

  
*From the Superintendent's desk...*



**John Walker**  
Superintendent

Happy Valentine's Month...[more reasons to eat chocolate...like I need that!] Even though it's been warmer than usual, it's that time of year where students might lose a bit of focus...you know, those 'WINTER BLUES'. To head off a possible dip, I have a suggestion that might help.



If school work/studying is not a problem for you, look for a classmate who might be struggling in a particular class or subject. Offer to help them with their studies or assignments for a week or two. Just gently ask if you can help them. If school work/study is difficult for you...take a risk and ask someone for help [if not a teacher, then maybe a friend]. Don't be afraid to ask for help.

Several good things might happen. By helping others, you just feel good. Those long winter nights might not seem so dreary. By seeking help, your grades might just improve [bet they will!]. You might even see more smiles from family members around the March report card. Most importantly, through positive relationships, real learning will occur at both ends. Seeing the value of helping others, and being able to accept help...it's a win-win.



Remember February's theme...Happy Valentine's month...a time to care about someone else. Why not look for ways to 'share the care' while improving learning and grades? At the very least, you might beat those 'winter blues' away.



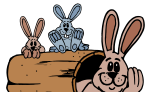
p.s. while you're at it...go out and build a snowman with a smiley face!

*Mr. Walker*



## Important Dates



- |                |   |   |
|----------------|---|---|
| February 20-24 | Presidents' Week Recess                                     |   |
| March 1        | Sr. Citizens Dinner/Musical Dress Rehearsal<br>4:30 PM @ HS |   |
| March 2 & 3    | HS Musical 7 P.M.   |    |
|                | Elementary All County @ Newark                              |   |
| March 3        | K-8 Sat. Swim Registration 8-10 AM @ HS                     |   |
| March 5        | JV/Varsity Spring Sports Begin                              |   |
| March 6        | BOE Meeting: HS Rm. #210 7:00 pm                            |   |
| March 8        | MS Early Dismissal @ 12:05 PM (lunches served)              |   |
|                | NRWE Family Math Night 6:30-7:30 PM                         |   |
|                | 5 Hour Course 4:30-9:30 PM @ HS                             |   |
| March 14       | NRWE 1st Grade Concert @ 6:30 PM                            |   |
| March 16       | No School - Superintendent's Conference Day                 |   |
| March 16 & 17  | MS Instrumental All County @ Pal-Mac                        |   |
| March 19       | Modified Spring Sports Begin                                |   |
| March 20       | BOE Meeting: HS Rm. #210 7:00 PM                            |   |
| March 23       | NRWE Early Dismissal @ 12:50 PM<br>(lunches served)         |  |
| March 23 & 24  | MS Musical 7:00 PM  |   |
| March 27       | MS Early Dismissal @ 12:05 PM (lunches served)              |   |
| March 29       | Spring Picture Day @ NRWE and MS                            |   |
|                | Grades 3& 4 Roller Skating 3:15-4:45 pm                     |   |
|                | MS Roller Skating @ NRWE 6:30-8:30 pm                       |   |
|                | HS Music in Our Schools                                     |   |
|                | Art Exhibit @ 6:00 PM                                       |   |
|                | Concert @ 7:00 PM   |   |
| March 30       | HS Lip Sync/Air Band Competition 6:30 PM                    |   |
| March 31       | Junior Ball @ HS Foyer 7-10 PM                              |   |
| April 3        | BOE Meeting: HS Rm. #210 7:00 PM                            |   |
| April 4        | NRWE Grades 3 & 4 Chorus Concert -<br>6:30-7:30 PM          |   |
| April 6        | No School - Good Friday                                     |   |
| April 9-13     | No School - Spring Recess                                   |  |

## National Junior Honor Society Inducts New Members



NR-W's chapter of the National Junior Honor Society (Order of the Cougar) recently held their 2012 induction at the middle school. Twenty-five North Rose-Wolcott Middle School students were



recognized for their accomplishments according to the pillars of the NJHS organization. Every student inducted has achieved and maintained the academic standards set forth by the NJHS organization but in addition they exemplify the characteristics of leadership, service and character in the classroom and the community.



L to R: Dakota P., Karli S., Molly Z., Zachary P., Haley T., Ashley Z., Sarah W., Faith M., Kristen P., Alexis P., Dylan M., Gage L., Cole D., Kelsie F., Sara M., Catherine L., Elaina K., Rylee C., Kathryn H., Brianna B., Ashley D., Nicole D., Devon C. Missing from the picture are Triniti B. and Abigail M.

*Congratulations to all new members!*

## Eighth Grade Orientation



Eighth grade students from Leavenworth Middle School visited the high school February 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> to learn about courses and activities that will be available to them once they come to the high school in September. In this photo, students listen as Kelley Allen and Howard Skinner give a presentation about the high school's art offerings.

### FOOSBALL Tournament Rewards MS Students for Practice and Dedication



Jesseka J. & Porschia W.

What do you get when you put sixteen middle school students and two Tornado foosball tables together for two hours? An exciting, energetic, and fun-filled foosball tournament!

On Friday, January 6, 2012, four teams of girls and four teams of boys squared off for the first NR-W Middle School 'After the Bell' Foosball tournament, competing for both the girls' double and boys' double championship trophies.



Devon C. & Donovan C.

Playing in teams of two each, this double elimination tournament produced some very close games, with the girls' finals match coming down to 'point game', for an exciting finish.

Winning the girls' tournament with a 5-4 victory was the team of Jesseka J. and Porschia W., also known as the 'Fudge Muffins'. On the boys' table, 'Quick Shot', made up of Devon C. and Donovan C. went undefeated the entire night to win their tournament and the trophy.

These students are all participants in the NR-W Middle School 'After the Bell' student enrichment program. The foosball program is taught by Mr. O'Brien, a Technology Education teacher at the High School and avid foosball player himself.

Students in the After the Bell program wish to thank Mrs. Sullivan, MS Principal, Mr. Fisher, After the Bell Coordinator, and Mr. Murphy, Grant Writer, for making the After the Bell Foosball Program a reality.

The students would also like to thank Mr. Dave Courington of Brunswick's Tornado Table Soccer, for his enthusiastic support of their foosball program and his supplying the trophies for this first tournament.

Participants in this first foosball tournament included: Jesseka J., Porschia W., Taylor M., Sierra P., Alexis P., Kelsey R., Cassie I., Kayla H., Zach C., William P., Kevin P., Donald A., Jason R., Devon C., and Donovan C.

## STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN PUBLISHING PROJECT



The students in Mrs. McIntyre's third grade class had a unique opportunity this winter. They became published authors! With the help of their teacher and student teacher, Miss Gentz, the students were able to publish the book, Do Countries A-Z Celebrate Christmas Just Like Me?. The students participated in a classroom publishing project offered to teachers and students by Student Treasures Publishing. With this program, the students write and illustrate their own book and then the pages are sent to the publisher where they are scanned onto glossy pages and bound in a hardcover book.

In Mrs. McIntyre's class, each child was assigned a country to become an "expert" about. As part of the third grade Social Studies Holidays around the World unit, the students then researched their country to learn what winter holiday is celebrated there. Following their research, each child wrote one to two pages summarizing the important aspects about the holiday celebrated in their assigned country and then drew their own illustrations to accompany what they had written. "I really enjoyed finding the research and then turning it into the sentences I wrote in the book," said third grader, Abigail W. Another student, Benjamin C., stated, "I thought that going through the process of writing the book was really fun!"

"This writing activity allowed the students to take ownership of their learning through their research and see their own work come alive on the pages of their published book. It created such excitement in the classroom," said Mrs. McIntyre of this learning experience. When the book returned from the publisher, the students had a celebration in the classroom and each child read aloud their pages from the book. "The book was a good way for the students to teach their peers about other cultures," stated McIntyre. Student, Brianna V., shared this idea as well. "I liked it when we shared our book and were able to read what we had written to the class," she said. This was a learning experience these third grades will likely remember for some time to come!

"This writing activity allowed the students to take ownership of their learning through their research and see their own work come alive on the pages of their published book. It created such excitement in the classroom," said Mrs. McIntyre of this learning experience. When the book returned from the publisher, the students had a celebration in the classroom and each child read aloud their pages from the book. "The book was a good way for the students to teach their peers about other cultures," stated McIntyre. Student, Brianna V., shared this idea as well. "I liked it when we shared our book and were able to read what we had written to the class," she said. This was a learning experience these third grades will likely remember for some time to come!



## Shoe Drive



The shoe drive is February 27 through March 17, 2012.

The shoe drop off is in the Main Office of the North Rose- Wolcott High School.

The Interact Club of the North Rose-Wolcott High School is hosting a shoe drive. The shoes collected will go to disaster areas around the world and the non-useable shoes are recycled into athletic turf. We take any shoes. We take any number or condition.

Thank You





## Name That Book

Mrs. Melissa Phelps, left, playing Vanna, and Ms. Lori Schmidt, as Alex Trebek, enjoy playing their game show roles during "Name That Book." It was all part of Reading Incentive, which has expanded and now spans January through May at NRWE.

## 2 More ALC Students To Graduate

Two more students are graduating from the Alternative Learning Center at North Rose-Wolcott High School.

The two are Regina M. and Michelle S. A ceremony for Regina is planned for 9 a.m. Feb. 17. A ceremony for Michelle will be 9 a.m. March 2.

Both students will receive their diplomas at the ceremonies. There have been two previous graduates from the ALC program, which offers credit recovery services to students at North Rose-Wolcott High School.

## Go Through Looking Glass At Middle School's Musical

"Wonderland," the Middle School musical, will be performed at 7 p.m. March 23 & 24. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$4 for seniors and students and will be available for purchase soon through the main office or from any cast member.

Based upon "Alice in Wonderland," the book is by James DeVita and music and lyrics by Bill Francoeur. Alice travels through the looking glass, right in the middle of a chess game. There's baseball, tourists on a train, talking flowers, "Hatta", and Tweedledee and Tweedledum. Starring in the role of Alice is AnneMarie D., along with approximately 50 other cast members and the Middle School Musical Pit Band.



## 'Urinetown, the Musical'

Rehearsals are under way for NR-W High School's production of "Urinetown, the Musical" at 7 p.m. March 2 and 3 at the high school auditorium. Tickets are adults, \$6, senior citizens \$4, and students \$3. A dinner and dress rehearsal for senior citizens and retirees will be March 1. The dinner will be at 4:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria, and the performance will be 5:30. Cost is \$7 per person, and this covers the meal and performance. To make reservations, senior citizens and retirees should call 594-3100 by Feb. 10. The idea for the show is that the corrupt owner of "Urine Good Hands Company" has influenced the government to monopolize water consumption. Citizens must pay to use the facilities. If they don't have enough money, they wind up in Urinetown. School Superintendent John Walker, High School Principal Paul Benz, and Asst. Principal Kathy Hoyt will all make appearances in the show.



## 2012 Central New York Scholastic Art Awards



North Rose-Wolcott High School art students did very well at the 2012 CNY Scholastic Art Awards. There were over 4,500 pieces of art sent in to this competition from 87 schools in central New York. 1,500 of those pieces are now on display at Onondaga Community College. Our students received 29 awards this year, 2 of which were for portfolios containing 8 pieces of artwork. The Gold Key winners were recognized in a televised awards ceremony which aired on February 3<sup>rd</sup> on WCNY. The Gold Key winners were: Sarah W. - photography, Joel W. -ceramics, Makayla W. -ceramics, and Caleb M. - photography. The Silver Key winners were: Stephanie C. -(2) photography, Kaitlyn M. -photography, Briana S. -photography, Hanna S. -photography, Amy G. -photography, Caleb M. -photography, and Elliott B. -(2) ceramics. The Honorable Mention winners were: Myrissa B. - (3) photography and a photography portfolio, Kendra C. -painting, Emily C. -photography, Courtney E. -mixed media, Leah H. -a photography and a mixed media, Shauna L. -photography, Megan R.-mixed media, Hanna S.-photography portfolio, Sarah W.-photography, and Caleb M.-(2)photography. Makayla W. also won a Ceramic Guild Award. It is an honor just to have your work selected to go to this competition. The work that did not get selected to hang at OCC will be on display here in our high school gallery during February. We are extremely proud of our very talented young artists.



NR-W students also have work on display at the Rochester Institute of Technology during the month of February. There are 45 schools who participate in this exhibit and display 330 pieces of art. The students representing us in this exhibit are: Briana S., Malecka P., Carly S., Sarah W., Brittany G., Maricruz R. and Jacob P. Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Patterson each have a piece on display in this exhibit as well. The opening for this show is February 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5-7pm, though visitors can see the work at the Bevier Gallery throughout February.



One art student from NR-W is being recognized for her photography submission to a national photography competition. Hanna S. submitted work to the 32<sup>nd</sup> Nikon Photo Competition. One of her pieces is a finalist at this point, which is an outstanding accomplishment. The judging for the winners will not be finalized until the end of this month.

Our art students are still working very hard to create work that not only goes out to compete against other young artists, but that is also displayed to the community in our gallery and display cases. Please stop in to see the fruits of their labor.



**Kari Durham**  
**BOE President**

## *V*iew from the Board...

### *The End of Business as Usual*

By Kari Durham

Does anyone recall when there was a “usual” business day? Exactly what qualifies as a “normal” day at the office? And what does normal business look like in 2012?

When you’re faced with the family budget during the recession, or when the family is coping with a layoff; all the while you’re negotiating Christmas lists with the kids and rediscovering the fun you can have on a stay-cation,...these scenarios are becoming more familiar and this is the picture of the new normal in 2012.

This is the Board of Education’s financial reality. This is our new productivity norm. Facing down moments of adversity, recognizing true monetary shortfalls, declining State resources with increased demands for achievement &...this is all in days work. Creating a budget, while working through negotiations, discussing State initiatives and reacting to the introduction of new common core standards – this is on the plate right now. It’s a feast of change.

We are not fearful though. Change can be a catalyst for great opportunity. Winston Churchill said, “There is nothing wrong with change, if it is in the right direction.” The Board is working in the right direction. The budget committee began the weekly pilgrimage to meetings and asking questions to best prepare a budget for our community of taxpayers. Bob Magin, School Business Administrator, has begun preparations for our budget recommendations to be delivered to the full Board within the next month. Although the process has been familiar - this has not been business as usual. The questions about financial solvency are real. The short-term goals have to be measured against long-term guesses about future State Aid, the reduction of grant monies available and Federal jobs programs disappearing. Weighing and measuring each line item is the norm.

Over the course of the last several budget seasons our board budget committee has delivered tougher and tougher questions to our financial leaders. We’ve engaged in open discussions about layoffs, enrollments, standards and programs. The Board’s vision continues to be that we deliver the highest quality education for our students while impacting our taxpayers as little as possible – we’ve muddled through explanations of the tax levy limit. We bear witness to the administrators building outlines for their ideal programs and managing those within the confines of the real budget. Our administration should be receiving high honors for the work they’ve done this year. NR-W will be set apart for its ability to remain fiscally responsible in the face of financial crisis.

The fact is many districts around us are simply going broke. The reliance on State and Federal aid has all but exhausted their coffers. NR-W has responsibly managed the use of reserves and painstakingly reconfigured buildings and truly worked within the means of the rural taxpayer base. What astonishes me is that the only public relations boost comes during the reading of the budget but not during the building process. Community apathy is so clearly demonstrated until we are reaching into the shallow pockets. Staffs weigh in at every meeting; the committees listen and research the best practices available to us. We read the audit reports and slowly process the wish lists of all NR-W education leaders. This is the time that if a community member has a concern or wishes for something to be improved or edited – speak now. Please don’t hold your comments until you pen an editorial about the irresponsibility of our planners. Questions or concerns need to be asked and communicated now – during the building phase to prevent looking back. Hindsight is a learning tool gifted to us AFTER we recognize a mistake. To date your Board of Education has done an admirable job of staying ahead of the financial crisis. The management of our reserves and lean alignment of educators delivering quality programs has been our vision.

The Board of Education truly believes we represent many segments of our local population. Our diverse representation lends itself to honest

discussion from a wealth of perspectives. With this in mind we craft a budget we believe may be supported by the majority. We work to create a responsible plan that lends itself to the FUTURE of NR-W education. Please consider visiting one of the many board meetings and listen to the status of the budget in its infancy. Consider participating BEFORE you vote in May. As our neighbors ponder how to survive until 2015, we invite you to rediscover what you’re paying for and why this Board of Education takes this chore so seriously.

### Board Highlights

#### Presentations/Discussions:

- Roles of School Counselors and School Psychologists
- Grant Funds

#### Approval:

- Treasurer’s Reports for November 2011
- NRWE Library unused books disposal
- Pamela Brooks, UPK Coordinator: increase in stipend
- Revised Annual Professional Performance Review Plan
- Appointment correction, Elizabeth Smith

#### Appointments:

- James McIntyre as a recreation attendant
- Samantha Converse, Girls’ Modified Basketball volunteer
- Lifeguards: Ryan M., Jordann P.
- After the Bell Program: Michael Groth -Teacher, Delicia Crippen- Program Aide

#### Resignations:

- John Budinock, JV Softball coach
- Barbara Winter, Bus Driver (retirement effective 6/30/2012)

### *Hey 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents did you know?...*

New York State public health law requires children 11 yrs. old to have booster vaccinations for diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (otherwise known as Tdap), **upon entering the sixth grade** or a comparable level special education program.

**Proof of immunization must be forwarded to the school BEFORE the start of the new school year 2012-2013.** If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Humbert at 594-3119.

Immunizations can be received through your child’s health care provider or at Wayne County Public Health Facility in Lyons. They can be reached at 946-5749.

If your child’s 11<sup>th</sup> birthday is after the start of school, the immunization may be received at that time.

### 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.