

Bi-Weekly Update!

Mission Statement: The mission of the Niagara Falls Board of Education is to guarantee educational excellence by creating strategic goals which we will monitor, analyze, assess and evaluate utilizing the quality process and ensuring customer satisfaction.

Vision Statement: The vision of the Niagara Falls City School District is to be a world-class quality educational organization.

Strategic Goal 1: To exceed and continuously improve learner outcomes against academic standards.

Updates from the Office of Curriculum and Instruction –

Assessment Office –

- The Assessment Office is continuing with the Data Analysis Process at Hyde Park and Cataract with Kathy Donner from O/N BOCES and at Abate with Jose Flores from Erie1BOCES.
- Our focus for our upcoming meeting on 12/21 at Hyde Park will involve 5th grade teachers collaborating on instructional strategies for their students.
- Our next meeting at Cataract is 12/14, and the focus will be to create the second 5th grade ELA interim.
- Abate is focusing on 3rd grade Math. They have scheduled their next math interim for 2/9/16.
- Winter NWEA is open from 12/1/16-2/28/17. As a reminder, Grades 1-3 will be taking the NWEA MAP Reading for the Winter Term as per the ELA assessment protocols
- District Data Coordinator Meeting - 12/6/16 at Erie1BOCES
- DATAG Meeting - 12/8-12/9/16 in Albany

79th Street

- Principal continues walk-throughs using new walk-through tool in the areas of instruction focused on in our SCEP plan
- Leadership Team continues to meet to evaluate our progress towards meeting our goals in the SCEP plan and other curricular plans and activities.
- Principal will meet with Janet Gillmeister from PLC for the morning on Friday, December 16, 2016
- Held START Team meetings
- Principal continues to hold special “Lunch with the Principal” lunch groups. Students raise Star bucks and when they reach a certain amount of the starbucks they can turn them in for different items. A favorite of the children is to save their bucks up (80 to be exact) to have a special lunch with Mrs. Coty.
- K-2 Department Meeting on HOTS and Talk Moves.
- Department Meeting for Intermediate teachers and special areas on Tuesday, November 29th for My Learning Plan..
- After-school Program continues on Thursdays
- NU learn and Serve working throughout building

- Ride For Roswell Beginning February through June
- Principal speaks “Words of Wisdom” every day to create a positive environment.
- Winter Concert on 12/21 at 9:30 and 1:30

Cataract Elementary School

We are continuing to recognize student's good choices through our positive behavior program.

- Several students have been selected to join the NYS Mentoring Program. This will allow community members to mentor a student every Tuesday for the remainder of the year.

GJ Mann

Maple Avenue School

- 11/28 Character Ed presentation by Niagara University Men’s Basketball Team for grades 4-6
- 11/30 Bullying Beyond the Pledge presentation in 5th grade by Northepointe Council
- 11/30 Leadership Team met to plan PD direction for December and January. We also revisited SCEP and adjusted dates and action steps as necessary.
- 12/2 Bullying and Healthy Relationships presentation by Mental Health Association in grades 5 and 6
- 12/5 Administered ELA interim #2 in grades 3, 5 and 6
- 12/5 Math instructional coach worked with grade 3 classes to roll out Zern math program
- 12/6 Math Instructional coach conducted planning session with grade 2 teachers
- 12/7 Conducted ELA Grade 3 DAP meeting

Niagara Street School

- 11/28 Gateway Longview Counselor begins meeting with NSS students and families
- 11/28 Classroom Walk-Throughs continue to look for the 4 NSS Look Fors
- 11/29 START meeting
- 12/1 Grade 5 & 6 Math meeting with Math Coach
- 12/5 Grade 3 & 6 ELA Interim #2
- 12/6 START meeting
- 12/6 Grade 6 DAP meeting
- 12/7 PLC instructional meeting
- 12/8 ELA DAP meeting Grade
- 12/8 Primary Math Dept. meeting
- 12/9 Leadership Team meeting
- 12/12 Niagara Holiday Concert
- 12/12 Grade 5 Interim Assessments
- 12/15 Intermediate Dept. meeting
- 12/15 NCCC College & Career Presentation to grades 5 & 6
- 12/15 Grade 5 ELA DAP meeting

LPS

- Professional development sessions which promoted the integration of Social Studies and literacy were held.
- Held celebrations and monthly assemblies to acknowledge student birthdays, academic achievements, citizenship awards, and attendance awards.
- Two students presented their original poem of encouragement to the entire school body via morning announcements.

Strategic Goal 2: To achieve the highest level of employee cooperation, trust, and empowerment

HR Office

- The Human Resource office has attached some holiday wellness tips and a weekend warrior workout that we hope everyone enjoys.
- We are continuing to fill posted positions and look forward to welcoming staff to new positions.
- Currently we have several openings in the Cafeteria and for Associates.
- We are also continuing to recruit and process substitute teachers.
- Joanne Jordan will be contacting all teachers with certifications that are expected to expire this year. We request that you please contact us if you are in need of any assistance.
- Alicia and Mary Beth will be working on open enrollment early in the new year. We will be back to you periodically with updates.
- Our next Breakfast with Benefits will be held January 27th with a speaker from the Alzheimer's Association.
- Please contact Mary Brandy or Diana Restaino if you are in need of assistance with HR Forms such as name change.
- Judy Wiley is the person to contact if you need assistance with leave of absence paperwork, or processing your personal business day and vacation forms, please also utilize AESOP when registering absences by calling AESOP at 1-800-942-3767 or by logging on to www.aesopeducation.com.
- Lynn and Tina continue to be quite busy as the Registration Office is registering new students everyday.

5 Health Tips for the Holiday Season

By Lisa Druxman

December is usually synonymous with an abundance of eating and a lack of exercise. We want to encourage you to start this New Year on the right foot. The holidays are a time for



celebration and family, not to put on weight. It's almost as if we've come to accept that we are going to put on 10 pounds during each holiday season.

Celebration doesn't have to mean gluttonous eating, or deprivation for that matter. It's time to bring the focus back to the purpose of the holiday. Enjoy your friends and family, the time off and the traditions of the holidays.

The holiday season might not be a time to lose weight, but it doesn't have to be a time to lose your health. The key is to go into the holidays with a plan. Here are five ways to keep your health over the holidays.

Tip #1: Shop Well For Yourself

It is more important than ever to stock your kitchen with healthy foods. Have healthy snacks handy. The more convenient they are, the more likely you are to eat them. Instead of thinking about what you shouldn't eat, promise to eat your 3 to 5 servings of vegetables each day.

Tips #2: Schedule Your Exercise

Your schedule will be very hectic this holiday season. Schedule your workouts just as you would any other appointment. It's ok if you can't make it to class, but make sure that you get some activity in at least three days per week.

Tip #3: Just Say No

You probably aren't aware how much extra food you consume just from people offering it to you. A sample at the market here, an extra cookie at an office party there and it all adds up. Just think twice before you take that food and decide if you really want it.

Tip #4: Skip the Baking

Do you make baked goods for giving? Chances are you eat much of what you bake. Who wouldn't? Instead make non-food gifts, or prepare ingredients for baked goods and put them in pretty jars--let your gift recipient bake it up. That way, they can eat it when they want it and you don't have to be tempted in the kitchen.

Tip #5: Hydrate

Keep your water bottle with you at all times. You should be drinking eight, 8-oz glasses of water each day. One handy trick is to buy a 64 ounce water jug. Fill it up in the morning and know that you need to finish it by the end of the day.

Lisa Druzman, M.A., the creator of Stroller Strides, is a nationally recognized speaker, author and highly regarded expert in the field of pre/postnatal fitness. Stroller Strides is a total fitness program for new moms that they can do with their babies. It includes power walking and intervals of body toning, using exercise tubing and the stroller. Taught by trained instructors, it's a great workout for any level of fitness. For information on classes or franchising, visit www.strollerstrides.com or call 866-348-4666.

BODY WEIGHT WORKOUT

25 HIGH KNEES

10 CRUNCHES

25 JUMPING JACKS

7 BURPEES

5 PUSHUPS

7 SQUATS

5 PUSH UPS

10 CRUNCHES

5 PUSH UPS

7 SQUATS

30 HIGH KNEES

1 MINUTE WALL SIT

5 PUSH UPS

30 JUMPING JACKS

REPEAT 3 TIMES FOR MAX RESULTS

Niagara Street School

- 12/1 Review teacher survey results regarding NSS SCEP plan initiatives

79th

- Building committee met to plan and discuss any building issues needing to be addressed. Minutes are shared and distributed.
- Principal continues Wow and Wonders to celebrate the positives from her classroom visits

Strategic Goal 3: To effectively control financial costs while maintaining quality education.

Purchasing

- Did you know? Almost halfway through the year your Purchasing Department has processed 2,495 POs, and 152 Warehouse requisitions; averaging 113 POs/wk, and 7 Warehouse requisition/wk.
- 2) As a friendly reminder to the Buildings' personnel responsible for entry of vendor supply requisitions, please be certain to include shipping when necessary, should you have a question regarding shipping from a vendor feel free to contact the Purchasing Office at Ext. 64214, or 64213.
- 3) As always, anyone who would like a Purchasing Handbook for her/his reference, kindly contact the Purchasing Office at Ext. 64214, or 64213.

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- Platters sale ends December 7th.
- Rainforest Assembly on November 29.

GJ Mann

Niagara Street School

- 11/30 Parent Group decorated Niagara Street stage for the holidays
- 12/9 Kiwanis Club comes to give free dictionaries to grade 3

Strategic Goal 4: To achieve the highest level of partnerships with our community

Public Relations:

- Tape Superintendent's Report
- Write January newsletter
- Began work on Welcome to the World packet for NFMMC babies
- Update social media/website
- Successfully get medi acoverage/placement of LTE, etc.
- Worked extensively on MLK

- *See attached press release for information on our MLK speaker.*

79th Street

- Donations to Roswell Park's Carly's Club in memory of Jessica Stone continue with School Spirit day. Our total for spirit days to date is approx. \$672.00
- Positive phone call/contact initiative continues
- Bald For Bucks Beginning December through February
- Holiday Shop for Children December 12-14th

Cataract Elementary

- We received donations from the NFFD To assist with selected families Christmas needs
- We received a very generous donation from Mr. John Stepian, a retired school counselor, that will provide toys to many of our students this holiday season.
- Our 4th graders will be going to Unifrax, one of our business partners, to decorate their facility with their holiday art projects. Our school chorus will also be going to perform.

Maple:

- 12/9 Our Lady of Peace partner visit for Kindness Essay winners

Niagara Street School

- 12/2 Niagara Street Business Association Holiday party at Gill Creek & Niagara Street School
- 12/14 Parent Group meeting

LPS

- Assistant Principal attended the BULYP (Buffalo Urban League Young Professionals) Conference where pedagogical strategies, specific for urban students of color, were explored. Issues and concerns affecting the education of Black and Brown urban youth were also discussed.
- A group of approximately 40 LaSalle Prep students attended a field trip to see the Buffalo Bills practice at the New Era Field. This trip was sponsored by the Fuel Up to Play 60 campaign which promotes healthier living and healthier life choices.

Strategic Goal 5: To provide, integrate, and promote technology throughout all facets of our organization.

IS Department

- Report cards for Grades 3-12 were mailed on December 1. The new Primary (grades K-2) will be mailed on December 19th. The Pre-K report cards go out at the end of the 20 week marking period.

- The District wireless network will be upgraded during the winter recess to address some performance problems we have been experiencing.

Niagara Street School

- 12/5 IS begins to install new office desktop computers

LPS

Upcoming Events:

NSS:

- 12/7 Kindergarten Touch tank and Grade 2 Field Trip to see play
- 12/9 Grade 3 to Nutcracker
- 12/16 Holiday Shirt Day

Maple:

- 12/12 Investigations planning day with pilot teachers Nancy Scirto, Michele Walker, Trisha LaSota and Marquette Hunter
- 12/14 ELA Grade 6 DAP meeting
- 12/15 ELA Grade 5 DAP meeting
- 12/15 LT meeting
- 12/16 Holiday Concert
- 12/19 Morning Program celebrating Students of the Month, Do The Right Thing awardees and Maple Champions
- 12/19 Faculty meeting
- 12/21 START meeting

NIAGARA FALLS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
630 66TH STREET
NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14304



PRESS RELEASE DECEMBER 7, 2016

Wikipedia: "In 1956, forty black students applied for transfers to a white school. This was after the passing of the Pearsall Plan in North Carolina. At 15 years of age, on 4 September 1957, Dorothy Counts was one of the four black students enrolled at various all-white schools in the district. She was at Harry Harding High School,

Charlotte, North Carolina.^[2] Three students were enrolled at other schools, including Central High School. The harassment started when the wife of John Z. Warlick, the leader of the White Citizens Council, urged the boys to "keep her out" and at the same time, implored the girls to spit on her, saying, "spit on her, girls, spit on her." Dorothy walked by without reacting, but told the press that many people threw rocks at her—most of which landed in front of her feet—and that many spat on her back.... after four days of extensive harassment—which included a smashed car and having her locker ransacked, her father decided to take his daughter out of the school."

On January 19, 2017, Dorothy Counts Scoggins will be the guest speaker in Niagara Falls at the annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Celebration.

The Niagara Falls City School District, National Federation for Just Communities of WNY, Inc., the Niagara Falls Housing Authority, Niagara Falls Police Department, Niagara County Leg. Owen Steed, Families and Children's Services of Niagara, the Niagara Gazette, and Leadership Niagara are proud to welcome Ms. Counts Scoggins to the annual event, at 6pm at Niagara Falls High School, 4455 Porter Road.

The Civil Rights Achievement Award will be presented to Bill Bradberry; the Spirit of Dr. King Award will be presented to Ron Anderluh. Honored with the Youth Civil Rights Achievement Award will be NFHS student Grace Stewart.

The event is free and open to the public.

((30))

Contact:

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