



Principal's Notes:

April Vacation Update:

On March 2, we needed to take an additional emergency closing day because of a snowstorm. As a result, we will have to reduce the April recess by one day. That day is Friday, April 17, the final day of Spring Recess.

Attention families of Seniors:

We recently mailed several documents to our seniors' families. Among those documents was the Local Scholarship Form for scholarships that will be announced or distributed at graduation. I encourage all seniors to complete these forms. There is a mistaken belief that scholarships are only available to the top academic performing students. In fact, we have local scholarships that are targeted at specific intended college majors, participation in BOCES career programs, intended professional plans, community involvement and other areas outside high school academic performance. However, we cannot award any scholarship unless the form has been submitted. In order to assure that your child has access to a scholarship, you must complete the Local Scholarship Form. If you need another copy of the form mailed to you or emailed as an attachment, please contact Eileen Winslow in the Counseling and Career Center, ewinslow@newlebanoncsd.org or 794-7600 ext 2008. We need to have the forms returned by **Friday, March 13.**

Arts in education

Over the next five weeks, our 7th and 8th graders are participating in an arts in education experience, generously funded by a grant from local artist, John R. Phillips. The junior high students are exploring the concept of scale through art created by manipulating and reframing microphotographs of life forms in a macro scale. Visiting artist, Chris Moran, from the Capital Region Center for Arts in Education, will be guiding our students through this experience. The artwork is inspired by Antarctic microscopic life photographed by scientist Sam Bowser. Dr. Bowser will also be visiting New Lebanon to display his work. 7th and 8th grade ELA teacher Mrs. Holly May is our coordinator. She will be taking photographs of our students at work creating their original art, inspired by science. The students will write expository narratives, creating a photo journal. All the art and writing will accompany the art installation on April 8. Of course, the community is invited to enjoy the installation of our students' art and writing and Dr. Bowser's photographs.

Lost and Found

If you are visiting the school during school hours, please visit the lost and found while you are here. For small items, such as

glasses (yes, we have a few pairs), check with Mrs. Putnam at the front desk. We very much want to reunite lost items with their owners.

Coffee with the Principal-

March 19 is the date for this month's coffee with the principal. We meet in the main office at 7:30 am. This is a chance to find out about specific aspects of our school or programs. Past topics have included course scheduling, co-curricular activities, Internet safety, Advanced Placement courses and NY State testing. This is intended to be a time for parents to have individual interests or concerns addressed. If you can't come in March, the next coffee is Thursday, April 23.

Progress reports/Report cards:

Grades close March 6 for the 25-week progress reports. The reports will be distributed in school on March 13. Grades close on April 3 for the third quarter reporting period. Report cards will be distributed in school on April 10.

From the science department - Mr.

Giumarra will be taking two teams of AP physics students to the annual General Dynamics Engineer's Week competition. The teams will build Hacky Sack catapults from a limited quantity of recycled materials. Teams are judged on accuracy, maximum range, engineering efficiency, and project design documentation. The competition is during the evening on March 24th. New Lebanon has won the competition in the past and plans on doing well this year.

Mr. Garrigan is taking the AP Biology class to the Sam Rhine Genetics Conference on March 31st at Ballston Spa High School. The conference topics include: The Human Genome Project, uses of this Project, Regenerative Medicine, Producing Human Tissue and Organs in the Lab., and Stem Cell Technologies.

The Science Department continues to upgrade the use of technology in the science classrooms. More data collectors are being purchased for use in the classroom and in outside investigations. These collectors are the LabQuest data collector from Vernier. These collectors receive data from a variety of sensors and can either display the data immediately or can interface with the computers for further use and display. Sensors are available for all areas of science. We are committed to using the latest technology to better prepare our students for college and future careers.

The German Exchange Program-

will take place this year from April 18 to the 26th as we welcome 15 students from the

Egbert Gymnasium in Muensterschwarzach, Germany. They will shadow their host students to get a true idea of what school is like here in the U.S. and they will also participate in a number of field trips. There will be a "Kaffee und Kuchen" reception for them in the Home and Careers room during 9th set on Monday, April 20. If anyone would like more information about the Exchange or would like to meet our German guests, contact Mrs. Singleman at

asingleman@newlebanoncsd.org.

Prom News-

Prom Bids are now on sale! The cost is \$65. Prom will be held Saturday May 23rd, at the Crooked Lake House in Averill Park. Everyone is asked to meet at the High School at 5:30 for the grand march and court vote. By 6:15 everyone will board the bus and leave for the Crooked Lake House.

There will be a photographer taking pictures at the Crooked Lake House and there will also be a photo CD available to purchase with candid photos of the prom along with court photos. More information will be sent home. To purchase prom bids, or if you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Rock or Mrs. Sowalski at the high school.

Music News-

The following students were chosen to represent New Lebanon's Music Department at the All County band festival on March 6, 2009: Juanita Eaton, Rachel Hayes, Molly Risko, Kristine Greco, Ben Burgess and Chris Evans. They will spend the afternoon and evening of March 4th rehearsing with students that were selected from the other schools in the county and then they will perform on Friday March 6th at 7:30. The concert will take place in the Taconic Hills central school auditorium and is free to the public.

Technology Update:

Students in Materials Processing Class have designed a wrought iron table and are in the process of welding the parts together using both gas welding and arc welding methods. Students in Tech 7 have just completed an engineering design unit and are learning how to use CAD software to design an aerodynamic race car which will be used as their pattern for the construction of their dragster. In Architectural Drawing Class, our architects are busy creating floor plans of the house style they researched and wrote an essay on using CAD and 3D Home Architect software program

Home & Careers:

The Home and Careers classes are busy preparing for the Guess Who's Coming to Dinner Unit. During this unit students are given an ailment that causes a person to change his or her diet.

Some examples are high blood pressure, high cholesterol, celiac, acid reflux, anemia, diverticulitis, diabetes etc. Students are to research their ailment, create a PowerPoint from their research, chose a recipe appropriate for their ailment, prepare their recipe and serve it to the guest who has that ailment. This is the second year for this program and the students cannot wait to find out who their guests are!

The Home and Careers, Health and Physical Ed. departments hosted a Sugarless Wednesday on Feb. 25th, 2009. Students were encouraged to go without sugar for the entire day. Bulletin boards were displayed along with guessing what drink and snack from the vending machines had the most sugar. Types and forms of sugar were discussed in the classes.

Spirit Club: will having their final Yankee Candle fundraiser beginning March 6th. Please see a spirit club member or Mrs. Rogers if you interested in ordering a candle.

Yearbook News

Orders for the 2008-2009 yearbook are now being accepted!

Go to <http://jostensyearbooks.com> or have your child get an order form at school.

Pricing options: Yearbook: \$55 , Plastic Cover: \$5. For more yearbook information, go to:

www.newlebanoncsd.org/jrsrhs/yearbook

Send us your pictures for the 2010 yearbook! Go to:

<http://images.jostens.com/login.asp>

and enter: user ID:1176088

password: nltigers

We are looking for pictures of these upcoming events: Spring 2009 sports, Dances, Prom 2009

Art News- Our senior Annie Rubenstein recently won 3rd place in the Colombia Greene Community College juried art show. High School art students will be attending two field trips to Williams College Art Museum as part of a teacher's workshop collaboration.

Art Extravaganza-

Join your family and friends at the New Lebanon Foundation's Arts Extravaganza, which will be held on May 16th at Walter B. Howard Elementary School. Local artisans will host booths, musicians will perform for your enjoyment, and student artwork will be showcased. Enter your favorite dessert in the Dessert Contest, and place your bids in the silent and live auctions. All proceeds from the auctions will benefit the New Lebanon Foundation Arts and Humanities Fund which provides funding to support grants that enrich the experience of the arts and humanities of students and teachers in the New Lebanon Central School District.

From the Desk of the Superintendent...Karen McGraw:

The economy is in the news daily and it is no different for us as we fashion the best possible budget for 2009-10. Our goals are to reduce spending in all possible areas but still provide a quality program for our children. We also recognize that we need to plan for future years so that the district will be able to continue providing the best program for our children with the smallest possible tax impact.

Budget discussions are taking place at the public board meetings. Starting with the March 4th meeting, the meetings will be held in the elementary school's cafeteria. The Board of Education members and I encourage you to attend our meetings as the school budget develops. The more each of us understands the budget and the programs it supports, the better we all are. If you are unable to attend the public meetings, please do not hesitate to call me with your questions or to schedule a meeting to review the budget.

By working together, New Lebanon Central School District can deliver high quality educational programs at a reasonable cost.

If you have any information for the April edition of The Informer, please send it to michellebienes@yahoo.com / michellebienes@newlebanoncsd.org or by calling 794-7774. Deadline is March 24th

Important March Dates: March 4- BD of Ed Meeting 7:00 March 11- FAFSA form completion assistance 6:30PM HS Computer Lab March 13- Progress Reports Issued **March 18-** Board of Ed Meeting 7:00 **March 19-** Coffee Talk w/ the Principal 7:30 am, Main Office **March 23-** Superintendent's Conference Day **No School**