

NORTHFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dec. 2018 / Jan. 2019
Newsletter

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News from the Principal

Getting Through Winter Break

December can be an exciting time of year for students and adults. The excitement of holiday plans, family gatherings and a long break from school makes it hard to focus on due dates and daily assignments. We are also aware that long breaks are not always an exciting time for some of our students and families. Even though our students show their “Excellence” and we know they are “Dependable” they are still middle school students and need a few extra reminders and check-ins during the winter months.

I would encourage everyone to set aside some consistent time over the long break for students to read or do something academic. Keeping good routines is possibly the best way to make sure the only sliding we see is on a sled, ski or snowboard.

This edition of our newsletter is packed with good information for families and opportunities for students. Let us know if you have any questions or if clarification is needed.

Finally, I would like to let everyone know how much your support of Northfield Middle School means to all of us. Teaching students can be a tough job, but knowing all of you are walking beside us is one of the many reasons we love working at the middle school. Enjoy your family and friends during winter break. We look forward to an amazing second half of the year.

Greg Gelineau
Northfield Middle School Principal



Prepared
Respect
Integrity
Dependability
Excellence

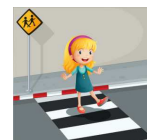
**Attendance
Line
663-0655**

Visit us on the web
www.northfieldschools.org

Safety

Reminder for a safe AM drop off and PM pick up at NMS: Thank you to all families for pulling as far forward in the loop area before letting your students out in the morning and picking them up in the afternoon. We want to be sure that all of our students and staff are safe when entering/exiting vehicles, so please remember to **drive slowly**, Only use the inside lane around the loop if you are parking, and pull your vehicle all the way around before dropping off or picking up passengers.

For our walking families, please stress the importance of staying in the crosswalks and not entering them until the crossing guard tells them it is safe. With winter in our future, a little extra time and patience will be needed to make sure we stay accident free.



Student Council

As of October 3, the NMS Student Council welcomed twelve new students to our leadership team. Our new members are: **Kiara Artley, Olivia Ash, Grayson Caron, Corrie Demas, Maya Deschamp, Kate Gansen, Jackson Hessian, Kennedy Larsen, Connor Percy, Ashley Schaffer, Maylee Smith, Elizabeth Tracy.**

On Friday, October 26, we sponsored the first Films 4 the Food Shelf of the 2018-19 school year. For this event, students were invited to join their friends

and watch Spy Kids 3 on the “Big Screen” in the NMS auditorium. Students were asked to bring a suggested donation of \$2.00 or a non-perishable food item. We collected 6 boxes of food and \$117. All food and money donations went to the local food shelf.

The first Student Council sponsored dance is **Friday, December 7, from 3:00 to 5:00 pm.** This dance is open to students who attend the Middle School at least halftime. The cost is \$4.00, and there will be concessions for sale in the

cafeteria. All school rules apply throughout this event. Students should be picked up promptly at 5:00 pm.

Frau Burkhead and Mrs. Kuehl
Student Council Advisors



Geography Bee

The Geography Bee is coming up soon. The format is similar to a spelling bee, but you answer Geography questions instead. If you have an interest in current events, maps, and the world in general consider signing up. There is a sign-up sheet on Mr. Sawyer's door, room 265. The Bee is December 10, in the Middle School auditorium at 7:00 pm.



P.E. Swimming Unit

It's time to pull out those swimsuits again. Following winter break, we will be starting our swimming unit in P.E. It would be helpful if you would please put your name on your towel and swimsuit.



Thank you,
Physical Education Dept.

Volunteer

VOLUNTEERING AT NORTHFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL

If you would like to receive regular emails about volunteer opportunities at Northfield Middle School email amcbroom@northfieldschools.org



GiveMN: Northfield Middle School



Give to the Max day is done but ***you can still donate*** to the GiveMN: Northfield Middle School site. Proceeds are used to support large grade level activities such as:
 8th grade Fun Fest, 7th grade Courage Retreat, 6th grade Raider PRIDE t-shirts
 Mental Health Awareness Month Activities (Feb.)
 PRIDE Recognition Awards

Visit <https://www.givemn.org/organization/Northfield-Middle-School> to donate.



Tattered Pages Volunteers – Dec 13-18, 2018

Volunteers are needed to wrap gifts and help students shop for the Winter Tattered Pages event. Shifts are available between 8 am and 3 pm on Dec. 13-18. Healthy Snacks/Goodies are also needed to raise funds for wrapping supplies. Please sign up using the link: <http://signup.com/go/KTYxjed> or email amcbroom@northfieldschools.org

Wrestling Home Meet Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to help with the Middle School Wrestling meets from 4-6 pm on Tuesday, December 11 and Tuesday, January 8. No experience needed, volunteers will be trained. Contact amcbroom@northfieldschools.org to volunteer.



Trash for Cash Fundraiser

Thank you to our many families and volunteers that supported the Trash for Cash Contest at the Middle School. Special thanks to our “Trash” counters: Sara Ailabouni, Carol Myint, Melissa Pontow, Barb Rousseau and Bonnie Story. Please continue to collect the following for our next competition.



- Boxtops for Education
- Family Fare receipts
- Family Fare “Our Family” barcodes (start w/ #70253)
- Kwik Trip Milk Moola caps & strips
- MOM Brand Cereal Bags, Any Cereal Brand Box Liners
- Village Hearth Bread and Country Hearth Bread Proof of Purchase
- Holy Land Hummus coupons

Tutors Needed

If you would like to share your time and talent helping a NMS student or if you know of someone who would be a great tutor, please contact amcbroom@northfieldschools.org for more information.



THANK YOU to the Amazing volunteers and tutors at NMS!

Band News

The Northfield High School and Middle School Jazz Bands had their first concert of the year on Friday, November 30, at 7:00 pm in the High School auditorium. This year, our featured guest artist was pianist Laura Cavianni.

The next concert band concert is on **Monday, February 4**, for the 8th grade band and the High School Concert Bands at **7:00 pm** in the Middle School auditorium. Admission will be \$3, \$1 for students and seniors.

5th, 6th, and 7th grade bands will have their concert on Tuesday, February 5, in the Middle School auditorium. As we have in previous years, we will stagger the performances with the 5th grade playing at 6:30 pm, the 6th Grade playing at 7:00 pm, and the 7th Grade Band playing at 7:30 pm. The Middle School Jazz Band will also play starting at 8:00 pm. Students should report to the band room 15 minutes before their scheduled performance time and plan to hear at least one group play after they are done performing. Dress will be the same as the Fall concert.

For your new 2019 calendar: The Spring Band concert is on **May 16**.

Band lessons are going great! Many students are practicing regularly and the effort can be heard in the musical progress being made every day!

Thank you for supporting the musical endeavors of your children. You will never regret it and neither will they. See you at the concerts!

Ethan Freier



Orchestra News

The Middle School Orchestras are preparing for their upcoming Winter Concert on **Monday, December 17**. Concert start and call times for this performance are different than in previous years. Just like in October, there will be two concerts on December 17 due to our expanding orchestra enrollment. Each orchestra ensemble will perform at one of those times and is not required to attend both concerts. The evening will also feature the orchestras from Northfield High School. Food and monetary donations are collected prior to the concert for the Northfield Food Shelf.

Please be sure your orchestra player arrives by the specified call time so each student has an opportunity to tune and warm-up before their performance. Concert dress is black and white (please refer to the Orchestra Syllabus for more detailed guidelines).

6th Grade, 7th Grade & HS Philharmonia Orchestras – 6:30 pm – MS Orchestra students arrive by 6:00 pm

MS Chamber, 8th Grade & HS Symphony Orchestras – 7:30 pm – MS Orchestra students arrive by 7:00 pm

As winter weather approaches, it is a good time to consider using a humidifier to help prevent instrument cracks and open seams due to dry weather. During this season, tuning can also become difficult due to slipping pegs. Using a humidifier can help prevent these instrument problems, thus reducing needed repairs. A Dampit is one humidifier option. Order forms are available in the orchestra room.

I look forward to seeing you soon!

Mrs. Olivier



Choir News

Hello!

NMS Choirs will be performing at the Winter Walk on **Thursday, December 6**. Come and join us that night for some wonderful holiday music! More information to follow on your students' Schoology accounts.

See you there!
Mr. Laudenbach
NMS Choir



Nurse Notes

ATTENTION 6th Grade students:

Minnesota State Immunization Law requires the following immunizations before entering 7th grade in the fall 2019. **Please provide a copy for the Health office when shots have been given, so your health records can be updated at school.**

- Tdap, a new one needs to be given unless they had one after their 7th birthday.
- 2 Varicella vaccines OR proof of Chickenpox
- Meningitis (meningococcal) MCV
- All childhood vaccines must be on file
- OR, provide a notarized Legal Exemption, or medical exemption signed by your physician

You may schedule your immunization appointment now with your clinic. Get them done early since supplies become limited in August.



Strep

Signs and symptoms you may have:

Sudden onset of sore throat
Fever/nausea/vomiting/stomachache
Bad headache
Inflammation of throat, tonsils, enlarged cervical lymph nodes.
May have skin rash.

A throat culture is necessary for diagnosis and antibiotics are prescribed for treatment. May return to school after 24 hours of antibiotics and fever free.

Medication

For prescription medication to be given at school a completed School Medication Administration Form must be on file. The name of the medication, dose, and time of day, parent & physician signature is required. School staff cannot administer any prescription medication without this on file. You may FAX to 507-663-0660

Influenza

The flu is a respiratory disease caused by a virus that attacks the nose, throat, and lungs. It can be mild, but is sometimes severe and at times can lead to death. It is not the same as the “stomach flu”.

Symptoms: fever, dry cough, sore throat, headache, extreme tiredness and body

aches. These symptoms come on quickly and can be severe.

Screening tool for parents:

- Fever of 100 or higher?
- Sore throat?
- Cough?

If yes, for fever and one other symptom, keep your student at home and fever free for 24 hours before returning to school, this may be 5-7 days.

Prevention: Use good hand washing, cover your cough and get a flu vaccine.

Concussions

A concussion is a type of brain injury that changes the way the brain normally works and is caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head. It can also occur from a blow to the body that causes the head and brain to move rapidly back and forth. Concussions can have a more serious effect on a young, developing brain and need to be addressed correctly. Provide a Physician note for school accommodations. Go to the CDC website for more information.

Nancy Becker, RN
nbecker@northfieldschools.org
Middle School Health Services
2200 Division St. South
Northfield, MN 55057

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 and clicking on Northfield Middle School and then announcements. Announcements usually remain posted by date for approximately two weeks. In the event that our webmaster 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 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 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.

Student Support Services

Our Student Support Team is located right behind the front office in room 113. There are two school counselors: Jenny Streefland (works with students with last names beginning with A-L), Cori Yamry (works with students last names beginning M-Z). Heather Stanton-Ims is our school social worker. Rachael Hudson is the school psychologist. Kim Tousignant is the student support administrative assistant.

Resources we offer in the Student Support Office:

We offer assistance with students who are struggling with academics. We support students and families who are struggling with divorce, family conflict, death of a loved one, and any sort of life changing event. The student support staff can assist in exploring community resources, such as mental health and county providers. We also, address students issues with peer relationships, bullying, and friendship turmoil which may need mediation.

Best ways to communicate with the Student Support Staff

We can be reached at 663-0664. We will do our best to return calls in a timely man-

ner. Email is also a great way to communicate. Our email is listed on the Student Support Services Web site, which can be found at <https://northfieldschools.org/schools/northfield-middle-school/student-support/> On your student's Schoology accounts you can also find classroom assignments, due dates, and other class information. Finally, parents can sign up for Family Access, which can be found on the middle school and district website. Family access is a great way to keep up with your student's grades, attendance and homework completion.

Academic Assistance at NMS:

The Middle School Youth Center

The Youth Center is a place for middle school students to gather after school for fun, academic assistance, and social interaction with college students and friends. The Youth Center is open Monday through Thursday from 3:00-5:00 pm.

Carleton Tutor Hotline

Carleton College students volunteer their time in many ways. One service that is offered to our youth is tutoring. The ser-

vice offers students a chance to receive tutoring from fabulous Carleton students. Tutors and tutees meet one hour a week in a public location. Visit this website for more information: <https://apps.carleton.edu/ccce/programs/tutoringhotline/>

Tutoring during the school day at NMS:

If you are interested in having a tutor during study hall, stop by the Student Support Services Office for details. We have St. Olaf and Carleton students and parents who volunteer their time to assist our students academic needs.

Jenny Streefland, Counselor (A-L)
Cori Yamry, Counselor (M-Z)



W.E.B. - Where Everybody Belongs

On October 26, WEB groups met together to complete a teamwork challenge. Small groups broke into three smaller groups and created part of a monster-the head, the torso or the legs. The monster was then assembled and competed for most funny, scariest, or best use of materials.

WEB Leaders participated in Costume Bowling on October 30. The leaders had

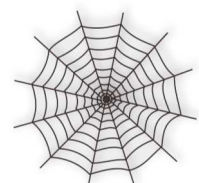
a great time showing off their bowling skills in fantastic costumes. WEB leader only events are a great way to continue to build leadership throughout the year and thank leaders for their important role at NMS.

On November 14, WEB Groups met for lunch and a middle school check-in. This was a great way for sixth graders to re-connect with their WEB groups. We will

have another social coming up in December...Stay tuned!

WEB Coordinators:

John Bade
Rafa Estrella
Cori Yamry



Academic Activities/Middle School Athletics

Wrestling started in November with practices being held at the Middle School. Practices are Monday through Friday in the Aux. gym from 3:00-4:45 pm. To register for wrestling, please visit the main district website and click on the red “Activities Registration” clipboard. If you have any questions about registration, please contact Jen Henriksen at 507-663-0680 or jhenriksen@northfieldschools.org. Our scheduled meets can be viewed on www.big9conference.org or you can pick up a hard copy from the office.

The Fitness Center also started in November and is open Monday-Thursday from

3:00-4:30 pm. There are two sessions throughout the year, the first session starting in November and runs the entire 2nd quarter. The second session will start in January at the beginning of 3rd quarter. You will need to register online before participating, by going to the main district website and clicking on the red “Activities Registration” clipboard. The Fitness Center is staffed by Curt Mikkelson and Paul Stanaway.

Activities to look ahead for during the 3rd quarter and spring are Fitness Center (6-8), Boys’/Girls’ Track (6-8), Boys’ Tennis, Boys’/Girls’ Golf (7-8), Boys’/Girls’ La-

crose (7-8), Boys’/Girls’ Clay Target (7-8) and Girls’ Softball (7-8). Registration will open in January for these activities.

Please contact Mr. O’Keefe or Jen Henriksen at 507-663-0680 or jhenriksen@northfieldschools.org if you have any questions.



Speech Team

The Northfield Middle School Speech Team is beginning its 2018-2019 winter season now. We are looking for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders who would like to improve and practice their speaking and performing abilities. Speech team isn’t really about writing speeches; that is just one of the many categories. Students choose to expressively read literature from categories such as humorous and serious prose, poetry and drama; extemporaneous prose and

poetry, great speeches, informative speaking, dramatic duo, storytelling, original oratory and creative expression. Students choose one category and one selection to perform throughout the season. One 20 minute practice session each week is required. Practice times are flexible, so students in basketball, ski club and other school activities are eligible to participate in speech. The team will attend four festivals on Saturday mornings in January and

February (1/12, 1.19, 1/26 and 2/2). Interested students should stop into room 253 to get information. Practice begins Monday December 3, 2019.

Coaches:
Ms. Halvorson



at dhalvorson@northfieldschools.org or Mrs. Hebzynski at khebzynski@northfieldschools.org

Yearbook

Order your 2018-2019 school yearbook and capture all the memories! Buy now for the best prices all year! Yearbooks are for sale now on the Northfield Middle School website. Click on the blue “Jostens Yearbook” link to place your order.



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 and not visible during or between classes. Students who do not follow this policy could have one or more of the following consequences:

- Cell phone will be confiscated until the end of the day.
- Parent will need to pick up the cell phone in the office.

Radios, CD Players, MP3, I-Pods are not allowed in the classrooms and/or in the hallway. If a student chooses to listen to them on the way to school or on the way home, they must turn them off and keep them out of sight.

Violation of the above policy could result in one or more of the following consequences:

- Detention
- Confiscation until the end of the day

- Confiscation until the end of the year
- Parent Conference
- School Service Project

We appreciate your support with these policies.



Attendance: (507) 663-0655

Please call the 24-hour attendance line or email Jen Henriksen, each day that your child is absent. You may reach the attendance line at 663-0655 or emailing jhenriksen@northfieldschools.org.

E-mailing teachers DOES NOT count as official notification for state attendance records. When calling or emailing the attendance, please leave your student's name, grade, reason for absence and your relationship to the child. If calling or emailing 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

or emailed to Jen Henriksen, 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 a parent knows of a student's extended absence in advance, the absence should be called into the attendance line or emailed to Jen Henriksen. Students should also connect with their teachers to assure any missed work will be posted to Schoology. Students are responsible for completing all work posted to Schoology. Students returning from an extended absence will need to schedule

arrangements with the teacher for completing any work that could not be completed during the absence. Homework will not be collected in the office for a student prior to absence.

Parents call attendance line 507-663-0655 or email Jen Henriksen at jhenriksen@northfieldschools.org to report the absence.

Students contact the teacher to assure that any missed work will be posted to Schoology and schedule arrangements to



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. If so, please notify the office of any changes. You may do so by calling 663-0664 or e-mail the change to

Kimberly Tousignant:
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.

Community Services Division News

Northfield Public Schools Community Services fall registration is now open! Scholarships are available for youth and adult program offerings. You can browse all classes by visiting www.northfieldschools.org/communityservices. To register by phone, please call us at 507.664.3649.

Enrichment Classes

Child & Babysitting Safety Class (CABS)

\$54, boys and girls in grades 4 - 8; Northfield Community Resources Center (NCRC) 225, 9 a.m. – noon
Sa, Dec. 8, Class #: 4351-W19B

Clay for Middle Schoolers (Northfield Arts Guild)

\$123/NAG Member; \$136/Non NAG Member, grades 6-8, Northfield Arts Guild Clay Studio, 6:15-7:30 p.m.
Session 1—Tu, Jan. 15-Feb. 19, Class #: 4419-W19A

Recreation Classes

Boys and Girls Bowling — Gary Greenlund

grades k - 12 \$89/first participation session, \$85/addtl. sessions

4 - 5:30 p.m. Jesse James Lanes

Th, Nov. 29—Feb. 7 (no class Dec. 20 & 27)

Class #: 1057-W19B Thurs

or F, Nov. 30—Feb. 8 (no class Dec. 21 & 28)

Class #: 1057-W19B Fri

Snowmobile Safety Class

\$19, ages 12 – 18

Sa, Jan. 12, Time and Location TBA, Class #: 4805-W19A

Open Gym Basketball

\$3, grades k-8

W, Jan. 9-May 29, 7-9 p.m., High School South Gym

Northfield Skating School

\$99 - \$129, all ages and levels; Northfield Ice Arena, times vary according to level

Su, Jan. 20—March 3

Northfield Ski & Snowboard Club

\$175, grades 6-12, Welch Village, times vary according to grade

M, Dec. 10-Feb. 11

Intro to the World of Horses

\$20, ages 5-adult; Cornerstone on the Vermillion, 1 -2 p.m.

Sa, Jan. 19; Class #: 1237-W19BYouth



REGISTRATION FOR FALL 2018
IS NOW OPEN!

[Click here to view all classes and to register.](#)

Northfield Middle School 2018-2019

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 th 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 th hour
5D	12:34 – 12:59
5	1:02 – 1:27
6	1:31 – 2:09
7	2:13 – 2:51

Upcoming Events ~ 2018-2019 School Year

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

December 4	NMS Share Night at Culver's, 4:00 - 7:00 pm
December 5	Grade 8 Science Museum Field Trip
December 6	MS Choir, Winter Walk, 5:00 pm
December 7	MS Dance, 3:00 pm
December 10	Mid-quarter 2
December 10	Geography Bee, 7:00 pm, MS auditorium
December 10	School Board meeting, 7:00 pm, HS Media Center
December 14	WEB Winter Charades event, 6th hour
December 17	MS & HS Winter Orchestra Concert, MS auditorium 6:30 pm 6th Grade, 7th Grade and HS Philharmonia Orchestras 7:30 pm MS Chamber Orchestra, 8th Grade, HS Symphony Orchestras
December 20 - January 1, 2019	No School / Winter Break
January 7, 2019	Site Improvement Team, 3:15 pm, room 116
January 14	School Board meeting, 7:00 pm, HS Media Center
January 18	Films for Food Shelf, 3:00 pm, MS auditorium
January 21	No School / Dr. Martin Luther King Day
January 24	Spelling Bee, 7:00 pm, MS auditorium
January 24	End of 2nd Quarter
January 25	No School / Teacher Preparation Day
January 28	Begin 3rd Quarter
January 28	School Board meeting, 7:00 pm, HS Media Center
February 4	MS & HS Winter Band Concert w/ 8th Grade & HS Bands, 7 pm, MS auditorium
February 5	MS Winter Band Concert w/ 5th Grade, 6:30 pm, MS auditorium
February 8	District Choral Festival, MS auditorium
February 8	MS Dance, 3:00 pm
February 18	No School / Teacher Staff Development Day
February 22	Mid-quarter 3

NMS PRIDE

Prepared
Respect
Integrity
Dependability
Excellence