

NEWBURGH ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANNUAL BUDGET NOTICE

& HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

BUDGET INFORMATION SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET PROPUESTA GENERAL DE PRESUPUESTO	Budget Adopted for the 2024-2025 School Year Presupuesto Adoptado para el Año Escolar 2023- 2024	Budget Proposed for the 2025-2026 School Year Presupuesto Propuesto para el Año Escolar 2025- 2026	Contingency Budget for the 2025-2026 School Year* Presupuesto de Contingencia para el Año Escolar 2025- 2026*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions Cantidad Total Presupuestada, sin Incluir las Propuestas Separadas	\$ 358,983,349	\$ 379,252,199	\$ 377,403,855
Increase/Decrease for the 2025-26 School Year Aumento/Disminución para el Año Escolar 2025-26		\$ 20,268,850	\$ 18,420,506
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget Porcentaje de Aumento/Disminución del Presupuesto Propuesto		5.6%	5.1%
Change in Consumer Price Index Cambio en el Indice de Precios al Consumidor		2.95%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount A. Propuesta de la Taza de Impuestos Para Apoyar La Cantidad Asignada Para El Presupuesto	\$ 113,611,615	\$ 113,611,615	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable B. Taza de Impuestos para Apoyar la deuda de la Biblioteca, si es aplicable	\$ 0	\$ 0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable C. Taza de Impuestos para las Proposiciones que no se Pueden Excluir, Si es Aplicable	\$ 0	\$ 0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy D. El Total de la Cantidad Máxima Reservada, utilizada para reducir el Impuesto Actual.	\$ 0	\$ 0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D) E. El Total de la Taza de Impuesto Propuesta para el Año Escolar. (A + B + C - D)	\$ 113,611,615	\$ 113,611,615	\$ 113,611,615
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit F. Exclusiones Permisibles al Límite de la Taza de Impuestos Escolar	\$ 3,785,228	\$ 4,077,023	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions G. Límite de la Taza de Impuestos Escolar, Excluyendo la Taza de Impuestos para las Exclusiones Permisibles.	\$ 111,304,437	\$ 113,266,172	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, Excluding Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D) H. El Total de la Taza de Impuesto Propuesta para Propósitos Escolares, Sin Incluir Exclusiones Permisibles ni la Taza de Impuestos para la Deuda de la Biblioteca, Más la Cantidad Máxima Reservada del Año Anterior (E - B - C + D)	\$ 109,826,387	\$ 109,534,592	
I. Difference: (G-H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval) I. Diferencia: (G - H); (El Valor negativo Requiere el 60.0% de la Aprobación de los Votantes)	\$ 1,478,050	\$ 3,731,580	
Administrative Component (Componente Administrativo)	\$ 27,995,577	\$ 30,299,106	\$ 29,562,163
Program Component (Componente Programático)	\$ 298,861,554	\$ 317,748,115	\$ 316,846,714

^{*} should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law. Elimination of equipment funding with the exception of Instructional Hardware associated with state aid and reduce overtime funding in Human Resources and reduce administrative positions in Curriculum and School Supervision * En caso de que el presupuesto propuesto sea rechazado de conformidad con la Sección 2023 de la Ley de Educación. Se eliminará la financiación de equipos, con excepción del material didáctico asociado a las ayudas estatales, y se reducirá la financiación de horas extras en Recursos Humanos y los puestos administrativos en Currículo y Supervisión Escolar.

\$ 32,126,218

Other Propositions

Green Energy - Geothermal Systems at Fostertown & Gardnertown

\$33,000,000

\$ 30,994,978

NFA North Auditorium Renovations

Capital Component (Componente de Capital)

\$3,272,219

BASIC STAR EXEMPTION IMPACT (EFECTO DE LA EXENCIÓN BÁSICA STAR)

The Basic School Tax Relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by Section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law. (*La exención básica de impuesto escolar (STAR) está autorizada por la sección 425 de la Ley de Impuestos de Bienes Inmuebles.*)

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings for City of Newburgh (Ahorros Estimados por la Exención Básica STAR)

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2025-2026 School Year Debajo del Presupuesto Propuesto para el Año Escolar 2025-2026

\$ 31,204,978

\$621



BUDGET INFORMATION

NEWBURGH FREE LIBRARY BUDGET PROPOSAL PROPUESTA PRESUPUESTAL PARA LA BIBLIOTECA PÚBLICA

Expenditures Gastos	2024-2025 Adopted Budget Presupuesto Aprobado	2025-2026 Proposed Budget Presupuesto Propuesto	Change
Personnel & Benefits Personal y Prestaciones	\$5,075,794	\$5,036,350	\$(39,444)
Books & eMaterials <i>Materiales y Colecciones</i>	\$ 328,000	\$ 328,000	\$0
Contractual & Utilities Utilities and Services	\$ 660,686	\$ 654,886	\$ (5,800)
Equipment <i>Equipo</i>	\$ 120,000	\$ 100,000	\$ (20,000)
Total Budget Presupuesto Total	\$ 6,184,480	\$ 6,119,236	\$ (65,244)
Revenues Ingresos	2024-2025 Adopted Budget Presupuesto Aprobado	2025-2026 Proposed Budget Presupuesto Propuesto	Change
Property Tax Impuestos a la Propiedad	\$ 5,891,500	\$ 5,996,436	\$ 104,936
State Funds & Grants Dineros Estatales y de Propuestas	\$ 25,000	\$ 21,000	\$ (4,000)
Fund Balance <i>Saldo de Fondos</i>	\$ 155,480	\$0	\$ (155,480)
Fines & Local Revenue <i>Multas y Otros Ingresos</i> <i>Locales</i>	\$ 112,500	\$ 101,800	\$ (10,700)
Total Budget Presupuesto Total	\$ 6,184,480	\$ 6,119,236	\$ (65,244)



CITY OF NEWBURGH

CITY WARDS First Ward Second Ward Third & Fourth Wards CITY POLLING PLACES
Horizons-on-the-Hudson
South Middle School
NFA – Main Campus

TOWN OF NEWBURGH

POLITICAL ELECTION DIST.
Districts - 1, 2, 15, 17
Districts - 13, 14, 18, 19, 20

Districts - 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 25 Districts - 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11

21, 22, 23, 24

POLLING PLACE
Balmville School
Fostertown School
Meadow Hill School

TOWN OF NEW WINDSOR

POLITICAL ELECTION DIST.
Districts - 1, 2, 3, 5

Districts - 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 16 Districts - 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 22 POLLING PLACE
New Windsor School
Vails Gate School
Temple Hill School

FOR MORE BUDGET
INFORMATION VISIT THE
DISTRICT'S WEBSITE AT
NEWBURGHSCHOOLS.ORG
OR SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW



THE ANNUAL BUDGET VOTE/BOE ELECTION IS TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025. POLLS OPEN NOON UNTIL 9:00PM









THREE BOARD OF EDUCATION SEATS
ARE UP FOR ELECTION.
CANDIDATE BIOS ARE AVAILABLE ON
DISTRICT WEBSITE.

SEIS ASIENTOS DE LA JUNTA DE EDUCACIÓN ESTARÁN DISPONIBLES EN ESTAS ELECCIONES. LAS BIOGRAFÍAS DE LO. CANDIDATOS ESTÁN DISPONIBLES EN EL SITIO WEB DEL DISTRITO.



BUDGET INFORMATION

PROPOSITIONS

PROPOSITION 1-THE SCHOOL BUDGET

Shall the Board of Education of the Newburgh Enlarged City School District be authorized to expend the sum of money which will be required for school district purposes for the year July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026 in the amount of \$379,252,199 and to levy the necessary tax therefor?

PROPOSITION 2-THE NEWBURGH FREE LIBRARY BUDGET

Shall the Board of Education of the Newburgh Enlarged City School District be authorized to levy taxes in the amount of \$5,996,436 for library purposes for the year July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026, for the support of the Newburgh Free Library, to enable the library to provide free library services for the benefit and free use of all residents of the school district?

PROPOSITION 3 - NEWBURGH FREE ACADEMY - NORTH CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS

Shall the Board of Education of the Newburgh Enlarged City School District, Orange County, New York be authorized to perform certain alteration, reconstruction and renovation work, including replacement of equipment and furnishings, for the Auditorium at Newburgh Free Academy - North Campus, to include stage rigging, refinish stage flooring, auditorium and stage lighting, sound system, new seating, code compliant balcony handrails, repaint concrete flooring and replace carpet, code compliant auditorium entry doors and frames, and flaking/ peeling paint, including incidental and associated work related thereto at a maximum expenditure of \$3,272,219, and that the sum of \$3,272,219 is hereby authorized to be expended from the District's "Buildings and Facilities Improvement Reserve Fund" established in 2016, and amended in 2021, and transferred to the capital fund to pay for such Project, and such expenditure and transfer are hereby approved?

PROPOSITION 4 - FOSTERTOWN AND GARDNERTOWN IMPROVEMENTS

Shall the Bond Resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the Newburgh Enlarged City School District (the "District") on April 8, 2025 authorizing (A) a District-wide capital improvement project consisting of the construction and reconstruction of improvements to Fostertown and Gardnertown Elementary Schools, including the acquisition and installation of original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, and other services incidental thereto; at a maximum cost not to exceed \$33,000,000; (B) the expenditure of \$3,000,000 from the District's existing Buildings and Facilities Improvement Reserve Fund to pay a portion of the costs of such additions, alterations, renovations and improvements; and (C) the issuance of up to \$30,000,000 principal amount of serial bonds of said District pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, constituting Chapter 33-a of the Consolidated Laws of the State of New York to finance the estimated cost of said specific objects or purposes; providing that such bonds will be payable from amounts to be levied in annual installments on all the taxable real property in said District as provided in Section 416 of the Education Law, with such tax being offset by State grants and building aid available therefore; pledging the faith and credit of said District for the payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds; determining that the period of probable usefulness thereof and maximum maturity of the bonds therefor is thirty years; and delegating the power to authorize and sell bond anticipation notes and to fix the details of and to sell bonds, be approved?

PROPUESTAS

PROPUESTA 1 - PRESUPUESTO DE LA ESCUELA

¿Debe autorizarse a la Junta de Educación del Distrito Escolar de Gran Alcance de la Ciudad de Newburgh a que gaste la cantidad de dinero que se requerirá para fines relacionados con este distrito escolar para el año que va desde el primero de julio de 2025 hasta el 30 de junio de 2026, cuyo monto es de \$379 252 199.00, y a que grave el impuesto necesario para ello?

PROPUESTA 2 - PRESUPUESTO DE LA BIBLIOTECA PÚBLICA DE NEWBURGH

¿Debe autorizarse a la Junta de Educación del Distrito Escolar de Gran Alcance de la Ciudad de Newburgh a que grave impuestos por la cantidad de \$5 996 436.00 para fines relacionados con la biblioteca para el año que va desde el primero de julio de 2025 hasta el 30 de junio de 2026, como apoyo a la Biblioteca Pública de Newburgh (Newburgh Free Library) a fin de que esta pueda brindar sus servicios gratis y todos los residentes de este distrito escolar se beneficien al usarla gratuitamente?

PROPUESTA 3 - NEWBURGH FREE ACADEMY - MEJORAS AL CAMPUS NORTE

¿Debe autorizarse a la Junta de Educación del Distrito Escolar de Gran Alcance de la Ciudad de Newburgh, en el condado de Orange, en Nueva York, a realizar cierto trabajo de modificación, reconstrucción y renovación, incluyendo el reemplazo de equipo y muebles, al auditorio de Newburgh Free Academy - Campus Norte, que incluya implementación de maquinaria escénica, remozamiento del piso del escenario, luces para el auditorio y el escenario, sistema de sonido, nuevos asientos, barandas del balcón conforme con los códigos, pintura del suelo de concreto y reemplazo de la alfombra, puertas de entrada y marcos del auditorio conforme con los códigos, y la pintura que se está pelando o descascarando, incluyendo trabajo imprevisto y relacionado con ello con un gasto que sea como máximo \$3 272 219.00, y que, por el presente documento, se autorice a que esta suma de \$3 272 219.00 se gaste del "Fondo de reserva para mejoras de los edificios e instalaciones" del Distrito, establecido en 2016 y corregido en 2021, y se transfiera al fondo capital para pagar por tal proyecto, y que, por el presente documento, tal gasto y transferencia se aprueben?

PROPUESTA 4 - MEJORAS EN FOSTERTOWN Y GARDNERTOWN

¿Debe aprobarse la resolución de sobre bonos, que la Junta de Educación del Distrito Escolar de Gran Alcance de la Ciudad de Newburgh (el "Distrito") aprobó el 8 de abril de 2025, la cual autoriza a (A) un proyecto de mejora de capital para todo el Distrito, que consiste en la construcción y reconstrucción de mejoras a las escuelas primarias de Fostertown y Gardnertown, incluyendo la adquisición e instalación de muebles originales, equipo, maquinaria, aparatos y otros servicios imprevistos a ello; por un costo máximo que no sobrepase los \$33 000 000.00; (B) el gasto de \$33 000 000.00 del Fondo de reserva para mejoras de los edificios e instalaciones del Distrito para pagar una parte de los gastos de tales agregados, modificaciones, renovaciones y mejoras; y (C) el otorgamiento de hasta \$30 000 000.00 de la cantidad principal de bonos en serie de tal Distrito, de conformidad con las disposiciones de la Ley Financiera Local, que constituye el Capítulo 33-a de las leyes consolidadas del estado de Nueva York para financiar el costo estimado de estos objetos o fines específicos, siempre y cuando tales bonos se paguen de las cantidades que se graven en cuotas anuales de todos los bienes inmuebles pasibles de impuestos de dicho distrito, tal como se estipula en el artículo 416 de la Ley de Educación, sabiendo que tal impuesto es compensado por los subsidios del estado y la ayuda para los locales que por consiguiente existe; apelando a la fe y crédito de tal distrito para el pago del capital e intereses de dichos bonos; con la conclusión de que el periodo de probable utilidad y vencimiento de los bonos es de treinta días, y delegándole el poder para autorizar y vender pagarés anticipados de bonos y para establecer los detalles de los bonos y poder venderlos?

PROPOSITION 3 WILL UTILIZE RESERVE FUNDS AND HAVE A \$0 TAX IMPACT ON VOTERS.
PROPOSITION 4 IS CONTINGENT UPON GRANT FUNDING. WILL UTILIZE BUILDING AID, GRANT FUNDS,
AND RESERVE FUNDS IF NEEDED. WILL HAVE A \$0 TAX IMPACT ON VOTERS.

LA PROPUESTA 3 UTILIZARÁ FONDOS DE RESERVA Y TENDRÁ UN IMPACTO FISCAL DE \$0 PARA LOS VOTANTES. La propuesta 4 está sujeta a la financiación de subvenciones. Utilizará ayudas para la construcción, Fondos de subvenciones y fondos de reserva si es necesario. Tendrá un impacto fiscal de \$0 para los votantes.

CONTENTS

Annual Budget Notice	2-4
Registration	6
Science of Reading	7
Capital Bond	7
Around the District	8-9
Athletics	10-11
Fine and Performing Arts	12-13
Salute to Service	14
Board Certified Teachers	15

Did you know?



DISTRICT AND LIBRARY PARTNER WITH NEA

The Newburgh Enlarged City School District and Newburgh Free Library, in partnership with the National

Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Big Read are collaborating to provide programming to our community. Through a grant, the collaboration will provide a series of literacy initiatives to educate and collaborate with our local community. The Newburgh Free Library is one of 62 communities nationwide participating in the 2024-2025 NEA Big Read. Newburgh Enlarged City School District is the only school district in the country to receive a National Endowment for the Arts Big Read Community grant.

From September 2024 through June 2025, Newburgh will explore the theme of "Where We Live" through poetry utilizing the featured reading of Hustle by David Tomas Martinez. With a focus on the rich history of our community, programming will inspire meaningful conversations and celebrate local creativity and voices.

Programming will focus on literacy in our community. Throughout the year, we plan for book giveaways, book discussions, Q&A with the author, an artistic project or activity that engages the community around the theme, creative writing workshops, public readings, book clubs, poetry workshops, infusion of dance as it relates to the theme and focus, oral history and family writing workshop, open mic events, walking tours, food sampling, and so much more!

OVER 1200 STUDENTS GO ON COLLEGE VISITS

The district is invested in exposing our scholars to college and career opportunities. This year alone, more than 1200 elementary, middle,

and high school scholars have visited 29 colleges throughout New York State to immerse themselves in college life for a tour, learn about requirements, and better understand how to prepare for these future possibilities.



NEWBURGH ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ms. Christine M. Bello, BOE President

Ms. Victoria Bousche, BOE Vice-President

Ms. Thomasina A. Bello, BOE Member

Ms. Mackenzie Bousche, BOE Member

Mr. Ray Burgarelli, BOE Member

Mr. John Doerre, BOE Member

Mr. Philip Howard, BOE Member

Ms. Letitia Politi, BOE Member

Mr. Fred Stewart, BOE Member

ACTING SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dr. Lisa Buon

SUPERINTENDENT'S EXECUTIVE CABINET

Ms. Onyx Peterson Deputy Superintendent

Ms. Mary Ellen Leimer Interim Associate Superintendent

Dr. Shannon O'Grady
Assistant Superintendent,
Curriculum & Instruction Elementary

Dr. Elisa Correa-Soto
Assistant Superintendent,
Curriculum & Instruction Secondary

Dr. Natasha Freeman-Mack Assistant Superintendent, Equity and Access

Ms. Kimberly Rohring
Assistant Superintendent, Finance

Mr. Chris Bayer Assistant Superintendent, Exceptional Learners

Mr. Joseph McGrath
Assistant Superintendent,
Data, Information & Technology

Mr. Anibal Velez
Executive Director, Operations & Maintenance

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Dr. Cassie Sklarz, Director of Communications Mr. Ed Schindler, Web Content Specialist

The purpose of the annual report is to showcase the outstanding achievements and highlights of our district, our faculty, our staff, and our students. This report does not 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





FALL 2025 PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

OPEN NOW!

ARE YOU A NEW DISTRICT FAMILY OR DO YOU HAVE A CHILD ABOUT TO BEGIN SCHOOL?

The NECSD Welcome Center at 124 Grand Street, in Newburgh, NY is your first stop when becoming a Goldback Family. There you can register your child and get all the information a new family may need. The easiest way to register is to begin the process online before making a trip into the center. You can find the Welcome Center Registration site under Departments on the district website or directly at www. newburghschools.org/register or by using the QR code on this page.

HOW TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD:

Fill out the Online Application for new families (link available at Welcome Center website below). Please be sure to choose the application for the 2025-2026 school year, if you are registering for fall 2025 enrollment. If you do not have access to technology, you may call or email the Welcome Center to reserve a timeslot to utilize one of our devices at 845.563.KIDS (845.563.5437) or email registration@necsd.net

Before you begin, make sure you gather necessary documents prior to beginning the registration application. Required documents include proof of age, proof of residency, proof of custody, immunization record, last physical exam information, and government issued ID of parent/guardian. (Visit the Welcome Center website below for specific examples of each item)

VISIT WWW.NEWBURGHSCHOOLS.ORG/REGISTER TO BEGIN THE REGISTRATION PROCESS TODAY!

Logan Voltaire

AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR PREK

To register for the 2025-26 school year for PreK your child must be age four (4) on or before December 1, 2025.

AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR KINDERGARTEN

To register for the 2025-26 Kindergarten school year your child must be age five (5) on or before December 1, 2025.



SCAN QR CODE TO VISIT REGISTRATION WEBPAGE

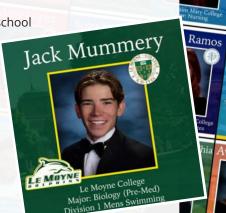


CHECK OUT NFA COLLEGE DECISIONS 2025 ON INSTAGRAM

May 1st is National College Decision Day, a day that high school seniors across the country announce and celebrate their college decisions! Two NFA seniors, Elle Gerbes and Jackson Mummery created the @nfa25decisions page on Instagram to highlight their classmates college choices.

As for these seniors, Elle Gerbes plans to attend Binghamton University to study Biomedical Engineering. She will be part of the Division I Women's Swimming team. Jack Mummery plans to attend Le Moyne College to study Biology (Pre-Med). He will be part of the Division I Men's Swimming team.







SCREENING AND PANEL DISCUSSION

Recently the district held a free movie screening of The Right to Read. The Right to Read shares the stories of an activist, a teacher, and two American families who fight to provide our youngest generation with the most foundational indicator of lifelong success: the ability to read.

When a child can't read, their chances of incarceration, homelessness, and unemployment increase. That's why Oakland-based NAACP activist Kareem Weaver believes literacy is one of the greatest civil rights issues of our time and is fighting for better reading instruction. What good is winning the right to vote if we can't even read the ballot? Fed up with the bleak reading scores in his own community, Kareem files a petition with the Oakland Unified School District demanding change. The film explores the need for reading education, the struggles some communities face, and discusses possible solutions.

After the film, a panel discussion was conducted with teachers, a reading specialist, parent, and NFA students. Questions were asked by the audience and a thorough and informative discussion took place. As we work together as a community, it is essential for all of us to focus on the reading skills of our scholars. This event was in alignment with the district's emphasis on The Science of Reading, a vast, interdisciplinary body of scientifically-based research about reading and issues related to reading and writing. Panelists and Moderators included Ms. Crisan Crozzoli, 5th Grade Teacher, Ms. Melissa Lamar, 1st Grade Teacher, Ndeye Thiam, NFA Main student; NFA Black History Club, Ms. Alexis Yakle, NECSD Parent & Former Reading Teacher, Ms. Jonna Rao, Wilson Reading Specialist; Kindergarten Teacher, Ms. Hildelisa Prado, Bilingual Kindergarten Teacher, Ms. Marcie Heywood - Moderator, Director of Elementary Education, and Dr. Chastity Martinez-Morales - Moderator, Director of Language Acquisition. Remarks were also provided by Dr. Lisa Buon, Acting Superintendent, Mr. Kyle Conway, President, NAACP Newburgh-Highland Falls Chapter, and students Santos Garcia and Alexandria Crawford.

Are you interested in learning more about the Science of Reading, The Right to Read movie, and volunteering to make a difference in a child's life and in our community? If so visit newburghschools.org/read to learn more.

Since work has begun we have seen the NFA Swimming Pool get much needed repairs and numerous practices and swim meets take place within the pool. Demolition of the New Windsor Tower section has taken place and design work is being done on the replacement section. Currently we are in the middle of numerous other projects as well. A few are listed below:



HERITAGE MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECTS

After opening the new cafeteria addition, work began on a new traffic pattern for bus and parent pickup and drop offs. The queue lanes, bus loop, and new sidewalks have been completed. The remaining work to be completed is the secondary access roadway and should be completed by the end of the year.



CTE CENTER

We broke ground on the district's new Career and Technical Education Center in Fall 2024. Currently the walls of the building are now up and work is being done inside the building, we are on track for a September 2026 opening.



VAILS GATE

Vails Gate saw a new addition to their school after removal of the modular classrooms. This included a new music rooms, library, STEAM Lab and more.

FOR MORE ON THESE PROJECTS AND OTHERS VISIT NEWBURGHSCHOOLS.ORG/BOND

ROUND THE DISTRICT



BALMVILLE SCHOOL HOSTED MATH AND LITERACY NIGHT

Balmville School hosted a Math and Literacy Nigh. This family engagement evening offered workshops for families to learn math and literacy techniques with resources to help support their child's learning at home.



THE GREATER NEWBURGH PARKS CONSERVANCY ADDS SHADE, BEAUTY, & LEARNING

Our partnership with the Greater Newburgh Parks Conservancy has added 27 trees and pollinator plugs to NFA North Campus and GAMS. To date, 66 trees, pollinator plugs, and associated labor and supplies at a donated cost of \$34,000 have added beauty, shade, and hands-on learning opportunities at four of our schools through this generous collaborative partnership.



GARDNERTOWN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY UNVEILS BRAND NEW ADAPTIVE PLAYGROUND

Gardnertown Leadership Academy unveiled a brand new adaptive playground for children of all ages and abilities. It incorporates features that allow children with various physical, cognitive, and sensory needs to participate in play activities alongside their peers. This is achieved through accessible routes, modified equipment, and sensory-rich environments.



GAMS HOSTS 2ND ANNUAL CAREER DISCOVERY ZONE

Gidney Avenue Memorial School (GAMS) hosted a Career Discovery Zone, welcoming more than a dozen local businesses and NFA Career and Technical Education (CTE) students to set up interactive stations for elementary students to explore and learn about different careers in an age-appropriate manner.



HORIZONS ON THE HUDSON WELCOMES FAMILIES TO "COUNT ON US"

Horizons on the Hudson welcomed families into the classrooms to participate in fun and interactive math activities - many of which could be played at home with common household items. Aside from having fun, scholars and their families learned that math can be used every day, in so many different ways!



TEMPLE HILL ACADEMY HOSTS ANNUAL FAMILY STEAM NIGHT

The Temple Hill Academy STEAM event welcomed students and families to explore ten different stations, each with interesting experiments and activities, including building projects and hands-on experiments that blended math and science with art and technology.



VAILS GATE HOSTED ANNUAL STEAM NIGHT

Vails Gate STEAM Academy faculty, in conjunction with the FACE team, welcomed our families to join in a night of fun through STEAM activities. Scholars and families participated in activities like catapults, building structures, creating the tallest towers with cups, and making the longest chain, utilizing one piece of paper, to name a few. It was a night of exploring and engineering filled with smiles and laughter.

TEACHER AND SCHOOL SAFETY MONITOR DISPLAY HEROIC EFFORTS

Heritage Middle School took a moment to celebrate two heroes: Mr. John Kennedy (first-year teacher at Heritage) and Mr. Joe Fabiano, School Safety Monitor. During lunch, a student began choking—a terrifying situation that could have taken a very different turn. Without hesitation, Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Fabiano sprang into action, using their

quick thinking and training to respond. Their courage and commitment helped save a young life, reminding us of the invaluable care and vigilance they bring to our school each day.









THE PLANETARIUM AT NFA REOPENS TO SOLD OUT SHOWS

The NFA Astronomy Club has hosted six sold-out shows this year. The group brought back their traditional Season of Light show in December, recounting the historical, religious, and cultural rituals practiced during the time of the winter solstice, and added A Journey Through the Solar System program for kids this spring.



MEADOW HILL ALUMNUS RETURNS TO INSPIRE ART AND CULTURE

Meadow Hill School scholars, along with a local artist and Meadow Hill alumnus, Joe Pimentel, created a beautiful mural in the entryway of the school. Recognizing the school's focus on global exploration and cultures, the colorful mural displays dozens of flags from around the world, creating a welcoming environment from the first step into the building





NFA P-TECH CONTINUES SUCCESS IN YEAR 11

After finishing the 2023-2024 school year with a 100% graduation rate, the NFA P-TECH program is continuing to thrive this school year. Currently, NFA P-TECH has 30 students participating in the IBM summer internship. Additionally, 18 NFA P-TECH students will be graduating from SUNY Orange, earning an AAS degree. This year, P-TECH has secured a \$10K IBM community volunteer grant. Through our NFA P-TECH professional development course, we have prepared elevator pitches, LinkedIn workshops, and mock interviews in collaboration with IBM and SUNY Orange volunteers.





95% OF NFA WEST CAMPUS SCHOLARS LEARN FROM INTERNSHIPS WITH 75 LOCAL BUSINESSES

A total of 75 local businesses welcome high school students into their workplace once a week, so 95% of NFA West Campus students have the opportunity for hands-on experience as they explore future career options. Through their internships, students learn valuable skills, network with professionals in our community, and learn basic business etiquette.





NFA NAMED NATIONAL BANNER UNIFIED CHAMPION SCHOOLS | CLASS OF 2024

Newburgh Free Academy (NFA) has been named a National Banner Unified Champion School in its class of recognized schools for 2024. Newburgh Free Academy is one of thirteen (13) schools in New York State to earn this prestigious honor. This distinction marks the highest level of achievement for Unified Champion Schools in the nation, recognizing their leadership in creating inclusive school communities where all students are accepted and celebrated. In Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools, students with and without disabilities play on the same sports teams and take physical education courses together. Students learn inclusive leadership skills and lead campaigns and activities that engage the entire school community to encourage and promote inclusion among their peers.

TWO ATHLETES TO BE HONORED AT OCIAA SCHOLAR-ATHLETE RECEPTION

Emily Leonard and Joseph Gaito will be recognized at the upcoming OCIAA Scholar-Athlete Reception, recognizing students from Orange County who excel in the classroom while also thriving in their sport as an inspiring example to others. Achieving success in both areas requires discipline, time management, and a strong work ethic, all of which these scholar athletes have clearly demonstrated throughout their academic and athletic journey.

teams.

EMILY LEONARD JOSEPH GAITO -Leonard competes for the Gaito competes for the Girls Soccer and Lacrosse

Boys Cross Country and

Track and Field teams.



STATE PARTICIPANTS

Elle Gerbes Girls Swimming

Will Soto Wrestling Cooper Merli **Wrestling Chris Leggett** Wrestling **Matthew Mercado** Wrestling **Jordan Busby** Wrestling **William Coughlin** Wrestling

Jack Mummery Boys Swimming Peyton Tuttle Boys Swimming Jackson Cooper Boys Swimming Conor Mummery Boys Swimming Jackson Vegliando Boys Swimming

Andre Alexander Boys Bowling Gage Szymanowicz Boys Bowling

Brady Danyluk Boys Indoor Track & Field Devin Batelic Boys Indoor Track & Field Joey Lopez Boys Indoor Track & Field Oren Miller Boys Indoor Track & Field Jaden Williams Boys Indoor Track & Field

Andrew Burnett Boys Basketball Jashir Davis Boys Basketball Aleiandro Florentino Boys Basketball Shaun Gonzalez Boys Basketball Sincere Hayes Boys Basketball Legend Jones Boys Basketball Jaydan Jordan **Boys Basketball** Alfonso Macon **Boys Basketball Bryce Marshall Boys Basketball** Mason McMillan **Bovs Basketball** Jaeden Pagan **Bovs Basketball Joey Santo Boys Basketball Ethan Tyson Bovs Basketball**

ELLE GERBES

Elle Gerbes qualified and competed in the NYS Girls Swimming State Championship meet for the second consecutive year. Elle competed in the 50-yard freestyle and the 100-yard freestyle. At finals, Elle placed 9th and broke her own NFA record with a time of 23.97 in 50m freestyle. Elle



was unanimously voted to receive the Good Sportsmanship Award by every coach in Section IX this year, which is a tremendous honor for Elle and a wonderful representation of herself, her team, and her school.



NFA ALUMNUS WILLIAM "WILLIE" FRASER HONORED BY NFA BASEBALL TEAM

William "Willie" Fraser, NFA Alumnus (1982), was recognized and celebrated by the NFA Baseball team with a plaque and banner in right field of Delano Hitch Stadium. Fraser was a dominant pitcher for the Goldbacks and went on to

pitch at Concordia College where he developed a forkball which drew comparisons to future Hall of Famer Bruce Sutter's. The California Angels selected him with the fifteenth pick in the 1985 MLB draft, ahead of future Hall of Famers Randy Johnson and John Smoltz. This draft also featured perennial MLB all-stars Barry Bonds, Will Clark, Barry Larkin, and Rafael Palmeiro to name a few. Fraser's MLB career spanned 8 seasons, winning 38 games while playing for the Angels, Toronto Blue Jays, St. Louis Cardinals, Florida Marlins, and Montreal Expos. He also spent 3 years in Japan, picking up 25 more wins playing for the Orix BlueWave. That team won the Japan Series Championship in 1996. Willie is currently in the scouting department for the Kansas City Royals and has worked with many local pitchers, providing coaching to hone their craft, including many current and former Goldback players.



NFA WRESTLING CROWNS STATE CHAMPION FOR THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR

NFA's Will Soto (108lb.) won the Wrestling State Championship title for the second consecutive year, reigning champ Cooper Merli (116lb.) placed second (state champion in 2023 and 2024), and NFA's Wrestling team placed 3rd overall in the state meet. The most athletes in NFA team history contributed to the team's success including Will Soto (108lb.) placed first, Cooper Merli (116lb.) placed 2nd, Chris Leggett (215 lb.) placed 4th, Matthew Mercado (131 lb.) placed 8th, Jordan Busby (116lb.), and William Coughlin (190lbs.) also competed at the NYS Championship competition. Will Soto, Cooper Merli, and Chris Leggett each earned All-State honors during the meet.



STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS BOYS SWIMMING

The NFA Boys Swimming & Diving team captured their 31st Section IX Championship title - the most in Section IX history! The team sent five athletes to compete at the state championship competition. Jack Mummery finished 8th overall in the 200m freestyle and 14th overall in the 500m freestyle. Peyton Tuttle finished 42nd in the 500m freestyle. Overall, the team finished 28th in the state.

BOYS TRACK AND FIELD SENDS 5 TO STATES

Brady Danyluk placed first in the Boys Indoor Track & Field 1000m run at the NYS qualifiers, finishing 3rd in the Federation at the state championship meet in the 1000m run with a time of 2:29.88. Jaden Williams took home the third place finish in the Triple Jump at the state qualifiers and finished 6th in the Federation at the state championship meet in the triple jump with a jump of 45' 5.25". The 4x800 Relay team finished second at the state qualifiers, advancing to compete at states. The relay team consisted of Devin Batelic, Joey Lopez, Oren Miller, and Brady Danyluk. Alternates include: Miles Davis, Kendy Georges, Bryan Arenas, and Gianni Graham.



COLLEGE COMMITMENTS

DIVISION I

BRADY DANYLUK

Men's Track & Field at Northeastern University

RILEY FREDERICK

Girls Soccer at Wagner College

ELLE GERBES

Women's Swimming at Binghamton University

CHRISTOPHER LEGGETT

Football at Sacred Heart University

COOPER MERLI

Wrestling at US Military Academy West Point (verbal commitment)

JACK MUMMERY

Men's Swimming at LeMoyne College

PEYTON TUTTLE

Boys Swimming at LeMoyne College

DIVISION II

NIKOLAS BUCHHOLZ

Boys Lacrosse at Lincoln Memorial University

DIVISION III

CONNOR HOLLENBECK

Baseball at Russell Sage College

NICHOLAS SCHMIDT

Baseball at Russell Sage College



NFA GOLDBACKS ADVANCE TO COMPETE AT FINAL FOUR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

The NFA Boys Basketball team advanced to the New York State Semifinals (Final Four) for the first time in 15 years. The team was crowned East Regional Class AAA Champions, defeating New Rochelle 56-44 before advancing to the finals. From the team, Bryce Marshall, Shaun Gonzalez, and Jahsir Davis were named Mid-Hudson BCANY Class AAA All-Stars.



FINE AND PERFORMING ART



NFA scholar Akhiir McNeil opened for The Rockettes at the Radio City Christmas Spectacular earlier this week. Akhiir performed front and center with the other dancers as part of his work with Harlem School of the Arts! Akhiir is a member of NFA's Advanced Dance, NFA Crew, and NFA Swimming and Diving, is an

MBK Fellow, and proudly represents Newburgh Free Academy as the Senior Class President. Akhiir hopes to continue his focus on dance in college next year. Akhiir was recently recognized as a New Face in Dance through the Roger Rees Awards for Excellence in Student Performance program.



The Newburgh Enlarged City School District showcased artwork by 224 student artists in their annual All-District Art Show hosted in our community at Safe Harbors at the Ritz. Under the guidance of their teachers, student artists displayed artwork using various mediums while learning about different aspects of art and culture.



GARDNERTOWN SCHOLARS **COLLABORATE WITH LOCAL ARTISTS TO** CREATE MEANINGFUL MURAL

dancing in their seats to familiar

songs!

Gardnertown Leadership Academy collaborated with local artist and Meadow Hill alumnus, Joe Pimentel, to create a mural to represent the values of their school. Students were given word prompts and asked to design pieces of the mural based on their interpretation of the meaningful words. Students were asked to draw what the following words mean to them and how they are connected to the school community: Responsible, Respectful, Kind, Integrity, Perseverance, Teamwork, Empathy, Courage, Creativity, Gratitude, Leadership, Fairness.





FOSTERTOWN SCHOOL CONTINUES TRADITION OF LITERACY THROUGH PERFORMANCE

Fostertown School continues its rich history of cultivating literacy skills and student confidence through performance. This year, the school performed Alice in Wonderland, Jack and the Beanstalk, and upcoming Willy Wonka, with every student in the performing grade playing an important role.





LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS FEATURED PROP DONATED AND OPERATED BY ALUMNI

Newburgh Free Academy performed Little Shop of Horrors thanks to the generous donation of the intricate plant props needed to interact with the cast to make the story come to

life. The life-sized props were donated by Bill Diamond

Productions and Diamond
Custom Fabrication.
Additionally, alongside
his daughter Dakota
Diamond, Mr. Richard
Diamond donated his
time and expertise
to operate the maneating prop plant for
rehearsals and the
shows. Dakota has been
involved in productions
at Fostertown Elementary

at Fostertown Elementary School and South Middle School, prior to the NFA Main stage.



NFA ALUMNUS AND PROFESSIONAL ACTOR RETURNS TO INSPIRE STUDENTS

NFA Alumnus, Chaundre Broomfield (2012), returned to help students hone their acting skills in preparation for their spring musical. After graduating from SUNY Purchase with a BFA in Acting, Broomfield went on to TV roles and Stage plays with credits that include BET's "Kingdom Business," "Law and Order," "FBI," Netflix's "Luke Cage," and the Broadway/National tour of Hamilton. During his visit, Broomfield received a declaration from the City of Newburgh and was the keynote speaker for the NFA Black History Club's Black History Month Celebration.

SOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL PERFORMERS LEARN FROM ACCOMPLISHED PLAYWRIGHT

South Middle School scholars who are performing in their spring musical, Beautiful Hair, had the unique opportunity of a visit from Ronvé O'Daniel, who wrote the book, music, and lyrics for the production. During their visit, student performers had the chance to ask dozens of questions about the characters. They were able to better understand the thinking that went into the development of each character. Students were also able to learn about a career in the arts from the accomplished playwright.



Wink. Roc fare.

ORANGE COUNTY HUMANITIES HONOREES

Stephanie Romano (NFA Main) and Ja'Mir Cropp (NFA North) were recognized at the Orange County Humanities Honorees Breakfast. The students are recognized for having distinguished themselves in the arts and humanities. This event celebrates seniors and juniors who have stood out amongst their peers by showing an impressive dedication, skill, and commitment to the arts and humanities.

NFA MUSICIAN SELECTED FOR "BEST OF THE BEST" ALL EASTERN CHORUS

Grace Musante has been accepted to OCMEA All-County Chorus, the New York State School Music Association's (NYSSMA) Area All-State Treble Chorus, All-State Vocal Jazz Ensemble (one of twenty-four students in the state), All-State Mixed Chorus, and All-Eastern's Treble Chorus, which brings together the "best of the best" singers from the eleven states in the East Coast Division. Grace has honed her craft through dozens of performances and musical opportunities, transitioning from

Horizons on the Hudson to South Middle School, and now NFA Main Campus.
After graduating from Newburgh Free Academy, Grace would like to major in Voice and Opera and possibly pursue a second major in Business, Vocal Pedagogy, or a similar field when she is in college.

GRAMMY PERFORMER, SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DANCE? CONTESTANT AND NFA ALUMNUS RETURNS

NFA alumnus, Howard Johnson (2014), returned to host a dance clinic for the NFA Advanced Dance team. While a student at NFA, Howard Johnson performed in West Side Story. The student dancers learned about Johnson's career path, which includes a Grammy performance with Bad Bunny, being a contestant on So You Think You Can Dance and World of Dance with Jennifer Lopez, commercials for Target, Apple, and Hulu, and choreography featured in RuPaul's Drag Race. Students also participated in a dance workshop to learn new techniques.





US MARINES VISIT NEW WINDSOR SCHOOL PROMOTING THE LOVE OF LITERACY

The dedicated U.S. Marines visited New Windsor School as part of a community outreach program promoting literacy among young students. The Marines engaged each scholar by reading captivating stories, aiming to foster a love for reading that can last a lifetime. The Marines led discussions with the students about the importance of reading in their daily lives, illustrating how literacy has helped them gain insights into diverse cultures, traditions, and various interesting facts that enrich their experiences. They highlighted practical skills that reading has provided them, showcasing its relevance in their personal journeys and professional careers within the military.



WEST POINT BRASS QUINTET AND WOODWIND QUINTET MEMBERS PERFORM FOR STUDENTS

The West Point Brass Quintet and Woodwind Quintet visited and worked with the band students from NFA Main and NFA North. Students learned about the college and career paths of the professional musicians and were able to hear different songs and melodies during the presentation.







NFA AFJ-ROTC EXCEEDS STANDARDS WITH NEAR PERFECT SCORE

NFA Air Force JROTC had its Annual Unit Inspection from Headquarters. The high school Cadet Corps "Exceeded Standards" with a rating of 98.5 out of 100, with 0 discrepancies, meeting and exceeding standards in all 11 areas of the checklist.



WEST POINT PARACHUTE TEAM DROPS INTO CLASS OF 2024 GRADUATION CEREMONY

The West Point Parachute team held a special training exercise during the Class of 2024 Graduation, landing on Academy Field during the ceremony. Mr. Doddo, NFA Co-Principal, had spent months coordinating this event for the graduating class. A special thank you to the 2nd Aviation Detachment and USMA West Point Black Knights Parachute Team for making our 159th commencement memorable!

VETERAN APPRECIATION BREAKFASTS

Heritage Middle School and Meadow Hill School welcome veterans each fall for their annual Veterans Day Breakfast. Veterans from around our



community are invited to be celebrated through breakfast, performances, and activities with our students. In February, students throughout our district participate in the Valentines for Veterans initiatives, sending warm messages to Veterans in Orange County.



BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS

The Newburgh Enlarged City School District recognizes and celebrates 36 current and retired teachers who have achieved National Board Certification and 11 additional candidates who are currently pursuing certification.

National Board Certification is considered the "gold standard" of teaching, and SUNY recognizes those teachers who have achieved National Board Certification as having the equivalent of a Doctorate degree in the pedagogy of their certification area. Once certified, the journey is not over as these teachers need to maintain their certification and renew it every 5 years.

In the most recent cycle (2023-2024), 47 teachers in New York State achieved National Board Certification. The NECSD cohort had great success, as 6 teachers achieved National Board Certification. This was the highest rate of achievement for any one district (13% of the

entire state). Congratulations to our new National Board Certified Teachers: Christine Baumann, Katherine DiThomas, Jacqueline Hesse, Tara Lapierre, Jessica Torres, and Sharon Wagner.

National Board Certification is a voluntary process designed for teachers to demonstrate, through standards-based evidence, the positive impact they have on student learning as a result of their deep and abiding understanding of students, content knowledge, pedagogical practice, ongoing reflection, and participation in learning communities. Candidates for Board certification submit evidence through the use of student work samples, lesson videos, written summaries, and reflection, showing that their practice meets the Five Core Propositions and National Board Standards for their content area.

The cohort exists because of the collaboration between the Newburgh Teachers' Association, the Newburgh Teacher Center, and the Newburgh Enlarged City School District. The cohort offers a variety of supports for candidates pursuing certification.

National Board Cohort facilitators for our district are Melissa Higgins and Sharon Kennedy.

THE DISTRICT'S CURRENT BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS:

Christine Baumann
Lisa Benvenuto
Karriem Bunce
Christina Cloidt
Katherine DiThomas
Sabrina Dolfinger

Danielle Du Mortier Nelson

Nancy Gross Jacqueline Hesse Melissa Higgins Eric Katz Sharon Kennedy

Tara Lapierre
Dana Rodriguez
Linda Romano
Yvette Sosnick
Jessica Torres
Linda Vinti

Sharon Wagner Lisa Ward NFA P-TECH

NFA Main

Administration - Principal Administration - Director Vails Gate STEAM Academy Horizons on Hudson Fostertown School

GAMS NFA P-TECH

Temple Hill Academy

NFA Main

New Windsor School Heritage Middle School Temple Hill Academy

NFA North Balmville School

GAMS NFA Main

Heritage Middle School Fostertown School English Language Arts/Adolescence and Young Adulthood

Exceptional Needs Specialist/Early Childhood Through Young Adulthood Exceptional Needs Specialist/Early Childhood Through Young Adulthood

Generalist/Early Childhood Generalist/Early Childhood

Exceptional Needs Specialist/Early Childhood Through Young Adulthood

Generalist/Middle Childhood

Exceptional Needs Specialist/Early Childhood

English Language Arts/Adolescence and Young Adulthood English as a New Language - Early and Middle Childhood School Counseling/Early Childhood Through Young Adulthood

Generalist/Middle Childhood

Exceptional Needs Specialist/Early Childhood Through Young Adulthood

Generalist/Middle Childhood

Certified Nursing Assistant CTE - Early Adolescent/Young Adult

Literacy - ELA Early and Middle Childhood

Exceptional Needs Specialist/Early Childhood Through Young Adulthood Exceptional Needs Specialist/Early Childhood Through Young Adulthood Exceptional Needs Specialist/Early Childhood Through Young Adulthood

Literacy: Reading-Language Arts/Early And Middle Childhood

RETIRED TEACHERS WHO HELD THE CERTIFICATE INCLUDE:

Angela Boone, Danielle Clarino, Judith Cooper, Christine Courtsunis, Richard Durbin, John Eitel, Ellen Hart, Ann Marie Healey, Nickolas Karnavezos, Yvette Lewis, Linda Munro-Apuzzo, Thomas Neppl, Arthur Plichta, Shirley Riefenhauser, Kathleen Young.





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