

# CSDNB DISTRICT DISPATCH

A Publication of the Consolidated School District

JAN  
20  
23

VOLUME 1  
ISSUE 04



## { "Coding For Good" }

<IN THIS ISSUE: />

<Connecticut Lieutenant Governor Kicks Off Statewide Coding Competition at New Britain Public School! />

# HELLO NEW BRITAIN FAMILIES AND STAFF MEMBERS:

Happy New Year and thank you for continuing to read our new newsletter, District Dispatch.

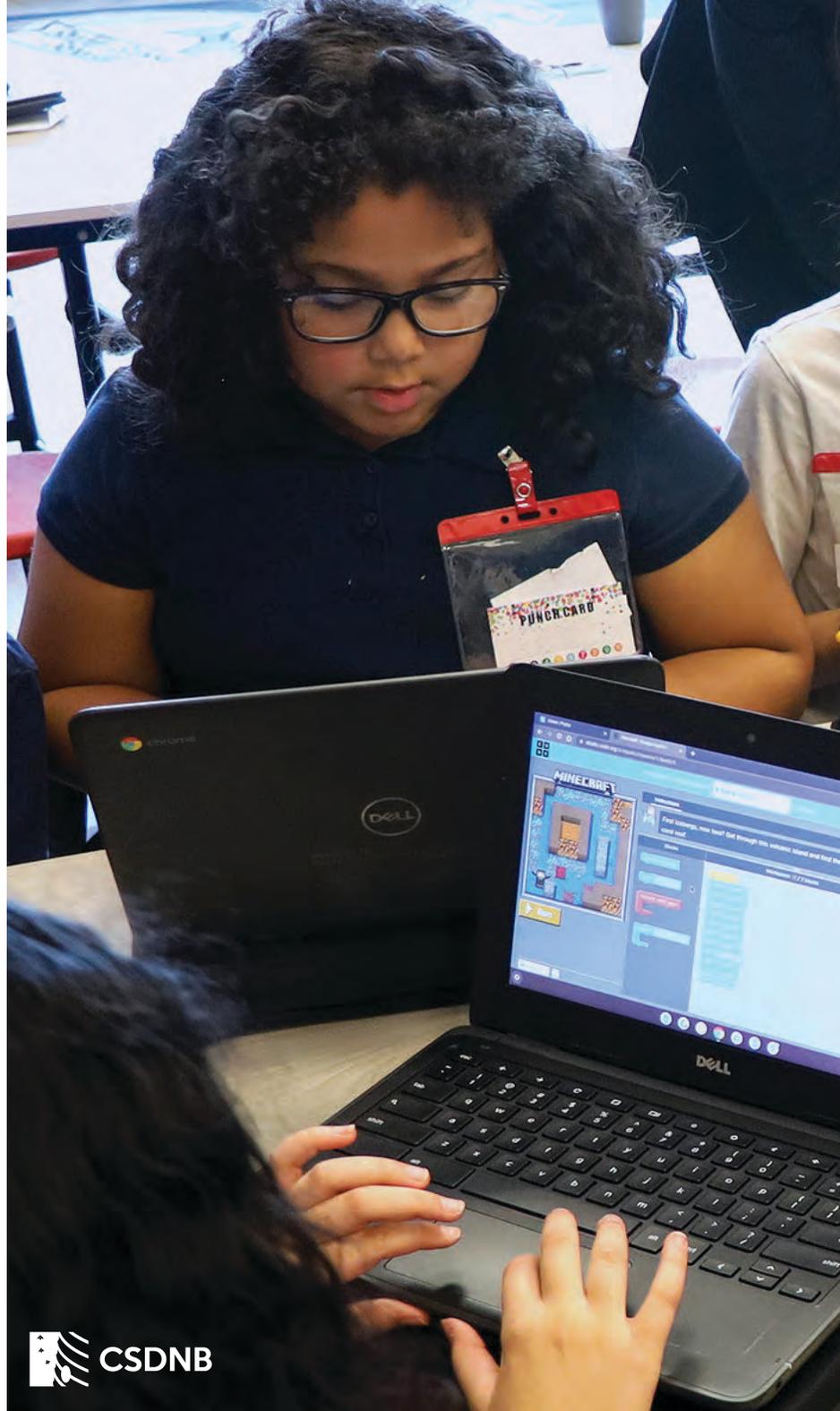
We have many things to celebrate and also much work to do. This newsletter will keep you informed of the great things that we are seeing from the district level of our school system. Our staff members and families are critical pieces in our plans to grow and improve CSDNB.

Thank you for taking the time to stay in touch with us!

In Partnership,



Superintendent Tony Gasper



# CSDNB DISTRICT DISPATCH

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Smith Elementary School students engaged in computing activity during Lieutenant Governor visit, December 2022

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VOLUME 1  
ISSUE 04

# CSDNB DISTRICT DISPATCH

A Publication of the Consolidated School District of New Britain

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## NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

### Articles by:

Members of the Senior Leadership Team  
and CSDNB Communications Team

### Art & Communication Direction by:

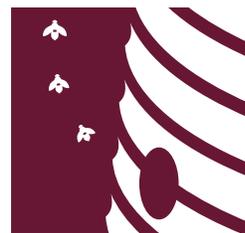
Pawel Figat & Ryan Langer

### Translations Provided by:

Diana Rios & Majedah Nassir

### Special Thanks to:

CSDNB staff who submitted photos



CONSOLIDATED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT  
—OF—  
NEW BRITAIN

In partnership with family and community, the Consolidated School District of New Britain works to provide the best personalized and comprehensive whole-child education at every level so students will be prepared for, and positively contribute to, a profoundly different future.

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Joseph Listro, Secretary

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Monica Dawkins

Anthony Kane

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Maryellen Manning, Chief of Staff | Relationships & Accountability

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Nicole Sanders, Director of Talent and Equity

Mark Spalding, Director of Pupil Services

Diana Rios, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Ryan Langer, Communications Officer

The Consolidated School District of New Britain

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Authorized by: Superintendent Tony Gasper

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# SUPERINTENDENT RECOGNITION



Northend Elementary School student, Josias, stands alongside his proud mother and Superintendent Gasper after receiving the Superintendent Challenge Coin

Several members of the Northend Elementary School community were nominated to receive Superintendent Challenge Coins last month by Northend Principal Rolanda Booker. Booker said the group quickly came together to take care of a young toddler who wandered onto campus after school, by keeping her safe, fed, and changed until the situation was resolved.

Josias, a student at Northend Elementary School, was awarded the Superintendent Challenge Coin, along with three CSDNB staff members: Anthony Littlejohn, Geo Mazza, and Julyanna Korkatzis, and three New Britain Parks and Recreation staff members: Anna Ali, London Burgos, and Mya Vizcarrondo.

Thank you all for exemplifying good citizenship in our school district!

In partnership,

Superintendent Tony Gasper





# COMPUTING CHALLENGE KICKOFF!

CT Lt. Governor Launches Coding Competition at Smith Elementary School

Connecticut Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz greeted fourth and fifth graders at Smith Elementary School on December 5, 2022 to kick off this year's Lt. Governor's Computing Challenge.

The challenge, a statewide "Coding for Good" competition, is open to all Connecticut students in grades 3 through 12. Students are encouraged to create applications designed to inspire health and wellness for all.

"We're honored to host the Lieutenant Governor for this important kickoff. New Britain's schools are on the rise and we're thankful for the support and partnership with

our community and state agencies," said Dr. Tony Gasper, Superintendent of Schools. "The Computing Challenge is a great opportunity for students to apply what they've learned in the classroom to a real-life situation and see themselves as creators of technology. Whether students are presenting an idea for an app, a prototype, or a fully developed app, this experience is truly critical thinking and problem solving brought to life."

Last year, New Britain High School students Fares Ahmed, Casper Adamus, and Michelle Prucnal (pictured above) took home The Jackson Urban Achievement Award in the challenge. All three were present at last month's kick-

*continued*



...students will have an amazing and interactive opportunity to learn more about computer science and coding and see how their ideas could impact our collective greater good.



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR SUSAN BYSIEWICZ

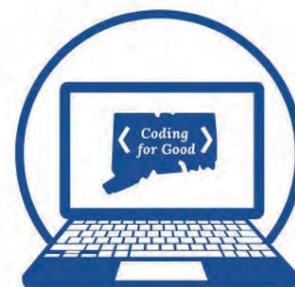


More photos of this CSDNB student experience can be found in the *CSDNB Smiles* section of this newsletter!

off, alongside several of their peers, to share their love of coding with the Smith students and illustrate the incredible pathway available to them in the CSDNB.

“One of the highest honor’s I have had since taking office in 2019 is serving as Chair on the Governor’s Council of Women and Girls. The Council has a major focus on exposing students, particularly women, to STEM related fields and careers where women are typically underrepresented. Allowing students like those here at Smith Elementary to explore an interest in computer science early in their academic careers allows them to think about a future degree or career in computer science and STEM,” said Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz. “With the launch of our fourth annual Lt. Governor’s Computing Challenge, Connecticut students will have an amazing and interactive opportunity to learn more about computer science and coding and see how their ideas could impact our collective greater good.”

We want to thank Lt. Governor Bysiewicz, Dr. Tony Gasper, Superintendent of Schools, Dan Sorge, NBHS Lead Teacher of the of Business and Finance Academy, our industry partners, the NBHS students, and other staff for creating the opportunity for our students to kick off this year’s challenge!



**LT. GOVERNOR'S**  
Computing Challenge

For more information, please visit [www.ltgovcc.org](http://www.ltgovcc.org)



# NBHS HOSTS WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

## Wreaths Across America Makes Convoy Stop in New Britain

We were honored to host Wreaths Across America at New Britain High School on December 8, 2022 as an official stop on their Escort to Arlington Convoy 2022. The convoy, the country's longest veterans' parade, made the stop on their way to deliver over 300,000 wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery for National Wreaths Across America Day. Over 50 vehicles make up the convoy including at least a dozen 18 wheelers of wreaths and a bus load of Gold Star and Blue Star families.

"The City of New Britain is honored to be one of this year's Escort to Arlington stops as the convoy travels to Arlington National Cemetery," said Mayor Erin E. Stewart. "This event is a reflection of our community's steady

commitment to honoring the sacrifice of all who bravely answered the call to serve our great country."

Mayor Stewart took part in the ceremony at NBHS along with; State Representative Donna Veach (Berlin/Southington), who is chair of the Wreaths Across America of New Britain initiative; Peter Scirpo, Commander of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), Hardware City Chapter 8; Major Daniel Eddinger, U.S. Army (retired), Vietnam veteran, recipient of two Purple Hearts and Commander of the Department of Connecticut Military Order of the Purple Heart; Wreaths Across America Board Chairman Wayne Hansen and Executive Director Karen Worcester; and New Britain High School students and

groups including the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) and Madrigal singers.

CSDNB would like to thank the men and women who paid the ultimate price for our freedom, and their families, and are grateful we could "find a way to serve" as a community in your honor joining Wreaths Across America in their mission to Remember, Honor, and Teach. Thank you to all of the local volunteers and first responders who made this stop possible.





# DISTRICT UPDATES

## What's New and Happening at CSDNB?



### DiLoreto's 'Dos en Uno' Program!

Did you know DiLoreto School has a Dual Language program? The program, 'Dos en Uno,' provides literacy and content instruction to students through two languages, promotes bilingualism and biliteracy, and builds socio-cultural competence for all students.

The DiLoreto Middle School Latinos in Action Tutors are also reading in Spanish with our 'Dos en Uno' Kindergarten students under the guidance of Charley Faria. In addition, Baileys Irizarry's Grade 8 Spanish students tutored the first-grade 'Dos en Uno' students, further practicing their Spanish reading skills.

Just last month, Superintendent Gasper, Deputy Superintendent Velazquez, and other district leaders visited several 'Dos en Uno' first-grade classrooms to connect with staff and students, and guest read in Spanish.



Superintendent Gasper visits 'Dos en Uno' classroom

More 'Dos en Uno' Classroom Visit photos can be found in the

*CSDNB Smiles*  
section of this newsletter!

### The DiLoreto Lottery and 'Dos en Uno' Program Application Process

Want to apply to DiLoreto Elementary and Middle School or DiLoreto's 'Dos en Uno' Spanish Immersion Program?

DiLoreto Elementary and Middle School will launch its annual lottery application process this month. All students going into elementary or middle school are eligible to apply.

*Incoming kindergarten students are also eligible to apply for the kindergarten 'Dos en Uno' program. An informational session on the 'Dos en Uno' program will be held on Tuesday Jan. 24th at 6:00 PM at DiLoreto.*

The application for DiLoreto Elementary and Middle School programs will be available on Parent Portal this month, and applications will be accepted until March 1, 2023. *Please see page 17 of this newsletter on how to access Forms on Parent Portal.*

If you have any questions regarding the programming at DiLoreto, please email us at:

[DiloretoDualLanguage@csdnb.org](mailto:DiloretoDualLanguage@csdnb.org)



### HALS Academy Student Success Plan

HALS Academy rolled out Student Success Plans with their students in December and are well under way. This curriculum focuses on academic, career, and social emotional development. Students will complete activities through the year on goal setting, soft skills, self-advocacy, and career exploration. These activities will be the building blocks of their senior project at the high school.

# DISTRICT UPDATES

## What's New and Happening at CSDNB?

### Gingerbread Rock!

Vance Village School's Kindergarten classes put on their yearly production of "Gingerbread Rock!" This is the first time the students have performed the play in person in two years. The students worked extremely hard to learn and memorize their lines, rehearse their dance moves, and create their costumes. The students did an amazing job and a great time was had by all. A BIG thank you to the Kindergarten teachers at Vance, additional staff for their support, and especially to Ms. Vass for an amazing production.



Photos: Vance Village 'Gingerbread Rock!' holiday performance event held on December 15.

More Vance Village 'Gingerbread Rock!' photos can be found in the

CSDNB *Smiles*  
section of this newsletter!



### Gr. 3-8 Interim Assessment Blocks

For the first time since COVID, all Grade 3-8 students embarked on taking the Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs). These assessments are valuable as they provide teachers with an additional tool that measures students' mastery of specific content and skills aligned to the Connecticut Core Standards. Teachers were able to implement the first of three assessments that students will take this school year. IABs are also a great way for students to practice for the Smarter Balance Assessment (SBA) in the Spring. Students are getting the opportunity to practice using the platform and its accompanying tools, mirroring what they will see on SBA.



### Teachers Study Group: FUNdations®

Grade 1 and Grade 2 teachers participated in FUNdations study groups and spent time analyzing the most recent unit assessments. Teachers looked at the results, discussed noticings and wonderings, reviewed and planned for intervention and reassessment needs of our students, and made decisions for instruction based on data. In addition, they previewed and discussed upcoming units.

FUNdations is a word study program that teaches reading, spelling, and handwriting skills in a multisensory way. The program complements a core literacy program.

# DISTRICT UPDATES

# DISTRICT UPDATES

## What's New and Happening at CSDNB?

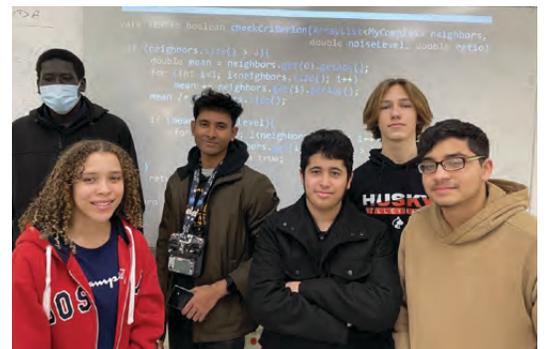
### Bridges Middle School Program Update

Teachers, staff, and students at the Bridges Middle School program are setting high expectations for students and promoting a positive learning environment. Students in the program work on daily on task behaviors which earns program points. Students can then exchange the points for class and program incentives as well as earning access to additional mainstream classes as they strengthen their social-emotional and behavioral skills. This point system is a critical part of the Small Classroom Management program used at Bridges. Two seventh grade students recently earned enough points to purchase new bikes.



### NBHS Computer Science Students Strive to "Solve for Tomorrow"

Through the work of its AP Computer Science class, New Britain High School was selected as a state finalist in the Samsung 'Solve for Tomorrow' competition and will receive a \$2,500 reward. The class entered the competition and identified hallway traffic as an area where they could use their coding skills to better the community. The students will be working to create a digital hallway pass system to simplify the pass system used at the High School and improve the school climate. With a digital hall pass, paper passes would no longer be needed, and teachers would be able to issue digital passes through their computers. The system may even sync with PowerSchool to allow teachers to check if building locations are too busy for additional students.



NBHS AP Computer Science students proud to advance in Samsung-sponsored coding competition.

The Samsung 'Solve for Tomorrow' competition challenges students to apply their learning to real-world problems and celebrates students working to improve their community locally or globally. In the next phase of the competition, 50 state winners will be selected and awarded \$20,000 in technology and supplies. Congratulations to the NBHS AP Computer Science class and teacher, Colm Duffin, and good luck in the next phase of the competition!

# DISTRICT UPDATES

*What's New and Happening at CSDNB?*

## 'Tis the Season for Musical Performances

Students and staff displayed their range of musical talent across the district with over 30 performances in the month of December! Nearly every school hosted a Winter Concert or Sing-a-long event after the Madrigal Feaste kicked off the season in early December, showcasing our Madrigals and the creative talents of Music/Choral Director Jason Ferrandino.

Throughout the month, several Puerto Rican traditions were shared and enjoyed through cultural enrichment efforts. The Pulasiki Middle School Winter Concert included the Parranda Puertorriqueña, a traditional Puerto Rican-style caroling with maracas and güiros. At New Britain High School, several students from Mr. Carrion's Spanish 2 class participated in a Parranda Navideña, another traditional Puerto Rican-style caroling. The students sang in Spanish and played instruments while walking through the halls and visiting other Spanish classes.

The entire NBHS Music Department came together to perform their annual Winter Concert. As always, we were so impressed with the talent possessed by these Hurricanes. Thank you to our music teachers and other school staff for their hard work in preparing their students and to all the families who came out to support their children.



Photo: NBHS Winter Concert held on December 14



## Chamberlain Teacher Honored by CCSU Literacy Center

Last month's community meeting at Chamberlain Elementary included student and staff celebrations in addition to a surprise visit from Central Connecticut State University. Dr. Jesse Turner, Director of the CCSU Literacy Center, visited the school to surprise Ms. Shelly Love with The Culturally Responsive Teacher Award.

The award, given in partnership with The Ana Grace Project, was awarded in recognition of her work and included a gift of a culturally responsive library for her classroom. Some examples of culturally responsive teaching include utilizing culturally diverse and inclusive practices that recognize and validate students' home cultures and languages as assets and the use of classroom books and sources that enable students to see themselves represented in the text they read. Congratulations to Ms. Love!



# DISTRICT UPDATES

# DISTRICT UPDATES

*What's New and Happening at CSDNB?*



## NBHS Senior Signs Letter of Intent for University of Rhode Island

New Britain High School senior Dontay Bishop recently signed his National Letter of Intent to continue his football career with the University of Rhode Island on a full scholarship in addition to being named to the CT High School Coaches Association All-State Football Team for the second year in a row.

"This is a historic moment," said New Britain football coach Isaiah Boddie. "This hasn't happened in over 10 years here at New Britain High School."

What made his commitment to Rhode Island so impressive was his path to eventually signing those papers. Bishop not only missed a season due to COVID but most recently lost his mother when she passed away in September. Bishop's journey is one that has inspired many in New Britain.

"It wasn't perfect. He went through adversity in the classroom. He went through adversity in September and didn't make any excuses," said Boddie. "He showed up to school that day, went to practice, was a great teammate, and a good student. His character didn't waver. He's from New Britain and is proud to say he's from New Britain... This is just the beginning for him."

Read more from the New Britain Herald by scanning QR Code on your smart device:



## Holmes Student Recognition Breakfast

Holmes Elementary School celebrated the return of their Student Recognition Breakfast for the first time post-pandemic. The entire breakfast was organized and paid for by the Holmes staff in an extremely kind gesture. We'd like to congratulate the Holmes students and thank the staff for going above and beyond to create this opportunity to celebrate your students with their families.



Holmes Elementary School Principal Heather Nicol congratulating student at Recognition Breakfast



## Unpacking the Social Studies Curriculum

Our 6-8 social studies teachers gathered in December to unpack Unit 3 of their new curriculum which started this month. Grade 6 is studying Immigration and Justice, grade seven is learning about Technology Advancements through the Ages, and grade eight is digging into how our nation was built. Library resource collections, aligned to the curriculum, have been created for each of the middle schools which include both print and nonprint materials and are personalized for each building's specific collection.

# DISTRICT UPDATES

*What's New and Happening at CSDNB?*



## Slade Middle School Receives Over 40 Musical Instruments in Donation

Last month, Slade Middle School was selected by The Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation to receive 40 instruments at a retail value of over \$38,000 made possible with generous funding from The Capitol Theatre. The donation includes saxophones, violins, clarinets, flutes, and trumpets. CSDNB would like to thank the Mr. Holland Opus Foundation for their incredibly generous support and dedication to music education!



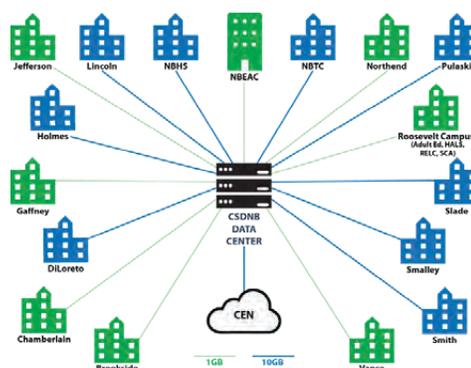
The Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation keeps music alive in schools by providing vital support services to school districts and new musical instruments to underfunded music programs nationwide. This support gives under-represented youth access to the many benefits of music education, leading them to success in school, and inspiring creative and expression through playing music.

For more information on The Mr. Hollands Opus Foundation visit [www.mhopus.org](http://www.mhopus.org)



## 8th Graders Take A Look Ahead

Counselors Stacey Rosado and Ricky Clark from the New Britain High School Guidance Department are actively visiting district middle schools to talk to our 8th graders about course selection and the many opportunities offered at the High School. Ricky Clark and a group of high school students visited Slade and Pulaski middle schools during the December parent-teacher conferences to talk to the students and their families about the benefits of joining one of the NBHS Academies: the Academy of Business & Finance, the Manufacturing, Engineering & Technology (MET) Academy, the Public Service Academy, and the Health Academy.



District Connectivity Map above shows schools with major bandwidth upgrades. (Blue=10GB Green=1GB)

## Network Upgrades Boost Bandwidth!

Network upgrades have completed! Over the winter break the final network upgrades came online, increasing our bandwidth at our biggest schools. Over break, the district's connection to the cloud was also boosted to 10gig. The increases in bandwidth will allow for growth over the coming years.

# DISTRICT UPDATES

# DISTRICT UPDATES

*What's New and Happening at CSDNB?*



## NBHS Girls Soccer Team Recognized for Showing Great Sportsmanship!

On December 13, the New Britain High School girls varsity soccer team was awarded the 2022 Keith Johnson Sportsmanship Award from the Central Connecticut Soccer Officials Association at the girls basketball home opener game.



NBHS Girls Soccer team celebrates and proudly poses with the Keith Johnson Sportsmanship Award.



The award, which encompasses all of the public and private schools in Central Connecticut, is given annually to the team that displays the most outstanding sportsmanship during the season. The team is coached by Patrick Boucher. Congratulations, and thank you for making New Britain Hurricanes proud!



## Celebrating Biliteracy at NBHS

New Britain High School is entering the new year with an already impressive number of upperclassmen who have earned the State of Connecticut Seal of Biliteracy.

The Seal of Biliteracy was established to recognize public high school graduates who have attained a level of proficiency in English and one or more other languages.

Over 100 upperclassmen (59 seniors/Cohort 2023 and 42 juniors/Cohort 2024) have met the rigorous requirements to be certified as biliterate in English and another language.

Biliteracy assessment will continue through the end of the year. On June 1, 2023, the NBHS Language Department will hold its annual Honors Ceremony celebrating the exceptional accomplishments of its upperclassmen. We are so proud of our multiliterate students!

## Brookside School Community Drive

Brookside School is collecting gently used coats, other winter clothing, new toys, and non-perishable food items for local organizations across the community. Donations will be accepted at Brookside School during school hours.



# DISTRICT UPDATES

*What's New and Happening at CSDNB?*



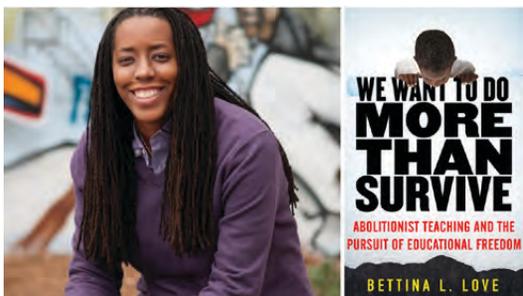
## REL C Prepares for NAEYC Accreditation

Roosevelt Early Learning Center continues to prepare for National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accreditation. The accreditation process focuses on high standards for ensuring high-quality experiences for children in early learning programs. The NAEYC accreditation process also promotes positive relationships for all children and adults to encourage each child's sense of individual worth.



## CSDNB's DEI Advisory Committee

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee is a districtwide structure that is composed of community and school leaders. The council was formed with the belief that our collective efforts are a powerful force that will improve equity, inclusion, access, advocacy and awareness for all within the school district and community at large. The committee aims to honor multiple perspectives while engaging in courageous and collegial conversations. To this end, the council will examine policies, programs and curriculum to identify impact for opportunities and barriers. The Council held its first meeting at the end of November and reviewed the district's Equity Policy and the proposed new K-3 reading curriculums.



## Administrators Engage in Book Study

Administrators have been engaged in book study with mentor text. They're studying *We Want to Do More Than Survive: Abolitionist Teaching and the Pursuit to Educational Freedom* by Dr. Bettina Love. During these discussions, administrators are encouraged to engage in courageous conversations about teaching practices and opportunities to increase capacity to engage in efforts to build a more equitable school environment. Want to know more? A key term from this month's study was "Intersectionality." Ask your administrator for the meaning.

## Personnel & Talent Development Update

The Personnel & Talent Development Department would like to thank all of our co-operating teachers and clinical supervisors for a successful Fall semester of hosting and mentoring aspirant educators.

The Department continues to work extremely hard to recruit and promptly onboard teachers, especially special education teachers. CSDNB currently has a vacancy rate of approximately less than 5% which is comparable to this time last year. Collaboratively with CCSU, we are placing additional NexGen Students in schools to serve as substitutes. Thank you to all administrators for your support.

# DISTRICT UPDATES

# DISTRICT UPDATES

## What's New and Happening at CSDNB?



### LAS Links Testing

LAS Links testing will begin in January for all identified Multilingual Learners (MLs) in Connecticut. The LAS Links is an integrated suite of English language proficiency assessments consisting of four sections: Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing. The purpose of the LAS Links is to track the progress of Multilingual Learners (MLs) in Connecticut as well as the primary tool for exiting students from Multilingual Learner status. CSDNB Multilingual Learners will observe the following testing schedule:

LAS LINKS TESTING SCHEDULE	
Kindergarten	January 9 - 18
Grade 1	January 17 - 24
Grade 2	January 25 - 31
Grade 3	February 1 - 7
Grade 4	February 8 - 14
Grade 5	February 15 - 23
Grade 6	January 17 - 24
Grade 7	January 25 - 31
Grade 8	February 1 - 7
NBHS	January 9*
*NBHS testing will begin on January 9 and will resume regular class schedules as soon as possible.	

### Chamberlain Construction Progress

The construction project at Chamberlain is approximately 90% complete. Outside work is wrapping up, light poles are being installed and the final landscaping has been planted. All HVAC equipment is installed on the roof and is being commissioned. The interior of the building is also nearing completion. Final finishes include the installation of VCT and rubber flooring and final coats of paint being applied. The larger rooms including the gym, auditorium and cafeteria are coming alive with new lighting, flooring and seating as well. The new furniture will be delivered on January 9 and staged throughout the building.



Chamberlain Elementary School looking East. New parent pickup/drop off loop.



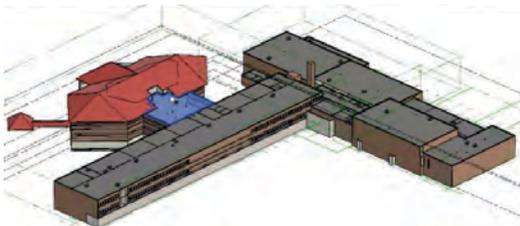
One of Chamberlain's two new main entrances.

# DISTRICT UPDATES

## What's New and Happening at CSDNB?

### Slade Middle School New Roof Project

Our Project management team has started work on the design and planning stages to replace the roof at Slade Middle School. This \$4 Million-dollar project will ensure the longevity of the building and increase energy efficiency of the building. Funding for this project has been made possible through the Mayor's office and The Common Council. The first phase of the project includes design, testing and planning. The project is expected to go out to bid for a roofing company over the next few months. As an added bonus phase of the roof project, CSDNB is working on securing grant money to upgrade the HVAC equipment as well. This HVAC improvement phase will bring air conditioning and improved ventilation to the entire building.



The above 3D Model of the building is being drawn so architects can properly design a new roof system.

Over the Christmas break, as a first step in the project, Special Projects Manager Robert Smedley and a team of architects and environmentalists took samples of the existing roof to check for hazardous materials. These samples will be evaluated at a lab and a process will be designed to safely remove any hazardous materials in the demolition phase of the project.

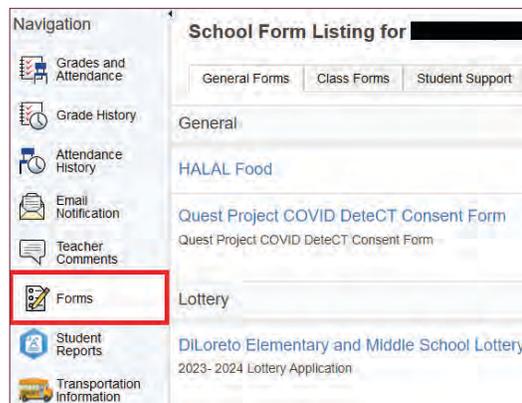


Pictured Above: The 1958 wing of Slade Middle School has a 1.5" metal deck roof with pearl-lite insulation. The roof then has pond stones on it to promote drainage through a system of roof drains and gutters

### Accessing Forms in PowerSchool

The Forms section in the PowerSchool Portal allows universal access to many different forms and surveys for the school district. In January, the Forms section will be used to sign up for the DiLoreto Elementary and Middle School lottery programs for all currently registered students. Please Note: Students who are not yet registered in the school district will be able to apply for this lottery through the new student registration process. The application for Diloreto Elementary and Middle School programs will be available on Parent Portal this month, and applications will be accepted until March 1, 2023. If you have any questions regarding the programming at DiLoreto, please email us at:

[DiloretoDualLanguage@csdnb.org](mailto:DiloretoDualLanguage@csdnb.org)



Screenshot above shows where one can access the 'Forms' section in PowerSchool Parent Portal

### Stay Connected with Parent Portal!

Did you know 85% of our students have a connected PowerSchool Parent Portal account? Remember the Parent Portal has additional features not available in the Student Portal, so make sure you are accessing the Parent Portal instead of your child's portal. If you have forgotten your password or are unsure of the email account connected to the Parent Portal, please contact your child's school for assistance.

DISTRICT UPDATES

# DISTRICT UPDATES

## What's New and Happening at CSDNB?

### School Messenger and Clever Portal

Stay connected to your child's school through the use of the school district's communication platforms. This month we highlight *School Messenger* and the *Clever Portal*. *Clever* not only provides quick and easy access to our littlest learners, but also provides a one stop portal for all of our students to their resources. Teachers can message parents as well as invite parents and guardians to view posted resources from the *Clever Portal*. All teachers have access to this resource, and families gain access once a teacher has invited them into the portal.



Please scan the QR Code for more information about Clever Messaging.

*School Messenger* is the district's messaging software, used for absence calling, weather announcements, and many other school and district related messages. If you are not receiving any phone calls but think you should be, please reach out to your child's school. If you have blocked the calls in the past, they can assist in getting those calls out once more.

Additionally, you can receive text messages in addition to phone calls from the system. Please remember this service requires the user to "opt in" before you can receive convenient text messages. Please see steps below to opt into text messages.

#### Opt Into SchoolMessenger Text Messaging!

Opt-In from  
your mobile  
phone now!



Just send  
"Y" or "Yes"  
to 67587

### Device Tickets and Insurance Summary

As we approach the midpoint to the school year, we have 1100 students participating in the CSDNB Student Device Insurance Program. Here are some quick numbers on the program's progress:

#### Insurance Claims

Insurance Claim Type	Count
Broken Keyboard	50
Cracked Screen	221
Internal Damage	68
Replacement Charger	84
Replacement Protective Case	8
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>431</b>

#### Student Tech Tickets Summary

Ticket Issue Type	Count
Account Issue	120
Charger or Case Issue	197
Damaged Device	624
Destroyed Device	9
Lost Device	480
Performance Issue	637
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>2067</b>

#### Ticket Status Summary

Status	Count
Open Tickets	745
New Tickets	237
Work in Progress	14
Work on Hold	26
Awaiting Insurance	195
Awaiting Invoice Payment	7
Work Completed	1322
Device Locked Out	266
<b>ALL TICKETS</b>	<b>2067</b>

*WORD OF ADVICE:  
Insure your student's device...*



Just  
**\$20/** SCHOOL  
YEAR  
provides accidental  
coverage for your  
student's device

## CSDNB'S STUDENT DEVICE INSURANCE PROGRAM

*We all know accidents happen.*

Without CSDNB's Student Device Insurance Program, you could be on the hook for costly repairs and replacement costs.\*

The Student Device Insurance Program is designed to protect students and families in the event that a CSDNB-issued device is damaged or malfunctions due to no fault of the student.\*

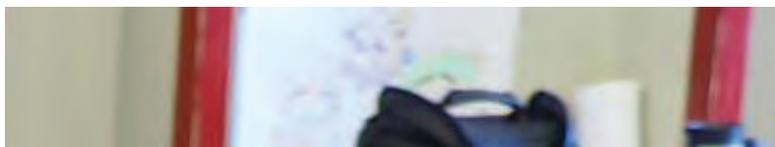
*Don't let an accident ruin your day, enroll today!*

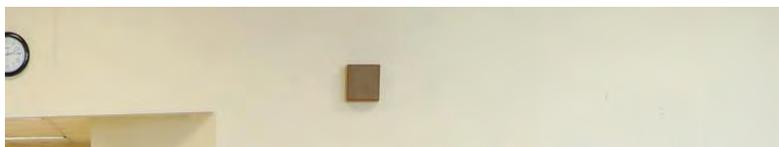
**Sign up is easy with MySchoolBucks!**

MySchoolBucks Store is accessible through PowerSchool Parent Portal.

# CSDNB Smiles

Lieutenant Governor's  
Computing Challenge Kickoff  
at Smith Elementary School





# CSDNB Smiles

“Dos en Uno” Classroom Visit





# CSDNB Smiles

Vance Village Gingerbread Rock





# CSDNB Smiles

Vance Village Gingerbread Rock

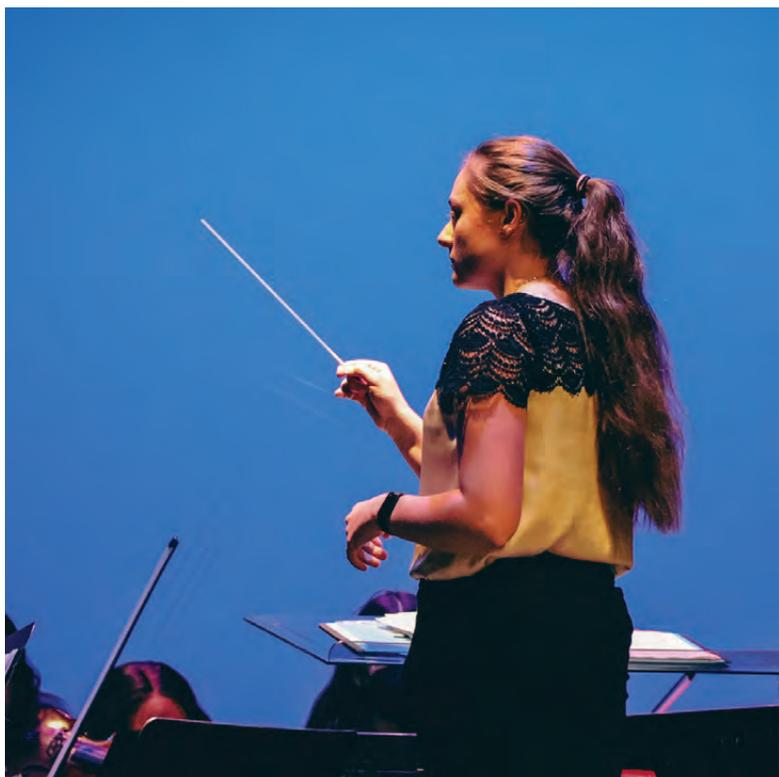




# CSDNB Smiles

NBHS Winter Concert





# CSDNB Smiles

NBHS Winter Concert





# BROOKSIDE'S School Community Drive

Brookside School is collecting **gently used coats, other winter clothing, new toys, and non-perishable food items** for local organizations across the community.

**Donations will be accepted until the end of January  
at Brookside School (505 South Main Street)  
during school hours (7:30 - 3:00 Monday - Friday)**



# 2022-2023 School Year

JULY					AUGUST <small>1 Day</small>					SEPTEMBER <small>21 Days</small>					OCTOBER <small>20 Days</small>				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
				1	1	2	3	4	5				1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	29	30	31			26	27	28	29	30	31				

NOVEMBER <small>17 Days</small>					DECEMBER <small>15 Days</small>					JANUARY <small>19 Days</small>					FEBRUARY <small>18 Days</small>					
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	
									1	2	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3
7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10	
14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	16	17	18	19	20	13	14	15	16	17	
21	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24	
28	29	30			26	27	28	29	30	30	31				27	28				

MARCH <small>23 Days</small>					APRIL <small>14 Days</small>					MAY <small>22 Days</small>					JUNE <small>10 Days</small>				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5				1	2
6	7	8	9	10	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9
13	14	15	16	17	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16
20	21	22	23	24	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23
27	28	29	30	31						29	30	31			26	27	28	29	30

### Districtwide

- =No School    ●=Holiday (School/District Closed)
- August 24 Convocation AM/Building Meetings PM
- August 25, 29, 30 Professional Development
- August 31 First Day of School for Students (Full Day)
- September 5 Labor Day
- October 10 Indigenous Peoples Day
- November 8 Election Day, Prof. Dev. (No School for Students)
- November 11 Veterans Day
- November 23 No School
- November 24-25 Thanksgiving Recess
- December 22-January 2 Winter Break
- January 6 Three Kings' Day
- January 16 Martin Luther King Day
- February 17 Lincoln's Birthday (Recognized 2/12)
- February 20 President's Day
- April 7 Good Friday
- April 10-14 April Break
- May 29 Memorial Day
- June 14 Last Day of School
- June 19 Juneteenth Holiday

### Special Observance Days

- Faculty will make appropriate accommodations for students affected by these and other special observance days.
- |                         |                               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| July 9-13 Eid al-Adha   | September 25-27 Rosh Hashanah |
| October 4-5 Yom Kippur  | October 9-16 Sukkot           |
| October 24-25 Diwali    | January 6 Three Kings' Day    |
| March 7-8 Holi          | April 5-13 Passover           |
| April 16-22 Bright Week | March 22-April 21 Ramadan     |
| April 21-22 Eid al-Fitr |                               |

### Pre-K ▲

- ▲ September 28 PD (Early Dismissal)
- ▲ October 26 PD (Early Dismissal)
- ▲ November 30 PD (Early Dismissal)
- ▲ January 25 PD (Early Dismissal)
- ▲ February 22 PD (Early Dismissal)
- ▲ March 29 PD (Early Dismissal)
- ▲ April 26 PD (Early Dismissal)
- ▲ May 24 PD (Early Dismissal)

### Elementary School ◆

- ◆ November 29 End of 1st Trimester
- ◆ December 6 Conferences (Early Dismissal)
- ◆ December 7 Conferences (Early Dismissal)
- ◆ December 8 (Evening Conferences)
- ◆ March 13 End of 2nd Trimester
- ◆ March 28 Conferences (Early Dismissal)
- ◆ March 29 Conferences (Early Dismissal)
- ◆ March 30 (Evening Conferences)
- ◆ June 9 End of 3rd Trimester

### Middle School ◆

- ◆ August 24 Orientation - HALS, Pulaski, Slade
- August 30 Grade 6 Only First Day (Early Release)
- ◆ November 29 End of 1st Trimester
- ◆ December 6 Conferences (Early Dismissal)
- ◆ December 7 Conferences (Early Dismissal)
- ◆ December 8 (Evening Conferences)
- ◆ March 13 End of 2nd Trimester
- ◆ March 28 Conferences (Early Dismissal)
- ◆ March 29 Conferences (Early Dismissal)
- ◆ March 30 (Evening Conferences)
- ◆ June 9 End of 3rd Trimester

### High School ■

- August 23 Freshmen Orientation
- August 30 Freshmen Only First Day (Early Release)
- August 31 First Day of School - All Grades
- September 15 Open House (6:00-8:00PM)
- October 3 Progress Reports Available in PowerSchool
- October 13 Conferences (6:00-8:00PM)
- November 3 End of Quarter 1
- November 14 Report Cards Available in PowerSchool
- December 13 Progress Reports Available in PowerSchool
- January 26 End of Quarter 2
- January 27 Second Semester Begins
- February 2 Report Cards Available in PowerSchool
- March 1 Progress Reports Available in PowerSchool
- March 2 Conferences (6:00-8:00PM)
- March 22 SAT School Day for Gr. 11 Only, (Early Release)
- April 3 End of Quarter 3
- April 17 Report Cards Available in PowerSchool
- May 12 Progress Reports Available in PowerSchool
- May 3 Senior Presentations (Early Release)
- May 10 Senior Presentations (Early Release)
- June 7 End of Quarter 4
- June 8-13 Final Exams
- June 14 Last Day of School (Half Day) (Make-up day)
- June 16 Graduation (Tentative)



CSDNB

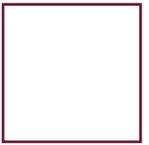
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**CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN**

272 Main Street • P.O. Box 1960 • New Britain, CT 06050-1960



In partnership with family and community, the Consolidated School District of New Britain works to provide the best personalized and comprehensive whole-child education at every level so students will be prepared for, and positively contribute to, a profoundly different future.

The Consolidated School District of New Britain strives to pursue excellence one student at a time.

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**The Consolidated School District of New Britain**

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Authorized by: Superintendent Tony Gasper



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