



Husky Tales



JANUARY 27, 2012

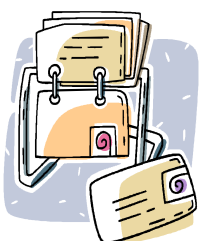
Inclement Weather Calling System

Wyoming Public Schools has a call system that will dial the main contact number of all students in the event of a school closing for any unscheduled reason. This may include school closings for snow days, unusually high absence in a building due to illness, or any other reminder calls that may need to be made on a mass basis. Please be sure that Newhall has the correct phone number on file to ensure that you receive these important calls. When we are closed on a regularly scheduled school day, please check the district website to see if evening or extra curricular activities will take place on that day. You may also call the school and choose option #3 for school closing information. The district will also continue to use the traditional media outlets and our district website (www.wyoming.k12.mi.us) to convey this information.



Parent Gateway

Connect to Parent Gateway from the main WPS webpage (www.wyoming.k12.mi.us) to access your child's homework scores, test grades, attendance records, etc. If you have computer access and aren't signed up, call Renee Thomas at 530-7590.



Address/Phone Change

If you should move, change your home phone number, cell phone number, work phone number or emergency contact phone numbers during the school year, please notify the school office at 530-7590. It is important that we have accurate information for mailings and communication between school and home.

Principally Speaking...



Dear Parents,
 Hope everyone is enjoying the Michigan Winter wonderland. The Michigan State Board of Education recently approved new MEAP and MME "cut scores" for Mathematics, Reading, Science and Social Studies.

A cut score separated test takers into various categories, such as advanced proficient, proficient, partially proficient and not proficient. The new cut scores are higher and "raise the bar" for our students. They are intended to be a better measure of student progress toward being career and college ready. Below is a video link that explains the new cut scores.

<http://www.mistreamnet.com/movs/downinit.php?who=resa121611>

Newhall Middle School has received our building scores which we cannot release to the public yet. We did see a decline in our scores from the previous year which most schools are anticipating. We should have student results soon. We will continue to look at our school improvement efforts to improve student achievement.

Educational Extravaganza March 20, 2012

This will be a Title I sponsored parent activity:

The following topics will include:

- How to help with my child's study habits
- Bullying
- Opportunity to view student work by each department

More details to come.

Mr. Jon Blackburn
 Principal

Mid-Winter Break
February 20 & 21, 2012
No School

SATURDAY SCHOOL

JANUARY 28 (invite only)

9:00 AM - NOON

This is for students who have failed (less than 60%) more than 2 core classes or who have failed the same classes two quarters in a row.

**DECEMBER
STUDENTS OF THE MONTH**

We'd like to congratulate our December Students of the Month:

7th Grade



Will Couchenour



Karizma Gonzalez



Jeremiah Purnell

8th Grade



Kacey Billings



Colton Brandburn



Laura Delgado

**2012 WINTER II
SPORTS SCHEDULE**

7th Girls Basketball Blue & White

Game Time: 4:15 & 5:30

White plays first on Mondays

Blue plays first on Wednesdays

- 2/6: Newhall @ Kenowa Hills
- 2/8: Newhall @ Hastings
- 2/13: Kraft Meadows & Newhall
- 2/15: Wayland @ Newhall
- 2/16: Newhall @ TK
- 2/22: Newhall @ Duncan Lake
- 2/27: Duncan Lake @ Newhall
- 2/29: TK @ Newhall
- 3/5: Newhall @ Wayland
- 3/12: Newhall @ Kraft Meadows
- 3/13: Hastings @ Newhall
- 3/14: Kenowa Hills @ Newhall

8th Girls Basketball Blue & White

Game Time: 4:15 & 5:30

White plays first on Mondays

Blue plays first on Wednesdays

- 2/6: Kenowa Hills @ Newhall
- 2/8: Hastings @ Newhall
- 2/13: Newhall @ Kraft Meadows
- 2/15: Newhall @ Wayland
- 2/16: TK @ Newhall
- 2/22: Duncan Lake @ Newhall
- 2/27: Newhall @ Duncan Lake
- 2/29: Newhall @ TK
- 3/5: Wayland @ Newhall
- 3/12: Kraft Meadows @ Newhall
- 3/13: Newhall @ Hastings
- 3/14: Newhall @ Kenowa Hills

Wrestling

- 2/7: Newhall @ Sparta
- 2/9: Newhall @ Hastings
- 2/14: Greenville @ Newhall
- 2/18: Team Dual Tournament @ Sparta
- 2/23: Northview @ Newhall
- 3/1: Newhall @ FHN
- 3/6: Coopersville @ Newhall
- 3/8: Newhall @ Wayland
- 3/13: Make-up/reschedule
- 3/15: Cedar Springs @ Newhall
- 3/17: Individual Tournament @ Lowell

**Parent /Teacher
Conferences**

March 7 & 8
4:00 - 7:00 pm

Valentine's Dance
Friday, February 10, 2012
7:00-8:30 pm
Cost is \$5.00
Pop / Water \$1.00
Memory Photo \$1.00

Parents, if you'd like to help out by bringing a treat or chaperoning, please contact Katie VanDongen at 822-3682



Student Council will be selling Krispy Kreme Doughnuts on Wednesday, February 8, 7:30 am. Doughnuts will be available to students for \$1.00 each. If parents would like to pre-order, they will be available for \$6.00/dozen. You may email Renee Thomas at thomasr@wyomingps.org or call 530-7590. Proceeds will help fund Relay for Life which will be held May 11-12.

**World's Finest Chocolate
Fundraiser - 8th Only**

The chocolate sale will begin on Friday, February 10 and run through Friday, February 24. The fundraiser permission slip and rules acknowledgement form were handed out to students. If your student plans on selling chocolate to help raise money for his/her class trip, these signed forms need to be turned into the office no later than Wednesday, February 1. These forms are required before your student can pick up a box of chocolate. A \$25 deposit is also required. If you have any questions, please contact Renee Thomas at 530-7590.

THOMAS TEASERS FOR THE BRAIN

Each of the clues below describe the name of a candy. Can you name them? Example: Galaxy would be a Milky Way.

1. Sign of affection
2. Favorite day for working people
3. Can't hold on to anything
4. Famous swashbuckling trio
5. Sun explosions

Write down your answer on the paper provided in the office and give to Mrs. Thomas. The correct answer will be drawn out of a hat Tuesday, January 31 and the winner will be announced at the end of the day announcements. The winner will receive a **FREE** lunch from McDonalds on Wednesday, February 1. Good Luck!

Attention Parents: We are looking for anyone who would like to supervise our lunch periods (11:00-1:00). This position is a 2 hour M-F paid position. If this is something you are interested in, please call Mr. Josh Baumbach 530-7590 X3211



Don't forget to turn in those box tops! They are due Tuesday, February 14. They should be sent in a zip lock bag with your child's name and first hour. The child who turns in the most box tops in a two week period will receive a special prize! So far we have raised \$191.00 just by turning in those box tops. Questions can be directed to Anne Maede 261-5614.



Also, our school has joined the My Coke Rewards for School programs. That means by drinking the Coca-Cola products your family already enjoys, you can get My Coke Rewards points and donate them to help our school.

It's easy to donate:

1. Purchase your favorite Coca-Cola products to get codes (they're on hundreds of different packages, in a variety of sizes and flavors).
2. Go to mycokerewards.com/school & sign in (register if you aren't a member).
3. Enter your codes to collect points—then search for our school to donate your points.
4. Enter the amount of points you'd like to give, then click "Donate".

Check out mycokerewards.com/schools for more information and start turning My Coke Rewards points into rewards for our school.

You are cordially
invited to the Guys Read
Kick-Off Celebration!

Sunday, January 29, 2012
1:30 PM

Cascade Township Branch
2870 Jacksmith Ave. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Join us for food, fun
and entertainment just
for guys and their families!

Please call 616-784-2007 for more details.

No RSVP required

Kent District Library has just launched a new initiative called Guys Read aimed at helping boys become self-motivated, lifelong readers.

There are two major aspects of Guys Read. One is a website (<http://www.kdl.org/teens/go/GuysRead>) aimed at readers advisory for boys, which includes booklist, video book talks and reviews, a blog, a space for kids to write their own reviews, and a whole lot more. The aim is to make it very interactive, by including the boys in reviewing, both by writing them or submitting video reviews, and by using the blog to encourage response and interaction.

The other aspect of the program involves programs and events. There are a variety of options here, but most important is a large kickoff party we are hosting on January 29th at 1:30 at the Cascade Branch. It is going to be a great event complete with all sorts of book related crafts and games, a caricaturist, the John Ball Zoo, and a whole lot more.

Finally, Grandville is hosting an another book club, which is called "Pizza and Pages: a father/son book club" on Feb 8, at 6:30. This will be a father and son book club for grades 4-7 (there is a bit of wiggle room there but that is the target age group) where we eat pizza and discuss our favorite guys reads. If the group agrees we will pick a specific book to discuss the next time we meet.

Recommendations From Your Media Specialist, Mrs. Potter Some Thoughts on Promoting Reading in Your Home

Do your children read daily outside of school? As your children progress through school, it is absolutely essential that their reading skills improve at a steady pace. Reading skills improve with practice, and there are several ways you can promote reading in your home. Make sure your children see you read. You are a powerful role model. Do you visit the public library? Residents of Wyoming have a beautiful facility. A family outing to the library is a wonderful way to spend some quality family time together. Do you read aloud to your family? In the book *The Read Aloud Handbook*, author Jim Trelease states that:

"Reading aloud is a commercial for reading. ...Think of it this way: McDonald's doesn't stop advertising just because the vast majority of Americans know about its restaurants. Each year it spends more money on ads to remind people how good its products taste. Don't cut your reading advertising budget as children grow older."

Here are some websites that list books middle-school students enjoy:

<http://www.goodreads.com/shelf/show/middle-school>

<http://www.avon.k12.ma.us/librarymedia/100bookstoreadmiddleschool.htm>

<http://www.guysread.com/>



Our own Kent District Library system is sponsoring "Guys Read at KDL".

Read about it here: <http://blog.kdl.org/?p=9645>.

The more your children practice reading, the more their reading and writing skills will improve. Your children will reap the benefits for years to come if you turn off the TV, put away the video games, and set aside the half-hour before bed-time for quiet time with a book or magazine.

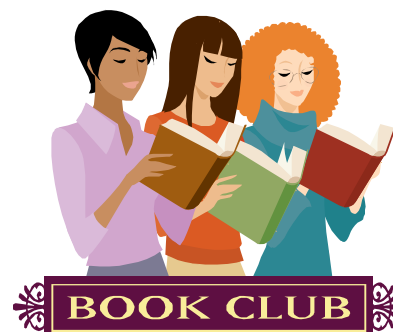


The January positive behavior party will be listening to "author-strator" E.B. Lewis. He is a famous water color artist who has illustrated many children's books. E.B.'s story is one of triumph over tribulation. Together, with the Wyoming KDL branch, Newhall is participating in *Wyoming Community Reads Initiative*, focusing on

"Bridging Barriers through Friendship." The kickoff was on Saturday, January 7, and MANY Newhall faces were there! We can't wait to enjoy E.B. Lewis next week, on February 2nd. He will also be appearing at Jackson Park in the afternoon and the Wyoming Library in the evening at 6:30 p.m. Check out an interview, and some of his collected works here.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JQDORQwNXOc>

<http://www.eblewis.com/illustration/appearances.html>



Thursday, February 2
Room 104 3:00-4:00

The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
Get it from a friend, the library, book store....



To celebrate a successful boys basketball season, all 4 teams played a game against their dads or a special person in their life. Once again, the dads' team won all 4 games. A big thank you goes out to all who attended. We hope you enjoyed the night of laughs and fun.

