



## November, 2015 Family Newsletter

Hello New Century Families,



### UPCOMING EVENTS

As part of the weekly Cool Tool Review I conduct with each class at NCS, we have talked about the greatness quality traits of being thankful and showing gratitude. This is American Education Week. We have reviewed the greatness of each of our classroom teachers and will have some of those ideas represented on our hallway bulletin board to share. Students also discussed how they can show gratitude at school and at home. During this Thanksgiving season, I hope you see some of that discussion come to light in your homes. Among many ideas, we talked about simply saying, "Thank you," for the many gifts of things, time, and love that you share with your children. We also touched upon taking on chores cheerfully and how each of our students is of age to help contribute to daily chores or tasks in some way. Allow me to conclude with expressing my gratitude to each of you for choosing New Century School. We have a great school, largely because of the great families which comprise such an important part of our school community. Thank you.

With Warm Regards,

Mr. Jim Ruder,  
NCS Director

Nov. 20	Holiday Wreath & Swag Orders & Payments Due Today
Nov.25-27	<b><u>NO SCHOOL (THANKSGIVING)</u></b>
Nov. 30- Dec. 4	Holiday Wreath and Swag Fundraiser Pick-Up at Blooms
Dec. 2	Food Drive Collection Day
Dec. 7	<b>ORDER PICK-UP FOR Equal Exchange and Taste of WI/REAP. ALSO, VIEWING Online Silent Auction items (2:30-6:00 pm)</b>
Dec. 7-13	<b>BIDDING on Silent Auction items - One Week Only!</b>
Dec. 8	<b>Diversity/Equity Committee Meeting (6:30-7:45 pm)</b>
Dec. 9	<b>NCS Community Gathering 7:45 am in the Step Room</b>
Dec. 9	<b>LAST Food Drive Collection Day</b>
Dec. 13	<b>BIDDING ENDS at 9:00 pm for Online Silent Auction</b>
Dec.15&16	<b>ORDER PICK-UP for Online Silent auction (2:30-7:00 pm)</b>
Dec. 16	<b>"Celebration of the Asian Continent" Event (12:30-2:20pm) (Diversity &amp; Equity Committee)</b>
Dec. 23- Jan. 3	<b><u>NO SCHOOL (WINTER BREAK)</u></b>
Jan. 4	<b>School Resumes</b>

May 3	NCS Art Show (6:00 pm) and Spring Concert (6:30 pm)
June 2	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation (5:45-6:30 pm) in the Step Room
June 2	NCS Family Ice Cream Social (6:30-7:15 pm)
June 3	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Evening Party at NCS



**IMPORTANT: PARTICIPATE IN GLACIER EDGE OVERCROWDING SURVEY**

PLEASE CONTINUE TO REFER TO THE NCS PARENT GOOGLE CALENDAR AND THE NCS WEB PAGE ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE ([nccs.verona.k12.wi.us](http://nccs.verona.k12.wi.us)) FOR INFORMATION ON WHEN CLASSES HAVE GYM, LIBRARY, FIELD TRIPS, AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS AND FOR OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS AND MEETINGS AT NCS.

It will be very important for NCS families to participate in an upcoming survey which the Verona Area School District will be sending out soon. The Verona Area School Board must decide in January how to relieve the overcrowding at Glacier Edge School for next school year. The survey will give you an opportunity to express your thoughts about the possibility of having New Century School relocated to make room for Glacier Edge students to join Sugar Creek School. Our site council has long expressed interest in possibly moving to a space in or next to a middle school, so that we could expand our programming through middle school. However, this relocation may not include that desired benefit. Our NCS Site Council is strongly opposed to a move to another elementary school, which also may experience overcrowding in another few years and create the need for another relocation. Please be ready to express your opinions through the survey opportunity. Thank you. Mr. Jim Ruder, Director

**Happy Thanksgiving!**



**NO SCHOOL NEXT WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, AND FRIDAY, NOV.25-27, FOR THANKSGIVING BREAK**

Happy Thanksgiving! We will have NO SCHOOL on Nov. 25-27. School will resume with Late Start Monday on Nov.30<sup>th</sup>.



**NO EARLY RELEASE BEFORE WINTER BREAK**

**WINTER BREAK** begins on Wednesday, Dec. 23 for **all** Verona Area School District schools. There will be NO early release the day before Winter Break as they have done in past years. We will look forward to seeing students when school resumes at **9:25 AM** on Monday, January 4, 2015.



### OUTDOOR CLOTHING

Please take a moment to write your child's name on all coats, hats, mittens and snow pants and boots. If they are lost, we can return them to your child. Otherwise, they get put in the lost and found, sometimes never to be found again.

It has been a mild fall season. Our school policy is that when the temperature is below 50 degrees, students need to wear some sort of coat or jacket out to recess. Layers are encouraged, as they can be added or shed depending on the temperature.

When the winter cold weather does hit us (and it will!!!), all students need to be wearing winter coats, hats, and gloves.

**Once it starts SNOWING, SNOW PANTS are mandatory for K-3 students and suggested for 4-5 students.**

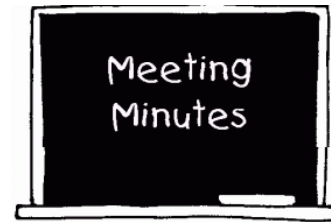
**In the snow, ALL STUDENTS MUST wear SNOW BOOTS for recess to be able to sled and play in the snow, including 4-5 students.**

*In order to keep our school clean and safe, **outdoor snow boots cannot be worn in the school building. Students will need to change to shoes when returning from recess.***

If your family needs assistance with winter clothing, please contact our social worker, Ms. Wagner, at 845-4141 or Mr. Ruder at 845-4910.

### DONATIONS NEEDED: WATERPROOF SNOW GLOVES/MITTENS, SNOW PANTS, COATS, AND SNOW BOOT

As you are going through last year's winter clothes for your student and find that some things are too small this year, please consider donating them to NCS. We have some students who are in need and we also have need for extras for recess time. If you are able to donate some things, that would be very helpful. Thank you!



### INTERESTED IN BEING MORE INFORMED AND READING OUR SITE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES?

Each month, a dedicated group of NCS parents and staff (the NCS Site Council) meets to make decisions regarding our school to make it the best possible learning community for your child(ren). Details regarding the decisions made and planning for upcoming needs, events, ... can be found in the monthly NCS Site Council Minutes that are posted on the NCS web page on the district website.

To access this web page, go to:

<http://nccs.verona.k12.wi.us/>

The most current Site Council Minutes are listed on the bottom right under "Announcements." Current as well as past Site Council Minutes can also be found by clicking on the "For Parents" small circle, which is one of the 8 small circles lined up across the page. Then just click on whichever month's Site Council Minutes you are interested in viewing. They are at the bottom of that listing. It's easy! Click [HERE](#) to go there now!



**ONLY 2 MORE WEEKS LEFT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE VASD FOOD DRIVE!**

NCS is making a good impact on helping the district reach its goal of 25,000 pounds of food! Thank you to all of you parents who have been sending in food donations! We only have two more Wednesdays of food collections in December, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> and Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Suggested food items for:**

**Dec. 2:** oatmeal, pancake mix and syrup, jelly (no glass), and dish soap.

**Dec. 9:** chunk pineapple, tuna, spaghetti sauce (no glass), noodles, and toothpaste (no travel).



**DIVERSITY AND EQUITY COMMITTEE UPCOMING EVENTS**

We are excited to announce our next all school event, "Celebrating the Continent of Asia"! This interactive and informative event will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, from 12:30-2:20 pm. As always, parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. If you are available to help, please talk to Isabel Agasie [isabel.agasie@gmail.com](mailto:isabel.agasie@gmail.com), Karen Pings [kpings@live.com](mailto:kpings@live.com) or Jen Polglaze [jpolglaze@gmail.com](mailto:jpolglaze@gmail.com) ASAP. We appreciate your participation and support to this event. Thanks!

We would love your input and help on future events, so please consider joining the Diversity & Equity Committee and

help make our mission a success! Our next meeting is on: December 8, Tuesday, from 6:30-7:45 pm at NCS in the Integrated Arts Room. We hope to see you!



**NCS SPRING CONCERT & ART SHOW SAVE THE DATE: EVENING OF MAY 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Here is some advanced notice for our annual NCS Spring Concert and Art Show. It will be held on Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, in the evening at the Performing Arts Center at the Verona Area High School. This is a wonderful way to celebrate our students and the special things they are doing in our integrated arts program. The Art Show will begin at 6:00 pm followed by the Spring Concert at 6:30 pm.



**SAVE THE DATE: 5<sup>th</sup> GRADE GRADUATION ON JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup> AT 5:45 pm FOLLOWED BY THE ALL SCHOOL NCS FAMILY ICE CREAM SOCIAL AT 6:30 PM**

NCS will hold its graduation ceremony to congratulate its 5<sup>th</sup> graders on Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 5:45 p.m. All NCS parents and students are invited to attend the ceremony in the Sugar Creek Step Room. It will be followed by the All School NCS Family Ice Cream Social Night at 6:30 pm at NCS. Come join us in celebrating!



**ARCHITECTS, PLANNERS, AND DESIGN PROFESSIONAL MENTORS NEEDED AS NCS PREPARES FOR TERRACE TOWN AGAIN THIS YEAR!**

NCS students will again be participating in the biennial Terrace Town program held at the Monona Terrace, which challenges students to design and construct box models of sustainable communities. It aims to teach how communities are planned, what makes a quality community, and how people participate in the improvement of their built environment.

Teachers work in partnership with volunteer "mentors"-architects, planners, and design professionals-to facilitate the students' work over several months. The volunteer "mentors" are real assets, bringing real world experience and expertise to each project. Mentors are asked to make 4-6 visits to classrooms over the duration of the program. Some of the most dedicated mentors are often parents and grandparents with students in the program. Mentors will share their experience and knowledge with students in the classroom January through April. The program will culminate on April 21, 2016 when Dane County classes will construct their Box Cities at Monona Terrace. On April 23, the public is invited to tour Terrace Town and participate in hands-on family activities related to architecture and community design. Mentor service entails: • Attend training to learn presentation techniques and activities for an elementary classroom on Tuesday, December 1, 5:00-6:30pm. •

Attend a kick-off workshop with teachers to begin discussion on working together. Monday, January 11, 4:30-7:30pm. • Commit to a minimum of four 45-minute visits to a classroom and facilitate design and construction activities. Activity themes include: green buildings, zoning and land use, transportation options, architectural features, among others. • Acquire resources, including city maps, zoning charts, and photographs of buildings for classroom use. • Assist in construction and attending the ribbon-cutting ceremony on April 21 ("School Build Day"). • Speakers must arrange their own transportation to the schools for visits. What makes a great mentor? A great mentor has the right mix of enthusiasm and a willingness to learn delivery styles appropriate for an elementary classroom. Mentors must be able to schedule their visits during school time (typically within the hours of 9-2:30) in advance and keep commitments.

For more information, please contact: Heather Sabin, Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center (608) 261-4015 [hsabin@mononaterrace.com](mailto:hsabin@mononaterrace.com)



**FUNDRAISING DEADLINES TO KEEP IN MIND**

See the [Fall Fundraising Update](#) for more details! It is attached to the newsletter email along with this newsletter. You can also access it on the NCS web page on the district website (<http://nccs.verona.k12.wi.us>) under "Announcements."

## EQUAL EXCHANGE AND TASTE OF WISCONSIN

ITEM PICK UP: MONDAY, DEC. 7<sup>th</sup>, from 2:30-6:00 pm in the NCS Integrated Arts room.

ONLINE SILENT AUCTION items will also be displayed for viewing when you pick up your Equal Exchange and REAP orders. This is the FIRST DAY of BIDDING for all Online Silent Auction items!



### SILENT AUCTION

NOW until Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>: Donate your items in the collection bin in the NCS office.

Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>: View auction items in person at NCS during REAP/Equal Exchange pick up.

Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 pm: **BID!** Make your bids online at:

<http://newcenturycharterschool.org/>

If you don't have internet access, you can call Katie Kohl at (608) 807-7188.

Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> 9:00 pm: Bidding closes.

Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, 2:30 pm - 7:00 pm: Pick up items at school.

### **MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

There are lots of ways you can help in addition to donating items to auction off. Click [HERE](#) for the Online Silent Auction SignUp Genius.

If you have any questions, email Katie Kohl at [kohlkatie@yahoo.com](mailto:kohlkatie@yahoo.com).



### HOLIDAY GREENERY

ORDERS and PAYMENTS DUE: Friday, Nov. 20<sup>TH</sup> (TODAY!)

PICK-UP: Nov. 30-Dec.4 at Blooms (205 S. Main St, Verona - across from Miller's)



### SCHOOL DISTRICT UNVEILS WEATHER PLAN AS TEMPS WILL SOON DROP

Letter from our District Superintendent:

It's that time of year again to send you this letter detailing our decision-making protocols for determining if there will be a weather related school delay or cancellation.

We watch the weather very closely during the winter months. On nights when weather is forecasted to cause any issues that might impact the safety of our students arriving at school, we are actively assessing the situation by 4:00 a.m. and strive to make a decision on any delay or cancellation before 6:00 a.m. Once a decision is made about a closure or delayed start time, this information is posted on our website, broadcast on local TV and radio stations and sent to parents using our district-wide messaging system known as SchoolMessenger. We will use SchoolMessenger to send each parent in our database a text message and an email (No Phone calls will be made). If your contact information has changed since you last reviewed it during the online summer registration process, please call your school office to inform them of the changes.

For snow events, a representative from our bus company and I independently drive the roads in different parts of our school district to assess driving conditions. Additionally, I am in contact with a local meteorologist who provides a thorough summary of current and predicted weather conditions. Additionally, I am in conversation with other superintendents in neighboring school districts to compare reports. Particularly I speak with my colleagues in Middleton, Oregon and Mount Horeb and often get calls from other superintendents around the area. Please know that the bus route terrain for each school district varies widely so a neighboring school district such as Mount Horeb may decide to delay or cancel school because their rural roads are on more steep/curvy terrain and/or more susceptible to drifting than our bus routes.

For cold weather, it is the wind chill factor that we watch closely. If the cold temperatures and wind generates a Wind Chill Warning (defined by the National Weather Service as -35 degrees Fahrenheit sustained wind chill) we will close for the day, or we will consider a delayed start if the warning will be lifted in the mid-morning hours. We will hold school during a wind-chill advisory.

Finally, if there is ever a time that we hold school/school event and you do not feel it is in the best interest of your child to attend based on your assessment of the weather, please know that it is always your choice to keep your child at home. Please communicate with the school office if you make this decision as a parent.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about weather related delays/cancellations. Best wishes to you and your family for a wonderful holiday season.

Most Sincerely,  
Dean Gorrell  
Superintendent

For your convenience, this district Weather Plan is also on the NCS web page on the district website under "Announcements."



### **GO ONLINE NOW TO SEE UPCOMING COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

There are lots of fun things happening in Verona/Fitchburg for your families in the next month:

visit <http://www.verona.k12.wi.us/communityactivities> to fill your calendar with fun!



### **NCS RECEIVES MONEY FOR PHYS ED PROGRAM FROM TRI 4 SCHOOLS EVENTS**

Thanks to everyone who signed their child up for a Tri 4 Schools event this past year! Just got an email today that New Century will be receiving a record \$611.10 towards our physical education program! All of the VASD elementary PE teachers also applied for a \$1,000 district grant through Tri 4 Schools. If we get it, we'll collectively have \$5,000 to replace the 30+ year old gymnastics equipment that we currently use.



**JINGLE BELL RUN/WALK**  
**ON DEC. 12 AT THE**  
**VERONA AREA HIGH SCHOOL**

Be a part of the largest holiday 5K race series aimed to fight arthritis!

Chosen as one of the Most Incredible Themed Races, Jingle Bell Run/Walk for Arthritis is a fun and festive way to kick off your holidays by helping others! Wear a holiday themed costume. Tie jingle bells to your shoelaces. Raise funds to help find a cure for arthritis, the nation's leading cause of disability. Run or walk a 5K, 10K or 1-mile route with your team members and celebrate the season by giving.

See more at: <http://goo.gl/ZWlyW5>

**THE NURSE'S CORNER**



**IS YOUR CHILD WELL ENOUGH TO**  
**BE AT SCHOOL?**

It is not always easy to decide if your child is sick enough to stay home or well enough to be in school. Children who come to school are expected to participate fully in school activities, including recess and physical education. A doctor's note is required for any activity restriction.

Here are some guidelines that might help in decision making:

1. **FEVER:** A fever of 100 degrees F (37.7 degrees C) or more signals an illness that is probably going to make a student uncomfortable and unable to function well in class. Your child should stay home until he/she is feeling better. Keep your child home until his/her fever has been gone for 24 hours without medication.
2. **VOMITING, DIARRHEA OR SEVERE NAUSEA:** These are symptoms that require a student to remain at home until a normal diet is tolerated the night before and the morning of school.
3. **INFECTIOUS DISEASE:** Diseases such as impetigo and strep throat require a doctor's examination and prescription for medication. Contacting the doctor and using the medication as directed for the full recommended length of time are necessary. Once the medication has been started (at least 3 doses) and the child is feeling well, he/she may return to school.
4. **RASHES:** Rashes and patches of broken, itchy skin need to be examined by a doctor if they appear to be spreading or not improving. We may require that a rash be covered while your child is in school.
5. **INJURIES:** If a student has an injury that causes continuous discomfort, the student should not attend school until a doctor checks the condition, or it improves. Injuries that interfere with class participation need medical evaluation. If participation in physical education classes is not recommended, a physician's excuse is required. Any pain medication that is required **MUST** be brought in by a parent/guardian





## **LICE OUTLOOK**

One of the best things you can do for prevention of or early detection of lice is inspection of your child's head daily for signs of lice or nits. Other symptoms to be on the lookout for are itching and scratch marks on your child's head.

**What are you looking for?** Live lice are shades of brown, small with legs and they move very quickly on the scalp (they don't like light). Nits are the eggs. They range from clear to whitish gray to brown and are close to the scalp and stick to the hair shaft (you can't flick them away or wash them out).

### **What should you do if you find lice or nits and have never been treated?**

1. Treat
2. Remove all nits
3. Inspect family members and other close contacts
4. Clean environment
5. Continue to inspect your child's head daily and remove all nits

Lice shampoos do not kill all of the nits, they are meant to kill live bugs. PLEASE pick out nits after any treatment. It will take a lot of time but it will prevent further spread. Children will be sent home from school if live lice are found or if a significant number of nits are found. Parents must notify the school, day care providers and friends if lice are found. Parents will be notified of newly reported cases in the classroom.

### **What should you do to avoid getting head lice?**

1. Frequently examine family members for lice and nits.
2. Wash hair daily and use a hot hair dryer for drying.
3. Avoid physical contact with anyone who has head lice.
4. DO NOT share combs, pillows, hats or any items worn in the hair.
5. Store hats in book bags or coat sleeves during the school day.

Contact your school nurse with any questions about detection or treatment. A website with pictures and accurate information is: <http://www.headlice.org>.

Lice are spread by direct head to head /hair to hair contact. Talk to your child about keeping a hand's distance between their head and the heads of others. Remind them not to share hats, clothing, pillows, hair accessories, brushes, or combs with others.

VASD Nurses