



HEAD OF THE CLASS

Hertting Wins Teaching Excellence Award

Neenah High School science teacher Scott Hertting has been awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. The award is one of the highest honors in teaching and is bestowed on just two teachers from each state and 108 total teachers nationwide.



Hertting will receive a citation signed by President Obama and a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation, which administers the program. He will receive his awards at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. The winners are selected by a panel of distinguished scientists, mathematicians, and educators following an initial selection process done at the state level.

This past school year, Hertting received a Kohl Fellowship Award and he was named the Neenah High School Teacher of the Year

in 2012-13. Hertting has been teaching in Neenah since 1993. He has been teaching general physics since 1998 and advanced physics since 2007, while also teaching general chemistry and physical science. Hertting created a program where advanced physics students select a topic to teach to sixth graders.

“The Presidential Award is an unbelievable honor and very humbling,” Hertting said. “To me, this award means I have an opportunity to publicly acknowledge and thank my colleagues, mentors, students and family for helping me grow into the educator I have become.

“I have an opportunity to remind my students to find and do something they are passionate about,” Hertting said of the teaching profession. “In doing so, not only are your efforts intrinsically rewarding, but recognition for your hard work might come in a way you never imagined.”

Inaugural NJSD Hall of Fame Banquet Tickets Now on Sale

Tickets for the inaugural Neenah Joint School District Hall of Fame induction banquet are now on sale to the general public at the District Administration Building.



Tickets are \$25 each and may be purchased in person at 410 South Commercial St. Tickets may also be ordered through a form on the Neenah Joint School District website. The banquet will be held Sat., Oct. 3 at the Bridgewood Resort in Neenah. A social hour begins at 10:30 a.m. followed by a luncheon and program at 11:30 a.m.

Table sponsorships are available for \$300 each. Sponsorships include eight tickets at a reserved table indicated by a sponsorship sign.

Those honored include alumni George Edwin Bergstrom, Dr. Theresa Cheng, Laura (Coenen) Ryan, Ole Jorgensen, James Keating, John Keating, Wayne Kreklow and John Whitlinger. Former teachers and coaches Joe Braun and Ron Einerson complete the inaugural class.

For more information on tickets or table sponsorships, contact Jon Joch at 920-751-6800 ext. 10105.



Sixth Graders to Get Unique Outdoor Learning Experience

Sixth grade students in the Neenah Joint School District will have the unique opportunity for outdoor learning and team building by spending two days at Camp Anokijig in Sheboygan County.

All Horace Mann Middle School sixth grade students and staff will attend the camp, located on Little Elkhart Lake near Plymouth, during the week of Sept. 21-24. Camp Anokijig (An-oh-KEE-gee) was founded in 1926 and sits on 356 acres of forest, fields, rolling hills, streams and ponds. Students will experience a hands-on science curriculum and recreational activities while spending one night at the camp.

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Words From the Superintendent



One of our favorite phrases in the Neenah Joint School District is "Neenah With Pride" and when it comes to the generosity of our students and staff, I couldn't be prouder.

In this issue of the *Dialogue*, you'll see several articles regarding the giving nature of our staff and students to others around our local community and even throughout the world. Many of these projects are student-driven and undoubtedly make their parents beam with pride as well.

We've tried to compile a list of the volunteering and community service experiences our students and staff have done for others, but truthfully, it's exhausting and nearly impossible. There's so many activities that simply go unnoticed because they are done without the desire for recognition. The articles in this newsletter reflect just a fraction of the activities which took place this past year.

While we certainly encourage our students and staff to get involved with the community, it's not a requirement and many of these activities are of their own initiative. Almost every one of our clubs and athletic teams performs some kind of community service activity. We've also seen many of our classes get behind a cause they hear about on the news or something that is affecting one of their own classmates.

Add in all of the activities our students and staff do outside of school within their churches, community organizations or own families, and it's overwhelming.

All of this generosity is just another indication of what a special community we have and how truly meaningful it is to say, "Neenah With Pride!"

Dr. Mary Pfeiffer
Superintendent of Schools

A Winning Vote

Contest Nets Coolidge a \$20,000 Grant

Coolidge Elementary will have \$20,000 in new playground equipment after the school community rallied to finish fourth among 10 finalists in a nationwide online voting contest during June. The top five finishers in the voting received the grant.



Coolidge submitted a video in the "Let's Play" contest that was chosen among the finalists for online voting. The Coolidge community successfully encouraged each other to vote as many times as possible over a two-week span. The two-minute video was produced by Educational Assistant Jay Klavetter. Second grade teacher Allison Sherman found and submitted the grant request.

Schools in Monrovia, Calif., Social Circle, Ga., Aiken, S.C. and Birmingham, Ala. were the other four winners.

Let's Play is an initiative by Dr. Pepper Snapple Group to provide kids and families with the tools, places and inspiration to make active play a daily priority. Dr. Pepper Snapple has committed more than \$28 million through Let's Play since the program launched in 2011, impacting millions of youth serving organizations across the U.S., as well as Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean.

Spring Road and Hoover Elementary Both Receive "Safe Routes to School" Awards

Spring Road Elementary and Hoover Elementary Schools in Neenah have been recognized for their efforts in helping students walk to school with awards by the East Central Safe Routes to School Program.



Spring Road received a Silver Award and Hoover was recognized with a Bronze Award. A total of 15 schools were honored out of 130 participating schools in a 10-county region.

The program recognizes schools that support and promote safe walking and biking through safety programs, activity tracking and community participation. Award winners were based on a three-year cycle from 2011-14.

Both Spring Road and Hoover hold a "Walk to School Wednesday" program where the teachers walk out and meet students and their families to walk back to school with them. They also host bike safety programs for students and Spring Road has promoted activity in the community through a "Fire Up Your Feet" tracking program.

NJSD Asbestos Removal Report

The Board of Education approved an Asbestos Management plan in accordance with the Federal Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). A copy of the District-wide plan is on file at the Administration Building, 410 South Commercial Street. Inquiries about the plan should be directed to the Director of Facilities at (920) 751-6800, ext 10133. Each school building also has a plan, which is on file in the principal's office. Inquiries about a building's plan should be directed either to the building principal or to the school secretary. Asbestos management activities which occurred over the past 12 months include, but are not limited to the following: 1) the required 6-month inspections; and 2) ongoing operations and maintenance projects done as necessary by certified personnel.

LENDING A HAND

NJSD Donation Aids African Students



Students in Liberia received desks, chairs and other school supplies courtesy of a donation from the Neenah Joint School District.

About 100 desks no longer used by Neenah students will be delivered to students in Liberia through a donation by the Neenah Joint School District to the International Children's Fund (ICF).

The Neenah-based, non-profit organization provides humanitarian aid to desperately poor children and families throughout the world. ICF primarily operates in Ghana, Liberia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda.

Horace Mann Middle School operations staff member Jared Schmidt contacted ICF to determine their interest in the used equipment. The District delivered about 50 desks to ICF's Neenah warehouse in late June and ICF picked up another 50 desks about a week later. Some student chairs stored at the Washington Early Learning Center were also donated to ICF.

"This is an incredible donation from the District and a nice surprise," said ICF President Lori Fulcer. "We loved the fact the District was very forward thinking and instead of filling up a landfill they thought about how they can help other kids around the world."

"These desks and chairs had been sitting in storage for several years and were headed for a dumpster," said District Director of Facilities/Engineer Adam Krieger. "We're excited to be able to find a positive use for them and impact other children."

This is not the District's first donation to ICF as they have provided sporting equipment and school supplies in the past. Specifically, the girls basketball program has donated several used basketballs and jerseys, while ICF has also collected leftover school supplies in bins at the end of the school year.

Horace Mann Named One of 250 National Healthy Schools

Horace Mann Middle School is one of 250 schools nationwide honored as with a National Healthy Schools Award by the Alliance for a Healthier Generation.

Horace Mann was recognized at the bronze level. Staff from Horace Mann will receive the award at the Healthier Generation Leaders' Summit in October in Washington, D.C.

The Alliance for a Healthier Generation provides schools with guidelines for implementing a healthy school environment. Through an assessment tool and a customized action plan, the framework helps schools work towards a National Healthy Schools Award.

To earn the award, schools must demonstrate implementation of best practices in six different areas: School Health and Safety Policies and Environment, Health Education, Physical Education and Other Physical Activity Programs, Nutrition Services, Health Promotion for Staff and Family and Community Involvement.

Horace Mann has been active in the "Play 60" program, holding wellness activities for its students on each of its half days. The award also recognized the District's Wellness Education curriculum and Wellness program.

Horace Mann's food service from Chartwell's was commended for its commitment to adding healthier foods to the breakfast and lunch menu and the food service employees' participation in regular training to maintain a high quality of service and food safety. The staff's involvement in the District's staff wellness programs was also a key factor in receiving the award.

Traveling "Care-A-Van" Makes Impact on Neenah Community

A new summer school enrichment course called the "Traveling Care-A-Van" assisted numerous community organizations and individuals throughout the summer. Under the direction of Taft and Wilson Elementary counselor Steph Levine, the group consisted of 14 students entering fourth through sixth grades.

The students volunteered at Touchmark Assisted Living, St. Joseph's Food Program, Children's Hospital, Brewster Village, Heckrodt Wetland Reserve, Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services, Island Shores, Valley VNA, SOAR Fox Cities and Orphan Animal Rescue. SCA provided \$500 toward the group's transportation.



Clutch Putt Lands Galloway State Individual Golf Championship

Junior Sam Galloway became the second Neenah High School athlete to win a WIAA state boys golf individual title by shooting a two-under par 142 to capture the Division 1 crown at University Ridge Golf Course in Madison.



Galloway, who was also named the Golf Coaches Association of Wisconsin Player of the Year, was one of only two players in any division to shoot under par for the two-day tournament. He had just three bogeys in his 36 holes and made a four-foot birdie putt on the last hole for a one-stroke win over Greendale junior Nate Thomson.

Galloway joins Kurt Soule as Neenah's only individual boys golf champions. Soule shot a 158 to win the 1982 state championship when the WIAA offered a fall golf tournament.

Galloway entered the second day in a three-way tie for first place at one-under par. He moved to three-under par with birdies on the eighth and ninth holes, but then had bogeys on holes 13 and 17 to drop to a one-stroke lead. Thomson made a 15-foot birdie putt to tie for the lead before Galloway calmly sank his winning putt.

A 4.0 student, Galloway was an Academic All-State selection. He was the medalist in 15 of his 18 meets played this season and posted an 18-hole stroke average of 73.38. He was named the Fox Valley Association Player of the Year and was named first-team All-Conference for the third straight year.

The state Player of the Year award is voted upon by a committee that incorporates a player's raw scoring average and difficulty of courses played throughout the season.

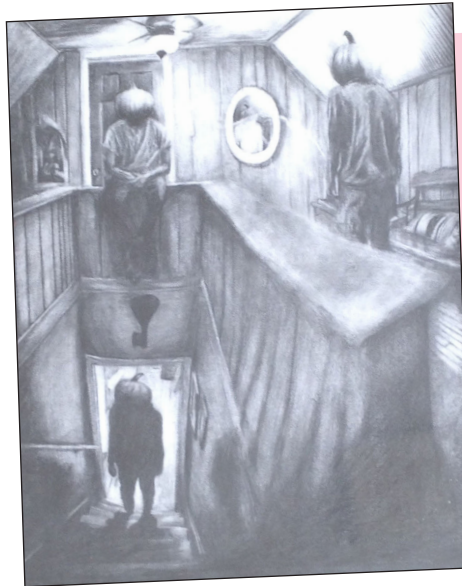
Season Tickets Available for Neenah High School Athletics

Fans of Neenah High School athletics will have the opportunity to purchase season passes for both home and away events for the upcoming 2015-16 school year.

Adult passes cost \$60 for the entire year and are good for all home football, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, boys and girls volleyball, boys and girls hockey, wrestling and drama events for the season. Student passes are available for all Neenah Joint School District students in grades K-12 for \$30 for the year. Single-event tickets are sold for \$5 for adults and \$3 for students the night of the event. The passes are good for all home Neenah High School events, excluding WIAA and conference postseason events.

For the first time this year, a Fox Valley Association "On the Road" pass will also be available. The pass costs \$25 and allows fans to attend one Neenah away game at each opposing FVA school. A total of 100 passes will be sold and they are valid for all FVA regular season conference games and conference tournaments, including Valley Football Association games at FVA member schools.

The season passes may be purchased at the Neenah High School office from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. daily.



Neenah High School senior Becca Fenske won the Best in Show award at the 42nd annual UW-Oshkosh High School Art Day for her pencil art drawing titled, "Pumpkin Heads." The event features students from throughout the area and awards are judged by UWO art faculty.

Neenah Finance Bowl Team Captures State Championship

Neenah High School's Finance Bowl team of Matt Bourland, Ally Kaul, Olivia Stindt and Evan Thomsen captured the state championship on April 29 in Milwaukee.

Neenah defeated D.C. Everest High School in the finals for its first state championship in the five-year history of the event under its current format. Neenah has sent at least one team to state every year and was runner-up in 2012 and 2014. Thomsen was also a member of last year's runner-up team.

Neenah was among 14 schools that participated in the state meet after advancing from regional competition. They answered over 130 questions in five rounds pertaining to personal finance, business finance and economics in a game show format. The meet was held at ManpowerGroup in Milwaukee.

Neenah had three teams compete at the regional tournament in early April and all placed in their respective brackets. The teams are coached by high school teacher Kris Labbus. Over 600 students from throughout the state participate in the tournament.



From left, Matt Bourland, Evan Thomsen, Olivia Stindt and Ally Kaul captured the State Finance Bowl title on April 29.

A Worthy Cause

Horace Mann Walk-A-Thon Raises Money for Trestle Trail Victims

Students at Horace Mann Middle School walked in memory of the victims of the shooting at the Trestle Trail bridge and raised \$7,700 to support the victims' families during the school's walk-a-thon on May 22.



Each student walked a 5K in memory of the victims, while accepting pledges to support the affected families.

The walk-a-thon is an annual event in which students walk to Shattuck Middle School for an introduction to the building they will be attending next fall. Each year the students raise money for a specific charitable cause. Recent causes have been Operation Smile, Christine Anne Center, Make a Wish Foundation and Wounded Warriors in Action. Students at Horace Mann have raised over \$30,000 for these causes since the school reopened in 1994.

“Neenah Nation” Offers Alumni and Supporters a Place to Reconnect

Neenah High School alumni and supporters will have the opportunity to reconnect and stay in touch with District news and activities through a new program called the “Neenah Nation” that will be launched this fall.

The “Neenah Nation” will provide an opportunity for classmates to locate one another for upcoming class reunions or to simply re-engage. The Nation's official website will contain news about current District events as well as alumni accomplishments. Alumni will also have the opportunity to post news on the page.

More information about the program will be announced this fall.

Runner's High Program Achieves National Attention in Runner's World

Neenah High School's unique program for students dealing with substance abuse called “Runner's High” achieved national attention in *Runner's World* magazine.

Since 2009, the program has assisted students struggling with drug abuse, stress or other behavioral issues and taught them how to run, ultimately helping them train to finish the Green Bay Half Marathon. This year, nine students completed the event.

The article focused on senior Dan Pavlich, who overcame a smoking and marijuana addiction to finish the half marathon in 2:04:18.

Generous Donor Revives Sixth Grade Experience

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An anonymous donor has provided \$50,000 and pledged another \$50,000 over the next five years to support the trip. Families will be responsible to pay \$30 per student, while those on reduced lunch will be charged \$15 per student and free lunch students will not be charged. The District will pay one-third of the total cost and other donors will be sought for additional funding. Total cost of the experience, including meals, lodging and transportation will be about \$36,000 per year.

“This is one of those unique things that helps set Neenah apart,” School Board President Scott Thompson said at the August 4 meeting when the trip was approved. “This really helps with the connection coming from the elementary schools to a bigger school.”

For decades, Neenah sixth graders had a similar experience at a camp near Green Lake. However, that experience was removed from the curriculum as part of a budget reduction in 2009.

The District will be creating an endowment to sustain this learning experience over the long term. Anyone wishing to make a tax-deductible donation to the fund may do so through the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation page by clicking on the “Horace Mann Sixth Grade Learning Experience.” Donations can also be made by contacting Director of Revenue Enhancement Jon Joch at 920-751-6800 ext. 10105 or jjoch@neenah.k12.wi.us.



Six Neenah High School students completed a two-week mission trip to Joacaba, Dominican Republic this summer. From left, Kayla Pierce, Hannah Drewek, Ellie Freeders, Jenna Mortimer, Kendra Hughes and Jess Nussbaum planted gardens, cleaned up brush, painted trash cans and other activities. Teacher Brian Borchardt organized and led the trip.

Eight Individuals Earn NJSD Employee of the Year Awards

Eight individuals have been recognized as the Neenah Joint School District's Employees of the Year for the 2014-15 school year.

The group represents one individual from each of the District's employment categories. They were selected from the 663 total employees of the Neenah Joint School District and were nominated by colleagues and administrators.

Four teachers were selected, including **Donna Engelland** from the elementary level, **Tami Malcore** from the middle school level, **Dianne Pacolt** from the high school level and **Stacey Goetz** from the special services area. Three additional high school staff members were honored as **Chad Buboltz** was selected Administrator of the Year, **Lisa Stadtmueller** earned the Administrative Assistant of the Year and **Lori Uvaas** was named Educational Assistant of the Year. **Dzenita Kolar** was named the Maintenance/Operations Employee of the Year.



Employees of the Year (Front, from left): Lori Uvaas, Lisa Stadtmueller, Tami Malcore and Dianne Pacolt. (Back): Chad Buboltz, Donna Engelland, Stacey Goetz and Dzenita Kolar.

Rabas Takes Reins of Neenah Boys Basketball Program

A highly successful local junior college men's basketball coach over the past six years, Lee Rabas has been named the head boys basketball coach at Neenah High School.



Rabas, who recently completed his 19th year teaching elementary wellness education in the Neenah Joint School District, served as an assistant coach at Neenah in his first year in 1996-97. Over the past six seasons, he posted a 136-23 record as the head coach at UW-Fox Valley. Rabas also was the head coach for seven seasons at Xavier High School from 1997-2004, compiling a 103-56 record and leading the Hawks to a WISAA state runner-up finish in 1998 and two conference titles. His 13-year record as a head coach is 239-79.

Rabas replaces Scott Bork, who led the Rockets to a 64-12 record over the past three seasons, including a state runner-up finish in 2014.



A Little Free Library is now in place in front of Horace Mann Middle School. The project was a collaboration with Fox Cities Chamber's Leadership Fox Cities program. Pictured are, from left: Lindsay Fenlon, Jake Dietz and Lisa Werner from Leadership Fox Cities; Horace Mann Library Media Specialist Heather Hansen and former Horace Mann Principal Mike Tauscher.

No Friday Early Dismissals and Other Changes Set for 2015-16

Neenah Joint School District elementary schools (excluding Alliance Charter Elementary) will no longer have early dismissals on Fridays during the 2015-16 school year.

In addition, the District's staff Professional Learning Days have changed from half days to full days. No school will be held on the Professional Learning Days, which are set for Sept. 25, Nov. 13, Jan. 29, Feb. 19, March 24, April 22 and May 27. All of those dates are Fridays except for March 24, which is the Thursday prior to Spring Break.

The schedule for Parent-Teacher Conferences will remain the same at all levels with fall conferences set for Oct. 28-30 and spring conferences taking place Feb. 24-26.



The Klement's Racing Sausages visited Spring Road Elementary School for the school's annual Fun Run. Students and family members ran a 2K or 4K route and were greeted by the racing sausages at the finish.



Neenah High School had 77 students honored for exceptional achievement on Advanced Placement exams during the 2014-15 school year, including four students who qualified for the National AP Scholar Award. Recent graduates Joshua Grossman, Charles Johnson, Matthew Karrmann and Evan Thomsen were honored as National AP Scholars. It is the second straight year Thomsen earned the National AP Scholar award.



Students from the Shattuck Velocity Academy held their Spring Garden Expo on May 20. Students showed enhancements and additions to the garden by creating displays of different gardening techniques. Planting took place the following week as seedlings have been grown indoors through a process called aquaponics. A fall harvest event will be held in October.



A familiar face has returned to Horace Mann as the school's principal. Jackie Munoz-Ellmann, who taught at Horace Mann from 2008-12, returns after serving as principal at Clayton the past three years. Munoz-Ellmann is beginning her 10th year in the District. She taught special education at Horace Mann and replaces Mike Tauscher, who was at Horace Mann the past two years and resigned to take a new position.



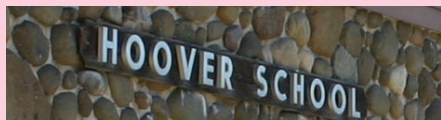
Alliance will be using an all-school reading log to track total reading minutes. Parents will be asked to log the number of minutes spent reading each day, total up the number of minutes at the end of the month and return the reading logs back to school to be added to the school reading minutes. Alliance will set a schoolwide reading goal and monitor the progress each month.



Amy McKeefry will be the new principal at Clayton this fall. She recently completed her second year as a Title I/Learning Support teacher at Fairview Elementary in Pulaski. She assisted with principal duties at Fairview and previously taught first grade for 13 years at Glenbrook Elementary in Pulaski.



Fourth grade students took part in a program called "FitKidz" that gave students the opportunity to try a variety of fitness activities such as yoga, kickboxing and circuit training. The students also ran a 5K at Fox Cities Stadium and finished the year with a 3.5 mile run to Dairy Queen for a culminating treat.



Third and fourth grade students in Hoover's summer academy practiced their money and measuring skills on July 14 with a lemonade stand in front of the school on Cecil St. The proceeds raised from the sale will be applied towards the school's new walking path.



Fifth grade students at Lakeview had an end-of-year awards ceremony following a breakfast that was hosted by the Lakeview PTO. Following the awards ceremony, the entire school participated in an afternoon of activities on the playground and field with all students and staff sporting "Field Day" t-shirts.



Roosevelt students hosted their "Backyard Buddies" from Theda Clark and Children's Hospital for lunch on June 1. Students presented their mentors with a thank you card and a plant for "helping them grow" throughout the past year.



Noted singer and songwriter Tom Pease brought entertainment to Spring Road on the last day of school. He shared his message in song to read, have fun, respect yourself and respect your teachers and friends. The Spring Road PTO funded the appearance.



Taft welcomes a new principal this fall as Dr. Lucille Hrib takes over as the school's administrator. Hrib was principal at West Iredell Middle School in Statesville, N.C. the past four years. She had been promoted after eight years as an assistant principal at the elementary level.



A new program at Tullar called POPS (Power of Peer Supports) is helping autistic students interact with fellow classmates. Three autistic students at the school are matched with three to four trained students who learn what the autistic students experience on a daily basis and then share with their classmates.



Washington will be the primary site for the District's four-year-old kindergarten program, which debuts for the 2015-16 school year. The inaugural program will consist of five half-days per week. Hoover, Taft and Wilson Schools and A Child's Imagination day care facility will also host classes.



All Wilson third, fourth and fifth grade students who scored in the excellent range on their fitness test received a "Fit Foot" keychain. Students who moved up a level from their first quarter fitness level also received a keychain.

Upcoming Events



410 South Commercial St.
Neenah, WI 54956
(920) 751-6800
Website: www.neenah.k12.wi.us

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POSTAL PATRON

Upcoming Events

September

- 1..... First Day of School
- 4..... NJSD Child Find Screening (Washington School)
- 7..... No School - All Levels (Labor Day)
- 25..... No School - All Levels (Professional Learning Day)

October

- 2..... Homecoming Parade, 5 p.m. (Downtown Neenah)
- 2..... NHS Football vs. Wis. Rapids (Homecoming), 7 p.m.
- 3..... NJSD Hall of Fame Banquet, 11:30 a.m. (Bridgewood)
- 6..... Parents Connect Convention, 5:30 p.m. (Horace Mann)
- 15..... Senior Citizens Dinner Theatre, 5:30 p.m. (Cafeteria)
- 15-17, 23-24 NHS Fall Musical "Joseph/Dreamcoat," 7 p.m. (Pickard)
- 25..... NHS Fall Musical "Joseph/Dreamcoat," 2 p.m. (Pickard)
- 28..... Parent-Teacher Conferences, Grades 4K-5, 4-8 p.m.

- 29..... Early Dismissal - All Levels (Parent-Teacher Conferences)
- 29..... No School - 4K and Early Childhood
- 29..... Parent-Teacher Conferences, All Levels, 12:30-8 p.m.
- 30..... No School - All Levels (Parent-Teacher Conferences)
- 30..... Parent-Teacher Conferences, Gr. 6-12, 7:45-11:45 a.m.

November

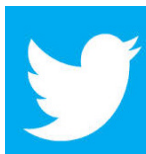
- 3..... NHS Choir Concert, 7:30 p.m. (Pickard)
- 6..... Early Dismissal, Grades K-8 (End of Quarter)
- 6..... NJSD Child Find Screening (Washington School)
- 6..... No School - 4K and Early Childhood
- 7..... Helping Hands Craft Fair, 9 a.m. (NHS Fieldhouse)
- 10..... NHS Orchestra Concert, 7:30 p.m. (Pickard)
- 11..... NHS Veterans' Day Program, 1:30 p.m. (Pickard)
- 13..... No School - All Levels (Professional Learning Day)



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Neenah Joint School District

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@neenahschools



**Board of Education meetings are typically held
the first and third Tuesdays of every month
at 6 p.m. at the District Administrative Building
at 410 S. Commercial St.
(Check the NJSD website for complete schedule)**