

NEWFIELD NEWSLETTER



Newfield Central School District

December 2011

Will Newfield Schools Survive the Financial Crisis?

There is a "perfect storm" coming that could put small, rural public schools in New York State out of existence. The first rain drops were felt last year with mid-year cuts in state aid. The storm increased in intensity with gap elimination cuts of over \$1 million for Newfield for this year's budget. The federal government threw us a life preserver in the form of ARRA and Job Stimulus grants. However, the life preserver has been snatched back and the eye of the storm is still coming.



We will be having budget discussions and/or presentations at every Board of Education meeting between now and April. I encourage you to come to the meetings and stay informed. If you have not yet filled out the survey, please go to www.newfieldschools.org and do so. We will also have printed copies available in the District Office if you would rather do it that way.

For the 2012-13 budget, we will see huge decreases in revenue for our school district and no relief from increasing expenses that are outside of our control. This will create a gap between expenses and revenue that we may be unable to overcome. Since all school districts must operate on a balanced budget (expenses = revenue), that gap will make it impossible for some districts to remain in existence.

We know state aid in 2012-13 will be decreased even more than it has been in the past. The governor has said he will cut aid to schools in order to balance the state budget. This is likely to be in the \$1 million + range, although we won't know for sure until the governor's budget proposal comes out in January. The ARRA and Job Stimulus grants are gone, so our district will have to come up with this \$272,000+ from somewhere else to pay the salaries for those jobs previously saved through this program. The governor's tax cap limits how much revenue the school can collect from property taxes and could, in some cases, actually decrease the allowable levy. Our reserves were used to offset expenses last year as allowed by law and there are few left that we are allowed to use in this way.

At the same time revenue is being limited, we are also being hit with increases in expenses. The cost of BOCES programs, utilities, health insurance, and pension costs have all increased. Newfield is also required to pay over \$9,000 per student enrolled in the New Roots Charter School. Special Education students attending New Roots cost the Newfield District about \$15,000 each. This year alone, the New York State Education Department is requiring us to pay over \$111,000 for students attending the charter school. To put this in perspective, one percent of our tax levy equals approximately \$45,000 so 2.5% of the increase in tax levy was to pay for charter school tuition. If we are limited to 2% or less increase in tax levy, about \$22,500 will have to be cut from our programs just to pay the New Roots bill.

Our guess is that we will have to cut at least \$500,000 from our budget for next year due to increased expenses and decreased revenue. Since we made efficiency cuts last year (ordering minimal supplies, limiting professional development, etc.), this year there will need to be cuts that are much

Will We Survive (continued on page 3)

DECEMBER 2011

District Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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October's Otter Code Honor Roll

Kindergarten

Natalie VanDeBogart
Gianni DeJesus
Kianna Chambliss
Angelina Massoti
Quincey Malone
Jaimee West
Rebecca Brown
Jenna Wolfe
Mina Thomas
Grace Deets
Charleigh Wrisley
Jesse Tome
Camren Long
Ally Place
Anna Mike
Natalie Tibbals

First Grade

Jalen Hardison
Judd Merrick
Zachary Schwoeble
Emily Dunn
Agoddess Miller
Bailey White
Faith Bradford
Izzy Leyden-Githler
Jahnaya McKinster
Caiden Hotovy
Bryce Cutter
Chloe Sayers

Second Grade

Mya Brewster
Celina Weiner
Logan Hurd
Max Olmstead
Ethan Humble
Sebastian Rainbow
Lily LaMountain
Alexander Watkins
Devon Tierney
Ava Reynolds
Lyvia Stansfield
Ariana Rawn

Third Grade

Robbie Doner
Marcus Griffin
Ryan Putnam-Cole
Mark Sidle
Kyle LaBarge

Kyle Ponton
Katie Moravec
Michael Grover
Marissa Hacket
Colby Gatch
Katelynn Merriman
Ryan Schumacher
Lucia Shaff
Dylan Zifchock

Fourth Grade

Kade Pawlewicz
Phillip Knight
Mahalame Mace
Ivan Schoenfeldt
Patrick Payne
Daniel Deets
Cian Howell
Tiara West
Lena Kennell-Ramsey
Brooke Tyskewicz

Fifth Grade

Hannah Watros
Shawn Wendt
Terry-Joe Hein
Stone Hunter
Bailey Quinn
Kayla Place
Joe Tuckerman
Domanik Swarthout
Drew Clark
Dyllan Hover
Jasmine Hallock
Samantha Aubin
Autumn Hunnsinger

Special Areas

Gregg Troy
Michael Grover
Taylor Whitted
Makayla Michaelson
Vincent Longmire
Samantha Aubin
Ryah Putnam-Cole
Gem Allen
Travis Larkin
Autumn Long
Crystal Whitted
Gem Allen
Cameron Owens
Sierra Jordan

Will We Survive (continued from cover)

more painful. Can we do that without destroying our programs? We will have to try. The alternative is to drown in the storm – to merge with another district and lose our identity, our uniqueness, our sense of community. It would also mean higher taxes since our surrounding districts have a higher per pupil cost than we do.

So, how can we survive this crisis? We will be having budget discussions and/or presentations at every Board of Education meeting between now and April. The excuse, "it will hurt our children" will apply to everything we have to consider cutting and, given that, we will still have to decide what must remain, what can be postponed, and what we will have to do without. None of it will be desired or easy, but it will be necessary in order to make it through the next few years. I encourage you to come to the meetings and stay informed. If you have not yet filled out the survey, please go to www.newfieldschools.org and do so. We will also have printed copies available in the district office if you would rather do it that way. Your opinion matters!

Dr. Cheryl Thomas
Superintendent of Schools

HOLIDAY CONCERTS

"Sleigh bells ring, are you listening?"

The **Elementary Holiday Concert** is scheduled for Wednesday, December 7th at 6:30 p.m. in the Elementary Auditorium.

The **Newfield Middle and High School Chorus and Band Holiday Concert** is Wednesday, December 14 at 7pm in the Vincent Aiosa Auditorium.

Join us for one or both evenings of classical, jazz, musical theater and seasonal favorites. Admission is free.



MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL 10 Week

HIGH HONOR ROLL

Grade 6

Borgella, Alexander
Brown, Jacob
Castrechino II, Robert
Edger, Taylor
Hart, Hunter
Heroux, Megan
Hockenberry, Desiray
Howell, Caitlin
LaBarge, Stephen
Llanos, Simone
Moravec, Gregory
Reilly, Francis
Ruocco, Nolan
Scott, Savanna
Swansbrough, Kayle

Grade 7

Allen, Eric
Burns, Christina
Byrd, Mariyah
Hodge, Shelby
Jacobs, Jordan
King, Patrick
McKenna, Devonn
McKenna, Jordann
Miller, Andrew
Pierce, Christopher
Schumacher, Kathryn
Spencer, Brett
Vanetten, Scott
VanOstrand, Tyler
Worcester, Salena
Yaples, Rachel

Grade 8

Adams, Jordan
Banfield, Cole
Bledsoe, Casey
Castrechino, Chyanne
Duff, Sage
Fagnoli-Peterson, M.
Fenner, Kelsey
Festa, Tyler
Ford, Elisha
Garcia, Thome
Green, Mackenzie
Henderson, Kiersten
Hollenbeck, Myranda
King, Spencer
Lorer, Jennah
Malone, Jazmin
Mosher, Rhianna
Ober, Seamus
Olmstead, Bailey
Shay, Alexis
TenWolde, Zozha
Yalanzhi, Nataliya
Zahradnik, Kali

HONOR ROLL

Grade 6

Adams, Connor
Adams, Umeek.
Aubin, Bre-Anna
Bell, Hailey
Brewster, Hannah
Denmark, Atavia
Eldridge, Alexie
Olmstead, Camryn
Watkins, Heather
Weaver, Morgan

Grade 7

Adams, Shymeeek
Brown, Robert
Cirulli, Michelle
Colburn, Sean
Hackett, Jaclyn
Hall III, Wayne
Hartman, Jacob
Havlik, Hannah
Heffron, Erwin
Henry, Alora
Hernandez, Starlit
Hockenberry, A.
Johnson, Mathew
Keagle, Zachary
King, Logan
Myers, Antoinette
Poludniak, Devon
Rynone, Dante
Schlaupt, Mariah
Tyskewicz, Lauren
Westberry, Mark

Grade 8

Allen, Jeffrey
Baker, Alexis
Bastian, Jacob
Bona, Casandra
McEver, Anthony
McSwain, Erik
Sexton, Sarah
Spradlin, Dakota
Strosnider, Alora
Teeter, Jessica
Warnimont, J.
Willis, Dylan

SKI & RIDE CLUB

The Newfield Recreation Ski & Ride Club will make 6 trips out to Greek Peak beginning Friday Jan 6. It is still possible to register so if you're thinking about it, please contact newfieldrecreation@gmail.com for more info.



Take Me To The Zoo...

Nearly eighty high school students attended a biology field trip to the Rosamond Gifford Zoo in Syracuse in October. For several of our students, this was their first trip to a zoo. The favorite animal encounter, by far, was observing the trio of 5-month old Amur tiger cubs rough-housing and stalking each other as their mom rested nearby.

Other popular animal exhibits included the primate habitat, the newly built Pachyderm Pavilion, the Humboldt penguin area, and the African lion display.

Mrs. Tibbals, Ms. Trufant, and the students would like to thank the parents and faculty who chaperoned the trip, as well as extending the most sincere thanks to the administration and Board of Education for continued support of such important educational opportunities!

NEWFIELD  ATHLETICS

**BE LOUD
BE PROUD
BE POSITIVE**

Show your Newfield spirit and pride by supporting our winter sports teams. Remember to "Be Loud, Be Proud and Be Positive!"

A September to Remember...

The Class of 2012 traveled to Ocean City, Maryland for their senior trip in September. This was the first trip to the ocean for many of our seniors, and all enjoyed swimming in the surf under the watchful eyes of the beach lifeguards. Other highlights included photographing sunrises and evening walks on the boardwalk and beach to wind down from our busy days.

We visited the Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum, where we learned about the history of the US Life-Saving Service. We toured Assateague Island National Seashore, where we saw wild ponies in their beach, pine forest, and salt marsh habitats and spent time interacting with ocean creatures in the touch tank at the visitors' center. We journeyed through the National Aquarium in Baltimore on our way home, observing a variety of mini-ecosystems home to over 16,500 species of animals. Students meandered through the exhibits, phones/cameras in hand, capturing images of sharks, turtles, jellyfish, birds, and other wonderful creatures.

The seniors would like to thank the community for supporting our fundraising efforts over the last three years, all of which helped make this trip possible. We would also like to thank the chaperones, faculty, administration, and Board of Education for their support of our class and this venture. Trips such as this provide invaluable educational and social experiences for our students, creating memories that will truly last a lifetime.

FLOOD RELIEF DRIVE

The school community from pre-K through twelfth grades participated in a major flood relief effort in October. This project involved collecting, sorting, packaging, and delivering items for neighboring communities devastated by the flooding. We worked with folks running shelters in Owego and Candor, who provided us with lists of needed items. Goods collected included non-perishable foods, personal care items, cleaning supplies, and school supplies. This community was so generous that it was necessary to take a small bus to deliver the goods!



Thank you to EVERYONE who gave either goods or their time to make this possible. Special thanks to **Connie Delfino** for managing the elementary school end of the drive. Additional thanks must go out to **Sam VanOrman, Adam Friedlander, Mickey Beach, Taylor Hoffman, Matthew Tibbals, Natalie Tibbals, Vicki Tibbals, and Marlena Terlouw**, who all traveled by bus to the shelter in Candor to deliver the boxes upon boxes of donations, most of which were transferred to an Owego shelter the next day. These students and adults saw first-hand how important banding together can be to those in need, as people were gratefully taking some of the items we were delivering as soon as we got there. Newfield is a wonderful place!

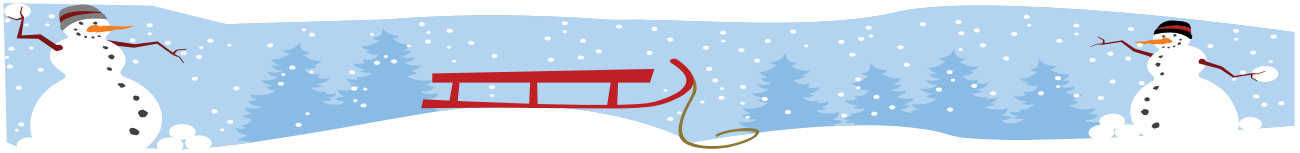
HOLIDAY BIRDSEED WREATHS

The Class of 2013 will be selling holiday birdseed wreaths from December 12th through the 23rd.

Wreaths will be available for purchase through and 2013 Class Members or Jana Leyden at Room 202 in the high school, 564-9955 Ext. 3202, or jleyden@newfieldschools.org.

Wreaths will be sold for \$13.00 and checks should be made out to The Class of 2013.

These wreaths are made locally and are an environmentally friendly gift! Wreaths will be on-hand, no pre-orders necessary.



Responsibility for Our Work and Actions in the High School

As you already know, the core building goal that we are working on at Newfield High School is responsibility for our work and actions: students, staff, family, and community. We hope to promote this goal by focusing on motivation, mutually respectful & safe behavior, aesthetics, and service. The following suggests what it might look like with all of us working together to reach this goal.

A school community that is motivated to be responsible for its work and actions engages in its work with energy, enthusiasm, and creativity. Students complete all of their assignments on time, and they complete their assignments thoughtfully and with precision. Educators plan meaningful and engaging work, provide timely and constructive feedback, and persistently reach out to connect with students and their families. Families actively and consistently encourage their children to complete their work on time, every time, and to complete their work to the best of their ability. Community finds ways to promote the importance of school and to learn from students, families, and educators about what is happening in school.

A school community that is is comfortable. Expectations and routinely met. Students, consistently act in ways that ing each other with the tasks members of the school com- for their needs in appropriate and in appropriate ways. As and teaching and learning

In terms of aesthetics, it's a sounds like, and feels like. for our work and actions, our and comfortable. Student work is displayed on our walls and in our hallways. Our written work looks neat, complete, and adheres to the conventions of proper spelling, grammar, and punctuation. Conversations in our public spaces sound friendly and polite. Class discussions sound meaningful, intriguing, and thoughtful. Conversations about discipline sound likely to improve teaching, learning, and safety. They feel productive. Our classrooms, our offices, our hallways, and the other public spaces in our building feel comfortable and safe.

The purpose of our goal is to help us create the school we want. We envision a school community that is Conscious, Consistent, and Committed to what's best for our Community. (Notice the 4 C's.)

mutually respectful and safe are clearly communicated staff, families, and community are mutually supportive, help- of teaching and learning. All munity effectively advocate places, at appropriate times, a result, problems get solved continually gets better.

matter of what it looks like, When we take responsibility building looks clean, inviting,

In a school where we take responsibility for our work and actions, service is routine. Each of us helps keep the building clean. Students help other students learn and they help teachers teach. Teachers help their students learn and they help other teachers teach. Family and community also help students learn and help teachers teach. Beyond the walls of our school, students, staff, family, and community help each other meet the challenges of daily life.

The purpose of our goal is to help us create the school we want. We envision a school community that is **Conscious, Consistent, and Committed to what's best for our Community**. (Notice the 4 C's.) Achieving our vision will not be easy, but I do believe it is possible, and I am proud to be a part of this effort.

Mr. Barry Derfel
H.S. Principal

HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

6-Week Marking Period

HONOR ROLL

Grade 9

Amato, Nicholas
Bump, Rachael
Colburn, Jordan
Cooper, Devin
Goldman, Andrew
Goodwin, Kayla
Hartman, Kari
Hulbert, Damion
Mulcahy, Katya
Schlaupt, Hannah
Strednak, Nathaniel
Trask, Tyler
Tyskewicz, Ashley
Warnimont, Kelsey

Grade 10

Abbey, Alicia
Bamforth, Taylor
Blanford, Samantha
Carlyle, Skyler
Clay-Adams, Gaelyn
Crawford, Mariah
Fields, Dakota
Hollander, Rachel
Kopf, Samuel
Miller, Alexander
Mott, Andrew
Murray, Alexis
Puig-Pimentel, Jose-Maria
Schumacher, Lauren
Sims, Angela
Youst, Jeramie

Grade 11

Atherton, Ashley
Bentley, Robert
Brown, Laura
Carney, Erica
Doucett, Erin
Heiderich-LaDue, John
House, Jodi
Krogman, Luke
McEver, Tia
Pakkala, Megan
Peabody, Joseph
Schumacher, Amber

Sinn, Kiersten
Tuckerman, Erica
Vanetten, Kayla
Ward, Devin
Wood, Lindsey
Wood, Rebecca
Wood-Ellis, Alyssa
Yaples, Michael

Grade 12

Addy, Cal
Amato, Gabrielle
Bleiler, Eric
Carter, Zane
Cooper, Skyler Rae
Fagnoli-Peterson, Kelci
Hamilton, Hunter
Hamilton, Jessica
Hawke, Steven
Irvin, Hunter Corey
Johnson, Amber
Nye-Smith, Kyle
Pangburn, Bryan
Smith, Jessie
Teeter, Keturah
TenWolde, Elizabeth
Valentin, Jacqueline
Wood, Dillon
Wright, Heather

HIGH HONOR ROLL

Grade 9

Carter, Max
Castrechino, Dillon
Frank, Nathan
Gerow, Thomas
Graves, Lesa
Harris, Kelsey
Jacobs, Brianna
Johnson, Andrea
Martin, Cassie
McKee, Katie
Meeker III, William
Miller, Jasmine
Moravec, Nicole
Moynihan, Taina

Naylor, Melissa
Nye-Smith, Luke
Piotti, Seth
Rynone, Riley
Schreiber-Harris, Alex
Scofield, Mikayla
Sexton, Christie
Strednak, Alexandra
Tuckerman, Megan
Woods, Alaina

Grade 10

Babcock, Alyssa
Ferrara, Angelina
Fuller, Alexander
Garcia, Myles
Harden, Tiffany
Hatch, Emily
Hulbert, Brianna
Hunter, Zachary
Johnston, Alex
Moore, Brandon
Moynihan, Anastasja
Pakkala, Tristan
Zichettella, Brianna

Grade 11

Gerow, Jacqueline
Hoskins, Peter
Johnson, Anna
Miller, Colin
Scott, Connor
Sears, Kodie
Terlouw, Courtney
Tubbs, Taylor
Ulbing, Cynthia

Grade 12

Bachelor, Kaysee
Friedlander, Adam
Griggs, Sarah
Hulbert, Cierra
Kamin, Brandon
Lance, Emma
Laughlin, Mitchell
Moore, Adam
Russell, Cortney
Sawyer, Sebastian
Woods, Meghan



Newfield Central School
247 Main Street
Newfield, NY 14867

Non Profit Organization
Bulk Rate
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Ithaca, N.Y. Permit No. 194

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

~Newfield Schools Are Community-Minded~

NEWFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

Happy Holidays from the Newfield Library. There's something for everyone at the library this month. Join us for weekly story times on Wednesdays at 3:30. The knitting/crocheting group also meets every Wednesday at 6:30. The Genealogy Study Group meets on the first Saturday of every month at 10:00 and the First Tuesday Book Club is discussing Reading Lolita in Tehran on December 6 at 6:30.

Once again, the Village Carolers will sing their way to the library but this year the event is on a Saturday, December 10th at 5:00 p.m. Come in from the cold to help decorate our community tree and enjoy some refreshments. All are welcome to this festive event.

The Library Giving Tree will be collaborating with the Community Good Neighbor Fund again to provide the gift of reading to our local children. We hope you'll visit the library so you can provide each child with a book for the holidays and share the gift of reading.

***Tina Winstead, Library Director
607/564-3594***

**The Newfield Town
Planning Board Wants
to Hear from YOU!**

The Newfield Town Planning Board is soliciting public input for their draft Comprehensive Plan. Please contribute your opinions via a series of three short surveys on the Newfield Planning Board website, http://townofnewfieldny.com/public_input.html. The deadline is December 31, 2011. The surveys complement a 2010 mail survey and public Facilitated Discussion meetings hosted this summer. For more information on the Newfield Town Planning Board, please see <http://townofnewfieldny.com/planning.html> or contact us at newfieldplanningboard@gmail.com.

**Need Extra Money?
Consider Driving Bus!**

We are willing to pay you for driving a school bus. Drivers and sub drivers are needed. We will train you! Hours can be mornings or afternoons or both. Starting pay for a regular bus driver is \$16.28/hour. Please call Chuck Brockner at 564-9955 x4141 to get started.

2011 ITHACA ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR

"Growing Hope Together," a non-profit organization that developed and still supports the Emery Memorial Kids Garden in front of the old schoolhouse, will be at the 2011 Ithaca Alternative Gift Fair! They are offering our school and community the opportunity to help other students in Simenya, Kenya by purchasing a banana tree for their children's garden (\$5); two children's books for their primary school library (\$10); a quantity of drip irrigation tubing (\$20); or helping to purchase a deep well pump necessary for the current irrigation project at their school (\$25). Growing Hope Together is organization number 56 and will be located in the First Baptist Church during the Ithaca Alternative Gift Fair from 10 am to 6 pm on Saturday, December 3. The Alternative Gift Fair offers an opportunity to give charitable donations as holiday gifts and all money collected at the Fair goes directly to the participating organizations. The Ithaca Alternative Gift Fair is sponsored by the Center for Transformative Action and the Tompkins County Public Library with financial support from Alternatives Federal Credit Union.