an unforgettable, invaluable, enriching experience. We are reminded of the wealth of human resources we have available right here within our community and are indebted to all our animal experts for donating their time and talents to enhance the education of our students!

St. Germain Students team up with Angel on My shoulder

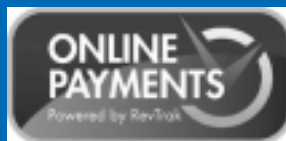
A group of students at St. Germain Elementary School are using part of their recess time for service learning. Under the supervision of art teacher Mrs. Acklam, the student volunteers are painting tin-can flowers. They have joined with the organization **Angel on My Shoulder**, to use their artistic talents to help others.



Online Payment for Lunch and School Fees

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

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



NPSD to Offer February 28 Training Session on Social Thinking

By: Emily Rhode, NPSD Speech Therapist

Staff from NPSD will be offering a training session on Social Thinking for parents, caregivers, and professionals regarding this treatment framework. Please join us on Thursday, February 28 from 6 - 8 p.m. in the Northland Pines Middle School LGI.

Social thinking is what we do when we interact with people: we think about them. How we think about people affects how we behave, which in turn affects how others respond to us, which in turn affects our own emotions. Whether we are with friends, sending an email, in a classroom, or at the grocery store, we take in the thoughts, emotions, and intentions of the people we are interacting with.

Most of us have developed our communications sense from birth onwards, steadily observing and acquiring so-

cial information and learning how to respond to people. Since social thinking is an intuitive process, we usually take it for granted; however for many individuals, this process is anything but natural. And this often has nothing to do with conventional measures of intelligence. In fact, many people score high on IQ and standardized tests, yet do not intuitively learn the nuances of social communication and interaction.

A treatment framework and curriculum developed by Michelle Garcia Winner targets improving individual social thinking abilities, regardless of diagnostic label. Professionals and parents alike are using these methods to build social thinking and related skills in students and adults.

If you have questions on this training session, please contact Emily Rhode at erhode@npsd.k12.wi.us

CornerStone Continues to Support Building Trades Program

By: Tim Lehman, NPHS Technology Education Teacher

CornerStone Custom Builders (CCB) of Eagle River has partnered with the Northland Pines High School Building Trades program for the fifth consecutive year. This partnership allows Pines juniors and seniors the opportunity to have a hands on experience building a three bedroom 1,352 square foot house from the ground up as well as the chance to work with professionals in the building trades industry. Along with learning the construction process, students also learn to apply principles learned in other disciplines such as Math, Physics, and Electricity.

This year's crew of students includes 28 juniors and seniors who are enjoying the warmth of their labor. With the cold setting in, the crew is finishing up the insulation and beginning to hang drywall. Students are responsible for all phases of the construction process and assist sub-contractors in the installation of the plumbing and electrical systems. All work done by the Trades students meets Wisconsin Uniform Dwelling Code and is held to the highest standards to ensure an end product that is worthy of the CCB stamp and assures potential home buyers a quality home.

The 2012-2013 house labeled Pinestone V can be viewed and toured as it is being constructed behind Northland Pines High School, stop by anytime during school hours. Upon completion in the spring, the house will be sold and moved to a permanent location.



For more information on the house and partnership, or if you are inquiring about purchasing the house you may contact David Cox at CornerStone Custom Builders at 715-479-0001 or the Building Trades instructor, Tim Lehman, at 715-479-4473 ext. 0602.

Northland Pines High School Fieldhouse Track Open for Public Use

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

Pines Awarded \$500 Grant Toward Consumer Auto Class

By: David Justice, NPHS Technology and Engineering Instructor, Vocational Education Liaison

Northland Pines was recently awarded a \$500 grant from the Meemic Book Grant Foundation to cover some of the costs for new textbooks for Consumer Auto class. NPHS Teacher David Justice wrote the grant in November, 2012.

The textbooks that are currently being used for this class have a copyright date of 1984. The information in the textbook is still applicable to this class; however, in recent years there have been new books written directly towards the type of class that is being taught. The newer books have more activities and assignments

that can be incorporated into this class that will continue to improve the rigor and relevance of the curriculum currently being taught.

NPHS Principal Mr. Brewer and NPHS Teacher David Justice are currently looking at two options from publisher Michael E. Gray and The Auto Upkeep Basic Car Care, Maintenance and Repair. One option is purchasing textbook and workbook sets and the second option is purchasing eBooks that are currently available from this company.

This will be a great opportunity to gradually change from textbooks

to eBooks. The grant will be used to offset the price of purchase up to eight seats for the eBook or eight textbooks and workbook sets. Another positive benefit of offering students the eBooks is once a set is purchased for the district there are no reoccurring costs associated with them. The district will own the eBook for the duration of the course. Mr. Justice looks forward to offering this new technology to students in even more classes related to technology education in the future as the opportunities arise.

St. Germain Elementary 7:30 a.m. Club

By: Nancy Nagel, St. Germain Paraprofessional

Each school day at 7:30 a.m. the St. Germain Elementary School commons is a buzz with students ready to learn. The morning starts with a different activity: Monday begins with playing board games and putting together jigsaw puzzles, Tuesday is math day, Wednesday is trivia day – there are so many types of trivia activities-holiday trivia, sports trivia, history trivia, and



brain quest questions, Thursday is reading day, and Friday is Geography Bee time. We work on states and capitals, information about presidents and learning ways to check out our geography knowledge on the computer.

The 7:30 a.m. early morning drop-off time is a great way to enhance the start of the school day for our St. Germain students. Come join us!

Northland Pines High School Battle of the Books

Northland Pines High School has two battle groups and things are heating up! Each team must read 20 specific books and be ready to answer questions about them. Every question asked in a battle is answered by the title and author of the book and takes the form of: Name the book in which a horse and a boy are stranded on an island.

It is a fun, academic-based competition that has been very successful in school districts throughout the state in encouraging students to read. Coming up, there will be a competition between the two groups and the winning team will go on to compete against other schools state-wide.

Members are Christina Angone, Danielle Buettell, Lauren Czarapata, Shauna Freund, Brooke Modjewski, Kari Peters, Britney Pirus, Rebekah Puffer, Faella Roelle and Jessica Sullivan. This group of students meets several times to discuss the books and have Moodle accounts that connect them to activities to help study, and to connect with students from other schools that are participating.

Family Fun Open Climb, Open Gym

Saturday, February 16, 1 - 4 p.m. NPHS Fieldhouse

FREE! Open to the public.

Monetary and Food Pantry donations accepted.

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

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

What, a Tortilla Española isn't a Taco?

By: Jill Dodge, NPHS F.A.C.E. Teacher and Jennifer Weber, NPHS Spanish Teacher

Recently Mrs. Dodge's Advanced Foods students and Señora Weber's Spanish III students collaborated for a two day interdepartmental lesson on Spanish cooking. The recipes chosen were staples of Spain, with healthy, inexpensive ingredients that the students could recreate on their own. Students first needed to convert the recipes from metric into U.S. standard measurements prior to going into the lab.



Then Spanish III and Advanced Foods students were grouped together at seven different stations to prepare a Spanish chicken soup with noodles and garbanzo beans. Many had not tasted garbanzo beans previously and learned that they are a delicious source of protein. The second day into our lab the students experienced the tortilla española. Preparing the Spanish tortilla was an eye-opening experience as students watched a YouTube video of how to successfully flip the tortilla. More like an omelet, the Spanish tortilla is prepared in such a way that the students were required to flip the entire potato omelet out of the pan onto a platter and then back to the pan to continue to cook.

As our students recreated the process with much success, these students learned that they could make a healthy, inexpensive meal from another culture with new ingredients that taste delicious.

High School LMC a Resource for the Entire Community

By: Pamela Heeg, NPHS LMC Specialist

The Northland Pines LMC (Library Media Center) is open every morning at 7:30 a.m. for students to do homework, read a book or magazine, research using our materials and databases, type papers and confer with other students. We remain open until 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and until at least 3:30 p.m. on Fridays.

The public is welcome to use the LMC and computers after school from 3:30 p.m. until closing. We have added a lot of new books and databases for recreation and research.

Are you interested in volunteering? We could always use some extra help. Give Mrs. Heeg a call and arrange a time that works for you at 715-479-4473 (ext. 0301) Students can access the LMC's databases from home computers by going through the NPHS LMC webpage. There they can search the catalog, use research databases and tools and read eBooks online.

The LMC sponsors a **Weekly Trivia Contest**. To enter students must answer the question correctly, in complete sentences, and cite where they found the answer using MLA format. Weekly winners choose a prize from the display case. At the end of each semester all students who have answered a weekly question correctly will be able to enter a semester contest for a much larger prize. First semester's prize is a long sleeved NPHS shirt.

Building Bookends, a Cross-Curricular Project

By: Tami Davis, ERES Fourth Grade Teacher

Students in Ms. Davis' ERES fourth grade class had the chance to create a very special project this holiday season. Students used wood donated by the Lumber from the Land project to create homemade bookends. They sanded and created the bookends in the middle school Technology Education workshop with Mr. Govek. Then they put the finishing touches on them using a variety of media during art with Mrs. Acklam. Thank you to everyone who made this special project possible for students, they are already asking what they can build next!



Family Fun Night with ERES Classes!

By: ERES Teachers, Jessica Adamovich, 1/2 Grade Looping, Megan Hoffman 1/2 Grade Looping, and Brenda Saltenberger, Grade 2

Students from Mrs. Adamovich's, Mrs. Saltenberger's, and Mrs. Hoffman's classes came back to school on Thursday, December 13, 2012 after a long day of academics to enjoy a winter themed family event. Along with their families, students enjoyed a home cooked meal while watching the Polar Express. The night culminated with the creation of sweet and unique gingerbread houses.

As educators it was a valuable way to connect with our students and their families outside of the classroom environment. A part of our vision at Eagle River Elementary is to strive to build and maintain positive relationships with students and parents; this was a vibrant opportunity to help us achieve this vision. The students are still excited about their experience at family night, conversations continue to spark up amongst them; stay tuned for future events for families at Eagle River Elementary.

Aluminum Cans Wanted for Service Learning Project, St. Germain Recycling Club

The St. Germain Elementary School Recycling Club is now open to receiving aluminum cans from outside the school. We would like to use the donated cans to raise money and give back to the community. Aluminum cans may be dropped off outside the fenced in area next to the maintenance shed between the St. Germain Elementary School and soccer field. We will take crushed (preferably) or uncrushed cans in bags. At the end of the school year the Recycling Club would like to give back to our great community in some way to be determined by the club. We look forward to your help in our service learning project.

Ten Students from China Learn Together with Northland Pines Students

Northland Pines Middle and High School students will have a remarkable opportunity to experience side-by-side learning with ten students and a lead teacher from China. The China group arrived on January 28 and will stay through February 23. There was a ceremony held on Monday, January 28 at 9 a.m. in the Northland Pines High School Auditorium where the public welcomed our international guests.

The students from China were each assigned a Northland Pines Mentor Student and attended classes all day with those students. They also attended activities throughout our district and community, such as; basketball, hockey, performing arts, etc. The group is staying at Trees for Tomorrow and attend some weekend programs there. Jack Palmer, liaison for this China Exchange Program, states, "The primary goal is to experience learning on a global level. The Chinese students and teacher will experience a hands-on glimpse of the unique course offerings of an American public school. They will also see the technology and performance based opportunities that most schools in the world do not have."

The students have a natural resources focus and part of their educational learning experience is to tour area businesses. The lead teacher from China will also visit many classrooms to learn about the different teaching styles, programs, and how technology is integrated into the students learning.

Dr. Richie, Northland Pines District Administrator, said "This program ties in well with our district's mission statement to 'Celebrate cultural diversity, talents, and strengths'. We look forward to the relationships and discoveries that will develop among the students; anything from the collaboration in the classroom, to the social interaction outside of the classroom, to realizing the differences in the educational systems between the two countries." The visiting students will also learn about our Northwoods and American culture by visiting area landmarks. One of their tours will be a trip to the Chicago Field Museum.

Students from China (continued on page 23)

Northland Pines High School Community Coat Closet

The Community Coat Closet is ready with coats for the taking. FREE, NO QUESTIONS ASKED!

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

Need a jacket? TAKE ONE!

No questions asked.

Forgot your jacket?

BORROW ONE!

No questions asked.

Have a jacket to donate?

Drop it off in the LMC, we will clean it and put it in the closet.

LOCATED UNDER THE STAIRWELL AT THE YMCA (NPHS door #16) ENTRANCE

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

YMCA of the Northwoods Events

Winter is a busy time for the YMCA! The Y provides top-notch equipment and staff as well as friendly members to keep spirits up during these long months. The Y strives to fill in the needs of the community. One of those needs might be supervision for students on a day off of school.

The Y provides a trip to Ski Brule on one of the days off of school in the winter. Over 50 students participated last year. Another popular activity is our annual Father/Daughter Dance held at Eagle Waters Resort. This year's event will be on **Saturday, March 16**. Dinner and dancing cost \$30 per couple for YMCA members and \$40 per couple for non members, \$10 for each additional child.

Tundra Trekkers is a free activity intended to help Klondike Days promote their annual snowshoe race. Every Tuesday at 5 p.m. the group meets at the Y with Keilah Frickson, coordinator of the race, donned with headlamps and snowshoes. They pick a trail and either enjoy a rigorous trek or a peaceful stroll. Try it out!

The Y is much more than just a gym. Last year we started a class for active older adults with just six people. Those people became friends and introduced the class to others. We added two more classes to accommodate the growing number. Our staff makes the Y a special place for not only members but for students. It is not uncommon to see our personal trainers working with athletes, mentoring students or volunteering to train sports teams outside of their regular practice.

If it's difficult to get to the gym regularly, consider personal training or joining one of our group exercise classes. There are now classes available for teachers and the public during the H.S. lunch period. There are classes that focus on strength training, cardio, flexibility, coordination and even a special class for active older adults. Adult membership is just \$22 a month. Members pay only \$10 for seven classes! Check out the website for details www.ymcaofthenorthwoods.org or call 715-479-9500.



Students from China

(continued from page 22)

This unique experience has also opened up the door for two of our high school students to travel across the globe for a similar experience in Beijing, China for a week in March. Our two students will be in a group of approximately a dozen students from Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa, along with Mr. Palmer and a couple other individuals involved with the international exchange program. This will be a once-in-a-lifetime educational experience for these students.

For more information on this program please contact Jack Palmer, CDT Liaison – Northwestern University, (715) 891-6223, jack.fbiloghomes@gmail.com or Dr. Mike Richie, Northland Pines District Administrator, (715) 479-6487 option 1, ext. 1 or mrichie@npsd.k12.wi.us.

Attention Non-Residents of the Northland Pines School District

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

NATH Fundraiser Raises Awareness

By: Ann Hewitt, NPHS Social Studies Teacher

November 11-18 was National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. The Northland Pines High School Social Studies department decided to use this as an opportunity to both educate our students as well as to raise money for Frederick Place; the homeless shelter that serves Vilas, Oneida, Forest, Langlade and Lincoln counties. Lessons on social issues of poverty, homelessness, and hunger were taught in all social studies classes.

The students and staff of the Northland Pines High School "built a house" with paper bricks that symbolized a one dollar donation to NATH. At the same time, the staff and members of the Northland Pines Education Association sponsored



additional fundraisers in each building in the NPSD with all of the proceeds going to NATH; the two events raised \$601.10.

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

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February - May 2013 Events

Wed. February 13	Charter Governance Board Meeting, Land O' Lakes Elementary, 9 am
Sat. February 16	Family Fun Day, NPHS Fieldhouse, 1 - 4 pm
Tues. February 19	PLEASE REMEMBER TO VOTE!
Thurs. February 21	HS Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4 - 7 pm
Fri. February 22	MS Talent Show, HS Auditorium, 1 pm & 7 pm
Sat. February 23	HCPA "Celtic Fire" Performance, HS Auditorium, 7:30 pm
Mon. February 25	School Board Meeting, HS LGI, 6 pm
Mon. February 25	"Cat's Pajamas" Performance, HS Auditorium, 7 pm
Fri. March 1	American Red Cross Blood Drive, HS LGI, 9 am - 2 pm
Sat. March 2	GNC HS & MS Band & Choir Solo/Ensemble @ Tomahawk
Thurs. March 7	4K Registration & Developmental Screening, Eagle River Elem., 3:30 - 7 pm
Fri. March 8	4K Registration & Developmental Screening, St. Germain Elem., 11:30 am - 3:30 pm
Sun. March 10	Daylight Savings Time Begins (Spring Ahead)
Mon. March 11	Parent-Athlete-Coaches Meeting, HS Auditorium, 6 pm
Wed. March 13	Charter Governance Board Meeting, Land O' Lakes Elementary, 9 am
Fri. March 15	4K Registration & Developmental Screening, Eagle River Elem., 11:30 am - 3:30 pm
Fri. March 15	4K Registration & Developmental Screening, Land O' Lakes Elem., 11:30 am - 3:30 pm
Sat. March 16	8 th Grade Play, HS Auditorium, 2 pm
Thurs. March 21	Coffee Klatch with Dr. Richie, Eagle River Roasters, 8:30 am
Fri. March 22	Eagle River Elem. Spring Fling Concert, HS Auditorium, 1:30 pm
Sat. March 23	HCPA "Intersection" Performance, HS Auditorium, 7:30 pm
Mon. March 25	School Board Meeting, HS LGI, 6 pm
Thurs. March 28	End of the 3 rd Quarter
Fri. Mar. 29 - Sun., Apr. 7	NO SCHOOL - SPRING BREAK
Wed. April 10	Charter Governance Board Meeting, Land O' Lakes Elementary, 9 am
Sat. April 20	Danceworks Unlimited Recital, HS Auditorium, 1:30 & 6 pm
Mon. April 22	School Board Meeting, HS LGI, 6 pm
Wed. April 24	GNC HS & MS Large Group Festival, HS Auditorium, 8 am - 3 pm
Sat. April 27	Prom-Grand March, HS Auditorium, 7 pm
Fri. May 3	4 th Grade Trip to Madison
Sat. May 4	WSMA State Solo/Ensemble @ UWSP
Wed. May 8	Charter Governance Board Meeting, Land O' Lakes Elementary, 9 am
Thurs. May 9	MS Spring Concert, HS Auditorium, 7 pm
Mon. May 13	HS Band & Choir Awards Concert, HS Auditorium, 7 pm
Thurs. May 16	MS Band Concert, HS Auditorium, 7 pm
Fri. May 17	Land O' Lakes Spring Fling Concert, 1:30 - 3 pm
Sat. May 18	HCPA "Barbary Coast Show Band", HS Auditorium, 7:30 pm
Mon. May 20	School Board Meeting, HS LGI, 6 pm

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