



**NEWBURGH
ENLARGED
CITY SCHOOL
DISTRICT**

C-44A



DEF ONLY



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

REPORT 2020-2021

CAPITAL BOND - IMAGINE 2025 - '21-'22 BUDGET - AND MORE



DISTRICT MANTRA

A MANTRA IS A WORD OR PHRASE THAT IS REPEATED OFTEN TO EXPRESS SOMEONE'S BASIC BELIEFS.

When we unveiled the ShoulderUp mantra, the COVID-19 pandemic was not something anyone could have predicted. Our ShoulderUp mantra was intended to remind our district community that we stand tall, literally shoulder to shoulder, we come together, and we support each other with pride....for ourselves, for each other, for our school district.

We THANK YOU for embracing the mantra as your own.
THANK YOU for standing together as we faced multiple pandemics this year.
THANK YOU for your patience, your grace, and your support as we learned how to navigate a pandemic.

The district also altered our ShoulderUp design to reinforce the importance of mask wearing this year. Many of the district presentations as well as signs throughout the district included this MaskUp design to remind the community at large about the importance of wearing a mask. Thank you. We love you. Continue to be safe.



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IMPORTANT NOTICE



MANY OF THE PHOTOS INCLUDED IN THIS PUBLICATION WERE TAKEN PRIOR TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. THIS IS THE REASON WHY SOME PHOTOS MAY NOT INCLUDE MASKS OR SOCIAL DISTANCING



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NEWBURGH

ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Shane Henderson

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Dr. Roberto Padilla

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Exec. Dir., Chief of Data, Information & Technology

COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGIST

Dr. Cassie Sklarz

WEB CONTENT SPECIALIST

Ed Schindler

The purpose of the annual accomplishments report is to showcase the outstanding achievements of our district, our staff, our faculty, and our students. This report doesn't cover all the amazing things happening, but helps to give an overview of the activities in our schools and by the district.

For comments or questions, please contact the communications department at:
communications@necsd.net

DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS



NECSD PRESENTS REOPEN PLAN TO US VIRGIN ISLANDS

NECSD Superintendent and administrators presented the district reopen plan to a group of representatives of the US Virgin Islands. In collaboration with the CDC and FEMA, we were highlighted for our model plan and were asked to support the US Virgin Islands in their reopening efforts.



THE DISTRICT JOINS VERIZON INNOVATIVE LEARNING TO BRING INTERNET ACCESS & TEACHER TRAINING TO SCHOOLS

The district has been accepted into the Verizon Innovative Learning Schools program. Verizon will equip every student without reliable home internet access at four district schools—Meadow Hill School, Temple Hill Academy, NFA North Campus, and NFA West Campus—with a mobile hotspot and up to a four-year data plan to empower 24/7 learning. Together, we will provide extensive training, support, and the opportunity to engage in powerful teaching and learning that leverages technology.



REENGAGEMENT STREET TEAMS

In an effort to support the challenges faced by our school community throughout the pandemic, the district established a Reengagement Street Team to provide additional support in engaging our students who are struggling with chronic absenteeism. This team has conducted nearly 1,000 home visits which have led to 75% of our scholars who were at one point unreachable, reengaging in school.



MUSIC EDUCATION PROGRAM RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR 4TH YEAR!

The district has been honored with the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The NAMM Foundation for its outstanding commitment to music education for the fourth consecutive year! Now in its 22nd year, the designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education.



FOOD SERVICE HEROES DISTRIBUTE OVER 2 MILLION REMOTE MEALS

The district's School Meals program has now served over 2 million meals throughout the pandemic. The program was able to pivot their entire operation in March 2020 to begin serving children through a drive-through distribution operation. The first meal distribution took place less than a week after all schools in Orange County began remote instruction.



DR. ROBERTO PADILLA NAMED NYS SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR

Dr. Roberto Padilla, Superintendent for the Newburgh Enlarged City School District has been named the 2021 New York State Superintendent of the Year by the New York State Council of School Superintendents (The Council). "This is a phenomenal achievement for Newburgh," said Dr. Roberto Padilla. He added "Over the last seven years, we have had the NYS Teacher of the Year and the National CTE Teacher of the Year. From the moment I stepped foot in the district, it was abundantly clear, we have exceptional talent here! We are honored and humbled by this prestigious award. This recognition is the result of a very dedicated and committed district. It truly takes a team to achieve success and I am excited that this is just the beginning."

SCHOOL ACCOMPLISHMENTS



OUTDOOR BOOK TABLE CREATED AT BALMVILLE SCHOOL

The fifth grade teachers at Balmville have provided an outdoor book table on Wednesdays for virtual students and their families to visit. Families voiced concern regarding having access to books, so the teachers opened their classroom libraries to provide a variety of literature for their students.



GAMS 1ST GRADE CLASS MEETS WITH 38 AUTHORS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Ms. Kelly Purdy's first grade class at GAMS has video chatted with a different author every week of the school year. Their visits are a half hour long once a week. The authors generally share a little about themselves and how they became a writer, then dive into the process of bringing a book to life.



NECSD UPK PROGRAM CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

The NECSD UPK program has been serving our youngest scholars for over 50 years. The UPK program's main goal is to prepare our students for kindergarten. This year, our program was able to adapt to the COVID-19 crisis and provide in person instruction and 100% virtual instruction. All Pre-K students received a district issued chromebook, live instruction via google meets and access to the distance learning app, SeeSaw.



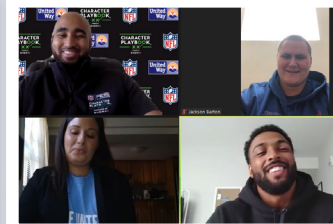
MY BROTHER'S KEEPER SCHOLARS DISTRIBUTE MASKS TO COMMUNITY

Scholars in NECSD's My Brother's Keeper Program (MBK) engaged in a National Day of Service on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day by handing out masks to community members. The young men began at the Newburgh Free Library and then headed to several local senior homes to hand out masks to residents. Masks were donated by the Greater Newburgh Rotary Club.



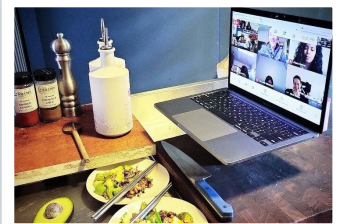
GRANT AWARDED TO IMPROVE SPEED SIGNS

Scholar's in Mr. Schweizer's Architecture, Engineering, and Design class received a \$1,000 grant to retrofit speed signs with solar panels. Once complete, the signs will be self-sufficient without the need for a plug or recharging. The grant is from the Awesome Project. Scholars have consulted with the City Department of Public Works for this real-world project. This class will also work with the CTE program's welding, electronics, and construction classes.



HERITAGE MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOLARS ENGAGE IN NY GIANTS CHARACTER PLAYBOOK

7th grade scholars at Heritage Middle School earned an opportunity to hear from two football players from the New York Giants. The NY Giants Character Playbook program gives students an opportunity to discuss social-emotional wellness, character building, and more with the athletes!



NFA WEST INTERNSHIPS SUCCESSFULLY GO VIRTUAL

NFA West students are required to participate in an internship opportunity one day a week that allows for them to build knowledge, understanding and skills in the context of authentic work. Internships went virtual this year in efforts to keep our community healthy and safe. Students created passion projects and found virtual mentors to help assist them with their design ideas and research.

STAFF/FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Google for Education
Certified Coach

FIVE TEACHERS BECOME GOOGLE CERTIFIED COACHES

Five Instructional Technology Facilitators (ITFs) have become Google Certified Coaches. New Google Coaches include: Ms. Karen Molfese from Balmyville and Gardnertown, Ms. Melissa Doulin from NFA Main Campus, Ms. Andrea Merrill from NFA West Campus, Ms. Helen Zoutis from GAMS, and Ms. Shaun Merritt-Scott from Fostertown and Horizons on the Hudson. This group of teachers is the first to be named Google Certified Coaches in our region.



NECSD TEACHER 2020-2021 AMAZON CLOUD AMBASSADOR

Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas-Cappello has been named a 2020-2021 Amazon Web Services (AWS) Educate Faculty Ambassadors. The 2020 AWS Educate Faculty Ambassadors cohort joins the 2019 cohort and contains 235 members from over 47 countries and more than 180 higher education and K12 institutions. Mrs. Thomas-Cappello is one of only two high school teachers selected for this honor in the United States.



VGSA TEACHER RECOGNIZED WITH TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

The Mid-Hudson School Study Council (MHSSC) has honored Ms. Catherine Gilligan as one of their Teaching Excellence Award recipients. The award is “a tribute to outstanding service in the field of educational instruction.” Ms. Catherine Gilligan has been working in the district for 32 years. She is currently a School Library Media Specialist at Vails Gate STEAM Academy.



EDUCATORS TEACH COURSE WITH NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY AND HUDSON VALLEY WRITING PROJECT

Newburgh Free Academy P-TECH educators Ms. Christine McCartney and Ms. Jacqueline Hesse are the recipients of a grant from the National Geographic Society to run two courses for teachers, Anti-Racist Teaching Through History, through the Hudson Valley Writing Project, one in the summer and one in the fall of 2021.



TWO NECSD TEACHERS BECOME NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS

Ms. Melissa Higgins (pictured), 4th grade teacher at Temple Hill Academy and Ms. Yvette Sosnick (not pictured), reading teacher at Balmyville School achieved National Board Certified Teacher status and they join a distinguished group of teachers. Only 3% of all teachers in the United States achieve National Board Certification. To date, 26 of our NECSD teachers have achieved this significant certification and 10 teachers are currently working to achieve this status.

STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS



VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN SELECTED

Newburgh Free Academy is proud to announce Sophia Hyun and Jacob Johnston as the NFA Class of 2020 Valedictorian and Salutatorian, respectively. Sophia plans to attend the University of Southern California next year to study Computer Science with a focus on Game Development. Jacob plans to attend RPI to study computer science. Jacob plans to be a software developer or video editor. Congratulations to our scholars!



NFA SCHOLAR RECEIVES FULL FOUR-YEAR SCHOLARSHIP

NFA Senior, Tamiia Quinn is a winner of the 2020 QuestBridge National College Match, a program that connects high-achieving scholars from low-income backgrounds with four-year scholarships. She will attend Emory University, in Atlanta, GA.

STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS



TYLER RAFFERTY SIGNS TO PLAY FOOTBALL FOR WEST POINT

NFA Senior, Tyler Rafferty officially committed to attend and play football for the United States Military Academy at West Point next year.



NFA SENIOR AMILIA WISE-SWEAT TO RUN FOR COASTAL CAROLINA

NFA Senior and student athlete, Amilia Wise-Sweat has signed her letter of intent to join Coastal Carolina's Division I track program and will study in their physical therapy program.



NFA SENIOR SHAYLEA TRILLER SIGNS TO SWIM WITH SIENA COLLEGE

NFA Senior Shaylea Triller signed her National Letter of Intent to swim with Siena College next year. Last year, Shaylea made it to the state championships where she finished 33rd in the 100-yard freestyle.



NFA SENIOR LEONARD DIAZ TO RUN FOR U ALBANY

Leonard Diaz, senior at NFA committed to Division I school, University at Albany for Cross Country and Track & Field. Lenny will study Business Management next year. He has been running for four years and his best event is 800 meters.



NFA SCHOLAR SELECTED AS SEMI-FINALIST IN COCA COLA SCHOLARS FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

NFA Senior, John Abrams is a Semi Finalist in the Coca Cola Scholars Foundation Scholarship program! John is one of only 1,609 Semi Finalists chosen among 99,403 applicants this year (just 1.6%) because of their outstanding leadership, academic achievements, and dedication to their community.



TWO FOSTERTOWN SCHOLARS HONORED WITH TRIPLE "C" AWARD

Gia Rodriguez and Eden Bremmer, 4th grade scholars at Fostertown Elementary School were honored with the Triple "C" Award. The Triple "C" Award is an award from Attorney General Letitia James that recognizes the courage, character, and commitment of New York State's outstanding students. For more than 20 years, the Office of the Attorney General has celebrated some of New York's more remarkable young people with the presentation of this award.



NECSD SCHOLARS CREATE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Rackesha Bailey, Maday Lutna, and Maria Herrera 11th grade scholars at NFA have been working to create a sanctuary for the Newburgh community in the form of a beautiful garden. Nestled in between the Newburgh Free Library/Board of Education and the Dutch Reform Church in the City of Newburgh, community members will find a place to meet, grow their own food, learn about plants and vegetables, and find a quiet place to sit and read as a result of the passion and commitment these scholars had to their vision.

2021-2022 BUDGET INFORMATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET AND BOE ELECTION

VOTE TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021 NOON - 9:00PM

DISTRICT SETS RECORD WITH 0% TAX LEVY INCREASE.

The tax levy is the amount of money the district collects from community members. This will be the sixth year that the district has had a 0% increase.

BOE CANDIDATES

There are 5 candidates running for the 3 open seats on the Board of Education. The candidates are Dawn Fuchek, Ramona Burton, Renee Y. Greene, Philip Howard, and Shoy Colbourne.

0%

**TAX LEVY
INCREASE**



Each year in May, the community votes on the district school budget, library budget, and any additional propositions that have been proposed. Also, an election for any vacancies for the district's Board of Education is held. Polling locations are available throughout the district and voting is open from noon until 9:00pm.

Our district's public notification is mailed to every household within the district and includes information on both the library and school district budget and the propositions that are on the ballot. All community members should have received this in their mail. This is also available on the district budget website listed below.



DISTRICT BUDGET WEBPAGE

On the district's budget website you can find information on this year's budget vote/election. In addition, there is information on polling locations, sample ballot, how to register to vote, and more.

www.newburghschools.org/budget

STRATEGIC PLAN IMAGINE 2025

IMAGINE 2025

WHY STRATEGIC PLANNING?

Strategic planning is something most districts do on a regular basis. It is an amazing opportunity for a district to reflect on the past and look forward.

OUR PRIORITIES

Our four priorities are Teaching and Learning, Wellness, Transformative Leadership, and Efficient Operations. We are also focusing on Mitigating Regression Resulting from the Pandemic in each of these areas.

The Year of 2020 has been a test of endurance. This year is no different. At the time of this new strategic plan, our country continues to battle a global health crisis, an economic crisis, and a systematic racism crisis. All across the country, schools have had to reimagine what teaching and learning entails in a remote environment. The ability to unlearn and relearn will be the new test on how schools respond to the pandemics. We know the needs of our scholars during the past two academic years will have ramifications over the duration of this five year strategic plan. However, in the Newburgh Enlarged City School District, we see these unprecedented challenges as opportunities.

Over the last five years, our district performance hit multiple milestones. This plan was developed collaboratively with district and community stakeholders representing all corners of our school system. We remain committed and united to our vision and mission. **IMAGINE 2025** is a forward-focus approach to educating Newburgh scholars over the next five years.

IMAGINE 2025 will focus on four priorities:

Teaching and Learning
Wellness
Transformative Leadership
Efficient Operations

Each of these priorities are coupled with a set of strategic initiatives and outcomes that will guide our decision making. **IMAGINE 2025** is a plan for everyone, designed to bring together the most important efforts that will continue to drive our success.



INTRODUCTION

Strategic planning is something most districts do on a regular basis. It is an amazing opportunity for a district to reflect and look forward. This website will introduce our primary planning work. An additional website will be created once the final plan is chosen. This website will showcase the work done in development of the Imagine 2025 Strategic Planning process. The four questions are as follows during this process.

How are things going in our district right now?
Where do we want to be as a district in three to five years?

IMAGINE 2025 WEBSITE

The Imagine 2025 website includes an introduction from Superintendent Roberto Padilla and Board President Carole Mineo. It also lists our Accountability Teams, and what progress has been made on our predicted outcomes.

www.newburghschools.org/imagine

CAPITAL BOND PROJECTS

NEWBURGH GOLDBACKS

NEW WINDSOR SCHOOL

Work on New Windsor School includes demolition of the 120 year old tower section that was deteriorating and new construction in its place. The designs for this are in the final stages.

CTE CENTER DESIGN

The new CTE Center will house the district's entire CTE Program and will be located adjacent to the NFA Main Campus.

Exterior and interior conceptual drawings were recently presented at a Board of Education meeting. The initial design phase is nearing completion.



Our first capital bond project has been completed and many more are in the design phase. The renovations of the NFA Swimming Pool have been completed. The pool has been closed for almost two years due to a water leak. Now all issues have been fixed as well as the entire pool area and locker rooms have been renovated.

The brand new CTE Center design phase is nearly complete and work to begin to clear the land for the next steps will begin in the fall. Work on the New Windsor School and Vails Gate STEAM Academy projects are also set to begin shortly since its design is in the final stages. Finally, the Heritage cafeteria addition's final design is approved and construction will begin on that in the coming months.

Every school will have improvements made as part of the Capital Bond project and work will continue through 2028. Newburgh has the largest school capital bond in New York state.



CAPITAL BOND WEBSITE

For updated information about the Capital Bond please visit our website below. You will find information about projects currently underway, including progress photos, and a timeline on other projects.

www.newburghschools.org/bond

OPERATION REOPEN

Operation REOPEN

FALL 2021

We are preparing our programs and facilities for five days, all in-person learning starting in September.



SCHOOL NURSES ADMINISTER COVID-19 TESTS

When student testing for COVID-19 was required for our region, our school nurses got trained, and administered the tests to our scholars. This was above and beyond their normal duties but their professionalism allowed the process to run smoothly and efficiently.

The district is committed to making the soundest decisions regarding our reopening process, and we strongly believe in making those decisions based on science. Our approach is comprehensive in nature and it is informed by what we see happening locally as well as by national and state guidance.

NECSD strives to safely continue to return students to the physical classroom, but we recognize that doing so can only be done safely. The guidance we receive from the CDC, the New York State Education and Health Departments, and our local Orange County Department of Health guides our planning to make sure children and adults are safe.

OPERATION REOPEN WEBSITE

This website is designed to inform parents and employees of the plans as we continue to reopen our school campuses. On this site, you can view the guiding documents that we considered in creating our reopening plan and familiarize yourself with the options for returning to school.



www.newburghschools.org/reopen



NFA PRODUCTION OF
IN THE HEIGHTS
STREAMING ONLINE MAY 21-24, 2021

The NFA production of In The Heights was set to debut last year but was put on hold due to the pandemic. Our scholars rehearsed long hours but unfortunately the production was not able to be shown as planned. This year we have re-recorded some parts and are able to now stream the production on the web for our ticket holders to see. Those who purchased tickets last year will be emailed a link to view the show for free. For those who would like to purchase tickets to view the show streaming online, please visit www.newburghschools.org/heights

