

2015-16  
Annual Report



Expect  
Excellence

School District of New Berlin

“ALL IN!”



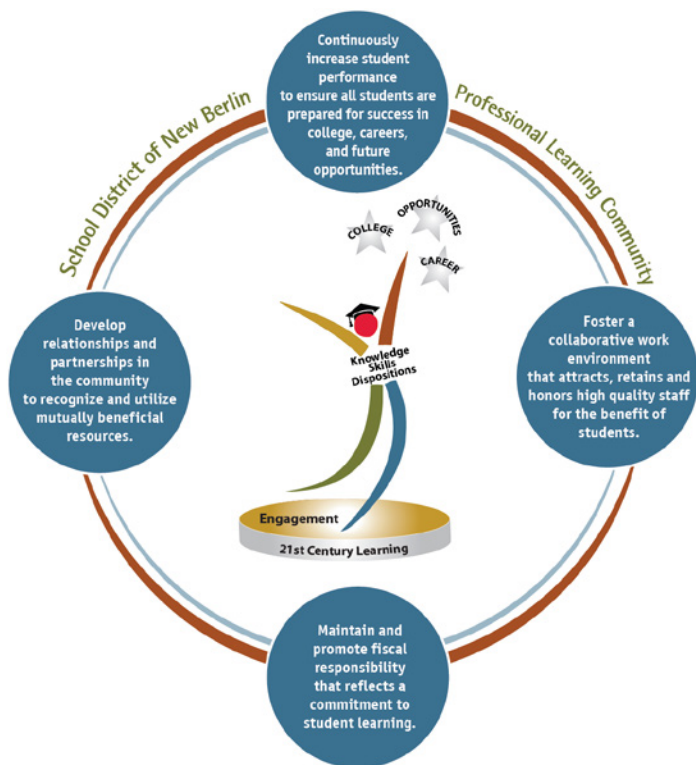
VISIT [WWW.NBEXCELLENCE.ORG](http://WWW.NBEXCELLENCE.ORG)

**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.



The School District of New Berlin’s strategic goals define what we are aspiring to accomplish. These goals are further defined by long-term initiatives and short-term projects that are structured to move the organization forward in attainment of those goals.

LEARN MORE AT [www.nbexcellence.org/district/strategic-goals.cfm](http://www.nbexcellence.org/district/strategic-goals.cfm)

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**PLEASE  
JOIN US**

School District of New Berlin’s Annual Meeting & Budget Hearing

**When:** 7 p.m.  
Monday, Aug. 22

**Where:** New Berlin West Performing Arts Center, 18695 W. Cleveland Ave.

## SUPERINTENDENT & SCHOOL BOARD MESSAGE



Joe Garza,  
Superintendent



David Maxey,  
Board of  
Education President

Each and every school year, our expectation is that our talented teaching staff continues to provide rigorous, relevant and unique learning opportunities for all of the hard-working students of this tremendous community.

Just as it was in 2015-16, student achievement will always be the centerpiece of our success. Throughout this annual report, you will see example after example highlighting those achievements. We are incredibly proud of our students, and the exceptional educators who prepare them for whatever their futures hold.

You'll also see that we continue to receive regional, state and national recognition for our efforts, specifically efforts that have included expanding student programming. Those new opportunities are putting our students ahead of the curve; SDNB graduates are more college- and career-ready than ever before. We are confident our students are receiving one of the finest elementary and secondary educations in the state.

We could not provide this high-quality education without the continued support from parents, community members, business and educational partners and other stakeholders. We thank each of you for collaborating with us on this paramount task.

Please enjoy this look back at the 2015-16 school year, and join us in anticipation for the incredible student achievements 2016-17 will bring.

Superintendent Garza & the Board of Education

*Joe Garza*      *David Maxey*

Joe Garza, Superintendent, Twitter: @garza\_joe

David Maxey, Board of Education President



Superintendent Joe Garza (far left) with the 2016-17 Board of Education: (L-R) Tom David, Amy Crosby, Susan Manley, Jody Kugler, David Maxey, Nate Nickerson and Jeffrey Kurth

# Leading the Way

## Our collective work is being recognized!

SDNB encourages all students to pursue post-secondary learning experiences that align to the goals outlined in their personal Academic and Career Plan. In addition to Advanced Placement courses, the District supports dual enrollment and transcripted credit opportunities both on-site and at area colleges and universities. In the Spring of 2016, the District launched its “UW College in High School Associate Degree” program that allows students to make progress toward and/or complete an associate degree prior to graduation. Students are also able to complete 18-24 Wisconsin Technical College System credits their senior year through the Waukesha County Technical College Regional Dual Enrollment Program.

Additionally, students can earn industry credentials in nursing, IT/computer science and manufacturing through on-site programs that qualify them to work in their area of interest while continuing their education. Now in its third year, the SDNB has more than 60 students that have passed the state certified nursing assistant exam which qualifies them to work in local hospitals and senior care centers.

### *Did you know?*

Great things happen in our schools every day. Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter to see for yourself.



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





## Praise From Gov. Walker

During his Working for Wisconsin: State of the State Tour in January, Gov. Scott Walker praised SDNB for its Academic and Career Planning, participating in the Fast Forward High School Pupil Grant program, and its efforts to reduce the time and cost needed for students to earn a post-secondary degree. These are all critical components of SDNB's College and Career Readiness initiative.

## State Pilot Site for Academic and Career Planning

The SDNB continues to serve in a leadership role in the development of Academic and Career Planning across the state. During 2015-16, SDNB administrators and staff provided input on training materials being developed for the statewide implementation of ACP and shared best practices with other pilot districts.



## Financial Literacy Award and \$10,000 Grant

SDNB received the 2015 Governor's Financial Literacy Award for its efforts to promote financial literacy for students. Nominated by State Representative Joe Sanfelippo, the district was one of 15 individuals, businesses and organizations honored by Gov. Walker and his Council on Financial Literacy in February. Financial literacy is an important component within the district's College and Career Readiness program and made possible thanks to partnerships with Junior Achievement of Wisconsin and Layton State Bank.



## A Visit from UW System President

Last fall UW System President Ray Cross visited SDNB to learn how educators can continue to work together to strengthen alignment between the public K-12 system and colleges and universities in Wisconsin. Cross toured many of SDNB's new program areas, including engineering, manufacturing, IT/computer science and nursing as students reinforced the value of project-based learning and more.

SDNB was also one of 11 school districts, schools and organizations to be awarded a grant from the governor's Council on Financial Literacy to enhance personal finance education. SDNB earned a \$10,000 grant to offer additional financial literacy lessons and professional development.

## Another Leadership Opportunity

The SDNB was selected to participate on the state team to advance the Council of Chief State School Officers' national career readiness initiative. Through this initiative, CCSSO is supporting all states as they align K-12 programming to better prepare students to complete post-secondary education and/or industry credentials that will help them

secure future employment. The state team, which includes representatives from K12, the Wisconsin Technical College System, the University of Wisconsin System, Department of Public Instruction, industry and economic development, recently earned a New Skills For Youth Grant from JPMorgan Chase to advance this work across Wisconsin.

# EISENHOWER, WEST: AMONG THE BEST



## ***Washington Post's*** **Most Challenging**

Eisenhower and West were once again recognized by the *Washington Post* as two of the most challenging high schools in Wisconsin based on Advanced Placement (AP) test participation.

Eisenhower jumped from seventh in 2015 to fourth as West climbed from 10th to eighth in the Post's 2016 "America's Most Challenging High Schools" index compiled each year by reporter Jay Mathews. The list is designed to identify schools that have done the best job in encouraging high school students to take college-level courses and tests. This is the sixth consecutive year both Eisenhower and West have been ranked by the *Washington Post*.

America's Most Challenging High Schools list is based on an index calculated by taking the number of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and Cambridge tests given at a school and dividing it by the number of graduating seniors.

## **National Gold Medal from** ***U.S. News & World Report***

Eisenhower and West were also ranked among the top high schools in Wisconsin by the *U.S. News & World Report's* 2016 Best High Schools list. Eisenhower was ranked fourth and West fifth on the annual list and were two of only five schools in the state to earn the publication's national gold medal.

*U.S. News & World Report's* rankings are based on the concept that great high schools must serve all students well, not just those who are college bound. Ranked schools must be able to produce measurable academic outcomes to show educational successes across a range of performance indicators such as state assessments, how well schools prepared students for college, and for the first time this year, graduation rates.

In *U.S. News & World Report's* "college readiness" index rankings, Eisenhower was fifth and West seventh in the state, based on schools' AP participation rates and test results.

# Student Achievements & Celebrations

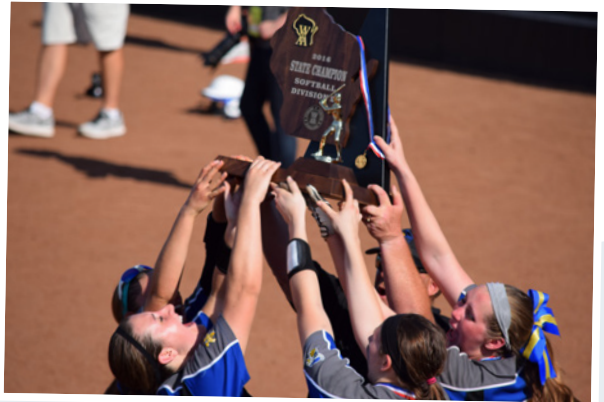


## EISENHOWER WINS GIRLS STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Gary Schmidt, named the 2016 Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Coach of the Year, and the Lions girls basketball team, knocked off top team after top team en route to the program's second WIAA Division 2 state championship. Eisenhower rallied from a nine-point deficit to defeat Stoughton, 46-42, in the season finale in Green Bay in March.

## WEST CLAIMS STATE SOFTBALL TITLE

Coach Greg Klotz and the Vikings earned the first WIAA softball title in school history when West defeated Delavan-Darien, 2-1, in the Division 2 championship game in Madison. All-state pitcher Cheyenne Sowinski scattered five hits in the title game and knocked in the decisive run, as the Vikings finished the season with a 26-5 record.



## JOSTEN'S YEARBOOK AWARD

Eisenhower's and West's yearbook programs were named 2016 Jostens' National Yearbook Programs of Excellence, a program that recognizes engaging yearbooks that reflect a broad representation of the student body while helping students develop 21st century skills such as communication, collaboration, and information and communication technologies literacy.



## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT & CELEBRATIONS



### OUTSTANDING MUSICAL

Eisenhower's *Aida*, West's *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and Eisenhower's *Little Shop of Horrors* racked up a combined 45 Tommy Awards nominations. *Aida* won as "Outstanding Musical" and the cast performed at the awards ceremony at the Overture Center for the Arts in Madison. *Little Shop* won six Tommy Awards, and all three SDNB productions won student Spirit Awards.

### WEST SENIOR EARNS STATE IT AWARD

West senior Naomi Bhagat was selected as a winner of the 2016 Wisconsin National Center for Women & Information Technology Award for aspirations in computing. The award recognizes young women for their computing-related achievements and interests as part of an effort to encourage more to choose careers in technology. Award winners were selected from high schools across Wisconsin for their outstanding aptitude and interest in information technology and computing, solid leadership ability, good academic history, and plans for post-secondary education.

### BUILD MOTORCYCLE TEAM

The district's BUILD team, a group of students who rebuilt and fully restored a vintage motorcycle and helped race it at Road America, finished second at the annual race in the program's second year. Students from both high schools met Tuesdays and Saturdays from January to June at Hal's Harley-Davidson to work on motorcycle.

### NEW CLUB LAUNCHED FOR FUTURE CHANGEMAKERS

A team of Eisenhower Middle School students won the Rookie of the Year Award at its first Future City competition held at Milwaukee School of Engineering. The program gives students an opportunity to learn engineering design processes as they prepare for the challenges of the competition: creating a virtual city that explores how a city develops; writing a city description based on research on the issue and their ideas for how it would be addressed in the future; and building a model that represents their city and the solutions to the issue. It's another example of SDNB students "showing what they can do with what they know."

### SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARD

Eisenhower senior Isabelle Seifert earned a silver medal at the national level in the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards of 2016. Of nearly 320,000 works of art and writing submitted, only the top one percent were recognized at the national level.



### ROBOTICS TEAM

The New Berlin Blütz FIRST Robotics team, comprised of Eisenhower and West students, competed in a competition in Minnesota against teams from as far

away as California and Istanbul, Turkey. SDNB students built a robot in January and February with guidance from mentors who have expertise in STEM-related careers and skills like engineering, design, building, project management, electricity, software, and then took it to competitions in March. Special thanks to Joy Global, GE Volunteers, Rockwell Automation, Krones, PPG, and Dematic for supporting our FIRST Robotics team.





# SENIOR EVENTS

## GRADUATION

Nearly 400 high school seniors graduated from Eisenhower and West in front of hundreds of family, friends, staff and administrators in June. The graduating classes earned more than \$3.5 million in scholarships, had 103 members in the National Honor Society and had 141 students earn cum laude recognition.



## GPS GRADUATES

Four New Berlin high school students - Roman Haack, Dylan Nielsen, Brandon Schlieve and Andrew Wachholz - completed the GPS Manufacturing Program, which allowed them to rotate through a number of different manufacturing environments while they completed high school. Two of the students have already accepted full-time jobs! Andy participated in an accelerated track that allows him to earn college credit while working. The credits he earned through the program will eventually be applied to the 2+2 degree program at UWM.

## SENIOR WALKS

SDNB seniors started a new tradition this spring when they did a "Senior Walk" through the elementary schools. Hundreds of Eisenhower and West seniors donned their caps and gowns and visited their old stomping grounds where they were greeted by younger district mates and former teachers. The walks were intended to inspire younger students, instill the importance of graduation and to motivate students to strive for success during their school years. For the seniors, the stroll through memory lane let them regain appreciation for their elementary teachers, classmates and past experiences.

## WCTC DUAL ENROLLMENT

Four New Berlin West seniors graduated from Waukesha County Technical College's dual enrollment academies and were awarded certificates, college credits and a jump start on their postsecondary degree and future careers. Noah Evans (not pictured), Aristotelis Karampelas and Alexander Lum earned certificates in welding/metal fabrication and Michele Norris earned one in printing and publishing.



## PROJECT SEARCH

SDNB student Trevor Jameyson completed Project Search at the Milwaukee County Zoo. The internship program teaches young people with disabilities the skills they'll need to become part of the workforce after high school. Trevor was selected by his peers and the leaders of Project Search to give the Completion Ceremony graduation address attended by Gov. Scott Walker and County Executive Chris Abele.



Expect  
Excellence

School District of New Berlin

# Staff Accomplishments & Celebrations



## HERB KOHL FELLOWSHIP

Monica Church of Elmwood Elementary and Lori Seitz at New Berlin West Middle/High were chosen as Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Fellowship Award winners. They were two of 100 teachers around the state to earn this year's \$3,000 award. Church was a special education teacher who taught in the district for seven years before taking a position in District Office this summer. Seitz has been a member of the West math department since 2000. Fellowship recipients are educators chosen for their superior ability to inspire a love of learning in their students, their ability to motivate others, and their leadership service within and outside the classroom.



## ORCHARD LANE DPI AWARD

Orchard Lane was one of 169 public schools to earn a Wisconsin Title I School of Recognition Award for the 2015-16 school year from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. The award highlights schools that have demonstrated success in educating students from low-income families. Orchard Lane was named one of 11 "high-achieving schools" for meeting all annual measurable objectives for achievement and graduation; having achievement gaps that are less than three points between student groups or show evidence of reducing gaps; and demonstrating high achievement at the school level.

## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC TEACHER

Ronald Reagan fifth-grade teacher Peter Michaud completed The National Geographic Educator Certification Program, a certification built around a set of attitudes, skills and knowledge National Geographic believes students need in order to be effective global citizens and explorers.



## PROJECT LEAD THE WAY PRESENTER

Eisenhower's Devin McKinnon was chosen to present at the national Project Lead The Way conference - PLTW Summit 2016 - in Indianapolis. More than 1,500 educators, students and leaders in business and government, attended the conference. SDNB offers PLTW's Gateway to Technology to seventh- and eighth-graders, and engineering, biomedical and computer science programs to secondary students. All SDNB students enrolled in a PTLW course have an opportunity to earn college credits through Milwaukee School of Engineering.





## COMMUNICATIONS AWARD

The school district's Academic and Career Planning campaign – which included an interactive secondary schools course guide, videos, posters and a video scribe – was honored by the Wisconsin School Public Relations Association with a Spectrum Award. SDNB also received a WSPRA Spectrum Award of Merit for its 2014-15 Annual Report, "Now & Then," which focused on the 50th anniversary of SDNB's first high school graduating class.

# Retirements

Toward the end of the 2015-16 season, all staff celebrated the retirements of Elmwood's Kim Ivers and Monica Lapin, Orchard Lane's Mary Franke, Poplar Creek's Deborah Mahloch-Dempsey and Karen Ollinger, Eisenhower's David Scheidegger and district office's Roger Bortmann, Dave Funk and Joan Paque. Thank you for your many years of dedicated service!



## LONGTIME ADMINISTRATORS SAY FAREWELL

SDNB recognized longtime administrators Joan Paque and Dave Funk for their combined 86 years of service to the district by dedicating the new Eisenhower courtyard to them in May. After spending their entire careers as lifelong champions of students, Paque and Funk retired June 30. A plaque thanking them for their years of outstanding service and leadership was placed in the courtyard.

# Key Changes

Kellie Sanders, a longtime educator in Illinois, is the new Chief Academic Officer, and Amanda Mazurkiewicz is the new Director of Student Services. They replaced Joan Paque and Dave Funk, who retired. Some other familiar faces are in new places:



Royce Lindner, the former principal at Elmwood, is now the district's Director of Elementary Teaching & Learning.

Former Poplar Creek principal Katy Williams is now principal at Elmwood, where she previously taught.



Former Poplar Creek associate principal Matt Stempniewski is now the head principal at that school.



Longtime Eisenhower associate principal Matt Buckley is the school's new head principal.



Kevin Gemignani is the new associate principal at Eisenhower, and Deb Moore is the new associate principal at Poplar Creek.

# College & Career Readiness in SDNB

Our District mission and vision (page 2) provide the foundation for the development of our College and Career Ready graduates. SDNB's College and Career Ready students are "ALL IN!"

The SDNB's annual work demonstrates that administrators, teachers, counselors, parents, and community members are All IN! as we mentor, educate, and support all students as they establish and pursue goals they set for themselves.

SDNB students continue to perform well on standardized assessments, which are an important part of college admissions. We know, however, that true College and Career Readiness is more than a test score. Here are a few measures we use to track student progress and personalize support needed to advance College and Career Readiness:

- \* standardized test scores
- \* measures of academic progress
- \* College and Career Ready dispositions (behaviors that will increase the likelihood of post-secondary success)
- \* understanding and ability to apply the Academic and Career Planning process
- \* active engagement in an experiential learning opportunity
- \* attainment of a National Career Readiness Certificate
- \* successful completion of a/an:
  - college-level course (AP, dual enrollment, transcribed credit, etc.)
  - career-related course/sequence
  - financial literacy program
  - post-secondary financial plan
  - industry credential

## Our Students Are "All IN"

- \* **IN**volved in the development of personal goals and action plans to achieve them.
- \* **IN**tentional about participation in rigorous academics AND career/technical coursework to prepare for education and work in the 21st century.
- \* **IN**spired to "show what they know" through experiential learning opportunities.
- \* **IN**formed consumers of post-secondary education and/or training as well as what it takes to secure and sustain employment and manage their personal finances.



# Snapshots of our progress to date ...



## ACT Scores

SDNB's composite ACT score increased from 23.2 in 2014-15 to 23.4 in 2015-16. That included slight increases in English, math, reading and science!

## State Test Scores

More than two-thirds of SDNB students in grades three to eight and 11 were proficient or advanced in English language arts and math on spring 2015 state assessments according to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. The results put the district well ahead of the state averages.

## Dispositions of Success

All students in grades K-12 receive feedback on their report card regarding their level of engagement, social behavior, self-management, and growth mindset as seen in creativity, innovation, and perseverance from each of their teachers. This provides students and families with feedback on the skills needed to be successful both inside and outside of school, both pre- and post-graduation. As seen in the chart below, 97 percent of all seniors consistently demonstrated perseverance, creativity and innovation and sound social behavior.

Disposition	6th Grade	8th Grade	10th Grade	12th Grade
Engagement	92%	94%	95%	94%
Perseverance, Creativity, Innovation	96%	95%	96%	97%
Self-Management	88%	88%	89%	86%
Social Behavior	93%	95%	96%	97%

## Did you know?

# 96%

Ninety-six percent of our juniors received a National Career Readiness Certificate for scoring a "3" or above on these ACT WorkKeys assessments: applied mathematics, locating information and reading for information. This assessment shows how well students can apply what they have learned in school in real-world experiences.

## Community Involvement

We are thankful for a strong and engaged community that supports the development of College and Career Ready graduates in the SDNB!



### JUMP INTO YOUR FUTURE DAYS

All district elementary students enjoyed a “show and tell” of sorts when dozens of local professionals visited their classrooms to provide career exploration experiences. Highly engaged volunteers, including many parents, talked about their occupations while students interacted with them through their hands-on, visual displays and activities.

### BIZTOWN

For the first time ever, fifth graders – more than 320 total! - at all four SDNB elementary schools visited Junior Achievement’s BizTown, the interactive, simulated town run by students. BizTown gives students a chance to combine classroom lessons with the BizTown experience. Before the visit, all 320-plus SDNB fifth graders interviewed for “jobs” to perform while at BizTown, some even running for mayor. Once at BizTown, they operated more than a dozen businesses during the day-long trip and left with a better understanding of financial literacy and how the “real world” works.

### CAREER DAYS

In October, all students in grades 8-12 were exposed to a variety of career specialties through classroom presentations given by dozens of different professionals during Career Days. Volunteers with all different backgrounds gave 25-minute presentations to students interested in their careers.

### INDUSTRY TOURS

SDNB’s Industry Tours give students in grades 9-12 opportunities to gain an understanding of the working environment related to a specific industry; understand the careers available within a specific industry; connect the knowledge, skills and dispositions necessary for success in careers within a specific industry, and more. Thanks to Direct Supply, Eaton, Generac, Inpro and Froedtert-Community Memorial Hospital for opening their doors to our students in 2016.



### PARTNERSHIP BREAKFAST

Nearly 150 business and community partners, along with SDNB administrators and staff, joined together for the annual “Partners in Education” breakfast in November at West. Sponsored by the district in partnership with Moving New Berlin Forward, the annual event is designed for our partners in K-12 and post-secondary education, local/regional business, workforce/economic development and local, regional and state government to discuss shared objectives as well as action plans needed to adequately prepare students for life after high school. Last year’s event featured Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow, who served with Superintendent Garza on the Joint Legislative Committee for Improving Opportunities in High School.

Community Career Connections, Inc. and LindenGrove New Berlin earned a “Friend of Education” award at the 2015 breakfast.

# New Courses and School Initiatives

New courses are added annually in response to stakeholder input on the knowledge, skills and dispositions that would contribute to our students' post-secondary success. Some are specific to high-interest, high-demand programs of study. Here are a few new opportunities for students:

- **Education:** A UW dual enrollment course focused on the art and science of education, combined with an internal internship, gives students specific learning experiences that show what it means to be an educator.
- **Manufacturing:** Students interested in manufacturing or engineering careers can take the second assessment in the National Manufacturing Skills Standards Certification process.
- **AP Capstone:** This new program included AP Seminar and AP Research and is designed to develop and assess students' college-level academic and research skills.
- **Health Science:** Students can take a dual enrollment genetics and genomics course offered onsite through a partnership with UWM.
- **IT/Computer Science:** SDNB's internal internship program for students interested in information technology, security and customer support provides a personalized approach to industry certification with mentorship from SDNB's tech department.
- **Architecture/Civil Engineering/Construction Management/Trades:** Students will be able to tour the Northwestern Mutual construction project and participate in a series of workshops at MSOE.
- **Entrepreneurship Education:** SDNB has partnered with UWM and the Innovation In Milwaukee Commons Program to offer Advanced Innovation and Design, a skills accelerator to help students secure an advantage as they transition to life after high school.

## DISTRICT FOREST

Approximately 13 acres adjacent to Eisenhower was registered as a school forest last fall. The land includes nearly a quarter-mile of walking trails and is used as an extension of the school's classrooms, where students get hands-on learning about sustainable forestry practices, protecting natural resources, enjoying and protecting wildlife, and more. The forest is now eligible to receive free management assistance from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, free seedlings from the state nursery program and assistance from the statewide school forest education specialist.



## DIGITAL LEARNING / CHROMEBOOKS

To increase technical literacy and 21st century skills for all students, SDNB's move toward a 1:1 digital learning environment continues. Teachers frequently use tech tools and online applications to deliver instruction and creating meaningful, customized learning experiences. Last fall, students in grades 8-10 were issued Chromebooks to support this more robust learning environment. This fall, students entering grades 7, 11 and 12 receive the devices.

# Community Involvement

## Giving Back

Throughout the year, students and staff at all our schools participate in various charitable causes that not only benefit people in and out of New Berlin, but also build a sense of camaraderie and civic responsibility. Thousands of dollars were donated to organizations like Special Olympics Wisconsin, Children's Hospital and the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society through Pennies for Patients drives and Polar Plunges. The four elementary schools raised more than \$33,000 through Jump Rope for Heart for the American Heart Association alone!

Other drives and collections included pencils for Hearts in Unity, clothing and textiles collected during the Better Earth Textile Drive, thousands of pounds of food for the New Berlin Food Pantry, hundreds of toys for less fortunate children and pet supplies.

Our terrific staffs regularly show off their charitable sides as well. Poplar Creek staff members raised money for men's health awareness in "Movember", when the class from each grade level that raised the most money determined how the staff member shaved his beard. And Elmwood staff made its third annual trip to the Hunger Task Force Farm to clean and prepare vegetables for New Berlin Food Pantry.

## Did you know?



**\$33,000  
RAISED**

**through  
Jump Rope for Heart**





### Library – AP Study Nights

The New Berlin Public Library extended its hours for our AP students during the spring, giving them an opportunity to study and collaborate together at a time that works best for them. Our good friends at the library even provided food and drinks for our hard-working students.

### Malone Park Volunteer and Design

After the district’s elementary students submitted designs for the new, all-inclusive Playground at Malone, hundreds of volunteers, including SDNB administrators, staff and families helped construct the playground during a week-long build. Special thanks to the New Berlin Junior Woman’s Club and the City of New Berlin for organizing the build.

### Hoops for Hoffman

The West and Eisenhower communities came together in support of longtime West athletics and activities assistant Jane Hoffman. More than 550 “Hoops for Hoffman” t-shirts were sold prior to the West-Eisenhower basketball games in February, with proceeds going to the Hoffman family.



# DISCOVER

— NEW BERLIN —

## COMMUNITY FAIR



### Discover New Berlin

The SDNB joined dozens of New Berlin business and organizations to show off what makes New Berlin a great place to live, work and play at the annual Discover New Berlin Community Fair in March. Children enjoyed fun activities like a bounce house and petting zoo at Kids Fest, while adults enjoyed musical entertainment and a Board of Education candidate forum.



### Veterans Day

Dozens of veterans attended the district’s annual Veterans Day Celebration, where they were treated to musical tributes, brunch and visits from students. The event alternates between Eisenhower and West each year. In 2016, the event will be held at 9 a.m. Friday, Nov. 11, at Eisenhower.

# Improved Facilities

SDNB remains dedicated to providing students and staff the best learning environments and best facilities possible. Many of the following projects had support of the community according to feedback collected during a 2014 telephone and online survey of district residents. Eisenhower, the school most in need of updates, remained a focus of renovations, though all schools received various degrees of upgrades.



## Eisenhower Pool

In need of major upgrades for years, renovation of the pool began last fall and though it meant the pool was inaccessible for months, it was worth it. The new pool, which opened in August, is ADA compliant and now meets WIAA competition requirements.

## Courtyard

During the spring and summer, work was completed on the Eisenhower courtyard. The beautiful new setting has plenty of seating and is perfect for students to relax, study or hang out. It even has enough space for teachers to bring entire classes outside for a lesson.

## HVAC at Poplar Creek and Orchard Lane

Air conditioning was added to Orchard Lane and Poplar Creek. The project is expected to be completed by the start of the 2016-17 school year.



## Learning Commons

Eisenhower's new learning commons offer students and staff flexible, collaborative space for student learning.

## Ike Parking Lot

Much of the old Eisenhower parking lot has received a facelift. Crews removed the old lot, installed an underground drainage system and then repaved the lot. Additionally, a new traffic light was installed at the north entrance.

# Fiscal Responsibility

The annual budget is a financial plan to implement educational programs for the year. The School District of New Berlin is committed to meeting students' needs while managing resources wisely to provide the best possible return on investment for the community.

The district's solid financial position allowed completion of several capital projects over the last two years and continuing into this budget year, while maintaining an excellent aa1 credit rating. Infrastructure, energy and other investments made as part of these projects will allow the district to maintain its financial position in subsequent years and meet its obligation to provide a quality education for all students.

## CAPITAL INVESTMENTS:

- HVAC upgrades in Eisenhower and all four elementary schools
- Energy-efficient lighting throughout
- Replace sub-standard swimming pool at Eisenhower
- Upgrade educational spaces at Eisenhower
- Update outdoor facilities at both secondary schools

## CAPITAL PLANNING:

- Long-range facility maintenance and remodeling plan

- Identification of projects for private funding

- Long-range equipment replacement planning
- Appropriate use of debt for long-range projects, including refinancing as appropriate

## MORE EFFICIENT STAFF:

- Reduce administrators and administrative support staff at district office
- Align licensed educator staffing to reduction in enrollment
- Align licensed educator staffing based on high-quality research

## INSTRUCTIONAL PREPARATION:

- Digital learning initiative with individual devices for grades 7 through 12
- New science classrooms at Eisenhower
- Project Lead the Way curriculum at both secondary schools
- Student-driven course selections and staffing

## Budget Overview

The district's student enrollment will decrease for 2016-17 and is projected to continue to decrease for the next several years. Declining enrollment and state imposed revenue limits necessitate the need for SDNB to continue to find better ways to align costs with revenue. The Board of Education will update the long-range facility, equipment and financial plans throughout the upcoming budget year.

The School Board has approved a preliminary budget for the 2016-17 school year that includes a tax levy of \$50,848,582, calling for a tax rate of \$11.15, down from \$11.23 in 2015-16. The levy will increase \$1,117,668 due to normal cost increases, loss of general state aid and increased debt service cost for energy and operational efficiency projects.

## FOOTNOTE:

The budget will be adjusted as necessary before final Board approval in October. By that time, the district will have final enrollment, property value and state aid information.



School District of New Berlin

4333 S. Sunnyslope Road  
New Berlin, WI 53151 (262) 789-6200



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR - COMMUNITY EVENTS

Visit the calendar at [www.nbexcellence.org](http://www.nbexcellence.org) or call 262-789-6200 for more info

- ★ Aug. 22: Annual Meeting / Budget Hearing
- ★ Aug. 30: Elementary Schools' Open House / Meet the Teacher Night
- ★ Sept. 1: First Day of School
- ★ Sept. 23: Eisenhower Homecoming Game
- ★ Sept. 27: WEF College Fair at West
- ★ Sept. 30: West Homecoming Game
- ★ Nov. 2: Partners in Education Breakfast
- ★ Nov. 11: Annual Veterans Day Program (at Eisenhower)
- ★ Nov. 29 and Dec. 1: Career Days at Eisenhower and West

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS:** Held biweekly, Mondays at 7 p.m. in the New Berlin West Idea Center. Also streamed online for viewing.  
*MORE INFO:* [www.nbexcellence.org/district/board-meetings.cfm](http://www.nbexcellence.org/district/board-meetings.cfm)

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

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