OUR SENIORS

AREA ALL-STATE

Great job to our musicians who attended the NYSSMA Area All-State recently. Erin Dickinson and Matt Frost attended as vocalists and Carter Vari attended as a Euphonium player. The event took place at the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam and involved musicians from across the North Country. We’re proud of you three.

WHY MY VOTE MATTERS

The 9th grade honors students wrote and recorded audio essays for a VFW competition. The theme this year was "Why My Vote Matters." The Canton VFW judges awarded Molly Gardner first place, Erica LaVigne second place, and Madelyn Dinneen third place. These audio essays will move onto the next round of the competition. Congratulations!
SCHEDULED LOCK DOWN DRILL

If you remember, we needed to cancel our lockdown drill which was scheduled for November 16th. We have a new date for this drill.

NNCS will conduct a mandatory Lockdown Drill on Thursday, December 6th. The exact time of day that this will occur will not be announced. We conduct these drills as a mandate from the NYS Education Department; however, there is great value with these drills. Just as Fire Drills have enabled our children to learn to react appropriately, Lockdown Drills can do likewise in the event of a serious situation. The District also learns from each drill on how to better respond to various situations and scenarios. Our Emergency Response Plans are improved as a result of these drills.

During this planned Lockdown Drill, members from multiple emergency response services will be on site to review and evaluate our processes. They have been invited by the District as a collaborative effort to offer the most feasible process for keeping our children and employees safe in the event of an emergency.

Teachers will work with our younger children so that they understand the purpose of conducting these drills. We understand that this type of disruption, while necessary, can be upsetting to children. Our teachers will work to ease any anxiety surrounding this drill.

During a lockdown, no visitors will be allowed access to the school. Typically, a lockdown takes between 30 and 45 minutes to conduct. We apologize for any inconvenience that you have while we conduct this safety drill.

COST PER PUPIL REPORT

Recently, Business First Magazine reported on the cost per pupil of each school in NYS. This was inclusive of all student expenditures for both general and special education. It was reported that NNCS spends $22,133 per student which is much less than most North Country schools. The average for schools in the North Country is $24,153 per student.

THANK YOU, POTSDAM ELKS

We’re so pleased with our Elks! They provided a very generous donation of dictionaries to each of our third graders. Thank you!

Shown here with our students is Sheila Guerin and Bill LaPointe from the Elks.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ENTRANCE

We’re super-excited about our new entrance rug at the Middle School. Looks great!
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Vanessa Babcock '04, a Senior Systems Engineer at Canton-Potsdam Hospital, has been busy since graduation.

After attending Clarkson University, and being a three-season athlete throughout her high school years, Vanessa wanted to remain fit so she became a regular at SUNY Potsdam's Maxcy Hall. She developed daily fitness routines for herself and became a personal Beachbody Coach, while working full-time and becoming a mom in 2015. Vanessa joined the World Natural Powerlifting Federation in 2017, a drug-free powerlifting federation, keeping with her beliefs in remaining naturally fit.

Vanessa competed in her first local competition in October 2017 and was victorious in setting four State records and awarded Best Lifter. She then competed in a national competition in February 2018 where she set five National records and five State records and again was awarded Best Lifter. Through her diligent regimen, she competed in a World competition in October 2018 and became a World Champion, setting six World, National and State records. She again received the Best Lifter Award as well as the 2018 Women's Lifter of the Year Award.

Vanessa now holds a total of 22 records consisting of 10 State records, 6 National records and 6 World records!

Congratulations, Vanessa! We’re proud of you. #FlyerPride

FLYER ATHLETICS

We’re ready for the winter sports season to begin! You can find up-to-date schedules on our website or by visiting www.sectionXboces.com.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS – REMIND 101

If you would like to receive notices via text for events such as early dismissals, schools delays and closures, simply text @nn-parents to (315) 889-0354. If you would like to learn more about Remind 101, then please visit https://www.remind.com/learn-more. For assistance feel free to contact Mr. Sova at helpdesk@nnesk12.org or 315-353-6631.

FACEBOOK

Celebrate our children! Follow our middle school on Facebook page by clicking "Norwood-Norfolk Middle School Moments" Our elementary has also joined with a Facebook page, called “Norwood-Norfolk Elementary School.”

Flyer Pride
Embrace the Power of Working Together
School-Family-Community
EMERGENCY CLOSURES AND DELAYS

With Ol’ Man Winter’s arrival, the North Country weather becomes poor at times, so it’s best to be prepared. I am compelled to explain the process that Norwood-Norfolk CSD uses in the event that we have to close or delay school. This procedure is very common among all North Country school districts.

In the event there is a chance for inclement weather, we monitor the weather for the coming day and if we feel that conditions may be unsafe for children, we begin the following procedure:

- At approximately 5:00 AM, usually earlier, our transportation director has phone conversations with his neighboring counterparts at other districts.
  - Many times, he also contacts the Norfolk and Potsdam Town garages as well as the Village of Norwood.
  - Also, our transportation director drives many of the back roads to help make an informed decision.
- At the same time I am speaking with area Superintendents.
- We attempt to make a decision involving closing/delaying by 5:30 AM.

Our area schools attempt to collaborate on school closings. You may notice that it is rare to have only one school closed. In that situation the closure is probably related to other issues, such as snow removal, heating, etc.

There are many factors which are considered when discussing a delay or closure, but student safety is always at the forefront of our decisions. Factors include the type of precipitation that we receive (snow vs. ice vs. rain), current temperature and predicted temperature, wind and visibility, sunrise, and timing of environmental conditions compared with bus schedules. We also know that many of our district children are at home, alone, when the school closes. Some homes are not prepared for these days and the school has food and heat. There are many factors which we consider, but student safety is primary.

While we do not hesitate to use an Emergency Closure day, we do so very prudently. We have seven days that we can use in our calendar this year.

TECH TIME

We know that our children are on their electronic devices a lot. How do we build self-control with our children? We’ve all faced the temper-tantrums when we take their electronics away. Here are three tips to help your child develop self-control. (This works with more than just electronics, too.)

1. Science shows that positive rewards work better than punishment. For example, if you observe your child focused while doing their homework without their device, praise them.
2. Build times when tech is out of sight. Self-control is hard, so decrease temptations.
3. Use tech talks to let your kids share with you about the reasons they like tech in their lives – the more they feel understood, the more they’ll work with you on tech limits. Here are more ideas for tech talks.
**STUDENTS OF THE MONTH**

Our high school recently announced their [Students of the Month](#). Congratulations to senior Blake Richards, junior Luke Allen, sophomore Sydney Daniels, and freshman Madelyn Dineen.

**NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY BLOOD DRIVE**

On Tuesday, December 4th the NHS will host a blood drive. It will run from 9:00AM to 2:00 PM.

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<td>School Law Briefing</td>
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<td>Blood Drive sponsored by the N.H.S.</td>
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<td>Lock Down Drill</td>
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