

# NORTHFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL

Aug. / Sept. 2017 Newsletter

Greg Gelineau,  
Principal  
[ggelineau@northfieldschools.org](mailto:ggelineau@northfieldschools.org)  
507.663.0650

Michael O'Keefe  
Assistant Principal  
[mokeefe@northfieldschools.org](mailto:mokeefe@northfieldschools.org)  
507.663.0650

Attendance Office  
507.663.0655

Activities Line  
507.645.3559

Student Support Services Office  
507.663.0664

Visit us on the web  
[www.northfieldschools.org](http://www.northfieldschools.org)

## News from the Principal

Welcome to new and returning Middle School Families:

I hope everyone has been enjoying their summer and has some fun events planned for August. I took a vacation hiking in the Grand Tetons in Wyoming in June and will be spending six days fishing and canoeing in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area about the time you receive this newsletter. If students have any good summer photos they would like to share, Mr. O'Keefe will be sending out a Schoology message to post their best summer photo (*only one please*). Students should get permission to post the photo from a parent. At the end of the summer we will compile all the photos for everyone to view. Photos can be scenic, of family/friends or of wildlife. As long as they are appropriate and a parent gives permission, they can be posted. Deadline for posting will be Tuesday August 22, 2017. Grade 6 students will find information in the newsletter on how to access Schoology.

Even though August is one of my favorite months of the year, it also is a sign that school is right around the corner. I would like to personally welcome all of our 6<sup>th</sup> grade families to the Middle School and let you know that newsletters and weekly Skylert messages are the main way of getting information to families throughout the year. If you need to sign up to receive these electronic notifications, use the following link to set up or log into **Family Access** <http://northfieldschools.org/departments/technology/family-access/>. Please feel free to call the Middle School main office (507-663-0650) if you have questions.

As we look at this coming school year, we have a few new academic pieces that everyone should know about. The first is our District priority to offer a Social Emotional Learning curriculum for all students. At the Middle School this will be incorporated in our grade 6 Science classes, grade 7 has a new required Health class and grade 8 will have the curriculum delivered in their Health class. The name of the curriculum is "Second Step" and will have lessons mixed into the current curriculum throughout the whole year. To update everyone, we will send out an information sheet several times during the year as an attachment to my weekly Skylert.

Another program that we are excited about is "Ramp Up to Readiness." This curriculum is primarily for grades 7 and 8, but we will be adapting a program for grade 6 as well. Details for grade 6 are still being worked on, but "Ramp-Up" will be delivered during grade 7 and 8 Health classes. This will also meet our district priority to get students career and college ready. Look for updates for this program as well, and we have a vision of expanding to other subjects in the years to come.

The final new academic piece I want to point out is for grade 8 students. For those of you who attended the Middle School last year you may have had a "Flex" study hall during hour 4. This year, we have a group of grade 8 teachers that will be trying to implement a similar program during hour 5. The hope is to have an hour a day when most students have access to some of their teachers for homework help, make up or finish tests, quizzes or labs. This is our first year trying this program, so please be patient as we work out any kinks.

We are all excited for the 2017-18 school year and believe that every student deserves the best education we can provide. This all starts with our **NMS PRIDE** program. Students and adults are expected to not only know what this is, but make it part of who they are. We tell students that PRIDE is not something they pick-up and leave as they go in and out of the middle school, it is something they carry with them every place they go. As one of the ways for us to partner with families, we encourage everyone to use the PRIDE language at home. It takes some time to build the habit, but the results will be amazing.

Enjoy the final weeks of summer and I will see all of you on September 5, 2017.

Greg Gelineau  
Northfield Middle School Principal

## Middle School Newsletter

As you read through the important information in this newsletter, please be looking to highlight the many important dates that will be important to both you and your student. Also, note that this will be the only paper copy of the Middle School newsletter that will be mailed home to families. Families are able to access all of our subsequent newsletters through our website or you may pick up a paper copy in the Middle School office.

## Physical Education

Please be sure that your student has appropriate clothing and shoes for their P.E. class.

Thank you  
Physical Education Team:



## Student Council

The Northfield Middle School student council is made up of sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students. There are six student members from each grade. These student council members organize events for our school community throughout the year. They also raise money for charities and school-wide initiatives.

In mid September we will be in the process of conducting elections for our sixth grade representatives. Once the elections take place, we will have three new representatives from each team. We will announce the results of the election in the next newsletter.

In the next newsletter, we will also include the dates for our Films 4 the Foodshelf events and the dances. These student council activities are popular events that we would not want you to miss!

Frau Burkhead and Mrs. Kuehl  
Student Council Advisors

## What is Schoology and how do students get access?

Schoology is Northfield Public Schools learning management system that connects students with adults and their classes. At the Middle School, we use Schoology to send students important information about what is coming up, get feedback on different topics. Students are able to communicate with teachers, pull up homework, take quizzes, submit assignments and much more from anyplace they have internet access. Schoology is a web based program that can be accessed from any computer, iPad or phone.

Logging in is easy. Students go to [Schoology.com](http://Schoology.com), click "Log In" and enter their school e-mail and password. Forgot your e-mail or password? Not a problem.

All students school e-mail addresses are their **first name.last name@northfieldschools.org** and passwords are the **first 4 letters of their first name and four digit lunch code** (*does not change from year to year*).

Example:           yogi.bear@northfieldschools.org  
                          Yogi4213

Students will be given directions on how to access classes in September, but are able to receive school wide communications as soon as they log in.

## Picture Day / Student Schedules

New this year, 6th, 7th and 8th grade students will have combined school picture days **August 22 & 23 from Noon to 4:00 pm in the Aux. Gym.** Lifetouch order forms will be available for pick up in the cafeteria.

Student Schedules will be made available via Family Access on August 22.



All students should have their picture taken for the yearbook. **Picture re-take day will be September 26, 2017** for students who were not present for the August sessions.

---

## Student Support Services

### Self-Guided Tours/Pictures:

Families are welcome to tour the building and take a school picture. There will be maps available near the main office. Feel free to look around. The times are as follows:

- August 22: Self-Guided Tours (12:00 pm - 4:00 pm)
- August 23: Self-Guided Tours (12:00 pm - 4:00 pm)

### St. Dominic & New Student Orientation: August 23rd 10:30-11:30 am

The School Counselors will host an orientation session for all new 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and St. Dominic students from 10:30-11:30 am in Room 162/163.

### 6<sup>th</sup> grade WEB Orientation August 31<sup>st</sup>:

More information about WEB is included in this newsletter. If you are requesting transportation, please fill out the gold card you received when the counselors visited the elementary schools. Please remember to put your child's name and address on the card.

Jenny Streefland and Cori Yamry  
Middle School Counselors

---

## W.E.B. - Where Everybody Belongs

Sixth Grade **WEB Orientation Day** is **Thursday, August 31, 2017.** Northfield Middle School will kick off its tenth annual WEB orientation to welcome our new 6th grade students to the middle school. 6th Grade Orientation Day will begin at **7:55 a.m.**, and will end at **12:00 p.m.** Please mark this important date on your calendar!

The 6th Grade WEB Orientation begins with a large group assembly. Students participate in a series of spirited and interactive activities designed to make them feel comfortable in their new school and educate students with strategies that will help them be successful throughout their middle school years.

Following the assembly, students are organized into smaller groups led by two 8th grade WEB student leaders. During their small group time, the 6th graders have the opportunity to meet new people, participate in team building activities, and learn about their new school through a guided tour.

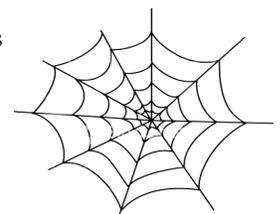
The orientation concludes with a second large group assembly that leaves the incoming 6th graders feeling energized and excited about the new school year ahead. They will leave orientation day with a feeling of connectedness to their new school. Each student will also receive their class schedule and have time to practice his/her locker combination.

Incoming 6th graders will receive an official invitation to WEB Orientation Day in August, followed by a personal phone call from their 8th grade WEB leader. We are looking forward to meeting our incoming 6th graders!

Have a fun and relaxing summer!

NMS WEB Coordinators:

Cori Yamry  
Rhea Mehrkens  
John Bade  
Rafa Estrella



## Parent Open House - Wednesday, August 30, 2017

We will have a fall Parent Open House for **parents only** on Wednesday, August 30, from 5:30 -7:30 p.m. (*before the start of school*). Parents will have the opportunity to walk through their students **maroon day (day 1)** schedule without the assistance of their son/daughter. Each class simulation will be 8 minutes in length. Maps will be available. These 8-minute mini classes will give parents a chance to hear a general description of the class and receive some information about iPad use. Gold Day teachers will be available following the 7<sup>th</sup> period session. You will have an opportunity to add funds to your child’s lunch account throughout the evening.

Parents are encouraged to write their students schedule down or bring their iPad to view the schedule on family access (*6<sup>th</sup> grade will not have iPads until second week of school*). We will have volunteers to help you find your way and answer questions.

<u>Maroon /Day 1</u>	Subject	Room Number	Teacher
1st Hour _____			
2nd Hour _____			
3rd Hour _____			
4th Hour _____			
5th Hour _____			
6th Hour _____			
7th Hour _____			

*(Student schedules will be activated on Family Access August 22nd )*

## Attendance

**Please call the attendance line each day that your child is absent. You may reach the 24-hour voice mail system by dialing 663-0655.**

E-mailing teachers **DOES NOT** count as official notification for state attendance records. When calling the attendance line, please leave your student’s name, grade, reason for absence and your relationship to the child. If calling in an illness, please leave information regarding symptoms. Our health services staff is required to file a report with the State

Health Department if there is an unusual increase in certain illnesses. Students who are not called in will be considered unexcused until a parent/guardian notifies us. If you should forget to call in, your child may turn in a note to the attendance window outside the office when he/she returns to school. Students may not call in their own absences.

If your child is absent for **three consecutive days**, you may leave a request for homework on the attendance line when you call in your child’s absence

information on the third day. Requests should be made by 9:00 a.m., so teachers can use their prep time to gather work. Homework will be requested on your behalf and any available homework can be picked up between 3:00-4:00 p.m.

**Attendance Line**  
**663-0655**

## Family Access

The Family Access student data system involves parents in the education process and allows the district to provide information as soon as it becomes available. Parents can view their student's attendance with a convenient calendar, access a detailed class schedule, and look at food purchases and balances online.

Parents can also view week-to-week grade book information with test, assignment, and quiz scores for their students. In addition, our Skylert message system uses the information you have in Family Access for emergency communications and meal account notices.

To apply for a Family Access login and password, go to the district's website at [www.northfieldschools.org](http://www.northfieldschools.org) and click on Family Access. At the bottom of the screen, click on "Apply Now". Fill out the form, and login information will be e-mailed to you. Please edit/update your Skylert profile annually.

---

## Parent Phone Number and Address Changes

Has your family experienced a change in home or cell phone numbers, residence and mailing address changes or a change in e-mail address since last year? If so, please notify the office of

any changes. You may do so by calling 507.663.0664 or e-mail the change to Kimberly Tousignant: [ktousignant@northfieldschools.org](mailto:ktousignant@northfieldschools.org)

Maintaining up-to-date parent information is the best way to insure that we can contact you in a timely manner. Thank you for your assistance with this request.

---

## Announcements and News on the Web!

Middle School students start each day with televised morning announcements. These announcements are also posted on our middle school website during the school day. Parents can access the announcements by going to [www.northfieldschools.org](http://www.northfieldschools.org) and clicking on Northfield Middle School and then announcements. Announcements usually remain posted by date for approximately two weeks. In the event that our web-

master is absent, there may be a delay in posting. Our eight-minute long, student run morning news show is available for streaming from our website. Please check it out.

Our bi-monthly parent newsletter is also posted on the web. You can access this information by going to [www.northfieldschools.org](http://www.northfieldschools.org) then clicking on News and Publications and then Newsletters. You will find newsletters

for all buildings on this webpage.

Parents are also invited to check out the Northfield School District web page at [www.northfieldschools.org](http://www.northfieldschools.org). If parents have not already done so, they can create a Family Access account to view student data. You can apply for an access user name and password on line. You should receive this information back via e-mail within a couple of days.

---

## Volunteer for the Site Improvement Team

We have a unique opportunity at the middle school for parents to actively influence the direction of our academic program and school climate. The Site Improvement Team (SIT) which is comprised of representative staff, and Parents. The SIT sets goals for how the school will direct its resources in order to fulfill our mission within the school district. Members meet approximately five times during the year.

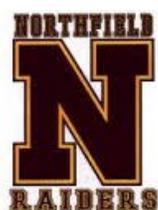
### 2017-18 SIT Meeting Schedule:

All meetings are from 3:15 - 4:15 pm in MS Large Conference room 116.  
**Monday, November 13, 2017**  
**Monday, January 8, 2018**  
**Monday, March 5, 2018**  
**Monday, April 9, 2018**  
**Monday, May 7, 2018**

Please click on the following link if you would like to join the Site Improvement Team:

**[JOIN NOW](#)**

## Middle School Athletics



The Middle School offers athletic activities in the fall for students, such as: Boys/Girls Soccer (grades 7-8), Football (grades 6-8), Volleyball (grades 6-8), and Girls Tennis (grades 6-8). Academic activities offered in the fall are Math League (grades 6-8) and Knowledge Bowl (grades 6-8).

Registration for these activities can be done **online** at <http://northfieldschools.org/activities> starting the first week of August. Students cannot participate until registration and payment is complete. We will have schedules, correspondence from the coaches, and Schoology codes available in the office after August 28th.

**Grade 7-8 football** practices will begin on August 28<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-5:30 pm, Monday through Thursday. There will be an “Open Shed” equipment pickup from

the coaches on Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:00 pm, and on Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. Please pick up your football equipment from either session to help start practices on the 28<sup>th</sup>. The normal practice schedule (3:00-4:30) will resume with the start of school on September 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Boys/Girls Soccer, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Football, Volleyball, and Girls’ Tennis** practices will begin on the first day of school, September 5<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 pm-4:30 pm. To find more information on practice and game schedules, or activity questions, please contact Jen Henriksen at [jhenriksen@northfieldschools.org](mailto:jhenriksen@northfieldschools.org) or 507-663-0680. You may also visit [www.big9.org](http://www.big9.org) for all scheduled games.

If you do not have access to a computer to complete the registration process, you may come to the MS Office after August 8<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00 am – 3:30 pm.

### **MS Activities Hotline:** **645-3559**

This line provides updated information regarding competitive events only. Information regarding practice schedules, or changes to practice schedules ARE NOT announced on this line unless there is a cancellation due to weather.

For daily game announcements during the school year, you can call our **Activities Hotline at 507-645-3559**. This line provides updated information regarding our MS activity schedules, or if there are cancellations due to weather.

Michael O’Keefe  
[mokeefe@northfieldschools.org](mailto:mokeefe@northfieldschools.org)  
Assistant Principal / Activities Director

Jen Henriksen  
[jhenriksen@northfieldschool.org](mailto:jhenriksen@northfieldschool.org)  
Admin. Assistant Activities

## Academic Activities

Each year we have many opportunities for students to participate in academic activities.

The programs and co-curricular activities take place at various times during the school year and, in some cases, the exact dates have not been determined. Students should listen to the daily announcements, and parents can check announcements on our web page, for the specific dates when their activity begins. Registration forms used for academic activities are the same forms used for athletics and are available in the main office and on the middle school website.

We are pleased to offer the following academic activities:

- \*Student Council: September – May  
*\*(members were elected last fall)*
- Honors Choir: September – May
- Yearbook: September – May
- Knowledge Bowl: October – April
- Jazz Ensemble: October – May
- Chamber Orchestra: October – May
- Math League: October – February
- Geography Bee: December
- Speech Club: December – February
- Spelling Bee: December
- MS Theatre / Play: January - March

If you have questions about these activities, contact Jen Henriksen, Activities Secretary, at 663-0680 or [jhenriksen@northfieldschool.org](mailto:jhenriksen@northfieldschool.org)



## Cell Phones and Electronics

Cellular phone use is prohibited during school hours at the Middle School. All cell phones should be turned off prior to entering the academic wings. The expectation for cell phones is that they are not needed between the times of 7:45 am to 2:51 pm. If there is a need for a student to have a cell phone at school, staff should not hear it or see it. It should be put in a locker during the day.

Cell phones are not permitted in classrooms, during transition times, or in the lunchroom between 7:45 am and 2:51 pm. If any staff member sees a phone out in classrooms, during transition times, or in the lunchroom, it will be labeled and taken to the office. The phone can be picked up after 2:51 pm. Additionally, video recording students or staff without their consent is prohibited at Northfield Middle School.

We appreciate your support with these policies.



## Volunteer at NMS!

### Welcome to Volunteering at Northfield Middle School!

Volunteers are essential for special events, field trips, small-group discussions, long-term projects, tutoring, mentoring and other tasks that enrich the Middle School experience for our students.

**All volunteers and field trip chaperones are required to complete a Background check annually with Northfield Public Schools.** There is no cost to you.

Click on the following link to print and complete your background check for the 2017-18 school year:

[http://northfieldschools.org/files/volunteer\\_background\\_check.pdf](http://northfieldschools.org/files/volunteer_background_check.pdf)

To learn more about volunteer opportunities at Northfield Middle School, join the NMS Volunteer Email list or to sign up for the opportunities listed here, please contact Kelly Luiten ([kluiten@northfieldschools.org](mailto:kluiten@northfieldschools.org))



**Picture Day: Tuesday, August 22**  
 12:00pm – 2:00pm (2 volunteers needed)  
 2:00pm – 4:00pm (2 volunteers needed)

**Picture Day: Wednesday, August 23**  
 12:00pm – 2:00pm (2 volunteers needed)  
 2:00pm – 4:00pm (2 volunteers needed)

## Nurse Notes

### Information for all NMS students:

Summer is a good time to get dental/ vision exams and physicals/ immunization review scheduled before the start of the next school year!

Minnesota State Immunization Law states all students who attend public schools must provide the required immunizations OR a Legal Exemption. Students who are non-compliant will not be allowed to attend school according to MN law. This law pertains to all students but 7<sup>th</sup> grade is most affected.

Requirements for incoming 7<sup>th</sup> grade are: all childhood shots and an updated Tdap, Meningitis-MCV and 2 varicella or proof of Chickenpox. Rice County Public Health provides immunizations for those who qualify. See details below or visit Minnesota Department of Health website for more information on immunizations and disease.

Middle School students who will be participating in High School Sports are required to have a sport physical on file

before participating. A copy should be given to both the High School activities office and the NMS nurse office. Sport Physicals are valid for 3 years and must be on the appropriate MN High School League Sport Physical form. Please note: these are not automatically sent from the clinic, you must request a copy and provide it to the nurse office. (Sport physicals are not required for Middle School sports.)

Students with specific health needs such as Diabetes, Seizures, Asthma, Severe allergies, etc. will need to provide a care plan/med order from your physician yearly.

Students needing administration of medication at school requires a physician order form and signed by the parent/guardian yearly. Medication must be in a properly labeled container. Medication order forms may be printed off of the School District website or picked up in the nurse office during the school year.

**Parent/guardians will be expected to deliver their students prescribed daily**

**medications such as Ritalin, Adderall, Anti-depressants, etc. Students may not carry those medications in their school bag.**

Parents/guardians are responsible for providing their students necessary health supplies, health updates, emergency medication for field trips and daily needs while at school.

The School Nurse office is staffed while school is in session, and only part time the week before school starts. You may mail/FAX 507-663-0660/email or drop off health information for the school year.

Please review the emergency phone numbers/contacts you have given the school. Provide updates so that school staff can reach you when needed.

Nancy Becker, RN  
Middle School Health Services  
[nbecker@northfieldschools.org](mailto:nbecker@northfieldschools.org)  
phone: 507-663-0656 (during school year)

## **IMMUNIZATIONS REQUIRED TO ENTER 7TH GRADE:**

All students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall of 2017 must have all required childhood immunizations on file, **or** a legal exemption, in order to attend public school in Minnesota.

Summer is the perfect time to complete immunizations for your student. Contact your local clinic or Rice County Public Health (507-645-9576) to schedule an appointment. Parents may review their student's current health record on Family Access

### **Required immunizations for students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade:**

**Tdap (tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis)** – *if they have not had Tdap after their 7<sup>th</sup> birthday, then a new one needs to be given for entrance to 7<sup>th</sup> grade.*

**Varicella vaccine** - *two shots are required if student has never had chicken pox*

**or chicken pox reporting:** only persons who had chickenpox in 2010 or later, must have provider documentation of disease.

Parent may report the disease to the school if before that date.

**Meningococcal (meningitis)**

Please mail (NMS 2200 Division Street South, Northfield, MN 55057), fax (507-663-0660), **or** deliver immunizations to the NMS Health office **by August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017**. Students not in compliance with state law will have their iPad disabled or withheld until proper documentation is in place at school.

## Orchestra News

### Welcome Back Middle School Orchestras!

All orchestra students should plan to play on their first day of orchestra in the fall. Violin and viola students should bring their instrument from home, while cello and bass students use instruments kept in the orchestra room. Please check that your child's instrument case is labeled

with their name before it is brought to school.

I would also like to let you know what materials students will be using in the fall:

6th grade orchestra students will use String Basics, Book 2; 7th and 8th grade students will use Essential Technique 2000 for Strings, Book 3. These books

are available at most music stores, or can be purchased at school.

I hope you enjoy the rest of the summer, and I am looking forward to seeing everyone again!

Mrs. Olivier

---

## Band News

Students won't need their instruments for the first day of band, but should bring them to the second day. 6<sup>th</sup> Graders should also bring their red band book from last year. All students will be assigned a locker for their band instrument. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders will have the same locker as last year. Students can bring a lock to lock their band lockers if they would like to. Most students don't find it necessary to lock their band lockers.

Band lessons will not start until the third week of school. Once the lesson schedule has been completed, all band students will have access to it in school. I will do most of my communication to students through school, and I highly recommend that families access the student school accounts as well.

Remember that music is for life! Please encourage your son or daughter to stick with music until they are at least old enough to understand what they might be missing if they quit...high school at least!

This will be an exciting year in band!

Ethan Freier  
[efreier@northfieldschools.org](mailto:efreier@northfieldschools.org)

---

## Choir

**LOVE TO SING?** It is a brand new year and I would like to encourage anyone that would like to start singing to join choir. I am excited to get to know your child and make music together! We have a number of concerts to perform at, along with being part of the Winter Walk, caroling in December, choir festivals in February, choir tour to the cities in May for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders, and state honor choir opportunities for singers that wish to audition. Last year we had 9 singers make it in the ACDA State Honor Choirs and for the first time, 2 singers making it all the way to Nationals.

**NMS HONOR CHOIR:** 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade Choir students have auditioned to

be part of smaller select performing group that performs more challenging music, different styles, and have the ability to sing outside the school day for different events. I am still asking for more boys to audition for this group. Regular rehearsals will be during the school year Tuesday mornings from 7:10 a.m. to 7:55 a.m and also on Friday mornings when we are working on choreography. The Honors Choir is made up of approximately forty 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade choir members who have auditioned and are able to commit to the morning rehearsals. Our first performance will be September 29th at the Minnesota Twins Game, singing the National Anthem with other schools from across Twins Territory.

**State ACDA Honors Choir Auditions** will take place the end of September for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade singers. If any singers are chosen for this prestigious group, their performance takes place the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in November where they would gather together with other outstanding singers from around the state for a day of rehearsing and then a concert in the evening of the same day. 6<sup>th</sup> graders will have the same opportunity in the spring. If you want more information, go to <http://acda-mn.com/>

Mrs. Penning  
Any questions call 663-0675 or e-mail: [cpinning@northfieldschools.org](mailto:cpinning@northfieldschools.org)

## Upcoming Events ~ 2017-2018 School Year

*(Calendar may be subject to change. Please check website for updates.)*

August 12	Fall Sport Registration begins
August 22 & 23	Picture Day / Self Guided Tours, Noon - 4:00 pm
August 23	St. Dominic / New Student Orientation, 10:30 - 11:30, room 162
August 23 & 24	New Teacher Orientation
August 24 & 25	WEB Leader Training, 7:00 - 2:30 pm
August 30	Parent Open House, 5:30 - 7:30 pm
August 31	6th Grade WEB Orientation day, 7:55 am - 12:00 Noon
<b>September 4</b>	<b>No School / Labor Day</b>
<b>September 5</b>	<b>First Day of School</b>
September 12	Sports Pictures: All football teams
September 13	Sports Pictures: Boys & Girls Soccer, Tennis, Volleyball
September 21	Grade 7 Defining Moments Presentation, MS Auditorium
September 21	Grade 6 Team 2: River Bend Nature Center Field Trip
September 22	Grade 6 Team 1: River Bend Nature Center Field Trip
September 26	Picture Retake day



**P**repared  
**R**espect  
**I**ntegrity  
**D**ependability  
**E**xcellence

## Middle School Youth Center (MSYC)

The Middle School Youth Center (MSYC) is a free after-school program, dedicated to fostering in youth a sense of personal engagement with their school, community, and their individual gifts and potential. Located at the Northfield Middle School, the program welcomes Northfield youth in grades 6 to 8. It's open from 3 to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday, when school is in session.

**Middle School Youth Center will open on Monday, September 25, 2017.**

The first three days will be grade level orientation :

- Monday 8th grade
- Tuesday 7th grade
- Wednesday 6th grade
- Thursday everyone

Drop in for homework assistance, skills workshops, recreation and cultural activities. Call Community Services at 507.664.3649 for more information or visit our website:

[www.northfieldschools.org/  
communityservices/youth/](http://www.northfieldschools.org/communityservices/youth/)

---

## Northfield Public Schools Community Services

### Start planning your fall with Northfield Public Schools Community Services!

Northfield Public Schools Community Services will be hosting A Northfield Promise Fair (formerly called Community Youth Fairs) on Tuesday, August 8, from 6 – 8 p.m. at Greenvale Park Elementary. Various local organizations, representing sports, arts, after-school programs and community groups will be in attendance. Youth of all ages are welcome to attend with their families, including middle school and high school students.

- **Middle and high school staff will be available to register athletes for fall sports.**
- **HealthFinders will provide physicals for uninsured athletes who will be playing school sports from 5 – 8 p.m.**

**The Community Action Center will also be on-site for scholarship applications  
There will be an R.O.T.C Inflatable Obstacle Course for youth to enjoy.**

The Community Services fall brochure will be in mailboxes from Friday, August 11, and online registration for fall activities and events will open then too. There will be many new classes, as well as old favorites, to choose from.

Youth class highlights will include American Red Cross Learn-to-Swim Lessons, Early Childhood and Family Education classes for parents and children aged 0 – 5 years (pre-K), monthly American Red Cross Babysitter's Certification courses, Watch Me Draw classes, Northfield Skating School and Flag Football.

Visit [www.northfieldschools.org](http://www.northfieldschools.org) (follow the Community Services link) or call 507.664.3649 to view all classes and for more information.

**Northfield Public Schools Community Services includes recreation and enrichment programming, Early Childhood Family Education, driver education, KidVentures, EarlyVentures Learning Center, Connected Kids, Middle School Youth Center, Hand-Hand Preschool, Adult Basic Education and Project ABLE.**

## Northfield Middle School 2017-2018

### Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

Period	Schedule
1	7:57 – 8:54
2	8:58 – 9:48
3	9:52 – 10:42
4A	10:46 – 11:11
4B	11:14 – 11:39
4C/5	11:42 – 12:07 *5D Students begin 5 <sup>th</sup> hour
5D	12:10 – 12:35
5	12:38 – 1:03
6	1:07 – 1:57
7	2:01 – 2:51

### Wednesday ~ Late Start Schedule

Period	Schedule
1	8:57 – 9:42
2	9:46 – 10:24
3	10:28 – 11:06
4A	11:09 – 11:34
4B	11:37 – 12:02
4C/5	12:05 – 12:30 *5D Students begin 5 <sup>th</sup> hour
5D	12:34 – 12:59
5	1:02 – 1:27
6	1:31 – 2:09
7	2:13 – 2:51

## 6th Grade Families:

To help you prepare for the school year, below is a list of basic supplies that are recommended to help students be organized and successful. We encourage you to reuse and recycle supplies from previous years whenever possible. A number of sources are available to support families with backpacks and school supplies. Please contact your child's counselor for assistance:

**Last names A-L** = Ms. Streefland [jstreefland@northfieldschools.org](mailto:jstreefland@northfieldschools.org)

**Last names M-Z** = Mrs. Yamry [cyamry@northfieldschools.org](mailto:cyamry@northfieldschools.org)

\*Note: Other course specific fee information will be included in the course syllabi.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Supply List 2017-2018

**spiral notebook (1)** - for writing class, college rule preferred

**3 subject notebook (1)** - for math class with Mrs. Langer or Ms. Jarvis

**composition notebooks (2)** - for writing and science classes; paper cover (not plastic), college rule preferred

**pencils (36)** - pre-sharpened preferred; 12 for base class donation and 24 for personal use.

**large pink eraser (1)**

**highlighter (1)**

**black ultra-fine Sharpie marker (1)**

**large glue stick**

**facial tissue (2 boxes)** - donation for base class

**colored pencils (box of 24)**

#### 6<sup>th</sup> grade Spanish class with Ms. Biwer-Bekhechi:

**spiral notebook (1)** – wide or college rule

**pocket folder (1)**

#### iPad insurance fee - Sliding Fee Scale

**\$20.00 (Full), \$15.00 (reduced), \$10.00 (free)** \*Pay online **OR** by check (*checks payable to Nfld Public Schools*)

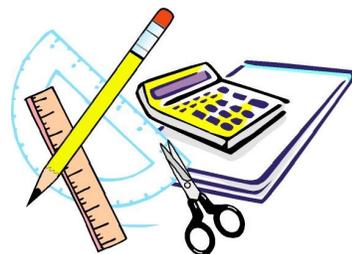
#### **STRONGLY SUGGESTED:**

ear buds

**3-ring zipper binder** (to hold notebooks and folders)

**3-hole zippered storage pocket** (to hold supplies)

**3-hole pocket folders (3)**



## 7th & 8th Grade Families:

To help you prepare for the school year, below is a list of basic supplies that are recommended to help students be organized and successful. We encourage you to reuse and recycle supplies from previous years whenever possible. A number of sources are available to support families with backpacks and school supplies. Please contact your child's counselor for assistance:

Last names **A-L** = Ms. Streefland [jstreefland@northfieldschools.org](mailto:jstreefland@northfieldschools.org)

Last names **M-Z** = Mrs. Yamry [cyamry@northfieldschools.org](mailto:cyamry@northfieldschools.org)

\*Note: Other course specific fee information will be included in the course syllabi.

---

### 7th Grade Supply List 2017-18

pencils, No. 2 (24)

eraser

markers/colored pencils

highlighters (1 or 2)

black pens

12" ruler

glue sticks

wide-ruled, loose-leaf paper (1)

1 spiral notebook

2 boxes of facial tissue – (first hour teacher)

earbuds

scientific calculator for pre-algebra and algebra students

1 three-subject notebook – for Mr. Howard's Spanish classes

1 two-pocket folder – for English 7 (Ensrud & Kuehl)

1 two-pocket folder - for Ms. Halvorson's French classes

1 two-pocket folder - for Ms. Casson's German classes

1 two-pocket folder - for Ms. Biwer-Bekhechi's Spanish Classes

1 single subject notebook - for Ms. Biwer-Bekhechi's Spanish

#### OPTIONAL

3-ring binder or zippered 3 ring binder

3-hole storage pocket (*store small supplies in binder*)

### 8th Grade Supply List 2017-18

one subject notebook or loose leaf paper for each class.

pencil pocket

scientific or graphing calculator

composition notebooks (1) for Geoscience (Croone, Klein, McDonough)

pencils, No. 2 (24)

colored pencils (24 pack)

stylus (1)

1 large binder or zippered binder

2 boxes of facial tissue – (first hour teacher)

pencil sharpener

eraser

highlighters (2)

black pens (2)

graph paper – Math classes

earbuds

1 three-subject notebook –Mr. Howard's Spanish classes

1 two-pocket folder –Ms. Halvorson's French classes

1 two-pocket folder - Ms. Casson's German classes

1 two-pocket folder - Ms. Biwer-Bekhechi's Spanish & French classes

1 single subject notebook - Ms. Biwer-Bekhechi's Spanish classes

## **Annual Notifications from the District Office**

### **Student Citizenship Handbook Distributed**

The 2017-2018 Student Citizenship Handbook is distributed to all secondary students on their iPad and the youngest elementary school-aged child in the family.

The handbook includes information regarding expectations for student behavior. The handbook includes a comprehensive list of regulations for student behavior and consequences for misbehavior. Included in the handbook is the district's policies on Bullying, Hazing, Personal Possessions/Lockers, Technology Use, Harassment, Possession of Controlled Substances, Weapons, and Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles (including patrols, inspections and searches). Consequences are consistent, but vary depending on the severity of the offense, the student's grade level and previous violations. The handbook also includes a chart that outlines offenses that could possibly lead to expulsion.

The rights and responsibilities detailed in the handbook apply to students in any school, on district property, at school bus stops and at school or district events. Consequences may also apply for misbehaviors that take place at other locations, but which directly affect school programs or activities.

Parents are encouraged to read and review information in the handbook with their student(s) before finding a place to save it for the school year. Teachers will also briefly review information in the handbook with students at the start of the school year.

If your student's handbook is misplaced, you can pick up a copy at your student's school. The handbook is also available online at <http://northfieldschools.org/about/handbooks/>

### **Northfield Public Schools in Compliance with AHERA**

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) of 1986 requires the district to notify parents annually concerning asbestos-containing building materials in the schools, and that the management plan for each building is available for their review. Federal law requires a periodic walk-through (called "surveillance") every six months of each area containing asbestos. In addition, the law requires all buildings to be re-inspected every three years after a management plan went into effect. IEA (Institute for Environmental Assessment) completed this for the Northfield Public Schools in 2013. For the 2017-18 school year, Northfield Public Schools does not have any asbestos removal projects planned. This past summer, Northfield Public Schools continued the abatement of mercury/asbestos containing flooring at Sibley Elementary School. Any questions concerning this notice or an explanation of our Asbestos Management Plan can be directed to the Director of Buildings and Grounds at 507.663.0610.

*The following notice is published pursuant to Minnesota law, "Parents Right to Know Act."*

Northfield Public Schools recognizes the importance of our students' and employees' health and well-being. Therefore, we are examining and reducing our use of pesticides and utilizing Integrated Pest Management techniques in our school buildings and on school grounds to minimize the possible long-term unknown health effects of pesticides.

Northfield Public Schools will make available, in the school district office, for parents and employees, the estimated schedule of application of pesticides classified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency as designated under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act. Parents may also request that the school district notify him/her prior to the application of such pesticides on a day different from the days specified in the notice. If a person would like to be notified prior to application, please provide an email address or a name and telephone number to the Buildings & Grounds Department at 507.663.0610.

### **Indoor Air Quality**

Northfield Public Schools continues to improve an indoor air quality management plan for the district. The management plan is based on the Environmental Protection Agencies (EPA) "Tools for Schools." It addresses policies and procedures that will be used in the schools to address indoor air quality issues. The plan's goal is to provide indoor air quality that contributes to a favorable learning environment for students, productivity for teachers and staff, as well as an environment that is as healthy as possible.

### **Indoor Air Quality continued...**

However, the intent of the plan is not to solve all indoor air quality concerns in a school, rather the intent is to provide a road map to assist in managing indoor air quality. The Indoor Air Quality Committee has joined the Health and Safety Committee to review and continually update the management plan. If you have any questions concerning indoor air quality, or would like to see the EPA Tools for Schools checklists, please contact the District Indoor Air Quality Coordinator at 507.663.0610.

### **Special Education Services Available at all Schools**

Federal and state laws guide the school district in identifying, evaluating and serving students with disabilities.

Northfield Public Schools serves students with disabilities from birth through age 21. A team of special educators, general educators and families work together to develop an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) for students who meet the criteria for services. The IEP team considers the student's present level of performance, identifies educational needs and develops goals to meet those needs. The team determines the educational program that will serve the student in the least restrictive setting.

Northfield Public Schools provides a continuum of services for students with disabilities. Most students receive special education in their neighborhood school. The district also has specialized, center-based programs for students who need more support.

For more information on identifying, evaluating and providing service to students with disabilities, contact your child's school principal or Cheryl Hall, Director of Special Services, at 507.645.3410.

### **District in Compliance with State-Required Background Checks**

Parents and community members are always encouraged to apply as an employee or volunteer at their student's school and/or with Northfield Public Schools. Volunteers provide a valuable service to students and staff. Minnesota Statute requires a school hiring authority to request a criminal history background check on all individuals who are offered employment in a school and on all individuals, except enrolled student volunteers, who are offered the opportunity to provide athletic coaching services or other extracurricular services to a school, regardless of whether any compensation is paid. Parents and community members who volunteer on a regular basis must complete a background check before serving students affiliated with Northfield Public Schools.

### **Data Privacy Practices**

Pursuant to the requirements of state and federal law, the following constitutes Northfield Public Schools Annual Notification to parents and students regarding data privacy practices.

Northfield schools maintain educational records on all students to help plan the student's educational program, communicate with parents/guardians, and comply with state regulations. Student records include information such as standardized achievement and ability test data, grades, attendance records, health/medical records and evaluation by professional staff.

Except in limited circumstances authorized by law, most information from student records will not be released to members of the public without the written permission of the student's parent or guardian, or of the student, if he or she is 18 or older.

District policy guarantees parents/guardians (and students 18 and older) the right to examine the contents of their own student's records except those items that are, by state or federal law, made confidential.

Parents/guardians (and students 18 and older) have the right to challenge the accuracy of these records and also the right to authorize or deny release of records requested by a third party.

The district forwards educational records of students to other schools and school districts in which the student seeks or intends to enroll upon request of that school or school district. Parents are not notified prior to this transfer.

This review of the data privacy rights of students in the educational records maintained by Northfield Public Schools is intended only to be a summary of the district policy and applicable state and federal law. The policy can be found at <http://nfld.k12.mn.us/files/Board-Policy-515-Protection-and-Privacy-of-Pupil-Records-Approved-8.25.08-Updated-December-20132.pdf> Questions should be addressed to: Dr. Matthew J. Hillmann, Superintendent, Northfield Public Schools, 1400 Division Street South, Northfield, MN 55057 or by calling 507.663.0629.

## Notice of Designation of Directory Information

School districts are required by state and federal law to notify parents and students that certain information contained in a student's education record may be made public without prior written consent. The Northfield Public Schools designates the following as "directory information" and may, in accordance with the Minnesota Data Practices Act, release the following directory information without permission unless the district has been notified that it should not be released.

- Student's name, address, telephone number
- Parent's name, address, telephone number
- Student's date of birth
- Student's major field of study
- Student's dates of school attendance, grade level completed, enrollment status
- Student's participation in officially recognized activities/sports
- Student's height and weight, if a member of an athletic team
- Middle and High School Student Athletic Physical Examination Expiration Date
- Student's degrees, honors and awards received
- Student's most recent educational agency or institution attended
- Student's photograph(s), videotapes and other visual representations for school-approved publications, yearbooks, newspapers, public presentations and web pages.

A parent/guardian of a student or an eligible student (18 years of age or older) may object to the listed directory information being disclosed without the parent/guardian or eligible student's prior written consent except to school officials as provided under federal law. In order to make all directory information private, the parent/guardian or eligible student must submit a completed Denial of Release of Directory Information (Appendix C to Policy 515-Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records) to your student's building principal or the Superintendent of Schools. This designation will remain in effect for the current school year only.

Federal and state laws require all school districts to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the name, address and telephone number of all 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students within 60 days after the date of the request unless the parent or eligible student (students over 18 years old and not a dependent) requests that the information not be provided without written permission. If you do not want Northfield Public Schools to release your student's name, address and telephone number to a military recruiter, you must complete Appendix D (Denial of Release of Information to Military Recruiters) to Policy 515-Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records. Please note that if you previously submitted a Denial of Release of Directory Information (Appendix C), it alone will not be sufficient. The law requires that a specific denial of access to military recruiters be made. **In order to make all directory information about a student private to the public in general, including military recruiting officers, the parent/guardian or eligible student must complete Appendix C and Appendix D.**

**APPENDIX C**  
**DENIAL OF RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

**Parents/Guardians:**

**Your child's photo will not be in the yearbook or in class pictures if you sign this document.**

*I understand that by signing this Denial of Release of Directory Information, the affected student's name will not appear on some lists such as honor rolls. Further, I understand that I am denying release of all the directory information listed below.*

Pursuant the Notice of Designation of Directory Information, directory information **MAY NOT** be released without my expressed written consent:

Directory Information:

- \* Student's name
- \* Student's address
- \* Student's telephone listing
- \* Student's photograph
- \* Student's date of birth
- \* Student's major field of study
- \* Student's dates of school attendance
- \* Student's grade level completed (i.e., first grade, tenth grade, etc.)
- \* Student's enrollment status (full-time or part-time)
- \* Student's participation in officially recognized activities/sports
- \* Student's height and weight, if a member of an athletic team
- \* Middle and High School Student Athletic Physical Examination Expiration Date
- \* Student's degrees, honors and awards received
- \* Student's most recent educational agency or institution attended
- \* **Student's photographs, videotapes and other visual representations for school-approved publications, yearbooks, newspapers, public presentations and web pages.**
- \* Student's parent(s) name, address and telephone number

**Submitting this Denial of Release of Directory Information does not affect the release of directory information to Military Recruiters. In order to make all directory information about a student private to the public in general, including military recruiting officers, the parent/guardian or eligible student must complete the form below and also complete and submit a Denial of Release of Information to Military Recruiters (Appendix D).**

The designation of directory information about a student as private will remain in effect for the current school year only. **Return completed and signed copy to the Building Principal or the Superintendent of Schools by September 8, 2017.**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian/Eligible Student)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student Affected \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

School Currently Attending: \_\_\_\_\_  
5/12

**APÉNDICE C**

**Renuncia a la Divulgación de Información del Directorio Estudiantil**

**Padres y madres/Tutores: Si firman esta Renuncia a la Divulgación de la información del Directorio, la foto de su hijo/a no será incluida en el libro anual (yearbook) o en fotos de su clase y el nombre de su hijo/a no aparecerá en las listas de honor. Al firmar la renuncia también piden que la información que aparece más abajo no se publique o divulgue.**

Conforme a la Notificación de Designación de Información del Directorio, la información del directorio NO SE PUEDE publicar sin mi consentimiento por escrito.

Información del Directorio:

- nombre del/la estudiante
- dirección del/la estudiante
- número de teléfono
- fotografía del/la estudiante
- fecha de nacimiento del/la estudiante
- el área principal de estudio del/la estudiante
- las fechas de asistencia a la escuela
- nivel del grado completado
- tipo de matrícula (a tiempo completo o a tiempo parcial)
- participación en actividades o deportes reconocidos oficialmente
- la estatura y el peso del/la estudiante si es miembro/a de un equipo atlético
- La fecha de caducidad del examen físico para deportes de estudiantes del Middle y del High School
- diplomas, certificados y honores recibidos
- la institución educativa más reciente en la que ha participado el/la estudiante
- las fotografías, videos y otras representaciones visuales para publicaciones aprobadas por la escuela, anuarios, noticieros, presentaciones públicas, y páginas web.
- nombres del padre y madre, dirección y número de teléfono

*Entiendo que al firmar esta Renuncia a la Divulgación de información del Directorio Estudiantil, el/la estudiante afectado/a no va a aparecer en algunas listas, por ejemplo, la lista de Honor y de graduación. Además, entiendo que renuncio a la divulgación de toda la información del directorio mencionada arriba.*

**Presentar esta Renuncia a la Divulgación de información del Directorio Estudiantil no afecta compartir la información de los estudiantes con los que reclutan para los militares. Para mantener toda la información del/la estudiante privada, incluyendo a los que reclutan para los militares, los padres/tutores o estudiantes que puedan hacerlo, deben completar el formulario que aparece más debajo y también completar y entregar un formulario de Renuncia a la Divulgación de información a los que Reclutan para los Militares (Apéndice D).**

Firma: \_\_\_\_\_ dirección: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Padre, madre, tutores, estudiante que pueda firmar esta autorización)

Fecha: \_\_\_\_\_

Estudiante Afectado/a: \_\_\_\_\_ dirección: \_\_\_\_\_

Escuela actual del/la estudiante: \_\_\_\_\_

La designación como privada de la información del estudiante en el directorio será vigente solamente para el año escolar actual.

**Por favor, devuelva la copia completada y firmada al Director de la escuela o al Superintendente de las Escuelas antes del día 8 Septiembre.**

5/12

**NORTHFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
2200 Division Street South • Northfield, MN 55057



Non Profit  
U.S. Postage PAID  
Dundas, MN  
Permit No. 19



**Picture Day / Self Guided Tours:**

August 22 & 23, 2017 ~ 12:00 Noon - 4:00 p.m.

**Parent Open House:**

August 30, 2017 ~ 5:30 - 7:30 pm

**6th Grade WEB Orientation:**

August 31, 2017 ~ 7:55 am - 12:30 pm

**First Day of School:**

September 5, 2017