



"It Takes a Team to Educate a Child"

NEW MANCHESTER ELEMENTARY "ROCK YOUR SOCKS" DAY

NMES ASKS YOU TO SUPPORT DOWN SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

October was first designated as Down Syndrome Awareness Month in the 1980s. It has been recognized every October since. It is a time to celebrate people with Down Syndrome and make others aware of their abilities and accomplishments.

Did you know that Down Syndrome is the most common chromosomal condition? Each year about 6,000 babies are born with Down syndrome (about one in every 691 babies). Down Syndrome happens when a child is born with an extra chromosome, leading to delays in physical and mental development. The extra chromosome occurs by chance. Individuals with Down syndrome vary widely in their abilities, but early intervention and good medical care can make a big difference in their development.

Socks have been used as a symbol for Down Syndrome because chromosomes are shaped "like socks" and people with Down's syndrome are born with an extra one. The idea of people wearing colorful, mismatched socks is also used as a symbol to highlight that our differences are what make us great.

Please help NMES support Down Syndrome Awareness month and allow your child to participate in "**ROCK YOUR SOCKS**" DAY. New Manchester students and staff are encouraged to wear bright or mismatched socks on Friday, October 27 to bring awareness to Down Syndrome month.

