



The Norsemen Pride

August 2020 | Issue 24

THE NEWSLETTER FOR NORTH MUSKEGON SCHOOL DISTRICT

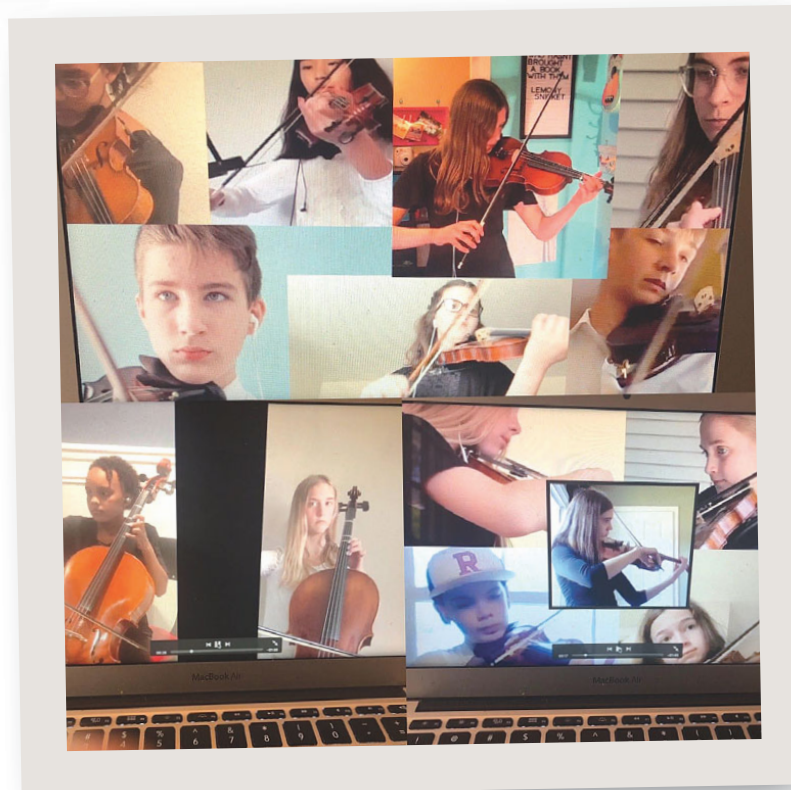
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Making Music with the Middle School Orchestra

By Angela Corbin

Our Norse Middle School Musicians took music they had rehearsed together for less than a full week...took it home in the middle of a global crisis and independently learned it, practiced it, polished it, performed and recorded it. All this, while they continued to take a full course load of middle school classes on their own, helping younger siblings and their families,



making art, starting new hobbies, and finding new ways to stay connected.

All that - like it's no big deal.

These 11-14 year old musicians performed "THE AVENGERS" by Alan Silvestri and arranged for String Orchestra by Larry Moore from home.

Thank you to our dedicated Middle School string musicians!

Available to watch on Facebook!



"I knew I wanted to go into a non-traditional field like welding. The friends I've made have become forever-friends. I would have never met them without this class."

—Jazmine Bennett,
CTC Welding Technology

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A Message From Our Superintendent!



Welcome Back, Norsemen Family!

As I write this in early July, I am extremely hopeful and confident the above title will still be appropriate! It is our intention to do everything we can to begin the 2020/21 School Year safely and under all guidelines/direction set forth to us. As tradition proves

- our students, staff, parents, and school community are going to make this an amazing (and for sure memorable!) year at NM! I am so proud of all the work that has been put in to date and for what I know will be incredible collaboration as we evolve through this coming school year. Thank you for being positive and supportive while doing your part!

With all of that said, we hope everyone has had an enjoyable summer and is ready to get back to school! Well...get ready, because here we go! While things may look, feel, and be a bit different - one thing will not change: This will be a year of high academic expectations, wonderful student focused events, and an incredible sense of school community pride. Together, we will make this a wonderful 2020/21 school year!

It is a GREAT day to be Norsemen! It is always a GREAT day to be Norsemen!

With Norse Pride,

Dr. Curt Babcock
Superintendent of Schools

"We are an Educational Community that gives our BEST and expects the BEST."

Go Norse!

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NM Drama Students Shine On Stage with Aladdin Jr.!



This year's show was a huge success and motivated the cast to become involved in Drama Club! Our senior from this year's Class of 2020 was Rutha Wright, whose leadership, beautiful voice, and dynamic personality will be missed. The group worked together as a team, bringing positive energy to rehearsals and going above and beyond to raise the necessary funds to make the show happen. The students' talent, hard work, and ingenuity produced a show that was an adventure for everyone involved! The community's response was very positive, and audiences loved it! Special thanks to Toni Seyferth and Jeff Reeths for their inspired direction and tireless effort to give our students this opportunity.

Cast: Brendan Harris, Allie Lindsay, Adam Batch, Austin Hubbell, Rutha Wright, Lillian Atkinson-Miller, Helena Soelberg, Riley McEvoy, Jacob Cotner, Jude Meldrum-Roy, Iliza Crawford, Sydney Kreigh, Anna Basso-Dick, Jackson Wiles, Kayla Davies, Katie Simonson, Allie Friesner, Ella Mallon, Sophie Corbin, Kayla Davies, Serenity Pastor, August Carefelle, Isabella DeJonge, Isabel Dadd

Stage Managers: Mim Wilkie-Jones and Katherine Hedges

Lighting: CJ Bennett, Paul Henderson, Jeff Reeths

Costumes: Joey Sutton, Jessica Crawford, Sheila Mogren, Barbi George, Staci Seyferth Taylor, Kelly Seyferth, J'nai Closz, Tracy Sodini, Toni Seyferth, Norse Choir

Backstage Costume Manager: Jennifer Hedges

Props & Set: Jessica DeJonge, Matt Gongalski, Greg Chase, Jim Bozell, Victor Brenning, Anna Basso-Dick, Katherine Hedges

Box Office: Brooke Dombrowski, Lori Rypstra, Katherine Taylor, Kai Tucker, Kylie Simonson, Iliza Crawford, Katherine Hedges, Isabel Dadd, Tom Beetham, Anna Basso-Dick, Kharna Simonson, Colleen Christophersen, Angie Friesner





Art Installation Downtown Features NM Art Instructor

The next time you visit the Muskegon Farmer's Market, be sure to enjoy "Chrysalis," a metal sculpture, by NM art teacher Chip VanderWier! Located on the corner of Jefferson and Western, the sculpture is part of the "Art of Recycling" exhibit downtown. We are excited that our Muskegon community and many visitors can enjoy Mr. VanderWier's creativity and talent in making lovely art and sculpture from recycled materials!

Photos courtesy of MLive.com.



School lunch heroes honored

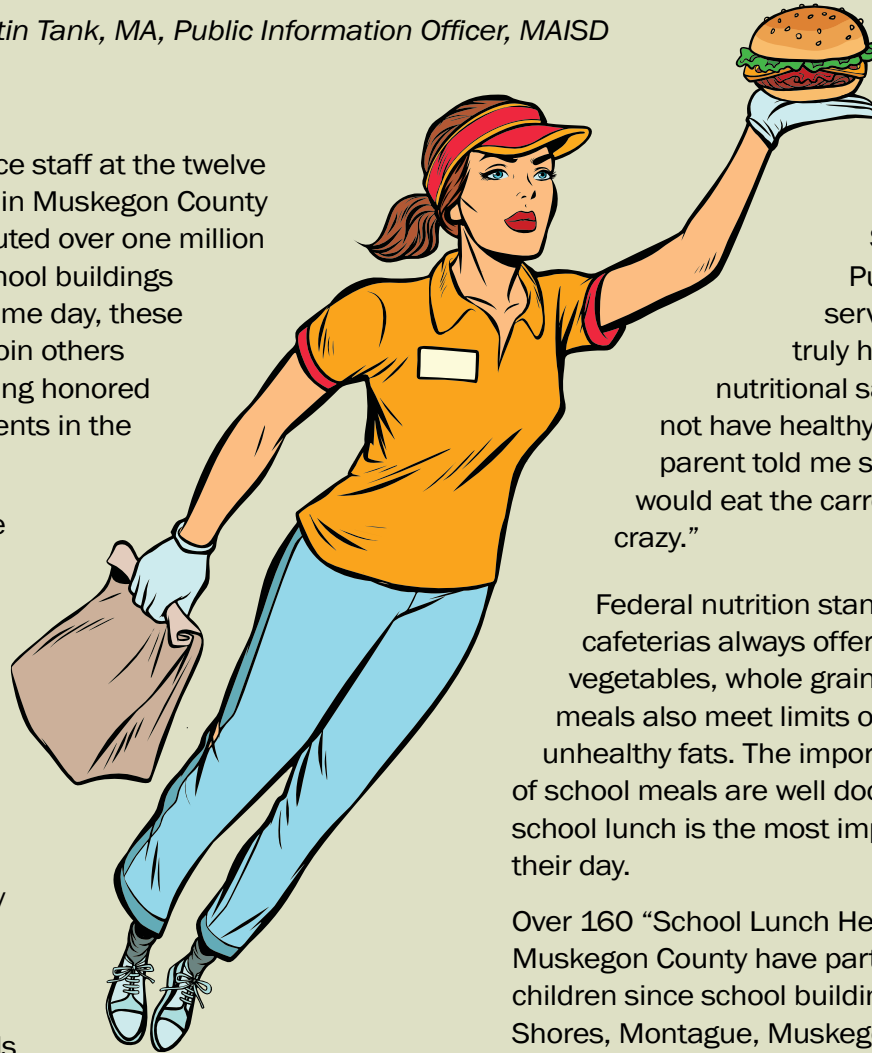
Over one million meals given to children

By Kristin Tank, MA, Public Information Officer, MAISD

On Friday, May 1 food service staff at the twelve local public school districts in Muskegon County will have collectively distributed over one million meals to students since school buildings closed in March. On that same day, these “school lunch heroes” will join others across America that are being honored for serving up hope to students in the midst of this crisis.

“Our food service staff have huge hearts for kids. They know there are hungry kids out there and this is what we do,” said Erik Neering, District Manager of Chartwells School Dining. “Our staff snapped into action when this crisis hit and they continue to amaze me as the demand for meals increases,” he added. Neering said 176,232 meals were distributed last week alone.

The schools are providing free breakfasts, lunches, and some suppers in a variety of ways. All are providing seven days of meals on a once-a-week basis. Some are delivering at bus stops, many have set times for curbside pickup, and others have designated multiple pickup spots within the community. Many local community groups and churches are providing valuable assistance for distribution and delivery.



Dan Gorman, Food Service Director for Whitehall District Schools and Montague Area Public Schools said, “Our food service staff and volunteers are truly heroes! They are providing a nutritional safety net for kids who may not have healthy meals like this at home. One parent told me she didn’t think their young kids would eat the carrots, but now they eat them like crazy.”

Federal nutrition standards ensure that school cafeterias always offer low-fat or fat-free milk, fruits, vegetables, whole grains and lean protein. School meals also meet limits on calories, sodium and unhealthy fats. The importance and nutritional value of school meals are well documented. For many children, school lunch is the most important and nutrient-rich meal of their day.

Over 160 “School Lunch Heroes” from schools located in Muskegon County have participated in providing meals for children since school buildings in Fruitport, Holton, Mona Shores, Montague, Muskegon, Muskegon Heights, North Muskegon, Oakridge, Orchard View, Ravenna, Reeths-Puffer, and Whitehall closed due to the pandemic.

The School Nutrition Association and Jarrett Krosoczka, author of the “Lunch Lady” children’s graphic novel series, created School Lunch Hero Day. It has been celebrated annually since 2013 to provide an opportunity for parents, students, school staff and communities to thank those who provide healthy meals to nearly 30 million of America’s students each school day.

Norsemen Never Stop Learning!

During our school closure due to COVID-19, our students continued to learn and share their adventures and activities with their teachers, paraprofessionals, and classmates!



Blanket forts and read alouds with Mrs. Atchison!



Jackson P. wrote his autobiography and shared his birth announcement with his class!



Zoom meetings with Mrs. Atchison's class!

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Mrs. VanderWall's class finished their science, learning about chicks and tadpoles that lived at home with Mrs. VanderWall instead of inside their classroom.



Mrs. VanderWall kept her students' spirits up by accepting the Ice Bucket Challenge! Brrr!!!

A first grade student was inspired by their studies of chicks and their development. She decided to track the development of some robins in her grandparents' yard!



Mrs. Benson created yard signs and delivered them to her students' homes!



Best Wishes on Your Retirement!

North Muskegon is saying a fond farewell to two dedicated staff members this year. Beverly Uetricht has been a Paraprofessional in our district for 23 years, supporting so many students and teachers and extending her thoughtfulness to all of us! Sharon Rushcamp has worked as our district's Business Manager for 9 years. Her attention to detail and thoroughness has kept us all organized. Congratulations to you both and best wishes for an enjoyable retirement!

North Muskegon Norsemen

2020 Fall Sports Schedule

BOYS/GIRLS VARSITY/ MIDDLE SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

August 24	@ Trojan/Eagle Inv (V)	TBA
August 29	@ Benzie Central Inv (V)	TBA
September 10	@ Mason CC Geers Inv (V)	TBA
September 15	@ Mason CC (V/MS)	4:30pm
September 22	@ Oakridge (V/MS)	4:30pm
October 1	@ Kent City (MS)	TBA
October 3	@ Allendale Inv (V)	TBA
October 6	@ Hart (V/MS)	4:30pm
October 17	GMAA	TBA
October 13	NM (V/MS)	4:30pm
October 30	Regionals	TBA

Coach: David Waterstradt

BOYS VARSITY TENNIS

August 19	@ South Christian	1:00pm
August 21	@ Portland Inv	9:00am
August 24	@ Reeths Puffer Inv	9:00am
August 26	@ TC ST Francis	9:00am
September 9	@ Grant	4:00pm
September 14	@ Fremont	4:00pm
September 16	@ WMC	4:00pm
September 17	@ NorthPointe	4:00pm
September 21	Whitehall	4:00pm
September 23	Ludington	4:00pm
September 26	GMAA	TBA
October 3	@ Ludington (conference)	TBA
October 8-10	Regionals	TBA

Coach: Cody Liverance

GIRLS JV/VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

August 21st	@ WMVOA (V)	9:00am
August 22rd	@ WMC Inv (V)	9:00am
August 22th	@ Fremont Inv (JV)	TBA
August 24th	@ Cadillac Inv (JV)	8:30am
August 26th	@ TC Central Inv (V)	TBA
August 27th	@ Lowell Quad (JV)	5:00pm
August 28th	@ Cadillac Inv (V)	8:30am
Sept 1st	Oakridge (JV/V)	5:30pm
Sept 3rd	WMC/Ludington (JV Tri)	5:00pm
Sept 4th	@ Grand Haven Inv (V)	8:30am
Sept 8th	@ Montague (JV/V)	5:30pm
Sept 12th	@ Fruitport Inv (V)	8:30am
Sept 15th	@ Shelby (JV/V)	5:30pm
Sept 19th	@ Fruitport Inv (JV)	9:00am
Sept 22nd	Ravenna (JV/V)	5:30am
Sept 26th	@ Mona Shores Inv (JV)	9:00am
Sept 29th	Hart (JV/V)	5:30am
Oct 6th	Whitehall (JV/V)	5:30pm
Oct 10th	@ East Kentwood Inv (V)	8:00am
Oct 13th	@ Mason CC (JV/V)	5:30pm
Oct 17th	GMAA (V)	9:00am
Oct 17th	@ Grand Haven Inv (JV)	8:30am
Oct 21st	@ Shelby (Conference JV)	4:00pm
Oct 22nd	@ Holton (quad) (JV)	5:30pm
Oct 24th	Conference (V)	9:00am
Oct 30th	@ Reeths Puffer/Spring Lake (V)	5:30pm
Nov 2nd	Districts	TBA

Coaches: Varsity- Heather Claussen, JV- Heidi Houseman

GIRLS VARSITY GOLF

Aug 19	@ Mona Shores Inv	TBA
Aug 21	@ Fruitport Inv	8:30am
Aug 26	@ Whitehall Inv	TBA
Sept 2	Whitehall	3:30pm

GET OUT AND SUPPORT YOUR NORTH MUSKEGON TEAMS!

Sept 10	@ Whitehall	4:00pm
Sept 17	@ Montague Inv	9:00am
Sept 23	GMAA @ NM	TBA
Sept 25	@ Ludington Inv	9:30am
Oct 1	@ Reeths Puffer	9:00am
Oct 5-10	Regionals	TBA

Coach: Jay Prasad

MIDDLE SCHOOL 7/8 BOYS FOOTBALL

September 9	@ Ravenna (scrimmage)	4:00pm
September 16	@ Whitehall	4:00pm
September 23	Hart	4:00pm
September 30	@ Montague	4:00pm
October 7	Shelby	4:00pm
October 14	Mason CC	4:00pm
October 21	@ Oakridge	4:00pm

Coaches: Al Karaba, Chuck Wahl

JV/VARSITY FOOTBALL

August 27	@ Muskegon Catholic (JV)	6:30pm
August 28	Muskegon Catholic (V)	7:00pm
September 2	Ravenna (JV)	6:30pm
September 3	@ Ravenna (V)	7:00pm
September 10	Montague (JV)	6:30pm
September 11	@ Montague	7:00pm
September 17	Shelby (JV)	6:30pm
September 18	Shelby (V)	7:00pm
September 24	@ Hart (JV)	6:30pm
September 25	Hart (V)	7:00pm
October 1	Whitehall (JV)	6:30pm
October 2	@ Whitehall (V)	7:00pm
October 8	Oakridge (JV)	6:30pm
October 9	@ Oakridge (V)	7:00pm
October 15	@ Mason CC (JV)	6:30pm
October 16	Mason CC (V) (HC)	7:00pm

October 22	@ Orchard View (JV)	6:30pm
October 23	Orchard View(V)	7:00pm

Coaches: JV - Chuck Rypstra, Larry Witham

BOYS JV/VARSITY SOCCER

Aug 22	@ Hackett Inv (JV/V) ??	TBA
Aug 24	Leland	5:00pm
Aug 26	@ Fremont (JV)	4:30pm
Aug 27	@ Reeths Puffer (JV/V)	5:00pm
Sept 1	@ GR Covenant	5:00pm
Sept 3	WMC (JV/V)	4:15pm
Sept 9	@ Whitehall (JV/V)	4:00pm
Sept 12	Ludington (JV/V)	10:00am
Sept 14	@ Ravenna	5:00pm
Sept 16	Oakridge (JV/V)	5:00pm
Sept 21	@ Montague (JV/V)	4:00pm
Sept 24	Shelby (JV/V)	5:00pm
Sept 26	Spring Lake (JV/V)	10:00am
Sept 28	@ Shelby (JV)	
Sept 28	Muskegon CC	7:00pm
Sept 29	Hart (V), Fremont (JV)	5:00pm
Oct 2	@ Lenawee	6:30pm
Oct 14	Districts	

Coach: Jeremy Tjapkes

GIRLS VARSITY SWIM

August 22	@ Ludington Relays	TBA
August 25	@ Unity Christian HS	6:00pm
September 3	@ Manistee HS	6:00pm
September 10	Caledonia HS	6:00pm
September 12	@ Spring Lake Inv.	9:00am
September 15	@ Spring Lake	6:30pm
September 22	Holland HS	6:30pm
September 29	Holland Christian HS	6:30pm
October 6	@ Zeeland West HS	6:30pm
October 9	@ MISCA meet at Calvin	TBA
October 13	@Ludington HS	6:00pm
October 20	Hamilton HS	6:30pm
October 22	@ Fremont HS	6:00pm
October 27	@ GR Catholic Central	6:30pm
October 29	Ludington HS	6:00pm
November 6	@ OK Tier 1 Prelims at Zeeland West	5:00pm
November 7	@ OK Tier 1 Finals at Zeeland West	12:00pm
November 12	@ MHSAA Regional	TBA

Remote Learning at NME



The McFarren children are joined by their “Flat Teachers,” Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Fortmeyer right alongside them as they complete daily assignments.

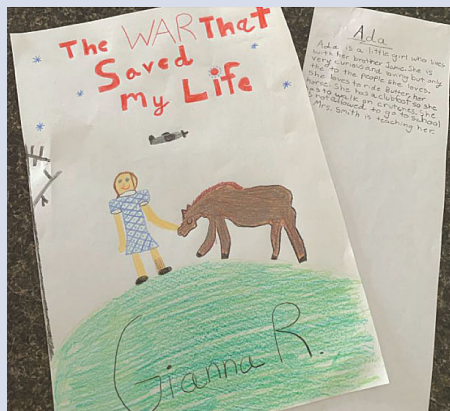


By Terri Fortmeyer

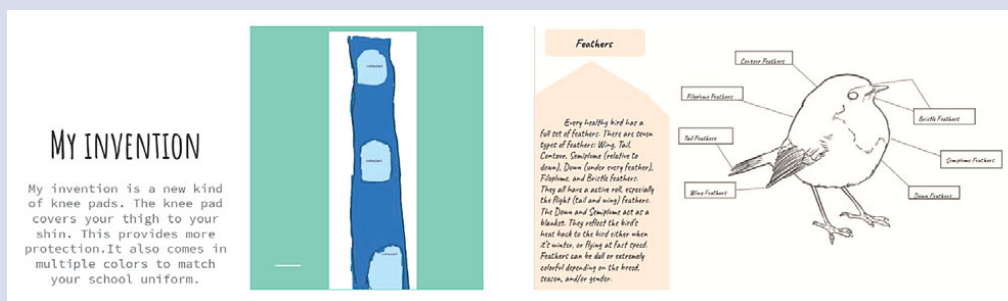
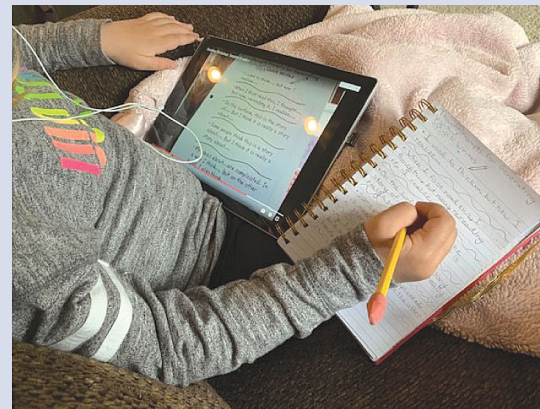
Upon our governor’s stay-at-home order, beginning March 16, and then lasting through the last day of the school year on June 9, 2020, parents, students, and teachers began scrambling to rearrange schedules, to set up lines of communication, and to begin a new norm of an atypical end of the school year.

As North Muskegon elementary families and educators transitioned into the world of online learning, a plethora of digital platforms were explored and chosen by teams of teachers to aid instruction, such as Google Classroom, Zoom, Google Meet, Khan Academy, Prodigy, Freckle, Epic, Raz-Kids, SeeSaw, Screencastify, Quizizz, Kahoot, and many others. Fortunately, most programs were offered to schools on a free-trial basis during the months of at-home learning.

Parents became homeschool instructors overnight and joined with teachers to implement the necessary structures and creative ideas to make remote learning work for their families.

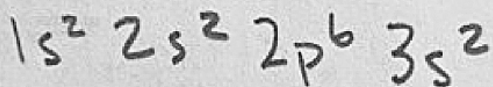


Gianna Rimedio keeps a reading notebook to respond to reading and then creates a book jacket as her final project.



Need outline for this project. Didn't see one.

d) Magnesium (Mg) ground state electron configuration



Chemistry At Home!

By Deb Johnson

Chemistry B students have been continuing their unit on chemical reactions. They have been sharing photos and videos of their at-home endothermic (cooling) reaction of baking soda and vinegar and to their Google classroom. Logan Wolters shared his photo of an at-home reaction!

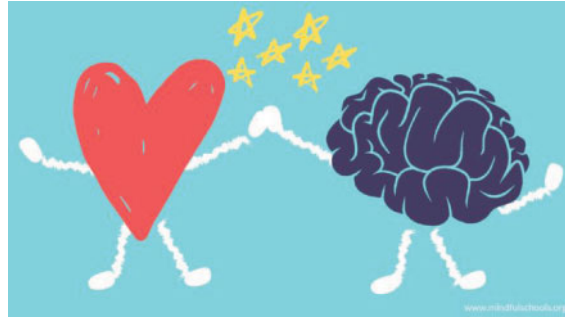
AP chemistry students have been submitting review work for their AP exam, like this electron configuration of magnesium by senior John Hayhurst.

Summer Reading Boost at N.M. Elementary!

By Jonathan Allen



This summer North Muskegon Elementary was awarded a very specific, targeted grant to offer a summer reading program in 2020. The grant money was awarded to help us support some of our readers in Kindergarten through 3rd-Grade. While much of the program needed to be completely re-worked in light of COVID-19 considerations, students were still able to participate! Those that were eligible (and their parents) committed to reading 20 minutes or more each day during the program, along with a weekly virtual meeting with our school's librarian, Mrs. Vanderweele. To support the reading, and to help make it more fun, the grant paid for the eligible students to select and purchase their own books... to keep! These books were shipped to the students' homes. We will assess the impact of this grant on students' reading skills in the fall. #NorseReads



Time to Think Outside of the Box

By Lisa Cobb, LMSW

Albert Einstein once wrote, “You cannot solve a problem from the same consciousness that created it. You must learn to see the world anew.” “I have no idea what my life will look like when school starts!” “How do I feel about masks?” “What will this new normal look like?” “Everyone has a different opinion” “My mom said this” “My dad said this” “I think this is stupid” “I’m scared” “I’m mad” “School better be this way and not that way” “I’m not going to school” “I hate this” “I miss my friends” “I love school”

During the pandemic, states and schools have put considerable focus on questions like:

1. How do we make sure students continue learning?
2. How do we make sure students don’t fall behind academically?
3. How do we ensure equity of access to the curriculum?
4. How do we address “feelings, thoughts and beliefs” in a school setting?

In just the past few months, we have seen learning consortiums and coalitions taking shape, with diverse stakeholders around the globe, coming together to utilize digital platforms as a temporary solution to the crisis. Whenever there is any major change that happens in our life, at all ages we naturally experience dis-ease, anxiety or physical and/or emotional pain.

We are being forced to think and teach outside of the box! In doing so, perhaps we can create a new “normal” that is spectacular!

At NMPS, the Covid-19 pandemic and the unrest in our society will be met as an opportunity to support our students, staff and community with the social emotional learning and mindfulness skills we all need as we collectively experience this ever-changing world.

We will be promoting and teaching wellness practices and building the social emotional learning competencies of self-management, self-awareness, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision making (CASEL, 2012) which can help us to be resilient and more successful in achieving our goals in school and at work, and to develop to our fullest potential.

When people suggest “things will never be the same,” they are talking about something deeper, about how we live, about our habits, norms, and ways of interrelating. For parents, teachers, and students, it is possible that some aspects of schooling might not go back to the way they were before. It is useful to start thinking about what might be coming and how these changes can be celebrated and encouraged, collectively and mindfully.

Powerful Synergy: SEL and Mindfulness Working Together - Mindful ...

NM PTO Shares Some Sunshine!



Our NM Elementary PTO delivered treats, t-shirts, and yard signs to our staff, thanking them for the care and expertise they give to our students and community. All of the goodies were a cheerful yellow, spreading “sunshine” during a challenging time! President Beka Ambrose and Treasurer Marci Dalm were the dedicated delivery team. Our staff and PTO continue to “make a difference at a distance!” Thank you to the NM PTO for their constant support and encouragement of our NM Staff!



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A Special Congratulations to our 2020 North Muskegon Graduates!



Ansley Shannon Oliphant
 Cameron Austin Packard
 Sydney Kate Peterson
 Kaitlyn Pfhistner
 Lindsey Belle Piper
 Katherine Collette Pitcher
 Gwenna Ariana Pitts
 Kerah Rae Plichta
 Dennis K Porter III
 Asa John Poulin
 Noel Anthony Rahrig
 Avery Bruno Ramirez
 Brianna Michelle Ramsey
 Logan James Richards
 Trey Mitchell Rose
 Hunter Johnathon Routley
 Caleb Andrew Rypstra
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 Paul Thomas Schanhals
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 Anna Marissa Sullivan
 Joseph Alan Tarrant
 David Allen Towner
 Jack William VanderWoude
 Eli James Walsh
 Kasey Michael Wilcoxson
 Alexa Jade Wolffis
 Chloe Justyne Wolffis
 Bryce Alexander Wright
 Rutha Madison Wright
 Hudson Allen Yaussy
 Evan Frederick Zubryd
 Exchange Student: Erik VanOdijk

Breanne Nicole Adamczak
 Alyssa Rae Archer
 Nickolas Scott Baerman
 Jennie Anne Beck
 Cody Michael Cisneros
 Madison Lee Clarke
 Rebecca Kaylee Cottrell
 Kyler Brockway Dana
 Jackson Bradley Davis
 Jack Thomas Dobb
 Jaala Rene Duncan
 Jordon Cole Durow
 Chandler Paige Falkowski
 Braeden Scott Fleming
 Joseph Alberts Flynn
 Brett Mikalary Galdeen

Delaney Marie Gannon
 Mason Michael Gregg
 Thayer Samuel Harris
 John Maris Hayhurst
 Elizabeth Marie Hedges
 Jake Daniel Hoffer
 Brody Derek Hoffman
 Arin Louise Hogan
 Elliot James Hozer
 Madelyn Kay Jandt
 Emme Lee Jensen
 Natalie Moore Johnson
 Sophia Rose Khan
 Camryn Joy Klint
 Andrew John Koman
 Kameron Michael Kreigh

Kelsey Veronica LeMieux
 Isabella Jane Santiago Lindsay
 Chloe Morgan-Parrish Lisinski
 Margaret Louise Lorenz
 Dexter Hammond Lynn
 Benjamin Nolan Mallon
 Jezica Lin Matrone-Jones
 Elysia Jae Maurer
 Cami Jo Maynard
 Claire Frances McCall
 Piper Alice Meldrum-Roy
 Nicholas Robert Meyering
 Brenden Joseph Moat
 Sophia Rae Mueller
 Jalyn Renae Mulder
 Namratha Moses Nelapudi



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Swimming Towards Success!

Congratulations to Lindsey Piper and Sydney Peterson, who participated in the 2019 Greater Muskegon Girls Co-Op Swim Team! The "Turtles" finished first in the state for Division 1 in the recently released Michigan Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association Academic All-State Team list for the 2019-20 school year, led by Coach Mick Homan. The athletes on this team, including students from North Muskegon, Mona Shores, West Michigan Christian, Muskegon Catholic Central, and Reeths-Puffer, excelled scholastically as well, ending the season with the highest grade point average of 3.94! Lindsey and Sydney are continuing NM's tradition of excellence in our student athletes. Go Norse!



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