



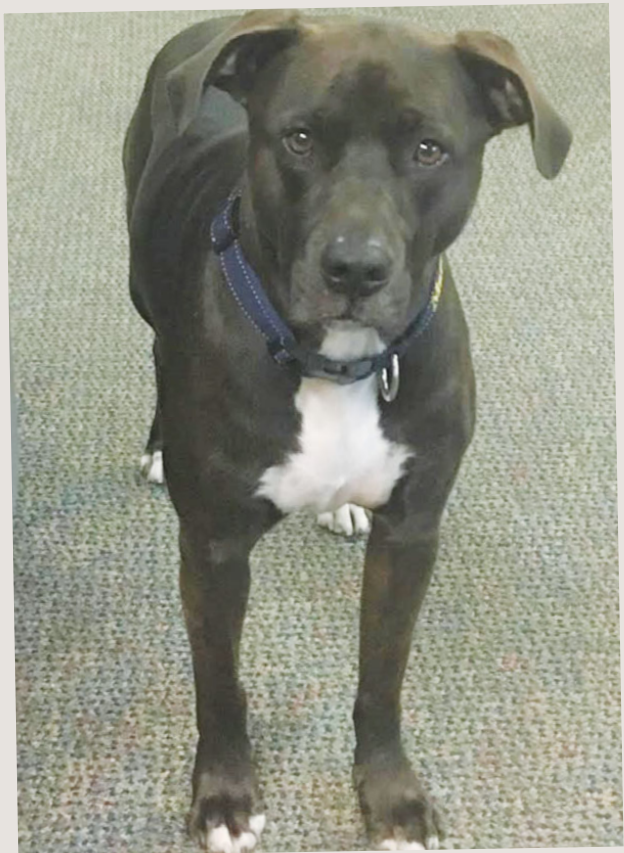
The **Norsemen Pride**

May 2018 | Issue 17

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INSIDE



Maisy the Norse Dog!

Our middle school and high school students have enjoyed hosting our full-time therapy dog, Maisy the Norse Dog, during the 2017-18 school year. The pet of our math teacher Jonathan Allen, Maisy is a certified therapy dog that also volunteers as a BowWow Reader for the Muskegon Area District Library. Maisy is a friendly, calm, and affectionate member of our district whose sole job is to help brighten everyone's day - which she loves to do! She is a two-year-old Labrador/Staffordshire Terrier mix from the Walker Humane Society. She can be seen around the Middle and High School just about every day saying hello, asking for a pet (and a treat), or taking a snooze. From time to time she also gets to visit the NM Elementary, which can be even more exciting! If you see her in the front office, feel free to say hello!



Greetings Norse Education Family!

We made it – the winter weather is over! As much fun as the winter season can be, it is wonderful to be experiencing the warmer

days. I hope you and your family had a great winter and are enjoying our start to spring.

The end of the school year is such an exciting and busy time. Please be sure to take in some of our students' performances, athletic events and other activities. We are very fortunate to have so many incredibly talented young people in our community – it is a joy to watch them excel in their areas of interest. Several of those talented students will be moving to the next chapter in their lives very soon – congratulations to the Class of 2018!

As you are about to experience, the Norsemen pride is alive and well as depicted in the pages of this newest edition!

Now, get ready to enjoy your spring edition of the Norsemen Pride! As always, please contact me if you have ideas on how we may continue to make this an effective communication piece for our community. I hope to see you soon – take care!

Enjoy,
Curt Babcock, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools



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Mrs. Seaberg leads a discussion group following the screening



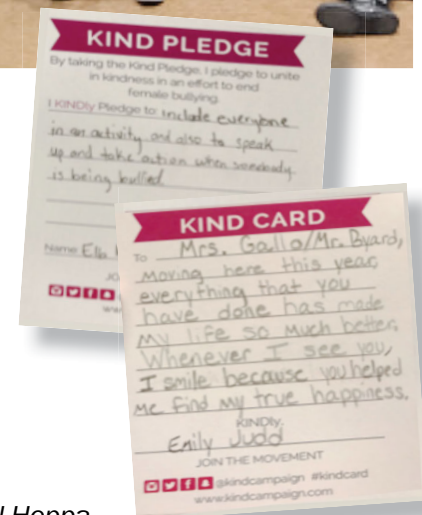
FINDING KIND

Our middle school girls participated in a unique event in November. The Kind Campaign is an internationally recognized non-profit organization that brings awareness and healing to the negative and lasting effects of girl-against-girl bullying through their global movement, documentary film, in-school assemblies and educational curriculums. Our counseling office and be nice. team brought the assembly to life by creating a half-day experience for the girls including a screening of the film and activities to support the message. Norse Network sponsored a viewing for parents and the community as well. Look for our moveable Kind Wall throughout our school! For more information, visit www.findingkind.com or contact Tina Gallo tgallo@nmps.net.

Thanks to Norse Network for sponsoring the community event and Mr. Byard for working on all the logistics and Mrs. Gallo for leading the events.



Student Ella Mallon shares her Kind Pledge.



HS leaders: Lindsey Golden, Ellie Hayhurst, Bella Lindsay, Hope Johnson, Brianna Ramsey, Hannah Lenius and Kendal Hoppa.

Kind Campaign

Middle School Student Council

Building Leaders Through Service



This year's Middle School Student Council took on a new mission of service. Our goal for the year was to create meaningful service events for our community in an effort to cultivate a positive culture and climate for the entire middle school student body. There are many factors that contribute to what events we are able to do each year, and to whom we donate our proceeds from the events we do schedule. Our decisions are based on feedback from the student body via surveys and through identifying the needs of our community in a several ways and on a variety of spatial scales.

Our kick-off event in the 2017/18 school year was a dance for all middle school students to enjoy. The proceeds from this dance were donated to the North Muskegon lunch fund that helps students who are struggling to afford hot lunch at school.

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr.'s Day of Service we organized and executed a Kid's Food Basket service learning project for all middle school students. Students made over 2000 bags of trail mix and 100 supper packs, as well as decorated countless bags with inspirational messages.

In an attempt to offer variety in the activities we offer and to involve whole families we held our first annual Family Fun Night at Norton Pines Athletic Club! This family friendly fundraiser was a huge success and earned us funds that we plan to use for our end of the year event (TBD).

One of the most revered North Muskegon Middle School traditions is our March Madness week. Each day students participate in

different "dress up days" to earn points for their grade. The week culminates with a friendly competition amongst the sixth, seventh and eighth grades that includes a variety of games chosen by the students. This event provides a great opportunity for team building, school spirit and celebration of our community.

We plan to organize at least one more event before the end of the year and will be collecting feedback from the student body as to the nature of the event. We are thankful to our community for supporting our mission through participation in the events we plan and look forward to serving our community and all Norsemen.



Abby Bayne, Tyler Houston, Laura Batch, Jackson Wiles, Analea Wingard, Anna Beetham, Allie Friesner, Anna Blastic, Sophia Lindsay, Kendra Canfield, Advisor - Colleen Christophersen.

A Message From Our Co-Presidents

Tyler Houston, Co-president

"I want to be a bigger role model, and inspire people. I want all of the students in middle school to be able to participate in all the activities."

Abby Banye, Co-president

"The student council is about being able to build strong ties with the student council, student body, and the community in which we live."

Welcome Mr. Weikel!

Mrs. Pek's class welcomed Mr. Daniel Weikel, a neighbor and friend of second grader Sawyer Kersman. Mr. Weikel served with the 82nd Airborne division from 1957-1968 as a paratrooper. During his years of service, Mr. Weikel completed 1,101 jumps! Mr. Weikel is married to his wife, Barbara, and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the LST 393 here in Muskegon. Thank you for your service, and for visiting North Muskegon Schools.



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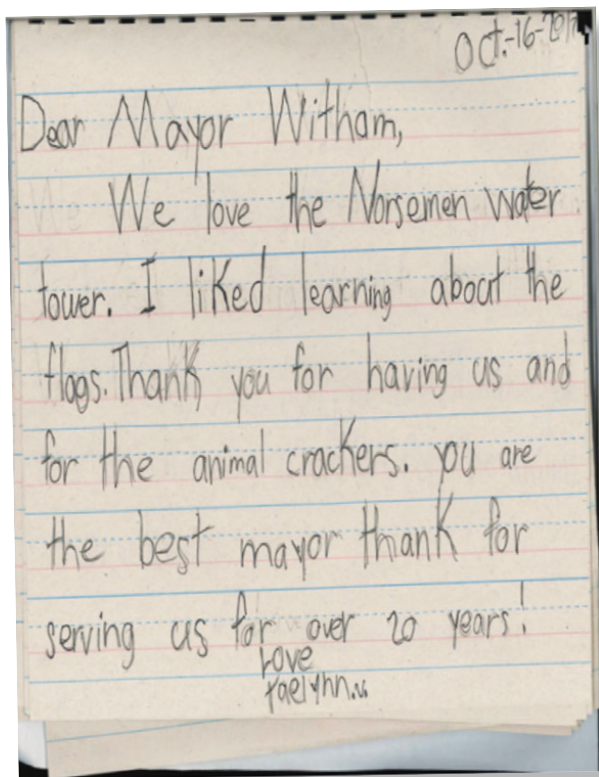
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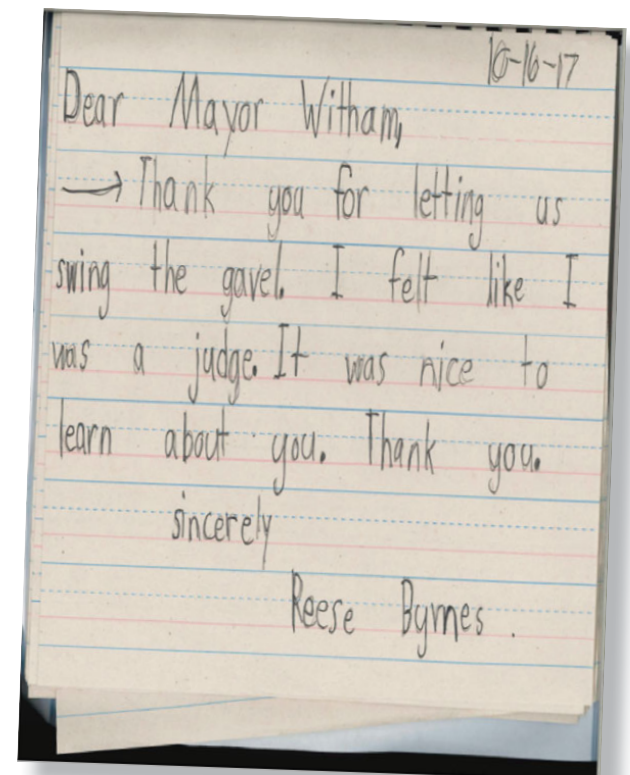
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A Future Mayor?

Mrs. Pek's Second Grade class visited Mayor Witham's office at North Muskegon's City Hall this fall. They enjoyed visiting with him and learning more about the important role a mayor plays in our city. To show their gratitude, students wrote thank you letters and pictures for Mayor Witham. Thank you to the City of North Muskegon for supporting our school!



Calling all Business Leaders

YOU can help our NM Students!

As our youth are considering career opportunities and pursuing necessary post-secondary education and training, we would like to provide them with the tools they need to make those decisions before spending time and money on the wrong college programs. Job Shadows, Talent Tours, and Internships and Employment will help students make these life changing decisions and help them choose fulfilling careers. There is a local collaboration between students, educators, and employers aimed at introducing young job seekers to the region's growing occupations.

Consider engaging in career development opportunities for students

in OUR community, such as company tours, job shadowing, mock interviews, or speaking in a classroom. In addition, opportunities are available for students to earn high school credit and essential employability skills through a valuable internship placement.

Would your company like to offer one of these opportunities?

- Career coach/mentor
- Job Shadow Event
- Talent Tour
- Internship (Work-based Learning Opportunity)
- Employment

This collaboration will help you by promoting your company and industry to students, interacting with them directly, and providing valuable advice and career development opportunities for kids in OUR community.

Please contact the NM Career Specialist for details:

Jennifer Balgooyen
Career Specialist, North Muskegon's
CTE Educator
231-780-8108
jbalgooyen@muskegonisd.org

North Muskegon Norsemen 2018 Spring Sports Schedule

NORTH MUSKEGON VARSITY BASEBALL

May 1	Hart (DH)	4:00
May 3	Fremont (DH)	4:00
May 5	GMAA	TBA
May 8	@ Mason County Central (DH)	4:00
May 12	@ Hesperia Inv	TBA
May 14	@ WMC (DH)	4:00
May 15	Montague (DH)	4:00
May 17	Cedar Springs	4:30
May 19	Zeeland West @ Hope College	TBA
May 21	Pentwater (DH)	4:00
May 22	Oakridge (DH)	4:00

NORTH MUSKEGON JV/VARSITY LACROSSE

May 1	@ Lowell	7:00
May 3	Caledonia	7:00
May 8	@ Holland Christian	7:00
May 10	GR Catholic Central	7:00
May 12	@ East GR Invite (JV)	TBA

NORTH MUSKEGON GOLF

May 1	@ Shelby	3:30
May 2	GMAA	TBA
May 7	@ Hart	3:30
May 11	@ Montague Invite	9:30
May 17	@ Mason County Central	3:30

NORTH MUSKEGON JV BASEBALL

May 3	@ Fremont (DH)	4:00
May 8	Mason County Central (DH)	4:00
May 12	@ Ludington Inv	TBA
May 15	@ Montague (DH)	4:00
May 17	@ Holton (DH)	4:00
May 22	@ Oakridge (DH)	4:00

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NORSE EDUCATION FOUNDATION

WHO WE ARE

The Norse Education Foundation is a fund at the Community Foundation for Muskegon County sustained and advised by North Muskegon Public Schools supporters. Our advisory board is made up of school staff, parents, and community members who raise funds and make spending decisions for the Foundation.

WHAT WE DO

We raise funds to support projects that promote educational excellence at North Muskegon Public Schools. Since 2012, NEF has funded a mentoring program, bought high-tech classroom equipment, supported new learning and teaching techniques, and many other projects unable to be supported by the school's general fund.

LEARN MORE

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SUPPORTING EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE AT NORTH MUSKEGON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2017 STEAM Projects

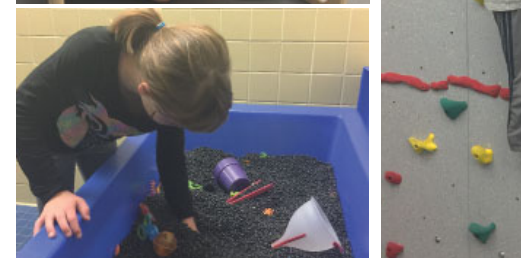
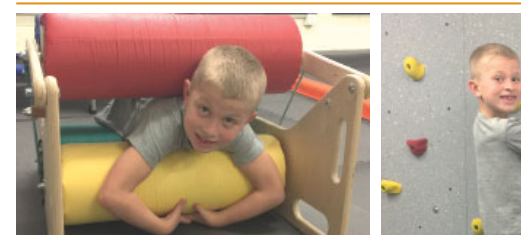
NEF supported the creation of a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) **Makerspace** in the elementary library in partnership with the North Muskegon PTO. Through the integration of high tech and low tech equipment, students explore, create, and experiment with a maker cart and an Epic LEGO Wall. High school biology students experience modern laboratory environments with the help of new **high-powered microscopes**. Upper elementary students got more hands-on time in line with Next Generation Science Standards with the use of new physical science **"phenomenon based learning" kits**.

2017 School Climate Projects

NEF supports projects that promote and enhance the positive school climate that NMPS is known for and our students, staff, and community work tirelessly to maintain. **Norse United** is a unique mentoring program that pairs high school students with younger students to achieve goals like increasing positive attitudes about school, improving peer relationships, and promoting academic success. The **be nice.** school climate improvement initiative was brought to NMPS this spring with the goal of promoting a positive school environment and encouraging good mental health by teaching students to notice, invite, challenge and empower.

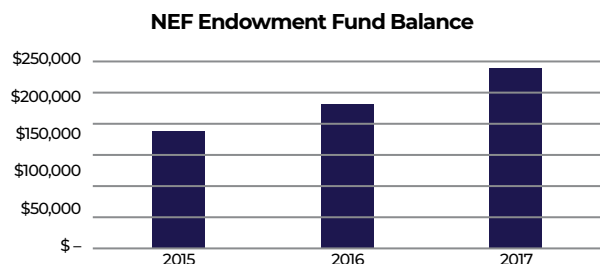
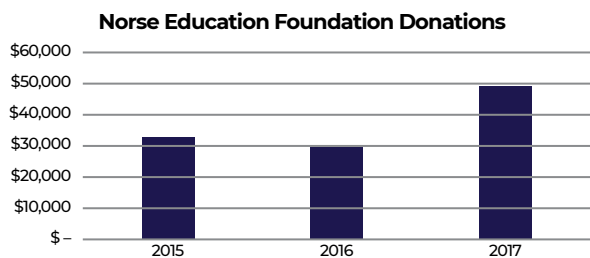
2017 Special Projects

With the help of generous memorial contributions and countless hours of volunteer time from her family, friends, and GVSU colleagues, the Norse Education Foundation is proud to present the **Denise P. Meier Sensory Room**. The space and equipment has allowed us to better meet a variety of sensory, fine and gross motor needs of NMPS students. In addition to working with students during occupational therapy sessions, trained staff members are able to bring students to the room daily for scheduled break to help students meet their individual sensory and motor needs.





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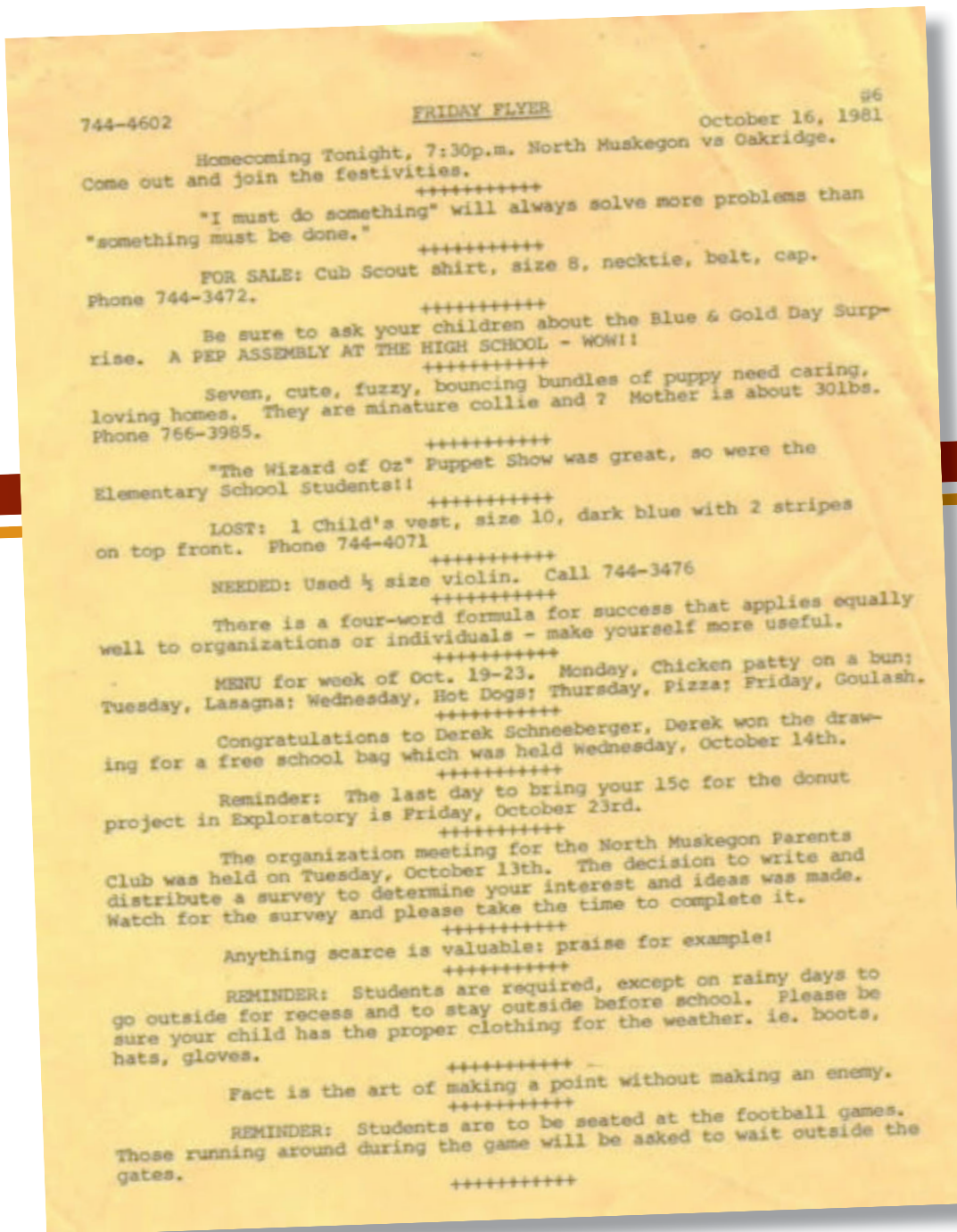
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From the Norsemen Archives:

North Muskegon Elementary has used our Friday Flyer publication to communicate with families for many years!

This Friday Flyer is from October 16, 1981! So much has changed since then - but many things about our school experience remain the same.

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Norsemen IN THE NEWS!



NM Third Grader, Aubrey Clausen, celebrated her 9th birthday this year by asking for donations to the Muskegon Humane Society. Aubrey loves animals and wants to help every animal be cared for and loved, even if they don't have a home yet. She partnered with the Lakeshore Fitness Center to collect donations from the community. Thanks to Aubrey for showing compassion and selflessness, and being a true North STAR!



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Michigan College Month



Our middle and high school homerooms (Norse Time) enjoyed a spirited competition in October. To celebrate college awareness during Michigan College Month, our students and teachers were randomly assigned a Michigan college in which to research and create a door display. For two weeks, students worked on highlighting what makes their college unique. Doors/Doorways were judged on creativity, how well the door represents the college, and colors and visuals.

Winning doors enjoyed cider and donuts on Halloween, sponsored by the counseling office. Winning teachers of the door enjoyed a gift card to Hobo's courtesy of Norse Network (MS/HS PTO).

Thanks to everyone that showed their creativity! Special thanks to Megan Karaba (Muskegon Opportunity) who inspired the event. We hope to make this an annual tradition.

Pictured clockwise from top left: 1. - Mr. Karaba's winning MS door highlighting Northern Michigan University. 2. - Mrs. Johnson's winning HS door highlighting the University of Michigan. 3. - Mrs. Claussen's HS runner up door highlighting Saginaw Valley State University.



NM Student Art exhibited at the Muskegon Museum of Art!

Several of our NM students had their art on exhibit at the Muskegon Museum of Art from March 28 - Apr 29. Congratulations to Jimmy Cobb, Katie Simonson, Kelty Blastic, Ben Hendrickson, Lilliam Smith and Lethaniel Nickoloff on your success!

Norse United '17-'18

The Norse United Club began in 2013 with 5 high school students with a vision to connect our district under one club. This year our club is bigger than ever with 36 mentors! Our high school mentors are inspired to pay it forward to the next generation of Norsemen and partner with elementary or middle school students in order to create a positive school connection during non-academic time at least once per week. Goals are created for each child and mentoring occurs one-on-one to increase self esteem and emotional development. Norse United mentors understand the impact they can have on a child's life and embrace that our little Norsemen are always watching their mentors wherever they go. Having this program fosters a wonderful mindset within our school community supporting lifelong learning (including



Norse United Officers Chairperson: Bella Lindsay, Treasurer: Anneka Lindsay, Communications: Darcy Nedeau, Membership: Ben Hogan, Events: Belles Hardman & Reyna Johnson



social-emotional growth), which is done collaboratively. Special thanks to the Norse Education Foundation for partnering with us to create this unique experience and the support of North Muskegon teachers, who value social emotional growth as a vital part of child development!

Do you know of a student who could benefit from mentorship? We currently have several high school mentors looking for an elementary or middle school buddy! For more information, please contact club supervisor and school counselor, Tina Gallo, at tgallo@nmps.net.



MARCH IS READING MONTH

At NM Elementary!

Our NM Elementary students love to “Paws” For Reading! We celebrated “March is Reading Month” throughout our elementary with a Principal’s Challenge, door decorating contests, trivia questions, parties, guest readers, and special activities for each grade level. Students spent extra time this month reading and sharing with their friends and teachers about their favorite books. Ask a student what they enjoyed most about Reading Month!





Students of the Month



December Students of the Month

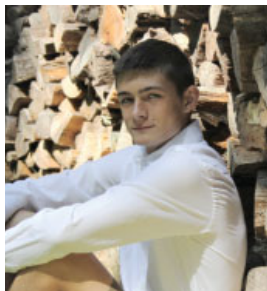


Sophie Stewart is the daughter of Kerry and Mike Stewart. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Interact, Orchestra Council, Environmental Club, and Student Council. She participates in swimming and soccer. She is first chair violist for the high school orchestra. Sophie spends summers as a camp counselor at YMCA Camp Pentalouan. She enjoys playing ukulele, reading, and spending time with her family. She plans on going to college in pursuit of a degree in mechanical engineering.

Andrew Butzow, son of Rhonda Jacoby and Mark Butzow, is a member of National Honor Society. He has been a four-year participant in varsity football, earning First Team Academic All-State honors his senior year. Andrew has also been on the basketball and track teams. He is currently undecided on future plans but plans on attending a university next fall.

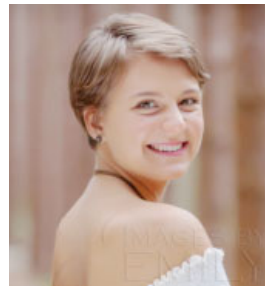


January Students of the Month



Jacob Lorenz is the son of William and Laura Lorenz. He enjoys participating in athletics such as cross country, hockey, and track. He is a member of National Honor Society, Interact, and Boy Scout Troop #1008. He is currently undecided on what school he will be attending this fall but is planning to pursue a degree in chemical engineering.

Lauryn Anderson is the daughter of Lynn and Jon Anderson. She is a member of National Honor Society and actively participates in French Club and is the co-president for the foreign language fundraiser, "Cabaret". She has been an exchange student in France twice, and is very excited to go back in July to spend more time with her host family. Lauryn has also volunteered for the Appalachia Service Project for four summers, and is planning on volunteering again after graduation. She is planning on attending Muskegon Community College in the fall for her associates degree and then transferring to Michigan State University. In her free time, Lauryn enjoys reading, writing, and eating rice.



February Students of the Month



Kylie Simonson, She serves as vice president of the National Honor Society. Kylie has been a future teacher for three years, mentoring over ninety elementary students. She also mentors ten amazing middle school wrestlers. Kylie enjoys volunteering at Cat Tales Shelter, and has worked with the animals there for nine years. She plans to spend four years studying human services at Baker College.

Alayna Adams is the daughter of Joseph and Zaneta Adams. She is the Executive President of Student Council and a team leader of the Interact Club. Alayna has participated in varsity track, cheerleading, and is the captain of her cheer team. She loves to volunteer and be a part of everything. Alayna has been accepted to the University of Illinois at Chicago in the Biological Sciences program in hopes of becoming a surgeon.



March Students of the Month



Corinne Nedeau is the daughter of Sam and Carolyn Nedeau. She has been in student council for 4 years and is this year's senior class Vice President. She was the captain of the girls varsity cross country team and has been a member of the team for 4 years.

She has also done 3 years of track and field. Corinne and Stella Branch co-organized North Muskegon's participation in the National Walkout Movement and attended the March for Our Lives, in Grand Rapids, in support of more legislation for safer schools and gun control. She is also an active member of the Progressive Youth Caucus. She spends most of her summertime at Camp Pentalouan where she works as a camp counselor. She likes to spend her time singing, skiing, sailing, and traveling with friends. In the fall, she will attend a four year university to further her education.

Stella Branch is the daughter of Joe and Katie Branch. She has traveled across Europe with the Blue Lake International Youth Symphony Orchestra and participated in the Spanish Exchange. Stella has been an active member of Student Council and has been the Orchestra Council President for three years. She is the Concertmaster and Soloist of The Saint Cecilia Philharmonic Orchestra and Assistant Principal of the Muskegon Area Honors Orchestra. Stella was also part of the Cabaret Orchestra and teaches violin lessons to North Muskegon Elementary/Middle School students. She co-organized North Muskegon's Walkout Against Gun Violence and is a member of the Progressive Youth Caucus. Stella plans to study Biochemical Engineering next year at Purdue.





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