

February 2011 New Milford High School Monthly Report

Compiled by Eric Sheninger

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1. Observations

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Observed by</u>
Barbara O'Donnell	Health	2/8/11	2	Joe Ricciardelli
Jen Gandolfo	PE	2/7/11	1	Joe Ricciardelli
Jen Lyons	World Language	2/24/11	2	Joe Ricciardelli
Lisette Morel	3-D Design	2/3/11	3	Jerry Perrone
Dorene Zacher	SAC	2/8/11	7	Jerry Perrone
Marcela Schwarz	Spanish	2/10/11	4	Eric Sheninger
Lauren Bettini	Art	2/14/11	5	Eric Sheninger
Joe Ricciardelli	Athletic Dir.	2/24/11	N/A	Eric Sheninger

Summaries:

2. Guest lecturers

- On March 7, 2011, a speaker from Lincoln Tech will address the senior health classes. The presentation will focus on life after high school while focusing on budgeting and how expensive post-graduation life is. Additionally, the presenter will discuss the main differences between a job and career.
- Sandy Bober, a representative from **1st Choice**, located in Montclair, NJ, spoke to the Freshman Health classes and gave an interactive presentation about Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD's), teen pregnancy, abstinence, emotional and mental effects of sexual relationships. She also spoke with the senior health classes and she shared a true story about having been date raped in college. She went over ways to protect yourself against date rape as well as what you should do if you or someone you know is ever raped. She included information about STD's, teen pregnancy and abstinence. Sandy is the wife of our Physical Education Student teacher Alex Bober. Her presentation was powerful and informative.
- On February 25, 2011, a representative from the Art Institute came to speak to Ms. Bettini's art classes. Students saw alumni work and watched an interactive video.

3. Innovations:

- Mrs. Keesing and Mr. Manzo collaborated recently to integrate Web 2.0 technology into a U.S. History 1 class's study of the Bill of Rights. They developed a project in which students created VoiceThreads to demonstrate their knowledge. VoiceThreads are comments constructed around an image. Students, working in pairs, selected a recent event in the United States that had some direct application to the Bill of Rights. The teachers' goal was for students to show the relevance of the Bill of Rights to their chosen event by citing a Supreme Court case and giving their own opinions about the matter. Students conducted research, wrote scripts, practiced reading their scripts, and then recorded them. For this project, students used MacBooks to record their audio comments. Students also were able to record additional comments on their classmates' VoiceThreads. This web tool is highly interactive. Not only does this activity engage students, but also it gives students the opportunity to practice their writing and speaking skills. To learn more about VoiceThread visit <http://voicethread.com/>

- On February 7, 2011, the New Milford BUDDY Program and the Administration sponsored a Negative Aspects of Bullying, Harassment and Intimidation Health and Educational Alliance. The entire high school student body was allowed the opportunity to select one seminar that educated them on key aspects directly related to the negative consequences of bullying and harassment. In total, six seminars were offered to the students:
 - **Illegal Mind Altering Substances and Bullying** : Presented by Ms. Sue Nobleman Clinical Director of Willow Tree Drug and Alcohol Treatment Center.
 - **I'm Too Fat, Too Tall** : Presented by Ms. Maria Meehan Licensed Clinical Social Worker
 - **Stop and Breathe** : Presented by Ms. Dorey Rachel Relax, Mediation Expert
 - **Bullying and Health Issues**: Presented by Mrs. Barbara O'Donnell New Milford High School Nurse and Co- BUDDY Advisor.
 - **Harassment and Bullying Through The Internet**?: Presented by Mr. Eric Sheninger New Milford High School Principal.
 - **Don't Laugh At Me**: Presented by Mrs. Dorene Zacher New Milford District Student Assistance Coordinator and Co-Advisor of BUDDY.

Overall, the seminar was a success and the students stated that this program would definitely help continue to enhance the acceptance of cultural diversity and the individual rights of others.

- Students participating in the Holocaust Study Tour 2011 had the opportunity to meet with the historian for the trip, Mr. Shalmi Barmore on February 16th, 2011, for a full day of educational programming. Mr. Barmore addressed the essential questions associated with the content of the experience and set the tone for the student's interaction with the content, authentic learning sites and the dynamics of experiential learning.
- Ms. Millian continues to utilize the document camera for her Pre-Calc lessons. The students really enjoy being able to review a video of the lesson online. It is an excellent benefit when students are absent as well since they are able to see exactly what was done in class and get the notes off of Miss Millian's class website.
<https://sites.google.com/site/missmilliansmathclasses/system/app/pages/subPages?path=/home/c-p-pre-calc/pre-calc-lesson-videos>
- Using the "New and Improved" Mac Lab in room 106, Mr. Pevny has been collaborating with the Social Studies Department by helping them create Facebook pages for historical figures. Mr. Pevny's students have turned into the teachers while Mr. Wilson, Ms. Perna and Ms. Milan's students collected their information and stored it in a Google Document. "This was a great experience for both parties," said Mr. Pevny. Not only did the social studies students benefit from a different style of learning, Mr. Pevny's students learned what it was like to be the teacher. "Students retain more than 90% of what they learn when they teach it to others," states Mr. Pevny. This was a great activity. Imagine forty to fifty students working in a computer lab built for thirty students and constant learning taking place over multiple disciplines. Next step...to do this over the network from computer lab to computer lab. Ms. Perna developed the Facebook template that was used while Mr. Pevny imported it into Adobe InDesign for class use.
- Freshman biology students are taking part in a challenge to see who can grow pea plants the fastest. They researched different factors that increase the rate of photosynthesis. The study will take place over a three week period. Factors that are currently being tested are different types of soil, wavelengths of light, variety of liquids aside from water to grow, temperature, and many others. The plants are growing well!

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Thomas Jefferson

Wall Info Photos Videos Notes +

Update Status Share Link Add Photos Add Video Write Note

What are you doing right now? Post

All Photos Friends Upcoming Events

"I have great confidence in the common sense of mankind in general."


Political views: Democratic Republican

is elected to Virginia House of Burgesses, 1769
is now a Delegate to the Continental Congress, 1775-76
is starting to write the Declaration of Independence on June 11, 1776


is now friends with Benjamin Franklin

Married to Martha Wayles Skelton Jefferson

Peter Jefferson is added as Thomas Jefferson's father



Jefferson likes:



William and Mary College (Lawyer)

is now friends with John Hancock

is now friends with George Washington


Religion: Protestant

Music: Piano and Violin

is Secretary of State, 1789

is now friends Meriwether Lewis

is now friends with John Adams



Information


Married to Martha Wayles Skelton Jefferson

Born: Shadwell, Virginia April 13, 1743


Parents: Jane Randolph Jefferson (mother) Peter Jefferson (father)

Daughter: Martha Washington Jefferson


Friends




John Adams




George Washington




Benjamin Franklin



Samuel Adams



Meriwether Lewis



John Hancock

2 of 4 albums See All

Thomas Jefferson's album

Notes

2 notes See All

Thomas Jefferson is Vice President of the United States, 1798

Declaration of Independence signed July 4, 1776

- In Mr. Fiscina's room, a state-of-the art SMART board is being used to full effectiveness. SMART notebook software is being used on a daily basis in Elements of Geometry, CP Geometry, and Math Skills. Other programs being used with the SMART board are Web 2.0 websites. Prezi.com has been used on the SMART board as a preparation for tests. Qwiki.com (a search engine which not only gathers information and pictures, but also organizes it into a brief presentation with a computer generated voice) has been used to

enhance students understanding of math and non-math topics (so far we have “qwiki’d” New Milford, NJ, Trapezoids, and totem poles). Also, polleverywhere.com has been a staple of the class. Students are presented with multiple-choice problems and must poll their answers in using their cell phones. The results are presented on the SMART board. This is an effective tool for both the students and teacher. The students can see how they are doing compared to the rest of the class and the teacher can easily see how much the class is comprehending. Mr. Fiscina and Mr. Jacob collaborate regularly on tips and tricks about using the SMART board and SMART notebook software. Student involvement has increased since the implementation of the SMART board. Most students enjoy coming to the board to present their answers and use the applications.

4. Student honors:

- Senior Girl’s Basketball player Samantha DeFresse named to represent Bergen County at North South Classic March 20, 2011.
- Monica Euqiles, Sarah Schrenzel, Christine Almeda, and Lani Mae Lim have had drawings accepted into the New Hampshire Institute of Art’s High School Drawing Exhibition.
- Christine Almeda, Lani- Mae Lim, and Ms. Bettini have all entered artwork into the Annual Juried Gallery Show at the Art Center of Northern New Jersey in New Milford. All works were accepted. Christine received Honorable Mention for her drawing “Why is Everyone Looking at me?” Ms. Bettini received the 1st place award for her ceramic sculpture “Jaleah”.
- Ester Davidov’s fashion designs have been selected for display on the FIT (Fashion Institute of Technology) website. Her work is displayed on the Summer Live page. Ester spent last summer at FIT’s Summer Pre-college program.

5. Field trips

- On February 10, 2011, students in Mrs. DePoto’s Tomorrow’s Teachers class were invited to a luncheon with children’s author, Ms. Sheppard, to discuss the writing of a children’s literature book and how it can be used in teaching. Students also watched as the author read to a group of third-graders. Upon return, the students discussed the author and her book in an in-class discussion.
- On February 17, 2011, band and music students attended "The Pink Flyod Experience" at Bergen PAC in Englewood. This event was set up in part with the arts connection program. A pre-show sound check was attended to see the performers tune and work out technical issues. Several members of the band Skyline were asked to go onstage and test out professional equipment on the venue stage. A dynamic show was observed by an incredible sound system, complete with lights, film footage, and giant stage props.

6. Guidance

7. Professional Development

- Mr. Sheninger attended the 2011 National Association of Secondary School Principals Conference in San Francisco, CA, on February 25 and 26, 2011. On Friday he attended multiple sessions that focuses on increasing rigor in the classroom, transformational school change, and creating a school climate that drives performance. In between sessions he networked with principals from all over the country and shared many of the innovative practices occurring at New Milford High School such as The Academies@New Milford High School and the use of web 2.0 technology to engage learners. The day was capped off with a keynote presentation by world renowned education historian Diane Ravitch, who spoke about where school reform goes wrong. On Saturday Mr. Sheninger attended the morning keynote by Dr. Bill Daggett, who spoke about the need to rigor and relevancy in

schools. In the afternoon he presented a session entitled “Leading With Social Media” and highlighted NMHS advances in the effective use of technology to enhance communication, student engagement, and professional development. Later that day he was one of fifty principals out of 3000 in attendance invited to meet with representatives from the U.S. Department of Education to discuss reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and No Child Left Behind (NLCB).

- Mrs. Westervelt and Mr. Coyne took more courses during the week of February 21, 2011, leading up to their SLE (Structured Learning Environment) certificate. SLE provides teachers to prepare their students for the work force outside of High School. It provides them with the skills they need to be successful and have progressive transition after graduation. They are excited to get this program, “Let’s Get to Work,” on its feet in the near future. Already, business owners in the community are hearing of this program and are excited to be a part of it.
- Dr. Asa-Awuku attended the GK!2 workshop at Stevens Institute of Technology. The workshop covered pedagogy related discussions involving the teaching of STEM subjects and methods to maximize the transfer of STEM lesson content.
- Dorene Zacher attended the Student Assistance Conference in Atlantic City February 2-4, 2011. During this three day conference she attended seminars and trainings on the development of intervention and prevention programs to address harassment, intimidation and bullying in accordance to the new state law.
- On February 14, 2011, Jerry Perrone, Vice Principal, attended a dropout prevention workshop held at Bergen Community College. Featured speaker, Dr. Mark Dynarski provided evidenced-based practices contributing to staying in school and completing high school with a regular diploma.
- Jerry Perrone, Vice Principal, attended the Pearson's Master Schedule Building Workshop on February 16 and 17, 2011. The goal of the workshop was to help administrators become more effective and efficient in building a Master Schedule. Presenter, John Zanetti, explained scheduling philosophy, current procedures in building a schedule and also facilitated the exploration and discussion of new ideas and organizational concepts. Attendees participated in a collaborative exercise to develop a master schedule based on the concepts learned over the two day course.

8. Facilities

- New signs for Code of Conduct of been designed and installed in gymnasium.

9. Theatre Arts

10. Other

- The Varsity Girls Basketball won their 2nd League title in School history.
- There will be two Saturday review sessions for AP U. S. History in April. The first will take place on Saturday, April 2, 2011, and the second will take place on Saturday April 30, 2011. Students will meet in Mr. Tusa's room from 8:00 A. M. to 12:00 P. M. The purpose of these sessions will be to review objective and essay questions, and test-taking strategies for students aiming to take the AP U. S. History test in May.
- The Tri-M Music Honor Society and the NMHS Choral Ensemble sponsored a Singing Telegram Fundraiser during Valentine’s Week. The students had a great time entertaining and money was raised for the Senior Citizen Prom, which will be held on Wednesday, May 25, 2011.
- The new Program of Studies has been completed and can be viewed at http://issuu.com/newmifordschools/docs/course_of_study. Read new course descriptions, view flow charts, and learn about exciting revisions to courses that we already offer.

