



# New Milford Public School District

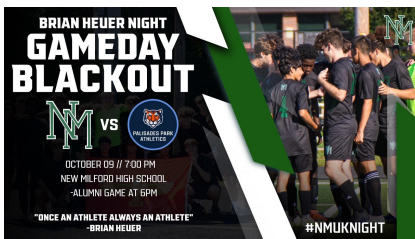
Danielle M. Shanley, Superintendent  
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## Upcoming Events and Updates

October 2023

Dear New Milford Families:

I hope this letter finds you and your family in good health and spirits. As we step into the colorful month of October and eventually the fall season, I am excited to share some important updates and upcoming events happening in the District.



Tonight, October 9 at NMHS is “Brian Heuer Night” beginning at 6PM with the alumni soccer game and remembrance, and then the boys varsity soccer game at 7PM. Support the Brian Heuer Scholarship and join us.



Coffee With the Superintendent will begin virtually at 7 PM tonight, October 9. This month’s Special Guest is Ms. Lauren Odoksta, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction. Select [THIS LINK](#) to connect to the Google Meet.



On Tuesday, October 10, 2023, the New Milford Public School District will partner with Bergen County’s finest leaders in the field of health, safety, crime prevention and education to sponsor the now judicially recognized, 5th Annual Domestic Violence Awareness Symposium. Organized and moderated by **Council Member Matthew Seymour**, this year’s focus will be teen dating violence featuring stories of survival. This event begins promptly at 1PM in the NMHS Auditorium.

It IS OPEN to the public, but REQUIRES pre-registration and Identification at the door.

[Register for in person attendance HERE.](#) Or watch Via [Live Streaming.](#)



Congratulations to our Board of Education members for their distinguished recognition of **Board Certification** from the NJ School Boards Association. This recognizes the full Board’s commitment to training and effective governance in areas such as group process, decision-making, planning, running effective meetings and a focus on student achievement. Paige Ryan, Nicole Dunne (VP), Heather Gomez (Pres.), and Tony Albaro accepted the award.



We are excited to announce the return of our Elementary Parent Academy this year. Our first one is **Wednesday, October 11 from 6:00 - 8:00PM at Berkley Street Elementary School**. This event will focus on English Language Arts and Literacy. Elementary Parents from BOTH schools are welcome to attend. The keynote speaker will be Ms. Coley Conter, followed by your choice of two additional breakout sessions. RSVP to attend and register for your sessions [HERE](#).

Your choices include:

- Phonics Fun
- Making the Most of Nightly Bedtime Stories
- Supporting Reading at Home
- Fluency and Comprehension: What's the Difference?
- Playing with Sounds: The Importance of Phonemic Awareness for all Elementary Students
- Word Study That Sticks
- Supporting Language Acquisition at Home
- Helping Parents Understand Writer's Workshop
- Getting to Know Graphic Novels: How to Support Readers that Love this Medium



The best way to learn more about the comprehensive programming and experiences offered by **New Milford High School** is by attending our annual Open House. On Monday, October 16 at 6:45PM at NMHS, we welcome our 7th and 8th grade students and their families. Learn about our rigorous academic offerings, meet some of our dedicated faculty, advisors, counselors, administrative staff and coaches. Explore our extra and co-curricular activities, our internships and independent studies, our early

college and dual enrollment programs, our guidance and mental health supports, *The Academies@NMHS*, and our service projects; all of which are central to student life at NMHS. In addition, after attending the Open House, we allow 8th grade students to request a visit to the HS to be a Knight for a Day. Contact your guidance counselor for more information. **Prior registration is required.** High School Students interested in volunteering should speak with their counselors.



Remember, October 31 is Halloween and is an early dismissal day. We will have age appropriate activities at the schools throughout the day. Details will be provided by your principal. If you are attending a Halloween event in or at the schools, please refrain from wearing frightening costumes, masks and carrying any toy weapons.



We always need Lunch Aides and Substitute Lunch Aides in the lower schools, as well as Bus Aides. If you are interested in working with us, please [APPLY HERE](#).



Every Friday, we email our parents the Community Backpack. This is to celebrate the wonderful events taking place in and around the New Milford Community. Should your organization have something to share, like an event, registration, drive, concert, exhibit, celebration, festival, etc., send us your flier to be included in our Community Backpack. All fliers must be in PDF format and approved by the Superintendent. We do not advertise for businesses, share any political or campaign info, or send anything that is in conflict with the educational mission of our school district.

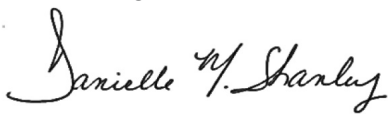
### Some Housekeeping:

- Please remember that all events organized by the school are governed by NMBOE Policy and Regulation. District Events are not the same as public events even though many of our events are open to the public. Events held within the schools are open to invited parents and students, and usually require guests lists, or registration of sorts. Safety is always our top priority.
- The Board of Education prohibits the possession, use, or exchange of any weapon in any school building, on school grounds, at any school-sponsored event, and on school sanctioned transportation, except as the possession and use of a weapon is authorized by law and required in the performance of the possessor's duty at the time of district event.
- In accordance with N.J.S.A. 26:3D-58 and N.J.A.C. 8:6-7.2, the Board prohibits smoking at all times anywhere in school buildings or on school grounds. District events and district property must remain drug, alcohol and tobacco free.
- There are NO animals allowed on school property, except for working/service animals, or other approved purposes. Emotional support animals are NOT allowed on school property.
- Campaigning is not allowed in school or during school or district events. The exception to that is for student government elections. Consider reasonable time, place and manner of all campaign activities so that they do not interfere with the educational environment of our students or with official district events on district property.
- We remind parents and enthusiastic fans to remain positive and encouraging during athletic competitions. Our student athletes are still developing and benefit from our support and cheers. We want them to have fun! Do not address officials or coaches on game days. If you have concerns, handle those privately outside of the games.

We appreciate your continued support and collaboration in making the New Milford School District a nurturing and stimulating place for our students to learn and grow. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us. Together we can make this school year a truly enriching experience.

Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education.

With all good wishes,



Danielle M. Shanley  
she/her/hers