



New Milford Public Schools
50 East Street
New Milford, CT 06776
860-355-8406



New Milford High School
Mr. Greg Shugrue, Principal

Mrs. Elizabeth Curtis,
Ass't. Principal

Mrs. Susan Greene,
Ass't. Principal

Mrs. Donna Luzi,
Ass't. Principal



Schaghticoke Middle School

Mrs. Dana Ford, Principal

Mr. Gerald Robinson,
Ass't. Principal



Sarah Noble School

Dr. Len Tomasello, Principal

Mrs. Kristine Golden,
Ass't. Principal

Dr. Don Naiman,
Ass't. Principal

Mrs. Anne Bilko
Admin. Intern



Hill & Plain Elementary

Dr. Sandra Nadeau, Principal

Mrs. Anne Bilko,
Assistant Principal



John Pettibone Elementary

Mrs. Paula Kelleher, Principal

Mrs. Joan Kick, Ass't. Principal



Northville Elementary

Mrs. Susan Murray, Principal

Mrs. Joan Kick, Ass't. Principal

Spotlight on New Milford Schools

Volume 2, Issue 5

February / March 2012

2012-2013 School Budget Proposal

Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote presented her budget to the Board of Education, the Town Council, and the Board of Finance during the past month.

Included in the 2012-2013 budget proposal were:

Continuance of the following:

- Full-day kindergarten for all kindergarten students
- Implementation of the five-year curriculum plan
- Implementation of technology action plans
- Staffing of team leaders, head teachers, and department chairs at SMS and NMHS to facilitate curriculum coordination
- Staffing of head teachers at SNIS to assist with curriculum articulation within and across grade levels
- Instrumental music in grade four and general music in grade seven
- Capital items in the Facilities and Technology departments
- Current levels of extra curricular activities
- Summer School and transportation
- K-6 Health Teacher and NMHS Business Teacher

Additionally, the following items are new to the budget:

- Twelve teaching positions previously funded through the Education Jobs Grant
- One full time technology educator for grades 7-8
- A part-time bilingual teacher at Hill and Plain School
- Four instructional tutors to provide Scientific Research-Based Interventions (SRBI) at the middle school and high school
- One Information Technology (IT) Systems Analyst

The New Milford PTO will host budget question & answer sessions in the near future; please watch your email for information.

Additionally, there will be a Coffee with the Superintendent on Tues., March 27 at 10:30 a.m. in the New Milford Railroad Station.

Budget voting will be in May; a date has not yet been set.

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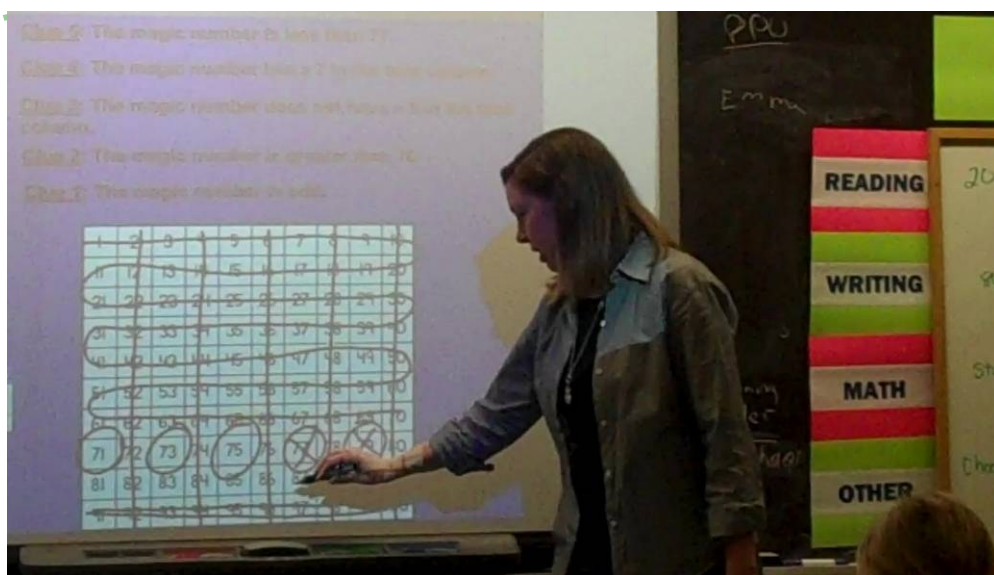
School
Thoughts
on the
12-13
Budget

When I asked school principals to give me their thoughts on the '12-'13 New Milford Schools budget, they mentioned many things we've discussed in previous newsletters. Almost all of them commented on SMART Boards and how they have greatly enhanced the level of student engagement throughout the school day and the many, many ways in which SMART Boards are integrated into the classroom. Elementary principals also mentioned all day kindergarten and the Superkids reading curriculum. Another thing mentioned repeatedly by school principals were the K-6 coaches.

With the Education Jobs Grant, three district-wide K-6 coaches were hired—one for literacy, one for math, and one for health. The coaches rotate throughout the year and spend one full week at Hill and Plain, John Pettibone and Northville Elementary Schools. The coaches spend two weeks at Sarah Noble Intermediate School as it is a much larger school. During the time at each school, the coaches model lessons in the classrooms; work with groups of students; conduct professional development for staff based on state standards and district curriculum; attend grade level collaboration meetings; and share important instructional ideas, strategies, and research with staff.



Karen Hartle
K-6 District-wide Literacy Coach



Jill Bracksieck
K-6 District-wide Math Coach



Melissa Khalatbari
K-6 District-wide Health Coach

“Our coaches have proved invaluable – money well-spent moving our district forward as a whole to meet challenges and mandates. They have a direct impact on student learning in a most meaningful and purposeful way,” reports Paula Kelleher, John Pettibone Elementary School principal.

School
Thoughts
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12-13
Budget

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Dear Parents:

As national attention continues to focus on children's health and wellness, New Milford's Food and Nutrition Department is excited to provide parents, children and faculty/staff with a new online service called **MyNutrition**, which is in support of our commitment to healthy children and healthy school communities. This new service is available to you at no cost and is located on our district homepage at www.newmilfordps.org under the Food and Nutrition Services link or at www.MyNutrikids.com. This is the same site which provides our district's online school meal pre-payment service.

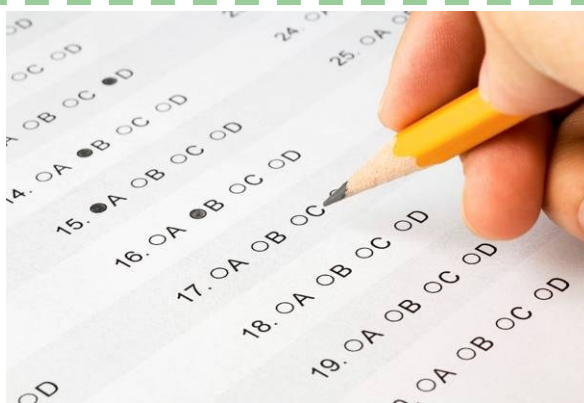
MyNutrition provides parents, children and educators with online resources related to health, nutrition and physical activity. Each month, you will find new articles, tools, recipes, links and challenges that encourage small steps toward living a healthier life. There is also a section geared for children that provides kid-friendly games, puzzles and printouts that will help engage them in learning about the importance of being active and staying healthy.

We are very excited to offer this new service, which is in direct alignment with our school district's wellness program, to provide health and wellness education to our staff, students, and families. We are confident this resource will benefit you, your child, and our entire school community.

For more information, please visit our school district's website at www.newmilfordps.org. If you have any questions about this new service, please feel free to contact my office at 860-354-3712.

Best Regards,
Sandra Sullivan, RD, CD-N
Director of Food and Nutrition Services
New Milford Public Schools

Don't forget, school lunch menus are available on the District website under Food and Nutrition Services or by clicking [here](#).



March is Connecticut Mastery Testing (CMT) and Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) month. CMT tests are administered to students in grades 3-8, while the CAPT test is administered to 10th grade students and 11th grade students, if necessary.

CMT and CAPT testing will begin the week of March 6th and continue through March 23. Schedules and additional information are posted on individual school websites.

Attendance on testing days is extremely important!

Here are some other tips to encourage stress-free testing days:

1. Lay out book bags, clothing and shoes, snacks, etc. the night before to avoid an overly rushed morning.
2. Get a good night's sleep the night before the test.
3. Avoid caffeinated or sugary drinks before the test.
4. Eat a good breakfast.
5. Wear comfortable clothing.
6. Remind your child to read directions and listen to teacher instruction carefully.
7. Encourage your child to do well, but don't make them overly anxious or nervous.

Contact your school principal if you have any questions or concerns about CMT/CAPT testing.

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New Milford Schools Calendar

C A L E N D A R

March

- March 7 – **Elementary Schools** - Kindergarten Parent Orientation - 7:00 p.m. (Snow Date 3/14/12)
March 12 – **SMS** PTO Coffee with the Principal – 9:00 a.m.
March 13 – **SNIS** Brown Bag Lunch with Dr. Tomasello – 12:00 p.m.
 BOE Meeting – SNIS Library – 7:30 p.m.
March 14 – **SNIS** PTO Meeting – 9:00 a.m.
March 16 – **JPS** Teacher Book Fair Luncheon – 11:00 a.m.
March 19 – **Town Wide PTO** Meeting – NMHS – 7:00 p.m.
March 20 – **BOE** Policy Committee Meeting – Lillis Building, Room 2 – 6:30 p.m.
 BOE Committee on Learning – Lillis Building, Room 2 – 7:30 p.m.
 SMS Rachel's Challenge—7:00 p.m.—see below
March 21— **JPS** Teacher's Book Fair Breakfast
March 23-30—**NES** Book Fair
March 23 – **Elementary and SNIS** Term 2 Report Card Distribution
 JPS Family Fun Night Luau/Author Signing
 H&P Spring Book Fair Kick-off & Bingo Night
March 26-30—**H&P** and **JPS** Spring Book Fair
March 26 – **NMHS** Math Team Competition – 2:15 p.m.
March 27–30 – **Elementary and Intermediate** – 1:00 p.m. Dismissal – Parent Conferences
March 27—**Coffee with the Superintendent**—10:30 a.m.—Bank St. Railroad Station
March 28—**H&P** Book Fair Open House—7:30 a.m.
March 29—**NES** Book Fair Family Fun Night—6:00 p.m.

April

- April 2 – **H&P** PTO Meeting – 9:30 a.m.
April 3 – **H&P** Visiting Author—Ryan SanAngelo
 JPS PTO—9:00 a.m.
 BOE Facilities Committee Meeting – Lillis Building,
 Room 2 - 6:30 p.m.
 BOE Operations Committee Meeting – Lillis Building,
 Room 2 – 7:30 p.m.
April 4 – **NMHS** 12:00 p.m. Dismissal – Parent Conferences
April 5 – **NES** PTO – 9:00 a.m.
 H&P Visiting Author—Helen Lester
April 6 – **No School –Good Friday**
April 9 – **SMS** PTO Coffee with the Principal – 9:00 a.m.
 JPS Chorus Concert – 6:30 p.m.
 NES Literature Week
 SNIS Brown Bag Lunch with Dr. Tomasello – 12:00 p.m.
April 9-13 - **NES** Kindergarten Registration
April 10 – **BOE** Meeting – SNIS Library – 7:30 p.m.
April 11 – **SNIS** PTO Meeting – 9:00 a.m.
 NMHS College Planning Night—7:00 p.m.



SMS PTO and MVP-SOS invite you to attend a **FREE** community presentation of Rachel's Challenge. Rachel's Challenge aims to empower students and parents with the tools and knowledge necessary to eradicate bullying, teasing and gossiping.

March 20—7:00 p.m.
Schaghticoke Middle School

For more information visit:
www.rachelschallenge.org

Upcoming Home Athletic Events

Date	Sport	Opponent	Time	Date	Sport	Opponent	Time
Sat., 3/3	V Girls Gym.	State Opens	9:00 a.m.	Tue., 4/17	JV Baseball	Stratford	3:45 p.m.
Sat., 3/10	V Girls Gym.	New England Championships	10:00 a.m.	Tue., 4/17	JV Softball	Stratford	3:45 p.m.
Wed., 4/4	V Baseball	Abbott Tech	4:00 p.m.	Wed., 4/18	V Baseball	Notre Dame-Fairfield	4:15 p.m.
Wed., 4/4	V Boys Tennis	Joel Barlow	3:45 p.m.	Wed., 4/18	V Boys Golf	Immaculate	3:00 p.m.
Thu., 4/5	V Boys Golf	Brookfield	3:00 p.m.	Wed., 4/18	V Softball	Notre Dame-Fairfield	4:15 p.m.
Thu., 4/5	V Girls Tennis	Lauralton Hall	3:45 p.m.	Wed., 4/18	V Girls Tennis	Joel Barlow	3:45 p.m.
Sat., 4/7	FR Boys Lacrosse	Joel Barlow	10:00 a.m.	Thu., 4/19	V Boys	Masuk	4:00 p.m.
Sat., 4/7	JV Softball	Trumbull	11:00 a.m.	Thu., 4/19	JV Boys	Masuk	6:00 p.m.
Mon., 4/9	V Baseball	Masuk	4:15 p.m.	Thu., 4/19	V Girls Lacrosse	Brookfield	4:00 p.m.
Mon., 4/9	V Boys Tennis	Immaculate	4:00 p.m.	Thu., 4/19	JV Girls Lacrosse	Brookfield	5:15 p.m.
Mon., 4/9	FR Softball	Pomperaug	3:45 p.m.	Fri., 4/20	FR Baseball	Masuk	3:45 p.m.
Tue., 4/10	V Girls Lacrosse	New Fairfield	4:00 p.m.	Fri., 4/20	V Girls Tennis	Immaculate	4:00 p.m.
Tue., 4/10	JV Girls Lacrosse	New Fairfield	5:30 p.m.	Sat., 4/21	JV Baseball	Bethel	10:00 a.m.
Tue., 4/10	V Softball	Joel Barlow	4:15 p.m.	Sat., 4/21	V Boys Lacrosse	Simsbury	1:00 p.m.
Tue., 4/10	JV Softball	Joel Barlow	4:00 p.m.	Sat., 4/21	JV Boys Lacrosse	Simsbury	1:00 p.m.
Wed., 4/11	V Baseball	Danbury	3:30 p.m.	Sat., 4/21	JV Softball	Bethel	10:00 a.m.
Wed., 4/11	JV Baseball	Danbury	4:00 p.m.	Mon., 4/23	V Baseball	Oxford	4:15 p.m.
Wed., 4/11	V Boys Tennis	Bethel	3:45 p.m.	Mon., 4/23	V Boys Tennis	Newtown	3:45 p.m.
Wed., 4/11	V Softball	Pomperaug	4:15 p.m.	Mon., 4/23	V Softball	Oxford	4:15 p.m.
Fri., 4/13	V Baseball	Brookfield	4:15 p.m.	Tue., 4/24	V Boys Lacrosse	Immaculate	4:00 p.m.
Fri., 4/13	V Softball	Brookfield	4:15 p.m.	Tue., 4/24	JV Boys Lacrosse	Immaculate	6:00 p.m.
Fri., 4/13	FR Softball	Immaculate	3:45 p.m.	Tue., 4/24	V Girls Lacrosse	Danbury	3:45 p.m.
Fri., 4/13	V Girls Tennis	Brookfield	3:45 p.m.	Tue., 4/24	JV Girls Lacrosse	Danbury	5:00 p.m.
Sat., 4/14	FR Boys Lacrosse	East Lyme	11:00 a.m.	Wed., 4/25	FR Baseball	Pomperaug	3:45 p.m.
Sat., 4/14	FR Softball	Danbury	11:00 a.m.	Wed., 4/25	V Boys Golf	Weston	3:00 p.m.
Mon., 4/16	V Boys Tennis	Weston	4:15 p.m.	Wed., 4/25	V Girls Tennis	Masuk	3:45 p.m.
Mon., 4/16	FR Softball	Naugatuck	3:45 p.m.				

ATHLETICS

It seems the hot Holiday gifts were the iTouch, tablets and smart phones. There is no doubt, these items are fun and useful. However, they open up a new world of possibilities to students—and not all of them are good!



on the device with that rating.

- Be sure your student knows:
 - Who is acceptable to text or call
 - When the device can be used
 - Not to text/talk while driving, at school, etc.

-School policies and laws regarding cyberbullying, sexting, etc.

I consider myself pretty “tech savvy,” but in researching these items, I found a wealth of information about safety protocols that I didn’t know. Here are a few tips about safety settings on your child’s device that you may not be aware of:

Here are some apps that you may want to invest in that will provide additional safeguards for your child’s device:

- On most devices you can limit access by age or by application. For example, on an iTouch, you can limit applications available to your child in the app store to one of three settings—Under 13, 13-17 and all. On most Apple devices, this can be done by going into Settings-General-Restrictions.
- You can set a separate password to adjust settings. This will enable you to adjust settings for your child without them being able to alter them later.
- You might want to consider turning off photo tagging on your child’s device. If your child takes a photo and posts it to Facebook or another social media site, viewers will be able to see a location where the photo was taken, and thus know exactly where your child lives, goes to school, etc.
- There is no filter for YouTube, but you can completely disable it.
- There are several setting for movies, TV shows and music. By setting the “explicit” setting to off, it not only stops your child from being able to access information rated “explicit”, it also immediately disables anything currently



iWonder Pro—FREE to download, \$29.99 for lifetime reporting

Provides additional parental controls and allows parents to monitor and receive reports showing activity on your child’s device.



SafeEyes Mobile—\$14.99

Replaces the Safari browser enabling parents to block inappropriate material on several facets of smart devices such as YouTube and Facebook.



Mobicip Safe Browser—\$4.99

The most affordable, Safe Browser allows parents various settings to insure safe browsing.

An additional resource you may want to visit to find out more about electronics safety and the use of technology by children:

<http://internet-safety.yoursphere.com/>



New Milford Public Schools
 50 East Street
 New Milford, CT 06776
 860-355-8406

Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote
 Superintendent

Dr. Maureen E. McLaughlin
 Assistant Superintendent

Ms. Ellamae Baldelli
 Director, Human Resources

Mr. John Calhoun
 Facilities Manager

Mr. Dan DiVito
 Director, Technology

Mrs. Adele Johnson
 Director, Pupil Personnel and
 Special Services

Mr. Gregg Miller
 Director, Fiscal Services

Mrs. Sandra Sullivan
 Director, Food Services

Board of Education

Wendy Faulenbach, Chairperson
 Daniel Nichols, Vice Chairperson
 Daniele Shook, Secretary
 Lynette Celli Rigdon, Assistant Secretary
 Tom Brant
 David Lawson
 Thomas McSherry
 David Shaffer
 William Wellman

Calendars Continued

Event Calendar from page 6:

- April 12 – **JPS** Chinese Acrobats – 9:30 a.m.
 SMS Bands Concert – 7:00 p.m.
- April 16 – 20 – **No School – Spring Break**
- April 23 – **Town Wide PTO** – SMS - 7:00 p.m.
- April 23-27 – **H&P** Kindergarten Registration (by appointment)
 JPS Literature Week
- April 27 – **SNIS** “Tell Me Why, Tell Me How” Play
 JPS Dinosaurs Rock! – 9:00 a.m.
- April 30–May 3 – **JPS** Kindergarten Registration

Athletic Calendar from page 7:

Date	Sport	Opponent	Time
Thu., 4/26	JV Baseball	New Fairfield	3:45 p.m.
Thu., 4/26	V Boys Golf	Stratford	3:00 p.m.
Thu., 4/26	V Girls Lacrosse	Immaculate	3:30 p.m.
Thu., 4/26	JV Girls Lacrosse	Immaculate	5:15 p.m.
Fri., 4/27	V Baseball	Immaculate	4:15 p.m.
Fri., 4/27	V Softball	Immaculate	4:15 p.m.
Mon., 4/30	FR Baseball	Newtown	3:45 p.m.
Mon., 4/30	V Boys Tennis	Notre Dame-Fairfield	3:45 p.m.

NMHS
 HIGH SCHOOL

Get your tickets for the NMHS All School Musical! All performances at the NMHS Theatre.



Friday, March 23 and Saturday, March 24 —7:00 p.m.
 Sunday, March 25—3:00 p.m.
 Friday, March 30—7:00 p.m.
 Saturday, March 31—2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 each and are available at the box office or by calling 860-350-6647 x 1552

The mission of the New Milford Public Schools, a collaborative partnership of students, educators, family and community, is to prepare each and every student to compete and excel in an ever-changing world, embrace challenges with vigor, respect and appreciate the worth of every human being, and contribute to society by providing effective instruction and dynamic curriculum, offering a wide range of valuable experiences, and inspiring students to pursue their dreams and aspirations.