

# North Kingstown High School Newsletter

January 25, 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,

As the end of the first semester approaches, it is hard to believe that we are almost at the halfway point of this academic school year! Feb 2, 2021 will mark the end of the first half of the year. Second semester starts on Feb 3, 2021 and will be one of it's kind as students and teachers assume all new classes. Students are encouraged to keep pushing through and complete strong this semester!

### Key\*

*\* NEW information in the newsletter*

*\*\* UPDATED information in the newsletter*

### **Important Dates - [January 2021](#)**

#### January\*\*

- 25 PD for teachers. All students will be DL.
- 26 PSAT for juniors. All other grades will be DL
- 27 Group A Day

#### February\*

- 2 School Committee Meeting 7pm
- 3 2nd semester and 3rd quarter begins

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## [Attention Seniors](#)

### **IT IS TIME TO ORDER YOUR CAP & GOWN!**

Please [click on the link](#) for directions of how to place your order.

Please keep in mind, for the Graduation Ceremony you need a cap, gown and one tassel.

Deadline for cap and gown orders is February 5th.

## [News from the Nurse\\*](#)

### Covid-19 results

Many thanks to all who are sending your children's Covid results. Please note that test results sent after 2pm might be processed on the following school day.

### CDC Information

Below is a link to the CDC. It is easy to read Covid information. Some of it will be quite familiar but some information you may know. It includes how to minimize your risk of catching Covid 19 when someone in your home has the virus as well as how to care for loved ones and pets.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/easy-to-read/index.html>

Stay safe and Healthy,

Linda Twardowski, Certified School Nurse Teacher

P: 401-268-6279, Email: [linda\\_twardowski@nksd.net](mailto:linda_twardowski@nksd.net)


## [Yearbook](#)

**Yearbook Senior Ads:** We are approaching two yearbook-related deadlines that I wanted to remind you about: **This Friday, January 29th** is the last day to purchase a senior ad for this year's book and it is also the last day that you can purchase a *personalized* yearbook. Below are links to the fliers for both personalization and ads. Feel free to contact me with any questions you have about ordering your 2021 yearbook.

### [Senior Ads](#)

### [Personalized Yearbooks](#)

It's easy - just visit Jostens.com and make sure you select the 2021 yearbook for NKHS. Please feel free to contact Ms. Holcroft with any questions at [leslie\\_holcroft@nksd.net](mailto:leslie_holcroft@nksd.net)



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## [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>

## [Message from RISAS \\*](#)


RISAS has put together this self paced training for educators and parents called "Emerging Trends in Youth Vaping:What Schools Need to Know".

Rhode Island Student Assistance Services is pleased to present, "[Emerging Trends in Youth Vaping: What Schools Need to Know](#)", a 7-module, self-paced e-training developed for educators, Student Assistance Counselors, administrators, prevention specialists, and parents. We are at risk of erasing all of the progress we have made in eradicating youth tobacco use. According to the Youth Risk Behavior Study in 2019, 30% of our high school students are using an electronic vapor product, an e-cigarette! Did you know that young people who have ever used e-cigarettes are 5 times more likely to be diagnosed with Covid-19? And young people who have ever used e-cigarettes plus conventional cigarettes are 7 times more likely to be diagnosed with Covid-19. We are at a critical tipping point, but we can turn this epidemic around through education.

Upon completing the series, participants will be able to:

- Describe electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS), also called e-cigarettes: what they are and how they work
- Discuss what is known and not known about the health effects of e-cigarette use.
- Identify marketing strategies used by tobacco companies to make e-cigarettes appealing to youth
- Explain basic concepts of addiction and how addiction affects the adolescent brain
- Describe how e-cigarettes may be used to consume marijuana concentrates and the consequences for adolescents
- Access and use the RISAS Vaping Toolkit

Upon completion of pre-test, each module, and post-test participants will earn 3 contact hours.



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

Mr Lamboy has officially been selected to participate in URI's Broadening Participation (BPC) course in Inclusive Teaching in Computer Science! This professional development begins November 1, 2020 and will continue as an online, asynchronous, 6-week course, ending December 15, 2020. We are thankful for Mr Lamboy taking advantage of this opportunity to help us meet our goal of encouraging more female students to participate in Computer Science and STEM Programs.

## [NKHS student recognitions \\*](#)

Eve Piazza's artwork has been selected as a Finalist for "Artist of the Week" from Artsonia. She is the only one representing Rhode Island. Eve is enrolled in Art 2 as an eleventh grader at the North Kingstown High School. What can you do to help her win this title against eleven other pieces from nine different states? Take a moment to vote every day until Jan. 23rd because the only way she can win is with the most votes.

Her Artsonia ID is Eve250

Here is the image of Eve's work along with the link to vote.

<http://www.artsonia.com/aotw/vote/teacher/89660330>



The "Artist of the Week" will be featured on the Artsonia homepage and will receive a commemorative plaque. In addition, the artist will receive a \$50 Gift Card for art supplies and the winning school will receive \$100 for classroom supplies.

Thanks for YOUR support!!

Mrs. Strain



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## Office of Teaching and Learning

### [Message from RI Commissioner of Education- Support for students during Pandemic \\*](#)

The pandemic has impacted every aspect of our lives, in particular, student learning. Fortunately, there's a solution available to help struggling students catch up, and it's been around for millennia: tutoring.

RIDE is excited to announce this week an innovative partnership with Sal Khan, founder of Khan Academy and Schoolhouse.world. [Schoolhouse.world](#) is a new online platform from Sal Khan, the founder of Khan Academy, that matches students around the world with free tutors. The tutors provide small-group math and SAT prep tutoring for students in grades 6-12, building on the Khan Academy curriculum. Rhode Island is one of two state-level partnerships offering this opportunity to students across the state. Registration is now live on the All Course Network (ACN) and [students can sign up here on EnrollRI](#). There is no deadline for students to sign up (though schools will still need to approve their enrollment via the ACN), no cost to LEAs or students, and no requirement to participate. Please help us spread the word to your students, teachers, parents, and communities! [More information on the partnership can be found here.](#)


Students can sign up for these free tutoring opportunities, along with SAT prep courses through RIDE's recently launched [#EnrollRI platform](#).

### [Requesting back to in person learning for semester 2 \\*\\*](#)

Thank you to many families that completed the NKHS request to return form by the deadline of January 11. We are in the process of reviewing these requests and families will receive an email on the email address used to complete the form by the end of next week. Stay tuned and we hope to have our students back! We are working hard to make that happen! We review each and every schedule and count the number of students in each of the classrooms to make decisions for approving students. Second semester starts on Feb 3, 2021 so we are confident to get all of these requests processed and inform families well in advance of their status for return. Ms. Finkelstein is always available to answer any questions you may have!

### [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](mailto:shivali_finkelstein@nksd.net)



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## [PSAT test for all juniors at NKHS January 26, 2021 \\*\\*](#)

- Tuesday Jan 26, 2021 is a PSAT day for juniors that have signed up
- Students in grades 9, 10 and 12 will be on distance learning. Learning will be asynchronous on this day due to many teachers proctoring the test
- Juniors that are not taking the test are advised to use this day to catch up on school work
- Students are also encouraged to reach out to their guidance counselors for appointments as needed on that day
- Student testing room numbers will be shared with all teachers so students may check with their first period teachers for their testing room numbers this week.
- On the day of testing, there will be several staff members stationed in the main entrance and in the spine with testing room information for all students. Students may simply approach a staff member for this information. They will be able to direct students to their appropriate testing rooms
- Students will arrive at school at their usual time and plan on being in their testing rooms by 7.15 am.
- For students that indicated need for transportation this day, busses will pick up students at the usual time in the morning to bring them to school. However, busses will be waiting for students to get picked up at 12 noon as the test is expected to finish up at noon time.
- Pre-administration for the test will start at 7.30am
- Click [HERE](#) to view the student guide for PSAT testing

If you have any questions, contact Ms Finkelstein via email ([shivali\\_finkelstein@nksd.net](mailto: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

## [NKHS Concert Choir 2021-2022](#)

Are you interested in auditioning for the NKHS Concert Choir for 2021-22? If so use this google classroom code to find out more on the concert choir auditions. Auditions must be completed before February 12th. We hope to see you there. vqthyau

## [Art News \\*](#)

### **NKHS Student Art Recognitions**

Senior **Alexander Theriault** and freshman **Juliana Brennan**'s artwork is being featured on the UMass at Dartmouth College of Visual and Performing Arts' website from January 22 through February 6, 2021 in the Emerging Young Artist Juried Exhibition

<https://www.umassd.edu/cvpa/news/emerging-young-artists-2019.html>



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**Attention: All NKHS Students!**

Art Contests to enter, if interested email [janice\\_strain@nksd.net](mailto:janice_strain@nksd.net)

**Donate Life RI Poster Contest Due March 5th**

*1<sup>st</sup> place winner will receive a \$100 Amazon Gift Card*

*2<sup>nd</sup> place winner will receive a \$75 Amazon Gift Card*

*3<sup>rd</sup> place winner will receive a \$50 Amazon Gift Card*

**Lindsay Ann Burke Poster Contest Due April 2nd**

*1<sup>st</sup> place winner will receive a check for \$1,000*

*2<sup>nd</sup> place winner will receive a check for \$500*

*3<sup>rd</sup> place winner will receive a check for \$250*

Click the image [here](#) to view the January Joy 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](#)**



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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/Tech Issues](#)

#### **Having issues with a Chromebook?**

If you're a full time distance learner, enter a helpdesk ticket via email: [DL\\_helpdesk@nksd.net](mailto:DL_helpdesk@nksd.net). The IT help desk will respond to you in a responsible amount of time.

On your in person day, you can also bring your Chromebook to the media center for repairs. Our media specialist, Mrs. Rowland, can assist you. If your Chromebook needs to go to IT for a period of time, you can bring your own device. We will assist with getting you on the network. We only allow this while Chromebooks are being repaired.

#### [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 - Anonymous Reporting](#)



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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)

## **[Guidance Department](#)**

### **[NKHS School Counselor Caseloads 2020-2021](#)**

**[\\*FREE Tutoring opportunity launching with Schoolhouse.world](#)**

Schoolhouse.world is a new online platform from Sal Khan, the founder of Khan Academy, that matches students around the world with free tutors. The tutors provide small-group math and SAT prep tutoring for students in grades 6-12, building on the Khan Academy curriculum. Rhode Island is one of two state-level partnerships offering this opportunity to students across the state. Registration is now live on the All Course Network (ACN) and [students can sign up here on EnrollRI](#). There is no deadline for students to sign up, no cost to LEAs or students, and no requirement to participate. [More information can be found here.](#)

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## \*Canvas

The NKHS Guidance Department will make the transition from Google Classroom to Canvas as a platform to make announcements and share information/opportunities on February 3, 2021.

## \*Semester 2 Schedules

Quarter 3 begins on February 3rd. Student schedules will be published on ASPEN February 1st. Students are encouraged to review quarter 3 schedules so they know which classes they will be attending on February 3rd. Please contact your child's school counselor with any schedule concerns.

## \*Quarter 3 Add/Drop Period

The add/drop period for Quarter 3 and Semester 2 classes will be from February 3 - February 5. Students should reach out to their school counselor with any requests.

## \*Semester 2 Level Changes

All semester 2 level changes must occur by March 11th. Level change requests must be submitted in writing to the student's school counselor by March 4th. In order for a level change to be approved all possible avenues for success must be attempted which includes completing all assignments and seeking out extra help from the teacher. Please see Page 16 of the Program of Studies for more details.

## \*College Exploration Opportunities for students in grades 10 and 11

Collegeboard is hosting their first-ever series of virtual college fairs called BigFuture™ Days. Sophomores and juniors are encouraged to attend for an opportunity to connect directly with college admissions representatives and current college students. You'll have a chance to explore colleges in a way that's not overwhelming, ask questions about topics you want to learn about, and take action on key college planning steps.

You can register [here](#).

## \*\*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. The last drop-in session of the school year will be on January 27th, 2021. If a student would like help with college applications, please have the student reach out directly to his/her school counselor.

## \*Scholarships



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Scholarship season is upon us. We will be sharing all scholarship opportunities that we are aware of on the document below. Please see Ms. Florenz in the Guidance Department for questions about scholarships.

[2020/2021 NKHS Scholarship Document](#)

[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.

<b>Application Deadline</b>	<b>Counselor Notification Deadline</b>
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:



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- 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.

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(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](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](mailto:christopher_cobain@nksd.net)) 401-268-6281

## [NKHS Booster Club](#)

Our next monthly meeting is scheduled for tonight, Monday, February 1, 2021 at 7:00PM. The meeting will be a Zoom call - if you would like to attend, please reach out to [NKBoosterClub@gmail.com](mailto: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. NK Masks are still available in limited quantities - reach out if you need a new one!**

<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 are practicing and getting ready for competition ~ look for announcements via Twitter from RIIL and NK Athletics regarding game schedules! 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](mailto:GetsocialNK@gmail.com)**

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## 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](https://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](mailto: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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