

North Kingstown High School Newsletter

January 11, 2021

Administration 2020 - 2021

Principal: [Dr. Barbara Morse](#)

Assistant Principal for Teaching and Learning: [Ms. Shivali Finkelstein](#)

Assistant Principal for Student Services: [Mr. Eric Anderson](#)

Athletic Director: [Mr. Chris Cobain](#)

Dean of Students: [Ms. Kathie DeLuca](#)

Hello NKHS Educational Community,

Happy New Year to all of our NKHS students, staff, families, administration and all other educational community members. We hope that the new year of 2021 brings joy, opportunities and success in future endeavours for all. NKHS welcomes all students and staff back into the building for hybrid in person learning starting this Monday January 11, 2021.

[Key](#) *

** NEW information in the newsletter*

*** UPDATED information in the newsletter*

Important Dates - [January 2021](#)

January *

- 11 Group A Day
SIT Meeting 2pm
- 12 Group B Day
School Committee Meeting

- 18 No School - Martin Luther King Day
- 21 PTSO Meeting 7pm
- 25 PD for teachers. All students will be DL.
- 26 PSAT for juniors. All other grades will be DL
- 27 Group A Day

[News from the Nurse*](#)

Happy New Year and welcome back to in person learning.

Reminder: If your child tests positive for Covid 19, please notify the nurse. The RI Department of Health often tells parents that they will notify us however; sometimes when the positivity rate is high like is now, there is a delay in notifying us. Advance notice helps the nurse to contact students and staff to inform them of any possible exposure. This helps to keep our cases to a minimum so that our school may remain open for as long as possible.

Many of you may have questions about the vaccines that are now available to specific groups. Below are some links to find out more about them.

Family Friendly Vaccine information from WebMD

<https://www.webmd.com/vaccines/covid-19-vaccine/news/20201216/covid-19-vaccines-101-faq>

CDC SITES FOR VACCINE INFO

[COVID-19 Vaccination | CDC](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccines | CDC](#)

[8 Things to Know about the U.S. COVID-19 Vaccination Program | CDC](#)

[Recipient Education | COVID-19 Vaccination | CDC](#)

Linda Twardowski, Certified School Nurse Teacher

P: 401-268-6279, Email: linda_twardowski@nksd.net

[Yearbook](#)

Yearbook Senior Ads:

A senior ad is a space in the yearbook that you can purchase and very easily personalize for your graduate. It's a unique way to honor your student and make them feel special. A student ad can include photos, memories, and a message from you that your graduate will have forever. The deadline for purchasing an ad for your senior is **Friday, January 29th**.

[Purchase a Student Advertisement](#)

[Buy A Brick](#)

Commemorate your years as a Skipper with a custom engraved brick. Your brick will be installed in the Skipper wheel brick walkway and will become part of the NKHS campus forever.

<https://www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/nkhsbricks>

[NKHS Teacher Recognition \(Updated Monthly\)](#)

We would like to recognize **Ms Wendy Valente** for taking the initiative on a new opportunity offered by URI for NKHS Computer Science students to receive URI credits. NKHS can now offer college credit in partnership with URI for AP Computer Science Principles, AP Computer Science A, and Cybersecurity courses. If students earn a grade of C or higher, they receive 4 transferable college credits. Our students now have the opportunity to leave high school with 12 computer science college credits. This program is free for RI public high schools through the PrepareRI initiative. (Private schools must pay \$340 per student per class.)

Ms Valente contacted NKHS Administration in April 2020 when this opportunity was released by URI. She attended the workshops to learn about this initiative and has put processes in place for this to be a reality for our students. Ms Valente volunteered to attend all workshops required by URI to keep our partnership with URI. We are so thankful for her enthusiasm and dedication for our students.

Office of Teaching and Learning

Requesting back to in person learning for semester 2 (Deadline Jan 11, 2021 4pm)

For families that are interested in requesting their child return to school under the hybrid model for semester 2 will need to complete [THIS](#) form. Deadline to complete this form is January 11, 4pm. NKHS administration will need to evaluate safe return for each child and work with transportation in order to be compliant with State's distancing guidelines for schools. ***This form needs to be completed ONLY if your child is currently distance learning and would like to return in person for semester 2.***

Requesting Distance Learning for semester 2

For families that are interested in requesting distance learning, please email Ms Finkelstein with this request shivali_finkelstein@nksd.net

PSAT test for all juniors at NKHS January 26, 2021

A reminder that all grades 9, 10, & 12 will be DL on Tuesday January 26, 2021 due to PSAT testing for Juniors. Only juniors that signed up for testing will attend school that day. Juniors that are not testing are encouraged to spend their day making up any school work they owe or engage in meetings with their school counselors or teachers that are available that day.

NKHS will host PSAT for juniors on January 26, 2021. Juniors interested in taking the test must;

- 1) Complete [THIS](#) form by January 13, 2020. Students must use their NKSD email to access this form. External emails will not work
- 2) Pay \$20 to cover the cost of the test. Please pay in an envelope with a check made out to North Kingstown High School. The check can be dropped off outside the guidance office on 01/11/21, 01/12/20 or 01/13/21. You may hand the check to a staff member (Ms Finkelstein or Ms Tetreault) before or after school everyday for the dates given above. Please put student first and last name on the envelope with subject line of PSAT Jan 26, 2021

Deadline to fill in the online registration form and to pay for the test is 1/13/21

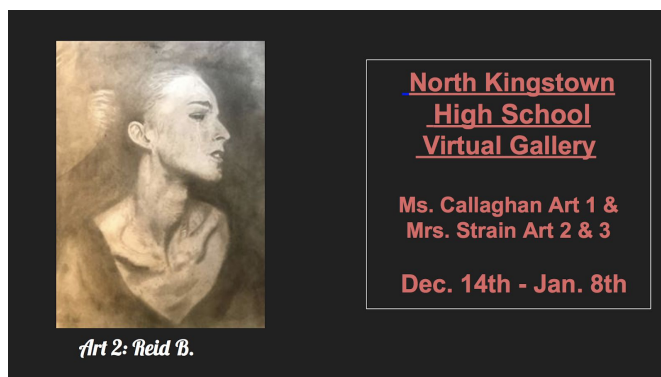
If you have any questions, contact Ms Finkelstein via email (shivali_finkelstein@nksd.net)

[Catch with the Coach](#)

Click [HERE](#) to watch the 5th inning of Catch with the Coach with our Senior Owen Moynihan
Courtesy - Coach Quinn and Mr Aaron Thomas

[Art News *](#)

Click the image below to view the New Year Virtual Art Gallery!



[NK SELAC 2020](#)

NK SELAC is a collaborative partnership group consisting of various North Kingstown Educational community members that strive to enhance the educational experience of our students. Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

[ARC \(ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER\) Message from Mr Silveira](#)

Academic Resource Center runs virtually every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:00-3:00pm. It's to help any student who needs help with History, English, Math, Science, and Spanish. In addition, we will have teachers to work with students who may benefit from help with organizational skills and support . Please click [HERE](#) to view the flyer for more information.

Rob Silveira, ARC Coordinator

Office of Student Services

Attendance

If you hear a new voice when you call the attendance office it's because Jenny DeBlois has moved to a new position in the IT department. While we will miss her dearly, we have found an outstanding replacement in Kerry Langlois.

If your child cannot attend school on their in-person day, we need to know. Please call the office and we can make a simple note in Aspen. Attendance office contacts are listed below.

- 401-268-6239
- Kerry_Langlois@nksd.net

We expect your child will attend school on their in-person day. Choosing to attend virtually has a significant impact on the teachers' ability to plan and teach efficiently.

All students who arrive after 7:15 will need to check in late the Student Services Office

Chromebook Refresh

New Chromebooks have been issued to 9th and 10th grade students. If your child has yet to receive their new device, we can assist.

- In-person learners can stop into the Student Services Office anytime to get their new device.
 - Please bring your old Chromebook and Charger with you.
- Full time distance learners can pick up their device at the IT building, which is behind the NKHS practice fields.

Having issues with a Chromebook during the pause?

Enter a helpdesk ticket via email: DL_helpdesk@nksd.net

[Just receive your license and need parking?](#)

Juniors, [click here](#) to fill out your application

Seniors, [click here](#) to fill out your application

Once your child has filled out the form, bring a copy of their license, registration, and proof of insurance to the student services office. We will provide a sticker and a spot number.

[See Something Say Something](#)

The links below remind students how to anonymously report something they are concerned about. Please share it with them. Given the increase in mental health issues recently, this information has become increasingly more important. [To report something, click here.](#)

Below please find links to instructions for educators to create classes, access and play the recently updated SS-ARS student training videos:

- [Student Training Instructions for IN PERSON viewing \(students in physical classrooms\)](#)
- [Student Training Instructions for DISTANCE viewing \(students at home or in remote location\)](#)
- [Student Training Instructions Video – Helpful Hints \(editing/changing class info\)](#)

There are three (3) versions of the SS-ARS student training video..

1. **Say Something - ARS: Core Training** (for students who have Not been previously trained in SS-ARS and will view video in-person with teacher present)
2. **Say Something – ARS: Refresher** (for students who were previously trained in SS-ARS during the 2019-20 school year and will view video in-person with teacher present)
3. **Say something – ARS: Distance Learning** (for students who will view video from their home/remotely)

[EdOC bulletin](#)

On behalf of the RI Education Operations Center, please [click here](#) to find their Back-To-School Bulletin dated Dec. 9, 2020.

Inside, you'll find information regarding how to protect students and others from COVID-related identity theft, along with travel guidance.

Guidance Department

NKHS School Counselor Caseloads 2020-2021

Teacher Recommendations

Believe it or not, we are beginning the scheduling process for the 2021/2022 school year. Teacher recommendations for semester 1 core courses are published on ASPEN and will be viewable until January 14. Semester two teachers will make recommendations in March.

Students have the opportunity to override a semester one teacher recommendation. Override forms for semester one recommendations are due January 14. We advise students to be cautious about overriding a teacher's recommendation. Teachers take into consideration their observations of each student as a learner and the expectations in the next sequential course when making recommendations. Students can access the override form on the Guidance google classroom for each grade level.

College Application Virtual Drop-In Sessions

A school counselor will be available every Wednesday from 1:00 - 1:45 to help students with their College Applications. Students can drop in to the session via a google meeting link shared on the Class of 2021 Guidance Google Classroom.

College Application Deadlines

Seniors are asked to notify their school counselor of an upcoming college application deadline two weeks in advance in order for the counselor to process and submit their portion of the application on time. Please see the table below for notification deadlines. An invitation to the

student's common application account and selection of a decision plan is considered proper notification.

Application Deadline	Counselor Notification Deadline
January 15, 2021	December 23, 2020
February 1, 2021	January 15, 2021
March 1, 2021	February 5, 2021

[FASFA Assistance](#)

[RISLA's College Planning Center](#) has been providing "free" FAFSA completion assistance since 1998 and would like to get their appointment calendar filled early so they can help as many families as possible.

Plan ahead and [book your appointment](#) today. Appointments are free and available 7 days a week. [Spanish](#) speaking counselors available upon request.

[Click this link](#) for a list of items you will need to have on hand for your appointment(s).

[*Scholarship Opportunities for Class of 2022](#)

The [College Board Opportunity Scholarships](#) are now open for class of 2022 students. The program lays out six simple steps that all students can take to get to college.

For the class of 2022, the College Board Opportunity Scholarships program will help even more students plan for college, address affordability concerns, and connect them with other scholarship opportunities. Here are a few key changes to the program for the class of 2022:

- More than 7,000 students will earn a scholarship each year, nearly double the number of winners in previous years.
- All scholarship steps for the class of 2022 will be awarded for the same amount: \$500. The Complete Your Journey award will remain \$40,000.
- There's a new Explore Scholarships step to help students find scholarship opportunities that may be a good fit for them. And there's a simplified Practice for the SAT® step that will guide students to begin personalized SAT practice just for them.

At least half of all the scholarships—over \$2 million each year—are awarded to students whose families [earn less than \\$60,000 per year](#).

We encourage you to share this information with your juniors and have them [sign up](#) for the program. Their first step is to make a starter list of six colleges they're interested in, for a chance at \$500.

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

[Athletics](#)

- Winter Season starts today, January 4th. Click [HERE](#) for additional information.
 - Approved Sports for winter season: B/G Basketball, B/G Swim, B/G Indoor track, B/G Hockey, Gymnastics
 - **Postponed Winter Sports:** Cheer and Wrestling
 - **[Winter Sport Registration is open!!!](#)**
1. Athletics is asking everyone to upload a copy of your updated physical.(this is new)
When you login to your family account there is a column that allows you to update your

physical on file for each of your athletes. (take a picture of the front page and upload or scan into PDF and upload)

2. All student athletes need to submit a hard copy of the NEW Assumption of Risk form signed and notarized for this school year. Fall athletes that have submitted do not need to resubmit.

(RIIL mandate)Assumption of Risk Link below

https://www.riil.org/sites/riil.org/files/files/Private_User/ri/Assumption%20of%20Risk%202020%20-%20NEW.pdf

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

[NKHS Booster Club](#)

Our next monthly meeting is scheduled for **tonight, Monday, January 4, 2021** at 7:00PM. The meeting will be a Zoom call - if you would like to attend, please reach out to NKBoosterClub@gmail.com for the link.

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. Follow the link below to purchase your membership! Any blankets purchased with your order will be delivered to your address. Membership cards will be mailed. **Parents of senior athletes - memberships had to be purchased by December 31, 2020, in order for your senior athlete to apply for a Booster Scholarship in the spring.**

<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) Winter sports open today ~ Good luck to all of our athletes as the season gets underway! Check out NFHSNetwork.com and get a monthly subscription for \$10.99 ~ catch all home games and games at participating schools as well!

4) Send Boosters any pictures from the fall or throwback winter sports as we gear up for the next season - we love to share on social media! Send to: GetsocialNK@gmail.com

PTSO

The next PTSO meeting will be on January 21 @ 7pm. This will be a combined January and February meeting. The meeting ID is 578 765 1237.

Looking to give back? Here are a few ways your support can help us:

1. Stop and Shop's A+ Rewards Program, register your card with North Kingstown High School ID #06982. Follow the links below for instructions in English and Spanish. Don't forget, your friends and family can support us as well.

[Stop and Shop A+ Welcome/Supporter letter \(English/Spanish\)](#)

[Stop and Shop A+ How to sign up \(English/Spanish\)](#)

Or visit our [website](#) found under the Parents tab on the NKHS page

2. Make a difference while you shop, simply shop at smile.amazon.com/ch/27-2188788 or with AmazonSmile ON in the Amazon Shopping app and AmazonSmile donates to NKHS PTSO.

3. The NKHS PTSO offers a simple way for parents to support our programs via a **tax deductible** donation. Our direct donation drive provides the majority of the funding for the PTSO- last year our donations were spent on teacher grants and staff appreciation. For further financial information please visit our website-from the NKHS school page, go to the parents tab then select PTSO or email us at nkhsptso1901@gmail.com

Please consider [donating to help](#) us continue providing funds for our grant program.

Join us on Facebook for updates: search groups for "NKHS PTSO".

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