



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. **Northern Cass Inquiry Form:** As Northern Cass continues to expand opportunities for communication, please consider utilizing the Inquiry Form (under the Quick Links on website) for questions/concerns you have about the district. Please click on the [Inquiry Form](#).
2. **Attendance Matters:** Northern Cass has begun exploring changes around attendance policies and procedures. Our goal is to ensure all learners, families and educators are aware of the importance of attendance and follow attendance policies to ensure learner success. We will be creating an advisory team to work through potential changes in attendance policy and procedure as well as a communication plan for these changes. We look forward to working together to help learners be successful.
3. **Full Service Community School Commitment:** There will be meetings coming up to discuss the potential Community Wellness Center Project. [Click here for the dates](#). Follow the Task Force on Facebook for updates and information. [Task Force](#)
4. **Congratulations to Northern Cass Wrestling:** MaKenna B, Carter W, Will T, and Gauge N earned bids to compete at the state tournament this week starting Thursday at the FargoDome.
5. **Congratulations to the HS Math Team:** They earned first place in both the West Central Division and Section 6A of the MN Math League and will advance to the state tournament March 14 in St. Paul. All Division First Team honors went to the three seniors Nolan S, Jordan L, and Ben K. Nora S was named to the All Division Second Team.
6. **Family Engagement Incentive Grant:** We are pleased to announce Northern Cass has been awarded an NDDPI Family Engagement grant to support programming this spring including a Creative Writing Community Night, Community Book Study, and Secondary Field Trip to Fargo Public Library.
7. **Artist in Residence Grant:** Northern Cass has been awarded an Artist Residency Grant. Eric Johnson, an adjunct instructor of art at MSCTC, will be at Northern Cass for four Fridays in March instructing secondary art learners in a printmaking workshop. Each learner will design, prepare, and create an original print. The process and product will be shared with the community in a local display and online. This grant is made possible by the North Dakota Council on the Arts.
8. **Dental Screening:** Northern Cass will be having the ND Department of Health & Human Services - Oral Health Program conduct a free oral health screening for learners in PK through Level 3. The date has not been scheduled yet. Families of learners in these grades were sent an email that included an opt out form for any family not interested in participating. If your family is opting out, please return the form to school or email it to mary.howatt@northerncassschool.com.
9. **College Readiness Resources:** [Resources](#)
10. **Parent Portal:** We have added a [Jaguar Parent Portal](#) under Parents on the school website. This page is full of resources and information for parents and caregivers. Take a look!
11. **Portrait of a Graduate Podcasts:** Listen to some of our educators and graduated learners talk about their experience and growth as educators through personalized learning.
 - a. ["Introduction to Teaching" at Northern Cass](#) - Listen to seniors talk about how Northern Cass's Intro to Teaching course has prepared them for future success.

- b. [Rethinking Teaching at Northern Cass](#) - Hear from three NC educators who are rethinking their teaching practice through personalized learning, real-world connections, and relevance.
- 12. **Early Learning Experiences:** Take a look at some learning taking place in our early grade levels.
 - a. PreK tracks their brain growth: [Brain Growth](#)
 - b. Kindergarten takes ownership of and celebrates their learning: [Celebrate!](#)
 - c. Level 2 works on setting goals, reflecting on learning, and A CALL to Greatness: [A CALL](#)
- 13. **STEAM Camp** will be held June 6-8 for learners entering grades 1-8 in the fall of 2023. Each camp day has a theme (Nature, Engineering, Ocean), and campers can choose to attend 1, 2, or all 3 days. See registration link for details. [STEAM Camp Registration](#)
- 14. **Johnson & Iwen:** Thank you to the Clarence Johnson & Eunice Iwen Community Foundation for sponsoring the first-ever NC Summer Meal Program during the 2022 summer break. The Foundation enabled us to provide 4,300 pounds of groceries & personal care items, including fresh fruits & vegetables, protein & dairy, to 13 district families during summer break..
- 15. **Maintenance Request Online Form:** Now available on our website under Quick Links, we have an online maintenance request form to help educators and learners report maintenance needs on the school property - i.e., broken furniture, floor damage, burnt out lights, etc. [Maintenance Request](#)
- 16. **The Jaguar Wellness Pantry and Lunch Repack is Open!** If your child or family is in need - contact us at pantry@northerncassschool.com.
- 17. **Parent Course: How to Develop Self Compassion:** [Free Course Link](#)
- 18. **ParentGuidance.org:** As a reminder, Northern Cass has partnered with the Cook Center for Human Connection and [ParentGuidance.org](#). Our families have access to FREE mental health resources including 5+0 on-demand courses on how to support your child's mental health or your own. To register for a coach or take advantage of the free courses, go to ParentGuidance.org, select "Get started free" to create a login and password, and then select "Parent Coaching" and "Register for Coaching."
- 19. **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. Two new Parent Guidance Playbooks are released each week.
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_gaCf4JlCk72lPylygKC8Q
 - a. YouTube channel link to "[My Life Is Worth Living](#)", available at no cost 24 hours a day.
 - b. This is a link to [printable extension lessons](#) for "My Life Is Worth Living"
- 20. **February Mental Health Newsletter:** This month we encourage you to focus on you, the love you have for yourself as well as the love you have for your children. Take some time to review the [February Mental Health Newsletter](#) which encourages you to focus on the compassion you have for others, the importance of showing compassion to your child and ways to practice compassionate parenting. [ParentGuidance.org](#) offers a course titled "[How to Develop Self-Compassion](#)" that we encourage you to check out.

"Never forget that there are goals, and there is life. And the two sometimes don't intertwine. It can be easy to get lost in your goals, in looking forward, in achieving, in dreaming of the next milestone. And this is not a bad thing. It's important, and motivating and exciting. But while you are striving forward, don't forget to pause every now and then, and enjoy life. Enjoy the moments in between, the now. Because whilst where you are heading looks good, right now looks good too." Lisa Buscomb, Wildly Deserving

Dr Cory J. Steiner
Superintendent for Northern Cass School District