

North Kingstown High School Newsletter

March 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 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 - Calendar

- 09 SIT 5pm
School Committee Meeting 7pm
- 15 PD Day for teachers - Distant Learning for all students
- 23 School Committee Meeting 7pm

News from the Nurse*

Spring is in the air and this week will see it. If you can, get out and take a walk or enjoy the outdoors.

Vaccines

There is much excitement now that the vaccine is available to those 65 years and older and school staff. The next group soon to be eligible are those 16-64 with underlying health conditions. I have included a link from the RIDOH for the Town Hall meeting on Wednesday March 3rd in case you were unable to attend. Also included here is a list of underlying health conditions. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ehc8EP2khuM>

Underlying Medical Conditions (as of February 1) People who have any of these medical conditions are more likely to be hospitalized if they get COVID-19. COVID-19 vaccine supply to Rhode Island is still limited, so this is only the first group of people who will be prioritized for vaccination. This list does not replace CDC's inclusive list of underlying medical conditions that increase the risk of severe illness from COVID-19. As we get more vaccine, more medical conditions will be added to the list.

Diabetes • Type 1 (people who use insulin) • Type 2 (people who do not use insulin)

Lung disease • COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) • Emphysema • Cystic Fibrosis • People with significant decreased lung function • People with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease)

Heart disease • Congestive heart failure • Coronary artery disease • People with enlarged hearts (cardiomyopathies) • People with other significant heart conditions

• People with Down Syndrome Kidney disease • People on dialysis • Significant chronic kidney disease Weakened immune system • Cancer • People who get chemotherapy or radiation • People who have had a transplant or are waiting for a transplant • HIV/AIDS • Sickle cell disease



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- People who have a disease that weakens the immune system • People who take medicine that weakens the immune system
 - Pregnancy

School Covid-19 testing:

March, 2021

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 **media center**. 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 during March on Fridays 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



[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.

[Mason Tours:](#)

For 2022, we are off on a brand new adventure. June 28th - July 6th, 2022...we will explore NEW ZEALAND 🇳🇿: The Southern Island Trek on an exciting 10 day trip. Email Ms. Mason for daily itinerary & more details.

[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](#) **

Mixed Chorus Project

Click [HERE](#) to view the performance of our very talented Mixed Chorus Class. Thank you to Ms Caiazza for sharing their amazing work with everyone.

NKHS students participating in DECA Career Development Conference Click [HERE](#) to learn more about DECA

83 NKHS students have begun competing in their chosen industry events since last Monday after preparing for months - today Rhode Island DECA distributed the CDC kickoff video (27 minutes) Click this [link](#). They are completing their exam phase then on to role plays/case study responses/ presentations and written projects (i.e. Start Up Business Plans). NKHS students have exceeded membership to become the largest chapter in RI - especially given this year's International Conference and Competitions won't be in Anaheim. This just shows the professionalism of our students here in NK. The future looks bright!

Thank you to **Mr Richard Garland** (Business CTE teacher at NKHS) for updating us with this information and he will update us with winners who move on to compete internationally and virtually in April.

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 **

NKHS AP Administrators and Coordinators conducted a thorough survey after the college board released AP testing options for students for May 2021 testing. We collected feedback from AP teachers and students on the various options ranging from dates to formats (digital or paper pencil). We have incorporated all the feedback to the best of our abilities to create a schedule to provide the best testing conditions for our students. Please click [HERE](#) for the schedule to view the date and venue for the tests. Please note that every test listed on this schedule is paper and pencil.

If you have any concerns with the dates for your test, please contact Ms Leslie Buckley (leslie_buckley@nksd.net) or Ms Beth Caromile (bethany_caromile@nksd.net)

One very important factor that was taken into consideration was a restrictive format within the digital exam which would prevent the student from going back to previous questions and also prevent students from reviewing their answers. The inability to review, correct or make changes within the test puts students using the digital format at a disadvantage.

If you have any general questions or concerns about the schedule created, please feel free to contact me directly at shivali_finkelstein@nksd.net

RIDE Seeking Advisory Group Members for Health Education Framework Review *

RIDE is contracting with the RI Healthy Schools Coalition and Cairn Guidance to facilitate the process of review and revision of the current [Health Literacy for All: The Rhode Island Health Education Framework](#). Health education curriculum, adopted at the local level,



must be aligned with the RI Health Education Framework and associated Comprehensive Health Instructional Outcomes and is required for all RI K-12 students. The revised Framework will be rooted in standards aligned with the National Health Education Standards and emphasize a skills-based approach to health education where health topics and content provide context for the critical development of skills, competence and motivation needed to lead a healthy life. Stakeholders (K-12 Health Teachers, Curriculum Directors, Parents, Students, School Nurse Teachers, School Committee Members, Higher Ed HPE, Community Non-Profits & State Agencies) are invited to **learn more and apply for membership to the Advisory Group by completing [THIS FORM](#) by March 8, 2021**. Stakeholder advisory members will commit to participating in two virtual public meetings on **Tuesday, March 23 and Wednesday, May 19 from 3:30 – 5:00 PM**, to inform and guide the review process.

[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](#).

[Progress Report Dates](#) *

We have added some additional progress report dates to enhance our communication of grades. See important dates below

Progress Report Dates for quarter 3 : **March 10 and March 31 2021**

Quarter 3 ends on **April 13 and grades are due April 27 2021**

Quarter 4 starts **April 14, 2021**

Progress Report Dates for quarter 4: **May 7 and May 28 2021**

Semester 2/ quarter 4 ends on **June 23, 2021**

[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 Hawkrige, 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 digital 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 brought to room 133 by **April 1st**

Pick up the paper for this show in room 133!

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

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 [HERE](#) to view the New Virtual Art Gallery Show titled: "March Magic"

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.



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
Berkshire Health Department
Behavioral Health & Disability Services

South County Prevention Coalition
Member of Rhode Island Business Practices

The poster features a large QR code with 'SCAN ME' and 'FLOWCODE' text, and a logo of three stylized figures under a rainbow. The background is red and yellow with decorative elements.

[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.

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



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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 were emailed information about the scheduling process for the 2021/2022 school year today, Monday, March 8.

School counselors will hold informational sessions for students on 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 are included in the information emailed to student today.

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

Please refer to the [2021/2022 Program of Studies](#) to view NKHS course descriptions, programs, and policies.

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**

Please encourage your seniors to review the scholarship list below frequently. 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

Next Meeting Thursday, April 1 at 7pm

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.

[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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