

North Kingstown High School

Parent Newsletter

September 18, 2020

Hello Parents

Administration 2020 - 2021

Principal: Dr. Barbara Morse

Assistant Principal for Teaching and Learning: Shivali Finkelstein

Assistant Principal for Student Services: Eric Anderson

Dean of Students: Kathie DeLuca

The first week of school went extremely well! We are excited to have our students and teachers back in the building. The hours of planning this summer, the community conversations, ongoing feedback and communications among different groups of stakeholders led to many revisions in the reopening plans at the high school. Seeing the revised plan work so well in the first week of school gives us great hopes in continuing to have a great school year in spite of the changes we all have to embrace. All members of the high school have seamlessly adapted to the changes and have settled into a routine at the end of this week. We see students in the hallways, bathrooms and in the classrooms responsibly and respectfully practicing social distancing and following all our signage strategically placed by our own Mr Anderson! We had an opportunity to visit classrooms and it was nice to see students on their virtual learning day join their classrooms virtually with their in person day peers. Teachers at NKHS have done an amazing job figuring out plans for engaging all students in learning each day whether they are in person or on their virtual learning day. We have all learned and grown exponentially as an educational community since Spring of 2020 and that is evident as you walk through the hallways and visit classrooms at NKHS this Fall of 2020

Important Dates

September

- 21 Group A (September 23, 25, 29)
- 22 Group B (September 24, 28, 30)
- 29 School Committee Meeting 7pm

Office of Teaching and Learning

NEW UPDATES

2021 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists from NKHS

We are very proud to announce that 5 students from NKHS have been announced as semifinalists in the 2021 National Merit Scholarship Program. There are a total of 16,000 Semifinalists in the 66th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,600 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$30 million that will be offered next spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, Semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the Finalist level of the competition.

We congratulate the following students and wish them good luck in the competition. Go Skippers!!!

Andrew Bard

Nathan Casey

Jacob Gagnon

Julia Totten

Daniel Ventura




ART NEWS

The Visual Arts Department is happy to announce this artistic recognition:

CelebratingArt has accepted the following students to have their artwork published in the next anthology edition of CelebratingArt!

Gabriella Carnevale, Caroline Hlrsh, Olivia Wood, and Sophia Della-Selva

This hard-bound full-color book is professionally bound in an 8.5 x 11 format and will index each of the above student's name, grade, and state.



Stay tuned in October to hear if they place as the top ten for their grade level.

[Art Show](#) and [Lindsay Ann Burke Memorial Fund](#)

INFORMATION CARRIED FORWARD FROM PREVIOUS NEWSLETTER

Semester Schedules

The school reopening planning team at NKHS spent many hours this summer discussing the block schedule in each of the reopening scenarios namely; Full-In Person, Partial In-Person, Limited In-Person and Full Distance Learning. Regardless of the scenario implemented, at its maximum students would be returning to school for 50% of the time in person and would be learning from home directed by teachers for the other 50%. To reduce confusion and create manageable workload for students and staff in this unique upcoming school year, the team arrived at a consensus that having students only focus on four blocks at a time will be in the best interest of Teaching and Learning at NKHS. This was also the safer choice as we measure this against the guidance provided by RIDE and RIDOH in the reopening plan guidance as it reduces exposure within student groups and teachers. It restricts interaction within four groups of students and teachers per semester as opposed to eight all year. The team believes that this will address the instructional and social emotional needs of all students. This will further allow teachers to remain vigilant in providing instruction and feedback to students as they will only have a maximum of three classes per semester to instruct. It is important to recognize that this new model of school required a new and innovative approach to scheduling. So in conclusion, Blocks 1, 2 3 and 4 will run for Semester 1 and

Blocks 5, 6, 7 and 8 will run in Semester 2

Administration will continue to providing guidance and assistance to teachers with this change all year through ongoing professional development and by providing access to Assistant Principal for Teaching and Learning

Instructional Opportunities and Instructional Delivery Models

The students and families at NKHS were asked to select an instructional model for the upcoming school year. They were given a choice to attend an In-Person model or Full Distance

Learning model. This created three different groups of students that the teachers will need to prepare instruction for each day. In each classroom teachers will have

- A group in the classroom in person (group A or B)
- A group at home on their distance learning day (group A or B)
- Students that signed up for full distance learning (may or may not be any)

The high school teachers have an unenviable task of balancing instruction for these three different groups. Administration is committed to working with teachers at their level of expertise and comfort to help them make these instructional adjustments while maintaining the highest level of academic rigor and aiming to complete the curriculum to the greatest extent possible.

NKHS teacher's first day back to school was September 1, 2020. The teachers have had the opportunity to be engaged in professional development for seven school days to prepare for school opening. They have indulged in several professional development opportunities and discussions to prepare for teaching and learning to provide students with the same opportunities they would have if we were in a non-Pandemic normal school year. The teachers are committed to providing high quality instruction to our students. We thank them for their hard work and commitment during these unprecedented times and an upcoming unique school year.

Following are some guidelines set by administration for the upcoming school year for instructional delivery

Expectations for students:

- Students will follow the bell schedule for their classes..
 - If a teacher provides live instruction, students are expected to attend. This includes students in A/B groups and on full distance learning
 - Students may experience several types of models during the day depending on the teacher and lesson plan.
- Students will adhere to due dates for assignments on a daily basis.
- Academic rigor is in place. No forgiveness or do no harm grades are planned even if we were directed to move to full Distance Learning for all students.

Expectations for teachers:

- Teachers are not required to post recordings of lessons if they are providing live instruction to all students.
- Teachers who are not providing live instruction will post the lesson for the next day ahead of time
- Each day includes new instruction consistent with the department curriculum outline.

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- Teachers can vary the approach based on the appropriateness for the lesson, ie, one lesson may be livestreamed, another blended or prerecorded.
 - Teachers of the same content could partner to provide pre recorded lessons.

AP courses in semesters

To address the concerns of AP classes running for one semester as opposed the whole year, AP students will have the opportunity to be engaged in an *independent study* named “AP Seminar” for .5 credit in the semester before or after their currently registered AP course

- This seminar would be used to supplement the AP course preparation
- The AP seminar will offer semester 1 students access to their AP Advisor to keep their skills sharpened and feeling prepared for the exam
- The AP seminar will offer semester 2 students the opportunity to have access to an AP advisor prior to the start of the course for pre-work to begin to aid in the tight schedule they will face during the semester 2 AP course
- Students will have access to an AP advisor during their scheduled AP Seminar to help with any questions, feedback or concerns they may have with their work
- Students can utilize the following resources:
 - AP Classroom on Collegeboard
 - IXL assignments
 - AP youtube link:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/advancedplacement/featured>
- If students have a PLT built into their schedule this would be an appropriate time for them to work on their independent study work for their AP courses. It may be necessary for most or all of the AP Seminar work to be done on the student’s own time.

Teachers will be providing students with a join code to join the AP classroom that is all set up and ready to go for our AP students and teachers for the first day of school!

SAT School Day for Seniors

Last spring, the unexpected closure of schools led to the cancellation of the in-school SAT with Essay test for the class of 2021. The Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) has planned to re-administer this test on October 14, 2020. North Kingstown High School seniors will be taking the SAT with Essay test at the high school that day.

Here at NKHS, it is our goal to ensure that our seniors are as well-prepared as possible so that they will perform at their best on test day. Seniors are encouraged to spend at least 45 to 60 minutes each day to prepare for October 14th. Please click the links below to access informational and test-prep materials related to the test:

- Click [HERE](#) for an FAQ sheet on the October 14 School Day SAT with Essay test
- Click [HERE](#) for College Board-approved practice activities
- Click [HERE](#) for SAT Practice by Khan Academy
- Click [HERE](#) to learn about setting up SAT Study Groups. This link includes information about setting up study groups, setting goals for SAT practice, a sample SAT study plan and setting up a checklist to stay organized and engaged.
- Click [HERE](#) for sample Math, Reading, Writing and Essay test questions

At North Kingstown High School, we are extremely proud of our school's tradition of academic achievement. We are committed to supporting our students, and we are confident that with hard work and dedication, they will perform at their best on their SAT test.

[Canvas](#)

We are also excited to announce that NKSD has adopted the official launch of a new LMS system for school year 2020-21 that will benefit students and teachers in communicating more effectively. For more information on Canvas, click [HERE](#). The teachers are preparing to implement this new system starting quarter 2. First quarter is set for the staff to explore and learn the platform and get familiar with its use. Students will receive information on how to use canvas closer to the start of quarter 2.

Office of Student Services

NEW UPDATES

Lunch for Distance Learners

Our Distance Learners may pick up 5 breakfasts and lunches weekly at no cost. The distribution will take place at the HS on Fridays between 5:30 p.m.- 6:30 p.m. The meals are pre ordered by the household(s) at talk_feedable@nksd.net We will always have extra meal packs on site for those who forget. For more information click [HERE](#)

Attendance and Helpful Testing Info

Under healthy circumstances, we expect that your child is present for their in-person day unless you have opted your child for full distance learning. If your child is staying home during their in-person day for any reason, COVID related or not, please call or email the attendance office to let us know so we can document it in Aspen (268-6239, jennifer_deblois@nksd.net). While at home, we encourage your child to participate virtually as much as possible.


Also, it's very important to call your child out sick during any distance learning day.

Please make note of the testing information below.

If you work at a school and you need a test, or if your child needs a test, you can schedule a same-day test by calling our dedicated Pre-K-12 COVID Test Scheduling Service at (844) 857-1814. The service is available seven days a week, from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. This scheduling line is reserved for students, teachers, and staff who have symptoms, or who have been in close contact with someone who is positive.

Individuals who are symptomatic and call this scheduling service will get two tests during their appointment: a rapid test, which will have results the same day, and a more definitive PCR test that takes an average of 48 hours to provide results. If they are getting tested because they were a close contact of someone with COVID-19, they'll only get the PCR test.

We have tests being administered at [14 sites throughout the state](#) and can accommodate both drive-up appointments or walk-up appointments. Appointments can be scheduled by parents, guardians, teachers, staff members, and students older than 16 years old. Children younger than 16 will need a parent or guardian to schedule the test for them.



Those who are tested should expect to be out of school or work for a period of time, even if the result is negative. We aren't taking any chances with potential cases.

[Flu Clinic](#)

This year our flu clinic will be held on Tuesday October 27th from 3pm-6pm in the high school cafeteria. More sign up information will be sent when it becomes available.

[INFORMATION CARRIED FORWARD FROM PREVIOUS NEWSLETTER](#)

[Bell Schedule](#)

**North Kingstown High School
2020-2021
Hybrid Bell Schedule**

Period	Start Time	End Time	Time (minutes)
Adv (Period 1 teacher)	7:15	7:30	15
1	7:30	8:44	74
2	8:49	10:03	74
3	10:08	11:31	83 74 class, 9 snack
4	11:36	12:50	74
Dismissal	12:50	1:00	Lunch Pickup

- Grab and go breakfast/snack is available in the cafeteria 7:00 - 7:20 am

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- Grab and go lunch will be available 12:50 - 1 pm
 - Both grab and go services are available for all students at no cost.
 - Students must report directly to Advisory (period 1 class) when they enter the building.
 - Note - Your child's advisory teacher is their first-period teacher for this year.

School days

- Full-In Person plan for the HS consists of students attending in-person every other day in A/B groups assigned by last names.
- Group A (Last names A-K)
- Group B (Last names L-Z)

Days of attendance in September

SEPTEMBER 2020 - [Click here](#)

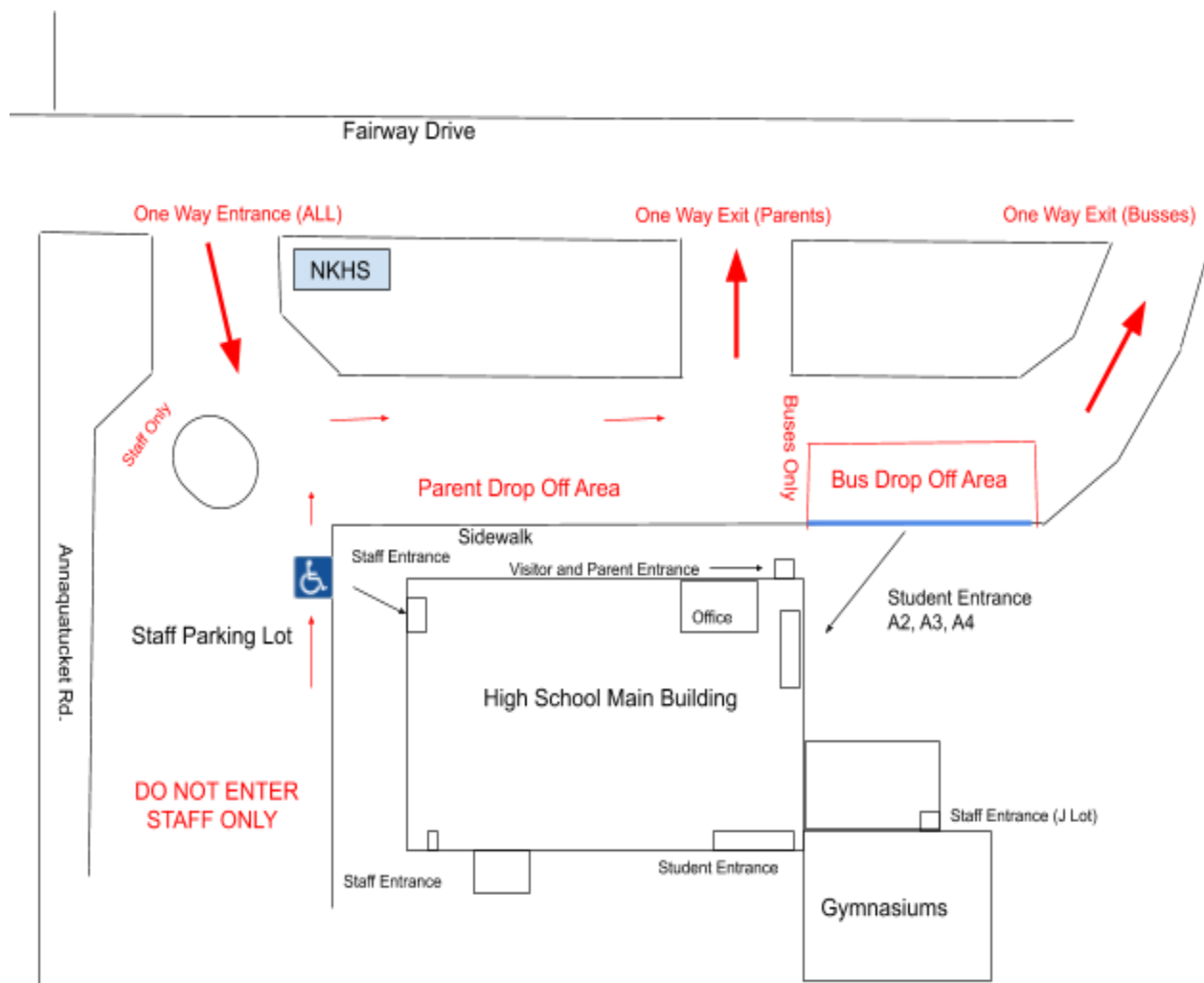
Morning Drop Off

Bus Drop-off 7:00-7:10

Parent Drop-off 7:15

Parent Dropoff Options

- Front - See diagram
- Rear - Pull up to the cafeteria doors and circle out to Annaquatucket rd.



Student Entrance, Parent Drop Off -->
Parents Exit Here

[Aspen Workflows](#)

Annual Aspen workflows need to be completed before the start of the school year. The daily covid screening needs to be completed every day. Click the tutorials below.

- [Annual Back to School Workflows - TUTORIAL](#)
 - Parent Permission
 - Annual Health Collection
 - Student Emergency Card

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- [NEW DAILY COVID Screening Workflow - Tutorial](#)
 - Covid Screening Tool

[Student Parking](#)

- Students travel through the Annaquatucket Rd entrance/exit only.
- If a student receives their license at any point during the school year we can provide a spot. As long as we are in a hybrid schedule we have ample parking. Reach out to the Student Offices at any time.


[Parent access to the building](#)

- Item drop off
 - We are restricting any parent access unless you need to drop off items that are considered emergency items, such as medications.
- Student Dismissal
 - If you're picking up your child, buzz the front door and we will assist you.
- Meeting with faculty or staff
 - Most meetings with parents and faculty/staff will occur virtually.
 - Please call ahead to make an appointment.

[Classrooms](#)

- Extra furniture has been removed from classrooms to create as much space as possible
- Desks and tables have been spaced so students will be at least 6ft apart.
- Each room will have sanitizer or a hand washing station.
- Each class will be supplied with squirt bottles and paper towels for desk cleaning.

[Restrooms](#)

- Restrooms will remain open throughout the day
 - Our custodial staff has scheduled for additional restroom cleaning and sanitizing of high touch areas.
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Hallways

- Hallways are clearly marked with directional arrows for one way passing times
- Stairwells are clearly marked for up or down only during passing times
- During Instructional times, students will maintain social distancing in hallways and stairwells and proceed as you would under normal circumstances.

Off-role

- Morning
 - Morning check-in is at the cafeteria doors. Students need to be on time.
- Afternoon
 - Students will dismiss themselves after third period

Lockers and Backpacks

- All student lockers have been secured shut. There will be no locker access this year.
- Students will be permitted to use a backpack during COVID restrictions.
 - String bag is preferred
- PE Lockers
 - Lockers will not be used
 - Students are asked to come ready to participate in PE by wearing the appropriate clothing - sneakers are required.
 - Sneakers can always be brought in a bag.
 - If your child needs to change, ask them to see their PE teacher.

Materials

- Bring your own materials; pens, pencils, binders, etc. We are discouraging sharing of materials as a part of our safety protocol.

Masks/Face Coverings

- All students are required to bring and wear their own masks. [Click Here](#) to access the [School Committee Mask Policy](#)
- Spare masks will be available if needed.

Guidance Department

NKHS School Counselor Breakdown 2020-2021

Updated 9/4/2020

Grade 9	CTE Students	Counselor	Counselor Email
A - Cam	IT	Mrs. Parvo-Brown	elizabeth_parvobrown@nksd.net
Car - Den	none	Mrs. Toro Department Chair	mia_toro@nksd.net
Der - G	Engineering	Mrs. Ward	erin_ward@nksd.net
H - Pl	none	Mrs. Mancini	barbarajean_mancini@nksd.net
Po - So	Music	Ms. Caromile	bethany_caromile@nksd.net
St - Z	Business/Finance	Mrs. Giguere	jessica_giguere@nksd.net
Grades 10-12			
Grades 10-12	CTE Students	Counselor	Counselor Email
A - Cr	IT	Mrs. Parvo-Brown	elizabeth_parvobrown@nksd.net
Cu - Er	none	Mrs. Toro Department Chair	mia_toro@nksd.net
Es - Han	Engineering	Mrs. Ward	erin_ward@nksd.net
Har-Mo	none	Mrs. Mancini	barbarajean_mancini@nksd.net
Mu - So	Music	Ms. Caromile	bethany_caromile@nksd.net
Sp - Z	Business/Finance	Mrs. Giguere	jessica_giguere@nksd.net

The Add/Drop Period for elective course changes will end at 2pm on September 23. Students that would like to request a schedule change should email their school counselor.

Senior Parent:

School counselors will be holding virtual College Application Information and Help Sessions for students Monday, September 21 through Thursday, September 24 at 1pm. If your child is planning to attend a four-year college, please encourage them to join us. Students can join the session via the link on the Class of 2021 Guidance Google Classroom.

These sessions will include information about:

- The Common Application
- Working with your school counselor to process your applications
- Teacher recommendations
- Other application application platforms
- And more...

Virtual Senior Parent and Financial Aid Night - Monday, October 6 at 6:30pm

6:30 - 7:00 - School counselors will review the college application process and answer questions.

7:00 - 8:00 - A representative from the College Planning Center of RI will present information about financial aid and answer questions.

[Athletics, PTSO, Clubs, Activities, Etc...](#)

[ATHLETICS](#) fall season starts 9/21

New Assumption of Risk form: <https://www.riil.org/page/3250>

[Click Here for FALL TRYOUT INFORMATION NEW!!!](#)

Fall Sports Coach Contact Information:

_Athletic Director: Chris Cobain (christopher_cobain@nksd.net) 401-268-6281

Boys Cross Country: Paul Tetreault (Coachjpt@cox.net); Matt Colavita (Mcolavita1@yahoo.com)

Boys Soccer: Paul Fanning (Paul_Fanning@nksd.net)

Field Hockey: Julie Maguire (Julie_Maguire@nksd.net); Kris Graham (Kris_Graham@nksd.net)

Football: Fran Dempsey (Francis_Dempsey@nksd.net) **season postponed**



Football Cheer: Shelby White (Onsitestyle@gmail.com)

Girls Cross Country: Brian McNeiece (Coachmcneiece@gmail.com); Matt Colavita (Mcolavita1@yahoo.com)

Girls Soccer: Mark D'Arezzo (Mdarezzo9@gmail.com)

Girls Tennis: Tim O'Neill (tjorhody@yahoo.com)

Girls Volleyball: Brian Garrepy (Brian_Garrepy@nksd.net) **season postponed**

Unified Volleyball: Keith Higgins (Keith_Higgins@nksd.net) **season postponed**

NKHS Booster Club

Welcome back to the new year at NKHS!! Things have been uncertain and, for a while, we were not sure we would be saying "welcome back" but here we are...and NKHS will be better than ever! Fall sports will kick off in a couple of weeks and our student-athletes will need our support now more than ever.

For those families new to the high school, the Booster Club is a volunteer, nonprofit organization whose overall purpose is to raise and manage funds in support of the athletic programs at the high school. We meet once a month (generally the first Monday evening) and all are welcome to join ~ reminder emails are sent out prior to the meetings.

Ways to Support Athletics:

1) Join the Booster Club! The easiest way to support the athletics programs is to become a member of the Booster Club. There are 3 levels of membership with special rates this year due to our abbreviated seasons. See the attached [flyer](#) for details or follow the link below to purchase your membership! <https://north-gear.square.site>

2) Follow Boosters on social media for the latest sports information:

Facebook: North Kingstown Athletics Booster Club (NKBoosterClub)

Instagram: nkboosterclub

Twitter: @ NKBoosterClub

@NoKingstownHS (NK Athletics Twitter account)



3) Be on the lookout for our **POPUP GEAR SHOP!!** Opening later this week ~ links will be on social media ~ Facebook, Instagram, Twitter!!

4) **Fall Sports Registration has opened!!** Follow the link provided to register your fall athlete. **ALL** athletes (new and returning) are required to submit an Assumption of Risk form (found on the registration site), as it has been updated for Covid19.

<https://northkingstown-ar.schooltoday.com/>

Reach out with any questions to NKBoosterClub@gmail.com

Thank you ~ stay healthy ~ see you on the field soon!

NKHS Booster Club

PTSO: New School Year, New Board Needed!

We need your help. Several existing board members have come to term and we need some energetic, excited people to take over the positions of President, Vice President and Secretary. We can't wait to meet you and are happy to help you transition into your role. Our mission is to support the education of students at NKHS, working together to improve our learning environment and to foster positive relationships with the Community. Please email nkhsptso1901@gmail.com or join us on Facebook (search NKHS PTSO in groups) and message us there.

We look forward to hearing from you!

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