

**NORTHERN BEDFORD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
Agenda for September 8, 2020**

**Opening**

1. Call to order
2. Pledge to Flag and Prayer. (Led by Mike Miller)
3. Roll Call of Board Members
4. Review of the agenda by Superintendent Beatty

**Public Comment and Reports**

5. Recognize citizens who wish to address the board.
6. Communications: Resignation letter from Stephanie Veach; Resignation letter from Marty Guyer; Request for FMLA leave Katie Hazenstab; Request for FMLA leave Megan Frederick
7. Announcements: The October school board meeting will be held Tuesday, October 13, 2020 beginning at 6 pm in the high school building Room 136.
8. Approve the minutes from the August 11, 2020 board meeting. MICKLE ESHELMAN

**PERSONNEL -- CONSENT MOTION #9 - #13 INCLUDING 11A – CRONRATH  
COTTLE**

9. Accept the resignation of Stephanie Veach as of September 3, 2020.
10. Accept the resignation of Marty Guyer as of August 28, 2020.
11. Approve a modification to the 206 day Cleaning Custodian Job Description to 260 day Cleaning Custodian.

**11A. Mr. Scott moved, seconded by Steve Cottle, to add the following agenda item:** Approve for an additional 260 day custodial position to be placed on the support staff contract.

12. Approve a request for Family Medical Leave for Katie Hazenstab for 12 weeks beginning on or around October 20, 2020.
13. Approve a request for Family Medical Leave for Megan Frederick for 12 weeks beginning on or around November 3, 2020.

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**APPROVALS -- CONSENT MOTION ITEM #14 – 19 – MICKLE ESHELMAN**

14. Approve the following as volunteer fall coaches.

Johnna Ritchey

Volunteer Girls Soccer

15. Retroactively approve an additional copier for the Middle/High School building at a monthly cost of \$141/month or \$1,692/year. This will be added to the lease approved in August, 2020.

16. Approve an Agreement with Southwood to provide educational services for 2020/21.

17. Approve the Superintendent to contract for outside cleaning and sanitization services during the 2020/21 school year. The Superintendent will provide notification to the board within 24 hours.

18. Approve Northern Bedford County School District Resolution 2020-001 related to COVID.

19. Approve to advertise for the Request for Proposal for the agriculture 10 year land lease beginning January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2030.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS – ESHELMAN MICKLE**

20. Approve the following reports and invoices

Administrative Reports

Federal Programs Report

Athletic Report

Financial Reports and Budgetary Transfers

Approve payment of invoices

21. Executive Session for reasons of personnel with the board not returning for any further voting action.

22. Adjournment -- CRONRATH ESHELMAN 7:45 PM

## School Board Minutes – August 11, 2020

The Board of Directors of the Northern Bedford County School District met on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 6:00 pm in Room 136 of the high school building in Loysburg, PA.

The following board members were present: Steve Cottle, Chris Cronrath, John Eshelman, Chad Mickle, Mike Miller, David Potchak, Tammy Reasy, Ralph Scott, Randy Wiand. Mrs. Reasy, Mr. Potchak and Mr. Scott attended via a Zoom connection. Also present were Mr. Todd B. Beatty, Superintendent; Mr. Michael O'Dellick High School Principal; Mr. Trevor Replogle, Elementary School Principal; Mr. Wayne Sherlock, Middle School Principal; Mrs. Lindsay Cherry, Special Education Supervisor; Ms. Teri Biddle, Business Manager/Board Secretary. Chris Detwiler from Bedford Gazette was present. There were 90 participants on the Zoom session.

1. Randy Wiand called the meeting to order.
2. Prayer and Pledge was given by Chad Mickle.
3. Roll call with all members present.
4. Mr. Beatty, Superintendent, reviewed the agenda with the board.
5. Erik Whisker made public comment in referencing questions about the athletic cameras that were on the agenda to be approved.
6. Communications read included a resignation from Karen McKnight as After 3 Coordinator, resignation from Kelley Weidler as Band Front Advisor and resignation from Jaime Irvin as School Psychologist.
7. The following announcements were made: The September school board meeting will be held Tuesday, September 8, 2020 beginning at 6 pm in the high school building Room 136.
8. Mr. Cronrath moved, seconded by Mr. Eshelman, to approve the minutes from the June 16, 2020 board meeting. All members present voted "yes".
9. Mr. Mickle moved, seconded by Mr. Cottle, to do the following items as a consent motion with all members present voting "yes".
10. Mr. Cottle moved, seconded by Mr. Cronrath, to approve to hire Marin Carder as Elementary Special Education Teacher at \$41,320 Step 2 Bachelor Table effective with the 2020/21 school year. The rate is reflective of the current collective bargaining agreement. All members present voted "yes".
11. Mr. Mickle moved, seconded by Mr. Eshelman to approve Abby Reininger as a Personal Care Aide effective with the 2020/21 school year at \$11.60/hour and benefits as determined by the Support Staff Collective Bargaining Agreement. Employment of this position is contingent upon the educational needs of a student. All members present voted "yes".
12. Mr. Mickle moved, seconded by Mr. Cronrath, to approve Rashanda Keith to be the After 3 Secondary Program Coordinator. All members present voted "yes".
13. Mr. Eshelman moved, seconded by Mr. Mickle, to approve Bradley Bowser as the Secondary Evening Shift Custodian starting at a rate of \$11.60/hour. All members present voted "yes".
14. Mr. Cottle moved, seconded by Mr. Eshelman, to do the following items as a consent motion with all members present voting "yes".

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- Approve changes to the 2020/21 School Calendar as attached due to recommendation of changes to push the start date of school to September 14, 2020 due to delays in the Middle/High School Windows project completion.
- Approve the revised District Health and Safety Plan for the 2020/21 return to school.
- Approve the attached resolution related to Section 502.1 of school code during Pandemic periods.
- Approve retroactively contract with School Broadcast Program in the amount of \$2,000 for use beginning with the 2020/21 school year for athletic event broadcasting.
- Approve to renew the copier lease agreement for 4 year period (48 months) ending in the 2023/24 school year with Queen City Business Systems at a per month of \$1,711 for a maximum of 3,000,000 per year black and white copies and 40,000 per year color copies. Overages would be charged at \$.004/page for black and white and color copy of \$.035/page.
- Approve the change orders for the Middle/High School Window Project as follows with all requests being paid from the Capital Reserve fund:

Change Request #1	Door Hinge Upgrades	\$1,752
Change Request #2	Add Window at Room A1616	\$8,349.28

- Approve the purchase of IXL Learning for use with Grade 9-12 Math for a three year license in the amount of \$5,404. The item is not budgeted but will be paid for with the ESSER grant.
- Approve the PCCD COVID Grant #31868 in the amount of \$154,620 as attached.
- Approve the Elementary And Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER FUND) in the amount of \$186,348 as attached.
- Approve the replacement of Elementary walk in cooler at a cost of \$7,738 by Hostetler Refrigeration. Unbudgeted for the 2020/21 school year and to be transferred from budgetary reserve.
- Approve the Northern Bedford County School District Schoolwide Title I School Plan for 2020/21.

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- Approve the second and final reading of the following policies.

Policy 006.1	Attendance at Meetings Via Electronic Communications
Policy 335 ATTACH	Families First Coronavirus Response Act
Policy 335 ATTACH	FFCRA Poster English
Policy 335 ATTACH	FFCRA Poster Spanish
Policy 301	Creating a Position
Policy 302	Employment of Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent
Policy 304	Employment of District Staff
Policy 305	Employment of Substitutes
Policy 306	Employment of Summer School Staff
Policy 307	Student Teachers/Interns
Policy 308	Employment Contract
Policy 309	Assignment and Transfer
Policy 311	Reduction of Staff
Policy 312	Evaluation of Superintendent
Policy 313	Evaluation of Employees
Policy 314	Physical Examination
Policy 314.1	HIV Infection
Policy 323	Tobacco and Vaping Products

- Approve the following as bona fide volunteers for the positions listed at the nominal payment for 2020/21 as recommended by the Administration. The classification may be subject to further clarification upon solicitor's recommendations.

Assistant Varsity Girls Soccer	Valerie Grimes	\$1,250
Assistant Varsity Volleyball	Kristie Young	\$1,250
Assistant Winter Cheerleading	Abby Reininger	\$650
Assistant JH Football	Nick Thompson	\$1,310

- Approve Damian Corle as Volunteer for Varsity Boys Soccer.
- Approve bus drivers/substitute bus drivers as recommended by the transportation contractors as per attached list.
- Approve the bus routes for the 2020/21 school year.
- Approve Dr. Kurtz as school dentist.
- Approve Dr. Duane Dilling as school physician.
- Approve Dr. Doug Stern as sports physician.

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- Approve the application for emergency permits (for day-to-day and long-term substitute) for qualified individuals. (This enables flexibility for a substitute to teach in multiple curriculum areas).
- Approve staff assignments for the 2020/21 school year as attached.
  - Administration
  - Elementary professional staff assignments
  - Middle/Senior High School professional staff assignments
  - Support Staff assignments
  - Elementary and Middle/Senior High School Paid Advisory Positions
- Approve the appointment of the Senior High Student Council President, Sydney Coffey as a non-voting student representative to the school board.
- Approve Suburban Energy Services to provide liquid propane to the district during the 2020/21 school year. Suburban Energy services offer a fixed differential of \$.50 over weekly BPN per Bellvue. This differential will not move, but the market price can move.
- Approve students to attend the REI Community Based Vocational training program through the Bedford Area School District at a cost of \$1,575.
- Approve the Athletic Event gate prices and Senior Resident pass for the 2020/21 school year as attached.
- Approve a fundraiser for Soccer Boosters to be held August 29, 2020 from 10 am – 2 pm. All proceeds to benefit the Troutman and Imler families.
- Approve students to attend the Bedford County Career and Technical school for the 2020/21 school year.
- Approve agreement with Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8 to participate in the substitute teacher consortium for the 2020/21 school year at a cost of \$500.
- Approve new teachers to attend the New Teacher Induction program offered through the Appalachia Intermediate Unit 08.
- Approve agreement with Bedford-Somerset Developmental & Behavioral Health Service for the Student Assistance Program Service for the 2020/21 school year.
- Approve agreement with Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8 to join the English as Second Language (ESL) Consortium for year 2 in the 2020/21 school year in the

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amount of \$3,593.30 per year.

- Approve agreement with Extended Family Programs, Inc. to participate in the Behavioral Intervention Staff services and educational support for the 2020/21 school year.
- Approve agreement with Nulton Diagnostic to participate in the Partial Hospitalization program for the 2020/21 school year.
- Approve agreement with Soaring Heights to allow students to attend 2020/21 school at a cost of \$20,000/student.
- Approve agreement with Merakey Pennsylvania for educational services for the 2020/21 school year.
- Approve agreement with Bedford Area School District to participate in the Laurel Life program for the 2020/21 school year at a cost of \$20,000/student.
- Approve agreement with Bedford-Somerset Developmental & Behavior Health Services for the 2020/21 school year for assistance with the Student Assistance Program Service.
- Approve agreement with the Ignite Education Solutions for contracted and substitute staff on an as needed basis for the term of the 2020/21 school year.
- Approve D&D Wood Sales Inc. as Wood Chip provider for 2020/21 at a rate of \$49/ton.

15. Mr. Eshelman moved, seconded by Mr. Cronrath to approve the following reports and invoices with all members present voting “yes”.

Administrative Reports  
Federal Programs Report  
Athletic Report  
Financial Reports and Budgetary Transfers  
Approve payment of invoices

16. An executive session for reasons of Negotiations will be held following the board meeting with the board not returning for any further action.

17. Mr. Potchak moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 pm.

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Teri L. Biddle, Business Manager/Board Secretary

**RESOLUTION # 2020-001**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS OF THE NORTHERN BEDFORD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, BEDFORD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA (“DISTRICT”), EXPRESSING ITS VIEWS RELATING TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA’S RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND URGING ALL PENNSYLVANIA ELECTED OFFICIALS TO WORK TOGETHER TO FIND NON-PARTISAN PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS THAT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT STUDENT SUCCESS AND WELL-BEING

The Board of School Directors of The Northern Bedford County School District, Bedford County, Pennsylvania, in a public meeting assembled, does hereby make the following statements and adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus has resulted in a global pandemic starting on or about March, 2020; and

WHEREAS, this pandemic significantly disrupted the way of life in our District, State, Nation, and indeed the world; and

WHEREAS, this Board recognizes the unique nature of the circumstances created by the pandemic and the unique nature of the efforts to respond accordingly; and

WHEREAS, this Board implemented or directed the implementation of various strategies, either mandated or voluntarily implemented on the recommendation of local, state, and national officials, intended to slow the spread of the virus; and



WHEREAS, among the notable precautions taken were the requirement to maintain physical distancing, the wearing of face coverings, the cancellation or modification of events involving crowds, etc.; and

WHEREAS, this Board understood the initial purpose of the various guidance and mandates as intended to slow the spread of disease in order to prevent cases from accumulating at a rate higher than could be cared for with available medical resources; and

WHEREAS, much of the guidance as well as the state and national discourse on COVID-19 appears no longer to be centered on slowing the spread of disease in order not to overwhelm medical resources and now is based on the complete elimination of all positive cases of the virus, which this Board finds to be an unworkable and unreasonable metric for re-establishing activities; and

WHEREAS, regardless of these personal feelings about the local, state, and national guidance, this Board has continued since March, 2020, and continues to this day, to make decisions intended to remain in compliance with all applicable guidance and/or mandates, as well as to promote the well-being of students; and

WHEREAS, as we now find ourselves six months removed from the initial declaration of global pandemic and from the initial guidance and/or mandates from local, state, and national officials, this Board is able to evaluate the efficacy of the various guidance and mandates in the context of various school environments, including the re-opening of schools; extra-curricular activities like sports, band, clubs, etc.; and special events like proms, graduations, etc.; and

WHEREAS, as this Board has attempted to plan for all school activities, including instructional activities, extra-curricular activities, and special events, it has complied with all applicable guidance to the greatest extent possible; and

WHEREAS, this Board also finds that the guidance often can appear to change with little to no notice, and can appear to be inconsistent or lack logic from time to time; and

WHEREAS, for example, a fixed number limit on the number of attendees permitted at a single gathering, whether 25 persons indoors or 250 persons outdoor, without regard to the size of the facility, fails to take into account that physical distancing may be achieved more easily in larger facilities; and

WHEREAS, for example, it would appear that accommodating more than 25 people in a school gymnasium with a seating capacity of several hundred people could be accomplished more safely than accommodating 25 people in a small meeting room that may have a normal seating capacity that is much smaller than the gymnasium; and

WHEREAS, by way of further example, a limit of 25 people in an indoor event would not even permit a high school volleyball match to occur with two full teams present in the gymnasium, again despite the ability to create significant physical distance between all players, coaches, and officials; and

WHEREAS, similarly, it would appear to this Board that an outdoor event held in an athletic facility that seats thousands, not to mention the notable additional space for standing and spreading out given the outdoor setting, safely could accommodate many more than 250 persons; and

WHEREAS, while the Board understands a need for statewide or other guidance, this Board also has been left wanting with a desire for greater explanation for the seemingly arbitrary nature of such guidance; and

WHEREAS, while the Board understands a desire to reduce the amount of contact between possibly infected persons, this Board recognizes the significant adverse impact that the cancellation of

school causes for children of this and all other public school districts, not only from an academic standpoint, but also from a social, emotional, and psychological standpoint as well; and

WHEREAS, this Board specifically notes the value that sports and other extracurricular activities have in promoting the academic, emotional, and social health and well-being of the District's children; and

WHEREAS, this Board specifically finds value in creating the family experiences that result from parents and family members being able to attend and watch athletic competitions, music performances, and other activities that are important parts of a student's school career; and

WHEREAS, in its efforts to plan for the 2020-2021 school year and resulting activities that accompany it, this Board has attempted faithfully to implement statewide guidance and mandates, but has felt tension at times between what the Board has been mandated or recommended to do and what this Board (and the community it represents) has found to be in the best interests of children; and

WHEREAS, this Board finds that when its regulatory obligations appear to be in conflict with the well-being of children, it must speak out to address the conflict; and

WHEREAS, this Board believes that it could operate its schools in a manner that would be less restrictive than the state mandates and guidance would permit, while still maintaining recommended health and safety protocols and while promoting to a greater degree the academic, social, and emotional health of the District's children; and

WHEREAS, the Board appreciates the difficult job of state and national officials in attempting to provide guidance and recommendations for local officials and local entities like this Board; and

WHEREAS, in light of the foregoing findings, this Board wishes to express its formal, collective thoughts and to make requests of those in positions with authority to impact the life and health of each District student and resident;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, effective immediately, by the Board of School Directors of the Northern Bedford County School District, Bedford, County, Pennsylvania, that:

1. The above provisions be adopted as formal findings of this Board, expressing this Board's view of the COVID-19 pandemic and the state, and national response to the same;
2. The Board of School Directors of the Northern Bedford County School District, Bedford County, hereby calls on all Commonwealth elected officials, including but not limited to the Governor and all Members of the General Assembly, regardless of party affiliation, to work together to provide clear and consistent guidance that is based on science and available data, recognizing the significant importance of school activities of all kinds (academic, athletic, artistic, etc.) in the life of the children in the Northern Bedford County School District and throughout the Commonwealth;
3. The Board of School Directors of the Northern Bedford County School District, Bedford County, hereby requests the Governor and all Members of the General Assembly to provide each local school board with greater local authority to develop and implement strategies that are determined by the local officials to be most effective in balancing the health and safety concerns relating to COVID-19 against the academic, social, and emotional well-being of various District stakeholders, while of course also considering various mitigation strategies like physical distancing, face coverings, etc;
4. The Board of School Directors of the Northern Bedford County School District, Bedford County, hereby requests the Governor and all Members of the General Assembly to provide each local school board with greater local authority to develop regulations relating to crowd size and athletic competition and other events, based on facility capacity or other reasonable criteria; and

5. The Board of School Directors of the Northern Bedford County School District, Bedford County, hereby requests the Governor and all Members of the General Assembly to provide each local school board with statutory liability protection so that decisions can be made based on what will be in the best interests of district students, staff, parents, and other stakeholders, rather than based on litigation avoidance alone.

ADOPTED by the Board of School Directors of the Northern Bedford County School District, Bedford County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board President

NORTHERN BEDFORD COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS



Administrative Reports

Superintendent Administrative Report

Todd Beatty  
Superintendent

Elementary School Report

Trevor Replogle  
Elementary Principal

Middle School Report

Wayne Sherlock  
Middle School Principal

High School Report

Michael O'Dellick  
High School Principal

# **SUPERINTENDENT**

## **Construction Project**

All main classrooms will be completed internally by the first day of schools for students. This means all masonry has been completed; windows and vents, framing, and drywall are installed; rooms are painted, and the tile has been laid. The masonry at the offices and locker room will be completed as well. The masonry at the band room is set to be completed by the end of the first week of students. The steel panels in the courtyard and the windows at the ramp area will be completed after the first day of school. The middle school windows and the gymnasium material will be completed once the materials arrive. As of September 14, all construction will take place after students leave for the day (3:15) except for Wednesdays which is a hybrid day for all students.

## **Food Service**

Upon approval from PDE, Northern Bedford Food Service Department will be able to offer free meals to all children 18 years and younger through December 31<sup>st</sup> or funds are depleted. More information will be available soon.

We had a donation made to the school to pay for students whose lunch account was in arrears. We will be starting this year with no lunch accounts in the red. The district greatly appreciates the willingness of community members to help those in need.

## **Start of School**

Our first day of school for students will remain as September 14<sup>th</sup>. We will also remain hybrid for the start of school. Group A students will be in the building on the 14<sup>th</sup> with group B on September 17<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to keep students exhibiting COVID-like symptoms at home. Students who complete required work at home will be considered present for school.

## **Covid-19 Information**

Northern Bedford County School District recognizes that information is important to our parents and community. To this end, we are providing you with definitions related to COVID along with the information we have related to COVID exposure. We believe this information will help to curtail any misconceptions about actual cases related to the district.

Although the DOH is to complete contact tracing with COVID positive cases, the district will be doing this work for those that have COVID-like symptoms. Our goal is to ensure that the school buildings remain open this school year. To reach this goal, we are asking your help by refraining from sending your child to school if they exhibit symptoms referenced on the chart that can be found in the NBC operation plan or the State department of education website.

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/ReopeningPreKto12/PublicHealthGuidance/Pages/default.aspx>

## **SUPERINTENDENT (cont'd)**

### **Definitions of Active Cases**

Active Positive Case—someone who has a positive Covid-19 test and is currently in quarantine.

Active Close Contact Case—a person who has been within 6 feet of an active positive case, whether masked or unmasked, for 15 minutes or more and is currently in quarantine.

Active Suspected Case—an individual who is experiencing Covid-19 symptoms and is seeking medical attention and is currently in quarantine.

Active Suspected Close Contact Case—a person who has been within 6 feet of an active suspected case, whether masked or unmasked, for 15 minutes or more and is currently in quarantine.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-recommendations.html>

### **Current Active Covid-19 Case Data**

Please note the information in this chart consists of active cases as defined above. This is not a cumulative total.

Week 8/31/2020 through 9/4/2020	Number of Cases
Active Positive Cases	0
Active Close Contact	0
Suspected Active Case	0
Suspected Active Close Contact	0

*"Choosing to be positive and having a grateful attitude is going to determine how you're going to live your life."*— Joel Osteen



# **ELEMENTARY**

## **Back to School**

Students will return to school in-person on Monday, September 14 for Group A and in-person on Thursday, September 17 for Group B. The Custodians, Faculty, and Office Staff have been working tirelessly to prepare for the start of a unique school year. Several teachers have been volunteering time for planning for the upcoming school year. With the challenges that we are facing, there are many changes that we'll be experiencing this year. With the staff that we have in place, I'm sure that the year will be a successful one.

## **Meet and Greet**

Our traditional Meet and Greet activity to meet the teachers at the beginning of the school year will be virtual this year. Once our plans are finalized, we will notify families of the details and how to access the online information.

## **Student Enrollment Numbers**

As we prepare for the start of the school year, our breakdown in enrollment is as follows:

Hybrid	377
Homeschool	11
NBC cyber	39
Private/Charter School	7

## **Teacher Professional Development and Planning**

June 17 – Seesaw Training for ES teachers

July 15 – Focus Training for ES trainers

July 23 – Planning Committee meeting – Collaboration on return to school plan

July 29 – Planning Committee meeting – Collaboration on return to school plan

August 25 – ES teacher virtual planning meeting

September 3 – Focus Trainer meeting

September 9 – Social Emotional Learning (SEL) training for ES staff

September 9 – Focus training for all ES teachers

September 10 – LETRS training for all ES staff

September 11 – Seesaw and Google training for ES teachers

## **ELEMENTARY (cont'd)**

### **Daily Attendance**

Attendance will be expected of all students regardless of instructional delivery; e.g. Face-to-Face (F2F) or online learning from home. Attendance will be taken for each student daily as follows.

- F2F - Attendance will be taken in homeroom by the homeroom teacher
- Asynchronous and NBC cyber school – Student attendance will be determined by completing the assignments assigned by the teacher.
  - For students that are hybrid, assignments will be due on the students' next assigned day at school.
  - For students participating in the NBC cyber school, work must be completed for the week by the end of the weekend. Students are encouraged to keep up with the school assignments each day.

Students who are absent will be required to submit an excuse upon their return to school. An absence also includes students learning from home and not completing all of their assignments. Students will be held accountable for their attendance/participation according to the attendance policy in the student handbook.

### **1:1 Computer Program For NBCES**

All students in grades K-5 will be receiving either an iPad or Chromebook this school year. The devices have been ordered, but due to the high demand for devices, our shipment date has been moved back several times. Once we receive the devices, an Acceptable Use Form will be sent home for parents. Once the form is signed and returned, the students will receive their devices.

# **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

## **Opening Details**

The maintenance staff, office staff, and teachers are working extremely hard attending to the numerous details necessary to ensure a smooth opening day on September 14. With the renovation project, the middle school will be ready to go with all the work our maintenance staff has completed. Kelly and the entire maintenance staff are sincerely thanked for their efforts and the pride they demonstrate.

Student schedules are being finalized and the office work in preparation for the opening of school is proceeding in a timely fashion. Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. Swanseen, and Mrs. Zimmerman are thanked for their efforts and assistance preparing for the start of school. All opening details are nearly complete.

The teachers are working at getting their rooms reconfigured as a result of the renovation project and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The teachers are also working hard at moving to the blended classroom concept to meet the needs of our students. The teachers are commended for their efforts in these trying times.

**Student Information System**—Focus is used as the district’s new Student Information System (SIS) to record attendance, grades, and schedules. Parents and students will use the same username and password to access Focus as they did with Vision. (<https://nbcasd.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus/index.php> )

**Hybrid Learning Plan**—This is a resource guide for teachers that includes the concepts behind hybrid learning and the basic steps needed to create a blended course. It also includes scheduling, attendance, and grading concepts. Mr. O’Dellick completed the bulk of the work documenting the hybrid learning plan for the middle school and high school.

The Hybrid Learning Plan also discusses the roles and responsibilities of students and parents. Students are encouraged to follow their class schedule when they are home, be dressed as if they are at school, and to work in an appropriate location such as a desk or kitchen table. It also emphasizes the idea that students need to “own” their education taking responsibility to complete their work and contact teachers with questions. Parents are encouraged to make their student(s) “own their work”. With a consistent virtual class structure and teachers training students how to navigate their courses, this should go much smoother than last spring.

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL (cont'd)**

**Enrollment**—The final opening enrollments for the 2020-21 school year are as follows:

Grade 6	63	
Grade 7	59	
Grade 8		69
Totals	191	

Fourteen of these students are beginning the year in our virtual delivery system.

**Grade 6 Tour**—A building tour for Grade 6 students is scheduled for the evening of Thursday, September 10. The tour for Group A students and one parent/guardian is scheduled from 5:45 to 6:45 Students and the tour for Group B is scheduled from 7:00 to 8:00. The tour will begin in the auditorium with a brief welcome and introduction of Grade 6 teachers, counselors, and office personnel. After this, the homeroom teachers will lead their students along with the parents on a tour of the building. At the conclusion of the tour, everyone will return to the auditorium for a Q/A opportunity.

**Virtual Student Orientation**—In order to provide an avenue for our students who are not comfortable physically returning to school, we are providing a virtual option. Orientation for this program is scheduled for Friday, September 11 at 1:00 PM. At this time, students will receive their laptops and textbooks for the upcoming school year. The students will also be provided the opportunity to clean their lockers out from last school year.

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL (cont'd)**

**Teacher Professional Development**—On Tuesday, September 1 the middle school teachers came in for a day of professional development on the use of Google Meet as a method of streaming their lessons. The Hybrid Learning Plan was also shared and reviewed. This was discussed extensively as well as general questions on the return to school. Teachers finished out the day creating the structure and adding content for their classes. This will continue for 1½ days of our opening in-service days. Creating and maintaining the online courses is going to take a significant effort by the teachers.

Following is a list of PD activities that teachers completed since the close of last school year in preparation for the 2020-21 school year:

- May 29 – MS Faculty Meeting – Collaboration in order to provide input for return to school plan
- June 12 – Google Apps for Teachers Training
- June – Google Classroom/Applications or Canvas Training with the IU8
- June 24 – Carnegie Math Curriculum Training
- July 1 – PBIS Tier 2 Training
- July 15 – Focus Training for Lead Teachers
- July 21 – MS Faculty Meeting (Zoom) – Collaboration in order to provide input for return to school plan
- August 27 – MS Faculty Return to School Meeting (Zoom)
- September 1 – Blended Learning PD. Classroom, Canvas, and Meet
- September 9 – Focus Training for all staff
- September 10 & 11 – Blended Learning with Classroom, Canvas, and Meet – preparing online learning platform for hybrid instructional delivery

### **Upcoming Events**

September 9, 10, and 11	Teacher In-service
September 11	Virtual Student Orientation
September 14	First Day for Students (Group A)
September 17	First Day for Students (Group B)
September 29	New Teacher Induction
October 2	Homecoming
October 6 and 8	Fall Picture Day
October 12	Midpoint of 1 <sup>st</sup> MP

# **HIGH SCHOOL**

## **School Opening**

Students will be welcomed back to school in-person on Monday, September 14 for Group A and in-person on Thursday, September 17 for Group B. With the challenges presented to us by COVID-19, there are many changes that will be occurring this school year. I am confident that we will be able to work together to overcome these challenges and have a successful 2020-2021 school year. In addition to our hybrid start, any student who is not comfortable coming to school in-person has the option to enroll in our NBC cyber school to learn entirely from home.

## **School Counselor Update**

The school counselors have been working diligently over the summer preparing student schedules. This year presented additional work for the counselors with the additional burden of transitioning to a new Student Information System (SIS) and working to ensure data rollover integrity. Below is a list of upcoming events held by our school counselors.

September 9 – Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) training for staff. SEL is the process through which children and adults understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. Continued support will also be given to the students through the teachers and counselors with an added emphasis this year on managing COVID-19.

September 30 – PHEAA’s financial aid program has been scheduled from 6:00PM to 7:30PM via zoom. Parents of juniors and seniors are invited to attend. A PHEAA representative will be offering a virtual webinar for parents to provide valuable financial aid information, training, and a Q&A session.

October 14 – PSAT testing will occur on campus for high school students who are college bound.

## **FOCUS (<https://nbcasd.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus/index.php>)**

Focus is used as the district’s new Student Information System (SIS) to record attendance, grades, and schedules. Parents and students will use their same username and password to access Focus as they did with Vision.

## **CANVAS (<https://nbcasd.instructure.com/login/canvas>)**

Once again, this school year, the high school teachers will all be using Canvas to aid in the delivery of instruction to students both in-person and remotely. All teachers will be following the same course structure. Consistent expectations with course structure will better equip students to efficiently navigate from one course to another in Canvas. For example, teachers will organize all lessons by module in Canvas each week. Within each learning module the teacher will provide an outline of lessons and assignments to be completed each day. All class assignments will be available to students in Canvas regardless of their instructional delivery (F2F or online). Additionally, teachers will be using google meet to deliver teacher created instructional videos both live and pre-recorded.

## **HIGH SCHOOL (cont'd)**

### **Daily Attendance**

Attendance will be expected of all students regardless of instructional delivery; e.g. Face-to-Face (F2F) or online learning from home. Attendance will be taken for each student daily as follows.

- F2F - attendance will be taken in homeroom by the homeroom teacher
- Online Learning - students will login to Focus and record their attendance for the day.

Focus will be used to hold students accountable for their daily attendance regardless of their instructional learning delivery, F2F or online. On F2F days, attendance will be taken by homeroom teachers using Focus. This attendance will record the student's attendance in the school building for the day and will be used for in school student accountability. On virtual days, students will self-report their attendance by logging into Focus and recording their attendance for accountability purposes. In addition, student completion of work will be monitored through the weekly ineligibility list to determine if a student is not only self-reporting attendance, but also completing the assigned work on a consistent basis each day.

### **Grading**

Students will be assigned numerical grades for all coursework according to the student handbook.

Pass/Fail grades will not be assigned this school year as was the case with our unprecedented school closure last spring. In the hybrid learning format, we encourage students and parents to communicate learning difficulties to the teacher so any learning barriers can be addressed in a timely manner.

### **Senior Projects**

A graduation requirement for all students is the completion of a graduation project. Senior students (Class of 2021) should be well on their way to completing their projects (minimum of 25 service hours required). The final component is a four to six-minute presentation discussing the project. This year the deadline for seniors to complete their projects has been extended. Projects are due by the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> marking period, Thursday, January 28, 2021. Any student who did not submit a senior project proposal must do so no later than Friday, October 2. Students are not permitted to record project hours until they have submitted a proposal and it has been approved.

Students who do not meet the project deadline in January will be required to complete 35 service hours and will be required to present at the end of term 3. Seniors that have met all requirements by the end of term 2 will present their project in early February. It is our hope that all seniors will be prepared to present their project in early February as this will allow them to fulfill one of their major senior requirements earlier in the year thus reducing the stress they may feel at the end of the senior year. Senior school counselor, Mrs. Swanseen, will be sharing information to all seniors regarding an optional, alternative senior project that will require no social interaction for those seniors who are uncomfortable completing a service project due to COVID-19 concerns. This option is a career research project that will be a minimum of 8 pages

## **HIGH SCHOOL (cont'd)**

### **SENIOR PROJECTS (cont'd)**

and will require research of 3 different career paths. Mrs. Swanseen will be providing more detailed information regarding this option to seniors once students are back in session.

### **Senior Keystone Remediation and Retesting**

Students who were scheduled to take the Keystone Exam this past spring will be administered the exams during the 2020 Winter Testing Window. Any student who is not a first-time test taker and did not pass the exam will be scheduled remediation. Passing the Keystone Exams is a graduation requirement of all HS students.

### **Teacher Professional Development**

- **May 29** - Teacher Committee Meeting – Collaboration in order to provide input for return to school plan
- **June 12** – Google Apps for Teachers Training
- **June 24 & 25** – Canvas Training with the IU8 – Course Structure and Canvas Training for Beginner and/or Intermediate Users
- **July 1** – PBIS Tier 2 Training
- **July 15** – Focus Training for Lead Teachers
- **July 21** – Teacher Committee Meeting – Collaboration in order to provide input for return to school plan
- **August 26** – IXL Training- HS Math Teachers
- **September 1** – Google Meet Live Stream Training and Canvas Course Structure & Rollover
- **September 9** – Focus Training for all staff
- **September 10 & 11** – Blended Learning with Canvas – preparing online learning platform for hybrid instructional delivery

### **Upcoming Events**

Sept. 9	Teacher Inservice Begins
Sept. 14	First Day of School for Students
Sept. 30	PHEAA Financial Aid Program (6:30pm)
Oct. 2	Homecoming
Oct. 6	Fall Picture Day
Oct. 8	Fall Picture Day
Oct. 12	Midpoint of 1 <sup>st</sup> Marking Period
Oct. 14	PSAT Testing
Oct. 28	School Physicals – Grade 11



## **Athletic Report**

### **Fall Participation**

	Varsity	Jr. High
Football	46	23
Volleyball	19	25
Boys' Soccer	22	20
Girls' Soccer	21	
Cheerleading	26	12
Golf w/ Tussey Mt.	(1 NBC student)	n/a
Cross Country	14	8

### **Black/White Festivities**

The Black/White Scrimmage was held at Panther Community stadium on September 2<sup>nd</sup> testing the new NFHS Network equipment. The subscription fee is (\$69.99/year or \$10.99/month) for this service but it is less per month than it would cost one household to attend one Varsity event. Your NFHS Network subscription will give you access to every school across the country. In addition, all live events will be recorded and you will have access to watch them at a later date and time.

The athletic department will receive a percent of all subscriptions to help offset the cost of the newly installed cameras.

### **Homecoming**

The annual homecoming game will be played on Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> versus Everett.