

North Kingstown High School

Parent Newsletter

April 12, 2019

We are officially in the last quarter of the year. Report cards for quarter 3 will be published today in Aspen.

Important dates:

April 15-19 Spring Break
April 23, School Committee Meeting

State Testing Updates

Students who were absent for the PSAT10 or SATSD testing on April 9th will be scheduled for a make up test on April 23rd. Parents will receive an email with the time and location of the testing. Please make sure to share this information with your student.

Guidance News:

-
- Third quarter report cards will be published on Friday, April 12th. A notice will go out via ASPEN.
 - Parents/Students are now able to view 2019-2020 student course requests as of April 11th. A notice went out on ASPEN. Please note this is not a "live" publication, therefore, changes made after 4.11.19 will not be updated on student/parent ASPEN account.

The 2019 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards program will be held from May 17th - May 19th, 2019 at the Cape Cod Sea Camps in Brewster Massachusetts.

RYLA students are selected by each participating local Rotary Club across Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts. Jamestown Rotary Club has asked our guidance department to promote RYLA to students. The local Rotary Clubs will interview the nominees and choose the student(s) that will represent their club at RYLA.

In order to be eligible, students must presently be members of the current sophomore or junior class and be able to attend the entire RYLA weekend conference.

*** Students must remain on the campus for entire weekend and may not drive their own cars. Late arrivals and early departures are not allowed. Transportation is provided for students living off of Cape Cod, students from the Cape must be dropped off Friday by 3 pm and be picked up after the close of ceremonies Sunday around 5pm.**

The following criteria may be considered in your selection process:

Leadership Potential
Leadership Experience
Academic Ability
Extracurricular Activities

Intellectual Curiosity
Articulation
Relationship with Peers
Openness to Experience
Diversity

Jamestown Rotary Club is looking for sincere, interested, and well-rounded high school sophomores and juniors for RYLA. Many past RYLarians have articulated how their interests and actions align to Rotary's commitment to Service. If you are interested in being nominated, submit your name to Mrs. Normand via email no later than Friday, April 12, 2019.

ACN COURSES:

The RIDE Advanced Course Network (ACN) has opened up registration for summer and fall courses. Registration is now open and will close on May 31st. Registration information can be found at <https://ride.gosignmeup.com/Public/Course/Browse>. Once you register for a course on ACN, Mrs. Normand will follow up with you. Please note the following:

1. Registration will remain first-come-first-serve so please register as soon as possible if you are interested in taking a course.
 2. Students will be eligible to take one course over the summer and no more than two courses for the fall semester.
 3. Students will receive dual credit (typically one credit for NKHS and either 3 or 4 college credits).
 4. Students in the class of 2019 are not eligible to take an ACN course this summer or next fall.
- Please consider taking a course as these courses help students get a hard start on post-secondary success, master the skills required of a lifelong learner and be prepared for jobs in sectors critical to Rhode Island's future prosperity.

Mrs. Normand

Training Opportunity for Electric Boat Jobs

NKHS has an exciting new partnership with Electric Boat that will combine skill training at New England Technical Institute, coursework at NKHS, and internships at Electric Boat for welding skills and computer integrated manufacturing. The goal is to provide job training in the summer between 11th and 12th grade with employment opportunities upon graduation from NKHS. Students who are interested should contact Dr. Morse, Assistant Principal for Teaching and Learning, at Barbara_Morse@nksd.net. A field trip for later this month is being planned for interested students.

Minding Your Mind program

On Tuesday, April 9th at 6:00pm Wickford Middle School is hosting a mental health awareness presentation in their cafeteria from 6:00 to 7:00pm.

Their guest speaker comes from "Minding Your Mind", the same agency that presented at the March 13th PD at DMS. WMS has a different speaker; a young adult, who shares his personal story about mental illness, warning signs and coping strategies. There will be time for questions and answers following the presentation and light refreshments will be served.

WMS students will be attending the same presentation during the school day, so WMS is delighted to offer an evening presentation for parents and community members. Please consider attending!


Community Health

Chantal Abbott is the new Community Health worker through the Office of Family Learning. Together with Cindy Bowe, she has developed a community needs assessment tool in hopes to identify the needs of

northern North Kingstown residents. Please look for future announcements about the upcoming assessment.

Student Art Awards

Ninth Grader Emilia Cormier placed as a Notable Awardee in the International *2019 Healthy Whale, Healthy Ocean Challenge*

 20190326_112146.jpg

This particular competition helps to raise awareness of and inspire action for North Atlantic right whales, as well as for a healthier ocean and society. As a Notable Awardee her piece titled "Endangered" will be featured on healthywhale.org and on their social media channels over the next several months, and her work will be part of their ongoing campaign to inspire awareness, care, and action for right whales and our ocean.

Her awards ceremony and celebration will be Sunday, May 5th in Boston, Massachusetts, where she will be presented with a special certificate in recognition of her achievement. This event will feature keynote speaker Brian Skerry, National Geographic photojournalist and *Challenge* judge; as well as a student art exhibit, film screenings, guest speakers, and art-making and community-building activities.

2019 YEARBOOKS

Yearbook is looking for pictures of the following ASAP: Students with their pets, students with their parents who are teachers at NKHS (this pic can come from students or teachers), students at their jobs, students who are twins, triplets, etc., pictures from spring sports that may have started practices already, and any other awesome photos you may have taken this year and would like to see in the book. Pictures can be sent to teacher Jessica_Grant@nkhs.net

Parents, if you had a concern about how your student's name was spelled on their id or portraits, please contact jessica_grant@nksd.net with the appropriate spelling. These pages will be submitted for the yearbook next week and we want to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to correct misspelled names.

Parents who are unsure whether they ordered a yearbook or not, please check with Josten's customer service as all sales are handled through their [website](#) . The yearbook adviser does not have immediate access to this information.

There is one last chance for seniors to submit a senior portrait to be included in the yearbook. The deadline is April 30th.

New England Institute of Technology Scholarships

Students who take Project Lead the Way courses at North Kingstown may be eligible for course credit at New England Institute of Technology and a \$3000 scholarship. Please check the link for more information: <https://www.neit.edu/Admissions/Programs-for-High-School-Students-Educators/Earn-College-Credit-in-High-School/Project-Lead-The-Way>

Student Recognition

Gabriella Nieves has placed 1st in this year's Annual Donate Life Rhode Island High School Art Competition. Her work was selected by a panel of judges based on criteria of originality, artistic merit, and effective use of theme. Gabriella will be recognized at the Donate Life Month Celebration at the Rhode Island State House coming up on Monday, April 1st at 11:00 AM and will receive a \$100.00 Amazon gift card for her positive and accurate messaging about organ and tissue donation. This is Gabriella's second consecutive win in this contest, last year placing second.

Student Poster Contest

The AAA is committed to educating children of all ages about traffic safety. We want to engage students in our efforts — and our annual Traffic Safety Poster & Video Contest provides young learners the opportunity to demonstrate safe practices to their peers.

More than \$11,000 in prize money will be awarded and featured in our 2020 contest calendar! To be eligible, all poster and video entries must be postmarked by April 5, 2019. Poster entries will be judged on a state-by-state basis. A first- (\$300), second- (\$200) and third-place (\$100) poster winner will be selected from each of the three grade levels for each of the five states — for a total of nine poster winners per state!

For additional information about submitting posters, traffic safety topics, and entry rules feel free to visit aaa.com/PosterContest!

PTSO NEWS

Together We Grow

The NKHS PTSO Spring fundraiser campaign is underway! One more week to help us reach our goal of planting \$2,000 in our classroom grant fund this spring. Donate by **April 12th** to help make a big impact on our school's classrooms, clubs, and programs!

Find the donation link on the NKHS PTSO [webpage](#) or on the PDF attached.

Smile – You're on Amazon!

If you shop with Amazon.com please consider logging in with Amazon Smile and selecting the North Kingstown High School PTSO as the organization, you will support with your purchases. To learn more and to sign up, click [here](#).

If you have any questions or need further information about any of the above, please contact your PTSO - NKHSPTSO1901@gmail.com

ATHLETICS

Registration for Spring Sports is now open at: <https://northkingstown-ar.schooltoday.com/>

Link to boys signup

<http://signup.com/go/xyqsgJx>

Link to girls Signup

<http://signup.com/go/Dvnafed>

NK ATHLETICS BOOSTER CLUB

Booster Club News

Scholarships

NK Booster Scholarship, Jeffrey Monica Memorial Scholarship, and Darren Schongold Memorial Scholarship applications are available on the athletic website under the Booster Club Tab.

There are also paper copies available in Guidance if needed. All three applications are due back in Guidance by April 26, 2019

Save the Date

Senior Athlete Banquet will be held May 23, 2019 at Quidnessett Country Club

More information to follow.

Concessions & Gate

We are in need of help for the spring season. If you have an hour to spare please use links below to sign up to volunteer to help out in the concession stands.

We need volunteer to help at Boys & Girls Lacrosse and Boys Volleyball .

Boys LAX

<http://signup.com/go/VGmXwTH>



Girls LAX <http://signup.com/go/WHqomBf>

FINE ARTS Department

Student ART Contests & Competitions - Information below are in chronological order according to due dates

2019 Ocean Awareness Contest: Presence of Future

Create a piece about a coastal/marine species, place, or system that will be threatened, altered, or lost due to climate change.

Contest [information](#) or click [here](#)

Theme: Presence of Future

Awards: Gold Award: **\$1,500**, Silver Award: \$1,000, Bronze Award: \$500, Honorable Mention: \$250

Making Waves Award: The Making Waves Award will be awarded to one submission in each age division that demonstrates a powerful, engaging, and original voice of ocean activism. Winners receive a \$250 cash prize.

Additional Awards Available in 2019: Over the course of the Contest, other awards may become available and will be listed on bowseat.org/contest. The winners of these awards will be chosen and announced at the same time as the category awards.

Deadline **June 17**, 2019

Guidance Information

Career Speakers

The NKHS Guidance Department is sponsoring a career speaker series that will take place during the last week of March through the end of May. Various community members will be visiting our high school to discuss their profession. Please take a look at the attached document that lists the speakers that will be here during the month of May. If you are interested in attending a session, please come to guidance to sign up. A pass will be given to you during advisory, however, you must have permission to miss advisory/class from your teacher. You are responsible for all missed work. These sessions will last approximately 30 minutes.

Scheduling

Counselors met with students in grades 9-11 one on one during the first three weeks of March to review teacher recommendations, answer scheduling questions, and to input course requests. Please note you will not be able to see the elective choices until we publish again which will be in the mid-April time frame. This is the first step in the scheduling process. Elective courses are tentative until the master schedule is finalized in June. Override forms are due in the Guidance Office by April 5th.

Cap and Gown Orders

An email is being sent to all seniors regarding the options for purchasing a graduation cap and gown for the June ceremony. There are many options for “extras”, but students should be aware that all that is required is the basic \$40 for the cap, gown, and tassel. You will find this option at the bottom of the order form for individual items that is attached to the email. The extra tassel in the \$52.50 package is a nice souvenir but students will not be allowed to wear them on graduation day. Some parents have asked about reusing recent (within the past five years) cap and gowns. Please be cautious about reuse as the gowns are ordered based on height and weight, therefore you do not want your student to stand out because their gown is too short or too

Scholarships

Please refer to the Guidance Website and The Class of 2019 Google Classroom for updated lists of scholarships for seniors.

Final Exam Schedules

Final exams are held the last four to five days of the school year, and students are expected to be present. Please remember to leave plenty of time for calendar adjustments for snow days. As a reminder, family vacations, or other activities that could have been scheduled for after the exam times, are not excused absences. Weddings, graduations or other special occasions over which families have little control in scheduling will be considered, but please make your request for excusal as soon as possible. For students who do have excused absences for final exams, make ups will be provided during the summer months by appointment. There will be no provision for early exams, and all exams must be make up by August 1st in order to update the transcript in time for the new school year.

Please log in to your Aspen Family Portal/Aspen Student Portal to review your child's course requests for the 2019-2020 school year. This report includes teacher recommendations for core classes, electives your child requested and alternates he/she chose. If your child does not see a class he/she signed up for, the class was likely cancelled due to under enrollment. As a reminder, this is not your child's schedule as the master schedule is in the process of being built. Please keep in mind that students do not receive credit for Personalized Learning Time (PLT).

This report can be found on the Pages top tab in the area of the page called Published Reports. Information regarding course descriptions and graduation requirements

can be found in the Program of Studies under the “academics” tab on the high school website.

FAQ:

1. How many credits should I see on my child’s course request sheet?

7 credits if they are requesting 2 PLTs (one per semester), 7.5 credits if they are requesting 1 PLT or 8 credits if they are not requesting any PLTs. Please keep in mind that underclassmen may be assigned a PLT if there are not any seats in one of their chosen electives. Rising seniors can request 6 or 6.5 credits, however, he/she must have approval from administration in order to fall below 7 credits.

1. My rising senior has requested off-role (arriving after first period or leaving at the end of third period), however, I do not see this on his/her course requests.

Student needs to complete an off-role application which requires parent approval. The form is turned in to Mrs. Sweet’s office for consideration. Once student is approved, counselor will drop PLT(s) and add off-role to student course requests.

1. What do the Y and N signify in the recommended column?

Y means they were recommended for course by his/her teacher, N means he/she elected to request the course. One exception is if teacher submitted a level teacher change request form for a core subject.

1. What do the Y and N signify in the alternate column? Y means this is an alternate elective your child chose in case he/she does not get his/her first choice.

2. My child submitted an override form to change levels, however, I do not see this on his/her course requests sheet. All overrides will be addressed once final grades are computed which will be in late June. Guidance counselors will notify student if he/she is able to move up level(s).

3. Will the courses I see on my child’s course request sheet be the courses that will be on his/her schedule for 2019-2020 school year? The master schedule has not been built as of yet, therefore there is no guarantee this will be your child’s schedule. However, all students will be guaranteed a seat in their core subjects (Math, English, Science and History).

4. What does SA, CP, H, and AP stand for? NKHS offers various levels based on a student’s ability. SA stands for Success Academy, CP is College Prep, H is honors and AP is Advanced Placement.

5. What if my child fails a core subject for the 2018-2019 school year? If your child is eligible to go to summer school (English and Math only) and successfully completes the

summer school course, he/she will be placed in the next sequential course. If your child is not eligible to go to summer school and/or fails History, Science or World Language, your child's schedule will change.

9. I have questions about my child's course requests. Who should I contact? If your question is regarding elective choices, please contact your child's guidance counselor. If your question is regarding level placement in one of the core subject areas, please contact your child's teacher.

CTE

One of NKHS Robotics Teams, *The GONK Squad*, has qualified to represent North Kingstown High School at the World Championships held in Detroit in April. In order to help make this trip happen, the Robotics Club will be hosting a Pasta Dinner on Sunday, March 31st at 2:00 at the NK Community Center. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids 12 and under. Tickets are available through team members or by emailing coach Rick Powell at richard_powell@nksd.net.

From our Student Services Office

SURVEYWORKS!

Attention all parents, on Monday January 14th, our SURVEYWORKS! Window was opened across the district for parents to give feedback to each school. We value this information to help make informed decisions about programming and culture at our school.

Please take a few minutes to give us feedback at NKHS, we will also follow up with a personal email next week. Here is the sign in for the window that opened on January 14th;

[SURVEYWORKS!](#) The code to log in is: [23108family](#)

Thank you in advance!

Change in semester 2 protocols for students

Starting in the second semester (January 28th) students will no longer be able to have backpacks and coats in their last period classes. We have altered our schedule slightly to give students two additional minutes at the end of the day before buses leave to get their items. This time will not impact instructional time. Students are asked to get all of their items at the end of the school day. We will hold buses for the first few days as students get use to the new pattern.

The other change in protocol is that students will only be allowed in one of three entrances at the start of the school day. Students can access the Main Office doors for bus drop off, the rear set of doors near the Senior Lot and drop off zone in the back of the school and by the Weight Room for those students coming up from the Junior Lot. All other entrances will be locked.

Attendance Counts:

NKHS was VERY pleased to be given a 5 STAR rating on RIDE Accountability report card. However, it was noted that NKHS has a chronic absence rate of 11% of students beyond the acceptable 18 days absent. Let's please try to be diligent about consistent attendance.

As we approach cold and flu season, please be mindful of absences. It takes just two days per month to be truant. If a student is ill and contagious, then keep them home.

Once a student has accumulated 5 days, a letter is automatically generated. The letter serves several purposes. First, is to increase communication between home and school about attendance. It also provides an opportunity to correct any errors in a timely fashion. Please bring doctor's notes with three days of scheduled appointment. If you receive a letter and have questions, feel free to call the Student Services office. Additionally, if you have documentation that needs to be submitted, the letter will be a nice reminder.

Are you interested in engineering, technology or other STEM-related fields?

Check out The Undersea Technology Apprentice Program which was developed to provide an opportunity for up to 20 students to study part-time for three weeks during the summer alongside NUWC Division Newport scientists and engineers. In the process, you will gain valuable insights by working with advanced technology while developing real world applications of science and math lessons learned at school! For more information, see the application:

https://www.navsea.navy.mil/Portals/103/Documents/NUWC_Newport/careers/application2019%20Open.pdf?ver=2019-02-06-174258-990
