



# Neoga Community Unit District #3

October 2012

Newsletter

## Superintendent's Message

It is that time of year to remind everyone that we are transitioning into fall and that we need to be aware of the changing weather conditions. Please make sure you have given the school your latest contact information. We will use the Schoolreach system for emergency closings. If you haven't received any messages this year you may not be in the system. Contact one of the buildings if you need to be added.

We continue to receive bad budgetary news from the state and we will not know anything for well into the spring. School districts across the state will have to continue to make cuts in programs, services and staff. There is no sign that this situation will end soon. One of the cost shifts being discussed is for pensions. Coupled with pension reforms, the legislature will debate where that responsibility will end up. I will not expound on this issue in this forum, but will only comment that the "crisis" they speak of was created entirely by the legislature. Every element of the pension system was a result of legislators skipping payments, adding benefits, or passing laws that allow for additional costs to the benefits. They need to take the blame. The legislature is faced with a problem they cannot solve in the current economic environment. It will have to be a collective solution. Our concern is that any shift to the district will have to be taken mostly from state resources since the district is subject to PTELL and limited in their growth. We will be forced to make adjustments by further cutting staff or programs.

The coming months will force the board to make some very difficult decisions. We will need input from you. Your board members want to know where reductions can be made and where priorities may be, or for

### **School Board**

Mark Livingston, President ~ Tina Moore , Vice President ~ Chris Strohl, Secretary  
Doug Deters ~ Tom Schutte ~ Michelle Sheehan ~ Bill Steichmann

### **Administration**

Mr. Charles Castle, Superintendent  
Carol Smith, Principal Elementary School  
Seth James, Principal Middle School  
Benjamin Johnson, Principal Jr./Sr. High School  
Jeff Wooters, Assistant Principal Jr./Sr. High School

ideas of additional support. We have been fortunate to be able to do the things we have done recently, but the reality is that we are now where many districts were two or three years ago. The course of action is really forced upon us. As I listen to superintendents from across the state, there are very few that are not in the same position financially that we are or worse. And even those that still have a better position, are very concerned knowing that it is simply a matter of time before they face the same decisions.

Regardless of what happens be assured we will strive to provide the best programs we can with the resources we have.

Yours in education  
Charles Castle, Superintendent  
Neoga CUSD #3



## Middle School Observes Patriot Day



### “Lunch-n-Learn” at the Jr. High

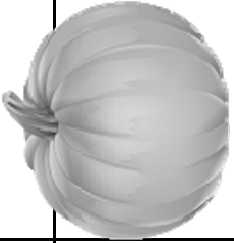
The Jr. High has made some changes in how incomplete work is handled, and thus far the results have been positive. Each year our struggling students seem to have some common issues, and one is the inability to complete or turn in work. To address this matter, we have created a no-zero program. Students who do not turn in their class work or homework will be required to attend a “lunch-n-learn.” Essentially, the student goes to a designated room during lunch to complete their work. The students will temporarily be given a zero for the assignment, until it is completed and submitted to the teacher. Upon completion, the student is given full credit or the credit earned. At the end of the quarter, any incomplete assignments will become permanent zeros. We are piloting this concept through the first semester, at which time, we will review and make adjustments as needed. Students are allowed to eat their lunch first, while a teacher’s aide, Mrs. Gingerich, is supervising the students. In addition, students that have all of their homework completed each week, receive a reward activity at the end of the day each Friday. Students that still have incomplete assignments will use this time to work on assignments.



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## October

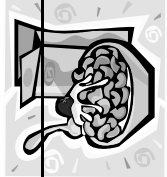


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 4:00 HS Baseball @ Altamont NTC Tourney	2 8:00-12:05 LLC Career Day (Jrs.) 4:30 HS Cross Ctry (H) 6:00-7:00 NMS Title I Open House 6:15 JH G Bsktb. (H) 6:15 HS Volleyball @ Brownstown	3 First Neighbor Bank At NMS 3:30-5:00 FCCLA Trash Pickup	4 4:30 HS Cross Country (H)	5 EARLY DISMISSAL—School Improvement 6:00 JH G Bsktb. @ Effingham	6 10:00 HS Cross Country @ Cumberland Invitational 8:30, 11:30, 1:30 Finals 3:00 HS Volleyball @ Shelbyville
7	8 NO SCHOOL Columbus Day	9 NMS Olympics 4:00 HS Cross Ctry (H) 6:15 JH G Bsktb. @Dieterich 6:15 HS Volleyball @ Dieterich	10 7:00 Post Prom Meeting (Café)	11 SBLHC Dental Exams @ NMS 10:30 HS Fire Drill (Coordinated w/local emergency responders) 6:00 School Board Meeting 6:15 JH Girls Bsktb. @ Cumberland TBA HS Volleyball NTC Tourney (11-13th)	12 Nat. Honor Soc. Hat Day Fund Raiser	13 9:00 HS Cross Ctry @ St. Anthony
14 2:00 HS Fall Concert	15 6:15 JH G Bsktb. @ Okaw Valley 6:15 HS Volleyball @ Paris	16 TBA JH G Bsktb. 7th NTC Tourney (16th—20th)	17 End of 1st Quarter NTA EARLY DISMISSAL 1:00-6:00 Blood Drive (N. Gym)	18 5:00-7:00 Math Club Fund Raiser @ Culver's Effingham FCCLA Leadership Meeting @ EIU	19 FFA Animal Fair 5:30-9:00 Friday Nite Live	20
21	22 TBA HS Volleyball Regional (22nd-25th) 6:15 JH G Bsktb. (H)	23 TBA JH G Bsktb. 8th NTC Tourney (23rd, 25th, 26th, 27th)	24 3:30 FCCLA Trash Pick-up	25	26	27
28	29 NO SCHOOL Parent/Teacher Conferences 6:15 JH G Bsktb. (H) 6:15 JH B Bsktb. @Altamont	30 3:30 FCCLA Member Meeting & Costume Party	31			

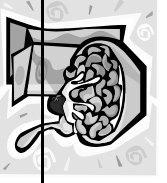
# October Menu



MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
1	<b>BEEF STEAK NUGGETS</b> Biscuit & Butter Cooked Broccoli Pineapple Milk	2	<b>TENDERLOIN on Bun</b> Tatar Tots Apple Slices Carmel Dip Milk	3	<b>SALISBURY STEAK</b> Bread & Butter Green Beans Peaches Milk	4	<b>BEEF GOULASH</b> Carrot Sticks w/ Ranch Pears Milk	5	<b>CHEESE PIZZA</b> Corn Orange Slice Milk
7	8	9	<b>HOT HAM on Bun</b> Baked Beans Banana Dill Pickles Spear Milk	10	<b>SPAGHETTI</b> Green Beans Mix Fruit Milk	11	<b>TACO</b> Mexican Rice Romaine Lettuce w/ Dressing Hot Cinnamon Apples Milk	12	<b>CORN DOG</b> Cooked Carrots Grapes Strawberry Jell-O Milk
14	15	16	<b>HAMBURGER on Bun</b> French Fries Blueberry Applesauce Dill Pickle Spear Milk	17	<b>PORK BBQ on Bun</b> Cooked Broccoli Apple Slices Carmel Dip Milk	18	<b>CHICKEN &amp; NOODLES</b> Green Beans Pears Milk	19	<b>PEPPERONI PIZZA</b> Corn Peaches Fruit Punch Juice Bar Milk
21	22	23	<b>CHICKEN PATTY on Bun</b> Cooked Spinach Applesauce Milk	24	<b>BEEF RAVIOLI</b> Cooked Carrots Mix Fruit Milk	25	<b>FUN FISH NUGGETS</b> Mac & Cheese Peas Grapes Milk	26	<b>SLOPPY JOE on Bun</b> Shredded Lettuce w/Dressing Apricots Fruit Snacks Milk
28	29	30	<b>NO SCHOOL</b>	31	<b>SALISBURY STEAK</b> Bread & Butter Green Beans Peaches Milk				



# Neoga School Dist. - Breakfast



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>French Toast Sticks</p> <p>Peaches</p> <p>Choice of <u>100% Juice</u> ORANGE APPLE GRAPE</p> <p>SKIM MILK Choice of Chocolate or White</p>	<p>Bacon Breakfast Pizza</p> <p>Orange Slices</p> <p>Choice of <u>100% Juice</u> ORANGE APPLE GRAPE</p> <p>SKIM MILK Choice of Chocolate or White</p>	<p>Mini Waffles</p> <p>Applesauce</p> <p>Choice of <u>100% Juice</u> ORANGE APPLE GRAPE</p> <p>SKIM MILK Choice of Chocolate or White</p>	<p>Sausage Pancake Wrap</p> <p>Mix Fruit</p> <p>Choice of <u>100% Juice</u> ORANGE APPLE GRAPE</p> <p>SKIM MILK Choice of Chocolate or White</p>	<p>Iced Long John Donut</p> <p>Pears</p> <p>Choice of <u>100% Juice</u> ORANGE APPLE GRAPE</p> <p>SKIM MILK Choice of Chocolate or White</p>

## Academic Interventions at the High School

Last year, one of the many changes made at the high school was the creation of a common study hall(CSH) during the final 30 minutes of the day. This time was set aside for students to finish homework and receive targeted academic assistance where needed. In order to provide this assistance in a more efficient manner to a broader population this year, we are now creating a weekly schedule for any student receiving a D or F. Each Friday, the office creates a report, from teacher online grade books, of all students receiving a D or F. The students are then scheduled to meet with their teacher on Monday/Thursday or Tuesday/Friday. During this time, the teacher provides additional instruction in areas of deficiency. Students will continue to meet weekly with their teacher until their grade is above a D. This assistance is not limited to those receiving D's and F's. If a student would like to see a teacher during CSH, they must ask the teacher for a pass prior to the beginning of CSH.

\*Our goal is for all of our students to be successful, and these two programs are designed with that goal in mind. Please contact Mr. Johnson or Mr. Davis at NJSHS with any questions regarding these programs.

### Notice

Neoga CUSD #3 does not tolerate acts of harassment, including acts of harassment based on race, color, national origin, or other protected classes. Any student who believes that he or she has been subjected to harassment or a hostile environment is encouraged to report the act to district personnel. The District is committed to conducting a prompt and thorough investigation. Students found to have engaged in acts of harassment or those that contribute to a hostile environment based on race, color, or national origin are subject to discipline up through and including suspension and expulsion. The district encourages students, parents and District staff to work together to prevent acts of harassment of any kind.

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