

Education in New Richmond

The School District of New Richmond serves the educational needs of more than 3,450 students from early childhood through high school.

The district is built on the foundation of our core purpose: Inspire every student to learn to his or her potential. This is further supported by our core values: excellence, respect, integrity, learning, passion, diversity and collaboration.

The New Richmond public school system offers a high-quality program of core academic courses, a top-quality music program, a high-achievement artistic curriculum, competitive interscholastic sports, exploratory student activities, a community-based 4-year-old kindergarten program, and a comprehensive community education program.

A skilled and highly qualified faculty, including several nationally certified teachers, serves the student population. Many high school teachers are qualified to instruct college-level courses in advanced placement classes that qualify students for college credit before getting their high school diplomas.

There are currently five buildings in the school system, including three elementary schools, a middle school, and high school. All are located east and south of New Richmond's downtown area. Starr

Elementary and Paperjack Elementary are located along the north side of East 11th Street (also known as County Highway GG), as is the school district central office and the district's maintenance facility. New Richmond Middle School is located on Riley Avenue, while Hillside Elementary and the High School are located in southern New Richmond on East Richmond Way.

Facilities are important to the community. District residents approved a building referendum in April 2007 for the construction of a new high school and a new elementary school. Renovations were made to Starr Elementary and the former high school was converted into the middle school. Hillside Elementary opened in 2008 and renovations to Starr Elementary were completed later that year. The construction of the new high school was finished in 2010. The conversion of the former high school into the middle school was completed in 2011. Patrick Olson serves as the district administrator.

The New Richmond Board of Education is committed to a strong academic program that equips young people for the challenges and rewards of life. This group of dedicated individuals include Rick Hinz, Paula Kolbeck, Bryan Schafer, Kent Elkin, Dr. Neal Melby, Marilyn Duerst, and Greg Gartner.

NR4K

NR4K is a no-cost educational program that serves children who are 4 years old by September 1st. Michael Ballard serves as the NR4K Director. The NR4K program consists of seven sites including Bear Buddies Learning Station Preschool, First Lutheran Church Preschool, Hansen Learning Center, New Richmond Area Centre Preschool, New Richmond CESA #11, Sonshine Learning Center, and St. Mary's School. As an early education program, NR4K focuses on reading, language arts, and math, but also integrates social studies, science, health, physical education, creative art and music. Young children learn by exploring and experimenting in an integrated, nurturing environment.

STARR ELEMENTARY

Starr Elementary School serves students in grades K-5 in New Richmond. Nicholas Hall serves as principal. Starr Elementary serves approximately 550 students. The main goal of the school and its teaching staff is to build and improve academic achievement,

primarily through individual attention to the students. Students are also taught by licensed specialists in the areas of art, music, physical education, guidance and library/media. Special education and Title 1 services are available. Starr Elementary provides a parent-friendly atmosphere and always welcomes parents to visit the school. Starr Elementary is also a Trauma Sensitive School, where each child not only has their academic needs met as well as their emotional needs. Students are cared for by each adult as if they were their own child. A strong and active parent group assists faculty in many ways and works on special programs and projects, including the highly successful annual art carnival.

PAPERJACK ELEMENTARY

Paperjack Elementary School currently serves 348 students in grades K-5. Michael Ballard serves as principal. Paperjack Elementary strives to provide educational opportunities for all students in a safe, accepting environment, which promotes a positive self-image, an appreciation for lifelong learning, and a commitment to strong citizenship. All teachers utilize Responsive Classroom practices to assist in providing students a strong sense of belonging, the use of open communication, positive conflict resolution, the acceptance of responsibility, and problem-solving strategies. Staff has undergone extensive training in progressive curricula in the areas of math, reading and writing. Students receive 45 minutes of daily intervention during a WIN (What I Need) period that focuses on individualized instruction and personalized learning that allows for each child to receive instruction at their current level. Community members are always welcome at Paperjack.

HILLSIDE ELEMENTARY

Hillside Elementary educates approximately 580 students in grades K-b. Classrooms average 23 students per room. Frank Norton has been the principal since the school's opening in 2008. Hillside is a vital part of the community and enjoys tremendous support from the residents it serves. In addition to excellent academics, the staff is keenly aware of the culture and climate of Hillside, making sure parents, students, and the community feel welcome and involved in our school. By all measures, the students of Hillside perform exceptionally well academically. Year in and year out, Hillside students are among the highest performers on standardized testing in the state. At Hillside, we recognize that academics are only part of serving the whole child. To help each student grow as a citizen, Hillside is responsive to student social needs and weaves character and leadership education into daily routines.

NEW RICHMOND MIDDLE SCHOOL

New Richmond Middle School serves students in grades 6-8 and continues to achieve a high academic rating on the State of Wisconsin School Accountability Report Card. Enrollment is approximately 840 students, with an average class size of 28 students. The principal is Doug Hatch. NRMS uses the house concept, which houses groups of half the students in each grade, who attend classes with the same five core teachers. Students study a core program with a strong emphasis in math, reading, language arts, science and social studies. NRMS offers art, financial literacy, family and consumer sciences education, health, physical education, Spanish, technology education with STEM emphasis as well as excellent band, choral and orchestra music programs, which offer opportunities for students at all ability levels. NRMS also offers many advanced/enrichment opportunities for students through the Tiger Quest

program. Extra-curricular choices offered include athletics, performing arts such as drama and forensics, student council, as well as many after school clubs.

NEW RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL

New Richmond High School serves students in grades 9-12 and has been recognized as one of the best high schools in both Wisconsin and the nation six years in a row (2014 - 2019) by US. News and World Reports. The principal is Tom Wissink. The energy efficient facility has state of the art technology, modern classrooms, and an open design. Additionally, it has an outstanding auditorium and gym space. While the facility is up-to-date, NRHS also offers a small-school learning environment with many options and electives typically available in much larger districts. New Richmond High School offers 17 Advanced Placement and Project Lead the Way pre-engineering courses for college credit. We collaborate with WITC to offer a Welding Academy and over 30 dual credit advanced standing and transcribed credit courses. There are a variety of vocational and technical education courses as well as strong music and art programs. Youth apprenticeships and work experience are also available with local employers for students in grades 11 and 12. The high school also offers an alternative school-within-a-school program, the Alternative Learning Center (ALC), which is an on-site, hands-on, project-based learning program for students in grades 10-12 who have not been successful in the traditional high school environment. The ALC meets during normal school hours. Currently, 22 varsity sports are available for students along with over 20 clubs or activities. There is something for every student to get involved in. The high school is a busy place, playing host to a wide variety of school and community activities, events, and performances throughout the year.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

New Richmond boasts one of the largest Community Education programs in the region and partners with many organizations in the area. Sara Rogers serves as coordinator. Community Education offers an extensive list of selections for life-long learners of all ages. Among the offerings are adult day trips, personal enrichment classes for youth and adults, recreational opportunities, community-wide events, as well as the S.T.E.P. and STARR mentor programs. The Community Education catalog is printed three times a year, and is directly mailed to all area residents, as well as being available online at www.newrichmondre.com information is available about all the programs offered through Community Education by calling 715-243-7421.

ST. MARY SCHOOL

St. Mary School (257 S. Washington Ave.) is dedicated to providing students with an opportunity for academic excellence while also allowing them spiritual strength and respect for human differences. St Mary is a school that proudly builds faith, family and foundations.

Our Catholic identity is the foundation of our school's mission. Students, teachers, parents and parishioners share fellowship every Wednesday at the children's liturgy. The children serve as song, leaders, greeters, altar servers and readers. Students also have daily religion classes, which provide a foundation in faith history and nurture strong values to help as they encounter new challenges, issues and concerns.

Other school programs include sports, technology, art and language along with the core subjects mandated by the Wisconsin Department of Instruction.

Grades 4-8 enjoy the upper level of the school in a departmentalized learning atmosphere. The older students often visit the younger students to mentor them through the Faith Friends Program. The Early Childhood Program includes a preschool that

meets Monday through Friday and a pre-kindergarten that meets Monday through Thursday. The current student enrollment is 181 students with an average class size of 15. All teachers follow curriculum guides under the direction of the Diocese of Superior and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Laura Jo Jarchow serves as principal.

Families interested in the school may schedule tours that include a classroom visit and an observation period. St. Mary School may be reached by calling 715-246-2469. To learn more visit our website at st-maryschool.com.

NORTHWOOD TECHNICAL COLLEGE

NWTC continues to strengthen its position as a resource that provides hands-on education, experience and success in the greater New Richmond area.

The college serves thousands of people each year through its associate degree programs, technical diplomas, certificates, online programs, and continuing and community education classes.

Graduates continue to realize high job placement rates and competitive starting salaries with promising growth potential, as indicated by NWTC's graduate follow-up surveys. Often NWTC students receive and accept job offers weeks before they graduate.

Today education must employ diverse methods of learning to better meet the schedules and lifestyles of today's students. Besides the traditional face-to-face classes, there is a greater demand for flexible delivery of instruction using technology and scheduling.

The college also provides customized training and technical assistance to the business and industrial community, and makes its driving, fire and technical rescue simulation vehicles available to communities throughout the district. Many of the emergency personnel (fire, rescue, EMS/EMT) around the area are NWTC-trained, as well.

For people interested in continuing their education at a university, the transferability of credits between two-year colleges and four-year universities continues to strengthen. In addition, the lower cost per credit at NWTC eases the overall economics of a college education by allowing people to get started at the lower-priced two-year college, in a concept referred to as "2+2" (two years at NWTC; two years at a four-year college).

In addition to its convenient location on South Knowles Avenue and abundant programs, NWTC's market appeal in the area is its highly qualified faculty and staff, noted student activities and the advantage of a smaller student-instructor ratio (about 12 to 15 students per instructor). As evidence of the college's commitment to lifelong learning, all instructors have real world experience in their areas of expertise, and most hold bachelor's and master's degrees, with an increasing number of doctorate degrees.

Collegewide, NWTC serves the entire 11-county northwestern section of Wisconsin, with centrally located administrative offices in Shell Lake, campuses in New Richmond, Ashland, Rice Lake and Superior and outreach centers in Balsam Lake, Hayward and Ladysmith.

To view the college in more detail or schedule a program shadow or tour of the campus, visit www.northwoodtech.edu/.

HOMESCHOOL

Homeschool cooperatives thrive in the community offering an alternative to parents who want more control over what their children are being taught and how the information is presented. National initiatives like Classical Conversations, a Christian

homeschool program created by parents for parents, is an example of some of the resources available to and being implemented by those who choose to homeschool.