



New Milford
Public Schools
50 East Street
New Milford, CT 06776



New Milford High School
Greg Shugrue, Principal

Assistant Principals
Marc Balanda
Liz Curtis
Christopher Longo



Schaghticoke Middle School
Dana Ford, Principal

Assistant Principal
Suzi Greene



Sarah Noble Intermediate School
Len Tomasello, Principal

Assistant Principals
Anne Bilko
Don Naiman



Hill & Plain Elementary
MaryAnn Ness, Principal

Assistant Principal
Susan Ruddock



John Pettibone Elementary
Paula Kelleher, Principal

Assistant Principal
Joan Kick



Northville Elementary
Susan Murray, Principal

Assistant Principal
Joan Kick

Spotlight on New Milford Schools

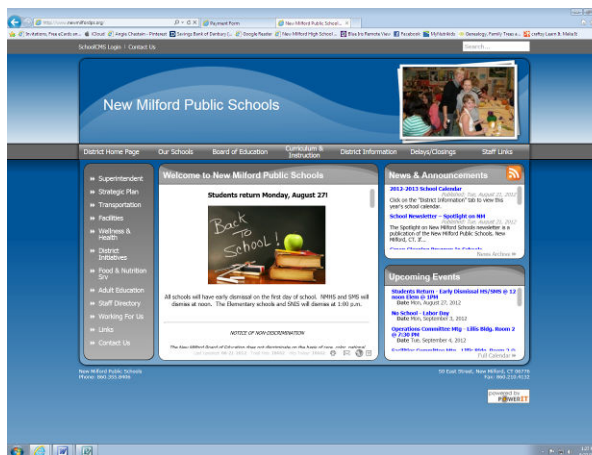
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August 2012



Most people make New Year's Resolutions, I make School Year Resolutions. A new school year excites me more than the beginning of a calendar year! This year at New Milford Public Schools will be an exciting one indeed. There are many new initiatives, new staff members, a new Bring Your Own Device policy, and last, but not least, a new WEBSITE!

Information about these and other new programs is detailed in the following pages and in upcoming newsletters.



The website address is still the same—<http://www.newmilfordps.org>—but it has a great new look and many more capabilities.

If you want to stay informed about school happenings, attend a Board of Education Meeting.

In addition to the regular monthly meeting, there are four subcommittees that meet:

- Committee on Learning
- Facilities Committee
- Operations Committee
- Policy Committee

Dates and times for these meetings are featured on the Board of Education page on the District website.



2012-2013 School Hours

The school day at New Milford High School and Schaghticoke Middle School begins promptly at 7:35 a.m. and dismisses at 2:15 p.m.

The school day at Sarah Noble Intermediate School, Hill and Plain Elementary School, John Pettibone Elementary, and Northville Elementary School begins promptly at 8:50 a.m. and dismisses at 3:15 p.m.

See page 8 for weather related start and dismissal times.

FIRST DAY PHOTOS



In just a few days students will be waiting at the bus stop, and parents will be snapping First Day photos! Here are a few ideas to keep your “First Day” photos exciting:

1. Take your photos in the same place every year—if you take your photos in the same spot in your yard or home, you can not only see the growth of your child, but also the progression of your life.



2. Photo Signs—if you’re like me, you think you’ll never forget what grade your child was entering in each photo, but looking back, I’ll admit, I tend to forget. Photos signs can remedy this and add a bit of color and fun to your photos.

A free set of signs such as the ones to the right can be downloaded [here](#).

3. Take photos of all aspects of Back to School—meet the teacher, shopping for school supplies or new clothes, or snap a photo of the kids getting on the bus!
4. Take a photo of your child holding a framed photo of last year’s First Day picture to see how much they’ve grown.
5. To round out First Day photos, snap a photo of your student getting off the bus at the end of the school day.



This year our school lunches will have a new look with many more healthy choices for your child every day! For the first time in nearly two decades, the federal government has issued new nutrition standards for meals served to America's schoolchildren, based on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. For more information on the Dietary Guidelines, see ChooseMyPlate.gov.

We want to let you know about some of the changes your child will see in our cafeteria this year. The new requirements include strict limits on the calories, saturated fat, trans fat and sodium in school meals. We are meeting these nutrition standards by offering students a selection of low-fat and fat-free milk, larger portions of colorful fruits and vegetables, and a variety of whole grains and lean protein choices. All lunches include five meal components:

- a **meat or meat alternate** such as yogurt, lean beef, chicken or low-fat cheese;
- a **grain** such as whole-wheat bread or brown rice;
- a fresh and canned **fruit** selection
- raw and cooked **vegetables** in a variety of colors
- low-fat or fat-free **milk** selections

Each child must select at least three of these five components on their tray to make a meal, including a fruit or vegetable. The biggest change is that children **must** select a fruit or a vegetable with their lunch every day. Without a vegetable or fruit, students will be charged the a la carte price instead of the meal price.

Our school district will be encouraging students to try the new foods being offered this year. **We are also asking for your help.** Please explain these changes to your child before they arrive at school. Every student needs to be prepared to select at least one fruit or vegetable with their lunch

every day. We are planning our menus to include selections we know students like, as well as foods they may not have tried before. Please encourage your child to try these new foods. They just might find a new favorite!

We look forward to serving your child this year and we welcome your feedback regarding our menus and choices. To find out more about our school nutrition programs visit our [Website](#).

School Lunch Prices 2012-2013

The meal price is \$2.35 at the elementary level. The secondary level offers a choice of hot meals for \$2.60 and a deli bar meal for \$3.10. Specialty salad and wrap lunches are available at the high school for \$3.60.



mySchoolBucks®

Online Payments

New Milford Schools uses [My School Bucks](#) for electronic lunch payments. This is a new company for the 2012-2013 school year. However, if you previously used Café PrePay, your sign-on and password information should be active for My School Bucks!

If you haven't previously used electronic payments, you can register for a free account at [My School Bucks](#) (you'll need your student's lunch ID). You are then able to make payments through MasterCard, Visa, Discover or your checking account. You can also set up regular payments or make one-time payments as you desire. A processing fee applies.

C A L E N D A R S

August

- 24 – **SNIS** Meet the Teacher for 4th grade
11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
K-3 Meet the Teacher – 12:30-1:30 p.m.
SNIS Meet the Teacher-5th and 6th grade
2-3:00 p.m.
27 – **First day of School (1/2 day)**

September

- 3 -- **No School (Labor Day)**
7 – **K-3** Welcome Back Picnic (HPS, JPS, NES)
10 – **SNIS** Curriculum Night
12 – **SMS** Curriculum Night
13 – **NMHS** Curriculum Night
14 – **SNIS** Family Fun Fest
17 – **No School (Rosh Hashanah)**
18 – **SNIS** Curriculum Night
19 – **K-3** Curriculum Night (HPS, JPS, NES)
26 – **No School (Yom Kippur)**

August 25th is the start date for Fall Sports

- ♦ Field Hockey (all levels)
9:00 a.m. on the field
- ♦ Boys Soccer (all levels)
7:00 a.m. on the field
- ♦ Girls Soccer (all levels)
8:30 a.m. on the field
- ♦ Girls Swimming (Varsity)
9:45 a.m. at Canterbury
- ♦ Girls Volleyball (all levels)
9:00 a.m. in the dance studio
- ♦ Boys and Girls Cross Country (all levels)
9:00 a.m. on the track

Coaches will have permission slips and parents will be required to pay the \$75 Pay to Play fee. However, if you are unable to pay the fee, please contact Lance Pliego, Athletic Director, at 860-350-6647 x 1411.

2012-2013 Board of Education Meetings

September 11, 2012
October 9, 2012
November 13, 2012

December 11, 2012
Annual Meeting begins at 7:00 PM
Regular Meeting begins at 7:30 PM

*Budget Hearings at 7:00 PM
January 22, 23 & 29, 2013
Snow date: January 24, 2013

Budget Adoption at 7:00 PM
January 30, 2013
Snow date: January 31, 2013

February 12, 2013
March 12, 2013
April 9, 2013
May 14, 2013
June 11, 2013

Meetings are at 7:30 PM in the SNIS Media Center, unless otherwise noted.



Senior Citizen Benefits

The Board of Education offers any senior citizen 60 years of age or older a 50% discount to admission to any school sponsored activity such as athletic functions or musical events.

A FREE season ticket to school events is available to senior citizens who are New Milford town residents and 65 years of age or over. The free senior citizens pass is available at the Central Administration Office located at 50 East Street in New Milford during normal business hours.

For questions, call 860-355-8406.

Help the School Year Run Smoothly by:

1. Finding out what time your bus will arrive for pick-up by visiting the District website [Transportation](#) page.
2. Arrive five minutes early to your bus.
3. To insure that the bus keeps to its schedule, encourage your student to board the bus promptly. In the evening, have your students gather materials to disembark promptly.
4. If you have questions about transportation, please call All Star Transportation at 860-350-2880.
5. After hour bus concerns should be directed to Gregg Miller, Director of Fiscal Services at 860-354-8726 or to the Superintendent's Office at 860-355-8406.

Remember, it is illegal to pass a school bus that is stopped with its lights flashing red — both on and off school property. The lights are displayed when students are loading or unloading. This law is strictly enforced, and all violators will be fully prosecuted.



Motorists Remember:

With the school year comes buses and lots of children—New Milford School District transports over 4,500 students daily to and from various schools! YOU can help these students arrive safely by remembering the following traffic tips:

- Slow Down—Bus pickups run from approximately 6:00-9:00 a.m. and 2:10-4:15 p.m. Monday through Friday. Be extra cautious during these times.
- When a bus stops on a divided highway (Rt. 7), **ALL** lanes of traffic must stop.
- Be aware that students may be loading or unloading the bus from any direction.

VOLUNTEERING

PURPOSE OF VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

- Enrich and enhance students' learning.
- Enable teachers to offer more individual attention to their students.
- Provide individuals an opportunity to participate in a variety of activities within the school.
- Promote and strengthen the partnership between families, community and the school.

Why Volunteer

Volunteering is an opportunity for you to show your children . . .

- Your interest in their school life.
- Your commitment to the community.
- Your belief that education is a partnership between family and school.
- Your belief that learning is a lifelong process.

Personal Benefits of Volunteering

- Experience the satisfaction of helping people.
- Develop new skills.
- Meet new and interesting people, develop new friendships.
- Share your time and talent.

Student Benefits

- Students will see a clear relationship between families, community and school.
- Students will develop a feeling that school is important because they see their parents and community showing an interest and becoming involved.
- Students' self-confidence improves when they notice the interest and involvement their families and community have in their school activities.
- Students are able to demonstrate firsthand their activities to their families and community.
- Statistics prove that students' achievements are higher when their families are involved in their school activities.

Procedure to Volunteer

New Milford Public Schools welcomes and encourages you to volunteer. All volunteers need to be fingerprinted prior to beginning service. Watch for fingerprinting dates and times in the District Newsletter and on each school's website. If you have been fingerprinted previously, and have volunteered at least one day each school year since then, you DO NOT need to be re-fingerprinted.

Volunteer Opportunities

Watch for volunteer opportunities in the District Newsletter, on school websites and in PTO information.

When Volunteering

Stop in the office immediately upon entering school. Volunteers are asked to sign-in each time they work at the school. The sign-in book is located in the office of each school. For security reasons, and in case of an emergency, it is important for the principal to know who is in the school and why.

Name Badges

Pick up a name badge when you sign-in. By wearing a name badge designated for volunteers, you will immediately be recognized as a person whose specific purpose is to help the students and staff.

If You Must Cancel

Please call the school office as soon as possible if you are unable to come when expected.

ABCs FOR VOLUNTEERING

Accept Direction

Accept direction and supervision. Classroom teachers are responsible for all aspects of the classroom and we ask that you defer to them at all times.

Appearance

As representatives of New Milford Public Schools, volunteers, like staff, are responsible for presenting a good image to students and to the community. Volunteers shall dress appropriately for the conditions and performance of their duties.

Assignment

If the assignment does not prove to be what you expected, please notify the supervising staff person. If you feel hesitant to discuss it with the staff person, please contact the school principal.

Be Dependable

Come when promised and on time. Students, staff and other volunteers count on you. If you are unable to keep a commitment, call the office and leave a message for the appropriate teacher or staff member as far in advance as possible.

Communications

Keep good communications with building staff and other volunteers. Any question is a good question - be sure to ask! Make every effort to arrange a time to talk with the teacher when there are problems or questions.

Confidentiality

Information regarding students is confidential! Confidentiality is important to the integrity of our program. It is important to respect the privacy of all students, staff and other volunteers. Never repeat anything you have heard or seen about individuals while volunteering. Posting photos on social media sites is prohibited!

Student Contact

As a volunteer you will meet many students and will enjoy working with them! However, volunteers should not telephone students, visit them at their homes or meet students off school grounds without permission from the parents and/or school principal. In addition, when working with students, whether individually or in small groups, we recommend you work in a highly visible area. This is not only for the protection of students but volunteers as well.

Value in Dollars and Sense

Volunteers are a valuable asset to our school. They dedicate many hours of their time to give teachers more time to teach and to provide opportunities for students to learn and enjoy school. Volunteers represent a great gift to the district and to the children who attend its schools!

Tips for Working with Students

- Call students by name; be friendly and caring.
- Be enthusiastic, patient and kind.
- Praise success.
- Be honest with students. It's OK to say, "I don't know."
- Be comfortable with silence. Allow students time to think and form answers.
- Do not give any student materials on your own without first discussing it with the teacher.
- Accept students as they are. Be sensitive to differences in background, culture, religion, values, vocabulary and aspirations.
- Never make a promise you can't fulfill.
- Do not eat candy, snacks or gum when working with students unless it is part of programming.
- Do not post photographs of children on social media websites.
- Be dependable and prompt.
- Keep calm in an emergency.
- Maintain your sense of humor!
- And by all means, enjoy yourself! You have the opportunity to make a positive impact in someone's life!

Page contents adapted from Sauk Rapids - Rice Public Schools.



New Milford Public Schools

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

Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote
Superintendent

Mr. Joshua Smith
Assistant Superintendent

Ms. Ellamae Baldelli
Director, Human Resources

Mr. John Calhoun
Facilities Manager

Mr. Dan DiVito
Director, Technology

Mrs. Laura Olson
Supervisor, Pupil Personnel and
Special Services

Mr. Gregg Miller
Director, Fiscal Services

Mrs. Sandra Sullivan
Director, Food Services

Weather and Emergency Related Dismissal

Occasionally, due to inclement weather, school will be closed for the day, start late or dismiss early. All school closings, delays or early dismissals will be announced on local radio and television stations as well as the New Milford Schools website.

Here are the 2012-2013 start and dismissal times due to inclement weather:

School start times with a delayed opening:

NMHS & SMS—9:35 a.m.

Elementary & Intermediate Schools—10:50 a.m.

School dismissal times with an early dismissal:

NMHS & SMS—12:00 p.m.

Elementary & Intermediate Schools—1:00 p.m.

Accelerated Early Dismissal times:

NMHS & SMS—11:00 a.m.

Elementary & Intermediate Schools—12:00 p.m.

When there is a change in the regular school day schedule due to inclement weather, announcements will be made on the following:

TV: WFSB-TV (Channel 3)
WVIT-TV (Channel 6/NBC 30)
WTNH-TV (Channel 8)

Online: www.newmilfordps.org
www.ctweather.com
www.wtnh.com

Parents may also sign up and receive both phone and/or text messages from ctweather.com and wtnh.com.

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.

DISMISSAL