



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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Are You Tweeting?

Do you tweet? NMPS does! Several schools, and groups within the schools, are now on Twitter. Twitter is a social media website (<http://www.twitter.com>) that allows users to send and receive information in real-time. These small bursts of information are known as "Tweets." "Tweets" are no longer than 140 characters but may contain a photo or video. Each user is assigned a name that you can use to search to locate friends and organizations that you would like to receive information from. Each user name is preceded by the @ sign. For example, New Milford High School's Twitter name is @NMHS_CT.

"Twitter is a way for parents to stay informed on a real-time basis for information related to, but not limited to: field trips, fundraisers, athletics & band, maintaining a safe school climate, various school events & initiatives, and viewing snapshots of the evidence of student learning in our classrooms," says Dr. Chris Longo, New Milford High School Assistant Principal.

Setting up a Twitter account is easy and free. Simply go to <http://www.twitter.com> and click on sign up. You'll enter some basic information and then you'll be all set to connect to people and organizations and begin receiving their tweets.

Here are the "tweeting" schools and groups from New Milford Public Schools you may want to follow:

@NMHS_CT—New Milford High School
@NMHSGuidance_CT—New Milford High School Guidance Dept.
@NMHSLmc—New Milford High School Library
@NMHSPE—New Milford High School Physical Education Dept.
@NewMilfordBands—New Milford High School Bands
@GoGreenWaveNM—New Milford High School Athletic Department
@MrShugrue—Mr. Greg Shugrue—NMHS Principal
@MrBalanda—Mr. Marc Balanda—NMHS Assistant Principal
@MrsCurtisNMHS—Mrs. Liz Curtis—NMHS Assistant Principal
@DrChrisLongo—Dr. Chris Longo—NMHS Assistant Principal
@SMS_CT—Schaghticoke Middle School
@MrsDanaFord—Mrs. Dana Ford, SMS Principal
@SMS_LMC—Mr. David Bilmes, SMS Library
@SMS_SportReport—SMS Athletics
@SMS_BandOrch—SMS Band and Orchestra
@SNIS_CT - Sarah Noble Intermediate School
@DrTomasello—Dr. Len Tomasello, SNIS Principal
@MrsNessNM—Mrs. Maryann Ness, HPS Principal
@HPS_CT—Hill and Plain School

26 Random Acts of Kindness

Following the tragedy at Newtown on December 14th, 2012 many people advocated a nation-wide effort of completing 26 Random Acts of Kindness in honor of each victim. New Milford High School students stepped up to the challenge. Here are the acts they've completed thus far:

Act 1: Bracelets for Teddy Bears

Act 2: Collection to donate to the Sandy Hook School Fund

Act 3: Creating cards of love and support in Advisory

Act 4: Message wristbands

Act 5: Card making party for sophomores

Act 6: Creation of snowflakes for the students' return to Sandy Hook Elementary

Act 7: Bake Sale

Act 8: Student emails to administration asking how they can contribute

Act 9: Wearing green and white or blue and yellow

Act 10: Potential walk/run in the Spring

Act 11: Girls basketball volunteered to collect donations at athletic events

Act 12: New Milford Cross Country team run to Sandy Hook

Act 13: Artistic film tribute to Newtown

Act 14: Planning a musical concert in conjunction with Newtown and Danbury high schools

Act 15: English classes writing 26 poems and letters to families

Act 16: Michelle, a sophomore, created a t-shirt with a heart and students' names and birthdates

Act 17: NMHS Bands wore ribbons during all performances in honor of Newtown victims

Act 18: Logo created by Madisyn and Logan of small children with hearts. Logo reads "Sandy Hook Elementary 12-14-12, You will live in our hearts forever."

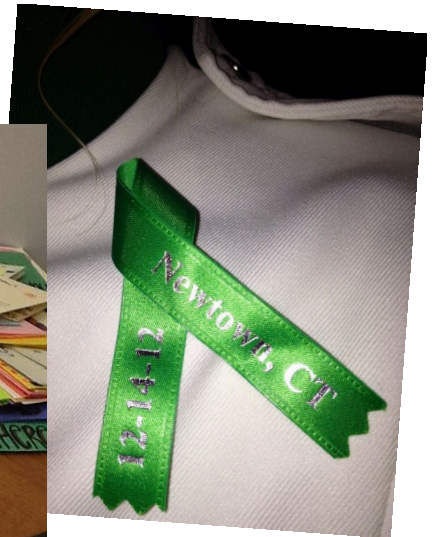
Act 19: Boys Swim and Dive turned their fundraiser into one for Sandy Hook, raising \$500

Act 20: Students continue to wear ribbons in honor of Sandy Hook

Act 21: Students in Mrs. Andrews' advisory created a poster

Want to see the remaining acts as they are completed? Follow @NMHS_CT on Twitter.

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SMS

Students at SMS recently participated in the National Geography Bee. Questions such as:

1. Which state has a climate suitable for growing citrus fruits—California or Maine?
2. Which country has the world's largest Muslim population—Indonesia or Mexico?
3. The North Atlantic current brings warm waters from the tropics to the west coast of which continent?

were asked of the students. Nick E. was the Geography Bee Winner and James L. was runner-up. Both students will now compete at the State level.



The Geography Bee underway.



The Geography Bee winner and runner up pose with Mr. Hibbard.

Answers to questions above are: 1. California, 2. Indonesia, 3. Europe.

SNIS

At Sarah Noble Intermediate School, students have the opportunity to play an instrument as young as fourth grade—most other schools in our area don't begin instrument instruction until grade five or six! In addition to group instrument instruction, students also have the opportunity to participate in one of several band groups—beginner band and strings, intermediate band and strings, advanced band and strings, jazz band and orchestra. Each group participates in a holiday and an end of the year concert, as well as the Big Band Bash – a concert that features students in grades four through twelve! Additionally, Intermediate band students have the opportunity to play for incoming 4th grade students at a band introduction concert at each primary school in the Spring and Advanced Band students may compete regionally during the winter months.

Why all the excitement about the band program? Music instrument instruction at the intermediate grade level has been proven to boost brainpower, improve memory, build confidence and help students develop social skills.

“The SNIS instrumental music program has an enrollment of 450 students in grades 4, 5, and 6. Learning an instrument can lead to a lifetime of enjoyment. We encourage all interested students to try the program,” says Mr. Michael Fitzgerald, music teacher, band director, and the 2012-2013 New Milford Public Schools' Teacher of the Year!

Mr. Fitz, as Michael Fitzgerald is known by the students, works with his colleague Ms. Allison Lynch to provide each participating student with a 30 minute group lesson every week and to coordinate the efforts of all band groups.



A W H A L E O F A G O O D T I M E

Students from both Hill and Plain Elementary and John Pettibone School recently had the opportunity to learn about responsibility and perseverance from members of the Danbury Whalers. Each school population was treated to a free assembly at their respective school with members of the Whalers team emphasizing their motto: "Never Give Up!"

Responsibility and Perseverance are two of the 10 Character Education Traits adopted by New Milford Public Schools. The remaining Character Ed traits are: Respect, Integrity, Compassion, Citizenship, Honesty, Loyalty, Courage and Cooperation.



After the Whalers' visit, each school had the opportunity to visit a Whalers' game and sing the National Anthem before the game. John Pettibone School sang on January 4, 2013 and Hill and Plain Elementary is scheduled to sing on January 19, 2013.

NORTHVILLE



In Northville Elementary School, a tree grows: a tree of warmth and love—a tree of hats, gloves and socks! Students from Northville Elementary are collecting hats, gloves and socks as part of the “Spreading Warmth from Head to Toe” project.

The project began two years ago when New Milford Social Services expressed a need for these items. The project is sponsored by the Northville Character Education/Safe School Climate Committee. The purpose is two-fold—1) to provide needed items to Social Services and 2) to reinforce NMPS’ Character Education traits (see previous page for a complete list). Items are being collected through the end of January.

Northville Co-PTO President Mandi MacDonald says of the project, “When the students are engaged in an activity such as head-to-toe warmth, they experience how good it feels to give to someone in need. It gives them a practical and tangible way to practice the character traits we wish to see in the future citizens we are raising.”

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are an important part of the school community. Volunteers in the school have a positive impact on students’ academic and social development. According to the National PTA, school volunteers perform millions of dollars worth of work annually. Volunteers also provide:

1. More one-on-one attention for students
2. Improved communication
3. Higher academic achievement in students
4. Increased ability to interact with the community

If your schedule allows, here are a few volunteer opportunities:

- Sarah Noble Intermediate School
Event: World Culture Day
Information: Volunteers are needed to present information about their country of origin.
If interested, contact [Dr. Len Tomasello](#).
- Sarah Noble Intermediate School
Event: Women in History
Information: Female volunteers are needed to portray a famous woman in history.
If interested, contact [Dr. Len Tomasello](#).
- Sarah Noble
Events: 4th Grade Read-a-Thon, Spring Book Fair (3/15-4/2), 2nd Annual Book Swap (May), 6th Grade Send Off (June), School Store—ongoing
If interested, contact Sara Brazer at sarabSNISPTO@yahoo.com or (203) 648-6806.
- All schools are currently seeking volunteers to serve as PTO officers for the 2013-2014 school year.
If interested, contact [Michele Romaniello](#).

C A L E N D A R

January

- 10—SNIS PTO Meeting—9:00 a.m.
 11—SMS Home Basketball—3:45 p.m.
 15—SMS Battle of the Books Read-a-Thon
 SMS Home Basketball—3:45 p.m.
 16—SMS Group Photos
 SMS Voices, Jazz & Orchestra Concert—7:00 p.m..
 (snow date 1/17)
 17—SNIS—Brown Bag Lunch with Dr. T
 JPS Coffee with the Principal—1:30 p.m.
 NMHS Incoming Freshman Night
 19—HPS—Danbury Whalers Night
 21—No School—Martin Luther King Day
 22—BOE Budget Hearing—7:00 p.m.
 23—BOE Budget Hearing—7:00 p.m.
 24—Coffee with the Superintendent—10:30 a.m.
 NMHS Band & SMS 8th grade band—7:00 p.m.
 25—JPS Family Fun Night—6:00 p.m.
 NES PTO Family Movie Night
 29—SMS Home Basketball—3:45 p.m.
 BOE Budget Hearing—7:00 p.m.
 30—BOE Budget Adoption—7:00 p.m.
 31—SMS Home Basketball—3:30 p.m.
 NES “Feel the Warmth Collection” of socks,
 hats and gloves last day

February

- 4—HPS PTO Meeting—1:30 p.m.
 SNIS Yearbook Pre-sale begins
 5—JPS PTO Meeting—9:00 a.m.
 BOE Facilities Committee, Lillis Bldg. 6:30 p.m.
 BOE Operations Committee, Lillis Bldg. 7:30 p.m.
 6—SMS PTO Meeting—9:00 a.m.
 7—NES PTO Meeting—9:00 a.m.
 8—SNIS 4th grade presentation—African American
 Folktales by Eshu Bumpus
 12—BOE Meeting, SNIS Media Center—7:30 p.m.
 14—SNIS PTO Meeting—9:00 a.m.
 18-19—No School (Winter Recess)
 19—BOE Policy Committee, Lillis Bldg., 6:30 p.m.
 BOE Cmt. on Learning, Lillis Bldg., 7:30 p.m.
 21—SNIS—Brown Bag Lunch with Dr. T
 JPS Coffee with the Principal—9:30 a.m.
 22—JPS Grade 3 Fundraiser—Bowling Night
 28—NMHS Concert—7:00 p.m.
 Chorus, Band & Wind Ensemble

2012-2013 Board of Education Meetings

Budget Hearings at 7:00 p.m.

January 22, 23 & 29, 2013

Snow date: January 24, 2013

Budget Adoption at 7:00 p.m.

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 p.m. in the SNIS Media Center, unless otherwise noted.



Coffee & Conversation with the Superintendent

NMPS Superintendent Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote will again be hosting Coffee & Conversation with the Superintendent events on the following dates:

- Thursday, January 24 (snow date Jan. 25)
Topic: Budget
- Thursday, March 28
Topic: Technology
- Tuesday, May 21
Topic: To Be Determined

All events will be held in the New Milford Railroad Station—11 Railroad Street at 10:30 a.m.

Below is the schedule for Varsity Home sporting events. Admission to home games and sporting events is: \$5 for adults, \$3 for students.

*Schedules are subject to change. For real-time notifications, subscribe to the NMHS Athletic account on Twitter @GoGreenWaveNM or visit the CIAC website [here](#).

Thu., 1/10	V Boys Swimming and Diving	7:30 p.m.
Fri., 1/11	V Boys Basketball	7:00 p.m.
Fri., 1/11	V Girls Gymnastics	4:30 p.m.
Mon., 1/14	V Boys Basketball	7:00 p.m.
Tue., 1/15	V Girls Gymnastics	4:30 p.m.
Wed., 1/16	V Wrestling	6:00 p.m.
Fri., 1/18	V Girls Basketball	7:00 p.m.
Fri., 1/18	V Girls Gymnastics	4:30 p.m.
Sat., 1/19	V Wrestling	9:00 a.m.
Sat., 1/19	V Wrestling	6:00 p.m.
Mon., 1/21	V Boys Ice Hockey	TBA
Tue., 1/22	V Boys Basketball	7:00 p.m.
Wed., 1/23	V Wrestling	6:00 p.m.
Fri., 1/25	V Girls Basketball	7:00 p.m.
Fri., 1/25	V Girls Gymnastics	4:30 p.m.
Tue., 1/29	V Girls Basketball	7:00 p.m.
Wed., 1/30	V Boys Basketball	7:00 p.m.
Wed., 1/30	V Wrestling	6:00 p.m.
Thu., 1/31	V Boys Ice Hockey	8:00 p.m.
Fri., 2/1	V Boys Basketball	7:00 p.m.
Sat., 2/2	V Boys Ice Hockey	1:30 p.m.
Tue., 2/5	V Girls Basketball	7:00 p.m.
Tue., 2/5	V Girls Gymnastics	4:30 p.m.
Wed., 2/6	V Boys Ice Hockey	8:00 p.m.
Wed., 2/6	V Wrestling	6:00 p.m.
Thu., 2/7	V Boys Swimming and Diving	4:00 p.m.
Thu., 2/7	V Girls Gymnastics	5:00 p.m.
Fri., 2/8	V Girls Basketball	7:00 p.m.
Wed., 2/13	V Boys Basketball	7:00 p.m.

ATHLETICS



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
Director, Pupil Personnel and
Special Services

Mr. Gregg Miller
Director, Fiscal Services

Mrs. Sandra Sullivan
Director, Food Services

Reward Programs

New Milford area grocery stores are giving back. Both Big Y and Stop & Shop have education rewards programs. By simply registering your store loyalty cards, you can help the schools earn educational items and even cash!

Registering is easy, just visit the websites below and add the school of your choice to receive your reward points. **Cards must be registered EACH YEAR**, so even if you registered last year, you must re-register this year!

Each school also collects Box Tops for Education. For each unexpired Box Top collected, the school earns 10 cents. Sarah Noble is currently in the top 7 schools in the state of Connecticut! Box Tops are available on items you probably already purchase, just remember to clip and send them to school with your child. For a complete list of participating Box Tops for Education brands click [here](#).



To register for the programs below, click the store name.



[Stop & Shop](#)

NMHS—07707

SMS—07724

SNIS—07723

H&P—13375

JPS—07700

NES—07709

[Big Y](#)

NMHS—5530

SMS—5529

SNIS—7241

H&P—5531

JPS—5527

NES—5528



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.

PHS