

North Kingstown High School Newsletter

February 08, 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,

Welcome to the official second half of the school year! Students and teachers are getting acclimated with new classes. This is the first time students and teachers have experienced all new classes in semester two at NKHS. At the end of this week, everyone will be able to get a break from the ever changing and unpredictable environments everyone has had to get adjusted to this year. Next week is february break and we hope all can relax and take a break. This is the week to push ourselves and become as productive as we can so we can enjoy and relax next week! Good luck and we hope everyone can have a great week!

[Key](#)*

** NEW information in the newsletter*

*** UPDATED information in the newsletter*

Important Dates - [February 2021](#)*

[February](#)*

- 11 National Honor Society Induction
- 15 - 19 No School - Winter Break
- 16 School Committee Meeting 7pm

[News from the Nurse*](#)

Last week I watched a great [virtual meeting](#) with Dr. Ashish Jha (Dean of the Brown University School of Public Health and leading public health expert) and therapist and author Lynn Lyons, LICSW.

Their talk was not only informative but inspirational as well and I have watched many of these types of virtual presentations. It is an hour long but well worth your time. They discuss the roll out of the vaccine, and look toward the future. Lynn Lyons has many helpful suggestions for children who are struggling with mental health issues at home. Some strategies are discussed about "How to handle" your begging teen who wants to hang out with their friends. It is great for both parents as well as professionals working with children.

Best of all, their message is not all doom and gloom and provides a good dose of humor and hope for the future.

Enjoy,

Linda Twardowski, Certified School Nurse Teacher

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

[Yearbook*](#)

The NKHS 2021 yearbook will document an incredibly unique year together! Purchase your student's yearbook here: www.jostensyearbooks.com

Please feel free to email Ms. Holcroft with any yearbook-related questions at leslie_holcroft@nksd.net.

[Seniors](#)

With support of the PTSO -- our parent group has put together a "kick off" event for Seniors at NKHS to help celebrate their senior year. [\(See attached flyer\)](#). Is it possible to have this included in the weekly flyers? The event is for Friday, Feb. 12th 7-8 pm.



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

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

Thank You Mr Czabanowski, Mr Albenaz, and Ms Tavano for a successful first spirit week. This past week we had NKHS Trivia night and Amongst us game night. They worked hard and facilitated character day, Out of this world day, and Skipper Pride. Wednesday night was Disney Trivia night and later on the week, they will announce the Class of 2021 Skipper Supreme. Follow @NKHSstudentcouncil

[NKHS student recognitions **](#)

NKHS Flocking!

Shout out to the NKHS class council and NKHS Flocked.

Senior families might wake up to find a flock of pink flamingos that have roosted on the lawn. This is in good spirits and to add a little surprise to senior year. The flock will migrate to another home of a NKHS senior overnight. We hope there will be no flamingo napping. We promise the birds will be well behaved and will try to be quiet. This is a student led activity with students



flocking students. Feel free to contact students running the account at or follow the flock @nkhsflocking.

Once seniors are flocked, families can make a donation to the NKHS class council and they get to pick the next seniors that get added to the flocking list.

Thank you to Senior families that have donated already. A few senior families have already donated extra flocks which will allow us to flock more seniors. Go Class of 2021!



CelebratingArt Announces it's High Merit Student Artists:

Gabriella Carnevale, Aria Carnevale, Alaina Minarik, & Julianna Brennan

In addition, there are 29 NKHS published artists in the Fall 2020 Anthology Edition!



Wayland Foundation: *Bringing People Together For Clean Water And A Healthy Ocean during their Art Challenge* announces it's teacher winner in 9-12th Division.

Congratulations to Janice Strain

There were a total of nine art pieces submitted in this competition, including artwork from **Sophia Della Selva, Brooke Frizzle, Madeline Kment & Elizabeth Borovsky**

Regional Scholastic Art Awards

- **Gold Key**
 - Nicolette Goldstein
 - Teacher-Janice Strain

- **Honorable Mentions**
 - Nicolette Goldstein
 - Teacher-Janice Strain
 - Mia Pintarelli
 - Teacher-Janice Strain
 - Jacqueline Bohac
 - Teacher-Emily Callaghan
 - Cian Leach
 - Teacher-Rob Silveira
 - Nicole Molloy
 - Teacher- Rob Silveira

Hera Gallery's 30th Biennial Young Adult's Exhibition

February 6th - February 27th, 2021

Student artists featured in this show: Reid Bentson, Gabriella Carnevale, Alexander Theriault, Nicollette Goldstein, Gabriella Nieves, Genevieve Masson, Eve Piazza, Olivia Wood, Pearl Sears, Aria Carnevale, River Anderson, Finn Kearney, Juliana Brennan,

Postcard Results

- Gabriella Nieves
 - 2nd Place Artwork Featured on Flyer
 - Teacher-Janice Strain
- Nicolette Goldstein
 - 3rd Place Artwork Featured on Flyer
 - Teacher-Janice Strain

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.

FREE after School Program for High School Students Interested in Careers in the Arts *

FirstWorks after school pilot program through RIDE's All Course Network, Behind the Curtain, introduces viable professions in the arts to high school students. Instructors include actress Lynnette Freeman, musician Kim Trusty, singer Becky Bass, director Patricia Hawkridge, actor/director/theatre manager Ricardo Pitts-Wiley, make-up and wigmaker Amber Voner, Renaissance Dance with Catherine Bodner, dance improv with nikki lee, stage design with architect Caitlin Dippo, lighting design with Amanda Motta, Props Master Michael Getz, festival curation with Chachi Carvalho, arts management with Lisa Utman Randall, cruise ship stage management with Jan Melzer Thomas, and auditioning tips with Tyla Collier. All of the instructors have a connection to Rhode Island; some were born here, others moved here, but, all make a living working in the arts!



Please share this registration link with your high school students and any parents or educators who know interested high school students: <http://first-works.org/education/behind-the-curtain/>

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

All semester 2 requests to return in person under the hybrid model is now completed. Families and students should have received a notification from Aspen. We are happy to announce that we were able to approve 100% of requests to return in person for families.

The second semester is now starting on Thursday Feb 4 due to the snow day on Feb 1. For those approved to return in person for semester 2, please follow the appropriate dates given below to identify your date of return.

Thursday Feb 4 **group A (Last names A-K)**

Friday Feb 5 **group B (Last names L-Z)**

[Requesting Distance Learning for semester 2](#)

For families that are interested in requesting full time distance learning for their child, please email Ms Finkelstein with this request 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 Musical](#)

The NKHS Music Department will be digitally presenting the musical "Jekyll & Hyde" this spring. If you are interested in auditioning for the show please join the Musical google classroom for information on how to submit a preliminary audition. Here is the join code info:

<https://classroom.google.com/c/MjUzMjUwMjM2NzA4?cjc=6c5fj5r>



[Essay Writing Opportunity for Students](#)

The Patriots Hall of Fame presented by Raytheon Technologies is excited to announce our **2021 Black History Month Essay Contest!** This year's essay focuses on the impact that local organizations and initiatives have on the fight to end systemic racism.

The contest is open to students ages 5-18 in the following categories:

- **Ages 5 - 9:** Drawing with Caption
- **Grades 4 - 5:** 400 word maximum
- **Grades 6 - 8:** 500 word maximum
- **Grades 9 - 12:** 700 word maximum

Entries are due March 1. Prizes include a signed player photo and two (2) tickets to the Patriots Hall of Fame presented by Raytheon Technologies, where the winning essays and drawing will be displayed. Click [here](#) for more information.

[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 **](#)

Attention: All NKHS Students!

Art Contests to enter, if interested email janice_strain@nksd.net

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

1st place winner will receive a \$100 Amazon Gift Card

2nd place winner will receive a \$75 Amazon Gift Card

3rd place winner will receive a \$50 Amazon Gift Card

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



1st place winner will receive a check for \$1,000

2nd place winner will receive a check for \$500

3rd place winner will receive a check for \$250

Click the image [here](#) to view the Winter Wonderings 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**](#)

[SurveyWorks! *](#)

The Rhode Island Department of Education is administering its yearly SurveyWorks Family Survey, which is an opportunity for parents/guardians to provide feedback about their child's school and learning environment. The survey results are most useful when all parents/guardians participate, so your participation is valued very much.



Responses are anonymous and cannot be linked to any individual.

Additionally, students in grades 3-12 will have the opportunity to give feedback about their learning environment. There will be no sensitive questions about drug and alcohol abuse and sexual activity. NKHS students will complete their surveys during Advisory on March 3rd (A-day) and March 4th (B-day). Full-time distance learners will also complete the survey on their respective day but from home.

To see sample surveys, visit SurveyWorks at [Surveyworks.ride.ri.gov](https://surveyworks.ride.ri.gov). As in previous years, all surveys are anonymous and taking the survey is voluntary. The topics include School Safety, School Climate, Valuing of School, & Rigorous Expectations.

All surveys are available in English, Spanish, and Portuguese.

To access the Family Survey for North Kingstown High School, please visit the following website and choose North Kingstown High School from the dropdown menu:

<http://bit.ly/ridefamily>

If you have more than one student enrolled at NKHS, you only need to complete one survey. However, if your students' experiences are different, you are more than welcome to complete separate surveys for each student.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. The results of these surveys help us tremendously as we plan for future improvements and initiatives, and we greatly appreciate your support!

[Attendance](#)

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. 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

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 \(students in physical classrooms\)](#)

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- [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](#)

[*Junior Year Post High School Planning Night](#)

Save the Date: February 25, 2021 at 7pm - [Meeting Link](#)

School counselors will hold a virtual information session for juniors and their parents/guardians. The first half of the presentation will focus on researching and applying to four year colleges, and the second half will focus on other post high school opportunities.

[*Juniors - Prepare RI Summer Virtual Internship Program](#)

Website link below:

<https://www.prepare-ri.org/internships>



If you are interested in applying please follow the instructions on the website. The application deadline is Monday February 15th.

You can also register for a webinar about the program to receive more information before you apply. Times and dates are listed on the website.

It is a very competitive program with a large time commitment during the summer. The experience and rewards for completing the program are outstanding.

If you have any questions please feel free to email kevin_gormley@nksd.net this week.

***CCRI - Running Start Program**

The CCRI Running Start Program applications are now available for next year. Students in the Running Start Program attend CCRI classes full-time during their senior year.

Eligibility:

- Student must have a minimum cumulative GPA of a B average
- Students must place at the college level course placement on the Accuplacer Test or have the following PSAT/SAT scores: Reading/Writing at or above 410 **and** Math at or above 411

School counselors will hold two informational sessions for current juniors interested in the program. The links and times are below.

[Wednesday, 2/10/21 at 1:00 p.m.](#)

[Thursday, 2/11/21 at 1:00 p.m.](#)

[Applications](#) are Due April 1, 2021. High school counselors need the application by March 19, 2021 to submit for the April 1 deadline.

****Canvas**



The NKHS Guidance Department has made the transition from Google Classroom to Canvas as a platform to make announcements and share information/opportunities as of Thursday, February 4, 2021.

[Quarter 3 Add/Drop Period](#)

The add/drop period for Quarter 3 and Semester 2 elective classes ends today, February 8 at 2pm.

[Semester 2 Level Changes](#)

All semester 2 level changes must occur by March 12th. Level change requests must be submitted in writing to the student's school counselor by March 5th. 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.

[Virtual College Fairs](#)

NACAC will be hosting a series of virtual college fairs this winter/spring. Please see the link below for more information.

[NACAC College Fairs](#)

[Scholarships](#)

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 with questions about scholarships.

[2020/2021NKHS Scholarship Document](#)

[Previous Posts from Guidance](#)



[Athletics](#)

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

Binex Rapid Testing for Winter Athletes has started. All winter athletes must test weekly in order to participate. COVID testing form must be completed 1 time by each winter athlete and parent. [HERE](#)

Stay tuned!! For updates regarding Fall season #2 and Spring

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 Form](#)

[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 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

PTSO

Attention seniors and families, your voices have been heard! A subcommittee dedicated to celebrating our seniors has been formed by Christine Trask. If you would like to contribute ideas, time, or funds please reach out to Christine at ctraskshop@gmail.com.

The PTSO is in the early stages of planning Teacher/Staff Appreciation week. This year our goal is to reach all 163 staff and faculty members. They have given us so much of their care, concern, time, and patience, let's show them how grateful we are. If you would like to assist in making this possible please contact nkhsptso1901@gmail.com.



Looking to give back? Here is how you can help:

1. 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.
2. 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 nkhspto1901@gmail.com

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

The NKEF (North Kingstown Educational Foundation) is hosting a month long Catch the Reading Wave Read-A-Thon beginning February 1, 2021. The schedule is jam packed with events for everyone in the community. The primary goal is to get more books in the hands of our community members. Check out the calendar of events at:

[Catch the Reading Wave Read-A-Thon - North Kingstown Educational Foundation](#)

[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>

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

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