



## CHANGING TIMES

### *2022-23 School Year is One of Transition*

#### What's Happening in 2023?

The following changes will take place for the 2023-24 school year:

- ◆ Neenah High School will relocate to the new school being built on County II (Winchester Road).
- ◆ Shattuck Middle School will close. The building has been purchased by NorthPointe Development. NorthPointe is working with the City of Neenah to determine a plan for the property.
- ◆ Students in grades 5-8 will attend the newly-named Neenah Middle School in the existing Neenah High School building. Grades 5-6 will be located primarily in the Conant wing and grades 7-8 will be housed in the Armstrong wing.
- ◆ Horace Mann will be repurposed into an elementary school and house students currently attending Roosevelt and Wilson Elementary Schools.
- ◆ Roosevelt Elementary will close. The building is currently for sale.
- ◆ Wilson Elementary will be repurposed into the Alliance Charter Elementary School. Alliance currently occupies the Roosevelt building and will double in size.

With the new Neenah High School set to open in the fall of 2023, changes are on the horizon across the Neenah Joint School District.

At its July 19 meeting, the Board of Education approved the sale of Shattuck Middle School to NorthPointe Development for \$500,000. It was the only offer on the property. The sale will save the District over \$400,000 annually in maintaining the school after it closes following the upcoming school year. The employee Health and Wellness Center will also remain at Shattuck and will not need to be relocated at an estimated cost of \$600,000. Costs to demolish Shattuck have been estimated at \$2 million.

The initial plans presented by NorthPointe call for preserving the historical significance of Shattuck and renovating the building to include about 100 apartment units. The athletic fields to the south of the school would contain a combination of single-dwelling homes, duplexes and townhomes. The plans also include a retention pond, a playground and 3.0 acres of greenspace. The City and NorthPointe will continue to receive community feedback regarding the plans before final decisions are made. All decisions will be made in open meetings.

The District will continue to own and maintain the Ivy Williams Tennis Courts and parking lot on the south end of the property.

Roosevelt Elementary, which celebrates its 100th year in 2022-23, will close following the school year. The building has been listed for sale at \$1.1 million.

Alliance Charter Elementary School, which currently occupies in the Roosevelt building, will double in size and move into the Wilson Elementary building. Students currently attending Roosevelt and Wilson will attend Horace Mann Elementary School next fall.



Construction is on schedule for the new Neenah High School with completion anticipated in July 2023. For more photos and details on the project, check out pages 4-5.

#### Dialogue Moving to Electronic Version



This is the final printed version of the Dialogue community newsletter. The newsletter will transition to an electronic version that will be produced monthly, providing more timely and frequent news to District residents.

Families with students enrolled in the District will automatically be included on the mailing list. All others are encouraged to sign up on the District

website or using the QR code to the left.

Those who would like the newsletter printed out and mailed to their residence may call the District office at 920-751-6800.

# Five Chosen for Hall of Fame

## Inductees Will Be Honored on October 1 at Bridgewood

Five individuals will be honored for their contributions to the Neenah Joint School District in the seventh annual Hall of Fame banquet on Saturday, October 1 at 11 a.m. at Bridgewood Resort Hotel and Conference Center. Those honored will be Marigen Carpenter, Pat Hawley, Tom Jensen, Dr. Susan Karamanian and George Scherck.

Tickets are on sale at the Administration building and are \$25 each. Tables may be purchased for \$300, which includes sponsorship for the event and eight tickets. The banquet features a lunch followed by a brief interview with each of the inductees.



Carpenter, a 1952 graduate who also taught in the District in 1978 and 1980, was Neenah's longest-serving mayor and its first female mayor, serving for 16 years from 1982-98. She was Neenah's first female city council president in 1981-82, while serving five years as an alderperson. Carpenter was salutatorian of her high school graduating class and participated in debate, yearbook, honor roll, newspaper, pep club, girls athletics and choir.



Hawley, a 1970 graduate, was the Most Valuable Player of Neenah High School's 1970 WIAA state runner-up basketball team. He also participated in football, track and field and baseball. Hawley served as the Chief Financial Officer at ThedaCare from 1990-2007 and the Chief Financial Officer at Alta Resources Corp. from 2007-15.



Jensen taught social studies and coached boys cross country at Neenah High School from 1968-95 and is a member of the Wisconsin Cross Country Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Jensen was the District's teacher of the year in 1983. He helped originate the Neenah Summer Fun Run program in 1995 and has continued leading the Neenah tradition for the past 27 summers.



Karamanian, a 1976 graduate, is the Dean of Hamad Bin Khalifa University College of Law in Doha, Qatar. She was a Rhodes Scholar upon graduation from Auburn University and participated in forensics, debate, conservation club and student council. She was also provost at American University of Sharjah in Dubai, United Arab Emirates and an Associate Dean at George Washington University.



Scherck taught social studies and coached in Neenah from 1967-99, while also serving in city government for 37 years. He was mayor from 2002-14 and a city alderman for the preceding 25 years. Scherck was the District's teacher of the year in 1976 and 1986 and coached softball and football for 20 years and girls basketball for 30 years.

Nominations are open for the 2023 class through November 30, 2022. Forms are available on the District website or at the Administration building.

### Past Yearbooks Available

Neenah High School is cleaning out its closets with the impending move to a new building. Yearbooks from past years are available dating to 1975.

Anyone interested in purchasing a yearbook from a specific year may contact Tracy McClowry at [tmcclowry@neenah.k12.wi.us](mailto:tmcclowry@neenah.k12.wi.us).



### 2022-23 Board of Education Members

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- [david.williams@neenah.k12.wi.us](mailto:david.williams@neenah.k12.wi.us)

### 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.



# NO DEBATING IT

## *Neenah Debate Students Excel at Nationals*

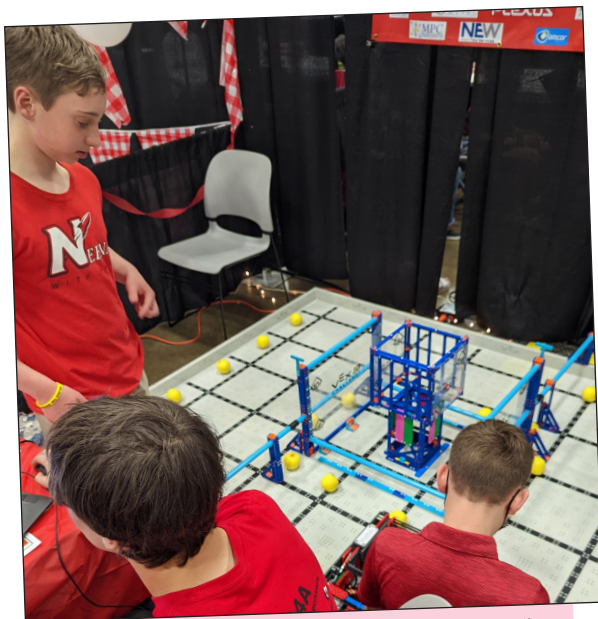
Neenah High School junior Parker De Deker captured the national championship out of 488 participants in the Congressional Debate House competition at the National Speech and Debate Association tournament in June in Louisville, Ky.

De Deker also won the Champion Presiding Officer where he was elected to serve as the presiding officer for the finals chamber and the House Leadership Award, which is voted on by peers to determine who demonstrated outstanding leadership and advocacy. His victory earned him a \$1,000 college scholarship.

De Deker is only the second Wisconsin student to win the national championship in Congressional Debate in state history. He is also qualified to participate in next year's national tournament in Phoenix.

Additionally, eighth grade student Nina Bhattacharjee became the first Wisconsin middle school student to compete in the Middle School National Tournament in debate. She finished national runner-up in Congressional debate, joining De Deker as the only Neenah students ever to reach the finals in Congressional debate. Prior to the national meet, Bhattacharjee competed in high school competitions throughout the season.

Senior Isabel Hoffman also represented Neenah at the national meet. Natalie Frank and Sarah Hoffman qualified for nationals as well. The team is coached by Andrea Peterson-Longmore.



A team from Shattuck Middle School competed at the VEX IQ World Robotics Competition May 8-10 in Dallas. The team of Jack DeMenter, Simon Galvin, Jack Henry and Nina Bhattacharjee set a new state record score at the state meet and also received the Build Award, for their nicely designed robot that effectively and consistently scored points.

### Four From Neenah Chosen to Represent Wisconsin at Special Olympics USA Games

Four individuals represented Neenah and the state of Wisconsin at the recent Special Olympics USA Games in June. High school teacher Chad Oeftger was the head softball coach for the silver medal winning Team Wisconsin squad, while Shattuck Middle School teacher Jenni Oeftger, junior Alicia Langlois (pictured, left) and sophomore Anabelle Hodges (pictured, right) were Wisconsin's representatives for Unified Champion Schools.

One teacher, one student with disabilities and one student without disabilities were selected to represent the state of Wisconsin at the USA games. They participated in different activities to learn about inclusion and bring ideas back to their schools, while also serving as ambassadors at competitions.

Neenah High School is among a small group of Wisconsin high schools with its own Special Olympics program.

Shattuck is one of three Neenah schools that has been officially recognized as a Special Olympics Unified Champion School for its inclusion of all students, along with Neenah High School and Spring Road Elementary. Unified Champion Schools promote social inclusion by bringing together students with and without intellectual disabilities through sports and other activities.





# *New High School Construction on Schedule*



The new Neenah High School is set to open in the fall of 2023. The academic wings on the north end of the school are the most visible portion of the school from County II. Brick and masonry work has been completed on much of the academic wings. The atrium and cafeteria area will be located in the middle of this photo and will be the final section of the school to be completed. Overall, the school will encompass 455,000 square feet.

The stage is set for the new Performing Arts Center. The state-of-the-art facility will seat 850 spectators. Work has also begun for the black box theater that will accommodate about 200 spectators in a more intimate environment. The facility also features new music suites for orchestra, band and choir practice that are adjacent to the Performing Arts Center.



The grandstand and even the goalposts are up for the new football stadium. The stadium will be close to the school, providing an intimate experience for fans and athletes. There will also be an 8,500-square foot weight room and performance facility with windows overlooking the stadium. The stadium has 3,500 seats with plenty of standing room, two concession stands and easy access to and from the seating areas. The field will have a turf playing surface and the video board will be moved from the current Rocket Stadium.



The main entrance hallway of the school may be accessed on the east side of the building. Art rooms have a premier location on one side of the main hallway with administrative offices located on the other side. Designed with safety as a top priority, the school will feature many of the latest safety features.



## *New Middle School Renovations Underway*



Construction has begun at the existing Neenah High School to make renovations for the new Neenah Middle School. Science labs have been removed from the Conant wing for grade 5-6 classrooms and are being relocated to the Armstrong wing for grade 7-8 students. In the photos above, art rooms were renovated in the Conant wing for additional grade 5-6 classrooms. Construction will continue in the summer of 2023 to be completed in time for school in the fall.



***The public is invited to visit*** the construction site to see the progress on Wednesday, Sept. 28 from 4-5 p.m. Wear appropriate clothing for a construction site (no shorts or open-toe shoes). Hard hats are not needed.

***For continued updates on the construction project***, including the latest photos and a virtual tour of the building, visit the Forward Together page on the District website. The page may be accessed through the QR code to the left.

## Dunsirn Wins State Boys Tennis Singles Title as Rockets Finish State Runner-up

Neenah High School's boys tennis team finished as WIAA Division 1 state runner-up for the 12th time in school history at the state team tournament in Madison on June 11. The Rockets defeated Eau Claire Memorial 6-1 in the opening round and then knocked off second-seeded Middleton 4-3 in the semifinals before suffering a 7-0 loss to Brookfield East in the championship match.

The previous weekend, Solomon Dunsirn became the fifth player in Neenah boys tennis history to win the WIAA individual state singles title with a 6-2, 6-0 win over Ethan Bo of Middleton.



Other Neenah state singles champions were Don Vought (1946), John Whitinger (1969-72), John Thomsen (1993) and Tom Chicoine (1995). Dunsirn was a sophomore and finished 38-2 for the season.

Neenah finished the year with a 19-3 dual meet record. Along with the 12 runner-up finishes, the Rockets have also won 10 state championships in school history.

Team members who participated in the state tournament were Dunsirn, David Murphy, Carl Hein, Ben Kotchen, Nolan Kubiak, Khaled Saleh, Henry Werner, Satchel Moss, Leyton Daharsh and Jaxon King.



Neenah High School's Touch of Class orchestra traveled to Croatia in June. The group fundraised for the trip and performed with the Music City Strings from Nashville and the Caleb Chapman Soundhouse from Salt Lake City. They performed six shows throughout the Dalmatian region of Croatia and participated in clinics presented by top jazz professionals.

## Summer School Class Finds Ways to Spread Kindness Around Neenah

Neenah's summer school enrichment classes featured a new class this year called "Spreading Kindness." The class consisted of five weeks of designing, creating, and servicing our community as students brainstormed ideas on how they could spread kindness throughout the community.

Students created inspirational cards that were hung on doors throughout Neenah, painted rocks and hid them during the various outings, painted flower pots and buckets and filled them with flowers. The class delivered flowers to the Valley VNA Senior Care residents, as well as the staff working at the Neenah Joint School District administrative office.



Students designed tote bags and tie blankets to donate to the Children's Hospital, assisted Future Neenah with a variety of tasks, visited the Valley VNA Senior Care where they played cards, painted residents' nails, painted rocks for their butterfly garden, made puzzles and even helped with an exercise class.



## Henderson Named WIAA Scholar Athlete

Neenah High School senior Austin Henderson was one of 32 statewide recipients of the 2022 WIAA scholar athlete award.



Henderson is the seventh Neenah High School student and second male student to receive the prestigious honor that has been awarded since 1984. The award recognizes four boys and four girls from each of the four WIAA divisions. The selections are based on both athletic and academic achievement.

Henderson was the 2021 WIAA state boys cross country individual champion. Henderson placed in four events at the state boys swimming and diving meet in February and also placed in three events at the state boys track and field meet in 2021, finishing third in both the 800 and 1600-meter runs.

Henderson will run cross country at the University of Wisconsin-Madison this fall. Academically, Henderson had a 3.96 grade point average while taking a number of advanced classes.

The only other Neenah male student to receive the honor was Brett Hartman in 2009.





Neenah High School graduates continued a recent tradition of visiting their elementary schools for a celebration on the morning of Graduation Day. Current students lined the halls and clapped.

### Order Neenah Rocket Apparel Anytime

Neenah Rocket apparel may be ordered anytime through the Neenah Outfitters online store. All proceeds benefit the Neenah High School Downtown Campus.

Orders may be placed through the District website by clicking on "Neenah Rocket Apparel" under the Community tab. Orders will be available within two weeks. There are no refunds or exchanges. Orders will be shipped to your home (shipping charges apply).

The store features a wide range of apparel and other items.



Several members of the Neenah High School fishing team and the Shattuck Middle School Finatics Club participated in a 'Memory Cafe' at the Neenah Public Library. Students paired up with participants and fished on the docks and shaded areas around the library and Shattuck Park with a goal of catching whatever was biting. Lots of sheepshead and catfish caught made it an exciting day.

### Eight Students Attend Badger State

Eight Neenah High School incoming seniors learned about their state government by attending the Badger Boys or Girls State Conventions during June.

Boys who participated in Badger Boys State June 12-18 at UW-Eau Claire were Layton Brandt, Ben Hansen, Matthew Hoyman and Carson Timm. Girls who participated in Badger Girls State June 18-23 at UW-Oshkosh were Rachel Frank, Leah Forget, Sage Kirklewski and Sophia Rundquist.

Each Badger State program is a week-long program that brings together outstanding students from all around the state to learn more about civic processes in our state's government, develop their leadership skills, and understand the sense of community.

# We Need You!

## Substitute Teaching and Other Positions Available Across the District

Individuals looking for part-time or full-time employment and the chance to work with the children in our community have plenty of opportunities in a number of different support areas.

Of greatest need are substitute teachers and support staff at all grade levels. Licensed teachers can earn \$120 per day, while educational and administrative assistants can earn \$90 per day with no licensure needed.

Part-time and full-time job openings are available as bus drivers, food service employees, crossing guards and elementary playground supervisors throughout the Neenah Joint School District.

These positions all require a background check and offer rewarding experiences. Information about how to apply for any of these positions is listed to the right.



### Who to Contact

Positions are available in each of the following areas:

- ◆ **Substitute Teachers/Support Staff:** Human Resources Office at 920-751-6800 ext. 10109
- ◆ **Bus Drivers:** Kobussen Buses at 920-722-8572
- ◆ **Food Service:** Chartwells at 920-751-6800, ext. 10152
- ◆ **Crossing Guards:** Neenah Police Department at 920-886-6000
- ◆ **Elementary Playground Supervisors:** Human Resources Office at 920-751-6800, ext. 10109



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## POSTAL PATRON

### Key 2022-23 Dates

\* All Dates Subject to Change

#### September

- 1.....First Day of School
- 30.....No School - All Levels (Professional Learning Day)
- 30.....Homecoming

#### October

- 28.....Early Dismissal - All Levels (Parent-Teacher Conferences)

#### November

- 4.....Early Dismissal - Grades K-8 (End of Quarter)
- 23-25 .....Thanksgiving Break

#### December

- 23.....No School - All Levels (Professional Learning Day)
- 24-Jan. 2....Winter Break

#### January

- 13.....Early Dismissal - All Levels (End of Semester)
- 16.....No School - All Levels (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)

- 27.....No School - All Levels (Professional Learning Day)

#### February

- 20.....No School - All Levels (Professional Learning Day)

#### March

- 3.....No School - All Levels (Professional Learning Day)
- 10.....Early Dismissal - All Levels (Parent-Teacher Conferences)
- 24.....Early Dismissal - Grades K-8 (End of Quarter)
- 31-Apr. 7....No School - All Levels (Spring Break)

#### April

- 10.....No School - All Levels (Professional Learning Day)

#### May

- 24.....NHS Graduation
- 26.....No School - All Levels (Professional Learning Day)
- 29.....No School - All Levels (Memorial Day)
- 31.....Last Day of School - 4K and Early Childhood

#### June

- 1.....Last Day of School (Early Dismissal) - Grades K-11



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**@neenahschools**



### Two Ways to Join Board Meetings

All Neenah Joint School District Board of Education meetings are being held online via Zoom and in person. The public is welcome to join the meetings through a link on the District website ([www.neenah.k12.wi.us](http://www.neenah.k12.wi.us)) or in person. Meetings are typically held the first and third Tuesday of each month.