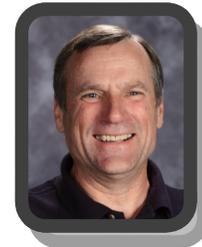


From the Superintendent's desk...

Hello NR-W families and yes...it really is January 2012. As we continue moving the district forward there is no doubt that academic concerns comprise a major focus for all. Upcoming Regent Assessments (at the HS) and early spring 3-8 assessments remain on our radar screen. Although one exam does not tell the whole story, we recognize common assessments as a valuable piece of data. I hope all our students continue working hard, improve their skills, and take these exams seriously. As we begin this New Year we hope you'll continue helping us prepare your student for these serious benchmarks. Working together, we can directly impact student success.



**John Walker
Superintendent**

As we move through winter we'll be planning the district budget. We understand that all taxes are too high [thus the 2% tax cap]. That said, be aware a 2% cap does nothing to solve the serious lack of State funding or satisfying SED mandates. There is no escaping this fact...the lack of funding is going to impact our program and our community. We will continue being fiscally responsible in managing all our funds [including reserves], but given current State predictions, it's like watching a train wreck in slow motion. I'll continue sharing specific information as we head toward May.

I'll end for now. There's lots happening throughout our buildings and I want them to have more space to share. Stay bundled up, help all our kids stay warm and focused on getting smarter... every day.

Important
News for
High School
Students

HIGH SCHOOL REGENTS EXAMINATION SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 2012

Tuesday, January 24th will be a 1/2 day for most high school students, due to the administration of the NYS English Regents Exam. Only students (all Juniors and some Seniors) sitting for the New York State English Regents exam will be required to stay for the afternoon. Lunches will be served for all students. Dismissal will be at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Friday, January 27th is a Superintendent's Day and Rating Day. Only students who need to retake the Global History exam or the RCT Writing exam need to report that morning.

JANUARY 24 TUESDAY	JANUARY 25 WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 26 THURSDAY	JANUARY 27 FRIDAY
9:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.
Integrated Algebra RCT in Global Studies*	Living Environment RCT in U.S. History & Gov't.*	RE in U.S. History & Government Geometry RCT in Science*	•Juniors/Seniors in need of retaking: RE in Global History & Geography RCT in Writing
12:00 p.m.	12:00 p.m.	12:00 p.m.	Afternoon
Comprehensive English Physical Setting/Physics*	Algebra 2/Trigonometry RCT in Mathematics*	Physical Setting/Earth Science Physical Setting/Chemistry RCT in Reading	Staff Rating

Ninth Annual NR-W Holiday Toy Drive



This year, our school community has come together to donate just over 360 toys and gifts to needy families in our area.



Our holiday toy drive each year honors the memory of LCPL Jarod Houghton, a generous young man who was committed to helping others and whose legacy lives on with this community's spirit of giving each year.

The collection of toys and gifts was delivered to the Wolcott Council of Churches, who this Christmas, along with the church communities in Rose, North Rose, and a number of other organizations, are servicing more than 400 needy families.

We'd like to thank everyone who contributed a gift, money, and time to this worthy cause. Special thanks go out to the National Junior Honor Society for their fundraising efforts, and to the middle school music program for their participation in the toy drive. Finally, as always, our deepest thanks to Mary Lou Lockwood for accepting and organizing our donations to make the holiday season a little brighter for so many in need.

Student Journalists Get the Scoop!

North Rose-Wolcott High School students are now serving as reporters and photographers for this newsletter. See what they've come up with in "Student Scoop" on page 3.



Enjoy!

Daughters of the American Revolution



Front Row (L to R): Olivia (Newark), Alyssa (Red Creek), Tricia (Williamson), Jessica (Gananda), Marie (Palmyra-Macedon).

Back Row (L to R): George (Lyons), George (Clyde-Savannah), Dillon (Marion), Hunter (Wayne), Nolan (North Rose-Wolcott), Assemblyman Robert Oaks. Missing from photo is Brittany (Sodus).

The Col. Wm. Prescott Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution held its annual award ceremony and reception to honor 11 students in the Class of 2012 chosen by their respective public high schools in Wayne County to receive the prestigious DAR Good Citizen Award on November 16, 2011. Joining in recognizing the Class

of 2012 recipients for their Dependability, Service, Leadership and Patriotism were Chairwoman Sue Dennie and more than 50 guests, including school officials, Assemblyman Robert Oaks and DAR members.

The seniors were chosen for exemplifying the following attributes: dependability, service, leadership and patriotism. **Congratulations to Nolan** who was nominated by the faculty and staff of the North Rose-Wolcott High School to be the recipient of the DAR Good Citizen award!



Common Core Learning Standards

By Katie Lumb



For decades, teachers across the country have been following a set of educational standards unique to their own state. These standards have been a sort of educational "roadmap," helping guide teachers as they plan and implement their instruction. They don't determine exactly what or how to teach, but they help teachers set goals and high expectations for themselves and for their students. Within the past year, 46 states have voluntarily adopted the new Common Core Learning Standards [CCLS]. These standards, created by educators and state legislators, give one common "roadmap" to drive the instruction that students receive in each of these states. They are not national standards, and each state still maintains areas in their curriculum that are unique, but the CCLS will ensure consistent high-quality instruction in English Language Arts and in Mathematics, regardless of where students live. CCLS combines the highest, most effective models from every state, and provides appropriate benchmarks for all students in Kindergarten through Grade Twelve.

The new standards are rigorous, and their focus is to develop critical-thinkers who are well prepared for college or career training programs. Curriculum and assessments will correlate specifically with the CCLS and teachers are working collaboratively to consciously design instruction that meets the standards. There are several instructional shifts being made in both English Language Arts and Mathematics, with the focus being to deepen understanding and to spiral/enhance student learning throughout the grade levels.

What can you do at home to support the new "roadmap" teachers and students are following? If you are already reading with your children, communicating with his/her teachers, and participating in school activities, then you're on the right track. Beyond that, you can find two simple ideas below that will support the new Common Core Learning Standards for ELA.

- Read more non-fiction text. 50% of what kids are reading should be informational text. When you read together, try books about animals, sports, traveling, food, space, etc. The local library has tons of great books and magazines that you can check out for free!
- Talk about what you read. What did you learn that you didn't know before? Ask your child a question, and ask them to show you where they found their answer within the text.

More information about the CCLS can be found on the following websites: <http://www.corestandards.org/> and <http://engageny.org/resource/common-core-shifts/>

As always, a team approach between school and home will be most effective for all children. The new Common Core Learning Standards do provide the "roadmap" to help guide instructional methods at school, but by working together, the journey will be as fulfilling as the destination.



JAKE AWARDED ALL STATE HONORS



Congratulations to senior Jake who recently received All State honors from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America for his outstanding season as goal keeper for the NR-W Cougars! Jake was co-captain of our school's Section V soccer team, and had seven shutouts during the team's 6-11-1 season. Jake also set a school record for saving 4 out of 5 penalty kicks against him. Jake is the son of Kathy and Eric W. of North Rose. He plans to attend college where he hopes to play soccer or baseball.



Coach "Scotty" Martin, Jake



Day of the Dead

On Nov. 1-2, Senora Borden's MS Spanish students learned about and celebrated El Dia de

los Muertos, which is Spanish for Day of the Dead. Although this sounds like a morbid holiday, it is anything but. Day of the Dead is a time for citizens of Mexico and parts of Guatemala to honor and celebrate the lives of loved ones who have passed away. Many of Mrs. Borden's students participated in the ofrenda by bringing in pictures and moments of lost loved ones to share with the class. They made paper cempasuchil (marigolds-the ancient Aztec flower of death) and traditional masks to decorate the room. The students enjoyed entering the room each day which was filled with the scent of copal and sampling pan de muertos, the traditional bread for the occasion.



2nd Grade Thanksgiving Feast

On November 22nd Second Grade classes gathered together for a Thanksgiving Feast. Many preparations took place prior to the feast. Students learned about life on the Mayflower and the settlement of the Pilgrims at Plymouth.

Students made placements, reviewed table manners and learned how the First Thanksgiving took place. They were engaged in reading a variety of nonfiction and realistic nonfiction literature about the Pilgrim and Native American culture.

Each classroom was responsible for reading recipes and preparing various items on the menu.

Students were encouraged to dress for the feast as either a Pilgrim or Native American. After the feast, students played an Indian game, read and sang poetry relevant to the holiday and watched a play called *The Rough-Faced Girl*, presented by students in Mrs. Yonker's and Mrs. Youngs' class.





Feast for The Senses

North Rose-Wolcott High School was the place to be for music and art on Dec. 8, as seen in these photos by student Devon. Above left, visitors enjoy the train theme art exhibit at the gallery. Dylan, above right, warms up for the Winter Concert. The Interact Club sold soup, bread and apples to raise funds to sponsor a foreign exchange student.

Graduation Time For ALC Student

Dec. 16 was graduation day for Errol.

Several members of Errol's family, NR-W staff, and Alternative Learning Center students celebrated with food, remembrances, and a little Super Mario at the North Rose-Wolcott High School ALC.

Errol is planning to join the U.S. Navy.



Errol

'Movember' Changes Face Of Men's Health Awareness

By Mitch
Student Reporter



North Rose-Wolcott High School recently joined a world-wide effort to "grow" awareness of men's health. The NRW team grew beards and mustaches in November and raised about \$600 which will go to the Movember Prostate Cancer Foundation. Movember ("Mo" is slang for "moustache") provides funding for male health awareness. More specifically, Movember advocates early detection, diagnosis and effective treatment of cancer. NRW Employees raised money by voting on moustache styles online, matching styles with participating staff members. Funds were also raised from the sale of fake moustaches at the high school.

The NR-W team consisted of Mr. Benz, Mr. Ackley, Mr. Tierson, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Grasso, Mr. VanLaeken, Mr. Skinner, Mr. Walker, Mr. Furetti, Mr. Wojieck, and Mr. Witkiewitz, as well as students Zach and Jordan.



Mr. Witkiewitz with his mighty moustache.

New School Buses To Hit the Roads



Students returning to school for second semester will soon see some new school vehicles on the road.

Voters approved purchase of the buses Dec. 8 by a vote of 124 to 41. The estimated cost is \$450,000, with \$200,000 to be paid from the Capital Reserve Fund.

It is expected that the two new mini vans, two small buses, and three full-sized buses will be in use by the end of January.

The timing of the bus vote was a little unusual. Generally, the district presents its new buses proposition at the same time as the annual budget vote. However, the district delayed the vote until after the state legislature defeated an aid change proposed by Gov. Andrew Cuomo that would have disqualified the bus purchases from aid. The legislature's action came too late to present the bus proposition at the normal time.

HS Select Choir Performs for Oasis Club



Photo courtesy of Lois Benning, Lakeshore News contributing writer

The Oasis Senior Citizen Club enjoyed listening to Christmas selections performed by the High School Select Choir on December 14th at the Rose Grange. Members of the Select Choir are Noah, Cobey, Caleb, Tyler, Conner, Bradley, Nolan, Bryce, Cassandra, Susie, Naomi, Amelia, Laura, Helen, Erin, Brittany, Katie, Erin, Emily, and Lexus. The Select Choir is led by Mr. Fred Dunn. The students enjoyed performing and received candy canes and Christmas candy after the performance!

NR-W Staff Raises \$5,055 for United Way

North Rose-Wolcott Central School District employees exceeded their \$3,000 goal and pledged \$5,055 in the recently ended United Way campaign. This year's campaign total is up from last year's \$3,319.

These local businesses contributed incentive gifts during the campaign: Wolcott Village Pharmacy, Reliant Community Credit Union, and Cavalaro-Neubauer.

The following assisted with the NRW campaign: Carol Quill, president, North Rose-Wolcott Teachers Association; William Fisher, president, North Rose-Wolcott Service Employees' Association; and building representatives Mr. Burns, Ms. Phelps, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Brooks, Ms. Borden, Mr. Lehman, Mr. Newman, Mr. Pauldine, Mr. Treasure, Ms. Packard, Ms. Merritt, and district staff members Ms. Dobbin, Ms. Visconti, and Ms. Kanaly-Geil.

"A" WEEK DURING KINDERGARTEN READING...

Kindergarten students read the nonfiction book, "Apples," did an apple "taste testing" and learned the following action poem:



Way up high in the apple tree
Two little apples smiled at me
I shook that tree as hard as I could
Down came the apples
Mmmm, they were good!



GLIDER CHAMPIONS

The 2011 Middle School Technology class glider team competition has drawn to a close with Micah and Mikayla emerging as this year's champs. Both built and flew excellent gliders and Micah broke all existing records for flight length. The two winners are pictured here with their prize of a "cookie fiesta". *Congratulations to both winners!*



Going Green in Living Environment



Globally Green members - Emma, Laura, & Garrett with Mrs. Lisanto after winning the Environmental Improvement grant money

During the month of October the students in Mrs. Stratton's Living Environment class researched human impact on the environment. The students created seven different companies – Awesome Acid Rain Preventers (A.A.R.P.), Globally Green, B.P. Inc. (Bad Pesticides), STS

(Stop the Spills), Species Savers, Eco Dyne (Dynamic Young Noble Environmentalists), and the Ozone Destruction Stoppers – each with a different environmental problem to focus on. The companies were competing for \$500,000 of grant money to fund their going green environment project. The project required each company to research background information about the problem including causes and effects on the environment and possible solutions. They also developed criteria to evaluate each of the solutions and to determine the most sustainable action. On November 9th each company presented to a panel of administrators and board members. This panel included Mr. Walker, Mr. Magin, Mrs. Lisanto, Mrs. Muto, Mrs. Durham, and Mrs. DeAngelis. These individuals had the very difficult task of selecting the company that would win the grant money. After much discussion they agreed that ALL of the groups had great presentations. Globally Green was selected because they clearly described the different solutions and made local connections with their solutions to global warming. The Globally Green members were presented with a "check" for \$500,000, each received five golden tickets and shared a pizza party with the whole class this past week. For being the first winner of this project, the company name Globally Green will be included on the project paperwork for future classes. Congratulations to all students on a job well done!

IMPORTANT DATES

January 10	BOE Meeting Rm. #210 7:00 pm
January 12	Grades 3 & 4 Roller Skating 3:15-4:45 pm MS Roller Skating @ NRWE 6:30-8:30 pm
January 16	Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School
January 17	NRWE Reading Incentive Program begins
January 24-27	High School Regents Exams (refer to front page for details)
January 27	Superintendent's Conference Day - No School
January 27 & 28	MS/HS All-County Chorus @ Clyde-Savannah
February 2	NRWE PE Night - 6:30 PM
February 3	MS Dance
February 4	Wayne County Solo Fest @ Newark
February 7	National Jr. Honor Society Induction @ MS 6:00 PM
February 8 & 9	8th Grade Orientation Visit to HS
February 9	5 Hour Course @ HS 4:30 - 9:30 pm
February 14	BOE Meeting Rm. #210 7:00 pm
February 16	Grades 1 & 2 Roller Skating 3:15-4:45 pm MS Roller Skating @ NRWE 6:30-8:30 pm
February 20-24	Presidents' Week Recess

Board Highlights

Presentations/Discussions:

- * School Board Recognition
- * High School Building Tour
- * Music Department overview
- * K-5 Special Ed Summer School Report
- * PBIS Update
- * BOE member reduction discussion
- * Administrator Reports
- * Curriculum Reports
- * BOE Committee Reports

Approval:

- * Treasurer's Reports for September and October 2011
- * ALC Internship Program
- * Poll Workers for School Bus Vote
- * Authorization to hire Appraiser
- * Authorization to return unpaid taxes to the county.
- * Acceptance of Single Audit Report, Basic Financial Statements & Corrective Action Plan for year ending June 30, 2011
- * Fund Balance Recommendations to Purchase Buses
- * Overnight stay approval for Varsity Wrestling team
- * 8th Grade Honors Trip
- * BOE Member Reduction
- * High School course approval
- * District Property disposal.

Appointments:

- * Reinstatement of Sr. Clerk/Typist: Sue Riley
- * Volunteers
- * Lifeguard/WSI
- * Cleaner: Dustin Williams
- * After the Bell Program Teachers and Aide
- * Bus Monitor: Vel Washburn
- * Permanent Apt.: Vel Washburn
- * AV Coordinator

Resignations:

- * Angela Kirkey, Coordinator of Pupil Services
- * George McCall, Bus Driver

Emergency School Closings



When schools must be closed, the decision is made by the Superintendent of Schools based on available information and recommendations from several sources. If the decision is made to close the schools, the Superintendent will call you via our Connect-ED communication system. In addition, it will be broadcast on television and the following radio stations:

Radio Stations: WHEN (620 AM), WHAM (1180 AM), WHTK Sports Radio (1280), WBEE (92.5 FM), The Fox (95.1), WPXY (97.9 FM), WTKW (99.5), The Drive (100.5), WKRL (100.9), WZUN (102.1, 106.1), Sunny-FM (102.3), WTKV (105.5), WKRH (106.5), Kiss FM(106.7), WHTK-FM (107.3)

TV Stations: WSTM Channel 3, WTVH Channel 5, WROC Channel 8, WIXT-TV Channel 9, WHEN Channel 10, WHAM Channel 13, R-News YNN (Cable TV)

If schools must close during the day, these same communication tools will be used. Parents should make sure children know in advance what to do should they come home unexpectedly and find no one there. Prior arrangements should be made to have children cared for until a parent arrives home.

"The Mission of the North Rose-Wolcott Central School District is to create a safe and enriching learning environment that will prepare our students to make positive and meaningful contributions to society."