

Netcong News



Netcong Elementary School 26 College Rd Netcong, NJ 07857

Netcong Elementary School Gets a New Music Room!

During the summer of 2022, the Netcong Elementary School's music room was renovated from the ground up. The new music room has increased storage for instruments, a new office for Ms. Burkat, the music teacher, and a sound proof ensemble room. There are vinyl decorations on the walls representing music and all things Netcong. The district's architect, Solutions Architecture, designed the new space which is bright, airy, and student friendly. The room is fantastic and the students LOVE going to music and band in their new classroom space. Thanks to the Netcong Board of Education for supporting this project!



Our Children Our School Our Future

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Special points of interest:

- Winter concert 12/8/22 6pm
- The PTA Holiday Shop will be on December 13th and 14th.
- Early Dismissal 12/23/22
- PTA Open Gym Nights will begin on 1/13/22. Stay tuned for more information.
- The Municipal Alliance Winter Movie Night will be on February 10th. Stay tuned for more information.

Keith Hawkins Presents to Students and Parents on Social and Emotional Learning



On November 1st and 2nd, motivational speaker, Keith Hawkins, from Real Inspiration presented two assemblies to our students in grades 3-5 and 6-8 which focused on anti-bullying. Later in the day on November 1st, Mr. Hawkins trained 7th and 8th grade student leaders to

facilitate a Day of Understanding on November 2nd for our 7th and 8th grade students. The student leaders did a great job organizing group activities for the Day of Understanding. Hawkins also facilitated a workshop for Parents on November 1st which focused on the power of parenting. We

look forward to a continued partnership with Keith Hawkins.



“Give what you need!”

Parent Meeting Held to Address the New Health and PE Standards and Other Updates to Curriculum

The New Jersey Department of Education required school districts in New Jersey to update their curricula in seven instructional areas by the start of the 2022-2023 school year. These areas included: Visual and Performing Arts, Comprehensive Health and Physical Education, Science, Social Studies, World Languages, Computer Science and Design Thinking, and Career Readiness, Life Literacies, & Key Skills. There were many questions regarding the updates to the curriculum, specifically relating to the changes to the comprehensive health and physical education standards. As a result, two curriculum presentations were held at the school. Mrs. Walsh, Superintendent, Dr. Ceresnak, Principal and Mr. Fiedorczyk,

Regional Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction, facilitated the meetings and explained the specific changes that were made to the standards and how the standards would be addressed in the district's curriculum. Parents and caregivers were able to ask questions and the district will let parents and caregivers know when sensitive topics will be covered in health class so they can decide whether to opt their child out of the family health curriculum. In New Jersey, parents have had the right to opt out of the family life curriculum for their children since 1980, when N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.7, the Parents Right to Conscience Act, took effect. This opt out option is still in effect. To find out more about the changes to the curriculum, go to

www.netcongschool.org. The presentations and other information are available on the home page via the shortcuts. A special shout out to Mr. Picallo for assisting with translations at the second meeting.

Curriculum Corner

District Receives Grant for the Implementation of the New Jersey Multi-Tiered System of Supports Early Reading Assessments

The Netcong School District received a grant to partner with Rutgers University on the implementation of the DIBELS as a universal screener for students in grades K-3. DIBELS, which stands for Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills will be administered to students three times per year. Mrs. Rider, the district's interventionist, and Mr. Fiedorczyk, Regional Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction, applied for this grant in the Winter of 2022 and the district was approved in June 2022 as participants in the New Jersey Tiered Systems of Supports- Early Reading Grant Initiative Cohort 4.

The administrative team, as well as the elementary school teachers, have participated in a variety of professional development opportunities on how to implement the DIBELS with fidelity. Furthermore, the training and support the administrative team is receiving via a "coach the coach model," will assist the team in providing support to classroom teachers as we integrate a tiered system of supports to assist our youngest students as they learn to read. The data gleaned from the DIBELS assessment will be a reliable indicator of early literacy skills as well as a predictor of later reading development.

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PTA Harvest Fest Came Back!

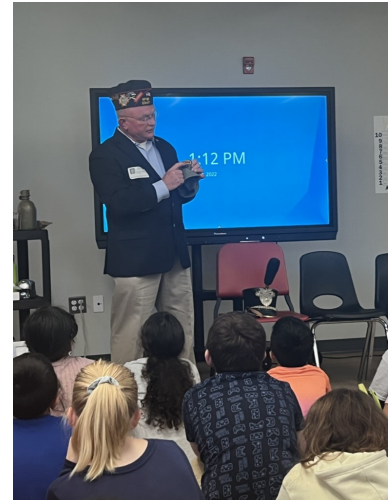
On Friday, October 28, 2022, the Netcong PTA Harvest Festival was held at the Netcong Elementary School. This was the first Harvest Festival held since 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The festival was well attended and the haunted hallway, based on the Netflix hit, "Stranger Things," was a fan favorite. Another fan favorite was the cake walk and many attendees left with sweet treats. There were multiple stations with a variety of activities for attendees. This was a great way to kick off the Halloween weekend.



Fourth and Fifth Grade Students Learn About Veterans' Day

On Tuesday, November 3, 2022, students in fourth and fifth grades attended an assembly to learn about the United States military. Commander Niblett, a veteran who served in the Regular Army (RA) airborne ranger infantry officer for 11 years, came to speak to the students and was a wonderful guest. He taught the students the difference between Veterans' Day and Memorial Day, along with some geography, and what military life is like. All the students had been learning about the significance of November 11th and

Veterans' Day as well as the significance of the poppy flower. We are so thankful for our veterans and learned so much from Commander Niblett! We thank all of our Veterans for their service.



Beyond the School Day Activities Are Well Attended

As part of the requirements of the American Rescue Plan, school districts in New Jersey that received federal funding as a result of the pandemic are required to offer beyond the school day activities to improve the academic, social and emotional wellness of students. Mr. Cryan, the district's Physical Education and Health Teacher is the Beyond the School Day Program (BTSD) Coordinator. In this role, he has designed age appropriate, fun and engaging activities for students that promote

physical, mental, and emotional health and well being. Activities are banded by grade level and are designed so that students are moving their bodies in fun and productive ways. The BTSD program is an extension of the district's Physical Education and Health curriculum. It also is supported by the NFL Flag Football, Jr., NBA Basketball, USA Lacrosse, MLB Fun-At-Bat curricula. The students enjoy the programs all while learning how to be physically fit and active with different types of sports.



Middle School Students Attend Summit at Sussex County Technical School

On Thursday, October 13th, 20 middle school students, along with student council advisors, Ms. Newcomer and Ms. Costello, attended the Center for Prevention's annual middle school



summit at Sussex County Technical School. This year's summit theme was entitled, "Taking Flight to Change." Keith Hawkins from Real Inspiration served as the keynote speaker and worked with

students and their chaperones to empower the students and help school communities identify strategies to nurture and promote a positive and healthy school culture and climate. The students in attendance will work with the School Culture and Climate Team on developing action plans to continue promoting a positive school culture and climate at Netcong Elementary School. This work serves to complement the work the district does in conjunction with the School Culture and Climate Initiative.

Netcong School District

26 College Road
Netcong, NJ 07857

Phone: 973-347-0020
Fax: 973-347-3676



*Netcong, a tradition to nurture, inspire,
empower, and achieve by all, for all.*

*Our Children, Our School,
Our Future*



Find us on the Web!



Find us on Facebook!



Find us on Instagram!

Upcoming Events!

Winter concert: 12/8/22 6pm

PTA Holiday Shop: 12/13/22 & 12/14/22

Early Dismissal: 12/23/22

Winter Break: 12/24/22 - 1/2/23

School Resumes: 1/3/23

MLK Day School Closed: 1/16/23

Winter Movie Night: 2/10/23

President's Day District Closed: 2/20/23

Evening Conferences: 3/15/23

Early Dismissal: 3/16/23 & 3/17/23

Afternoon and Evening Conferences: 3/16/23



Have a safe, healthy,
and happy holiday