

North Kingstown High School Newsletter

March 01, 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 March of 2021! This month brings us excitement of welcoming the spring season. We hope that everyone is refreshed and ready to have a productive learning week. Students are encouraged to connect with all their classes each and every day regardless of their learning plan (in person or full time distance learning). We are asking all students to keep their cameras on to keep everyone alert and engaged in their learning process. While this has been the most challenging year for students, families, teachers and staff, we all are a united community here at NKHS and are in this together!

[Quote of the week!*](#)

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world" - Nelson Mandela

[Key](#) *

** NEW information in the newsletter*

*** UPDATED information in the newsletter*

Important Dates -

March

- 01 Booster Club Meeting 7pm (more info below)
- 04 PTSO Meeting 7pm
- 15 PD Day - Distant Learning for all students

[News from the Nurse*](#)

The days are getting longer and many of us are happy to see that spring is right around the corner. Here is some good news for all in our school community.

Covid-19 testing at the High School

Student testing at the high school is for hybrid learners only.

Dear NKHS Staff and Parent/Guardians of NKHS students

The North Kingstown High School will offer asymptomatic testing for all-in person learners and school staff beginning in March to accommodate our hybrid model. Students will be tested on Tuesdays every other week beginning **March 16th**. Testing days for students may vary depending on school schedule, staff and site availability. This is a **voluntary** COVID testing program for students and staff who currently do not have any Covid-19 symptoms, are feeling well, and who have not been directed to quarantine or isolate. Individuals that have tested positive for COVID in the last 90 days should not be tested.

Testing will take place for students beginning at 7:30 AM at NKHS. Testing will take place in the locker room with clearly marked signage. Participants will enter through the corridor adjacent to the cafeteria and will exit through the locker room. Students will be called down alphabetically. Only students and staff that have completed the consent form found here [Asymptomatic COVID-19 Consent Form](#) will be tested. A consent form is REQUIRED to participate for staff and students. [Registration will close the day prior to testing at 1 pm](#). The BinaxNow COVID rapid antigen test will be used through the RIDOH. All staff and students at NKHS will be self- swabbing under direction of nurses and other trained staff. Results are provided in 15 minutes. The health office will immediately isolate any participant who is positive and notify student's families.

Testing for staff will occur in the same location. Staff will be tested every week on Friday from 12:00-1:30 beginning on **March 12th**.


Thank you for your continued support,
Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

Linda Twardowski, Certified School Nurse Teacher

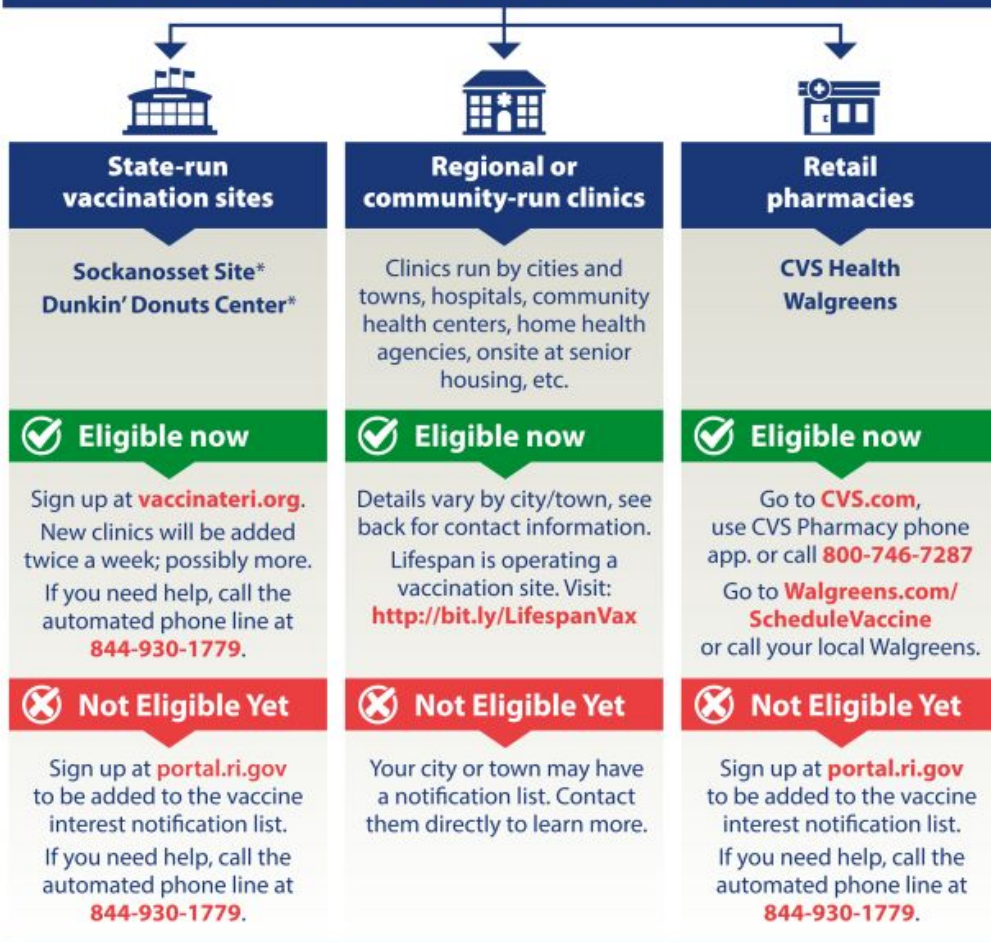
P: 401-268-6279, Email: linda_twardowski@nksd.net

Covid-19 vaccines

Many of you have probably heard about the vaccine locations. Individuals who are 65 years old and older are eligible. Below are the sites where you can sign up for a vaccine.



Your Path to Free Vaccination



- For general COVID-19 questions call **401-222-8022**.
- Please schedule an appointment in one place only. If you have an appointment, you are guaranteed a dose of vaccine.
- Remember, someone else can schedule an appointment for you!



*Sockanosset Site 100 Sockanosset Cross Road, Cranston RI 02920
*Dunkin' Donuts Center 1 La Salle Square, Providence, RI 02903

c19vaccinateri.org | covid.ri.gov



RHODE ISLAND

[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>

[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.

[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!



Office of Teaching and Learning

AP Exam Schedule Options due to Pandemic

Many of you may have heard that Collegeboard recently announced three different options for schools to schedule their AP testing due to the disruptions caused globally in teaching and learning for AP courses and testing. The testing schedule now includes options for schools to schedule different testing windows including options of traditional paper pencil and digital testing formats. Schools now have the flexibility to choose testing window/s and format of testing (digital or paper pencil) to meet the needs of students, instructional time needed to prepare students for testing and to meet the needs for appropriate social distancing. This is a lot of information to review, process, evaluate. As our AP coordinators and AP administrators review the options, we are interested in collecting feedback from our students in what options work best for them. For that reason, we are asking students to complete a short survey. Please click [THIS](#) link to complete the survey. **Students will need to use their nksd emails to access this survey.** Parents, please encourage your child to complete this survey due by March 1, 2021.

Testing Dates from Collegeboard

Administration 1 (May 3–7, 10–12, 14, and 17): Exams are paper and pencil, administered in school. As always, AP Chinese and Japanese exams will continue to be administered in school as computer-based exams.


Administration 2 (May 18–21, 24–28): Half of the subjects are only paper and pencil, administered in school, and half are only digital, administered in school or taken at home.

Administration 3 (June 1–4, 7–11): Most subjects are only digital, administered in school or taken at home.

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!

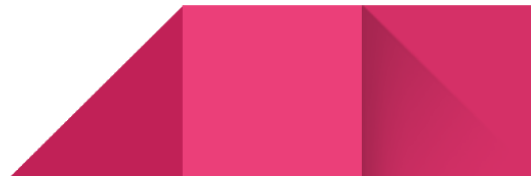
Please share this registration link with your high school students and any parents or educators who know interested high school students: <http://first-works.org/education/behind-the-curtain/>

[Requesting 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



[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.

[Fine Arts News **](#)

Art competitions below to enter for ALL NKHS students! You can't win if you don't enter!
If interested email janice_strain@nksd.net or emily_callaghan@nksd.net

CelebratingArt is now open for artwork submissions Due April 1st

<https://www.celebratingart.com/students>

It is Free to enter but you can only submit one piece

Lindsay Ann Burke Poster Contest / All entries must be received by April 1st

<http://www.labmf.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Poster-Cont-HS-Ltr-Rules-2021.pdf>



Click [HERE](#) to view the New Virtual Art Gallery show and the 1st ever collaboration with the music dept highlighting music composed and performed by Evangeline Junge! Enjoy

[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. *We can now loan you a Chromebook while yours is out for repair.*


[License and Parking Information](#)

Need a parking spot?

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.



[Strengthening Families Program **](#)

The SFP curriculum is an 11-week virtual course with 90-minute sessions designed for families with children 7-17. Parents learn to increase desired behaviors in children by using attention and rewards, clear communication, effective discipline, substance use education, problem solving and limit setting. Children learn effective communication, understanding feelings, social skills, problem solving, resisting peer pressure, consequences of substance use, and compliance with parental rules. Families engage in structured family activities, practice therapeutic child play, conduct family meetings, learn communication skills, practice effective discipline, reinforce positive behaviors in each other, and plan family activities together.



**SOUTH COUNTY
STRENGTHENING
FAMILIES PROGRAM**

An 11 week interactive class
**GROW STRONGER, BOND
BETTER, AND LEARN
TOGETHER.**

Classes beginning
Monday, 3/8/2021 @6:30pm
or
Wednesday, 3/10/2021
@6:30pm

Interested in signing up?
Contact:
Cyndi Rego
(508) 493-1190
crego@risas.org

REQUIREMENT
One child must be
ages 12-20 for the
family to participate

BHDDH
Bristol Health Department
Division of Health, Prevention & Community Services

**South County
Prevention Coalition**
Member of Rhode Island Regional Coalitions

SCAN ME
FLOWCODE
PRIVACY.FLOWCODE.COM

[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)
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Guidance Department

NKHS School Counselor Caseloads 2020-2021

***Scheduling for the 2021/2022 School Year**

Students will be emailed information about the scheduling process for the 2021/2022 school year next Monday, March 8.

School counselors will hold informational sessions for students next Wednesday 3/10 and Thursday 3/11 at 1pm to discuss the scheduling process and to guide students through the completion of the course request form. Please encourage your students to attend. Links to the meetings will be included in the information sent out on March 8th.

Beginning the week of March 22, school counselors will meet with students individually to...

- Review an updated student transcript
- Review the course request form
- Discuss high school and post high school goals
- Enter course requests into ASPEN

ASVAB Testing Dates

When:

March 9 Test Date: Students with last names A - K

March 10 Test Date: Students with last names L - Z

Where:

NKHS Media Center

Who: 10th -12th graders

The test is three hours long and will be administered during the school day starting at 7:15am.



To sign up, please complete this [form](#). You will be contacted via email with further details as the test date approaches.

****Junior Year Post High School Planning Night**

Thank you to all that attended this event last Thursday night. We are holding a follow up Q&A session to answer any additional questions that you may have after attending the Post Secondary Planning evening or reviewing the [Post Secondary Planning Slides](#).

Please use the following link to join us virtually.

[Tuesday, March 2 at 1:00 p.m.](#)

If you are unable to attend but have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact your school counselor.


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.

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

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, March 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.**



<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) Congratulations to Olivia Priest - NK's sophomore gymnast who took the Individual All-Around gold at the state meet yesterday!! Good luck to our remaining winter sports as they head into playoffs!!

4) Send Boosters any pictures 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 nkhsptso1901@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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