



April 2, 2021

Dear NHS Parents/Guardians and Students,

We are heading into the home stretch. It's April! I wish everyone a restful and joyful long weekend. Here are some highlights this week: Students follow outdoor movement break circuit, students develop an understanding of stem cells, and students design their own "symbol", by combining symbols of their own character traits.

Here is our latest news:

April 5 - April 9: [HERE](#) is the calendar for the remainder of the year

Monday/April 5: Click [HERE](#) for ODD DAY schedule

Tuesday/April 6: Click [HERE](#) for EVEN DAY schedule

*Wednesday/April 7: Click [HERE](#) for ODD DAY schedule

Thursday/April 8: Click [HERE](#) for EVEN DAY schedule, NEASC virtual visit

*Friday/April 9: Click [HERE](#) for the REMOTE WEDNESDAY schedule, NEASC virtual visit

*Due to the Covid Clinic happening at NHS on Friday, we made Friday the Remote Learning Day and Wednesday in-person.

SENIOR FAMILIES

The next Project Graduation Monthly meeting will be Monday, April 5, via Google Meet from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Meetings start at 7:00 sharp so make sure you join us. Google Meet Code: <https://meet.google.com/kzr-nmtt-vfq>. Additionally, if you would like to purchase a GRADUATION BANNER for a senior, click [HERE](#) for more information and click [HERE](#) for the order form. Please reach out to Co-Chairs Jen Ahern Mrs.J.Ahern@gmail.com or Lisa Bacon GnlBacon@gmail.com with any questions.

UPDATE-COVID VACCINATION for 16+

NPS is working with a variety of vaccine providers in an effort to hold a clinic at NHS. At this time, however, we have no information, but will update parents as soon as we have any more information. Connecticut, however, has opened appointments for children 16+, so you do not need to wait to schedule a vaccine appointment for them.

COVID

As we continue to navigate through these times, it is important that we support our students. As we've seen throughout the year, many sport teams have had to quarantine. Recently, the Boys Varsity Lacrosse Team was put in this position. Due to the number of rumors circulating, they asked that I issue this statement on their behalf: We would like to clarify some misinformation which has been circulating with regard to the recent team quarantine. The event which caused our team to be quarantined was not due to a team party but as a result of a team practice on Saturday morning on Clem Lemire field. We, as a team, take the COVID rules seriously and would not do anything to risk the health and well-being of others. We have come very far in the past few years in developing a positive culture and our goal is to continue doing so. Thank you.

MASCOT REVEAL

In a Special BOE meeting held Thursday night, the BOE heard from members of the mascot committee and approved the Newington High School mascot name to change from Indians to Nor'easters!

Here is a background of the committee's work: In the fall of 2020, a committee was formed to begin the process of changing the mascot for Newington High School. The committee chaired by Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Maureen Brummett included school Board members, administration, staff, and students as well as alumni and community members who have been meeting for several months. The committee worked with consultant Dr. Glenn Mitoma, Director of the Thomas J. Dodd Center and Assistant Professor of Human Rights at UConn who discussed the importance of this work. Dr. Mitoma has provided consultation with other districts such as Farmington, Guilford and Watertown regarding their mascot changing process. He identified the following Guiding Principles:

- Educational Impact of Mascot: inaccurate history and stereotypes of Native Americans
- Equity: potential negative impact of this mascot on Native students
- Liability: possible peril of not changing mascot knowing that it may have a negative impact on your school community
- Community: how does the mascot connect to your larger community?

The committee sought input from the greater Newington Community regarding the next mascot. They committee set a goal that the new mascot should meet certain criteria. These included: Be unique, relate to Newington or the surrounding area, be gender neutral, be strong, be fun, sound good/catchy, offer various options for logos and/or mascots, keep existing school colors.

The committee would like to thank the entire community for their input. The next steps are to form a mascot design committee, design a logo, and inventory our current items.

PARENT SURVEY

We'd love to hear how we are doing. Please complete this parent survey by April 2. Our goal this year was to increase the percentage of parents who indicate "My child(ren)'s teachers help me understand how I can best support my child(ren)'s learning at home." We look forward to hearing from you. Thanks! [PARENT SURVEY FLYER](#). Click for the [PARENT SURVEY LINK](#).

CONGRATULATIONS to NHS' APRIL's Students of the Month

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Briana Batista | Elizabeth Doll | Almira Pehratovic |
| Arianna Bordonaro | Andre Guillotin | Javier Pena |
| Luke Brown | Alyse Karanian | Kyler Tremaine |
| Ellia Claffey-Hesseltine | Kyle Mckissick | Zachary White |

NEWINGTON SCOUTS

Join Newington Scouts BSA Troop 355. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

NEASC VISIT

We are finally scheduled for our Collaborative Conference visit on Thursday, April 8, 2021 through Friday, April 9, 2021. This has been a long awaited conference, as we were originally scheduled for the fall of 2020. The NEASC Accreditation process is a 10-year cycle intended to serve as a guide for schools to meet their own goals for student learning based on alignment with research-based Standards for Accreditation. Secondly, it serves as an important exercise for assessing the systems in place for self-reflection on an ongoing basis, the school's capacity for continuous growth, and the ability to be an effective learning organization. Staff and community members have worked hard over the past two years to prepare for this conference. Students, staff and parents will have the opportunity to meet with the visiting team. The "parent group" will meet with the visiting team, virtually, on Thursday, April 8, from ~8:50 am - 9:35 am. If you are interested in participating in this group, please email me (ttigno@npsct.org) asap.

GRADUATION VENUE CHANGE

Class of 2021 will be graduating at Dunkin Donuts Park - Home to the Hartford Yard Goats - on June 8 at 6:00 pm. This new venue will allow for each of our seniors to have 4 tickets, with the potential of more IF things change. We will have a rain date as well (not set yet).

SOME RECURRING INFORMATION:

SENIOR PROM - May 21, 2021- 6:30 pm -10:30 pm

We are pleased to announce that this year's senior prom will be held at Quassy Amusement Park. The theme "A Starry Night at the Carnival" will start off in formal attire and then end with games and rides. Seniors watched [THIS VIDEO](#), put together by the senior officers, last week during homeroom. Yesterday, another meeting during homeroom was held to give out more information about prom and dues. Seniors should expect emails from Mr. Brain Hartley with further details.

TEEN BOOK CLUB

YMCA New Britain Sexual Assault Crisis Service with Coar J. Belden and Lucy Robbins Welles Libraries Presents: Teen Book Club on April 15th at 4:00 pm. Teen readers ages 15-18 are welcome to come and have open and honest discussion about the topics and relationships in your favorite books. Click [HERE](#) for the flyer and link to registration.

SUMMER CAMP

Channel 3 Kids Camp Registration is now open! Click [HERE](#) for more information or visit www.channel3kidscamp.org.

AP EXAMS

March 12th was the last day for parents/guardians, of students taking an AP exam this year, to notify Mr. Korn that their student(s) were electing to take an AP exam through the digital at-home format. Parent/Guardians would have received a confirmation e-mail from Mr. Korn confirming he had received that request. If you did not receive an e-mail or want to check that Mr. Korn received your request please contact him as soon as possible at skorn@npsct.org

Mr. Korn will be sending out an exam schedule in the near future for students that registered for an AP exam, along with testing room locations (for in-person testing).

SOME RECURRING INFORMATION:

ATTENTION SENIORS AND SENIOR FAMILIES -

Project graduation committee is asking for pictures of seniors (from the last 4 years- clubs, sports, groups, individual pics) to be used in their slideshow. Please email them to NHSProjectGrad2021@gmail.com.

AMERICAN SIGN-LANGUAGE VIRTUAL CLASS - Students, ages 5-14, will learn the ASL alphabet and corresponding words. Basic words and phrases such as colors, numbers, family members, etc. Students will be able to sign familiar words and short phrases at the end of the course. Offered: Mondays, March 22 - May 3 (6 classes, no class 4/5) Beginner - 4:30 to 5:15 PM, Code: 1030907. A1 Intermediate - 5:30 to 6:15 PM, Code: 1030907-B1 Fee: \$65 for residents / \$71 for non-residents.

[HERE](#) is the Registration form.

CHROMEBOOKS - It is essential students arrive at school with their fully charged Chromebooks. We will be extremely limited in our ability to share devices or issue a loaner to a student. Families may be contacted to bring a device to the school if the student arrives without a device. If you students are in school and have an issue with their Chromebook, they may report to the library. Otherwise, [HERE](#) is the form to complete.

PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS - Click [HERE](#) for all my Principal Newsletters.

Thank you for your continued patience, flexibility, and support. Please feel free to contact the main office during regular operating hours (7:00 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.) if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Ms. Terra A. Tigno
Principal

Family of Learners

