

# North Kingstown High School

## Parent Newsletter

### February 14, 2019

Please note that due to weather and events that shifted as a result, the PSAT/SAT Parent Information night will be held next Thursday, February 21st at 6pm in the MEDIA CENTER. The School Improvement Team meeting will be on Wednesday, February 20th in the Guidance Library.

The first grade update for the third quarter will be posted on Wednesday, February 20th. Please check your student's Aspen records for information.

Have a safe and restful long weekend!

#### **Important dates:**

##### **February**

- 15 No School -
- 18 No School - Presidents Day
- 19 School Committee Meeting 7pm @ NKHS
- 21 PSAT/SAT Night

##### **March**

- 1 - 3 NKHS Musical (Les Miserables) See attached
- 7 PTSO Meeting 7PM
- 8 - 10 NKHS Musical (Les Miserables) See Attached
- 12 School Committee Meeting
- 13 No School - PD Day
- 26 School Committee Meeting

### **CAPS AND GOWNS**

#### **Attention Seniors:**

Graduation planning has already begun! We will have a senior assembly on Wednesday, Feb. 20th during the Skipper Block. Ryan Ford from Josten's will be here to discuss the ordering process for caps and gowns. The assembly will be held in gym 1.

### **2019 YEARBOOKS**

So many memories!! So little time!! The printing presses are firing up. To make sure we print a yearbook for your student, order by Friday, February 15, 2019. Don't miss out on keeping the memories alive.

**Last day to order your 2019 yearbook is Friday, February 15, 2019.** Order yours today: [Click here](#)

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.

Any other questions please contact [jessica\\_grant@nksd.net](mailto:jessica_grant@nksd.net).

## **STATE ROBOTICS COMPETITION**

This past weekend, NORTH Robotics had 40 students on 4 teams compete in the state Robotics Tournament. Three of the teams won judged awards in different categories, which is the most awards won by a single school in the history of the competition. One of our teams, Bolts and Bytes, took 2nd place in the overall award called the Inspire Award, and as a result, are the first alternate to represent Rhode Island at the World Championships held in Detroit in April.

## **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>

## **PTSO NEWS**

### **Parent volunteers and refreshment donation needed on 3/14**

On March 14th, NKHS will be hosting a community screening of "Suicide: The Ripple Effect". We are expecting hundreds of area teachers, students and parents to come out for this event, and will need your help to provide refreshments, sell tickets, help us set up and staff the event. If you are able to help out, take a look at the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E4AAAAA2CA4F49-parent>

### **PTSO Meeting This Thursday**

All are welcome to come to the next PTSO meeting on Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm in the Media Center.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Panel**

In lieu of the March PTSO meeting we will be hosting an informal panel discussion for parents and guardians in the community with a student entering the high school next year. The panel will be on Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Media Center. Please help spread the word!

### **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](#).

## **Suicide: The Ripple Effect**

The NKHS PTSO and Student Assistance Office are proud to announce a screening of the film, "Suicide: The Ripple Effect". This is both a film and a movement for hope and healing. Question and discussion on the topic will follow the film.

When: Thursday, March 14, 2019, 5:30 PM

Where: North Kingstown High School Auditorium

Admission: \$3 in advance / \$5 at door

Reserve seats by sending a check to: NKHS PTSO, 150 Fairway Dr., N. Kingstown, RI 02852 or by clicking [here](#) and using the PayPal link

For more info contact: A.M. Finlay: [am\\_finlay@nksd.net](mailto:am_finlay@nksd.net) / (401) 268-6251

## **Volunteers Needed**

The PTSO will be selling tickets for "Suicide: The Ripple Effect" during lunchtime the week prior to the screening. To sign up to volunteer, click [here](#).

*If you have any questions or need further information about any of the above, please contact your PTSO - [NKHSPTSO1901@gmail.com](mailto:NKHSPTSO1901@gmail.com)*

Join us on [Facebook](#)

**Donate to PTSO**

**Buy a Brick!**

## **ATHLETICS**

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

### **Upcoming Senior Nights**

Friday, February 15 Boys Basketball vs. Coventry 7:00

Saturday, February 16 Boys Hockey vs. South Kingstown 7:00 @ Boss Arena

Wednesday, February 20 Girls Basketball vs. St. Ray's 7:00

### **NK ATHLETICS BOOSTER CLUB**

### **Winter Sports Award Night**

Sunday, March 24th NKHS Auditorium 6:00 pm

### **Save the Date**

### **EVENING OF CHAMPIONS**

Saturday, April 6th @ Quidnessett Country Club 6:00 pm

Tickets: \$40 per person; 10 per table

Contact Marisa Green: [mmgreen2@verizon.net](mailto:mmgreen2@verizon.net); Kara Martone: [khmartone@yahoo.com](mailto:khmartone@yahoo.com); Bonnie Roy: [bonnieroy@msn.com](mailto:bonnieroy@msn.com)

## **FINE ARTS Department**

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

#### **2019 Donate Life High School Poster Contest**

Sponsored by New England Donor Services and the RI Organ Donation Awareness Coalition

Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place entries!

RI High School students can enter a poster featuring an awareness theme for organ & tissue donation Contest rules and details available on our website: <http://donatelifenewengland.org/poster-contest/>  
Deadline to receive posters Friday, **March 1, 2019**

Awards ceremony will be held in April at the State House

#### **Students can take the SCAD Challenge for a chance at a scholarship!!!!**

Students can put their artistic vision on display for the opportunity to earn a scholarship to SCAD, The University for Creative Careers. The SCAD Challenge competition is open to current juniors and seniors in high school as of the 2018-19 academic year. Entries must demonstrate creativity, innovation and a strong understanding of aesthetics. A panel of SCAD faculty will review and evaluate submitted entries, and three winners will be selected from each category. Click [here](#) for more information or see Mrs. Strain for more details.

SCAD Challenge categories: • 2D design • 3D design and modeling • Animation and game design • Fashion • Film • Graphic design • Performing arts • Photography • Writing

The next step for junior and senior entrants is to complete an undergraduate application for admission. Online applications and SCAD Challenge entries must be submitted by 5 p.m. ET Friday, Feb. 1, 2019. Winners will be announced **March 8, 2019**.

#### **2019 Lindsay Ann Burke TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS & PREVENTION POSTER CONTEST**

February is National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month and this contest is meant to raise awareness during February.

Prizes are: First Place \$1000.00, Second Place \$500.00, Third Place: \$250.00.

This year's theme "**Break the Cycle of Violence**" focuses on what a teen can do to end an abusive relationship; for example: tell a friend, a parent, a school counselor, the police, & create & follow a safety plan, etc. Go to <http://www.labmf.org/> "FACTS" pages for more info

Deadline **April 5, 2018** - See Mrs. Strain for more details and paper for this contest.

#### **2019 Ocean Awareness Contest: Presence of Future**

Create a piece about a coastal/marine species, place, or system in 2019 that will be threatened, altered, or lost due to climate change.

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](http://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

### 2019/2020 Scheduling

On Thursday, February 14th, Grade 9-11 students received a course selection sheet, a list of NKHS courses, the Program of Studies Quick Reference Guide, and a letter from Dr. Morse regarding the scheduling process. Teacher recommendations will be viewable on ASPEN on February 26th. Course selection sheets are due to history teachers by Friday, March 1st. Guidance counselors will be meeting with students during the month of March to review recommendations and enter elective choices.

Here is the announcement made to students today regarding the scheduling process...

"Attention all students in grades 9-11:

---

This morning in advisory, you will receive scheduling documents for the next school year. You will receive a letter from Dr. Morse, the *Program of Studies* quick reference guide, a list of courses, and a course selection worksheet.

You will need to submit your course selection worksheet to your history teacher by March 1st. When selecting electives, please refer to list of NKHS courses and the *Program of Studies* which can be found on our high school website under the ACADEMICS TAB. You should prioritize your list of courses and include four alternate choices. You should select courses that you need towards graduation as a top priority. Be sure to choose either 7, 7.5 or 8 credits depending on whether you opt to have a PLT or take advantage of senior privileges, which includes late-arrival or early-dismissal. We also recommend that you speak to your individual teachers regarding your course levels for the following school year. Teacher recommendations for the next sequential class will be viewable on your Aspen account on Tuesday, February 26th.

Guidance counselors will visit all History classrooms in March to meet with each student individually; at this time, your guidance counselor will review your teacher recommendations for the next sequential class and we will add your electives in Aspen. This would be the appropriate time to ask questions about the selections you have made or to clarify any of the recommendations made by your teachers.

You should return the **course selection worksheet** to your history teacher by Friday, March 1st. We look forward to working with you throughout the scheduling process.”

### **CCRI Running Start**

\*The Running Start program is a dual enrollment program for high school seniors who have demonstrated the academic achievement and maturity necessary to enroll in college courses during their senior year of high school. Seniors who wish to study at CCRI on a full-time basis (12 credits) during the day may be eligible to earn college credit and credit toward high school graduation simultaneously. The links below will take you to CCRI's website for more information, including the admission criteria and the Running Start application. Please note that applications and all required materials are due by March 1st.

*General information:* <https://www.ccri.edu/oes/admissions/partnerships/runningstart.html>

*Admission criteria and Application link:* <https://www.ccri.edu/oes/admissions/pdfs/rsapplicationpacket.pdf>

### **ASVAB**

The ASVAB test will be given on February 28th from 7:15-10:15 in the cafeteria. All 10th, 11th, & 12th grade students are eligible to take the test. Students can register for the exam in the guidance office.

### **CCRI**

A representative from CCRI will be at NKHS on February 20th from 9:30 - 11:30 to help seniors complete their applications. Students need to bring their chromebooks and social security numbers. Students can sign up for a session in the guidance office. A maximum of 10 students will be seen every half hour.

### **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.

### **GirlsGetMath Program at Brown University**

The Institute for Computational and Experimental Research in Mathematics ([ICERM](https://icerm.brown.edu)) is seeking math-curious high school students to participate in its GirlsGetMath@ICERM program being held at Brown University for a week this August: <https://icerm.brown.edu/girlsgetmath/2019/>

The program is for current 9th and 10th-grade students who are curious about how computers and experimental mathematical thinking can help address society's changing needs, are interested in how their mathematical abilities can lead them to a variety of career opportunities, and who are eager to work and learn with like-minded peers and mentors.

### **GirlsGetMath@ICERM**

August 12-16, 2019

Tuition is \$100 (full scholarships are available)

[Applications are now open](#). Deadline for full consideration is May 20, 2019.

If you have any questions, please contact [jenna\\_sousa@icerm.brown.edu](mailto:jenna_sousa@icerm.brown.edu).

## **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.

---