



## September, 2014 Family Newsletter

Greetings NCS Families,

Our new school year has been off to a great start!! It has been fun to see returning students extend friendly welcomes to our new students. Positive classroom climates are growing richer and deeper every day. We feel this will lay a great foundation for the learning ahead.

Please be sure to attend our Back to School Night next week, Thursday, Sept. 18 at 6:00 pm. You are welcome to have your children attend if you need to. We will have high school volunteers on hand to supervise students on the playground, if the weather is agreeable. In the event of rain, we will run a movie in the lunch room at Sugar Creek. If you need to bring children under 4 with you, we will ask for them to stay with their parents.

While children play on the playground, all parents will meet in the Sugar Creek STEP room at 6:00 pm for some general messages about the NCS Report Card Results, our new Discipline Plan, Learner's Pledge, and Think About It Sheets. We will also receive updates from Site Council members on exciting news about our STEM grant. By 6:20 pm, we expect that you will be meeting with grade level teachers back in classrooms for a 30 minute orientation with the teachers. At 6:50 pm, teachers will repeat the same information for those of you with children in different classes.

Thanks for taking the time to attend this meeting. We will start promptly at 6:00 pm.

Thanks again for sending your child to New Century School! We are very excited for the prospects of a great school year ahead. We are really excited to have Mrs. Jennifer Klawiter, Mr. Scott Pelton, and Mrs. Katy Freye join our staff. Please note the enclosed message from Mrs. Fortney. If any students or families would like to extend a letter or card to her, we would be happy to forward them to Mrs. Fortney through our school office. Thanks again!

With Warm Regards,  
Jim Ruder  
NCS Director



### UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 18	NCS Back to School Night from 6:00 pm to 7:20 pm
Oct. 8 (morning)	Picture Retake Day (Call the NCS office for an order form)
Oct. 21	Last Day of Swimming
Oct. 20	Report Cards Go Home
Oct. 24	Conference Goal Setting Sheets Due
Oct. 28	Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences
Oct. 30	<b><u>NO SCHOOL</u></b> Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences
Oct. 31 and Nov. 3	<b><u>NO SCHOOL</u></b>



## BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

NCS Back-to-School Night on Thursday Sept. 18 begins at 6:00 pm. Parents will meet in the Sugar Creek Step Room to kick off our evening. Then we will transition to the classrooms. We will be reviewing academic and behavioral expectations in the classroom and how families can support these expectations at home. Teachers will share the same information around 6:50 pm for families who may have other children across different grades. The evening will end around 7:20 pm.

If you need to bring your children, supervision will be provided for children age 4 and older on the playground, weather permitting. A movie in the lunch room at Sugar Creek will be provided in the event of rain. If you need to bring children under 4 with you, we will ask for them to stay with their parents.



## PICTURE RETAKE DAY IS OCT. 8<sup>TH</sup>

Picture Retake Day is Wednesday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>. Brochures/order forms with picture packages and prices will ONLY go home with those students whose parents have requested a brochure/order form from the NCS school office. So, if you would like your child's school picture retaken or if your child was absent on Picture Day (Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>), please call or email the school office for a form. If you are having pictures retaken, Lifetouch asks that you bring in your original picture package and return it on Picture Retake Day. Please also send in

your payment and completed order form on Retake Day. Remember, purchase of any school photos is entirely optional.



## GOOD-BYE LETTER FROM MRS. FORTNEY

Dear New Century Parents and Staff, New Century is a family. It is the family feeling that makes the school special and unique. I have been lucky to be part of that family for eighteen years. It is with mixed emotions that I begin my retirement. I will miss all of you. It will seem strange not to be a part of the exciting changes facing our school. I had long planned to retire at the end of the 2014-15 school year. With the excitement of the STEM grant (thank you Katie for your efforts in securing the grant) and the charter renewal, I made the decision to retire now. This will allow my replacement the opportunity to start on the ground floor rather than stepping in later in the process.

Love to you all.

Susan Fortney



## REPORT CARDS COMING HOME

OCT. 20

On Monday, Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>, NCS teachers will be sending home Fall Assessment Summaries for all students. Enclosed in the manila envelope with the Fall Assessment Summary will be a "Goal Setting Sheet" for you to complete with your child and return to your child's teacher by Friday, Oct. 24.



## PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT CONFERENCES: OCT 28 & 30

Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences will be held on Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> and Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>.

More information will be coming in a few weeks in your child's Friday folder.



## EMAIL BOTH OFFICE SECRETARIES

When emailing the NCS school office regarding your child having an appointment, going home a different way from school or any other important matters, please remember to email BOTH secretaries at the following email addresses:

Tammy Stump at

[Tammy.Stump@verona.k12.wi.us](mailto:Tammy.Stump@verona.k12.wi.us)

And Michelle Bishop at

[Michelle.Bishop@verona.k12.wi.us](mailto:Michelle.Bishop@verona.k12.wi.us)

That way they are both made aware of anything concerning your child. Thank you!



## SMARTER BALANCED ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL SETTING

Smarter Balanced Achievement Level Setting is coming up. Achievement Level Setting is the process for establishing cut scores on an assessment, making it possible to create categories of performance. During this process, participants review test questions and recommend achievement level scores that establish challenging and fair expectations for students. Smarter Balanced is inviting educators and other stakeholders nationwide to participate in

the [Online Panel for Achievement Level Setting](#) to provide feedback on the new assessments. The online panel results will provide critical information to Smarter Balanced member states, with capacity for thousands of teachers, higher education faculty, parents and others as they establish achievement levels for the new assessments.

Recommendations from the Online Panel will be shared with groups who will meet face to face to consider achievement levels for each subject and grade and later with groups who will meet to consider achievement levels across grades 3-8 and high school. Policymakers in Governing States will have access to recommendations from both the online and in-person panels as they make the final decisions on achievement levels.

The online panel that will be occurring between October 6 and 17 will allow participants to contribute their expertise and recommend the achievement level score in English Language Arts or Mathematics that will indicate students are on-track to college and career readiness. The online panel participation process is simple and will take less than three hours over a two day window. Please [visit the Smarter Balanced website](#) to learn more about the Online Panel and register to participate in this process. **The deadline to register is Friday, September 19.** If you have questions, contact:

Jennifer Teasdale  
Education Program Specialist  
Office of Student Assessment  
125 S Webster Street  
Madison, WI 53702  
[608-266-5193](tel:608-266-5193)



### WANT TO JOIN THE CUB SCOUTS?

Attend the CUB SCOUT PACK 549 meeting and experience thrill, adventure and unforgettable friendships!

Location: Glacier Edge School

When: 3rd Thursday Of Each Month

Time: 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Visit Our Website At

<http://pack549verona.blogspot.com/>



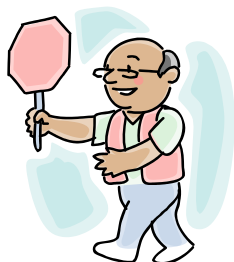
### LATE START ON ALL MONDAYS

New Century School has late start on ALL Mondays during the school year. Please make sure this is noted on your calendar. On Mondays, the first bell rings at **9:15** am. and school starts at **9:25** am.



### SCHOOL START TIMES

This is a reminder that the school day begins at **7:45** am Tuesday through Friday, and **9:25** am on Mondays. That means that all students must be in their classroom and ready to learn at those times. Students who enter after that time will be marked Tardy. Please do your best to have your child(ren) on time each day. This will help both teachers and students to start each day smoothly. We allow the students to enter the building at 7:35am Tuesday through Friday and at 9:15 am on Monday to enable them have time to get ready for class. So, getting them here at these earlier times is advisable.



### START AND END OF DAY ROAD SAFETY

It can be a very busy time dropping off and picking up your child(ren) at NCS. Of course, it is the most safe and convenient to park in front of NCS to drop off and pick up children. If you do end up parking across the street, please take the time to walk to the cross walk where the crossing guard can help you and your child(ren) cross safely. Jaywalking when you park across the street is very unsafe and should be avoided. We have had near accidents in the past due to jaywalking.

So, please be safe by making sure you are **only** crossing the street **at the cross walk with the crossing guard.** Also, if you are pulling out into traffic, make sure there is ample distance for you to do so safely.



### NCS SWIMMING LESSONS AT THE NATATORIUM THROUGH OCT 21<sup>ST</sup>

Swimming lessons for New Century Charter School students in grades K through 5 began on Thursday, September 4th, and finish on Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. All students are bussed to the Natatorium for swimming lessons and back to NCS after they have finished.

The school district provides towels for students. Students are permitted to wear their own swimming suits under the following guidelines:

1. The style must be appropriate for swimming.
2. We ask that parents provide some type of plastic bag to store their child's suit in. (Wet suits will cause locker damage.)
3. Children forgetting to bring their suit and plastic bag on their swimming day will be required to wear a suit provided by the Natatorium on that day.

Swimming caps or a ponytail with an elastic band are required for students with hair that is shoulder length or longer. Students may bring caps from home or purchase them (silicone cap) at the pool for \$2.75. Students who would like to use goggles are encouraged to bring their own because the Natatorium has a very small supply and will not have enough to lend to a large number of students.

Below is the swimming schedule. Please note the day your child's class is swimming so you can help them to be prepared for that day. If you have additional questions or concerns about the swimming program, please feel free to contact the office at (608) 845-4905.

#### SWIM SCHEDULE:

##### TUESDAYS:

Mr. Lohr's class: 8:00 am-9:05 am  
Mr. Gundlach's class: 9:00 am-10:05 am  
Ms. Tolleson's class: 10:00 am-11:05 am

##### THURSDAYS:

Mrs. Klawiter's class: 8:00 am-9:05 am  
Mrs. Konop's class: 9:00 am-10:05 am  
Ms. Austen's class: 10:00 am-11:05 am



#### WANT A QUICK WAY TO SEE WHAT IS COMING UP AT NCS? CHECK OUT THE ONLINE NCS CALENDAR!

We have been updating the NCS calendar that is online on the NCS webpage on the Verona Area School District website with new upcoming events at NCS! So check it out if you forget when Back to School Night is, when report cards go home, when Picture Retake Day is, when field trips are scheduled (including online permission slips), when we have off from school, and so much more! We hope that this will make things easier for you! You can access that by going to:

[www.verona.k12.wi.us](http://www.verona.k12.wi.us) and hovering your cursor above "Elementary Schools" which appears just below the first of three large circles with a photo in it. A drop down menu will appear with elementary school names and you click on New Century School. You will be taken to the NCS webpage where you will see a link to click to view the NCS monthly newsletter.



#### HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT NCS POLICIES? CHECK OUT THE NCS FAMILY HANDBOOK NOW ONLINE!

Do you have questions about attendance, parking, classroom parties, electronic devices at school, teacher conferences, or biking to school? The answers to these questions and so much more are found in the NCS Family Handbook. It can be found on the NCS webpage of the Verona Area School District website.



**LET'S HAVE A WARM VERONA  
WINTER BY DONATING AND  
DISTRIBUTING WINTER WEAR!**

The Verona Kiwanis Club is collecting new and gently used winter coats, gloves, hats, and snow pants to be distributed to Verona Area School District children and families in need. To make a donation, please bring your items to one of the many collection bins throughout Verona and Fitchburg.

Collection bins will also be placed at the following schools: Sugar Creek, New Century, Savanna Oaks, Stoner Prairie, Glacier Edge, Badger Ridge, and Core Knowledge. We ask that all donations be clean and in good condition. Donations will be collected through Wednesday, October 22nd, 2014.

Donated items will be available for Verona Area School District families in need on Friday, October 24th from 3:30-6:00pm in the Sugar Creek Elementary School cafeteria (420 Church Avenue, Verona).

There will be entertainment and food provided. Families who need transportation should contact Chris Mand, VASD Social Worker at 845-4733. Families do not need to register or bring identification to participate. This is a FREE event that helps families get the winter apparel they need to stay warm during our cold months!

El Club Kiwanis de Verona está recolectando ropa de invierno nueva o que no haya sido muy usada, tal como: abrigos, guantes, gorras, pantalones para la nieve, etc. para luego distribuirlos a las familias y niños del Distrito Escolar del Área de Verona que los necesiten. Para hacer una donación, por favor lleve la prenda o artículo a uno de los muchos contenedores o depósitos de recolección disponibles en Verona y en Fitchburg. Los mismos estarán ubicados en las siguientes escuelas: Sugar Creek, New Century, Savanna Oaks, Stoner Prairie, Glacier Edge, Badger Ridge, y Core Knowledge. Le pedimos que toda la ropa o prendas que done estén limpias y en buen estado. Todas las donaciones se recogerán regularmente hasta el día miércoles, 22 de octubre de 2014. Todos los artículos donados estarán disponibles para ser repartidos a las familias y niños necesitados del área del distrito escolar de Verona, el viernes, 24 de octubre de 3:30 a 6:00 de la tarde en la cafetería de la Escuela Primaria Sugar Creek (420 Church Avenue, Verona). Habrá entretenimiento y comida. Las familias que necesiten transporte deben llamar a Chris Mand, trabajadora social de VASD al 845-4733. Las familias no tienen que inscribirse ni mostrar una identificación para poder participar. Este es un fabuloso evento y es GRATIS con el fin de poder ayudar a las familias a obtener la ropa de invierno que necesitan para mantenerse abrigados durante los fríos meses invernales.