

## WHAT'S NEW AT NEUWOEHNER?

Information by NeuNews Staff

Written by Ms. Dillon

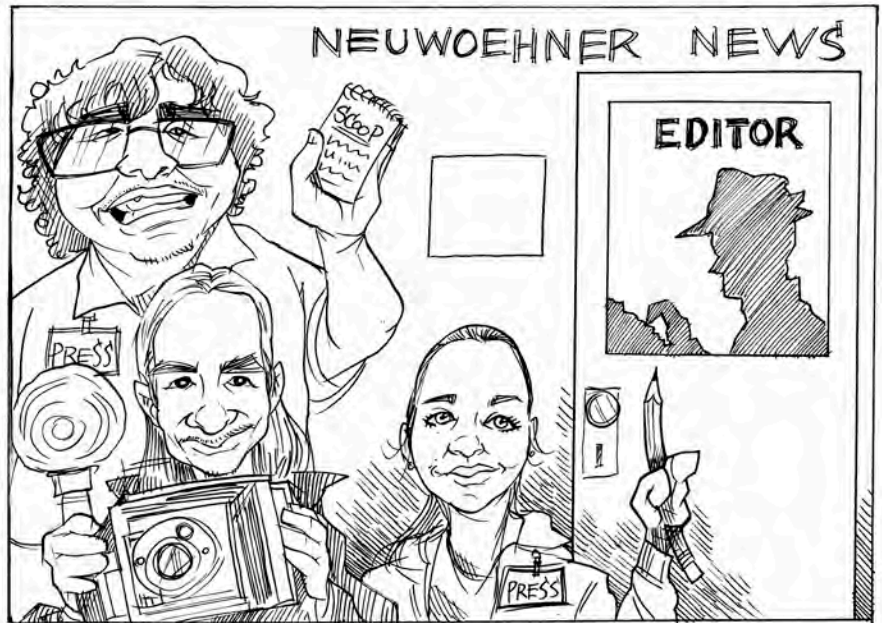
Neuwoehner High School students and staff are an amazing group of people. Everyday, interesting and exciting things are happening in our school. But sharing individual and classroom accomplishments, school-wide successes, and district achievements throughout the building has not always been easy. That, however, has become a thing of the past because Neuwoehner High School now has a student created newspaper.

Beginning September 2013 and following monthly through the end of the school year, Neuwoehner High School students and classrooms will each receive a copy of NeuNews, the Neuwoehner High School student staffed and created newspaper. Articles included will be aimed to both entertain and inform readers of events happening throughout Neuwoehner High School.

Getting the newspaper rolling was a process started by Learning Community E teacher, Stephanie Dillon and Title I teacher, Elizabeth Hutchcraft. While talking about the elective options offered for LCE students and the need for courses that would generate student interest while building school pride, Hutchcraft suggested Dillon teach a newspaper course. Both journalism and newspaper were listed as Communication Arts electives in the SSD Course Guide at that time.

In May 2013, Dillon decided to approach Neuwoehner administrators, Lorie Schwartz and John Miller, about the possibility of teaching a newspaper class. Both Schwartz and Miller were in favor.

Because the class had never been taught at Neuwoehner, Dillon created a Proposed Newspaper Course Description and Objectives. Within the course, she suggested that students learn about the



(Picture courtesy of Mike Rash)

how and why of student journalism as well as work as a staff to set timelines, determine articles of interest, interview and research for information, write and edit articles, provide photographs, and determine paper layout. Student participants would take on a variety of roles including editor, reporter, photographer and layout specialist.

Once completed, Dillon submitted the proposal to Schwartz and Miller. The proposal was accepted and Newspaper became an official Communication Arts elective course offered at Neuwoehner High School for the 2013-2014 school year.

LCE staff along with Neuwoehner administration worked together in selecting students to participate in the newspaper course. Dillon and Hutchcraft are working together to lead and advise the four student staff currently including seniors Isaac, Jami, Killian and Shea.

Isaac enjoys reading, listening to music and drawing. His favorite class is English because he is "a good writer". After high school, Isaac plans to attend a technical college to study graphic design. Isaac's roles for the September 2013 issue of NeuNews include reporter, photographer and layout assistant.

Jami is due to graduate in December 2013. Upon graduation, she plans to attend St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley where she will study music management. Jami is currently a NeuNews reporter and is assisting with layout design of the September 2013 issue.

Killian reports he is a "grade 6 out of 10 Combat Fighter". Along with this, he is good at math, is very creative and is always willing to help people. Killian is the September 2013 issue NeuNews editor as well as a reporter, photographer and layout assistant.

Shea's goals in life are to "become an astronomer and physicist for N.A.S.A" and to live on the Florida Keys. He is glad to be a part of the newspaper staff. Shea's staff responsibilities for September include reporter and layout assistant.

NeuNews staff, both students and teachers, is excited about creating the student newspaper. They welcome ideas for future articles as well as comments and opinions regarding contents of current NeuNews issues.

### Greetings!

Neuwoehner Speech-Language teachers are trying encouraging their students to greet others as they walk through the school. Let's help them out and make saying "hi" the new trend.

### NeuNews Mission

The Newspaper staff will create a student newspaper using critical thinking, problem solving and collaboration to inform and entertain the student body of upcoming events and fun facts.

# Neuwoehner Character Education

by Isaac

On August 21, an all school picture was taken to demonstrate teamwork and collaboration at Neuwoehner High School. The picture will be used to show how the Neuwoehner community works together as a team to ensure student and staff success. This is to jump start our Character Education Initiative preparation, an award Ms. Richey, Ms. Laird and Mrs. Breeding are pursuing for the High School. The all-school picture is connected to the Schools Of Character application process. As a school of character, it is important to showcase our school commitment to be kind, safe, cooperative, and peaceful. By working together to create the all-school picture, Neuwoehner is able to illustrate its sense of community.

Promising Practices is another Character Education award given to a limited amount of schools across six nations. It is given to schools, teachers, or organizations that demonstrate the use of the eleven principles of character education. Neuwoehner was given this award this year for the tales of character shadow puppet show that was written and performed by the students and staff of Mrs. Breeding's music class. The puppet show was videoed and shared with staff and students of Neuwoehner.

These awards are a symbol of how we at Neuwoehner work together as a community.



(Photo courtesy of Susan Moser)

## Upcoming Events...

- 10/01/13- Bully Prevention Month begins
- 10/04/13- Bowling Practice at Brunswick
- 10/07/13- St. Margaret Mary Bowling practice
- 10/09/13- Unity Day (Bully Prevention Month)
- 10/10/13- Metro Theatre Presentation
- 10/11/13- First Quarter Ends, Tower Climb
- 10/16/13- Missouri Day
- 10/18/13- No School (Professional Development Day)
- 10/21/13- St. Margaret Mary Tournament
- 10/23/13- Red Ribbon Week Begins, Soccer Tournament at Parkway Central
- 10/25/13- Fall Dance
- 10/29/13- Mix It Up Day (Bully Prevention Month)

## Dan McLaughlin Golf Tournament

by Isaac

Coming October 14, Special Education Foundation is holding their annual Dan McLaughlin golf tournament. The tournament will be held at Norwood Hills Country Club. Money earned will go towards mini-grants for teachers and their school projects. Schools that participate can receive three to five mini-grants per year.

Several teachers at Neuwoehner have received mini-grants in the past. Ms. Dahle earned two mini-grants; one for Boot Camp and the other for weight room equipment. Ms. Bubash received mini-grants for Metro Theatre performances for the past five years. Ms. Adair was awarded a mini-grant to purchase a weather station for school.

There is a donation box in the office to collect money for creating a gift basket to be auctioned at the golf tournament.

There will be appetizers, refreshments, and bidding on silent auction items.

If you want to be part of the tournament, contact Mary Lee Burlemann at (314)-989-8125. The cost to play is \$300 per entry. The raffle tickets cost \$5 each or 3 for \$10.

### Time bracket

- 10:00 AM - Registration and brunch.
- 11:15 AM - Shotgun golf start.
- 4:00 PM - Golfers and guests gather.
- 5:30 PM - Conclusion with dinner.

## Hot Stuff

by Jami

Neuwoehner has adopted a new district policy (ADF-R District Wellness Program). According to the policy, on 90 degree or higher temperatures days, students will not be permitted to go outside. On these days, recess and physical education will be held indoors.

The high temperature can cause certain symptoms of disabilities to flare up, which can put students at a high risk for heat related illness. These conditions can be severe when being active in high temperatures.

Teachers should be aware of student's medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, and allergies. Staff also need to make sure students take plenty of water breaks, look for shady areas, and make sure they are paying attention to any sudden heat related symptoms. Finally, staff need to take into consideration what steps to take if a heat related injury occurs.

Being aware of the temperature will help keep the students of Neuwoehner safe while at school.

## Monthly Disability Report

Walking through the halls of Neuwoehner High School, some people might ask themselves, "Why is that student acting like that?" The truth is, the student is not acting. The behavior is typically related to a disability. To help us understand each other better, NeuNews will include a Monthly Disability Report highlighting different disabilities. If there is a certain disability you'd like to seek more information about, please let the staff of NeuNews know and we will do our best to enlighten you on such subject. Look back in future issues for more information.

# What's in a Name

Research by NeuNews Staff

Written by Killian and Ms. Dillon

Hiram Neuwoehner High School is an interesting and unique name for a school. But, have you ever wondered how our school earned this name? We at NeuNews did so we set out on a mission of discovery.

Our journey started through a general Internet search for Hiram Neuwoehner. Unfortunately, this seemed to provide plenty of current information about the school but little regarding Mr. Neuwoehner. What we found led us to Ancestry.com, a popular genealogy website where we learned family information but nothing about Hiram's relation to Special School District (SSD) or Neuwoehner High School.

Branching out, we looked for answers in the school. The plaque outside the social work office gave us information about SSD as well as when our school opened but the connection to Mr. Neuwoehner was still a mystery. We talked to building principals, Lorie Schwartz and John Miller. They also knew little, but suggested we talk to Gina Becker, whose class had been seeking the same information. Again, we struck out; Becker's class faced the same problem we were facing.

For the next leg of the journey, we went to the experts. Off to Special Collections area of St. Louis County Library Headquarters on Lindbergh we went. Staff there gave us our first real lead through an article from the January 2, 1958 issue of the St. Louis Globe Democrat. The article was about the start of the Special Education Schools and the election of Hiram Neuwoehner as the first President of the Board of Education for Handicapped Children.

We returned to school excited but still missing information. On a whim, Elizabeth Hutchcraft decided to look for telephone listings in

St. Louis and she found a number for James Neuwoehner. NeuNews staff agreed that a call should be made.

With this phone call we found our answers. James Neuwoehner is the grandson of Hiram Neuwoehner. Hutchcraft scheduled a time to meet with James and he lent us a copy of the family history of Hiram and his wife, Feodora.

Hiram Neuwoehner was born in St. Louis on September 20, 1895. He married Feodora Hienicke and together they had three children. Hiram was a businessman for many years. He entered the world of education by becoming a "member of the Maplewood School Board purely by accident." In 1957, after "St. Louis County passed a special law authorizing a Special School District for Handicapped Children" Hiram was "encouraged to run for the school board."

During his 14 years as School Board President, Hiram "was responsible for charting a sound, and at the same time unique, financial course" for SSD. "Under his guidance, the Special District...relied exclusively on a modest property tax..." As a result, Hiram helped SSD save St. Louis County taxpayers "more than \$22 million".

Hiram Neuwoehner High School opened in 1971. At the November 14 dedication ceremony, Hiram accepted recognition for his work with SSD by saying, "I'm awfully pleased and I'm very humble that this school should be named after me...I still believe that the Special School District of St. Louis County is the very best in the United States... I'm very proud to be here, and I'm very grateful to all of you who had a great deal to do with this fine school."



Hiram Sr. , Superintendent Spurgeon and Hiram Jr. at Dedication Ceremony (Photo courtesy of the Neuwoehner family)

*"I'm awfully pleased and I'm very humble that this school should be named after me..."*  
Hiram Neuwoehner

NeuNews staff would like to give special thanks to the Special Collections staff at the St. Louis County Library Headquarters for providing us with our first real clue and to James Neuwoehner and his family for providing us with the information to solve our quest.

## New Kid Is Coming

by Shea

Neuwoehner will host a drama performance at 9 AM October 10<sup>th</sup> in the gym. The performance will be presented by Metro Theatre. Metro Theatre puts on performances every year.

This year the students and staff at Neuwoehner will see New Kid. The topic of New Kid is accepting differences in others. In the play one character is not originally from the United States and other characters will learn to accept this student.

This performance is funded by a grant that Ms. Bubash gets from the Special Education Foundation. She chooses to bring back Metro Theatre every year so students can be informed about character education and to better understand others as well as be able to co-exist.

These performances are a great opportunity for students to learn character traits.

## Student Council Event Planning

by Jami

In the near future, student council will have meetings to get this year going. Members of student council are eager to start the process of planning some fun events for the student body. Please mark your calendars for any future events you may have questions about or want to participate in.

These are student council events for October. The dates are as follows:

- 10/3 : Fall Dance Planning Meeting (1:30-2:00)
- 10/17 : Decoration Making for Fall Dance (1:30-2:00)
- 10/23 -10/25 Ticket Sale for Fall Dance (During Lunch)
- 10/24: More Decoration Making (1:30-2:00)
- 10/25: Decoration set-up for Fall Dance (1:00-2:00)

Special thanks go out to Nancy Richey, Melissa Mayali, Denise Bell, Susan Moser, and Holly Marek for making student council possible. You are greatly appreciated.

## Science at Work



(Photos courtesy of Susan Moser)

Paraprofessional Charles Spitler, demonstrates what happens when you put Mentos in Coke while Neuwoehner Principal, Lorie Schwartz, and student, Andrew, watch.

## Bowling for the EOCs

by Killian

Some students might have heard that, beginning this school year, EOC kids are only allowed to participate in Special Olympics Bowling and are wondering why. This decision was made by administration.

When asked about this, Mrs. Schwartz shared that students need 24 credits to graduate and each class must have 7,830 minutes total each school year. Teachers and student don't have much time, especially since teachers are required to follow a set curriculum put in place by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) due to new state requirements. These new requirements are changing the way students are assessed in school.

But, don't worry, if students focus, pay attention, and do work, they can still graduate. Bowling is a great activity and its better than not being allowed to do any of Special Olympics activities.

## Welcome Back

On August 30, music teacher Lori Breeding, and guidance counselor Nancy Richey, led the school in a Welcome Back Assembly where they reviewed our school rules through a video created by Breeding and several Neuwoehner students. During the assembly, 5 students' names were drawn to receive caricatures created by Mike Rash, paraprofessional in room 5. To be eligible for the drawing students had to demonstrate that they know the 4 school rules...

**Be Kind**

**Be safe**

**Be Cooperative**

**Be Peaceful**



### NeuNews Staff

Isaac (Reporter, Photography, Layout)  
Jami (Reporter, Layout)  
Killian (Editor, Reporter, Photography, Layout)  
Shea (Reporter, Layout)

### NeuNews Sponsors

Stephanie Dillon (Teacher)  
Elizabeth Hutchcraft (Title I)

### Principal

Lorie Schwartz

### Assistant Principal

John Miller

### Neuwoehner High School

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