

Region 14 Schools

Inspiring Excellence

The Region 14 community is dedicated to ensuring an engaging and positive learning environment where every student becomes a respected contributing member of society who graduates prepared to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing world.

January 2019

www.ctreg14.org

I hope that you all had a restful and wondrous winter break. 2019 is off to a great start here in Region 14 and I am looking forward to visiting more classrooms and sharing my experiences with you.

I am excited to report that the Superintendent's Advisory Council had its inaugural meeting on January 28.

The mission of this committee made up of Region 14 parents and community members, is to help our district better serve the people in it. The SAC will continue to discuss issues facing students, parents, faculty, staff,

community members as well as the business and clergy communities. The goal is simple - building bridges that serve to connect everyone in Bethlehem and Woodbury to Region 14. I look forward to meeting new faces and listening and learning.

There is a lot happening here at all of our schools and within the district. Please take a few minutes to read some updates and see for yourself how we are continuing to inspire excellence here in Region 14.

Dr. O

DISTRICT WIDE SCHOOL COUNSELING

District-wide we have begun our move to a comprehensive all school counseling model.

This is a proactive and preventative curriculum that begins with our youngest students and has school counselors assisting in areas like character education, fostering civic responsibility, kindness, bullying awareness and helping students in skill development.

Counselors will have multiple touch points with 100% of Region 14 students. They will conduct individual check-ins, classroom lessons, review of all student progress and establish an intervention protocol in the Counseling Department.

This will also allow for true vertical transition in terms of expanding services and supports for students as they move and grow from PK-12 in Region 14 schools.

REGION 14 AND ASAP (ADVOCATES FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION) held a program on January 16 on the dangers of tobacco-related products affecting our kids. Most, if not all, are easily concealed and were designed to look like something that can be found in your child's backpack.



Some you may have already heard about products like a Juul or a Vape "Pen". Please take a look at this graphic. It helps parents identify the dangerous products that could be easily hidden among your child's everyday things in his or her backpack. If you have any questions, please contact our District Social Worker Joy Geraci. Click on the image for the bigger picture.

SAFETY REMINDER

Winter weather is here and with it comes the possibility of slippery roads and even snowbanks that may form during one of these storms. Please take a moment to review safety precautions for our Region 14 students who ride the bus and those who drive the same streets.

DRIVERS: Slow down, pay attention, turn your head lights on, and never pass a stopped school bus. **STUDENTS:** Allow extra time to get to the bus stop, pay attention, and cross in front of the bus. Stay safe in Region 14!

@ Nonnewaug High School



MU ALPHA THETA MEMBERS received their honor society certificates this month



Christo Jamo on Trumpet and Kai Spencer and Connor Beck, Tenors at the NORTHERN REGIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL



NEW SCIENCE CLASSROOMS at NHS are nearly completed. The High School Renovation Project is continuing nicely even through all this winter rain

The Nonnewaug CCRC News

Feb. 2019

February Update!

We are very excited in the Counseling Department, we have had over 70% of our seniors apply to college and they are now beginning to make the tough decision as to which colleges they will be attending in the fall! Counselors have started meetings with Juniors, to ensure they are prepared for their upcoming senior year! Whether your plan is a four year college, technical school, community college, the military, or directly joining the workforce- every student graduates NHS with a plan, and it is never too early to start working towards that goal! We will additionally be hosting a number of field trips this spring, along with our College Night in April, so please be sure to keep up with all that is happening via our Twitter account as well as listening to daily announcements!

The **CCRC** is an invaluable resource for our high schoolers whether college bound, into the military or heading to work. Click the above link for information.

At Nonnewaug, our newest honor society inducted students on January 14.

The MU ALPHA THETA MATH HONOR SOCIETY is the international high school and two-year college mathematics honor society. To be eligible for membership, a student must have completed four semesters of college preparatory mathematics and be enrolled in a fifth semester. In addition, the student must maintain at least a B average in these courses. We are proud to have welcomed more than 20 Nonnewaug students in our first chapter of this prestigious organization.

New and current NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY members will have their induction ceremony in February. These exemplary Nonnewaug students receive their certificates in a ceremony on February 6.

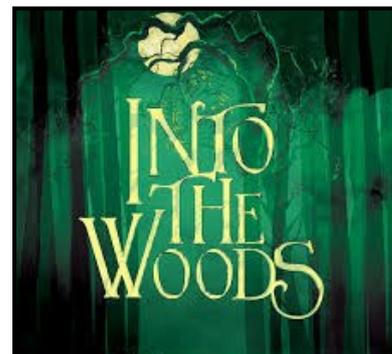
In the arts, we have had many accomplishments and more to come. Musically speaking, we had 3 Nonnewaug students chosen again by audition to participate in the NORTHERN REGIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL on January 18 and 19.

The Connecticut Music Educators Association hosts four regional festivals (Northern, Southern, Eastern and Western) and one All-State festival each year. It's truly an honor for our talented high school musicians.

We had 21 Nonnewaug and 3 Woodbury Middle School students' artwork chosen for the SCHOLASTIC ART AWARDS. Our own NHS Senior Sophia Cenatiempo received the Gold Key award for her portfolio - one of only 13 high school art students in the state to receive such an honor. [See the artwork by clicking here.](#)

Our Art Teachers Jessica Gamache, Jenna Riggi, Michelle Roe, and Leeza Desjardins do an outstanding job shepherding our young artists in so many areas.

8 Nonnewaug AP ART STUDENTS — Ava Cawley, Sophia Cenatiempo, Jessica Dooley, Emily Hanson, Glenn Jameson, Mary Lasley, Amanda Pellino, Natalie Shreve — will have their artwork on display at the Woodbury Public Library February 4 - 28. A reception will be Saturday, February 9 from 2 - 4 p.m. at the Woodbury Public Library.



The music and fine arts students at NHS will spend much of the winter readying for the NHS DRAMA PRODUCTION of "Into the Woods." Students are busy at work preparing for the 4-day April performance schedule that includes a special performance just for our senior citizens.

Due to construction at the high school, the play will be performed at Woodbury Middle School this year.

@ Woodbury Middle School



Our own SCHOLASTIC ART AWARD winners at Woodbury Middle School: Luke Cenatiempo and Ellie Wilkes, Honorable Mention and Eliana Groban, Silver Key for Drawing & Illustration.



The WOODBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL WINTER CONCERT on January 17 was truly a wonderful experience. We have amazing and talented musicians we have here in Region 14. Todd Gorski, Priscilla Appiagyei, Megan Robison and Diana Brandt have done an incredible job integrating our music curriculum into this concert collaboration.

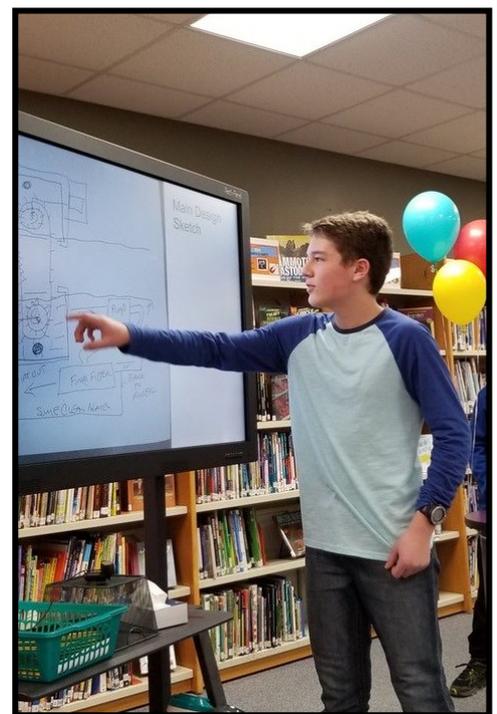
Exciting yearly events are the 8TH GRADE PARENT AND STUDENT INFORMATION NIGHT and 8th GRADE ELECTIVES FAIR that were held on January 24 and 25. We are thankful for the NHS Administration Julie Luby and Pam Sordi along with our NHS School Counseling Department who help to prepare our 8th grade students for their transition to high school.

This 8th grade transition experience for our Region 14 students also includes meeting the NHS counselors in the fall to speak about the importance of academics as it relates to their own high school and career plans, a visit from the director of the Agriscience Technology Program at NHS and then heading to the high school to tour the school and meet with elective teachers.

8th GRADE CAPSTONE students presented their "Elevator Pitch" on January 24 to answer the question "WHAT IF?" Ideas ranged from transitional soccer cleats to pet microchips, to helping the population of stray cats in the country be safe to app to help find just the right movie.

One of the nine ideas by the teams will move forward to the state-wide Expo Fest. This marks the first time middle schools will be in attendance at this state-wide showcase in May.

This class, taught by Aimee Shuhart, is a unique opportunity for 8th graders to work individually as well as part of a highly collaborative team to create a new product, service, or solution that addresses the designated theme for the year.





@ Bethlehem & Mitchell Elementary Schools



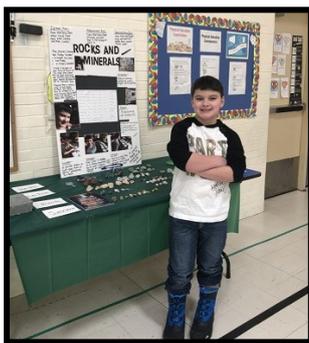
The SPANISH ENRICHMENT program for elementary schoolers has been offered for many years and this year is no different.

Student members of the Latin American Club at Nonnewaug High School have volunteered to teach MES and BES students basic Spanish on Tuesdays for six weeks through mid February. Gracias to Senora Jane Caruso and her team of Nonnewaug Spanish students guiding our young students in learning a new language.



THE SPIRIT OF HELPING OTHERS continues at our elementary schools. Bethlehem Elementary School hosted a Fuel Drive to help needy residents heat their homes as they prepare for winter. All donations go to the Bethlehem Fuel Bank.

At Mitchell Elementary, they are taking advantage of all the excitement of the Super Bowl between the New England Patriots and the Los Angeles Rams. They hosted their own "SOUPER BOWL" week-long food drive for students to place their donations in the box of the team that they hope wins the big game this weekend. All items that are collected will be brought to the Woodbury Food Bank.



January was all about Science for the members of our elementary schools. Our young Einsteins and John Smeatons were busy creating for the K-5 SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIRS on January 23 at BES and January 31 at MES. While the baking soda and vinegar spewing volcanoes were a popular choice, our students also showed experiments on rocks, apples, planets as well as built, robots, temperature gauges, and cardboard box video games just to name a few.

SAVE THE DATE!

THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WINTER CONCERT
February 7, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.
Mitchell Elementary School

