

Expect  
Excellence  
School District of New Berlin

# 2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT



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# SUPERINTENDENT MESSAGE

## Dear School District of New Berlin Friends, Families and Supporters,

No matter how you look at it, the 2020-21 school year was both remarkable and memorable.

Still in the midst of a worldwide pandemic that shut down schools across the state in the spring of 2020, our team worked tirelessly all summer long to plan and prepare for what would be an unprecedented school year. Information and recommendations from health officials at all levels were changing daily, but we remained steadfast in our primary goal, which was to open our schools in fall of 2020 to provide in-person instruction.

And we did just that. With the help and support of so many - among them, our students, our staff, our families and our School Board - we were open on Day 1, stayed open all year long, and provided a virtual learning experience for about a quarter of our students and families that requested it.

It was an incredible feat, and truly a testament to our dedication to both the SDNB mission and vision. We empowered, inspired and supported our students in ways like never before. And we remained focused on preparing our students to succeed, regardless of the unique challenges and intense levels of adversity that came our way.

As you turn the pages of our Annual Report, we are turning the page to a new school year. We are building off the many lessons learned a year ago and plan to use them to our advantage in 2021-22. The pandemic has not stalled our growth; instead, it has propelled us into the future and re-established the School District of New Berlin as a destination district.

***Expect Excellence,***

  
Superintendent Joe Garza



Joe Garza, Superintendent

### DISTRICT MISSION:

To empower, inspire and support students as they establish goals for their future and develop plans to achieve them.

### DISTRICT VISION:

The School District of New Berlin fosters a learning environment in which our public schools, families, post-secondary partners, public officials, businesses, community organizations and other citizens work collaboratively to prepare all students to succeed in a diverse, change-oriented, global society.

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**Don't wait for next year's Annual Report to read about the great things happening in our schools!**

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 [twitter.com/SDNBSchools](https://twitter.com/SDNBSchools)

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# BOARD OF EDUCATION



## 2021-22 BOARD OF EDUCATION

2021-22 School District of New Berlin Board of Education: Front row (left to right): Krislyn Holaday-Wondrachek, Janet Schulz, Kate Unger. Back row (left to right): Jeffrey Kurth, Ron Seidl, Mitchell Helmer, Amy Crosby.



### LONGTIME MEMBER LEAVES BOARD

Longtime School Board member Susan Manley chose not to run for re-election in the spring after serving the SDNB for 15 years. She was recognized for her years of service at the April 12 meeting, her final one.



### APRIL 2021 ELECTION

In the April 2021 election, newcomer Ron Seidl and incumbent Jeffrey Kurth were the top two vote-getters and were sworn in by Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Rebecca Bradley. The Board also reorganized last spring; Janet Schulz is president, Mitch Helmer vice president, Mr. Kurth clerk and Mr. Seidl treasurer.

**Join us for the School District of New Berlin's Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing**



MONDAY, SEPT. 27, AT 7 P.M.

NEW BERLIN EISENHOWER COMMONS

**Note:** The meeting / hearing will also be streamed live on YouTube.

## 2020-21 SCHOOL BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Supported administration during the pandemic in numerous ways, including adding staff both in and out of the classroom, and making school calendar adjustments and other changes to day-to-day school operations.
- ★ Maintained focus on reducing costs and increasing revenues as a means to eliminate projected structural deficits, balance budgets and develop long-range funding plans for facilities and maintenance.
- ★ Approved and supported administration's aggressive multi-year funding plan for long-range facility and capital improvement projects that will set aside millions of dollars for various projects.
- ★ Instituted changes to student transportation and employee health insurance that resulted in budget relief and future savings.
- ★ Worked with administration to present and share information about the district's diversity and inclusion practices and strategies throughout the year.
- ★ Approved a policy revision plan that calls for the review of dozens of School Board policies, along with the creation of new, necessary policies and, in some cases, the deletion of old, obsolete policies.



# GRANTS, FUNDRAISING, DONATIONS

The SDNB is committed to locating, applying for and raising non-property tax revenue to increase educational and extracurricular opportunities for our students, and lessen the tax burden on our residents. Federal, state and local grants are one such way this is done, as are fundraising and donations. These are just some examples.

## \$85,000

As part of the USDA's National School Lunch Program and a grant program spearheaded by the Department of Defense, the SDNB received \$85,000 for fresh produce grown in the U.S. The grant helped the SDNB expand the variety of produce in to-go lunches available to virtual students and in pre-packaged elementary meals, and the selections in the middle/high school food lines.



## \$1,000

A \$1,000 Smarter Thinking Foundation micro grant was used toward the redesign of the district's website, which launched last summer.

## \$150,000

The SDNB received the Department of Justice Threat Assessment Grant in the amount of \$150,000 for the 2021-22 school year. The funds will be used to improve K-12 school safety and support the SDNB's threat assessment validation study.



## \$12,835

The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development provided the district a grant for \$12,835 to purchase equipment - a robotic arm! - for teaching skills in advanced manufacturing automation.

## \$75,000

A mental health grant that provided the district with approximately \$53,000 each year expired following the 2020-21 school year, but the district applied for the next two-year cycle and requested \$75,000 per year. The district will find out if it received funding after this publication went to press.

## \$232,000

Last year, the SDNB received \$232,000 in donations, including \$100,000 gifted by a West alum posthumously to be used as a scholarship for a 2021 West graduate interested in accounting or business. The SDNB and the Education Foundation of New Berlin are grateful for donations of all amounts, money that can be used in many different ways, including improving athletic or academic facilities and providing resources to students.



### GIVE EDUCATION DAY

The SDNB participated in the first-ever Give Education Day, and the community responded in a big way. Put on by SDNB partner Alumni Nations, Give Education Day gave people an opportunity to make monetary donations to the district as a show of support and thanks to our staff. The SDNB collected approximately \$5,250 in donations and another \$250 in prize money from one of the event's sponsors, for a total of \$5,500, which went toward enhancing Staff Appreciation Week.



# BUDGET DETAILS / STRATEGIC FINANCE

The School District of New Berlin's administration and Board of Education is dedicated to providing first-class educational experiences and environments to all students, and doing so at a great value to our taxpayers. District administration and the Board regularly engage in the annual budget cycle with an eye on the future using tools such as long-range facility planning, debt refinancing, annual audits and more.

## 2021-22 PRELIMINARY BUDGET KEY POINTS

The preliminary budget, approved in June, sets fiscal priorities for the upcoming school year and allows the district to operate until the original budget is adopted in October.

### General fund revenue and expenditure assumptions in the preliminary budget include:

- an anticipated 15 percent reduction in state general aid, resulting in a 2.23 percent increase in property taxes;
- significant federal aid increases in the form of Esser II and Esser III funds;
- a general fund revenue increase of 0.23 percent;
- a 1.23 percent increase for certified staff;
- technology infrastructure improvements;
- an \$800,000 Board-approved fund balance spend down for capital maintenance, and more.

## Put Your Company's Name 'Out There'

The SDNB has countless naming rights and sponsorship opportunities for local and regional businesses. Our facilities are used by thousands of people annually - from staff, students and families to outside groups from the greater community. Take advantage of our foot traffic and put your brand in front of your future customers!

The SDNB also provides rental agreements for groups as small as two or three to as big as 3,000. Athletic facilities, theaters and classroom spaces are available for your next big event!

Go to [www.nbexcellence.org](http://www.nbexcellence.org) and search keywords "sponsorships" or "facility rentals" for more info!



## SDNB HISTORIC MILL (TAX) RATE

### 10 YEAR TAX LEVY HISTORY

SCHOOL YEAR	EQUALIZED VALUE (Tid out)	CHANGE	TAX LEVY	CHANGE	TAX RATE per \$1000 EQUALIZED	CHANGE
2012-13	4,212,589,405	-3.38%	46,356,030	2.38%	\$11.00	5.97%
2013-14	4,159,800,176	-1.25%	47,490,440	2.45%	\$11.42	3.75%
2014-15	4,328,411,397	4.05%	49,142,016	3.48%	\$11.35	-0.55%
2015-16	4,428,088,120	2.30%	49,692,034	1.12%	\$11.22	-1.16%
2016-17	4,566,665,526	3.13%	50,973,224	2.58%	\$11.16	-0.53%
2017-18	4,779,770,578	4.67%	51,745,449	1.51%	\$10.83	-3.01%
2018-19	4,977,053,088	4.13%	50,791,524	-1.84%	\$10.21	-5.73%
2019-20	5,247,647,190	5.44%	49,109,185	-3.31%	\$9.36	-8.30%
2020-21	5,363,814,925	2.21%	45,742,523	-6.86%	\$8.53	-8.87%
2021-22 Estimate	\$5,474,845,894	2.07%	\$47,767,722	4.43%	\$8.72	2.23%





## REFINANCING

In October, the Board approved a two-part refinancing proposal brought forth by administration that reduces current debt payments and will result in more than a half million dollars in taxpayer savings.

The SDNB refinanced general obligation debt, extending debt payments by two years, but netting \$51,100 in total savings over the next 10 years and resulting in a reduced average debt payment of \$312,000 over each of the next four years. The SDNB also refinanced and lowered the repayment of debt on energy efficiency projects by about \$70,000 in each of the next seven years, or approximately \$490,000. Those savings will be reflected in the tax levy.

# WHAT ARE ESSER FUNDS?

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds are part of the American Rescue Plan, signed into law in March 2021, and are provided to state educational agencies and school districts to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the pandemic on students.



## HOW MUCH IS THE SDNB RECEIVING?

The SDNB could receive up to approximately \$4 million.



## WHAT WILL WE SPEND THE MONEY ON?

The SDNB can use the funds to reimburse pandemic response-related expenses dating back to March 2020. The SDNB will also use funds to address any student learning loss, maintaining the social, emotional, mental and physical health and safety of students / staff during the pandemic, information technology updates and more.

**\$541,100**  
ESTIMATED TAXPAYER  
SAVINGS THROUGH  
REFINANCING



**LONG-RANGE PLANNING**

With the School Board’s support, administration continues to modify and enhance its aggressive and comprehensive long-range facility and capital improvement plans. The plans included several strategic funding mechanisms.

**In total, the district plans to invest approximately \$6.8 million to complete nearly 20 different projects, including:**

- More tuck-pointing and drainage ditch improvements at Eisenhower;
- asphalt replacement at Poplar Creek, Elmwood (rear drive) and West;
- roof section replacements and PA system replacements at Eisenhower and West

These debt-free facilities investments will all come from non-referendum funding sources. The district will use approximately \$3.3 million in fund balance spread over five years, and approximately \$1.2 million will come from debt payment relief as a result of refinancing. Another \$600,000 will come from reallocated funds in the buildings and grounds budget. Most of the remaining funds are expected to come as a result of purchasing technology devices, as opposed to leasing them, through federal ESSER grant dollars.



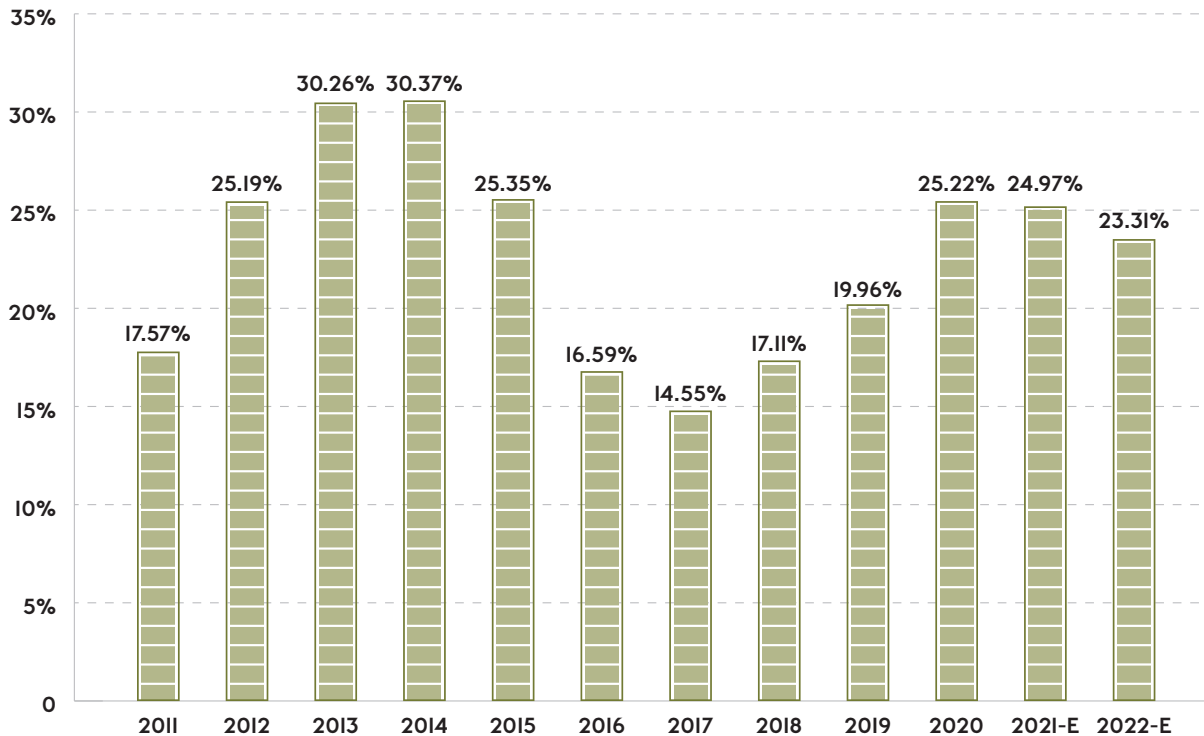
**FUND BALANCE HEALTH**

The district’s fund balance is maintained for unexpected or emergency expenses, maintenance of a favorable credit rating and to minimize the need for short-term borrowing. Fund balance use is restricted to one-time expenses resulting from a district initiative, such as the capital improvement projects the School Board approved in March 2021, or unforeseen costs. Per Board policy, the district will maintain a general fund balance at minimum of 10 percent of operational expenses.

**FUND BALANCE PROJECTIONS:**

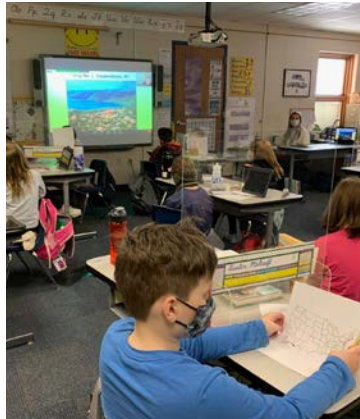
- End of 2020-21 - \$14,030,624 (estimate)
- End of 2021-22 - \$13,230,615 (estimate)
- End of 2022-23 - \$12,450,554 (estimate)
- End of 2023-24 - \$10,555,025 (estimate)

**FUND BALANCE AS A PERCENTAGE OF SUBSEQUENT YEAR’S EXPENDITURES**





# 2020-2021 YEAR IN REVIEW



The School District of New Berlin successfully navigated the 2020-21 school year thanks to countless hours of planning and tremendous levels of support from our students, staff, families and community.

Yes, things looked different at times. Annual in-person events were replaced by virtual substitutes, events such as Career Day, Academic and Career Planning Family Nights and String Fest. Kindergarteners' start of their first day of school was done outside and featured more social distancing than in years past. Teachers utilized outdoor classrooms when the weather permitted, and field trips took on a new look as virtual trips became more prevalent.

More changes were in store for the spring. After a year off because of the pandemic, in-person sixth-grade "moving up" ceremonies returned with a little different feel. Orchard Lane and Poplar Creek held theirs at New Berlin West and Ronald Reagan and Elmwood had theirs at New Berlin Eisenhower to accommodate for social distancing, while the ceremonies were recorded and posted on the SDNB YouTube page!

And the Class of 2021 got to celebrate in ways the previous class did not; prom, Senior Honors Nights and graduation ceremonies were back in a big way for both Eisenhower and West seniors.

## TWO EDUCATIONAL MODELS

In-person and virtual learning enrollment fluctuated throughout the year. At the end of the year, the percentages of students in in-person and virtual learning were:

### 2020-21 OVERALL ENROLLMENT

**79%** IN-PERSON

**21%** VIRTUAL



### GRADES K-6:

**82%** IN-PERSON

**18%** VIRTUAL

### GRADES 7-12:

**77%** IN-PERSON

**23%** VIRTUAL

## A CLOSER LOOK

**0** Number of days a school / the district closed because of COVID-19 outbreak

**4,286**

Number of students enrolled and with school-issued devices

**329,438**

Number of lunches provided from July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021, up from the normal year average of about 236,000





# CONGRATULATIONS!

# Class of 2021

After a one-year hiatus, in-person graduations for Eisenhower and West returned in June.



## BY THE NUMBERS

Class of 2021 students:  
**404** West - 211  
 Ike - 193

Number of seniors  
 who participated in  
 athletics / activities:  
 West - 124 Ike - 141

2021 Seniors  
 Entering the  
 Military:

# 8

Scholarships dollars earned:

# \$4.3M



## SENIOR YARD SIGNS

Thanks to a generous sponsorship by Lifetime Realty Group, every Class of 2021 graduate had an opportunity to take home and proudly display a senior yard sign. Lifetime Realty Group sponsored the signs for the first time in 2020, when in-person learning ended abruptly, and offered to continue the partnership again last spring.



# WORKFORCE EXCELLENCE

## TEACHER RETENTION

The SDNB is extremely proud that our teacher retention rates have increased each of the last two years.

**2020-2021:**

**97%**

**2019-2020:**

**95%**

**2018-2019:**

**92%**

## FOND FAREWELL

We said farewell to nine retiring SDNB employees, all of whom made a tremendous impact on our students and combined for more than 200 years of service to the district. Thank you and congratulations to Maria Brunner, Deborah Cincotta, Cynthia Colden, Gary Hetzel, Christine Kreiter, Laura McVann, Carol Radtke, Randy Rathjen, and Lori Seitz.

Sadly, Julie Ibar, an art teacher at Elmwood who was set to retire after the school year, passed away in early June. She was in her 27th year with the district and in 2019 was a Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Fellowship award winner in 2019.

## OTHER NOTABLE AWARDS:

West principal Michael Fesenmaier was selected for the 2020 American Association of Teachers of French-Wisconsin Chapter's "French Heroes" Award.

Ronald Reagan physical education teacher Katie Mulloy received the Wisconsin Health and Physical Education Association's 2020 outstanding service award.

West teacher Jaclyn Jecha earned a fellowship award from the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation and earned PBS Wisconsin Media Literacy Educator Certification.



## TEACHER OF THE YEAR, HERB KOHL AWARDS

Five SDNB educators - the most ever in a single year - were chosen as Herb Kohl Educational Foundation award winners. Tarah Fedenia, Poplar Creek Elementary; Melanie Gearhart, Elmwood Elementary; Jenna Hoeffert, Elmwood; Kyra Seely, Poplar Creek; and Cody Smith, New Berlin West Middle/High School were awarded Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Fellowship Awards. Fedenia, who took a position in another district this summer, was also selected as one of five 2022 Wisconsin Teachers of the Year by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.



## HEAD OF THE CLASS

The SDNB has a long-standing tradition of promoting from within to deserving employees. This summer, longtime associate principal Jaime Veal took the reins as principal of Elmwood, becoming the third current associate-turned-lead principal in the district. She is joined by new associate principal Ryan Samz this school year.



EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
OF NEW BERLIN

## EDUCATION FOUNDATION AWARDS INAUGURAL GRANTS

In its first competitive grant program, The Education Foundation of New Berlin awarded more than \$8,000 in funding to SDNB teachers for educational initiatives which prepare students for a successful future. The 2021 grant recipients are:

- ★ **Emily Barber, Ronald Reagan:** \$1,250 for a flexible learning zone for the third-grade pod;
- ★ **Katie Berg, Ronald Reagan:** \$1,250 for a flexible learning zone for the third-grade pod;
- ★ **Drew Dierksmeier, Ronald Reagan:** \$421 for social-emotional read-aloud books;
- ★ **Dana McLaren, Eisenhower:** \$2,109 for 3D printing equipment;
- ★ **Ryan Meisel, Eisenhower:** \$1,575 for world music appreciation instruments;
- ★ **Tracy Olson, Ronald Reagan:** \$1,525 for a fourth-grade book club.

**For more information about the EFNB or to donate, visit [www.efnb.org](http://www.efnb.org).**



# CLASSROOM EXCELLENCE



## HERB KOHL AWARD

Eisenhower's Naisha Bepar was one of nearly 200 graduating high school students to have been recognized by the Herb Kohl Education Foundation with a \$10,000 scholarship award. Bepar received an Excellence Scholarship, given to those who have demonstrated excellence in the academic arena and high motivation to achieve.



## PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS SEMIFINALIST

Eisenhower's Cynthia Bian was a semifinalist in the U.S. Presidential Scholars program, a competition that results in one of the highest honors for high school students across the country. Of the estimated 3.6 million seniors in the country, 6,500 are identified as "scholars" candidates and 625 are deemed semifinalists.

## WSMA PROJECT COMPETITORS

Eisenhower sophomore Max Lettelier and senior Nathan Holzhauser competed in the Wisconsin School Music Association Student Composition Project and earned high marks for their efforts. Max took first in piano solo, third in instrumental solo and honorable mention in concert band / orchestra while Nathan placed third in vocal ensemble.



## JOURNALISM AWARD

West's The Norse Code earned a first-place award in the news magazine category from the Kettle Moraine Press Association. Produced by West's journalism class, The Norse Code is a student-run publication; students choose stories, write and edit articles, take and edit photos, decide which articles to include in the magazine and design the magazine.



## CYBER SECURITY STUDENT

West's Dominic Kavalary, a dual enrollment student at Waukesha County Technical College, helped the WCTC cybersecurity team of students that earned first place in the Wisconsin qualifier of the Eric J. Spengler Midwest Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition.

# OUR SCHOOLS

NOTE: 2020-21 ENROLLMENT NUMBERS



## Eisenhower Middle/High

Students: 1,048

4333 Sunnyslope Rd. (262) 789-6300



## West Middle/High

Students: 1,070

18695 W. Cleveland Ave. (262) 789-6400



## Elmwood Elementary

Students: 602

5900 S. Sunnyslope Rd. (262) 789-6581



## Orchard Lane Elementary

Students: 485

2015 S. Sunnyslope Rd. (262) 789-6500



## Poplar Creek Elementary

Students: 452

17401 W. Cleveland Ave. (262) 789-6520



## Ronald Reagan Elementary

Students: 629

4225 S. Calhoun Rd. (262) 789-6550



**ACDEC TEAMS AMONG STATE'S BEST**

Eisenhower turned in the fourth-highest score in the state academic decathlon event in March with 42,295.5 points, good for first among Division 3 programs. West was right behind with a school state-record 41,920.2 points, fifth-best in the state and second-best among Division 2 teams. Among the key performers were Eisenhower's Keven Leng and Soham Nandi, and West's Aiden Puotinen, Angel Chao and Kaytlyn Nelsen.



**U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT'S RANKING**

Eisenhower ranked third in the state of Wisconsin on U.S. News & World Report's Best High Schools list. Eisenhower climbed two spots after being ranked fifth two years in a row. The rankings are based on six measures: college readiness, college curriculum breadth, reading and math proficiency, reading and math performance, underserved student performance and graduation rate. West's ranking is still pending as the SDNB works to correct what amounts to clerical errors made by the publication.



**STUDENTS BUILD A HOME**

In the fall and winter, Eisenhower and West construction III students and Tim O'Brien Homes built their third home together, this time working side-by-side with contracted trade partners to complete a home in a Franklin subdivision. Students learned about and assisted with all aspects of construction including framing, roofing, plumbing, electric, HVAC and finished carpentry.

**PROJECT SEARCH COMPLETION**

Three SDNB students completed the Project SEARCH program last school year, a business-led collaboration that enables young adults with disabilities to gain and maintain employment through training and career exploration. The trio gained full employment at the Milwaukee County Zoo.







### STEAM DAY AT ELMWOOD

Elmwood sixth-graders participated in STEAM Day. STEAM, stands for science, technology, engineering, art and math, and students tried their hand at a marshmallow challenge, building pipe cleaner crystals and creating candy cane structures.

### CITIZEN OF THE MONTH

Elmwood’s Social-Emotional Learning Leadership Team collaborated in efforts to recognize students that exhibited citizenship throughout the school year. With citizenship being a focal part of the school’s action plan, the school launched a new recognition program honoring a “Citizen of the Month”, acknowledging students that went above and beyond within the disposition of citizenship.

### DONATION ORGANIZATION STATION

Poplar Creek’s Donation Organization Station, run by fifth-graders Sophie, Myra and Giuliana, completed two successful school-wide community fundraisers, one for the Humane Animal Welfare Society of Waukesha and the other for the Hope House in Waukesha. For both fundraisers, they researched what the organization needed, created signage for the school, recorded videos for PC’s morning announcements show, and delivered the items.



### COYOTE MURAL

Funded by the school’s PTO, artist in residence Rozalia Singh created a design for a lunchroom mural based on student feedback. Each art class helped paint the wall.

### READING IS COOL

All year long, Orchard Lane students participated in the Reading is Cool program, designed to encourage reading while helping students improve skills and develop a love of books. The program awards students for completing their monthly reading goals and recommending books to their peers.

### ANTI-BULLYING COALITION

Orchard Lane created an anti-bullying coalition consisting of students, staff and parents. The school received licenses to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction’s four-part series on anti-bullying and will use the content of the modules to frame discussions about this important topic.

### REVERSE FIELD TRIP

Thanks to the generous donation of special education assistant Mary Kuehl, students in the district’s Early Learning Program, along with Ronald Reagan kindergarteners and first graders, had the pumpkin patch come to them. Students got to choose from the dozens of pumpkins delivered right to the school.



### CELEBRATING VETERANS

Over the years, Ronald Reagan has raised enough money to send 41 veterans on the Stars and Stripes Honor Flight, including five last year. This year’s school celebration of veterans included the updating of the school’s Honor Wall, which features veterans with ties to the school; letter writing to veterans, thanking them for their service; and the placement of nearly 700 mini U.S. flags on the front lawn on Veterans Day.

### CELEBRATING HISTORY

Throughout February, classrooms at Ronald Reagan researched and celebrated Black History Month. Each classroom studied an influential individual who helped shape the world we live in today, and classrooms shared their learning through a display of their choice. This was just one of many ways schools across the district celebrated Black History Month. Similarly, all schools celebrated Women’s History Month and other important recognitions throughout the year.



# ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE

## Did you know?

West and Eisenhower average approximately 675 students who participate in athletics and/or activities per school per year.



### ELITE CLUB ADDS LUDWIG

Eisenhower senior Sam Ludwig became just the fifth boys player in the school's storied basketball history to surpass the 1,000-career-point plateau. He finished with 1,058 points, but not before joining Reed Timmer (2,096 points), Bryce Miller (1,113), David Grzesk (1,070) and Sullivan Kulju (1,009) in the elite club.



### NOAHS STAY AFLOAT

After sending four wrestlers to sectionals, a pair of NoaHS survived to the state meet: Noah Kopp at 160 pounds and Noah Nieberle at 220. There, Nieberle, in his second state appearance, went 2-2 to place fifth.

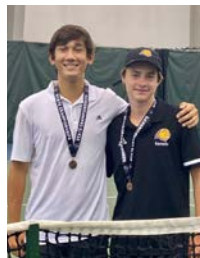


### STATE TRACK SUCCESS

Ten athletes made the podium at the WIAA Division 2 State Track and Field Meet. West's 400-meter relay of Mike Paget, Sam Tisoris, Logan Burgmeier and Andy Vanzile placed third, while West's 1,600 relay of Hannah Sundararajan, Jordyn Nyenhuis, Caitlin Meyers and Katie Gerovac ran fourth. Seventh were Gerovac in the long jump, West's Ian Klein in the high jump and Ike's Max Ringwall in the discus.

### IKE REPRESENTS AT STATE TENNIS

The Eisenhower doubles team of seniors Hayden Houselander and Tanner Witt took third in the WIAA Division 2 State Tennis Tournament. Their only tournament loss came to the eventual state championship duo from Brookfield Academy. In the fall season, Eisenhower's Maia Samuelson and Ava Meyer made their first state appearances and earned a first-round victory.



### WEST DANCE TEAM EARNS NATIONAL TITLE

The West dance team was crowned the 2021 national champions in the all-female medium hip hop competition and took fourth in small pom in the same competition. West was up against teams from all over the country, including Washington, California, Minnesota and more. The team was also second in state in hip hop.



### VOLLEYBALL'S MEMORABLE RUN

The United boys volleyball team secured its sixth state tournament berth in November. United swept Brookfield Central at home in the sectional final to advance to state, where they knocked off Muskego in a quarterfinal before falling to eventual state champion Kettle Moraine.



### HOOPS SQUAD FINISHES AT STATE

With a convincing win over Pius in the sectional final, the Lions girls basketball team advanced to the WIAA Division 2 State Tournament, the program's seventh trip to state and the first since 2018. At the tourney, the Lions (24-5) fell to Reedsburg in the semifinals.



### IKE SOCCER RETURNS TO STATE

The Eisenhower girls soccer team capped a remarkable season by advancing to the state tournament for the sixth time in school history. At state, the Lions lost to eventual Division 3 state champion McFarland, 2-0, in the semifinals.

### IKE CHEER EARNS STATE TITLE

The Eisenhower cheer team staked claim to the 2021 All Girls Varsity Division State Championship. Squad members were Courtney Batchelor, Machia Busalacchi, Natalee Chiroff, Nealee Chiroff, Morgan Cicha, Jeana Conley, Kathryn Doyle, Morgan Fortier, Molly Greeson, Lauren Kelley, Gabrielle Patterson, Cailyn White and Emily Zorn.

### IKE DANCE REPEATS AT STATE

For the second straight season, the Ike dance team won not one, but two state titles, claiming the crown in both pom and jazz. Last year's crew was anchored by five all-state performers: Hayley Jamiola, Brianna Putney, Kiara McKowen, Maya Anderson, and Lily Macdonald.



# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



## FRIEND OF EDUCATION AWARD

The SDNB recognized the work of the incredible generosity and dedication of the elementary parent-teacher organizations - the Elmwood Home & School, the Orchard Lane Parent Faculty Council; the Poplar Creek Parent Teacher Organization and the Ronald Reagan Home & School Association - by presenting them the Friend of Education Award, given annually to groups or individuals who have had a significant and positive impact on students in the district. The organizations raise tens of thousands of dollars each year for their respective schools; provide educational, fun and memorable activities for students; and foster strong building communities by hosting parent meetings and offering volunteer opportunities throughout the school year.



## FEEDING AMERICA

New Berlin West's Foundation students work at Feeding America every Monday, doing a variety of jobs such as sorting candy, putting labels on canned food, weighing and packaging beverages, taping boxes, stacking boxes on pallets and scanning items donated by grocery stores.

## HOLIDAY GIVING

The New Berlin Junior Woman's Club continued its annual partnership with the district, providing gifts to approximately a dozen families in need around the holidays. The NBJWC works with elementary school psychologists to identify families and select gifts, donates between \$500-600 and buys and wraps all the gifts before they are distributed.

New Berlin West's "Holiday Giving Campaign", led by a variety of service organizations including National Honor Society, French Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, DECA, Student Ambassadors, and the Leader Academy, met its goal of \$5,000 in donated funds and gift cards that were funneled to families in need throughout the school community.



## CELEBRATING IN NEW WAYS

The COVID-19 pandemic led to a re-imagined Veteran's Day celebration. Instead of an in-person recognition, our students and staff, with the help of several local veterans, put together a touching tribute commemorating those who served this great country. The video appeared on our website and on social media throughout November.



## 24,000 POUNDS OF FOOD

Eisenhower's DECA held its annual Trick-or-Can community service event and collected nearly 8,100 food items from the New Berlin community. The amount was twice as much as a year ago; more than 24,000 pounds of food were donated to the New Berlin Food Pantry.

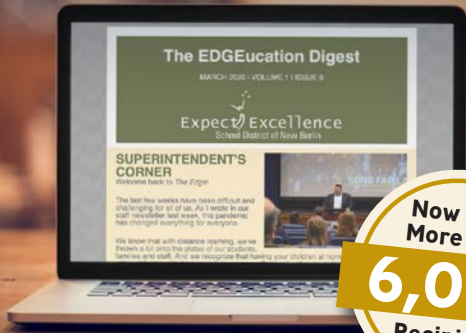


# Sign Up Today!

## NEW BERLIN NATION

New Berlin Nation is a digital community created to engage with alumni, friends and supporters of the SDNB. It's free to join and members are able to connect with each other, learn about upcoming events, get involved and more. [newberlinnation.nationbuilder.com](http://newberlinnation.nationbuilder.com)

## SIGN UP FOR 'THE EDGE' TO GET THE LATEST SDNB NEWS



Now With  
More than  
**6,000**  
Recipients'

The School District of New Berlin's community e-newsletter, The EDGEducation Digest, or what is more commonly know as The Edge, is emailed monthly during the school year. It is filled with info on special events, school updates, School Board news and much more.

Signing up is easy. Email [feedback@nbexcellence.org](mailto:feedback@nbexcellence.org) and let us know that you want access to The Edge so you can stay on top of all SDNB information.

## NOW IN OUR FOURTH YEAR!



## EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM

### Prepare Your Child for Kindergarten & Beyond

- For 3- and 4-year-olds
- Age-appropriate programming
- Focus on social and emotional development
- Maximum 10:1 student/staff ratio

Visit [www.nbexcellence.org/prospective/early-learning-program.cfm](http://www.nbexcellence.org/prospective/early-learning-program.cfm) or call (262) 789-6242 for more info today!



**FEEDBACK:** Questions, Opinions & Ideas welcomed at [feedback@nbexcellence.org](mailto:feedback@nbexcellence.org)

### ANNUAL NOTICES:

Located at [www.nbexcellence.org/district/annualnotices.cfm](http://www.nbexcellence.org/district/annualnotices.cfm)

**PLEASE NOTE:** In order to be good stewards of taxpayer funds, a cost-effective bulk mailing service was used for this publication. However, there are limitations and the service cannot precisely match the School District of New Berlin's boundaries without adding significant cost. If you do not live within the District and received this publication due to this limitation, we ask for your understanding.