Northmont Today

Published by the Northmont City School District Volume 46/3 January 2021

Upcoming:

Monday, January 18, 2021
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Schools Closed

Friday, February 5, 2021
Yearbook Senior Picture Deadline

Thursday, February 11, 2021
Staff Professional Development
No Classes PK-12

Friday, February 12, 2021
Parent Teacher Conferences
No Classes PK-12

Monday, February 15, 2021
Presidents Day
Schools Closed

Sunday, March 14, 2021
Daylight Saving Time Begins

March 26-April 2, 2021
Spring Break

Monday, April 5, 2021
Classes Resume

Northmont Receives CARES Act Funding

Northmont City Schools received a grant from Montgomery County to offset any Covid-19 related expenses. The grant was awarded in the fall with a tight turnaround. "This caused us to find a creative use of the funds to meet that deadline," according to Northmont's Director of Business Services Brandon Knecht. The district installed permanent outdoor classroom shelters at the five elementary schools and the middle school. The shelters will be used for food distribution, iPad disbursements, actual outdoor classrooms, and many other needs buildings can meet due to Covid-19. Because these funds are a one-time grant, the proposal had to have little to no maintenance, and be able to last for several years. Working with architect Mike Huff, the district found a builder that supplies this type of shelter through a cooperative purchasing group, Sourcewell. This saved time and avoided the normal bidding process so the deadline could be met. This project is a design build project, which allows the design and construction all in one service with quicker communication between the owner, architect, and builder.

The principals, operations department, and district safety committee were consulted to determine the best possible location for each shelter. Each building is very well built with a concrete pad, steel supports, and a metal roof.

Additionally, the grant money will cover the Bus WiFi project to add WiFi to a number of buses to expand the district's WiFi network. Outdoor access points will also add coverage and boost capacity for Northmont's WiFi network to make the outdoor learning pavilions even more of a great educational experience for Northmont students.







Stay Safe. Speak Up! App Updates

Northmont City Schools uses the Stay Safe. Speak Up! Student Safety Reporting System that allows students, parents, and staff to submit safety concerns to school officials.
If you, or someone you know, is being bullied, harassed, considering suicide, bringing a weapon to school, or has any other safety concern, you can easily submit a report in one of three ways:
1. Mobile App: Download the Stay Safe. Speak Up! mobile app and enter the unique District Code to submit reports directly from your smartphone. DISTRICT CODE: **bolt**
2. Phone: Call 1-866-547-8362 to leave a voice message or speak with a trained, live attendant. Attendants can initiate contact with various national crisis hotlines if a student needs help in dealing with a personal emergency
3. Online: Go to the district's website and click on the Stay Safe. Speak Up! button in Forms & Links to access the online form from a desktop computer or laptop. Your voice matters, and we are counting on you to help us make Northmont City Schools a positive environment for all students.

GREEN PRIDE

. . . throughout the community

Please check out our website: www.northmontschools.net for the most updated information about Remote Learning and so much more!

Learn more about the district's Strategic Plan at https://www.northmontschools.com/Content2/strategicplan

Interested in Northmont Athletics? Visit our website at www.northmontathletics.com or click on the Athletics button on the district website.

Have you downloaded our app? Visit the App Store and look for Northmont City Schools.

Northwood Land Lab

Northmont's Strategic Plan Strategy Three states "We will develop and implement a plan to continue to build, renovate, expand and/or eliminate facilities to support the mission and vision."

Students and staff have expressed interest in outdoor learning spaces, and Northwood staff had a vision and space to create the Northwood Land Lab. The space includes an ampitheatre, an erosion station, a weather station, and a native wildflower area, as well as outdoor "classroom space." District groundskeeper Dan Tanto, with help from local architect Mike Huff, worked with Stymco to make the dream a reality.









Centering Equity at Northmont

When you think of the term equity, what comes to mind? Equity and access are essential components of quality education for children, but they have been barriers in the United States for decades. There is also a distinct difference between *equity* and *equality* in education. According to the Center for Public Education, educational equality is attained when all students are treated the same and are given access to the same resources. In contrast, equity is attained when all students receive the help they need to be successful after high school.

Equity centers on closing opportunity gaps, fighting implicit bias, and confronting systemic racism. Equity means recognizing that power imbalances exist within both past and present contexts of race, ability, gender, sexual orientation, financial background, upbringing, etc., and accounting for these differences to improve students' education.

To provide better educational opportunities for all students, Northmont has partnered with Learn to Earn Dayton and Montgomery County Educational Service Center in the Equity Fellows initiative. Now in its third year, Equity Fellows work with equity groups at each Northmont school to identify practices that, however unintentionally, harm minority students, causing them to perform below their peers. The teams critically examine policies and data, encourage staff to consider their biases, and create opportunities for intentional conversations regarding the changes needed to foster trusting relationships and improve overall student learning (Learn to Earn, 2020.) In addition to this training at the building level, Northmont's leadership team representatives have participated in the Montgomery County Equity Leadership Institute (MCELI) this year. The institute has also created space for intentional conversations around Northmont student data and policies. Northmont is exceptionally proud to be part of this transformative initiative.

EXCELLENCE
. . . throughout the district

Northmont Students Earn National Recognition







Over 1.5 million junior students took the 2019 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, otherwise known as the PSAT/NMSQT, a nationwide competition for recognition and awards conducted by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. This past spring, the National Merit Scholarship Corporation identified the top 50,000 highest scorers across the country. 34,000 of those high performers or the top 3% in the country were identified as Commended Students for their achievement on the 2019 PSAT. The remaining 16,000 students or the top 1% in the country who scored the highest on the 2019 PSAT were identified as National Merit Semifinalists. These students move on to compete in a very rigorous application process, contending to be named as a National Merit Finalist, thus opening the door to scholarship opportunities.
The top 2.5% of test takers who identified as African American, Hispanic American or Latinx, Indigenous, attend school in a rural area, or are from a small town were extended an invitation to apply this past spring and were evaluated accordingly.

The following Northmont students have been identified through the 2021 College Board National Recognition Program:
African American Scholar: Alexis Boykin and Amarachukwu Nwanoro
Commended Students: Mason Flora and Samantha Street
National Merit Semifinalist (Competing to become a Finalist): William Pickrell

Northmont Roll of Recogniton

The Northmont community's hallmark award, the Northmont Roll of Recognition, will be accepting nominations until January 15, 2021. This award recognizes individuals who have contributed time, effort, and commitment in exemplary ways to the betterment of the Northmont community. There are three categories to recognize an alumnus, a community member, and an educator. Nomination forms as well as a list of recipients are available at www.northmontschools.net under the Northmont Education Foundation tab or on the Northmont Education Foundation website www.northmonteducationfoundation.org. Awards are typically presented during the high school graduation ceremony.

2021 School Board meetings

All meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. Due to COVID, meeting are subject to be switched to remote. Please see website for possible changes.

January 11 & 25
Union Elementary

February 8 & 22
Kleptz ELC

March 8 & 22
Englewood Elementary

April 12 & 26
Northmoor Elementary

May 10
High School

Northmont Board of Education
Northmont City School District
4001 Old Salem Road
Englewood, OH 45322

Information Line
937-832-5037 or
superintendent@northmontschools.net
www.northmontschools.net
www.facebook.com/NorthmontCitySchools

January 2021

Check out the NEW Board Approved Calendar on the website: www.northmontschools.net

January 13, February 24, March 24, and May 5 Professional Development is cancelled. School will start at the normal time with NO 2-hour Delay.

Non-Profit Organ.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 644
Dayton, OH 45401

ECR WSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER

THOUGHTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT - MR. TONY THOMAS

Cooperation

The pandemic has forced all of us to do things differently. Teachers are instructing differently. Some families have elected to have their students not report to school and that has changed the dynamics of "home." Tough decisions have been made at all levels. I would like to take this time to thank everyone for cooperating. We are reminded that our mission is to serve our students. We needed to work together to get to this point and I cannot thank our teachers, everyone at Northmont supporting our teachers, and the families enough for keeping our students priority one. We remain Northmont Strong.



Staff at the KELC delivered Thank you kits to Miami Valley North in December. The kits were stuffed with community donations.

New to the District? Check out our website for important information: www.northmontschools.net

Our Mission:

The mission of Northmont City Schools is to provide students an exceptional education with diverse opportunities so they maximize their potential and are productive, responsible citizens.