MUSCIAL
What a show! What performances!

We are very proud of our students who were on and behind the stage for this last weekend’s musical. The performances were truly amazing. We have such talented students. These students could only shine with the support of their peers on the stage crew, the adult advisors and volunteers. So many people joined together to provide our students with the opportunity to do what they love. They, in turn, provided a wonderful show for our community.

This production of *Guys and Dolls* was extraordinary. We are very proud of our students. Great job!

THREE NATIONAL MEDALISTS FROM NNCS

We are overly excited that three of our students recently had their art pieces selected for a Silver Key at the National Level. Last month we announced the award recipients from the Central NY Scholastic Art Show where NNCS students achieved 75% of all awards given to the schools from the North Country – truly amazing. From those top pieces, the national committee has selected three to be recognized, placing them in the top 1% from across the United States! Truly amazing! Congratulations to our students and to their teachers. Wow!

Elizabeth Lamica - *Lost*  
Digital Art (Silver Medal)

Kelsey Vallance - *Turquoise Tears*  
Digital Art (Silver Medal)

Hailey Villnave - *Chaos*  
Digital Art (Silver Medal)

We will have these three students, along with all the CNY Scholastic Art Show award recipients at our coming Board of Education meeting to be recognized. We’re proud of you!

PRE-KINDERGARTEN & KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registration for our primary is taking place now. If you have (or know of) a child who will be four, five, or six years old before December 1st and they are not enrolled in school, then please have their parents call the elementary office.
ONE SCHOOL, ONE BOOK

Our One School, One Book initiative has been going very well in the elementary. This year, each child received a copy of Friendship According to Humphrey. What a wonderful opportunity for our elementary community to join together to read this perfect book. The children appear to be really enjoying it. Keep reading!

WELLNESS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Please take a moment to review the information in the attachment regarding the Wellness Committee Update. The NNCS Wellness Committee has been working with the St. Lawrence County Health Initiative for the past few years. There are many exciting things happening because of this committee.

We’re proud of the work done by this committee and the impact they’ve had on our school community.

JOIN THE DISCUSSION: Upcoming Community Forums

Community members are invited to participate in an open discussion facilitated by Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization to gather input on barriers and gaps in the community for opioid treatment access, recovery, and prevention in rural St. Lawrence County. The information will be used to develop strategies to improve services in our community.

Adults (18 years or older) who live or work in St. Lawrence County, including: community members, law enforcement officers, health care professionals, government officials, faith- and community-based organizations, school personnel, individuals in recovery, affected families, and others.

Individuals are encouraged to attend 1 of 2 sessions and registration is required. RSVPs are required, and registration information will soon be available at fdrhpo.org/forums. Questions? Contact pfontana@fdrhpo.org.

May 7th at Massena Community Center, 3:30 – 5:30, or
May 16th at BOCES in Canton, 3:30 – 5:30

HYPNOTIST EVENT – FUNDRAISER

Sponsored by the NNCS Class of 2019 All Night Graduation Party parents, this event promises to be a lot of fun. Join the Comedy Hypnotist Night with Don Swan and help our parents keep our children safe at graduation. This fun event will be on Tuesday, April 9th at 6:30 PM in the NNCS Auditorium. The cost is $10 per ticket and you can purchase a pre-sale ticket at the high school Guidance Office.
**SCHOLAR ATHLETES** (previously shared…but too good not to share again)

We’re proud of our athletes and varsity teams as they compete against rivals. However, many of our athletes excel in the classroom, too. The NYS Public High School Athletic Association honors varsity student-athletes with a GPA of 90 & above with the Scholar Athlete Designation. For this winter sports season 34 of our varsity student-athletes achieved a GPA of 90 or better.

Here is the breakdown per team: boys basketball – 3, girls basketball – 8, hockey – 8, boys indoor track – 5, girls indoor track – 10.

The NYSPHSAA also recognizes teams who have at least 75% of their roster’s average GPA being a 90 or better. Congratulations to the following teams who are recognized as Scholar Athlete Team: hockey, boys indoor track, girls indoor track, girls basketball.

Congratulations!

**GRADES 3-8 NYS EXAMS**

In a few weeks, the New York State Grades 3-8 English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics Tests will be administered to students. Last year, the number of test sessions for these annual assessments was reduced from three to two; that change remains in effect this year. This means that students will take each subject test over only two testing days instead of three as in past years. Additionally, the 2019 Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Tests will continue to be untimed.

The ELA exam will be given on two consecutive school days in the beginning of April and the math exam will be given on two consecutive school days in the beginning of May. This year all our students will be taking the Computer Based Testing offered by the state.

Below you will find a summary of the changes that were made to the Grades 3-8 English Language Arts and Mathematics Tests over the past several years.

- **Fewer testing sessions.** Last year, the Grades 3–8 ELA and Math Tests were reduced from three test sessions per subject to only two sessions per subject, meaning each subject will have two days of testing instead of three. With fewer test sessions, each test will have fewer questions than in past years, lessening test fatigue for students and better enabling them to demonstrate what they know and are able to do.

- **The tests continue to be untimed so students who are still working on their exams will be allowed to continue to work, within the confines of the regular school day.** Students who finish may be permitted to hand in their test materials (or submit the test if testing on computer) and leave the room. If so, students should exit quietly so they do not disturb any students still working.

- **Test questions reviewed and written by New York State Teachers.** Hundreds of New York State educators were involved in creating and reviewing questions for 2019 Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Tests and selecting the questions for the test forms.

**Teacher and Principal Evaluation/APPR**

- **Student performance on the 2019 Grades 3-8 ELA and Mathematics Tests will have no employment-related consequences for teacher and principal evaluations.** This means
no teachers or principals in New York State public schools will be affected by the results of the 2019 Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Tests.

Release of Test Questions and Instructional Reports

- **Test questions and instructional reports will be released before the end of the school year.** Like the past several years, the State Education Department will release 75-percent of questions from the 2019 tests and the instructional reports for educators on or around June 1. [You can view 2018 test questions on EngageNY.](https://www.engageny.org/3-8)

Computer-Based Testing

- **Computer-based State assessments.** NNCS will administer the 2019 Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Tests on the computer. The computer-based test will have the same questions as the paper version but students will take the test on a computer, tablet, or Chromebook.
- **Stronger instructional tools.** The State Education Department is helping districts begin to transition to computer-based testing (CBT), which has the potential to make the assessments stronger instructional tools and will make it possible to get test results back sooner.
- **The move to CBT.** The State plans to have additional districts utilize CBT next year. The long-term plan is to have all districts using CBT for annual state tests.

You can find more information about the State tests on the State Education Department’s website. ([http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/ei/eigen.html](http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/ei/eigen.html))

Additional information is attached to this email.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS**

On Sunday, April 7th, the Clarkson Society of Women Engineers invites high school girls to a brunch to learn about STEM college majors and careers. The brunch will be held in the Student Center with an 11:30-2:30 time frame. A flyer detailing this opportunity is attached to this email. This event is a wonderful opportunity for a connection between a student and a top-rated local university. I would encourage all high school girls to consider attending.

**CALLING ALL FLYER ALUMNI**

Combined Class Reunion 2019! There is a class reunion THIS SUMMER for all NNCS graduating classes. If you’re interested in helping to organize or represent your class, then contact Chuck Morse, ’77 at [morsechuck10@gmail.com](mailto:morsechuck10@gmail.com). Let’s get out and show your Flyer Pride!

**THE FLU UPDATE**

We continue to monitor information from the NYS Department of Health relating to the Influenza Virus. It appears as though we are on the downward side of the Flu trend for this year. However, we’re not out of the woods, yet. We remind people that the best barrier is the flu vaccine. Also, regularly washing your hands and covering your mouth/nose when you sneeze prevents the spread.
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.”

UPCOMING EVENTS

3/19  Board of Education Meeting
3/20  Seniors to Gateways to Careers
       Grade 5 Band Concert
3/21  District Improvement Group (DIG) Meeting
       Pep Rally and Green & Gold Night
3/22  Regional Staff Development Day
4/5   Student of the Month Assembly

Grades 3-8 NYS Exams

April 1  Grades 5, 6
April 2  Grades 4, 5, 6
April 3  Grades 4, 7, 8
April 4  Grades 3, 7, 8
April 5  Grade 3