



Our Why: We believe every learner can change the world; therefore, we will provide a world class education.

Our Values: Northern Cass will commit to purposefully build trust, develop authentic relationships, and engage in innovative practices which will empower learners to be choice ready.

Our Collective Commitment: We are dedicated and passionate about teaching and learning, self-reflection, acknowledging greatness, and service to the Northern Cass community. We are driven towards continuous improvement.

Families,

Please read for updates related to Northern Cass:

1. **Large Group Music Festival at Northern Cass:** We will also be hosting our region's Large Group Music Contest on Tuesday, November 1st. This event is open to the public. The HS Choir will perform at 9:00am (Auditorium) and the Band at 10:00am (West Gym).
2. **Positions Open** (email Cory.Steiner@northerncassschool.com):
 - a. Paraprofessional (one position)
 - b. Bus Drivers (multiple positions)
3. **Calling All Local Businesses:** We are hosting a Career Fair in December for Levels 9-12. You are invited to come showcase your career, job, internship, and shadow opportunities. [Winter Career Fair](#)
4. **Board Education: What employees does the Board hire and evaluate?**
 - a. The only employees that the school board directly hires are the superintendent and business manager. By law the board is required to evaluate the superintendent twice every year. A formative evaluation needs to be completed before Nov. 15th and a summative evaluation needs to be done before March 15th. Traditionally each board member completes an evaluation of the superintendent and then all nine evaluations are compiled into one document. The Board president and vice president meet with the superintendent to discuss the evaluation before the full board meets to accept the evaluation. The Northern Cass School Board currently delegates their evaluation of the business manager to the superintendent. In the past, the Board has also done a self-evaluation every other year, where each member evaluates how well the board works together and how effective the school board was in accomplishing the goals it set.
5. **Sock Drive:** The Cass County Sheriff's Office is sponsoring a sock drive for those in need. Socks for both genders and all ages are being collected at Northern Cass from now until November 4. We are in a friendly competition with other Cass County schools to see who can collect the most, so if you are competitive, help us win the contest!
6. **Winter Gear Available:** The Jaguar Wellness Pantry Winter Gear Pop Up is now open. If you have learners in need of coats, hats, mittens, snow pants or boots, they are available in the music practice room hallway, sizes for all ages and all free of charge. The Pop Up will also be open November 1-4.
7. **The Jaguar Wellness Pantry and Lunch Repack is Open!** If your child or family is in need - contact us at pantry@northerncassschool.com.
8. **We are currently in need of the following items in the Wellness Pantry:** Juice (apple & Capri Sun), fruit snacks, fruit cups, breakfast bars, granola Bars, beef jerky sticks, jelly, pasta sauce, canned vegetables, tampons. Donations may be dropped off at school in the Wellness Pantry collection boxes located near the entrances.
9. **Parent Guidance:** This is a link to the new YouTube channel where you will find mental health experts featured in Parent Guidance Playbooks sharing how parents can use the animations as conversation starters with teens.

- a. We will release two new Parent Guidance Playbooks every week.
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_gaCf4JlCk72lPylygKC8Q
 - b. I personally spent 5 years working with mental health experts to produce the “My Life Is Worth Living” resources. They are available at no cost. I encourage you to share them with your staff and students.
 - c. This is a link to our YouTube channel where “My Life Is Worth Living” is available at no cost to students 24 hours a day.
<https://www.youtube.com/c/MyLifeIsWorthLiving/featured>
 - d. This is a link to the printable extension lessons for “My Life Is Worth Living”
<https://mylifeisworthliving.org/lessons/>
10. **Community Options is offering a virtual Mental Health First Aid- Adult training.** This virtual training on November 17 is open to all who are interested. Please see this [link](#) for event details.
 11. **Proposed Community Project:** On October 5, Northern Cass School and Essentia Health met with community leaders and key partners to discuss a potential project that could benefit everyone in our district - a Community Health and Wellness Center to be located at Northern Cass School. This idea comes out of many conversations with Essentia Health, school district partners, community members, local organizations, and staff around the work of being a Full-Service Community School. We are excited to now share this idea with you. [Community Project Letter](#)
 12. **Sports & Homecoming Pictures:** Check out what the Northern Cass Yearbook Staff has captured of Homecoming and our sporting events so far this year at <https://northerncassyearbook.smugmug.com/> Check back every Thursday to see galleries for recent events. Please note that pictures on the site will appear with a watermark on them, but if downloads are purchased, you will be downloading the image without the watermark.
 13. **November Mental Health Newsletter:** Fall is in the air and Thanksgiving is right around the corner. Have you ever considered giving thanks for your body and everything it does for you? [The November Mental Health Newsletter](#) focuses on body image and mental well-being. Learn how parents can shape body image in their child’s mind, including: 10 steps to positive body image, modeling health attitudes for young people and how to recognize negative body image signs. Become more consciously aware of the language you use when talking about your body and the impact it may be having on your child’s well-being.

“We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the **fierce urgency of now**. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history, there “is” such a thing as being too late. **This is no time for apathy or complacency.** This is a time for vigorous and positive action.”

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.