



Principal's Newsletter

SEPTEMBER

- 3 No School-Labor Day Holiday
- 7 Jostens Junior Class Ring Orders during lunch in front of Pupil Services
- 8 ACT Test at 8am
- 10 Grizzly Pride Meeting at 6:30pm in Library
- 13 Top 10% Senior Breakfast at 7am
- 17 Fall Pictures all day in Auditorium
Parent-Teacher Conferences @4-7pm
Project Grad Meeting @7pm in Commons
- 18 Fall Pictures all day in Auditorium
- 19 Parent-Teacher Conferences @4-7pm
- 20 Official Enrollment Day
- 24 Student of the Month Reception @ 2:30pm in Library
- 25 Financial Aid Night @6:30pm in Auditorium
- 26 Senior Hot Dog Roast @6pm at Stadium
Powder Puff Football Game @7pm
- 28 Homecoming Parade/ Football Game
- 29 Homecoming Dance @8pm in Commons



Principal's Message

Welcome to the first issue of the 2018-19 **Principal's Newsletter**, the monthly newsletter of Northwest High School! The new school year is off to a terrific start as we all, students and staff alike, continue to strive toward *excellence* in all that we do!



For those new to Northwest, my name is Eric Hofer-Holdeman and I am honored to be the principal of this wonderful school. Our mission here at Northwest is to “*empower all students with college and career ready skills and challenge all students to achieve their personal best through increased opportunities for success in a global society.*” The heart and soul of what I do on a day to day basis is to assure that we are all striving to achieve this mission. It is my hope that you will help us in this noble endeavor!

Moving forward into the 2018-19 school year, if you ever have a question, concern, or comment, please know that my door is always open. Feel free to contact me at 973-6000, email at ehofer-holdeman@usd259.net, or stop by for a face to face chat. I want nothing more than the best for your student and will do everything in my power to make that happen!

SCHOOL GOALS FOR 2018-19: ACADEMIC AND BEHAVIOR

I would like to share with you our two school-wide goals that we as a staff will focus on this year, one academic and one behavior:

Academic: NWHS will improve college and career readiness through differentiated instruction using appropriate building identified WICOR (Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading) strategies emphasizing *writing* and *organization* in order to improve student learning as evidenced by an increase in graduation rate over the previous year while simultaneously seeing improvements in the following:

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Principal's Message cont'd.

SCHOOL GOALS FOR 2018-19: ACADEMIC AND BEHAVIOR CONT'D.

- Average ACT scores
- Average AP Test scores
- Average ASVAB scores
- Average FASTBridge scores
- Average Practice ACT scores
- Average PSAT scores
- Average State Assessment scores
- Completion of industry certification
- Enrollment in concurrent credit courses
- Enrollment in dual credit courses

Behavior: NWHS Teachers will regularly teach and reinforce positive social skills, self-respect, relationships, and responsibility for the consequences of decisions and actions in order to ensure that NWHS is trusted by students, parents, staff, and community as a safe environment as evidenced by the following:

- Reducing tardies by 5% (measured monthly, compared year to year)
- Reducing chronic absenteeism by 5% (measured annually), and
- Reducing office referrals by 5% (measured monthly, compared year to year).

We will continue to keep these goals in front of us as we move throughout the school year. The help that you, as parents and families, provide in regard to these goals is critical to our success. Thank you in advance for your partnership with us.

Parent Teacher Conferences

You are encouraged to join us for Parent Teacher Conferences at Northwest in the Commons on Monday, September 17 or Wednesday, September 19 from 4-7 p.m. This is a good time to connect with your student's teachers and talk about his/her progress.

Tardy Policy

The Northwest tardy policy has drastically reduced the number of tardies. We continue to see a decrease in tardies from year to year. This may be due, in part, to the implementation of our tardy sweeps each class period, but is also a result of our parents partnering with us to make sure an important life skill is learned. The trend shows that as the school year progresses, more and more students will start coming to school or class late. Each student gets four free tardy passes at school per semester for emergencies. Once they pass the fourth tardy, students are given detentions which eventually can lead to other consequences. Please help us by reminding your students that attendance and getting to class on time is important so they don't get behind and don't disrupt the class that is already in session.

Chronic Absences

Attendance is crucial for the success of your student. An absence issue that tends to go unnoticed is what we refer to as "***Chronically Absent***". **Excused and Unexcused absences are calculated for chronically absent.** It is crucial that your child does not miss over 9 days for the entire year.

Truancy only takes into account the unexcused absences. Nevertheless, absences, whether excused or unexcused, will eventually have a negative impact. We want you to be informed and assist your student with being on time and regularly attending school, so that we can provide the best educational experience possible.

Counseling News

FINANCIAL AID NIGHT

Northwest would like to invite parents and students to our annual Financial Aid Night on **September 25th from 6:30-8pm in the Auditorium.**

This presentation will feature information on Federal and State student financial aid, FAFSA and tips on searching for scholarships. This event is most pertinent for Seniors but will be very helpful in preparing Juniors for what's to come!

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will be available for the class of 2019 beginning on October 1, 2018. Come and find out about this important date change and what this means for your student!

If you have questions, please contact Teketa Paschal, College Career Coordinator at tpaschal1@usd259.net or 973-6058.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

There are already scholarship opportunities available for the class of 2019. Check out: <http://www.usd259.org/Page/10764> for a link to the College Career Center Scholarship Page. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Teketa Paschal, College Career Coordinator at tpaschal1@usd259.net or 973-6058.

NORTHWEST TRANSCRIPT REQUEST PROCEDURE

Northwest High School utilizes the Parchment Transcript Electronic System to deliver transcripts electronically to community colleges, colleges and universities.

To utilize Parchment, the student must create an account at www.parchment.com. From there, the student will be able to request that his/her transcript be sent to the school of his/her choice. Please allow 24 hours for the request to be processed.

Make sure and use your student's LEGAL NAME in order to process transcript.

Paper transcripts will only be printed for scholarship applications.

ACT TEST DATES FOR 2018-2019

<u>Test Dates</u>	<u>Registration Deadlines</u>	<u>Late Registration Fee Deadline</u>
September 8 th	August 10 th	August 26 th
October 27 th	September 28 th	October 14 th
December 8 th	November 2 nd	November 19 th
February 9 th	January 11 th	January 18 th
April 13 th	March 8 th	March 25 th
June 8 th	May 3 rd	May 20 th
July 13 th	June 14 th	June 24 th

Register online at www.actstudent.org; our school code is **173214**. See Mrs. Tibbetts or Ms. Paschal if you are on free or reduced lunch and need a fee waiver.

Counseling News cont'd.

ACT PRACTICE

Need some help practicing for the ACT? Check out the new ACT Academy at www.act.org/academy. This FREE resource provides your student with videos, practice tests and personalized pacing guides to help them get the best score possible!

COLLEGE CAREER CENTER EVENTS

The College and Career Center is excited to offer several workshops throughout the school year to help your student find success!

“Lunch and Learn” will continue during 1st lunch on the 2nd Friday of the month unless otherwise noted. For Lunch and Learn, we will have speakers from various career fields here to share their career journey with interested students. Lunch and Learns are eligible for COTY points therefore attendance will be taken! **Our first date for “Lunch and Learn” is September 5th.**

“College and Chill” is a new concept that will help equip college-bound students with the skills they need to not only be accepted into college, but leave with a degree!

These workshops will happen during 9th hour on the 1st Wednesday of the month. For both opportunities, students must get a pass from Ms. Paschal in the CCC before the day of the workshop session.

FRESHMEN

It's never too early for your student to start planning for college and/or careers. Much of freshmen and sophomore years are about exploring options. While exploring, however, you want to make sure your student is organized and taking rigorous courses and getting good grades. The websites below have resources to help guide you through freshman year. You want to make sure your student isn't limiting himself in post-high school options by taking only the basics. Our goal is that your student is able to pursue whatever she wants after high school and have the prerequisites to be successful. Check them out!

<http://www.campusexplorer.com/college-advice-tips/BCF1A04A/High-School-Freshman-Timeline-and-Checklist/>

<http://www.cafecollege.org/freshmen/make-a-plan/freshmen-checklist>

<http://www.connectionsacademy.com/blog/posts/2012-09-28/Getting-Ready-for-College-A-Four-Year-Checklist-for-High-School-Teens.aspx>

http://www.collegeprep101.com/uploads/1/1/7/2/11721368/freshman_year_checklist.pdf

UPCOMING EVENTS

College Representative Visits to Northwest

Throughout the school year various college admissions representatives will be at Northwest during Advocacy from 2:28– 2:53pm to visit with any junior and senior student interested in learning more about a particular institution.

Interested students **MUST** get a pass in the CCC (College and Career Center) A24 before the day of the visit.

Counseling News cont'd.

UPCOMING EVENTS CONT'D.

College Representative Visits to Northwest cont'd.

Kansas Wesleyan	Tuesday	9/11
Friends University	Thursday	9/13
Hesston College	Thursday	9/20
Fort Hays State University	Tuesday	9/25
Bethany College	Thursday	9/27

NEWMAN UNIVERSITY ADVANCED STANDING (CONCURRENT COLLEGE CREDIT)

Current sophomores, junior and seniors enrolled in Northwest courses approved by Newman University have the opportunity to earn college credit if they have a 3.0 GPA. The courses are listed below:

- AP Language and Composition
- Speech
- AP US History 2
- AP Government

The charge for the concurrent credit is set by the university and therefore is subject to change. If you have questions regarding requirements, please contact Kyla Tibbetts @ 973-5983.

Newman University Enrollment is on-line

Enrollment meeting: Friday, September 14th during 9th hour advocacy in the Auditorium.

Eligible students will receive a pass in their class for the meeting.

Tutoring

Northwest will begin after school tutoring for all core subjects on **Wednesday, September 5**, in the Commons and Library. Tutoring will be available every Wednesday as follows:



Wednesday Tutoring

Tutoring – 3:20-5:00 pm (all students)

Super Snack – 5:00-5:45 pm

Mandatory Study Groups for Athletes – 5:30-6:45 pm

Late Bus leaves at 6:45 pm

(Athletes with D or F's)

Math/Science and Writing Lab
help will be available

Tutoring is also available **on Tuesdays and Thursdays** for all students during Advocacy and after school until 4:30pm.

Secure Entrance Procedure at Tyler Entrance

Nothing is more important than providing a safe, secure and high-quality learning environment for our students. The interior doors to the school will lock at 8 am so all visitors and students entering the building after 8 am will need to enter through the main office. Students who are late will proceed through the office to pupil services. All visitors who come to our school and who have the opportunity to interact with students will be required to sign in using the Hall Pass system each time they visit the school from 7:30am to 3:30pm. **Please bring a driver's license or government-issued ID** when visiting the building. The Hall Pass system quickly scans it and performs an instant screening for sex offenders. Visitors will receive a custom-printed photo ID badge that they are required to wear while they are in the building.

Project Graduation

If you missed the first project grad meeting, do not worry. We will meet again September 17th at 7pm immediately after conferences. Meetings will take place on the third Monday of each month unless notified otherwise. There are some opportunities for you to help before the next meeting so please contact Candace Allen @ Candacerae28@yahoo.com for more info. Also we are looking for donations of cases of soda and water, which you can drop off at any time in the office; just mention project graduation.

Senior Calendar

September	8.....ACT Testing
	13 Top 10% Breakfast (by invitation only - 7:00 am)
	17/18.....Picture Day (English classes)
	17/19.....Parent/Teacher Conferences
	26Senior Hot Dog Roast (6:00 pm - Stadium)
	26Powderpuff Football Game (7:00 pm - Stadium)
	28Homecoming Parade/Game
29Homecoming Dance	
October	TBA.....Senior Panoramic Picture (9:30 am - Gym)
	17Jostens Senior Meeting (10:00 am - Auditorium)
	24Jostens Grad Supply Orders - \$60 down pmt DUE
	24Jostens Family Night (5:00 -6:30 pm- Commons)
	27ACT Testing
November	6.....Senior vs. Faculty Volleyball Game
	28Cap & Gown Photos (all day - Auditorium)
December	4.....Cap & Gown Retakes (7:30 - 9:30 am)
	8.....ACT Testing
	17/18.....Finals

Grizzly Pride

Grizzly Pride welcomes you to, or back to, Northwest! We are super excited about this school year and want to invite you to be a part of making it successful! An easy way you can help make this year successful is by joining Grizzly Pride! Grizzly Pride is the combined organizations of the PTA and the Booster Club. Please join us for our next meeting on September 10 at 6:30pm in the NW library and learn what we are all about.

Grizzly Pride provides needed funds to propel Northwest High students forward! Your membership will help purchase uniforms and food for athletic teams, support musical and instrumental programs, provide grants for teachers, and the list goes on.

Grizzly Pride directly supports all Northwest athletic teams, Drama Department, Instrumental Music Department, Vocal Music Department, cheerleaders, AVID, Scholars Bowl, Project Graduation, JROTC, Bear Buddies, DECA, school spirit t-shirts for all incoming freshmen, FEA, BPA, as well as teacher appreciation.

Please support Grizzly Pride at one of the following membership levels:

- ◆ **Grizzly**—\$100—Receive a free car charger/adapter, Northwest Grizzly decal, back sack, and two Grizzly Pride shirts
- ◆ **Gold**—\$50—Receive a free car charger/adapter, Northwest Grizzly decal and one Grizzly Pride shirt
- ◆ **Blue**—\$25—Receive a free car charger/adapter and Northwest Grizzly decal

A membership form and information about Grizzly Pride is available on the Northwest website under the “Parents” tab, then click on Grizzly Pride. A membership form is also attached to the electronic version of this newsletter. If you would like to pay online and send in your membership form, **please click below to join:**

https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=2JCEY7JF3958E

Have your student come by the Bear Necessities School Store with your donation receipt and pick up your free gifts! All member names are placed on the Grizzly Pride banner that is hung at many school events. The promotional free incentives deadline is September 28. All memberships are tax deductible!

Please join us in supporting your Northwest Grizzlies - *You can't hide that Grizzly Pride!*

BEAR NECESSITIES BOOKSTORE

The Bookstore is looking for parent volunteers to cover a few shifts each week. Working at the bookstore is a fun way to get involved at school. The bookstore is open during both lunch hours for students to purchase items. The shifts we have available are:

Every other Monday 10:49-11:34

Every Tuesday 12:15-1:00

Every Friday..... 10:49-11:34

If you are interested in volunteering for a shift or would like to get more information, please contact Cris Carter at todd_carter2@yahoo.com.

Social Networking Help

Social networking is the practice of expanding the number of one's social contacts by making connections to individuals through technology or the internet. As a result, we are seeing many types of social networking such as Facebook, Twitter, blogs, Snapchat and even cell phone text messages becoming a problem in schools. Pictures or videos taken at school could then be posted on different social networks for negative reasons like cyber-bullying, name-calling, etc. When this happens, we spend a large amount of time trying to find out who is posting these negative comments. We are asking parents to help us monitor your student's use of social networking sites so we can solve these problems together before it causes a disruption to the school day. It is imperative that we monitor our student's use of social networking, cell phones and internet for their safety and the safety of all students. Thank you for your help in managing this challenge.

Official Enrollment Day – Thursday, September 20

Although every day is an important day to be at school, September 20th is a very special day for all students to attend. We call September 20th "Official Enrollment Day" and the district gets funding from the state for every student that attends on this day. We want all our students to be at Northwest on Thursday, September 20th. Please try to avoid doctor's appointments on this day and have students at school on time. Thank you for your cooperation!

Soccer News

Our Soccer team will play their first game in the South High Tournament on Monday, September 3rd. Northwest will play Emporia at 11am. The Grizzlies have 2 home games in September. Northwest will host Bishop Carroll on September 18 and East on September 25.

Your attendance is greatly appreciated!



Homework Hotline

Have questions about homework? The Homework Hotline is here to help! Students at all grade levels who have questions about their assignments, as well as parents and guardians who need support while helping their child at home, can call or email the Homework Hotline. There are certified teachers who can answer questions on any assignment from kindergarten through high school. One bilingual (Spanish) tutor is always available during hotline hours.



The Homework Hotline is open Monday through Thursday from 3:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Call for help at 973-4411 or email your questions to homework@usd259.net.

Please take advantage of this support system to make Every Student Future Ready.