



NEWS

NEW WINDSOR SCHOOL MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER



Mr. Fogarty with Actual Students in Class!!!



Mr. Camt & Mrs. Caci getting ready for the morning announcements (Socially Distanced – of course)!

Virtual Learning Hub

[NECSD Virtual Learning Support](#) site will provide the most up to date information on anything related to technology and Virtual Learning for our Students and Families. It includes sections for general help, resources, help line, and forms related to technology.

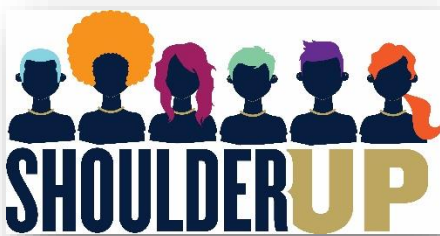
Please make sure to visit the site on a regular basis to be informed of current technological updates.

If you have any questions or have specific questions, please reach out to the contact listed below.

helpdesk@necsd.net (845)568-6532

Here is the link for students/parents to report any issues with Chromebooks:

<https://tinyurl.com/yxcgph9l>



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We have already reached our Mid-Winter Recess! This means that we are over the half-way mark of our 2020-2021 school year. This is an important time for our families and scholars to reflect on what we have achieved so far and what can be done well for the rest of the year.

Please make sure to continue your efforts in supporting a successful academic year for our scholars!

Have a wonderful Mid-Winter Recess!

Mr. Camt
Principal



Our scholars getting ready for an awesome day of learning!



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DISTANCE LEARNING

Importance of Vocabulary!

Vocabulary knowledge often translates to academic success!!!



BY: MR. LEE

No one argues that reading various texts from poetry to textbooks on engineering can have a tremendous positive academic impact on our scholars. But many times, we have a tendency to underplay the importance of vocabulary; specifically, academic vocabulary.

Vocabulary building during grades K-5 is an essential part of academic success that will impact the learning for our scholars for years to come.

Comprehension, many times, relies on the knowledge of specific words that indicate certain meaning within the context of the reading material. We are taught the skills for contextual understanding of words within certain texts, but those skills have limitations. There are instances where not knowing the specific meaning of a word would have direct impact on the comprehension of that sentence or a phrase.

There are currently around 170,000 + words in the English language. Of which, around 20,000 – 40,000 words are the average number for a native English speaker to hold in their vocabulary bank.

The most effective way to deposit vocabulary words in your child’s bank is to have them read consistently.

The most important thing is to read as much as you can, like I did. It will give you an understanding of what makes good writing and it will enlarge your vocabulary. - J. K. Rowling

We, even as adults, attribute our hectic schedules and other responsibilities preceding our reading responsibilities. Yes, we have a responsibility to read on a regular basis.

We have a responsibility to share that same practice with our children. Being a parent myself, I understand how kids tend to do what we do and not what we say. So the best example I can set for them is to read. Read with them, read next to them, have them read to you. Talk about what you’ve read together. Give every opportunity for your child to read as much as possible.



We have kids in our classes! We need more!

Believe it or not, we only need to know about 3,000 words in order to do most of our daily readings. That number changes as the language becomes more technical and germane to specific professions.

But one thing is for sure; the more you read, the more vocabulary knowledge you will gain!

These are 5 important reasons for learning vocabulary according an article in K-5 Learning:

- It gives your child the ability to say what he or she means
- It helps your child understand what other people are saying and what she/he is reading
- It bolsters their ability to grasp ideas and think more logically
- It boosts your child’s power of persuasion
- It helps your child make a good impression on others

So, the most important we can do as scholars is to read as much as possible.

I think the Mid-Winter Recess is a perfect time to read!

Mr. Lee



Social distance, please



NWS RESOURCES

Online Resources

There are plenty of resources for our students and families to maximize their learning.

Please make sure to visit the district link for online resources: District Online Resource Link: <https://tinyurl.com/y6fogyzw>

Below are links to some other important websites – but please make sure to visit the district site for a more comprehensive list of links:

- Launchpad: <https://tinyurl.com/y6nuijwao>
- Flipgrid: <https://info.flipgrid.com/>
- Reflex Math: <https://www.reflexmath.com/>
- BrainPOP: <https://www.brainpop.com/>
- BrainPOP Jr.: <https://jr.brainpop.com/>
- Google Classroom: <https://classroom.google.com/>
- NewsELA: <https://newsela.com/>



ACADEMIC PROGRESS UPDATE

Parent Portal & Assessments

Parents!

Please make sure to check with your scholars on how they did on the Mid-Year Assessments. You should be able to view the data on your child’s devices when they log into their respective online programs.

Please reach out to your classroom teachers with any specific questions you may have regarding your child’s assessment results.

At the time of this Newsletter distribution, the State Exams are still on for this school year.

If you need Parent Portal information, please reach out to our secretary @ jgiusto@necsd.net and she will assist you in getting the proper information.



We take social distancing very seriously!

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

NWS Counselor's Corner

BY: MR. MICHALEK

As we approach our mid-winter break, this is when the school year, for many, seems to start flying by. The days are getting longer, kids are getting restless, and we're still dealing with the COVID Pandemic. As a school counselor, my days are never dull, and yet there is still so much to do. As of January, I began my second round of pushing into classrooms conducting lessons on various topics. The first topic we addressed K-5 was Responsibility, and what that looks like at different ages, and boy, have the New Windsor School Students had a lot to say about the responsibilities they already have at home! Some of them even do dishes, which is super impressive! Giving your children age appropriate responsibilities at home is developmentally healthy, and gives them a sense of pride and ownership, and though they may occasionally fight you on them, in the long run these chores will pay off in increased natural work ethic and independence. For these lessons, students have the opportunity to give me feedback on the lesson and input into what they would like to see more of. I am considering that feedback as additional lessons are developed. It looks like we'll be addressing Listening and Respect coming up.

Another main focus for me as a school counselor is middle school transition. I will be delivering a handful of lessons to our current fifth grade students, which include goal setting, organization tips, and a peek at learning styles, as well as some helpful videos. I have started with the fifth graders with "minute meetings" which were developed collaboratively with my K5 team where students have a chance to reflect and begin some goal setting. My next step with that is to have 1:1 conferences with each fifth grader about those goals and any other concerns they may have. It's an exciting time, and I want them to see it as that more than scary, which is how a lot of fifth graders see middle school. For you parents, particularly the ones who haven't yet had a middle schooler, hang on tight! It's a fun ride.

If you ever want to reach me, whether you have concerns, questions, or want me to meet with your child about anything, I'm just a phone call or email away. Keep in mind that I am only at NWS on A/B/C days, and I'm at Fostertown on D/E/F days, so if you leave me a message it may take me a couple days to return your call. I can be reached at 563-3723, or email me at jmichalek@necsd.net.



**OUR SCHOLARS ARE AMAZING!
THEY REALLY FOLLOW THE SOCIAL DISTANCING RULES!!!**



Students arriving at NWS for another amazing day of learning!!! They are sooo good at following the rules!!!