

# NEWFIELD NEWSLETTER



*Newfield Central School District*

*February 2014*

## LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Community,

We received disappointing news from the governor that state aid for Newfield did not increase by much for the 2014-2015 school year. He has grand plans for "extras" and targeted programs, but very little for continuing to help us pay for what we have now. Combined with the tax cap it looks like budget discussions will be very difficult this year. There are so many expenses we have no control over, like health insurance and utility prices. The expenses we can control are interscholastic sports, extracurricular activities, class sizes, the number of employees, the supplies/textbooks purchased, lunch prices, etc. and these are the ones we will have to address during budget discussions. Unfortunately, these make up the smallest portion of the budget and have the least impact. However, they are the only expenses that we can control and cut when necessary.

We've added a new page to our website under "BOE" called "Ask the School Board." You can submit general questions for the School Board which will be answered on this webpage. A sample of the type of questions that would be appropriate for this forum has been posted there. Of course, we encourage you to keep communicating with your child's teacher and principal as well! All faculty and administration are available and ready to help you with any school-related concerns or issues.

We are interested in your feedback about our new website ([www.newfieldschools.org](http://www.newfieldschools.org)) and invite you to take a survey to let us know what you think. The survey will be available through the end of February. The link for the survey is <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2V5GTC3>.

***Dr. Cheryl Thomas***  
***Superintendent of Schools***



**MARK YOUR  
CALENDARS!**

**March 14 & 21  
at 7 P.M.**

**March 15 & 22  
at 4 P.M.**

**Newfield High School  
Vincent Aiosa  
Auditorium**

## LOOKING FOR A JOB?

***Check the school website for  
employment opportunities  
close to home***

Vacancies for teaching and non-teaching positions are posted regularly on our school website's Human Resources page ([newfieldschools.org/districtpage.cfm?pageid=109](http://newfieldschools.org/districtpage.cfm?pageid=109)). Current postings include librarian, auto mechanic, teacher aide and school monitor. In addition, the district is always looking for substitute teachers, teacher aides, bus drivers, cleaners, etc. Instructions and applications are available for download.

# ***OUR KIDS, OUR SCHOOLS...OUR FUTURE!***

- **An Open Community Forum for EVERYONE Who Cares About Equal Educational Opportunities for Our Children – ALL ARE WELCOME!**
- **Know the Issues & Learn How to Make a Difference on Behalf Of Our Public Schools**

*Hosted by the Central New York School Boards Association, Cayuga-Onondaga, Onondaga-Cortland-Madison, Oswego County & Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES*

- **February 4, 2014:** 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the **Auburn West Middle School Auditorium**, 217 Genesee St., Auburn 13021; **for school districts in the Cayuga-Onondaga and Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES**
- **February 5, 2014:** 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the **North Syracuse Junior High School Auditorium**, 5353 W Taft Rd, North Syracuse 13212; **for school districts in the Onondaga-Cortland-Madison and Oswego County BOCES**

**Overview:** It seems like a never-ending story, but our schools continue to face serious funding issues — issues that are leaving many districts on the brink of programmatic and fiscal insolvency. These issues threaten to deny our children the sound, basic education guaranteed in the state constitution. You can make a difference! You must make a difference! These forums are designed to educate and motivate — and also provide some fun too! You will walk out of the forum energized and ready to effectively stand tall for your children, your schools and your communities.

**Our program will feature** Dr. Rick Timbs, Executive Director of the Statewide School Finance Consortium. Dr. Timbs will boil down the complexities of state aid into an easy-to-understand format that will clearly illustrate how your own school district has been negatively impacted for years by Albany's lack of fairness. In addition, you will receive tools, information and insights that will arm and inspire you to be an effective advocate for OUR KIDS, OUR SCHOOLS & OUR FUTURE.

**It is vital** that our elected officials in Albany know what we expect from them in the 2014-15 state budget. It's an election year, so our voices and efforts carry special impact. We need moms, dads & grandparents, local business people, booster organizations & PTA's, teachers, civic groups...anyone and everyone that cares about the future and opportunity for our children and communities.

## NEWFIELD ROCKS!

We would like to send a big thank you to **Will Russell** of Newfield's own **Electric Wilburland** recording studio. Mr. Russell donated more than three hours of his time and expertise to record songs which will be performed live at the elementary school's PBIS assembly on February 4th. The recording will allow students to get to know the songs so they can sing along during the performance.



**Jeff McCaffrey** and **Tom Sayers**, musicians and fathers of elementary students at Newfield, performed and recorded the three songs that help promote the elementary PBIS's school-wide Otter Code of Conduct: Be Safe, Be Caring, Be Respectful, Be Here & Be Ready.

Thank you, Will Russell, for helping us further our goal of being a safe and caring school and delivering the message in such fun, interactive and positive ways!

## SCHOOL LUNCH:

### Do You Know How Much is in Your Child's Account?



Hello Parents,

Have you checked your child's lunch account? You can look at your child's lunch account for FREE and/or pay on line. Go to [mypaymentsplus.com](http://mypaymentsplus.com) to sign up.

For the month of February, if your child is in elementary and pays full price, they should have at least \$30.00 on their account to cover lunches. For middle and high school students who pay full price, they should have at least \$33.75 on their account to cover lunches. All students who pay a reduced price need \$3.75.

There isn't enough time to make daily or weekly calls to parents about students' accounts. Our efforts to keep lunch prices in line are made harder when we have additional costs for sending your child's lunch account statements home whether it is in their backpack or by mail.

Your cooperation in keeping track of your own child's lunch account will be greatly appreciated.

Thank You,

Robin Wood  
Food Service Director

## BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATES

**Are you interested in being a member of the Board of Education?** There will be three seats up for election this spring. The incumbents are René Borgella, Daniel Frank and Paula Miller. Petitions are available in the District Office and must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on April 21st. Please contact Cathy Shipos, District Clerk, with any questions.

**Community members are invited to attend Board meetings**, usually held at 6:30 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of each month. Upcoming topics of interest include discussion of the 2014-15 budget. Most meetings include a Privilege of the Floor for public comment, so come and talk to us! Agendas can be found on-line at <http://boarddocs.cnyric.org/newfield/Board.nsf/Public> (or follow the link from the Newfield school website).

**Budget Presentations are available on the school website!** Information will be added following each Board meeting.

*Sylvia P. Allinger, President*  
*Paula Miller, Vice President*  
*René Borgella*  
*Heather Cooper*  
*Daniel Frank*  
*Missy Rynone*  
*George Wiltsie*





## SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Thanks to the Newfield community for the overwhelming support of our holiday Scholastic Book Fair!

The PTA hosted a Scholastic Book Fair before our holiday break in the Newfield Elementary Library. The fair, kicked off by a teacher sneak peek and culminating in special evening sales hours coinciding with the holiday concert and art show, was a huge success!

Mrs. Volpicelli's brainstorm to hold the fair before the gift giving season proved fruitful. Many students surely received books as gifts, as well as purchased gifts of their own. Book sale profits surpassed other book fairs to date, which is exciting news in these tough financial times. Plans are in the works to follow up this success with a spring sale.

Thank you to the community volunteers, PTA, teachers and students who all pulled together to make our holiday book fair such a success.

### PARENTS:

**PLEASE remember to send in money for your child's lunch account for the month of February. Lunches should not be "charged". They need to be paid for either at the time of purchase or in advance. Thank you.**

## BRIGHT RED BOOK SHELF

For the past few years, we have been participating in the Bright Red Book Shelf literacy project. In an effort to provide books for community children, we ask families and organizations to donate new or "gently used" children's books to this endeavor. Books are collected at Newfield Elementary School and are available for children to take from the Bright Red Book Shelf at the Covered Bridge Market and the shelf in the elementary hallway.

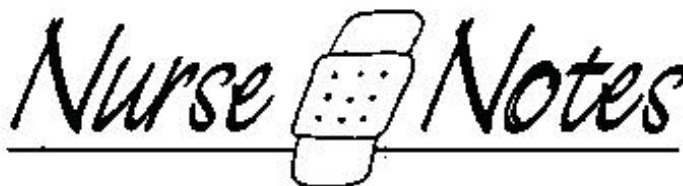
The good news is that this service has really caught on and the shelf has to be restocked every week. As you are starting your spring cleaning, please consider donating any extra children's books to the school. Books can be left in the elementary office.

Thank you in advance for your help....the children of Newfield will certainly benefit from your thoughtfulness and generosity. If you have any questions, please contact Deborah Peterson at 564-9955 ext. 1110.



### IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

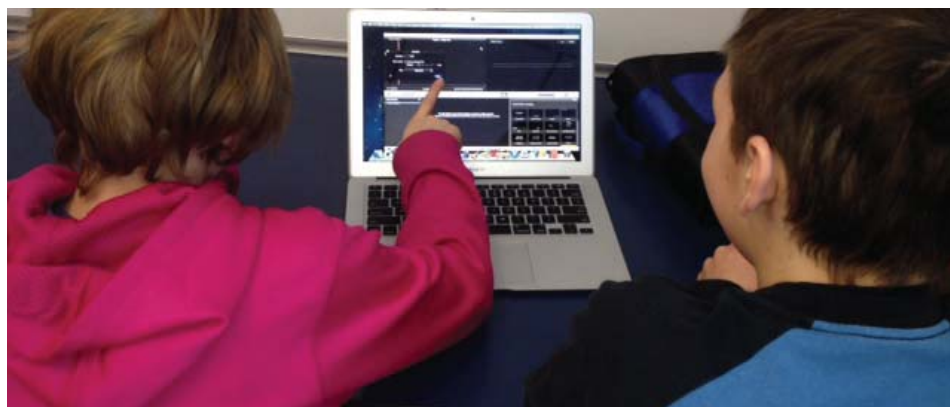
Feb. 17-21	NO SCHOOL Winter Break
March 7	Half Day for Students
March 14	Half Day for Students



NYS requires schools to report students' BMIs (Body Mass Index) as a way of monitoring trends in childhood obesity. The survey is in only a few select grades (k, 1, 5, 8, 11) and no children's names are reported, only the total BMIs of the grade. If you choose not to have your child's BMI reported on the survey, please call the health office and leave a message. Thank you.

Christine Laughlin, RN  
564-9955 ext.4032

Karen Russell, RN  
564-9955 ext.3114



# Aligning Curriculum & Technology Students Teaching Students in ELA 7

Newfield Middle School  
Liz Atkins, ELA 7

The 7th graders are developing their first iMovie Book Trailer using the district's MacBook Air technology. After completing a Book Chat presentation before the holiday break, the students returned ready to plan and begin their trailers. If one were to walk around room 419, she would hear children discussing pacing, mood, transitions, Ken Burns, and other various video editing terms they are learning along the way. Many enthusiastic 8th graders have been assisting me in the teaching process, and it has been truly incredible to watch as our students learn from one another. They are the learners as well as the teachers, and they are just oozing with creative expression.

## NEWFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

### Who is Newfield?

On Thursday, April 10th, we will not be holding classes as usual. Instead, we will spend the day exploring answers to the question: Who is Newfield? We invite all members of the Newfield community to help us, by coming into the building to share your talents, your hobbies, and your expertise.

Perhaps you know a lot about canning vegetables, or tanning a hide, or chemical engineering. Maybe you know how to weatherize a trailer or how to fix a small engine. Maybe you know how to drive an 18-wheeler. Are you a mathematician? Perhaps you are a small business owner. Do you know how to sew your own clothes? Are you an expert in homeopathic medicine? Do you know a lot about our local history? Do you know all about the hiking trails throughout Newfield? Can you build a house? Maybe you play in a band, or you record music. Perhaps you are a storyteller.

Whatever your particular area of expertise happens to be we want you to come into school to share it with us. We want to create a full day of workshops, demonstrations, and activities, led by you, that will help us celebrate who we are as a community.

In the next few months we will share more specific information about the day, and we will continue to invite you to be a part of this event. If you already know you are interested in participating, please give me a call, stop by the high school office to let me know, or send me an email. If you are curious but not yet sure if you are willing to participate, I encourage you to think seriously about joining us. Our goal is to have between 50 and 75 different community members in our building on April 10th to help us deepen our understanding of the Newfield High School Vision. **We are Newfield: Conscious, Consistent, and Committed to what is best for our Community.**

--Mr. Barry Derfel, Principal



Thanks to high school students, faculty and staff for a wonderful first semester! You have worked hard to advocate for a safe, healthy and effective learning environment.

Let's help and encourage each other to keep it up for a successful and productive second semester!

--Mr. Derfel

### End of the 18-Week Marking Period

The end of the 18-week marking period was January 31. You should expect your child's high school report card with mid-term examination grades on February 7.



## HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL 12-Week Marking Period

### HONOR ROLL

#### Grade 9

Banfiel, Patrick  
Byrd, Mariyah  
Chrisman, Bradley  
Cirulli, Michelle  
Havlik, Hannah  
Heffron, Erwin  
Hockenberry, Andreana  
Johnson, Mathew  
Miller, Andrew  
Poludniak, Devon  
Schumacher, Kathryn  
Westberry, Mark

#### Grade 10

Allen, Jeffrey  
Disidoro, Todd  
Fagnoli-Peterson, M.  
Ford, Elisha  
Henderson, Kiersten  
Olmstead, Bailey  
Owens, Kaleb  
Strosnider, Alora  
Teeter, Jessica  
Zahradnik, Kali

#### Grade 11

Barrett, Brian  
Bowers, Matthew  
Brewster, Hayley  
Castrechino, Dillon  
Chrisman Jr., Andy  
Dickens, Dawn  
Goodwin, Kayla  
Hulbert, Damion  
Meeker III, William  
Moravec, Nicole  
Naylor, Melissa  
Nye-Smith, Luke  
Rynone, Riley  
Schlaupt, Hannah  
Stewart, Dekhari  
Strednak, Alexandra  
Warnimont, Kelsey  
West, Shelby



#### Grade 12

Blakeslee, Kamrie  
Brown, Alyssa  
Crawford, Mariah  
Doolittle, Matthew  
Goldrick, Kyle  
Gradel, Desirae  
Hunt, Marissa  
Kopf, Samuel  
Lampila, Anthony  
Mansfield, Mackenzie  
Sims, Angela  
Webster, Cheyenne

### HIGH HONOR ROLL

#### Grade 9

Allen, Eric  
Heath, Katherine  
Henry, Alora  
Hodge, Shelby  
Keagle, Zachary  
King, Patrick  
Linnik, Arthur  
McKenna, Devonn  
McKenna, Jordann  
Myers, Antoinette  
Pierce, Christopher  
Rynone, Dante  
Schlaupt, Mariah  
VanOstrand, Tyler  
Worcester, Salena  
Yaples, Rachel

#### Grade 10

Adams, Jordan  
Banfield, Cole  
Bledsoe, Casey  
Castrechino, Chyanne  
Duff, Sage  
Furman, Reanna  
Green, Mackenzie  
Hollenbeck, Myranda  
King, Spencer  
Lorer, Jennah  
Malone, Jazmin  
Marufova, Fariza  
Ober, Seamus  
Shay, Alexis  
TenWolde, Zozha  
Yalanzhi, Nataliya  
Youst, Leslie

#### Grade 11

Bump, Rachael  
Carter, Max J  
Frank, Nathan  
Gerow, Thomas  
Johnson, Andrea  
Moynihan, Taina  
Mulcahy, Katya  
Schreiber-Harris, Alex  
Tuckerman, Megan  
Woods, Alaina

#### Grade 12

Abbey, Alicia  
Apgar, Steven  
Babcock, Alyssa  
Ferrara, Angelina  
Fuller, Alexander  
Hatch, Emily  
Hunter, Zachary  
Johnston, Alexander  
Miller, Jasmine  
Moore, Brandon  
Moynihan, Anastasja  
Pakkala, Tristan  
Robbins, Joshua  
Russell, Christopher  
Stranger, Amy  
Zichettella, Brianna

## STUDENT OF DISTINCTION 12-Week Marking Period

#### 9th Grade:

Allen, Eric  
Heath, Katherine  
King, Patrick  
Linnik, Arthur  
McKenna, Jordann  
Myers, Antoinette  
Schlaupt, Mariah  
Schumacher, Kathryn  
VanOstrand, Tyler  
Westberry, Mark  
Yaples, Rachel

#### 10th Grade:

Bledsoe, Casey  
Duff, Sage  
Furman, Reanna  
Green, Mackenzie  
King, Spencer  
Lorer, Jennah  
Marufova, Fariza  
Ober, Seamus  
Shay, Alexis

#### 11th Grade:

Carter, Max  
Frank, Nathan  
Gerow, Thomas  
Moynihan, Taina  
Schreiber-Harris, Alex  
Woods, Alaina

#### 12th Grade:

Abbey, Alicia  
Apgar, Steven  
Fuller, Alexander  
Hatch, Emily  
Hunter, Zach  
Moore, Brandon  
Moynihan, Asja  
Pakkala, Leif  
Sims, Angela  
Walker, Breeann  
Zichettella, Brianna

**CARR-RT PRESORT  
RESIDENT/BOXHOLDER  
NEWFIELD, N.Y. 14867**

***~Newfield Schools Support the Community~***

**NEWFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**Lego Building Event, February 3, 2- 7pm**

Join us at the library for our second Lego building event. We'll provide the Legos, you provide the imagination. Thanks to a generous donation we have even more Legos and some new books too. Children four and up are welcome.

**CHRYSLIS Workshop, February 8, 10am-2pm**

This series of workshops helps Newfield students in all aspects of the college search and application process. This program is free, but registration is required. Interested students from Newfield can call Mr. Pawlewicz from Newfield High School at 564-9955, ext. 3131.

**Valentine's Craft, February 11, 2-7pm**

Do you have cabin fever; need a present for your sweetie? Stop by the library anytime Tuesday, February 11 for valentine's themed crafts. Make your valentine a fun craft and check out our valentine's themed books. This event is appropriate for all ages.



**Valentine's Day Bake Sale,  
February 14, 7:30 am till gone**

Support the library and get sweet treats for your valentine. Stop by the library for the annual Valentine's Day Bake Sale.

**Pushing the Limits Book Club, February 25, 6:30pm**

Join us for our new science and technology themed book club. The first book is *Thunderstruck* by Erik Larson which combines the story of Marconi's struggle to produce a transatlantic signal with the search for a killer. Stop by to pick up a copy of the book.

**Library Hours:**

Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs. 2:00 to 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

***Tammy Kubinec, Library Director***  
**564-3594**

**NEWFIELD  
RECREATION**

**Winter Sports** are fully engaged with boys and girls teams from 3rd through 6th grades playing in the IAC Youth League. The cheerleaders are practicing and also performing for the games. We will also be hosting the 5th grade tournament on February 15th. Come on out and support the kids.



**Adult recreation** is continuing to be busy with tai chi, yoga dance, and adult basketball.

The new kid on the block is **Sunday Soccer** open to families from pre - k up through adult on a pay as you play basis. The season is running from January 19 through March 16.

Schedules, times, and other information and updates can be found on the town website at [newfieldny.org](http://newfieldny.org) scroll across to "for residents" and then down to "recreation" or contact Sierra Yapple or Reid Hoskins at [recreation@newfieldny.org](mailto:recreation@newfieldny.org)