

NEWINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER



August 27, 2021

Dear NHS Families:

The opening days were just as wonderful as I thought they would be. Thank you for sending us such amazing students. Staff and students reported excitement around full classrooms, meeting new people, use of lockers (although having to open a locker took some practice), and two way movement in the hallways and stairwells. Staff spent class time with “getting to know you” activities, as well as introductions to their curriculum and their expectations. I am sure I speak for everyone when I say “I’m glad it is Friday because I am exhausted.” (you know - the best kind of exhaustion!)

Here is our latest news:

Next week’s schedule **AUGUST 30 - SEPTEMBER 3:**

Monday, August 30: [A day](#)

Tuesday, August 31: [B day](#)

Wednesday, September 1: [O day with an extended advisory](#)

Thursday, September 2: [E day with an extended advisory](#)

Friday, September 3: [C day](#)

Day Calendar - Click [HERE](#) to view our Day Calendar. Students received a hard copy of this during their Advisory period on the first day of school.

SEPTEMBER NHS IMPORTANT DATES

9/6 - Labor Day - Schools and Offices Closed

9/7 - Rosh Hashanah - Schools Closed/Offices Open

9/21 - School Picture Day for Grades 9, 10, and 11 graders

9/14 - PL Day - 12:20 pm Dismissal

9/15: Wacky Wednesday Theme Day (TBD)

9/16 - Yom Kippur - Schools Closed/Offices Open

9/17: Senior Pictures - last day Art Rich will be at NHS for Senior pictures

9/20 - 9/25 - Virtual Open House (The Sept 9 date listed on our Day Calendar is incorrect)

9/28 - PL Day - 12:20 pm Dismissal

9/29 - Class Elections - more info to come

9/29 - Board of Education Meeting - 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

A Message from School Counseling

The last Last Day to Add/Drop and exclude courses from GPA for Semester 1 & Full-year classes is Friday, September 10th.

Late Bus and Late Bus Routes

Our late bus runs will begin on Monday, September 30. The Late Bus can be utilized by students who ride a bus who need to stay after school with a staff member or for an office sponsored activity.

Late Bus runs are more limited than the normal routes. Please [click here](#) for the Late Bus runs posted on our transportation website. Please review the published bus stops to determine which is the closest stop to your residence in advance of taking the late bus.

All students will need to have a late bus pass signed by a staff member and know what stop, listed from the predetermined stops, is theirs. We will also have a list of Late Bus routes in all of our offices.

Late buses run Monday - Thursday. Students should be at the gym entrance by 4:00pm.

Chromebooks

Students should bring their charged Chromebooks and chargers to school. If your student has an issue with their Chromebook, they may report to the library media center.

Virtual Open House

Given the health and safety concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic, Open House will not be held in person in September 2020. Families will have the opportunity to attend a virtual “Open House” which will run the week of **Monday, September 21-Sunday, September 27**.

The platform for Open House will be a NHS specific Google Site that will be open during this week. Staff members will each post a video you can view on the Google Site to learn more about your student’s classroom, understand general course and curricular expectations, and understand how to support your student at home throughout the school year. Information and a link to the website will be sent out via School Messenger and posted in an upcoming newsletter.

Here are our UPDATED protocols:

- **Face masks:** Masks must be worn at all times, including on school transportation, unless directed by a staff member. Reusable cloth masks and disposable masks will be allowed for use in school. Masks must cover the nose and mouth and fasten around the neck or behind the ears. Gaiters are NOT ALLOWED unless over a face mask. Students who fail to correctly wear a mask will be sent home and be subject to progressive disciplinary action.
 - On A, B, and C days, mask “breaks” will occur during study halls, during lunch and may occur during class time.
 - Faculty and staff are expected to wear face masks, unless they are at least 6 feet from all students, at the front of the room, and are delivering direct instruction or clarification.
- **Lockers/Backpacks:** Lockers will be used this year. Therefore, students do not need to have a clear backpack. All backpacks must be placed in lockers. Small purses are allowed.
- **Hallways:** Two way travel in hallways and stairwells will resume.
- **Lunch:** Students will be in self assigned lunch table cohort groups of no more than 6 students per table. There will be a sign-in sheet at each table and the groups will last for the entire first semester beginning Monday.. Table shields will be utilized. Seats in the gymnasium will also be available. Outside eating will be available both on the patio and under a tent when the weather permits.
- **Bathrooms:** Bathrooms will resume regular usage and four students will be allowed in the bathroom at a time.
- **Water fountains:** Water fountains will remain closed, however, students are encouraged to bring their own water bottles as they may use bottle filling stations to refill them.
- **Open Study Privilege:**
 - Early release/late arrival: All students with Open Study periods 1, 2, 7, and/or 8 may arrive at school late (prior to Advisory or their first scheduled class) or leave early with parent/guardian signed **yellow permission form** that will be provided in their house office. Students are not allowed to leave until this form is received and the change is reflected in their schedule.
 - Lunch release: Only Junior and Senior students who have Open Study during a lunch period (5 and/or 6) may leave school and return, as long as a permission form is completed by a parent/guardian. Students may pick up this **blue** form in any house office.
- **Freshman/Structured Study Halls:** Students with Structured Study or Freshman Study may not leave the building.
- **Structured Study Permission to Leave (ADDED): Any Sophomore, Junior, or Senior in Structured Study in the morning or afternoon (1,2,7,8) may arrive late and/or leave early. Permission must be obtained, including the understanding that supports, structure, and time are not available when students leave. Students may pick up a green form in any house office.**
- **Remote Learning:** None this year. No remote snow days. For students on temporary remote (needing to quarantine), teachers will keep an updated announcement in Google Classroom that communicates the procedure ---> either complete the assignment posted in Google Classroom OR sign on to the Google Meet. Attendance will be based on the completion of the assignment/participation in the meet. Teachers will communicate their expectations explicitly with their students.
- **Chromebooks** - students should bring their CHARGED Chromebooks and CHARGERS to school.
- **Main Entrance/Visitors** - Visitors will be allowed to enter the building with a mask on. They need to report directly to the main office to sign in and fill out a "Visitor Questionnaire related to COVID-19" form.
- **Student arrival and dismissal** - Please click [HERE](#) for arrival and dismissal information
- **Bus routes** - Visit [THIS DOCUMENT](#) for more information on bus routes.

School Picture Days

Freshman, Sophomore and Junior pictures are scheduled for **Tuesday, September 21, 2021**. Order forms will be handed out in homerooms. If a student wants to order a package of pictures, they must bring the order form and money with them on September 21st. Proofs of the pictures are not provided. More information to come.

Additionally, Friday, September 17, 2021, is the last day that a photographer will be at NHS taking SENIOR PICTURES. More information to come.

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Newington High School's PAC will meet monthly beginning October 14 from 7:30 am - 8:00 am. Meetings will be held virtually this year. All meetings and links to join can be found [HERE](#).

Athletics

We are excited to have fall sports up and running. Click [HERE](#) for all upcoming home events.

SOME RECURRING INFORMATION:

Universal Free Breakfast and Lunch

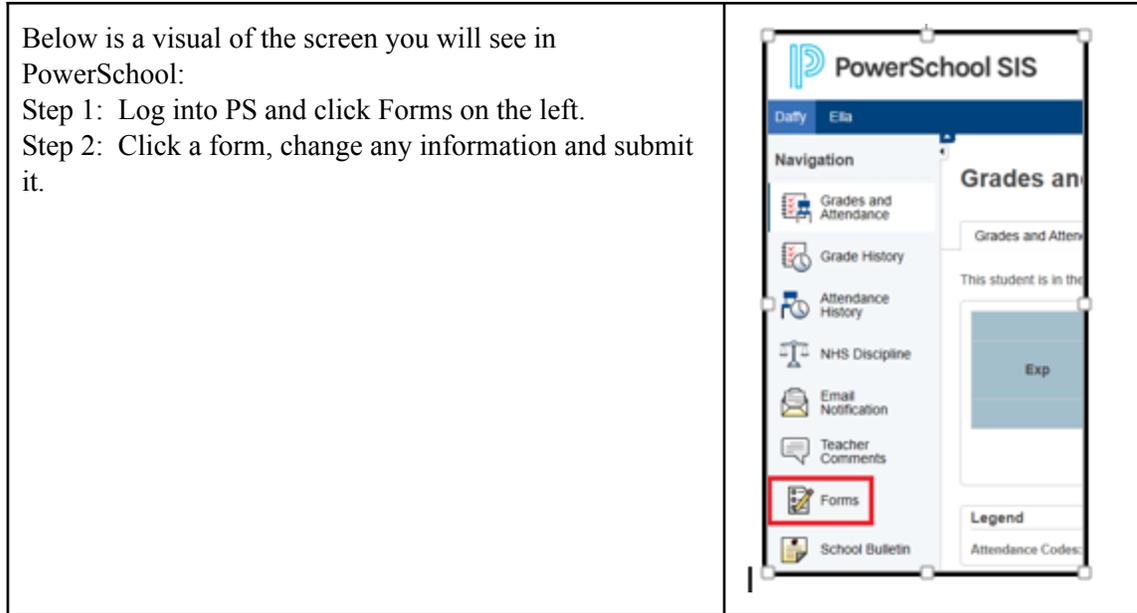
School Breakfast and Lunch are free again this school year. Students need their IDs to receive either/both of these meals. High school students will be offered a grab and go pre-bagged breakfast in the cafeteria prior to the start of school. Hours will be 7:15 AM - 7:30 AM. Breakfast will be available this year on delayed openings. Students will need to enter his or her pin number at the POS terminal as breakfasts (and lunches too) will be entered into our POS system.

The breakfast menu will be posted on [THIS](#) website later this week.

The lunch menu can be found [HERE](#).

Emergency Contact Form

Please log into PowerSchool, using your parent login information (must be the website and not the app) and complete the emergency contact forms. Parents must complete one form for each child. Once the form is submitted, our school will approve the form. Please take the time to fill out the form and list at least two Emergency contacts. Your cooperation is much appreciated!



A Message From the Health Office

COVID-19 INFORMATION: All parents of students with COVID-19 symptoms, a positive test, exposure, and/or travel should immediately fill out the [Student Absence Form 2021-2022](#) for each absent event. This is to notify the school nurse of your child's absence. If your child is out sick, you **MUST** get clearance from the school nurse **PRIOR** to sending your child back to school. Your child will need to see the school nurse prior to going to their first class upon reentry to school.

Here is the [STUDENT - Covid-19 Sick/Exposure/Travel Guideline](#) for you to follow for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year.

Additionally, if your child has been **FULLY** vaccinated, for the purposes of contact tracing, State reporting and quarantine management, please upload your child's COVID-19 vaccination card to [Student - COVID-19 Vaccine Verification card 2021-22](#) form. Even if you have already sent your child's vaccination card to an administrator you still need to fill out this form. Do **NOT** email or send in your child's Vaccine Verification card to the school nurse.

A Message From the Health Office (Con't)

MANDATED AND SPORTS PHYSICALS:

Mandated 10th grade students - Please send in your child's physical form, dated ON/AFTER 6/1/20 prior to the end of the school year.

Athletics - If your child is participating in sports, s/he must receive and submit a physical every school year. For this school year, the physical must be dated ON/AFTER:

Fall - 7/26/20

Winter - 10/22/20

Spring - 2/25/21

MEDICATIONS IN SCHOOL:

No medication will be administered to a student during school hours, including over-the-counter medication, unless a written request from both parent and prescriber accompanies the medication. The medication, in its original container, should be brought to the school by a parent or responsible adult and not sent with the student (unless it is over-the-counter medication, inhalers, or EpiPens). The label on the medication and the prescriber's written order must include the name of the medication, the dosage, the time to be given, the length of time to be given, and the diagnosis.

Portrait a Graduate

Here is our K-12 commitment as we look to graduate students who demonstrate these 3 core competencies. The expectations are listed as well.

Portrait of a Graduate		
<p>Communicator: <i>Students exhibit appropriate oral, written, and interpersonal communication skills to convey and maximize their message to various audiences.</i></p> <p>Students will...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Express oneself (speak, write, perform, and create) for authentic purposes 2. Read for a variety of purposes 3. Actively listen to advance understanding, build consensus, and collaborate 4. Use a variety of media including contemporary digital tools to explore, exchange and express ideas 	<p>Citizen: <i>Students demonstrate citizenship through their contributions to their community, making connections to different cultures and perspectives, and being aware of their place in the larger global community.</i></p> <p>Students will...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recognize and understand multiple and diverse perspectives 2. Contribute to the classroom, local, and global community 3. Act responsibly and ethically 	<p>Thinker: <i>Students exhibit the ability to gather and synthesize relevant information in order to determine a critical path and to be creative, curious, and innovative through the problem solving process.</i></p> <p>Students will...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inquire to define a problem 2. Analyze information and discriminate resources 3. Synthesize information and identify solutions and conclusions 4. Reflect on processes and products to assess and redesign



[LINK](#) to previous newsletters

We continue to ALL be in this together. Thank you for your patience, flexibility, and support. Should you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at tigno@npsct.org or 860-666-5611 x1190.

Sincerely,

Ms. Tigno
Principal, NHS Family of Learners

Family of Learners



“Nationally Recognized Exemplary Secondary School”