



a culture of excellence

Publication of the New Prairie United School Corporation

SUMMER 2017



What's Inside:

- Important Back-to-School Dates and Information
- Meet New Prairie Middle School's New Assistant Principal
- Construction Progressing at New Prairie Schools
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We are looking ahead to another outstanding year at New Prairie United School Corporation during the 2017-18 school year. Find out what great things are happening in our corporation in this issue of our corporate newsletter.

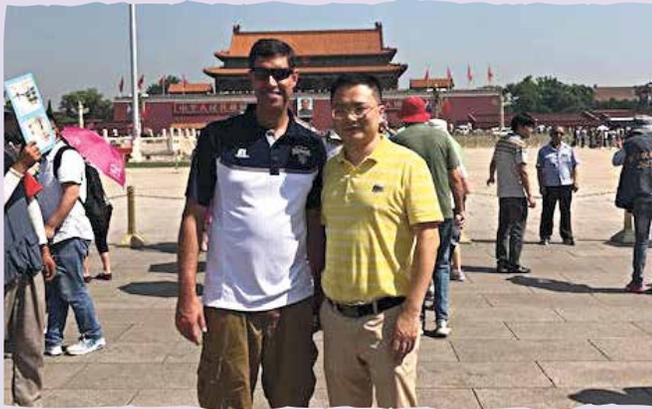
Superintendent's Message

In our summer newsletter you will find helpful information for our transition in getting students back for the 2017-18 school year. As we prepare to begin the coming school year, I am reflecting about how fortunate we are



at New Prairie United Schools in terms of the number of programs and opportunities available for our students and staff. I recently had the opportunity to engage in an exchange trip through our Chinese program. A critical partnership with the Valparaiso University Confucius Institute, partially sponsored by the Chinese government, allows NPUSC to provide Chinese language and culture classes/programs to our students in grades 6-12.

The 8-day tour in June included visiting a sister middle school in the beautiful city of Hangzhou and visiting the Hangzhou University of Technology. I was immediately struck by the hospitality of the Chinese people and their passion and commitment to education.



In June, Dr. Paul White completed an exchange trip through the school's Chinese program.

The experience caused me to reflect on the opportunities and passion of our New Prairie community to provide the very best and diverse educational opportunities for our students. I want to encourage the entire NPUSC community to help our students not only excel and develop strong academic commitment, but also to help our students get involved in and take advantage of the many diverse opportunities NPUSC provides. From our Chinese program to the variety of extracurricular and co-curricular programming we offer both during the school day and after-school hours, NPUSC provides a variety of learning options on par with the largest school systems in Indiana. We should be proud of this accomplishment and encourage our students to take the fullest advantage of the many opportunities we offer.

Thank you again to the NPUSC community for your incredible support of our students, and we look forward to partnering with you to make 2017-18 an outstanding school year.

Yours in Education,
 Dr. Paul White

New School Year

Parent Meetings and Summer Strolls to Kick Off 2017-18 School Year

Welcome back, New Prairie families! We hope you are as excited as we are about the 2017-18 school year. Listed below are the dates and times (all CST) of open houses and summer strolls for all New Prairie schools. We hope to see you there.

- **Rolling Prairie Elementary:** A Title 1 parent meeting will take place at 5:30 p.m. Aug. 8, with a school walk-through following from 6-7 p.m.
- **Olive Elementary:** The summer stroll will take place from 5-6 p.m. Aug. 8.
- **Prairie View Elementary:** A Title 1 parent meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. Aug. 7, with a school walk-through following from 6-7 p.m.
- **New Prairie Middle School:** New student orientation will take place from 5-6 p.m. Aug. 7.
- **New Prairie High School:** A 9th grade open house will begin at 6 p.m. Aug. 7.

Important Things to Note: Registration and iPad Pick-up

New Prairie United School Corp. is excited to announce a switch to a new online program called Infosnap that will be faster and more efficient for new student registration. All families should have received a letter with a code and instructions for accessing the online portal. If you did not receive this information, please contact the school district at (574) 654-7273. All parents and guardians of K-12 students are also invited to attend only one of the following registration events located inside the New Prairie Middle School gymnasium:

Thursday, July 27.....10 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST
 Thursday, Aug. 3..... 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. CST

Through the online portal, parents will have the ability to complete all paperwork (textbook fees, free/reduced lunch application, emergency information, iPad insurance) before they arrive at the registration event. Completing information online will result in short wait times. Families without internet access at home will be able to use computers on site with virtual coaches to assist with the new process. Paper copies of class schedules for secondary students will not be available at the registration events. However, students will be able to access their schedules from PowerSchool before the start of the school year. Parking passes for high school students will be available at each of the registration events.

Parents who cannot make the scheduled registration events can stop by their child's school office after Aug. 4 to access school computers in order to register. Please note that if you cannot attend one of the scheduled registration events, your child will not receive his or her iPad until after the start of school.

All Schools

New Prairie Schools Introduce New Math Curriculum

Parents of New Prairie students may notice that the math homework brought home from school will look a little different this year. That's because New Prairie United School Corp. has adopted a new math series for all grades. Beginning this Fall, students in Grades K-8 will use a program called i-Ready and high school students will use the Pearson math program.

"We're really excited about this change," said NPUSC Assistant Superintendent Dr. Carrie Cannon. "The math will be more rigorous in nature, but it will help equip our teachers and students for the harder-level, more challenging open-ended

questions that align with the new state standards.”

New Prairie’s most recent math series was more than six years old and no longer aligned well with Indiana’s college- and career-readiness standards, which have changed in recent years. Cannon said the new programs will help students engage with math and think differently about how math works. Teachers and schools will be providing parents with additional information about the new math series this fall.

Camp Invention Keeps Students Learning Through Summer Months

Thanks to a 21st Century Community Learning Center grant, New Prairie United School Corp. was able to offer summer programming for students for the fourth summer in a row. From June 5-9, New Prairie students returned to school for a week of learning disguised as fun.

Enrichment programs offered this summer were:

Camp Invention: A nationwide science, technology, engineering and math program that lets students explore a variety of topics in fun, creative and innovative ways. The top priority of Camp Invention is to inspire future innovators and build their confidence in the natural ability to dream and create.

Chef Camp: This program is all about letting students learn and explore in the kitchen. The chefs-in-training cooked daily, created their own recipes and covered important subjects like kitchen safety, nutrition and learning where our food comes from.

Tech Camp: Students used technology to play and explore their creativity. They coded Spheros, a type of robot, to run through an obstacle course, paint and play games. They worked in iMovie to create videos and stop motion movies and learned to code and build their own app.

Great Outdoors Camp: This new program focused on outdoor safety and activities in a fun way, allowing students to take nature hikes, make their own first aid kits and build outdoor games like cornhole and glow-in-the-dark bowling. Students also heard from a local conservation officer.



New Prairie students enjoyed participating in Chef Camp over the summer thanks to a 21st Century Community Learning Center grant.

Construction Corner

We are pleased to announce the renovation work at all three NPUSC Elementary schools is on schedule and progressing as planned.

Rolling Prairie Elementary

- Expanded main office and student health/nurse station
- New meeting spaces for teachers and after-school programming
- New classroom carpet, student storage cabinetry and

- classroom storage
- Expanded student restrooms and cafeteria

Olive and Prairie View Elementary

- New roofing surface
- Secure entry main entrance/office entrance system
- New classroom carpet, student storage cabinetry and classroom storage
- Expanded student restrooms

UPDATE-New Prairie High School and Middle School

The New Prairie High School interior renovation will begin in September 2017. As we shared in the previous newsletter, the addition to New Prairie High School (including the new main office area and new auditorium) and the addition to New Prairie Middle School (gymnasium and classroom addition) is on delay until Spring 2018.

The delay is necessary because portions of the new HS Auditorium must be built in July during a month when it is realistic to restrict student and community access to the high school facility to ensure maximum safety during construction. In order to be ready for July construction such as this, multiple sub-contractors must be identified and scheduled to perform necessary work before completion of this new high school auditorium. It was determined this past spring more time was needed to secure all sub-contractors and ensure all prep work can be completed prior to July auditorium construction. This caused the decision to delay construction of the high school and middle school additions from Spring 2017 to Spring 2018. The NPUSC Renovation Project is still anticipated to be completed on time by December 2019. Also, the delay will not cost NPUSC taxpayers any additional money.

Finally, most are likely aware New Prairie High School sustained damage to the southwest corner of the facility during severe winds on the morning of June 23. A portion of the high school roof, affecting six classrooms in this area of the high school, was damaged or lost. Roof replacement will be completed by late September 2017. A new roof deck and temporary roof surface for this area of the facility has already been completed as of June 30. The affected classrooms will be meeting in other locations unaffected by the storm during the first semester of the 2017-18 school year to ensure maximum safety and renovation capabilities. The interior renovation of NPUSC to begin September of 2017 will be expanded to include these classrooms affected by the storm to return this area to its safest full function as soon as possible.

The NPUSC community may contact Paul White, NPUSC Superintendent, at 219-778-2814 for questions or for more information.

Meet New Prairie Middle School’s New Assistant Principal

Students will see a new face at New Prairie Middle School this fall. New Prairie United School Corp. is proud to announce the hiring of Justin Heinold as the next assistant principal at the middle school.



Justin Heinold

Heinold, the 2006 valedictorian of LaPorte High School, has been an outstanding middle school science and high school chemistry teacher in the Indianapolis area since 2010. Heinold’s accomplishments include serving as a mentor teacher and clinical faculty member of the prestigious STEM Teaching Fellowship at the University of Indianapolis and serving as a mentor teacher in Perry Township Schools. He earned a master’s degree in educational administration and supervision from Ball State University.

“We were very fortunate to land Mr. Heinold, as he has established himself in the Indy area as one of the most dynamic and successful science teachers in central Indiana,” said NPUSC

—Assistant Principal’ continued on page 4

You're Invited

You are invited to attend meetings of the School Board of NPUSC. These meetings are generally conducted at 6 p.m. CST on the third Monday of each month in the Superintendent's Office, 5327 N Cougar Rd., New Carlisle, IN, unless otherwise advertised.

School Board

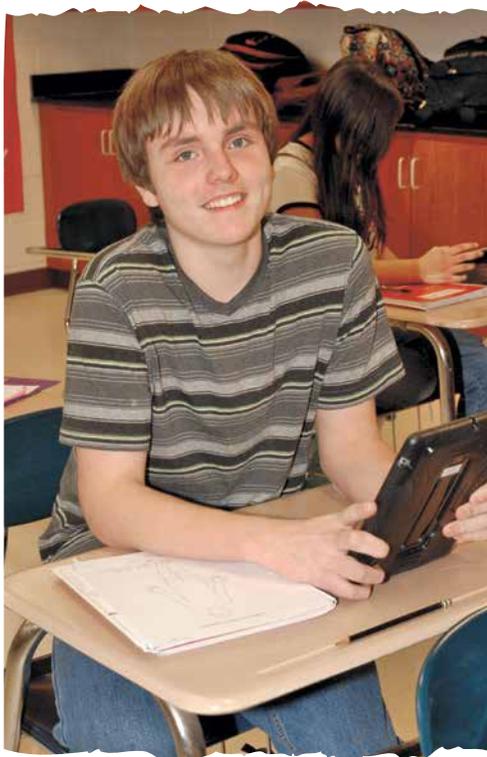
Richard Shail..... President
 Al Williamson..... Vice-President
 Dale Groves.....Secretary
 Phillip King.....Member
 William Romstadt.....Member

Contact Us

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 (219) 778-2814
 New Prairie High School Phone..... (574) 654-7271
 (219) 778-2215
 New Prairie Middle School Phone (574) 654-3070
 (219) 778-4435
 Olive Township Elementary Phone ... (574) 654-7531
 (219) 778-4740
 Prairie Elementary Phone..... (574) 654-7258
 (219) 778-9388
 Rolling Prairie Phone (219) 778-2018

Our Website

www.npusc.k12.in.us



We are looking forward to starting a new school year with success. We hope you are, too!



New Prairie United School Corporation
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'Assistant Principal' continued from page 3—

Superintendent Dr. Paul White. "He comes highly recommended by his past school system and has exhibited outstanding leadership potential in his career. Mr. Heinold places a high priority on family, building relationships, listening and collaborating. I am confident he is a perfect fit for NPMS and our larger school community. NPMS students and faculty will be positively impacted by Mr. Heinold's desire to serve in administration and move home to LaPorte County."

NPUSC Recruiting New Substitute Teachers

New Prairie United School Corp. is in need of additional substitute teachers for the 2017-18 school year. Any community members who want to make a difference in the lives of New Prairie students (even those with limited availability) are encouraged to attend a training and informational meeting at 3:30 p.m. CST Aug. 14 at the Superintendent's Office, 5327 North Cougar Road, New Carlisle, IN 46552. For more information, contact Assistant Superintendent Dr. Carrie Cannon at ccannon@npusc.k12.in.us.

All-School Calendar 2017-18

Aug. 7-8.....	Teacher Work Days
Aug. 9.....	First Day for Students
Sept. 4.....	Labor Day (no school)
Sept. 15.....	Flex Day, Students eLearning (teachers report for PD)
Oct. 9.....	Early Release Day
Oct. 11.....	Last Day of Quarter 1
Oct. 16-17.....	Parent-Teacher Conferences K-12
Oct. 19-20.....	Fall Break (no school)
Nov. 7.....	Early Release Day
Nov. 22-24.....	Thanksgiving (no school)
Dec. 6.....	Early Release Day
Dec. 21.....	Last Student Day, End Semester 1
Dec. 22-Jan. 5.....	Winter Recess (no school)
Jan. 8.....	Teacher Work Day
Jan. 9.....	Teachers and Students Back in School
Jan. 15.....	Martin Luther King Day (snow make-up day)
Jan. 18.....	Early Release Day
Feb. 16.....	Early Release Day
Feb. 19.....	President's Day (snow make-up day)
March 13.....	Last Day of Quarter 3
March 30.....	Good Friday (no school)
April 2-6.....	Spring Break
May 23.....	Last Student Day
May 24.....	Last Teacher Day
May 28.....	Memorial Day (no school)
June 3.....	Graduation

