

YOU BELONG & MATTER

MCCSD DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION NEWSLETTER



Superintendent's Message

FROM DR. GEROLD

We believe that students learn best when they feel a sense of belonging within our schools. Belonging and mattering is letting students know that they are important, that they have value and meaning, and that they make us better as a learning community. We strive to make sure students know they have importance - that they belong and matter, because if they do, nothing can hold them back!



The Mission of the Middle Country School District is to empower and inspire all students to apply knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to be creative problem solvers, to achieve personal success, and to contribute responsibly in a diverse and dynamic world.

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Photo credit, Dr. R. Ndembera

North Coleman Road All Stars held the “We Belong” sign created by Ms. Kern’s Newfield High School art students. Dr. Diana Cook organized photographs of Board of Education members hands spelling the “We Belong” phrase to be displayed in the Dr. Karen Lessler District Conference Center.

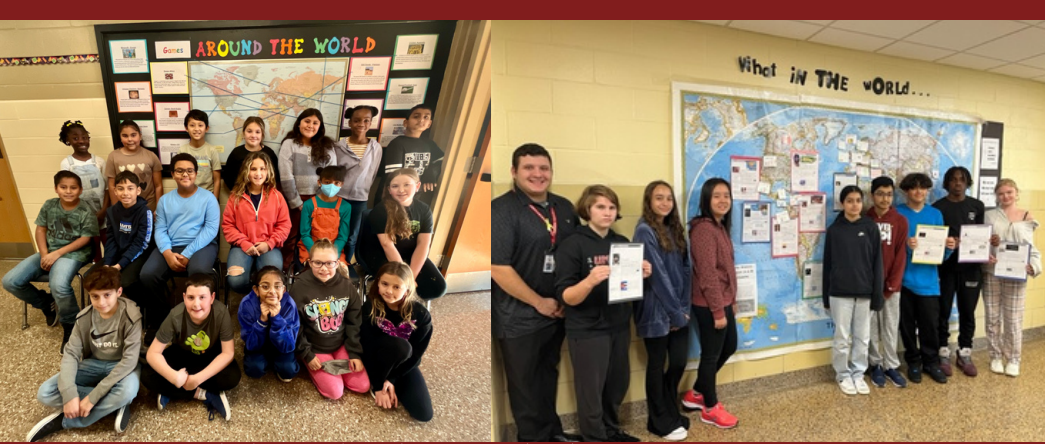
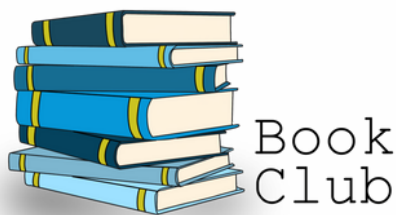


Photo credit, A. Hosein (left), L. Scott (center), S. Graviano (right)



Using Maps to Tell Our Story

Schools across the District are using maps to tell our story! The Holbrook Road Leaders Club (left) advised by Ms. Hosein and Ms. Mitchell researched games around the world. Selden Middle School students researched a famous person of Hispanic origin to learn about their contributions as part of their Spanish 1A & 1B class with Señor Branco. Newfield High School G.O. students (right) advised by Ms. Montana and Mr. Sommer created a life-sized infographic celebrating the school's diversity by placing dots on the map corresponding to their family's country of origin.



Children's Books

- **When We are Kind** by Monique Gray Smith
- **Mario and the Hole in the Sky: How a Chemist Saved Our Planet** by Elizabeth Rusch

Young Adult

- **Inside Out and Back Again** by Thanhha Lai
- **The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian** by Sherman Alexie

2023-2024 Cultural Observances Calendar

Did you know that you can access an expanded list of religious and cultural observances through the district website?

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW!](#)

Upcoming Heritage Months

- December: Universal Human Rights Month
- January: Poverty in America Awareness Month
- February: Black History Month



Photo credit, M. Pabon

Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration

Centreach High School students advised by Ms. Cuomo & Ms. Fuentes organized and hosted a Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration that included a variety of music, dancing, clothing, games, food, and trivia!