

CSDNB DISTRICT DISPATCH

NOV
20
23

VOLUME 2
ISSUE 03

A Publication of the Consolidated School District of New Britain



BE Kind TO YOUR mind.

SLADE MIDDLE SCHOOL CELEBRATES RED-RIBBON WEEK

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

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Slade Students, Jermarie, Aaliyah, Yaviel, and Mia, pose before community pledge board during Red-Ribbon Week

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

Scan below!

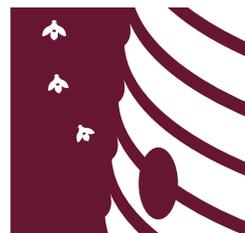


The Consolidated School District of New Britain

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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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SUPERINTENDENT RECOGNITION



Geni Chachlan
New Britain High School

Geni Chaclan, New Britain High School Student, was nominated by Damon Pearce, NBHS Principal, to receive the Superintendent Challenge Coin. Chaclan, a current senior, is the first NBHS student to enlist in the CT Army National Guard and attend Army Basic Training before graduation. Chaclan enlisted last spring and completed the 10 week program at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina this past summer. Pearce said Chaclan is an example for all when it comes to motivation and commitment as she pursues a clear post-secondary plan that combines service to her country and her own personal growth.



Todd Hougas
Smalley Elementary School

Todd Hougas, Smalley Elementary School art teacher, was nominated by Andrea Foligno, Smalley Principal, to receive the Superintendent Challenge Coin. In addition to his work as an art teacher, Hougas has gone above and beyond to dedicate himself to improving student attendance and wellness with bikes. Hougas has volunteered countless hours outside of the school day refurbishing bikes to be used as Smalley attendance raffle prizes. Last spring, Hougas donated 8 bikes. This year, Hougas and a friend were able to gather and restore 30 bikes. Foligno says Hougas is a valuable member of the Smalley team as an individual who cares deeply about all students.





Jermarie Gonzalez Santiago, student and local prevention leader, signs drug-free pledge bulletin board at Slade Middle School.

BE Kind TO YOUR mind.

SLADE MIDDLE SCHOOL CELEBRATES RED-RIBBON WEEK WITH DRUG-USE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN

At Slade Middle School, a commitment to a safe, healthy, and drug-free community was on display building wide during Red Ribbon Week. This initiative is the nation's largest and longest-running drug-use prevention campaign. At Slade, the campaign brought community members together to advocate for the well-being of children, families, and communities, all thanks to the recommendation of one 8th grade student and a school assistant principal's dedication to making her idea happen locally.

"I'm in a Youth Prevention Group. We were talking a while ago about prevention and what we can do in schools and I came up with the idea of doing a campaign to prevent vaping like we did last year around anti-bullying for vaping. I told Ms. Miele and Mr. Mazzei and they thought about it and did it" said Jermarie Gonzalez Santiago.

Gonzalez Santiago is an 8th grader at Slade and a member of the New Britain Local Prevention Council Youth Leadership Team. While most youth members are high schoolers, Gonzalez Santiago has already been active in her role, training to mentor younger students and volunteering at community activities such as the recent Lights on Afterschool that shined a light on the importance of afterschool programs for youth.

"Prevention is important to me because not all kids have a goal set in their life. They might think just because they don't have one they can use any type of substances but it's not like that. Even if you don't have a goal you need your body. You need your mental health stable so you can do anything."

After hearing Gonzalez Santiago's idea, Lauren Miele, Interim Assistant Principal said she saw this as an opportunity to plan a campaign for the school.

"I researched some school themed initiatives and saw that Red Ribbon Week was a national initiative happening in late October- I then figured out how to fit everything into the week to build context and excitement for our speaker assemblies to round out the week," said Miele.

Red Ribbon Week takes place annually from October 23 through October 31st. The week serves as a catalyst to mobilize communities, educate youth, and encourage participation in drug prevention activities. The Slade Stallions engaged in a range of activities aimed at education and prevention around the theme 'Be Kind to Your Mind. Live Drug Free.' This powerful message served as a call

to action for everyone to champion healthy choices and wellbeing. From informative sessions to pledge signings, surprise guest speakers, advisory lesson components, and a special wear-red dress down event, each day was a step towards fostering a drug-free environment.

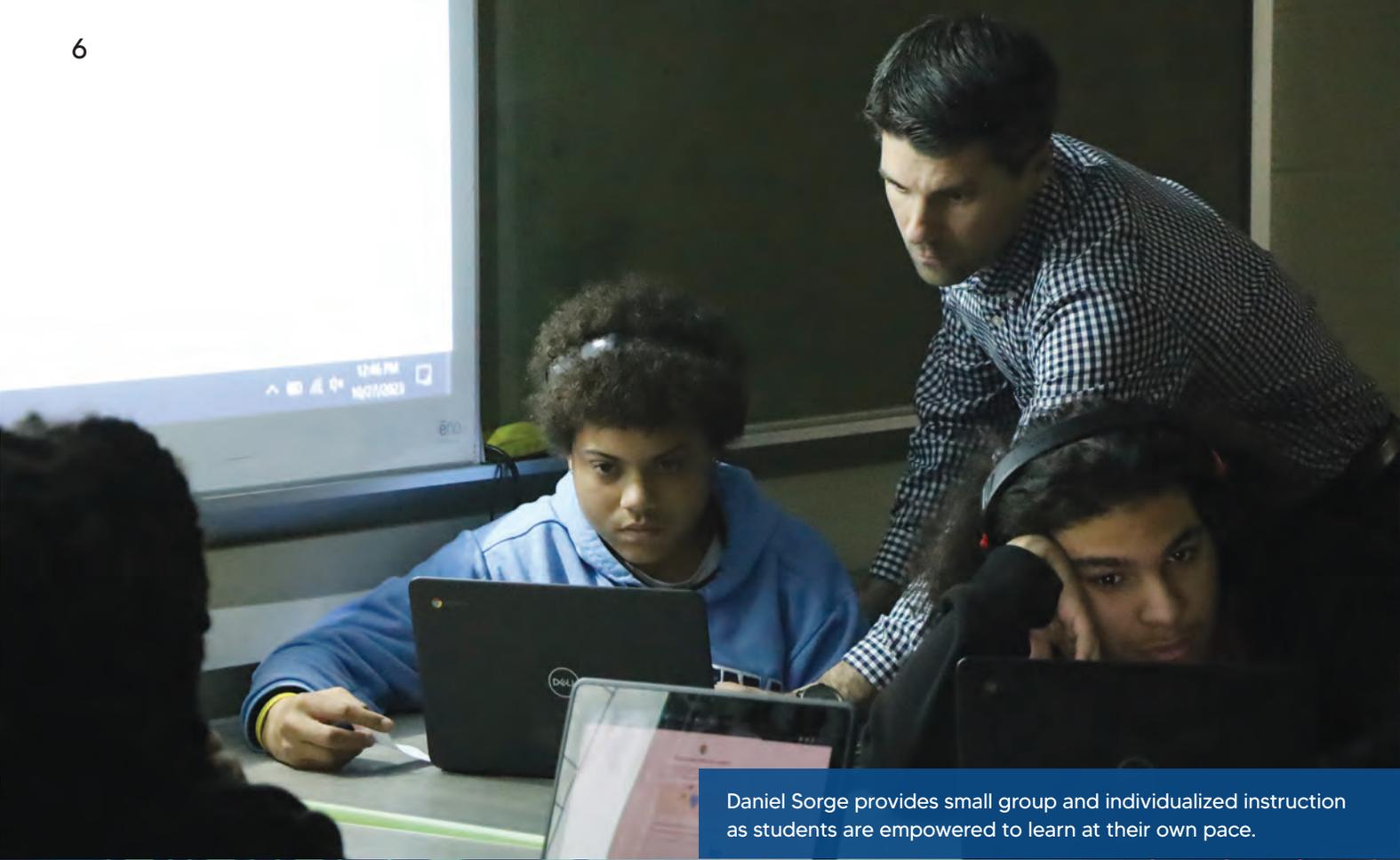
"I loved the brave and vulnerable student participation in the assemblies but my favorite moment was seeing the campaign stickers that our partners at NB Parks and Recreation graciously donated all over students' clothes, chromebooks, and faces. It was an indicator that they took their pledges to remain vape, drug and alcohol free seriously and were proud to show off their token of participation," said Miele.

The week culminated with guest speakers from Pivot to Potential. Jill and Allan Griffin spoke to students, sharing their personal experiences with drugs and alcohol and the journey that brought them to sobriety today. Jill, a licensed clinical social worker and alcohol and drug counselor, also took the time to educate students on the dangers of using, especially at a young age. For Aaliyah Sanchez, a 6th grader, it was the highlight of the week.

"The presentation was my favorite part of the week. Sometimes 6th grade can be pretty wild but during the presentation everyone was just silent and listening. I feel like it really helped a lot of people," said Sanchez.

Several 'Natural High' activities were coordinated throughout the week, including staff vs. student kickball games. Mia Serrano, 7th grader, said that while the staff won every match, the experience was a lot of fun for the entire school community.

"Improving climate and opportunities to bring the student body together in alternative ways that are novel and feel humanizing have been one of my biggest priorities since coming on at Slade last year," said Miele. "Bringing learning that will serve students in their home and school life, social interactions and in their lives beyond middle school is perhaps one of the most critical components of our charge as educators. We are preparing them to make positive choices and trying to further impact them by showing we care about their well-being. Events like the kickball games allow us to build those meaningful, lasting relationships and trust with students that are requisite to reaching them."



Daniel Sorge provides small group and individualized instruction as students are empowered to learn at their own pace.

NBHS TEACHER RECOGNIZED BY MODERN CLASSROOMS PROJECT

Daniel Sorge, New Britain High School teacher, stands out as a beacon of excellence in the field of education. His dedication to his craft, and students, has garnered attention not just locally but nationally as students, staff, partners, and leaders in the field of education take notice.

Last spring, the Computer Science Teachers Association and Infosys Foundation USA identified Sorge as one of just 10 winners nationwide for their Teaching Excellence Awards. More recently, Sorge was recognized by the Modern Classroom Project as a Distinguished Modern Classroom Educator.

"Dan is a born teacher. He's the type of person who is always looking to help in any way he can and is refining the way we do things at NBHS. He is quietly effective," said Meg Shea, New Britain High School Associate Principal. "I think anybody who speaks with Dan is 2% better, just by having a conversation. He understands technology and he understands kids."

The Modern Classroom Project features a research-backed instructional model, built by teachers, that allows educators to meet the unique needs of every learner while empowering students to take charge of their own learning. Teachers create short content videos that students can move through

at their own pace preventing learning gaps.

"One of the biggest impacts is the ability for me to offer more personalized support and encouragement to my students," said Sorge. "This model allows me to spend more time working with individual or small groups of students. My students also enjoy the ability to self-direct their learning and master more content."

Sorge's instructional practice caters to all learners as students who may have previously been bored in class can speed up content and demonstrate mastery while others can rewatch content as needed and absent students can easily catch up on material.

"I like the self pacing in Mr. Sorge's class," said Priscilla Rivera, NBHS 11th-grader. "It's really nice actually. I can get ahead if I need to and don't have to wait for others to finish. It's unique. I haven't seen another teacher use this teaching style and I think it absolutely has had a positive impact on students."

Martin Nieves, 10th grader, said Sorge's teaching methods have helped him to be successful.

"The self paced lessons are very helpful as a student. You can

crush multiple lessons at a time if you're way behind. You don't have to stay on pace, you can do work on your own," said Nieves. "It's a really effective learning style."

Sorge voluntarily trained on the model over the summer after NBHS school administrators presented the staff with the opportunity. He enrolled in the Modern Classroom Summer Institute training program to learn how to effectively implement the model at NBHS. Sorge is now part of a global community of educators eager to support one another in using the model.

"Rolling out this instructional model across multiple classes for the first time was challenging. One of the core elements of this model is the utilization of mastery checks, which are designed as opportunities for students to demonstrate their understanding of the most important takeaways from each lesson. I needed to come up with an efficient way to structure this," said Sorge. "After working with the model for a bit, I have been able to streamline the process by reorganizing my physical classroom space, designating areas in the room for mastery checks and utilizing a variety of progress-trackers to identify levels of mastery amongst my students."

Sorge began teaching at NBHS three years ago and has helped strengthen the computer science pathway and taken on the role of Lead Teacher in the prestigious Academy of Business and Finance. Teaching courses such as mobile app development, principles of IT, and explorations of computer science, Sorge has created a pipeline of students poised to pursue advanced placement course offerings through a teaching philosophy founded on the belief that all students can achieve greatness.

"I can see myself having a career in Computer Science because of this class," said NBHS 10th-grader Julio Gervacio.

This month, Sorge will add training as a Modern Classroom mentor to his resume and says he hopes to support other teachers who are looking to integrate this instructional model into their work.

"Dan is doing such a phenomenal job," said Sondra Sanford, Coordinator of Partnerships and Engagement and National Academy Foundation Site Director. "His commitment to raising the bar for everything he touches is evident as he is always looking for ways to improve outcomes for our students. We are really proud to have him at NBHS."

Modern Classrooms Project

To learn more about the Modern Classrooms Project, visit
www.modernclassrooms.org



"I like the self pacing in Mr. Sorge's class. It's really nice actually. I can get ahead if I need to and don't have to wait for others to finish. It's unique. I haven't seen another teacher use this teaching style and I think it absolutely has had a positive impact on students."

PRISCILLA RIVERA



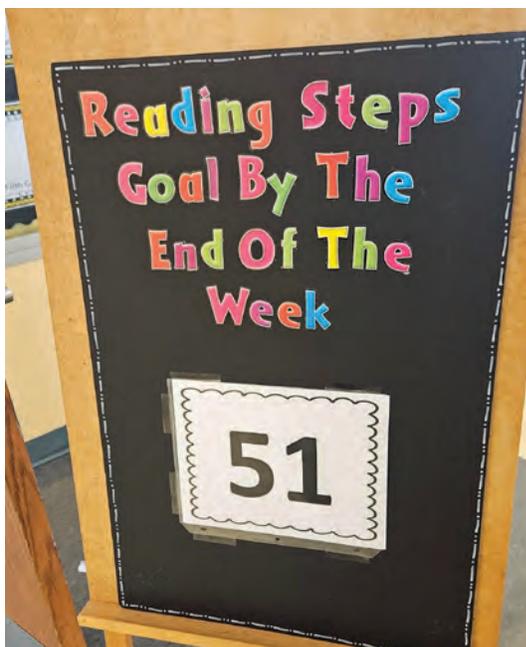
Students learning in self-paced groups



Priscilla Rivera (left) and Julio Gervacio (right)

DISTRICT UPDATES

What's New and Happening at CSDNB?



ALL READING COUNTS

Many schools have begun to engage their students in obtaining reading steps. As part of the implementation of the American Core Reading (ARC) curriculum, students are expected to log their steps in increments of 15 minutes in order to achieve the various levels of the 100 Book Challenge. School-wide goals that have been set in order to motivate students to keep reading. "All reading counts" has become a motto in K-5 English Language Arts classrooms. Students are logging minutes read at school and home in order to get their steps. Teachers, staff and administrators will continue to have engaging professional learning related to the implementation of ARC.



CLIMB STUDENT WORKERS ATTEND STATEWIDE FAIR

CLIMB student workers recently represented CSDNB with pride at the 11th Annual Disability Fair! The Fair showcased a variety of disability resources available to Connecticut residents. There were supports and resources available for young adults transitioning from school to work including community transportation options to get to work, networking opportunities, and resources from agencies who promote and foster success in the workplace. The fair was held at the Oak Hills New England Assistive Technology building in Hartford. Thank you to the entire team who made this opportunity possible!

CSDNB: FOSTERING EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE AND ASPIRING EDUCATORS

The Consolidated School District of New Britain has become a hub for nurturing future educators. This Fall, we proudly hosted 18 student teachers, 69 field placements, and 14 clinical placements from seven different colleges. Our schools have become dynamic learning environments, providing college students with invaluable hands-on experience. These partnerships strengthen the bond between academia and the real-world classroom, ensuring a brighter future for education. CSDNB continues to foster educational excellence while nurturing the next generation of educators. Our commitment to collaboration, mentorship, and innovation ensures a bright future for all involved in our district's educational journey.

DISTRICT UPDATES

What's New and Happening at CSDNB?



FIRST PLACE GOES TO NEW BRITAIN HIGH SCHOOL!

Six students from the New Britain High School Manufacturing, Engineering, and Technology (MET) Academy recently participated in the first annual Manufacturing Pentathlon and Expo event at Goodwin University.

The students participated in a competition-style event pitting participating teams throughout CT against one another in 5 manufacturing challenges.

The Hurricanes not only took first place in the high-tower challenge but tied for **FIRST PLACE OVERALL** with a score of 257!!

Congratulations to Omarien Figueroa, Naji Torres, Alvin Ayika, Adrian Torres, Quenten DePina, and Yezen Alboslani. You all, in addition to the incredible NBHS MET Academy staff, make us so proud and we can't wait to see what you accomplish next!

SAFETY AND SECURITY CORNER

Two staff members were recently recognized by Mr. Russ Taylor, CSDNB Security Manager, with inaugural Safety and Security Award Coins. Throughout the year, Taylor will be celebrating champions of safety and security throughout the district by recognizing them with this coin.



Randy Foligno, Custodian, works hard at Vance Elementary School to ensure the safety and security of the school. Every day he sets forth tremendous effort to ensure that the Vance School environment is ready for students and staff. Foligno was awarded this coin for his continued commitment and dedication to ensuring that the school is extremely safe, clean, and well maintained. Foligno values the importance of a healthy and safe place for all of the students and staff at Vance School.



Virginia Brown, New Britain High School Secretary to the Principal, works diligently at New Britain High School to ensure a safe and secure environment for students and staff. Brown has continually put forth suggestions for improvement to the safety and security systems and protocols used at the high school. Brown invests her time and resources to make the staff and students feel safe. Brown was awarded this coin for her continued commitment and dedication an extremely safe and efficient school as she recognizes the importance of a safe place for all students and staff is key.

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What's New and Happening at CSDNB?

NBHS HOSTS HISPANIC HERITAGE FIESTA

New Britain High School held their first-ever Hispanic Heritage Month Fiesta in October. The evening was full of good food, dancing, and learning. Thank you to everyone who joined us, especially to everyone who chose to share their culture. We thank the New Britain High School World Language Department for hosting this wonderful event!



CSDNB REPRESENTED AT STATEWIDE CYBER SECURITY TRAINING

Francheska Candelaria, MIS Software Specialist, was recently one of only nine women to attend the statewide Cyber Nutmeg 2023 one-day event designed to heighten awareness on cybersecurity threats and defenses to best protect large organizations.

Candelaria said she was proud to represent CSDNB during Cyber Security Awareness Month and make the pledge and commitment to continue improving our cybersecurity posture with the MIS team.



Cyber Nutmeg is Connecticut's Premier Cybersecurity Event provided by the Connecticut National Guard and Connecticut Education Network. Given the current threats posed by various actors across the cyber domain, it is more imperative than ever that we ensure our vigilance and commitment to improving our cybersecurity. The Cyber Nutmeg event provided an opportunity to share collective challenges, discuss innovative solutions, and work toward a common goal: securing our state's networks and protecting our data. Thank you for representing CSDNB Francheska!

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What's New and Happening at CSDNB?



DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING PROGRAM FEATURED ON WFSB

Last month's District Dispatch article on the Chamberlain Deaf and Hard of Hearing program created a few great opportunities for the program to be featured in local news. Olivia Scheller and the WFSB team stopped by Chamberlain to learn more. Angel and Victoria, both students in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing program, joined their teacher Ms. Julia Leitao and their moms to talk with the team about the impact the program has had on their lives.



Watch the full story here:



STUDENT RUN CAFE LAUNCHES AT NBHS

The No Name Cafe recently opened their doors for the 2023-2024 school year and has already been a huge hit at New Britain High School!

Every Friday morning, students in the NBHS culinary classes run the No Name Cafe on their own. They take orders, manage the kitchen and register, fulfill deliveries in the building, and more.

The cafe is open on Fridays from 7:30 AM - 8:40. Orders can be placed by calling ext. 1105 at the high school or by emailing nelsonj@csdnb.org. Be warned, 'The Hurricane' sells out quickly!

Culinary is one of many fantastic pathways available within the NBHS Academy structure.

Learn more about the Academies and their focus on ensuring students are college, career, and future-ready by scanning the QR code below:



DISTRICT UPDATES

What's New and Happening at CSDNB?



ANNUAL LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL SHINES A LIGHT ON PROGRAMMING

The New Britain Local Prevention Council (NBLPC), City of New Britain Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department, and the Afterschool Alliance recently celebrated the 24th anniversary of the National Lights On Afterschool event. This year's event celebrated the important role that after-school programs play in keeping New Britain's youth safe, engaged, and prepared to be successful adults. The HALS Academy Garage Band provided great entertainment at the event while numerous students and staff from CSDNB volunteered their time to make the event a success.



STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN 2023 CIAC MEN OF COLOR LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Check out these pictures submitted by Basil Niccolls Jr. of the recent 2023 CIAC Men of Color in Leadership Conference! More than 40 CSDNB students from NBHS, Pulaski, Slade, and HALS attended the conference at Berlin High School.

This annual event highlights men of color in professional leadership roles. Students participated in a panel discussion and several break-out groups designed to further develop their own leadership skills and talents. Basil Niccolls Jr. is the Assistant Coach of the NBHS Cross Country and Track and Field Teams and a Career Coach at Satellite Careers Academy.

Pictured students from NBHS: Alvin Ayika, Jackson Forte, Demari Johnson, Cory Bates, Zyhir Brown, Ivan Suarez, Euwayne Lawrence, Aaron Dennis, Cezar Ellison, and Alexander Dandrade



DISTRICT UPDATES

What's New and Happening at CSDNB?



JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HOSTS FALL FEST

Jefferson Elementary School's Fall Fest was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who joined us and showed off their creativity in the pumpkin patch. We can't wait to see what the Jefferson team comes up with for their next family night.



NEW BRITAIN HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATORS RISING CLUB LAUNCHES MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Our award-winning and nationally recognized Educators Rising Club at New Britain High School recently hosted middle school students from DiLoreto Elementary & Middle School and Slade Middle School who have expressed interest in becoming teachers themselves one day.

The high school students prepared an agenda for the middle schoolers which included a look at the Public Service Academy, courses offered for future educators, Little Canes Preschool tour, club events overview, and more. The DiLoreto and Slade students really got a great look at New Britain High School and all there is to offer.

We'd like to send an extra thanks to our special guests/program graduates from Tunxis and CCSU who joined us to share their inspiring experiences.

This event was the first of a five-part middle school mentorship series as our Hurricanes help pave the way for new middle school chapters!



LINCOLN HOSTS FIRST LITERACY NIGHT

Lincoln Elementary School recently held a Literacy Night promoting CSDNB's new reading curriculum and ways families can support their children at home. Families picked up some great tips to further nurture young readers and were able to strengthen connections with the Lincoln school community.



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What's New and Happening at CSDNB?



CSDNB SPECIAL PROJECTS TEAM UPDATE

While the majority of the district students and staff were at home, the CSDNB Facilities Special Projects Team spent Monday, October 9, 2023, Indigenous Peoples' Day, at Slade Middle School continuing updates on the Slade Roof HVAC system.

The team has shown their willingness to do whatever it takes to ensure our learning environments are calm, safe, clean, healthy, and welcoming spaces, even if it means sacrificing a weekend or holiday to get a job like this done! We thank Mr. Robert Smedley, Manager of Special Projects and Technology, for submitting these photos of updates done in October.



CSDNB LEADERS ATTEND 'IGNITING CHANGE' CONFERENCE

Several CSDNB leaders recently attended the RESC Alliance 'Igniting Change' Conference. The conference focused on meeting the needs of all Connecticut schools through learning opportunities in four main categories: Grading for Equity, Equity-Centered Leadership, Culturally Sustaining Practices, and Supporting Multilingual Learners.



CSDNB is extremely proud of the work already being done in all four areas and can't wait to see what this team does next!

DISTRICT UPDATES

What's New and Happening at CSDNB?



CELEBRATING WHITSONS CULINARY GROUP

Jeff Taddeo of Whitsons Culinary Group was recently recognized with the 'Employer of the Year' award by the City of New Britain Commission on Persons with Disabilities and Mayor Erin Stewart.

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month and we are proud to have Jeff and his team as our Food Services Partner. Whitsons has been an outstanding partner in our mission to offer innovative, delicious, healthy, and sustainable meal options to our students. In addition, Jeff's commitment to employing and supporting qualified individuals with disabilities in the workplace has set a positive example for the entire community.



NBHS HOSTS OVER 80 INSTITUTIONS FOR COLLEGE FAIR

Over 80 colleges and universities connected with New Britain High School students at the school's annual College Fair last month to help our students find the perfect fit.

The event was a great reminder for students that there is a whole team of people at NBHS dedicated to ensuring they succeed. The NBHS Counseling Office offers personalized college counseling, test prep, registration support, college speakers and fairs, internship and career programs, essay and application support, financial aid guidance, academic support services, and timeline planning.



DISTRICT UPDATES

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What's New and Happening at CSDNB?



TALENT DEPARTMENT CELEBRATES PROGRAM GRADUATES

The CSDNB Talent Department recently hosted a networking social in celebration of our residents and graduates of CSDNB's "Grow your own" Program! As a partner of the Connecticut Teacher Residency Program (TRP), CSDNB is able to assist the program in providing college graduates with an alternate route to elementary certification based on a residency model that focuses on recruiting, preparing, and retaining teachers of color in elementary schools in Connecticut. The program embodies collaboration, equity, excellence, and courage.



At the social, program residents shared their experiences with each other and offered suggestions to help expand the program. The networking event was attended by TRP and RELAY residents, resident mentors, administrators, and support staff.



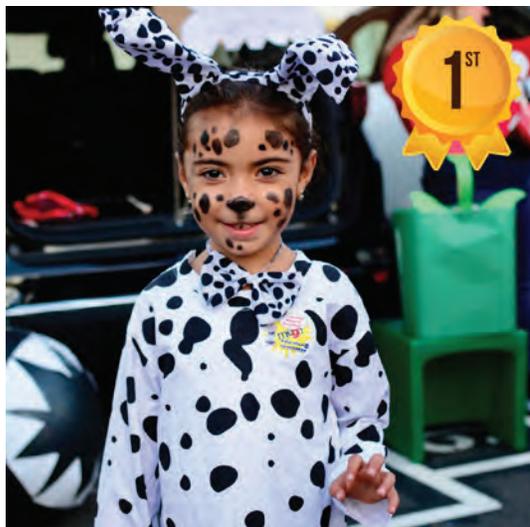
NBHS HOSTS CHORAL SHOWCASE

The New Britain High School Choral Department recently held their first showcase of the year, Autumn Voices, showcasing the Madrigal Singers and Treble Choir. The "70s themed event was a fundraiser for both groups and included musical performances and small acts. Congratulations to all of the performers, we can't wait to see you at the 46th Annual Madrigal Feaste on December 8th and 9th at NBHS!



DISTRICT UPDATES

What's New and Happening at CSDNB?



CONGRATS, KAYLYBETH!

Kaylybeth, from Smalley Elementary School, won CSDNB's Top Costume 2023! This Dalmation won after collecting over 400 votes on the CSDNB Facebook page. Congratulations Kaylybeth!

We'd also like to recognize our 2nd and 3rd place finishers, Smalley's staff Mario Party and Gaffney Elementary School's Zoey Santiago (4th grade) and Merzie Santiago (K).



The Smalley Mario Party features their first-grade team. From right to left: Mrs. Gagnon, Ms. Mazzarella, Ms. Poff, and Mrs. Truksa with Alessandra as Princess Peach.



ED RISING STUDENTS VISIT CCSU FOR WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOP

Over 60 female students from the New Britain High School Educators Rising program attended a workshop at Central Connecticut State University. The workshop, Voices Rising, was designed to elevate self-expression, and self-advocacy while empowering the young women in the program to succeed. We thank CCSU for their continued partnership and willingness to provide great opportunities such as this one for New Britain students.



DISTRICT UPDATES

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What's New and Happening at CSDNB?



HOLMES OPENS FREE LITTLE LIBRARY

Holmes Elementary School recently held a kick-off rally featuring the grand opening of their brand new FREE Little Library.

The event was part of the Holmes “Ask Me What I am Reading” campaign. The campaign will celebrate ARC’s focus on building students’ joy of reading in addition to bringing the entire school together as a community. This was the first of many year-long activities that will highlight and celebrate reading, including character days, reading log raffles, mystery readers, book buddies, etc.

Next time you’re with a Holmes Dragon, greet them with their school greeting, “What are you reading?”



NORTHEND CELEBRATES HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Northend Elementary School recently held a Hispanic Heritage Month celebration assembly featuring presentations from participating multilingual students about their culture.

“I couldn’t have thought of a better way to celebrate different cultures than by having a showcase during Hispanic Heritage Month where all of these students can express what being Hispanic means to them,” said Maria Lanteri, Northend multilingual teacher.

Scan the QR code below to view the celebration:



DISTRICT UPDATES

Staff Shoutouts



MELISSA VANCOUR
NBHS Family School Liaison

"Because I love her and she is such a sweetpea! She's one of the only people who ever pushed me to succeed and never gave up on me! She made me independent and a smart young lady. I used to skip classes and fail a lot but now I'm on the road to graduation and I have good grades! I love her so much and she deserves a million dollars"

- Helana Anderson, *student*



ERIC NELSON
New Britain High School Teacher

"Mr. Nelson is a dedicated high school math, engineering, and technology teacher, he truly deserves recognition for his unwavering support. Over the past four years, his tireless efforts inside and outside the classroom have transformed our learning experience, always going above and beyond to help students succeed."

- Hasham Almudhari, *student*



KIMBERLY BILLY
Slade Bridges Administrator and
District Supervisor of Special Education

"Mrs. Billy is always respectful and responsible. She's full of life and energy and is the meaning of a role model. Mrs. Billy always goes above and beyond for her program, students, and staff. She's always supportive and has a big heart. She always knows what to do and thinks outside of the box so thank you, Mrs Billy!"

- *anonymous student submission.*

**Do you want to nominate
a CSDNB staff member to
receive a Staff Shoutout?**

Scan QR code below:



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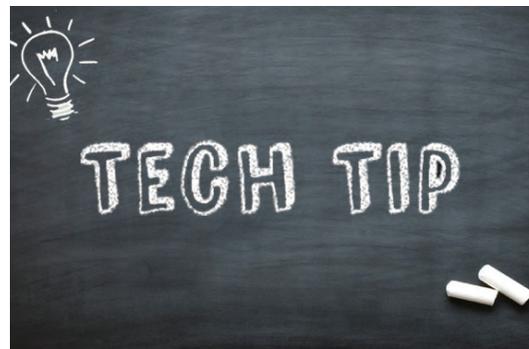
What's New and Happening at CSDNB?

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



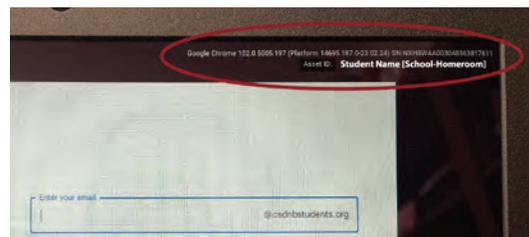
2023-24 STUDENT DEVICE INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE

Last year we had over 1800 students participating in the student device insurance program and honored over 1100 claims. Student Device Insurance is now available for purchase through the My School Bucks store. 801 have enrolled so far in the first two months of school. Let's continue this trend and enroll more students than last year! Thank you to those who have already enrolled. Details on the student device insurance program can be found on our district website www.csdnb.org/csdnb-student-device-insurance.php or by scanning code below:



NOVEMBER TECH TIP: CREATING A STUDENT TECH HELP TICKET IN POWERSCHOOL

When a student device is checked out to a student, the student's name will appear in the top right corner of the login screen, along with school and homeroom information (see screenshot below.) This tip may be particularly helpful to families with multiple students in the district, or to ensure students are using the correct devices in the class and not another student's chromebook. This feature only applies to student chromebooks.



The information will also appear when the device is locked. Syncing happens every evening, so it takes 24 hours for that to update. Please use the Student Tech Ticket system in PowerSchool to report your device as missing if you do not know where it is located. Here is a walkthrough on how to create a student tech ticket. Use the QR Code shown or click "Parent Tech Support" on the top left of the CSDNB.org website :



*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!

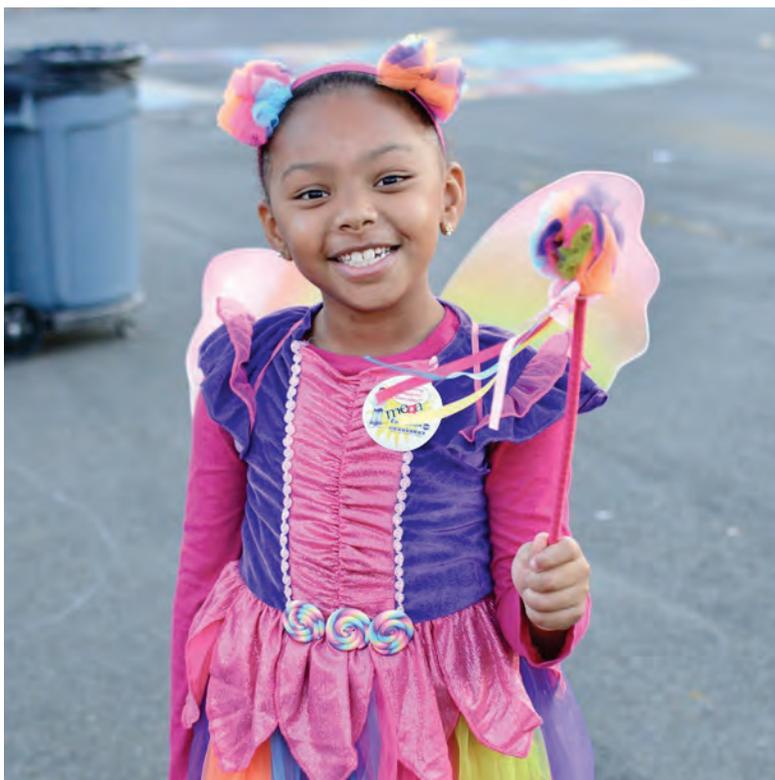
Sign up is easy with MySchoolBucks!

MySchoolBucks Store is accessible through PowerSchool Parent Portal.

CSDNB Smiles

The Past 30 Days at CSDNB





Many more photos of this experience can be found on CSDNB's social media!

CSDNB Smiles

The Past 30 Days at CSDNB





CSDNB



CSDNB



Many more photos of this experience can be found on CSDNB's social media!

NEW BRITAIN
ATHLETICS

Winter Sports Registration!

Basketball • Cheerleading • Indoor Track • Wrestling

Start Dates:

Girls Basketball: November 27th

Boys Basketball, Wrestling, Indoor Track: November 30th



Scan Me!

**MUST HAND IN SPORTS PHYSICAL TO
SCHOOL NURSE!**

NEED HELP WITH YOUR STUDIES?

**FREE 1-TO-1 ON-DEMAND
HOMEWORK HELP & TUTORING
IS NOW AVAILABLE 24/7 FOR
ALL CSDNB 9TH GRADERS!**



GIVE YOUR GRADES A BOOST WITH THE HELP OF VARSITY TUTORS!

To support our 9th grade students and their families, we are now offering FREE on-demand homework help and tutoring services with a personal virtual tutor for all freshmen students.

We have contracted with **Varsity Tutors** to ensure that all 9th grade students have 24/7 access to instant academic support through their **Clever Portal**.

- ✓ *SECURE ACCESS THROUGH CLEVER PORTAL*
- ✓ *24/7 UNLIMITED INSTANT ACCESS TO REAL-TIME TUTORING VIA CHAT*
- ✓ *LIVE CHAT AND INTERACTIVE WHITE BOARD SUPPORT*
- ✓ *HOMEWORK SUPPORT, FEEDBACK ON WRITING, STUDYING SUPPORT*
- ✓ *LIVE AND ON-DEMAND ENRICHMENT CLASSES*
- ✓ *UNLIMITED ANNOTATED ESSAY REVIEW*

This no-risk support service is absolutely FREE for all CSDNB 9th Graders!
Try it today! Simply log into **Clever Portal** and click on 'Varsity Tutors' to get started!

The New Britain High School Music Department Presents

The Olde Madrigal Feaste

PASSING THE "BUC"-CANEER

Join the Madrigal Singers, Treble Choir,
Instrumentalists, Wenches and Entertainers

Friday, December 8, 2023 at 7:00pm
Saturday, December 9, 2023 at 7:00pm

The award-winning
Madrigal Singers and Treble Choir
Will perform an exquisite
after-dinner Concert!

**To be Held in The
New Britain High School
Auditorium 110 Mill St.
New Britain, CT**

Menu

Wassail
Barley Soup
Tudor Salad
Stuffed Chicken Breast
Roasted Slice of Beef
Royal Vegetables
Buttered Red Potatoes w/ Dill
Royal Desserts
Coffee

*Catering by the
NBHS Culinary Program*



Donations are only Forty Dollars per Person and include meal
Please make your Reservations Immediately to ensure availability.

For more information or to reserve
tickets Email feaste@csdnb.org

This is an alcohol-free school event. Thank you for your cooperation.



2023-2024 School Year

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

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

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

Districtwide

- = Holiday (Schools/District Closed)
- = No School ● = Early Dismissal ■ = Professional Development
- August 23 Convocation AM/Building Meetings PM
- August 23, 24, 25 Professional Development
- August 28 First Day of School (Full Day)
- September 4 Labor Day
- October 9 Indigenous Peoples Day
- October 18 Prof. Dev. (Early Dismissal for Students)
- November 7 Election Day, Prof. Dev. (No School for Students)
- November 10 Veterans Day Observed
- November 22 Early Dismissal
- November 23-24 Thanksgiving Recess
- December 21 Half Day
- December 22-January 1 Winter Break
- January 5 Three Kings' Day Observed
- January 15 Martin Luther King Day
- January 31 Prof. Dev. (Early Dismissal for Students)
- February 16 Lincoln's Birthday Observed
- February 19 President's Day
- March 4 Prof. Dev. (No School for Students)
- March 29 Good Friday
- April 8-12 April Break
- May 15 Prof. Dev. (Early Dismissal for Students)
- May 27 Memorial Day
- June 7 Last Day of School (Early Dismissal)
- June 19 Juneteenth Holiday

Special Observance Days

Faculty will make appropriate accommodations for students affected by these and other special observance days.

Sep. 15-17 Rosh Hashanah	Mar. 31-Apr. 6 Bright Week
Sep. 24-25 Yom Kippur	Mar. 10-Apr. 9 Ramadan
Sep. 29-Oct. 6 Sukkot	Apr. 9-10 Eid al-Fitr
Nov. 12 Diwali	Apr. 22-30 Passover
Mar. 25 Holi	June 17 Eid al-Adha

Pre-K ▲

- ▲ September 27 PD (Early Dismissal)
- ▲ October 25 PD (Early Dismissal)
- ▲ November 29 PD (Early Dismissal)
- ▲ January 24 PD (Early Dismissal)
- ▲ February 28 PD (Early Dismissal)
- ▲ March 20 PD (Early Dismissal)
- ▲ April 24 PD (Early Dismissal)
- ▲ May 29 PD (Early Dismissal)

Elementary School ◆

- ◆ November 27 End of 1st Trimester
- ◆ December 12 Conferences (Early Dismissal)
- ◆ December 13 Conferences (Early Dismissal)
- ◆ December 14 (Evening Conferences)
- ◆ March 6 End of 2nd Trimester
- ◆ March 19 Conferences (Early Dismissal)
- ◆ March 20 Conferences (Early Dismissal)
- ◆ March 21 (Evening Conferences)
- ◆ June 7 End of 3rd Trimester

Middle School ◆

- ◆ August 25 Grade 6 Only First Day (Early Dismissal)
- ◆ November 27 End of 1st Trimester
- ◆ December 12 Conferences (Early Dismissal)
- ◆ December 13 Conferences (Early Dismissal)
- ◆ December 14 (Evening Conferences)
- ◆ March 6 End of 2nd Trimester
- ◆ March 19 Conferences (Early Dismissal)
- ◆ March 20 Conferences (Early Dismissal)
- ◆ March 21 (Evening Conferences)
- ◆ June 7 End of 3rd Trimester

High School ■

- August 21 Freshmen Orientation (10:00AM)
- August 25 Freshmen Only First Day (Early Dismissal)
- August 28 First Day of School - All Grades
- September 28 Q1 Progress Reports Available in PowerSchool
- September 28 Open House (6:00-8:00PM)
- October 30 End of Quarter 1
- November 3 Q1 Report Cards Available in PowerSchool
- November 6 Fall Conferences (6:00-8:00PM)
- December 6 Q2 Progress Reports Available in PowerSchool
- January 17 End of Quarter 2
- January 18 Second Semester Begins
- January 23 Q2 Report Cards Available in PowerSchool
- February 21 Q3 Progress Reports Available in PowerSchool
- March 22 End of Quarter 3
- March 28 Q3 Report Cards Available in PowerSchool
- March 29 Tentative SAT School Day (Early Dismissal)
- April 2 Spring Conferences (6:00-8:00PM)
- May 1 Q4 Progress Reports Available in PowerSchool
- May 8 Senior Presentations (Early Dismissal)
- May 15 Senior Presentations (Early Dismissal)
- June 3-6 Final Exams
- June 7 Last Day of School (Early Dismissal) (Make-up day)
- June 7 End of Quarter 4
- June 10 Q4 Report Cards Available in PowerSchool
- June 11 Graduation (Tentative)



CSDNB

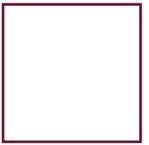
WWW.CSDNB.ORG

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.

The Consolidated School District of New Britain

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Authorized by: Superintendent Tony Gasper



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