

# CSDNB DISTRICT DISPATCH

A Publication of the School District of New Britain

MAR  
20  
23

VOLUME 1  
ISSUE 06

## *A Taste of Italy...*

Angelo's Market owner & chef visits High School's Culinary Program during Career Technical Education Month

# HELLO NEW BRITAIN FAMILIES AND STAFF MEMBERS:

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

A Publication of the Consolidated School District of New Britain



Joe Tropea of Angelo's Market shares his perspective as both a chef and a business owner with NBHS students.

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VOLUME 1  
ISSUE 06

# CSDNB DISTRICT DISPATCH

A Publication of the Consolidated School District of New Britain

VOLUME 1 / ISSUE 06

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**THIS ISSUE AND MORE  
CAN BE FOUND ONLINE!**

Scan below!

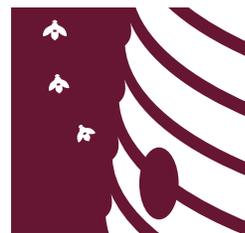


The Consolidated School District of New Britain

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Authorized by: Superintendent Tony Gasper



**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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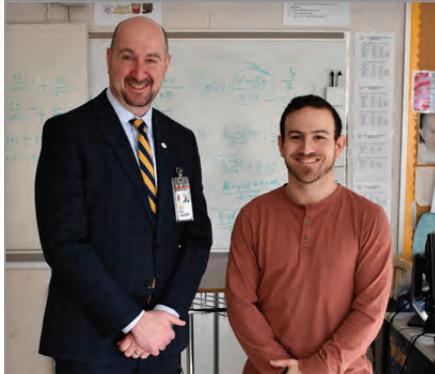
Diana Rios, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Ryan Langer, Communications Officer

[WWW.CSDNB.ORG](http://WWW.CSDNB.ORG)



# SUPERINTENDENT RECOGNITION



**PAT BOUCHER**  
New Britain High School

Pat Boucher is a Teaching Assistant and Girls Soccer Coach at New Britain High School. Boucher was nominated to receive the Superintendent Challenge Coin by Lisa Kawecki, the Interim Assistant Coordinator of Physical Education, Health & Wellness 9-12.

"In his second season coaching the girls soccer team, he has pushed each of his girls to not only be the best they can be as a soccer player but as a person on the field. Coach Boucher always told his girls to focus on their game and always treat their opponents with respect regardless of the score. Coach also reminded the girls to win graciously and respectfully because they have been on the losing side and they know how it feel. His team received state-wide recognition from the Central CT Soccer Officials Association for their display of sportsmanship throughout the season," said Kawecki.



**STACI OBASI**  
Smith Elementary School

Staci Obasi is the Art Teacher at Smith Elementary School. Obasi was nominated by to receive the Superintendent Challenge Coin by Karen Falvey, the Principal of Smith Elementary School.

"Staci does an amazing job. She is a team player and builds phenomenal relationships with our students. The building has been buzzing with positivity over the artistic ability of our students because of her dedication. She has created an art Facebook page to share with families and staff. On top of her building work, Staci has proven to be a great role model for our up and coming educators at CCSU," said Falvey.

Michael Bucci, a CCSU professor, emailed Obasi to extend his heartfelt gratitude for her flexibility and willingness to receive students from the University program.

"The students who have observed with you have had nothing but wonderful things to say about you and your classroom environment. You have undoubtedly left a positive and lasting impression on these future art educators during a formative time in their program. Thank you for all that you have done for us this past semester and all that you do every day as an art educator," said Bucci.



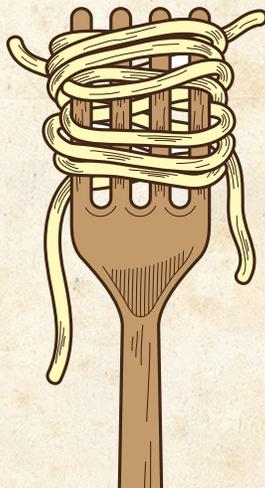
# A Taste of Italy AT NBHS

Students in the New Britain High School Culinary Program were recently treated to a unique opportunity that featured more than just delicious food.

Joe Tropea, the owner of Angelo's Market in New Britain, visited the program to share a cooking demonstration with hands-on participation by students, followed by a question and answer session allowing the students to learn more about Tropea's day-to-day and the behind-the-scenes of running a successful business.

"It was something new for us. Mr. Tropea has a business, he is successful, he is from here too, so that's good to see," said senior Jomar Rodriguez. "It was fun. I love culinary now, it's probably my favorite class and program in the school."

The culinary program at NBHS is one of four pathways in the school's Academy of Business and Finance. The academy is accredited by the National Academy Foundation, receiving merit recognition of distinction multiple times, as well as the National Restaurant Association. Chefs Brian Crowley and James Nelson run the program.



"I was hoping that the students could see from the perspective that I share from my past life being a restaurant owner. Joe from Angelo's shared that same exact passion and honesty about what food really means to people, to the world, jobs, and everything else that the kids are looking forward to," said Chef Nelson. "I think the most rewarding part was to see that what we teach here in culinary is true and is honest. Hard work pays off."

Angelo's Market was founded in 1956 by an Italian opera singer named Angelo, who later mentored a young Italian immigrant, Tropea, in the ways of fine butchery, meat curing, Italian cuisine and traditional Italian grocery. Decades later, Tropea successfully owns and operates Angelo's with a 'new-world twist to this old-world deli.' The market caters

*continued*



to hundreds of events annually and has been rated the #1 Deli in Connecticut by various prestigious organizations.

"I came here when I was a kid, and I have attachments to New Britain. I was given a chance when I was a kid and had a lot of mentors growing up," said Tropea commenting on why he brought his talents to NBHS. "I'm hoping to give back to the community. Sometimes kids in school need somebody's feedback from the outside and to experience something different."

Angelo D'Alfonso, NBHS work-based learning advisor, said setting up opportunities like this one is a rewarding piece of his work as he is able to open doors for students involved in all of the academy pathways, not just culinary, to help them pursue their careers of choice in the community.

"My role through the work-based learning here allows me to give the students here in the culinary department an op-

portunity to see someone who started off their age way back when and now has a successful business that he has. Not only on the cooking side of it but also on the business side of it. I want these kids to know that yeah, being a chef is great but also what comes with it as far as running a successful business," said D'Alfonso. "I've known Chef Joe since he was their age, so it was rewarding for me to see these kids actually learn and see firsthand from someone who started out as they are at this age."

As the NBHS Academies offer high school students a unique opportunity to explore potential careers, academy graduates are better prepared for college, career, and future success as the program design 'ignites students' passion for learning and gives businesses the opportunity to shape America's future workforce.'

"It's nice to see young adults make a difference in the community, and it's nice to hear when kids from our community become successful and go on to do

bigger and better things," said Tropea.

The experience with Tropea even opened a door for a potential new career ambition for Rodriguez.

"What did I learn from today? I can make pasta! I usually always burn it. I learned it takes teamwork to run a successful restaurant. Not only one person can do it. You need staff. If you have good staff, you can build yourself up to be successful," said Rodriguez. "In the future, I wouldn't mind being a chef. I think that's what I'd like to do, but I'm trying to play baseball in college and maybe become a police officer, but I wouldn't mind being a chef."

**Check out our new website to learn more about the NBHS Academies!**  
[www.newbritainacademiesct.org](http://www.newbritainacademiesct.org)

**All interested 8th-grade students and current high school students are invited to apply!**



NBHS Wrestling takes home Second Place Trophy at Portland Highlander Tournament

# NEW BRITAIN HIGH SCHOOL HURRICANES WRESTLING SEASON

## Wrap-Up



Coach Nick Catalano, Cameron Cardona, Marquis Eason, Michael Zapor, Coach Shane Day, and Anthony Fusco at the CIAC Class LL Tournament.

The 2022-23 Wrestling season concluded in late February with the CIAC State Tournament at Hillhouse High School. There were notable performances by all of our competitors. Senior Alyana Martinez placed second in the girls tournament. Juniors Michael Zapor and Cameron Cardona competed valiantly, and Madison Atkinson placed fourth in the girls tournament. Sophomore, Olianis Alicea battled hard through the tournament, and freshman Kaydence Atkinson took home a second-place medal in the girls' tournament.

"I enjoy wrestling because it keeps me active, and it pushes me to success," said junior Cameron Cardona.

The team is coached by Nick Catalano, Shane Day, and Steve Alvarez. Throughout the season, they fostered so much growth and development from all of our student-athletes. The team competed against teams such as Manchester, Farmington, Glastonbury, Newington, Simsbury, South Windsor, Hall, Berlin, Maloney, Portland, Conard, Southington, and others during many weekend tournaments. Competing in tournaments such as



Coach Nick Catalano, Olianis Alicia, Kaydence Atkinson, Madison Atkinson, Alyana Martinez and Coach Shane Day at the CIAC Winter Championships.



Cameron Cardona and Michael Zapor at the CIAC Winter Championships.

the Greater Hartford Open, and the Portland Highlander Tournament required the team to be in sync with each other and for everyone to support each individual wrestler.

“Wrestling isn’t an easy sport, especially when you are a female wrestler, so I went up to my coach

for advice one day, and I remember him telling me, ‘If you go hard at practice the full 2 hours we’re here, those 6 minutes on the mat wrestling will be easy. But you have to want it more than the other person,’” said junior Paulina Vargas. “Wrestling is all mental. You really need to want it to succeed, so my coach’s words will always stick with me.”

There is a lot to learn from each wrestling match, and the team has shown exponential growth from the start of the

season to the end. Our team is looking strong and ready for next year, with 15 juniors, 9 sophomores, and 10 freshmen planning to return. We are graduating many seniors, who have all expressed how much the team has meant to them. Congratulations Hurricanes!

Thank you to New Britain High School Academic-Athletic Advisor Evan Fable for providing season updates for this recap.



**NBHS Students interested in registering for the spring sports season should visit [csdnb.org/athletics](https://csdnb.org/athletics) to register with FamilyID by March 18, 2023.**



**Spring sports offerings:**

Baseball, Softball, Track and Field, Boys Volleyball, Girls Golf, Boys and Girls Tennis, and new this year Girls Flag Football.

“

“I enjoy wrestling because it keeps me active, and it pushes me to success....”

Cameron Cardona

”



# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## HIGHLIGHTS AND CELEBRATIONS THROUGHOUT CSDNB

CSDNB celebrated Black History Month in a variety of ways. Students and staff shared projects, watched performances, listened to music, read poetry written by famous African Americans, and embarked on opportunities to expand their knowledge of famous individuals of color that impacted our lives and history.

**Here are a few of the many highlights from around the community!**

### Black History Month Flag Raising at Central Park

We kicked off the month by joining the City of New Britain for a Pan-African Flag raising ceremony in Central Park featuring speakers and music before culminating with the raising of the flag. Tyler Ferguson, NBHS African American Club advisor and Behavior Support Assistant, shared her personal experience, the wisdom she's gained from her students, and the importance of educating others as a keynote speaker.  Photo 1

### African American Club Brings Justice Mullins to NBHS

Students and staff at NBHS had the opportunity to learn from Justice Raheem Mullins of the State Supreme Court at a Black Town Hall event thanks to the African American Club. The Black Town Hall series allows students to witness history, see Black people in different roles, and give a voice to its members. Justice Mullins is the youngest judge in the history of the State of Connecticut after being nominated at 33 years of age in 2012.  Photo 2

### CT Virtuosi Visits Jefferson Elementary School

The CT Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra, Led by Maestro Adrian Sylveen performed with Elizabeth Lyra Ross at Jefferson Elementary School in February. They performed the music of many African American Composers, including Langston Hughes and Harry Belafonte (Oh Freedom). Each piece included a presentation by Elizabeth Lyra Ross on the historical background. As artists, the Virtuosi strive to be cultural leaders and teachers and to inspire our audiences to recognize the beauty and quality of classical music in any form.  Photo 3



## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION

Every Child Feels  
Welcomed and Valued

- The Essential 10 -

### Slade Staff Member Creates Display

Omega Cobb, Slade paraeducator, created a display at Slade Middle School. Included in this display is a big Pan-African flag with smaller flags from African countries, musical instruments, and pictures of noteworthy black women who have contributed to the advancement of all aspects of society: science, politics, literature, etc.

On the outside of the display, there was additional artwork and books selected with a colleague by Afro-Latino authors. Students could read a little about the author and check the book out in the media center. Thank you Mr. Cobb, for helping Slade Middle School celebrate Black History Month with such an affirming, powerful, and beautiful display.  Photo 4

### CSDNB Staff Members Recognized in City Hall Exhibit

Three CSDNB staff members were among those recognized at the City of New Britain's annual Prominent Black Residents Exhibit Unveiling. Congratulations to Jason Gibson, Quentin McDougald, James Jones, and all those honored in the exhibit. "February is Black History Month, and for the past few years, we've been creating this exhibit here at city hall as a way to honor prominent black members of our community, both past and present. The diversity of our city, we talked about this frequently, it is one of our biggest strengths and an integral reason why New Britain is such a very special place," said Mayor Erin Stewart.

Both Gibson and McDougald are proud members of our middle school communities. Gibson is currently a Family School Liaison at Pulaski and McDougald is a Science Teacher at Slade. For both, these roles are one of many they hold in the community, where they have dedicated much time and effort to inspire and guide youth to reach their full potential.

Jones has worked for CSDNB in varying roles for over 20 years. He is now the Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club and still finds time to support NBHS Part-Time  Photos 5-8



1



2



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8

# DISTRICT UPDATES

*What's New and Happening at CSDNB?*



## United Way to Expand Literacy Initiatives in New Britain

Superintendent Tony Gasper joined U.S. Congresswoman Jahana Hayes and several community partners at the United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut last month to celebrate the expansion of literacy programs in New Britain to ensure more children can read proficiently by the start of fourth grade.

The United Way will receive an appropriation of \$150,000 from the Community Project Funding, secured by Congresswoman Hayes, to expand the United Way Readers program and to start Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in New Britain.

We want to thank all of the partners who made the expansion of these initiatives possible in New Britain!



## Slade Middle School Staff Creates Memorable Valentine's Day Celebrations

Shout out to the Slade Middle School staff who went above and beyond for their students this Valentine's Day!

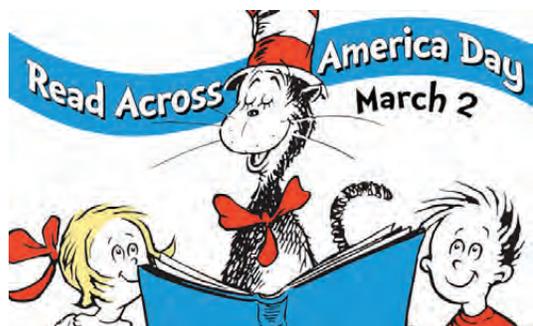
The Slade lunch staff worked with Assistant Principal Janice Magriz to collect donations to purchase treats, decor, and crowns to host a celebration for each school team's lunch wave.

Each team voted for its own king and queen, and all students received a Valentine's Day treat. We thank the Slade Lunch Staff for their commitment to making this day sweet for all!



# DISTRICT UPDATES

*What's New and Happening at CSDNB?*



## National Read Across America Day

Thursday, March 2 is National Read Across America Day. Read Across America was established by the National Education Association (NEA) in 1998 to help get kids excited about reading. While the day originally occurred each year on the birthday of children's book author Dr. Seuss, this day has evolved and now serves to celebrate reading in general for all students. This year, NEA's Read Across America program calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading with the theme: Bring Communities Together. Guest Readers from our district and community visit our schools to read to students throughout the day. Check back next month for photos!



## Congratulations Winter Graduates!

Eight Seniors graduated in mid-January. As part of their graduation requirement, they made their Senior Presentations to a panel of teachers and administrators. Our students did a fantastic job presenting their plans for the future, writing letters to our current 9th graders, and reflecting on their experiences in New Britain.

## Family Game Night A Success at HALS

HALS Academy hosted their sixth annual Family Game and Pizza Night on February 23rd. Grade 8 students designed board games based on the Essential Question "How does Play and Exploration help us to learn?" while studying Convergent and Divergent thinking. The families joined their children to celebrate their creativity and play their games alongside them.



# DISTRICT UPDATES

# DISTRICT UPDATES

*What's New and Happening at CSDNB?*

## THE CARMINE & FRANK MANGINI FOUNDATION

### Carmine and Frank Mangini Foundation Continues to Support New Britain

Since the Fall of 2020, The Carmine and Frank Mangini Foundation has generously supported New Britain teachers, coaches, and support personnel with grant awards of up to \$500 to address their instructional wish lists. Grant windows open 2-3 times a year. Staff complete a grant application detailing their project, and the grantee is notified if their request has been awarded.

The most recent application window opened on February 1. Out of over 20 schools and programs that make up the Consolidated School District of New Britain, 12 received grant awards this cycle with a total of 32 grants awarded to CSDNB employees. Grants were funded to support gardening, STEM exploration, Phonics instruction, recess, and social-emotional supports in the classroom like flexible seating and headphones. Congratulations to the grant recipients at Roosevelt Early Learning Center, Chamberlain, and Smith who each had 1 awardee; Diloreto, Slade, and Smalley who each had 2 awardees; Holmes, Jefferson, and Vance who each had 3 awardees; Gaffney who had 4 awardees; and Lincoln and Northend who each received 5 grant awards!

We are grateful to the CSDNB staff who took the time to complete and submit their applications, to Cathy Morelli, Instructional Coach at Slade for connecting us with the opportunity, and to the Carmine and Frank Mangini Foundation for their unwavering

### Students at Slade Middle School Work on their Culinary Skills!

8th-grade students show off their taco making abilities! 📷 Photo 1

6th-grade students make some delicious pancakes! 📷 Photo 2

7th-grade students learn to make their own handmade pasta! 📷 Photos 3 & 4



# DISTRICT UPDATES

*What's New and Happening at CSDNB?*



## A Focus on Foundational Skills at Slade and Pulaski Middle Schools

Student Success Plans (SSPs)/Career Connections is getting started at Slade and Pulaski. All Grade level teachers at both schools received an overview of the Pathful Explore Platform and were able to assign flex activities to their homeroom students. An implementation plan is in place at both schools, and the work has started! Students are setting goals and working on skills like team building, self-advocacy, collaboration, and communication. These foundational skills will continue to be developed throughout students' educational experience in New Britain and will ultimately culminate in a Senior Capstone presentation upon graduation from NBHS.



## Unique Learning System at KEY and Pathways Programs

The KEY and Pathways programs began implementing the Unique Learning System (ULS) this school year. ULS is a standards-aligned curriculum designed to meet the needs of unique learners. Teachers across grade levels and programs are already beginning to see the positive impact of this curriculum.



## Learning Ally Audiobooks Available

This school year Learning Ally is available to all teachers and students in CSDNB:

- Learning Ally provides access to over 80,000 high-quality, human-read audiobooks
- Learning Ally provides equitable access to reading materials for students, allowing them to reach their full academic potential
- Since the beginning of the school year:
  - over 1300 students have started reading with Learning Ally
  - 205 students are reading near frequency with Learning Ally
  - 32 students are reading with frequency with Learning Ally
  - 257,847 pages have been read by CSDNB students this school year



## Both DiLoreto Lotteries Close

The Dos en Uno Dual Language Lottery and the DiLoreto Lottery both closed on March 1, 2023. Several informational sessions were held for families who were interested in the Dos en Uno Dual Language program. Families will be contacted via email and written notification to inform them if their child was accepted to DiLoreto and/or the Dos en Uno Language program at DiLoreto in May 2023. If parents or guardians have any questions, they should contact DiLoreto School at (860)223-2885.

# DISTRICT UPDATES

# DISTRICT UPDATES

*What's New and Happening at CSDNB?*



## Sweet Valentines

Kindergarteners in Ms. Vass's class at Vance Elementary School connected with their new friends from Ms. Lugo-Vega's class at DiLoreto Elementary & Middle School. The classes sent each other valentines and celebrated with a virtual Google meet. The students met their new friends and thanked each other for the valentines. What could make this sweeter? Ms. Lugo-Vega teaches Spanish in DiLoreto's Dual Language program, *Dos en Uno*. Her class sent valentines in Spanish, and Ms. Vass's class sent Valentines in English. What a great way to incorporate writing and reading into a fun-filled experience. We love the way our Kindergarteners were able to learn from one another through this creative exchange.



## iREADY Testing Complete

iReady testing is now complete! Administrators are working with grade-level teams to break down the data by grade level and classroom in order to plan for instruction. 7,479/7,534 tests were completed across K-8 in Literacy, and 7,453/7,520 tests were completed across K-8 in Math.



## CSDNB Celebrates 100 Days

CSDNB Schools celebrated the 100th day of school on February 10, 2023. Students and teachers across the district found ways to celebrate: students and staff dressed up as centenarians found ways to incorporate counting to 100 using a lot of different objects, and spoke about what 100 days of school means to their learning.

# DISTRICT UPDATES

*What's New and Happening at CSDNB?*



## NBHS Track and Field Athlete Advances to New England Championships

New Britain High School's Sultana Ali finished the Indoor Track and Field regular season ranked 11th in New England in the girls 600 Meter Run. We wish Ali luck as she prepares for the 35th Annual New England Interscholastic Indoor Track and Field Championships in March.



## Hartford Job Corps to Visit NBHS

On Wednesday, March 16 and Thursday, March 17 from 10:30am-12:30pm, Hartford Job Corps. will be visiting the Media Center at New Britain High School. Staff should let Myra Scott know if they would like to have their class and/or specific students on their caseload participate. An NBHS graduate will be presenting and will discuss the trades offered at Hartford Job Corps. and beyond. This is an opportunity for career exploration and for students to ask questions about specific trades whether or not they want to consider Job Corps as an option.

**Interested staff should contact Myra Scott to request a date and time slot.**

**Myra Scott, Transition Specialist**  
(860) 225-6300 x1556 | scottm@csdnb.org



## Coaching Cycles Inspiring Growth

Coaching has taken center stage in CSDNB in supporting and growing our teachers. CSDNB believes in the impact and importance of coaching. Teachers, like Kassie Hinrich at Smith Elementary School, have embraced coaching.

"As a veteran teacher, I found the Math coach [at my school] to be extremely helpful when diving into a new Math curriculum. She taught me the importance of a pacing and planning guide and how to use the guide efficiently incorporating learning targets and success criteria. In any new curriculum, there were many new strategies to learn, and the coach encouraged me to reach outside the box and try something new," said Hinrich.

Teachers enter into Coaching Impact Cycles to target a specific area of growth. These areas are identified by the teacher, and the cycle is born. With coaches spending at least 60% of their day coaching and supporting teachers, our teachers have seen the impact on their practice.

"Our coaches are very supportive. They are always willing to listen when we need advice and value our opinions. They consistently work in my classroom and provide constructive feedback. The students are always very excited to see them and so am I," said Gaffney Teacher Alexandra Simboski. "[My] coaching cycle for ELA has proven extremely successful! Kim Bycenski (Gaffney's Instructional Coach) is a wealth of knowledge."

Overall, we are excited to continue working with our coaches and teachers as we move our district forward.

# DISTRICT UPDATES

# DISTRICT UPDATES

## What's New and Happening at CSDNB?

### February Standout Staff Members



Edward Dickman  
Health Teacher  
New Britain High School

"Mr. Dickman always knows how to make someone's day better. I have never been a student of his, but he always knows how to make me laugh and has the best jokes. He's always there for his students and anyone at the high school who needs to talk to someone. I really think he deserves this recognition"

- from a student



Andrew Mazzei  
Interim Principal  
Slade Middle School

"He has taken on many responsibilities at Slade, and as tough as that can be, he always has a smile and a kind word. He is always accessible to parents, students, and staff alike. Middle school is a tough crowd, and he handles it with diplomacy and aplomb."

- from a parent/guardian.

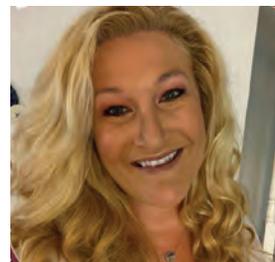
### February Standout Staff Members



Ilisse Gomez  
Math Teacher  
New Britain High School

"She has a very welcoming classroom and goes above and beyond for all her students. She never hesitates to help a colleague when they have questions. An awesome teacher and coworker!"

- anonymous



Kathi Ulatowski  
Fifth Grade Teacher  
Smalley Elementary School

"Miss Ulatowski is the epitome of a passionate teacher. She takes the time to get to know her students and build positive relationships with families. She has high expectations in the classroom and works hard day in and day out to make sure all of her students can achieve great things! She is a huge advocate for her students and ensures their needs are met in and out of the classroom. Miss Ulatowski is rigorous, but also creative and enthusiastic which makes her students love her even more! She truly deserves to be recognized for all that she does for her kids!"

- from a colleague

# DISTRICT UPDATES

## What's New and Happening at CSDNB?

### Website Updates Continue

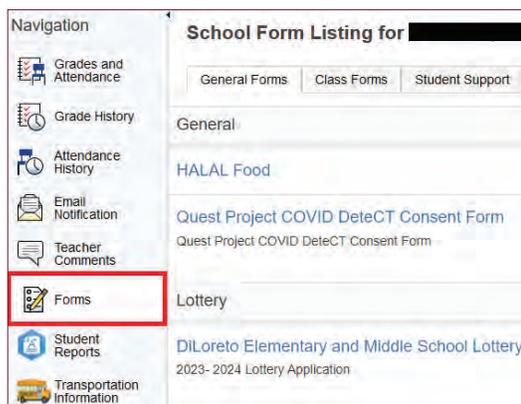
Updates continue to improve the district's website. The enhancements provide a better mobile experience, as well as better functionality with assistive technology. We hope you have been enjoying the improvements!



### 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 REGISTER 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

Currently, we have over 1350 students participating in the student device insurance program! We have more students enrolled this year than last year! Thank you all for participating. Here are some quick numbers on the program's progress:

#### Insurance Claims

Insurance Claim Type	Count
Broken Keyboard	146
Cracked Screen	559
Internal Damage	204
Replacement Charger	242
Replacement Protective Case	21
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>1172</b>

#### Student Tech Tickets Summary

Ticket Issue Type	Count
Account Issue	157
Charger or Case Issue	265
Damaged Device	879
Destroyed Device	11
Lost Device	611
Performance Issue	896
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>2819</b>

#### Ticket Status Summary

Status	Count
Open Tickets	844
New Tickets	199
Work in Progress	17
Work on Hold	22
Awaiting Insurance	261
Awaiting Invoice Payment	12
Work Completed	1975
Device Locked Out	333
<b>ALL TICKETS</b>	<b>2819</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

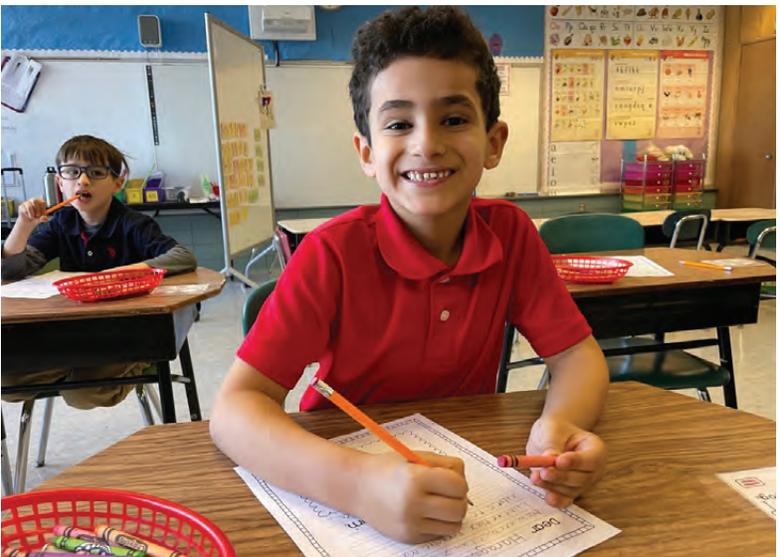
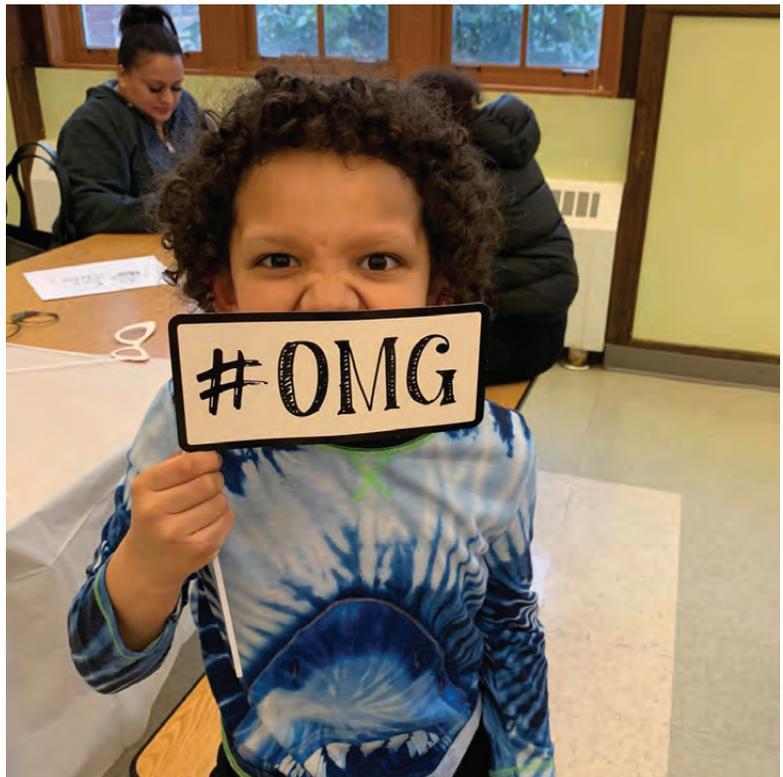
100th Day of School





# CSDNB Smiles

All Around CSDNB  
February 2023





Many more photos of these experiences can be found on CSDNB's social media!



# Ramadan Kareem

# رمضان كريم



## WHAT IS THE MAIN PURPOSE OF RAMADAN?

Fasting is important during Ramadan as it allows Muslim to devote themselves to their faith, get closer to Allah (God) and learn patience and compassion. It's about nourishing your soul, rather than only focusing on your physical body. It's also one of the Five Pillars of Islam which are the foundation of how Muslims live their lives. The remaining pillars of Islam are as follows, The declaration of faith, prayer, alms-giving, and pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca for those who are able.

Muslims are obligated to fast, except those who are sick, pregnant, nursing mothers, menstruating, elderly, or traveling. If you miss fasting days you can make up for them throughout the year.

## RAMADAN THIS YEAR

Ramadan in 2023 is expected to fall on Thursday, March 23, though it will be confirmed, closer to the time with an official moon sighting. If this is the case, the 30-day annual fast will end on Friday, April 21, with Eid Al-Fitr Celebration on April 22.

## ABOUT RAMADAN

Ramadan is a holy month of fasting, prayer, reflection and community for Muslims. It is celebrated as the month in which Muhammad received the initial revelations of the Quran, known as the holy book for Muslims. Fasting is one of the five fundamental principles of Islam. Each day during Ramadan, Muslims do not eat or drink from dawn to sunset. They are also supposed to avoid impure thoughts and bad behavior.



**HAPPY RAMADAN FROM CSDNB**

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	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 PowerSch
- 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)



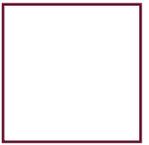
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f t i y CSDNBCT



**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.

# CSDNB DISTRICT DISPATCH

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The Consolidated School District of New Britain

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Authorized by: Superintendent Tony Gasper

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