—News From—

Northern Bedford County

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Published for the residents of the Northern Bedford County School District

Mission Statement

The mission of the Northern Bedford County School District is to uphold high standards to educate each student to be a responsible member of a global society.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome 2024! brought relaxation, a Merry Christmas, and a Year Happy New Year. It is a true blessing to be part of the NBC family. We are looking forward to a **Overview** great second half of the school year. The students and staff are an integral part of a wonder- The Winter 2023 Edition of the Northern Bedford ful school!

Northern Bedford's overarching goal for students touches on Act 1, where the district receives its is to continually demonstrate their ability to revenues, expenditures, fund balance, taxes, think, investigate, persevere, and overcome. and budget projections. It will also highlight our Another important part of the learning process is 2022/23 budget surplus, how it will be used, and for students to understand the importance of what the major expenditures are that drive the being a good citizen. In general, this means district budget. paying attention to the issues at the local, state, and federal levels and be involved. It also As we begin the budget process again this year, means paying attention to the needs of the com- you can be assured that the administration will munity and being kind, courteous, and respectful present a budget to the board that will be fiscalof others helping those who are in need. Just in ly sound. This means the proposed budget is the past month, demonstrations of giving to administratively scrutinized and then reviewed those in need have been highlighted by the NBC with the budget committee. The highlights will community. District personnel continue to do a be reviewed publicly with the board in April, tengreat job providing opportunities for our stu- tative approval in May, and final budget approval dents to demonstrate their abilities in achieving in June. We must approve the school budget these goals.

highlight some of the many great things that are ceive. Currently 66% of our funding comes from occurring here at NBC. To the parents and com- BEF. munity, thank you for the support you have shown to the district, which has helped to make Below are some relevant questions and answers it a great place for our students to learn. As a that you as a member of the school district may school district, we will continue to make deci- have regarding the fiscal operations of the dissions that work to achieve the best balance pos- trict. sible continuing the legacy of "NBC Proud". If you have comments or questions regarding any of the material or suggestions for future articles, please contact the Superintendent's Office at (814) 766- 4702 or email Mrs. Stacy Pressel at spressel@nbcsd.org.

I trust the holidays have **Budget Information for 2023/24 School**

Newsletter provides information concerning the budgetary processes of the district. The article

before the state approves their budget which means we are taking an educated guess on how Please look through the newsletter which will much Basic Education Funding (BEF) we will re-



What are NBC's revenues?

In 2022/23, NBC received 4% of the revenue bargaining agreement for professional employees from the federal government; 30% from local/ (teachers) is in effect until June 2026. The CBA property taxes, and 66% from the State. The for the support staff is in effect until June 2027. increase in federal revenues is attributed to covid ESSER grant funds. The State revenues come in Cyber Schools cost Northern Bedford County various forms and can change from year to year School District residents \$13,252.86 for a regular but include basic educational subsidy, reimburse- education student and \$30,835.41 for a special ments related to social security tax and retire- education student. Although most of our state ment, transportation, and special education sub-politicians think this is a great deal for Pennsylsidv.

Unfortunately, declining enrollment, as with fee of approximately \$6,000 dollars per student. many districts in the western half of the state, Using regular cyber charter schools is not cost has the biggest impact on our BEF. When our effective or a quality long term investment for Average Daily Membership (ADM) goes down, so students considering the results of student test does our BEF. Fortunately, we have stabilized, scores. The law requires districts to use BUDGbut with continued increases in expenses, we ETED dollars instead of ACTUAL dollars spent shall remain ever vigilant in our finances so that when paying cyber school costs. we can continue to provide a guality educational School calculation of tuition is also based off the experience for our students. An example of in- Average Daily Membership (ADM) and with a decreased expenses is in the current requirements clining enrollment, makes the per student cost for students in cyber school. This school year, rise. We are on track to pay \$400,000 dollars to the price for a regular student increased by cyber schools across the state. We would need \$3,000 dollars and \$7,000 dollars for a special to raise school taxes over 9% next year to cover education student, an astounding 30% increase this cost. Unfortunately, there seems to be little from last year. formed of the educational impact our state rep- reform. I believe it will take individuals within resentatives can have on public education and communities to have a collective voice asking for let your voice be heard. Please check our web- this issue to be addressed. site and our Facebook pages for periodic information on school related topics.

What is NBC's major expenditure drivers?

The major drivers are salaries, retirement, health increases across the board. Raising taxes by 3% care, transportation, special education, and cyber will bring an additional \$113,212 dollars to the school. Retirement costs have risen by 29% district. This increase is well below the 7.3% inover the past fourteen years. For the second dex the district is allowed to raise taxes. Our time in a decade, the rate will be reduced state legislators could easily amend the law to by .26% for 2023/24 and be at 35%. It is pro- address cyber budget reform without impacting jected to stay at 35% for the next decade those constituents that demand school choice. though. the retirement costs for each employee; the in- address the financial disparity, but it will take crease in the retirement rate has a large impact each constituent speaking up to make it happen. on both state and local budgets. This directly Cyber parents and lobbyists have demonstrated impacts how much money can be used for in- a greater desire to speak out to keep cyber struction and education programming.

NBC continues to explore ways to reduce the im- cians to address. pact of health care costs over the years to come through negotiating various health care options. How has our conservative budgeting fared NBC is a member of the Bedford Somerset during this uncertain climate? Health Consortium- a member school district consortium which pools its resources to negoti- The general fund balance experienced a surplus ate lower premium rates for the member dis- of \$180,181 for the 2022/23 Fiscal Year (FY). tricts.

Wages and benefits are determined by negotiated bargaining agreements. The current collective

vanians, NBC has made use of a local cyber school that provides an on-line program for a flat The Cyber It is important to remain in- interest in Harrisburg to address cyber finance

As much as the board does not want to raise taxes, there is a very real possibility that increased taxes will be necessary to offset the cyber increases as well as other inflationary cost The state pays approximately half of There has been some traction in Harrisburg to school costs status quo than the public at large has done at making this a priority for the politi-

There are many contributing factors to this.

Revenues received in 2022/23 were higher than If the first answer is yes and two hours will not budgeted mainly due to state and federal COVID change the conditions, then we go on time. If 19 grants. Additional grant revenue also means conditions would change significantly, then I additional unbudgeted expenditures tied to those would delay. If the answer to the first question grants. The district takes the approach of budgeting conservatively in expenditures and revenues. A more detailed explanation can be found on the website in late January with the final audit report.

Does Northern Bedford do budget projections into the future?

Absolutely! The projection model uses as much actual information known for years going forward such as salary and retirement rates and makes conservative estimates for all unknown variables. Early dismissals will be determined by the inten-The surpluses obtained over the past three fiscal sity and timing of a storm. PennDot has shift years aids in our fund balance (savings account) preservation for future years.

What is the district doing with district monies?

The Board of School Directors has developed a priority list of projects, and the goal has been to systematically work through each project while keeping an eye on the district finances. Some of the latest approved projects to be completed in the Summer 2024 include: Wellness building and air conditioning in the elementary MPR. A total list of projects completed with ESSER monies, and the \$3 million line of credit is in the audit report which will be on the District Website in Mid-January.

What is the end goal for NBC school district?

Northern Bedford's goal is to have a fiscally sound school district that can provide an appropriate number of opportunities for students to develop their skills to think critically and be productive citizens when they graduate.

Weather Calls

We all know that weather can be very finicky and that the forecast is not always on target. You may be wondering how delays or cancellations are determined. First, are the roads passable and acceptable for buses? Second, will conditions improve or stay the same in a two-hour block of time?

is no and conditions are not going to improve then I will cancel school. I look at the latest information from multiple weather sites and have communications with our bus contractors, township personnel, school maintenance supervisor, and principals as necessary about our road/ school conditions to decide. I am making the decision for NBC not any other school. The issues that cause another school to delay may not be an issue for us.

changes at 12 noon and our early dismissal time is 1:00. Therefore, an early dismissal may not be advantageous for NBC. A regular dismissal may be the more appropriate decision to allow time for the state and township to properly plow and treat the roads.

Schools sometimes delay due to temperature. I look at the temperature change from 7:00AM to 9:00AM and would consider delaying if there was a significant improvement in the temperature. Otherwise, we go on time unless significant cold temperature/wind chill dictates closing for exposed skin, fuel issues with buses, or school issues.

Contact information for our local legislature.

http://www.reptopper.com/Contact.aspx **Representative Topper**

http://www.senatorlangerholc.com/ contact/ Senator Langerholc

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Northern Bedford County School District is to uphold high standards to educate each student for life as a responsible member of a global society.





Chris Abbott, joins the maintenance staff.

He graduated from Tussey Mountain and enjoys sports, particularly football and basketball.



William Bell, joins our maintenance staff.

Bill enjoys hunting and fishing.



Zachary Clark, joins our teaching staff as the MS/HS Boys Physical Education and Health teacher.

He obtained his degree from Lock Haven University.

Zach is also coaching our varsity girls wrestling team.

He enjoys coaching, disc golf, motocross and hunting.



Nicholas George, joins our high school teaching staff as the physics teacher.

He attended high school at Homer Center and obtained his teaching degree

from Penn State.

Mr. George stated, "I look forward to beginning my teaching career with NBC. I see a strong resemblance between NBC and my alma mater; both being small, rural communities. I am happy to be joining the NBC community."



Beth Klahre, joins our elementary staff as a kindergarten teacher.

She is a NBC graduate and obtained her degree from Central State University.

She enjoys crafting, reading, watching movies, playing card and board games, and watching her family participate in sports.

Beth commented, "I'm excited to be back! When I was here as the Head Start Pre-School teacher in 2021 I experienced something I wanted to be a bigger part of. There is a sense of community and pride that has drawn me back and I can't wait for this next chapter to begin.?

Welcome To Our School!



Jennifer Morrow,

joins our support staff as an instructional Aide.

Jen is a NBC graduate. She enjoys the outdoors, women's ministry activities at church and all of the sporting events with her 3 boys.

Jen stated, "I am very excited to become a part of the NBC family . It's great having my kids go to my alma matter and now to work here full time. I love the small town feel and values that NBC carries throughout generations."



Alexa Patton, joins our staff as the Middle School Counselor.

Alexa attended Tyrone School district, obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Juniata College and her Master's Degree in School

Counseling from Penn West University.

She enjoys playing disc golf, hiking, biking, painting, drawing and crocheting.

Alexa commented, "I am so excited to be a part of the NBC team! Everyone I have met so far has been wonderful. I am confident that together we can help kids reach their full potential and thrive!"



Allison Price, joins the elementary teaching staff as a special education teacher.

Allison is a NBC graduate and earned her Bachelors degree from Juniata College.

She enjoys reading, camping, boating, movies, and hanging out with family and friends.

Allison stated, "I am a graduate of Northern Bedford Class of 2014. I look forward to working with the students, staff, and administration at my alma mater!"



Misti Swope, joins our food service staff.

Misti enjoys reading, being outside, and spending time with family especially her 2 grandchildren.

Misti commented, "I am excited to be a part of the NBC family."



Shared Values of NBCSD

- 1. Learning is a lifelong process.
- 2. Parents or primary caregiver are a child's earliest teachers and remain critical influences.
- 3. All children can learn.
- 4. Every child deserves the best educational opportunity the school district can provide.
- 5. The developmental processes of pre-school children are enhanced through school-based early childhood program services.
- 6. Learning is a shared responsibility among students, teachers, parents, and community.
- 7. School is a focal point of the community.
- 8. The school is a moral force that both shapes and reflects community values.
- 9. A safe, orderly, and disciplined environment is essential for learning.
- 10. Curriculum and instruction must address the differing needs and learning styles of each student.
- 11. The high school diploma represents the acquisition of a core of academic skills.
- 12. The school strives to lead the community in the use of technology.
- 13. The school fosters an environment which builds positive relationships among all students.
- 14. The school stresses appreciation of the varied cultural influences which shape the world.
- 15. All school personnel serve as positive role models.
- 16. The school provides a caring influence which promotes emotional stability.

School Board Meetings

The Northern Bedford County Board of School Directors meets the second Tuesday of each month in Room 136 of the Middle/Senior High School in Loysburg, PA, at 6:00 PM unless otherwise advertised.

Four "P"s to Start the New Year Strong

Eating Well

by Jennie Miller, Food Service Director

Pre-Plan: Designate one day a week for meal planning. Plan breakfasts, lunches, and dinners for a 7-day period and post the plan where everyone can see it!

Pickup: Grocery pick up is a time and money saver growing in popularity. As soon as you finish meal planning, fill your digital cart and schedule a pickup that works for your schedule.

Prep: Whatever you can prep ahead is time saved! Wash and chop produce, divide proteins into the right portions, etc. That way when it's time to cook, you're already a step ahead.

Pre-Pack: Once the meals are planned, the groceries are picked up, and the ingredients are prepped, you're ready for the last step: Pre-pack snacks and meals for the week. Now everyone can grab and go!

Gather, Eat, GO! Family Dinner

What's one of the easiest things every family can do to improve their overall health? Eat dinner together as a family! Consistent family dinners are proven to raise grades and self-esteem, boost vocabulary and resilience, and are a first defense against childhood obesity and eating disorders. It's amazing what an hour at the table together can do for the whole family! This month, consider doing a Family Dinner Challenge. For 40-days, set aside time to eat together as a family.

Eat Colorfully

When you plan a meal, think COLOR. Why? The different, vibrant colors of fruits and vegetables represent the different nutrients that are necessary for a whole, healthy diet. This month, put a rainbow bowl on the menu! Start with a starch (grains, potatoes), add a fiber (beans, greens), plus protein (nuts or meats), then get adventurous with different vegetables, fruits, sauces, and/or herbs. The best thing about these bowls is they're also great to prep ahead of time!

For more ideas, check out: <u>https://www.wholekidsfoundation.org/blog/how-to-eat-a-rainbow</u>

NBC School Meals are Planned to be Delicious & Nutritious

Federal nutrition standards ensure that school meals are well-balanced and provide students all the nutrition they need to succeed. The meals served in our schools include lots of fresh fruits and vegetables. We take quality seriously. We cook from scratch and use "whole" food as often as possible.

Breakfast is served at NBC free of charge to all students for the 2023-2024 school year.

Nurse's Notes by Starla Snyder, Certified School Nurse

"What to Eat and Drink When You Have a Cold

When you are sniffling, sneezing, and coughing with a cold, eating may be the last thing that you want to do. And let's face it, even if you are hungry, nothing tastes good. So, is it important to "feed a cold?"

Eating well when you are sick helps boost your energy, which makes you feel better. More importantly, certain foods can also help you fight a cold, so recovery is quicker.

Foods to Eat When You Have a Cold

No food, or anything else, can cure a cold, but certain foods can support your immune system and help fight a cold. Even if you have a smaller appetite than usual, eating helps boost your energy. Try these:

- **Chicken soup**. It's a classic for many reasons. Soup is warm and easy on the stomach when you are not feeling well, but it is also hydrating and nourishing. Plus, the steam from hot soup helps clear congestion in your nose and sinuses.
- **Yogurt with fruit**. Yogurt is rich in probiotics, "good" bacteria that support your immune system. For the healthiest option, choose plain Greek yogurt for its high protein content. If you like, sweeten it with a drizzle of honey, which has antiviral properties.
- **Avocado toast**. Avocado is rich in healthy fats that reduce inflammation and support immune health. Use whole-grain bread for even more vitamins, minerals, and fiber.
- **Oatmeal**. This breakfast classic is satisfying and nourishing any time of the day. It provides vitamins, minerals, and beta-glucan fiber, which benefits your immune system.

What to Drink When You Have a Cold

Daily fluids are important, but they are essential when you have a cold. A runny, stuffy nose and increased mouth breathing cause you to lose fluid faster. Drink a minimum of eight glasses of fluid daily to prevent dehydration.

Water is always a great choice, but if you want some variety, try these:

- **Tea**. Green, black (ideally decaf), or herbal tea provide different types of immunesupporting antioxidants. For an extra boost, steep your tea with a few slices of fresh ginger and add honey.
- **Bone broth**. It provides protein along with vitamins and minerals.
- **Fruit smoothie**. These are a great option if you don't feel like a meal but want something both hydrating and filling. Blend frozen fruit, regular or plant milk and yogurt with a scoop of protein powder.
- **Tomato or vegetable juice**. These provide an extra boost of Vitamin C. To limit salt, choose low-sodium juices.
- **Coconut water**. Not only is coconut water refreshing, but it is also full of electrolytes.

Nurse's Notes by Starla Snyder, Certified School Nurse

Cold-Fighting Ingredients

You may not have the energy to prepare elaborate meals when you are under the weather. However, when you do cook, try to add those ingredients listed below. They have various vitamins, minerals, and other compounds that help fight a cold or make you feel better.

Because many of these ingredients are spicy and strong-flavored, they are great choices if you are having trouble tasting food. As a bonus, they can help clear your sinuses.

- Garlic has compounds that fight viruses and infections.
- **Ginger** can soothe an upset stomach or sore throat.
- Hot chili peppers can help clear a stuffy nose.
- **Citrus fruits** (oranges, grapefruit, or lemon) are rich in Vitamin C, which can stimulate your immune cells.
- Honey can help calm a cough, and it has antiviral properties.
- Mushrooms are another source of immune-stimulating beta-glucan fiber.
- Fermented cabbage dishes are good sources of probiotics that support immune health.
- **Pumpkin seeds** are a good source of zinc, which might reduce the length and severity of a cold.

Foods and Drinks to Avoid with a Cold

Just as certain foods support your immune system, others can suppress it. The main foods and beverages to steer clear of include:

- Foods high in added sugar, like desserts, cookies, ice cream, or sweetened soft drinks.
- Highly processed foods like packaged snacks, frozen dinners, ready-to-eat meals, and fast foods.
- **Caffeine-containing beverages** (like energy drinks). These not only stress your immune system, but they can also dehydrate you.

Certain ingredients and compounds in these foods and drinks can increase inflammation, making it harder for your body to fight a cold. If your diet is high in these, you may also be more likely to catch a cold or other viruses.

Colds are never fun, but they tend to run their course quickly. To feel better faster, stay hydrated and feed your cold with lots of nourishing, immune-boosting foods!"

Source: Virgina Balderston, MD, HealthQuest Medical Associates-UPMC (04/26/2023)



Elementary School Activities

The Music Department at the Elementary School has been very busy this fall. 4th and 5th grade Chorus sang "Proud of Our Veterans" at the Veteran's Day Assembly on November 9.

All 80 2nd graders prepared the musical "Pirates!" They sang for the whole school on November 14th. That evening they sang to a full house of family and friends.



The 5th graders presented their Christmas musical "Simply Carols" on December 12 in the High School Auditorium. The 4th and 5th grade chorus will also sing several carols. Both groups sang for the public that same evening at 7:00.





Finally, we all "Sing around the Tree" before our winter break.



Elementary Mathletes Face Off in Math Match Opener!

The highly anticipated Basic Math Fact Competition was held in the elementary lobby on November 21 with much enthusiasm to be heard. The elementary's Little Panthers looked quite sharp showing off their basic math fact accuracy and speed during the Grades 2, 3, 4, and 5 competitions between grade level teams.

According to Mrs. Kandy Troutman, elementary math specialist, the competition is conducted like this...each grade level has students divided into four teams. The competition consists of two rounds with two teams facing off each round. The winning teams from each round then grapple against each other for the overall grade level championship. Two students from both teams take part to be the first to correctly answer the basic facts. The winner remains in the competition while the other student is eliminated. The objective is to be the last team with students standing.

Popsicles were awarded to the Champs this match along with their team picture hung in the elementary office window.

The next Math Competition will be held in January. Grades 3, 4, and 5 will be competing with subtraction facts, while second graders will continue to compete in addition facts up to 18.

Addition Math Competition Champions

Grade 2 Addition up to 10 and Doubles Facts Champs-The Squares Grade 3 Addition up to 18 Facts Champs – The Cylinders Grade 4 Addition up to 18 Facts Champs – The Sums Grade 5 Addition up to 18 Facts Champs – The Pentagons



Grade 2 Addition up to 10 Champs Team "The Squares"



Grade 3 Addition up to 18 Champs Team "Cylinders"



Grade 4 Addition up to 18 Champs Team "The Sums"



Grade 5 Addition up to 18 Champs Team "The Pentagons"

Middle School Activities

Career Ag Fair

Seventh and eighth grade students attended the Agri-Business Career Fair this year at the Bedford Fairgrounds. This career fair featured almost 20 Bedford County businesses that were tied to agriculture in some way. Students met with businesses such as Leader's Farm Equipment, the Bedford Farm Bureau, Hometown Bank, and Dairyside Veterinary. This event was organized by the Bedford County Chamber of Commerce.





The Healing Patch

When a person experiences a loss, the range of emotions that arise can collectively be referred to as grief. Loss can refer to situations such as: moving schools, the ending of a friendship, death of a pet or a loved one, such as a parent, sibling, grandparent or friend. Grief can be a difficult emotion for children and teens to cope with. To help our students understand the types of feelings that can develop and learn skills on how to cope with those emotions, a representative from the Home Nursing Agency Foundation's Healing Patch Children's Grief Program provided an annual presentation to our 8th grade students.



PRIDE

Middle School and High School student PRIDE teams have been working together to promote and maintain a positive and fun educational environment. Students and staff work together to hold fun events, such as assemblies, tournaments, and pep rallies. This year PRIDE decided to try something new and hosted a "Friendsgiving." Due to weather, the high school held one in the gymnasium while the middle school was fortunate enough to be able to hold one in the courtyard. The middle school "Friendsgiving" included campfires, smores, hot chocolate, cornhole, and socializing with friends. This was a great way to express our gratitude for each other as we headed into the Thanksgiving break.





After 3 - MS/HS Programming

The Middle School/High School After 3 program is designed to provide students with an hour of homework/tutoring time following the regularly scheduled school day while providing them with interactive lessons and activities to enhance their education experience and promote cooperative learning. Program coordinators, Mrs. Marcy Brumbaugh and Mrs. Jennifer Mowery have been planning and implementing activities that include making crafts, applesauce, apple dumplings, and Christmas cards so far this year. Students in this program completed a service learning project by creating flower boxes that will deco-



rate the outside patio area in the middle school. They also have provided STEM and biomedical lessons to our students. The After 3 program is funded by a grant that is provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Education through a cooperative agreement with Bedford County schools. More than thirty students are currently enrolled in this program for the 23-24 school year.



The Northern Bedford Middle School, for the first time, as far as we know, a Middle School-specific theatrical production that was presented on December 9, 2023. This production utilized students solely from the NBC Middle School, and was open to any students in grades 6-8. Opportunities in performance, design, and technical elements of theatre were available. Additionally, NBC high school students will be working alongside our middle school students, serving in roles as coaches and mentors, as students gain valuable, and educational opportunities in theatre, and also leader-ship. This endeavor was led by Mr. Brett Keith, who was excited to share additional theatrical opportunities to all of our students, as well expand the performance arts offered to our students and community.

High School Activities



The NBC Marching band debuted their new uniforms this season. The halftime show "Smells like Band Spirit" included multiple hits from the late 90's and early 2000's. As always, the band continued to impress our community with their musical talents.

Students in STEM 10 have been learning to program and code robots. The students code their robots to run a maze they created in class. These skills will later be used to make the robots manipulate items with arms!



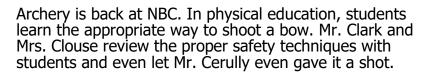


The NBC business courses often bring in members of our community to discuss a plethora of career opportunities without our region. In October, we were very lucky to have Codie Rodland (NBC '04) and Earl Springer from Sheetz visit our students. Students learned about the history of the business, marketing, and about the 725 different jobs that Sheetz offers.



Mr. Barton's current issues class visited our nation's capital. The students got to meet our representative Dr. John Joyce, tour the capitol building, watch a floor speech, and visited the holocaust museum. The students learned a lot from the trip and got to see our government at work.

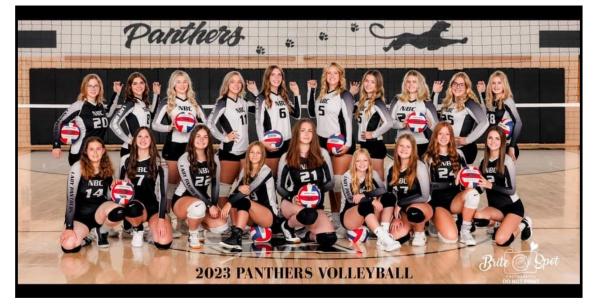
The NBC FFA students traveled to Indianapolis, Indiana for the 96th National FFA Convention. In addition to the convention, the students visited various farms to better understand the operations.



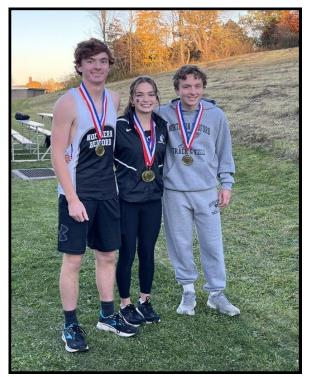




NBC Athletics



The Northern Bedford Volleyball team finished their season as the ICC co-champions with a record of 15-5. The girls had a great season and showed growth both as a team and as individuals.



The Northern Bedford County High School Cross Country team sent three students Dhylan Miller, Savannah Hershberger, and Chase Imes to Hershey for the Pennsylvania State meet. We'd like to offer a special congratulations to Savannah Hershberger who won the District 5 Title.



The Northern Bedford Black Panthers Football team won the District 5 A Championship against Windber on Thursday, November 9th. We'd like to congratulate Coach Black and the entire team on a successful undefeated season and district championship.





















Homecoming 2023

King and Queen Brock Beach and Dani Imler

1st Runner Up Rece Dibert and Halle Lingenfelter



NBC HS/MS Courtyard Christmas Tree

The courtyard Christmas tree is selected in early November by Mrs. Pritchett and Mrs. Pressel. The tree is then cut down and brought to the school by Mr. Mellott and Mr. Fisher. The custodial staff help with securing the tree in it's final resting spot with the star installed. This year we had a few middle school teachers volunteer to install the lights for everyone to enjoy. Thank you to all involved in making this new NBC tradition possible.





Homeless Initiative Information

The Homeless Children's initiative ensures homeless children and youth a free and appropriate public education on an equal basis with all other children of Pennsylvania. Program objectives and activities are intended to remove barriers to enrollment and educational success, and to ensure that education is as uninterrupted as possible while students are homeless.

Definitions of Homelessness

A child is considered homeless if he or she is living with or without a parent:

- In a homeless or domestic violence shelter
- In a public or private place not designated as regular sleeping accommodation, such as a vehicle, park, hotel or campground
- With relatives or friends due to lack of housing ("doubled up")
- Outside of his or her home as a runaway or because he/she has been forced out of the home
- In a house for unwed mothers with no other options for living accommodations
- In any of the situations listed above as a child of a migrant family
- Homeless children reside in situations that are not <u>fixed</u>, regular or adequate.

Barriers Facing Homeless Children

Homeless children face a variety of legal, social and emotional barriers that may interrupt their education. They include:

- Lack of school supplies and clothing
- Residency and guardianship requirements
- Lapses in program continuity
- Delays in educational evaluations
- Lack of transportation to school
- Missing academic and health records
- Lack of awareness regarding the extent and effects of homelessness
- Inadequate parental resources
- Social stigma attached to homelessness

How Homeless Children's Initiative Coordinators Can Help

- Assisting with school enrollment and placement
- Providing referrals for clothing, food, shelter, rent, medical services, preschool, housing, advocacy, counseling, etc.
- Coordinating transportation to and from school
- Implementing tutoring and enrichment services in shelters and other settings
- Coordinating support services
- Distributing literature regarding homeless children
- Providing training and in-service related to the McKinney-Vento Act
- Increasing public awareness of homelessness
- Assisting with obtaining school clothing, shoes and supplies for homeless students

How School Personnel Can Help

- School administrators can help by knowing the rights of the homeless and encouraging sensitivity
- Identified Homeless Liaisons can identify and track homeless students, train district staff on Federal and State policies, and contact HCI staff with questions and requests for technical assistance
- Principals can create a welcoming environment for homeless families
- School secretaries can discreetly assist parents with forms and paperwork
- Counselors can refer for needed services
- School Nurses can expedite immunization and health record transfers
- Transportation staff can arrange for children to attend their school of origin

Homeless Students

Under McKinney Vento all school districts are responsible for identifying students experiencing homelessness and connecting them with the resources need to ensure academic success.

Who is considered homeless?—Children or youth living in a shelter, transitional housing, hotel/motel, vehicle, campground, on the street or doubled up with friends or family due to a lack of alternate resources are considered homeless. An unaccompanied homeless youth is a child or youth that is not in the care of their parent or legal guardian and meets the definition of homeless under McKinney Vento.

Where can students experiencing homelessness attend school?—The law indicates that homeless students have the right to remain in their school origin (the school they attended at the time of the homeless episode or last school attended) through the end of the school year in which they find permanent housing, provided it is in the child/youth's best interest. If through consultation between the school and the family and/or unaccompanied youth it is determined that remaining in the school of origin is not in the student's best interest, then the student has the right to immediately enroll in the school that non-homeless students living in the attendance area in which the child/youth is actually living are eligible to attend, even if they do not have all of the required documentation. Additionally, unaccompanied homeless youth have the right to immediately enroll in school, even if they do not have a legal guardian present.

What supports can school districts provide to homeless students?—Homeless students are eligible for supports and services to remove barriers to educational success. This may include transportation to the school of origin, free meals, referrals to physical/mental health providers, clothing to meet school requirements, access to school supplies and resources, assistance with credit recovery, tutoring supports, expedited evaluations and assistance to participate in school activities including parent engagement opportunities, sports, club, etc.

Homeless Dispute Process—If at any time there is a disagreement about homeless status or best interest for school placement, the district will notify the family in writing of their determination that the family/unaccompanied youth is ineligible for McKinney Vento services. At this time, the district will provide the family/unaccompanied youth with the ability to dispute their determination. Throughout the dispute process, the child/youth, including unaccompanied youth, will continue to be educated in the school of origin or immediately enrolled in the school they are seeking enrollment until the dispute process is finalized. Transportation will continue throughout the dispute process. All disputes will be sent to the ECYEH Regional Coordinator who will issue a determination. If any party is unhappy with the determination, they can elevate the dispute to the state coordinator.

What if I think that I am eligible for services under McKinney Vento?--Please contact your respective building principal:

Mr. Trevor Replogle, Elementary School Principal Mrs. Kendra Pritchett, Middle School Principal Mr. Shawn Cerully, High School Principal Published for residents of Northern Bedford County School District

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Madison G. Brumbaugh Elementary School Counselor

> Starla J. Snyder School Nurse

Northern Bedford County SD 152 NBC Drive Loysburg, PA 16659-9549

Ph 766-2221 • Fax 766-3772

Upcoming School Events

January 15 No School (Act 80 Teacher In-Service)
January 15
February 16
February 19 No School (Make Up Day #3; Presidents' Day)
March 7
March 8
March 22
March 29
April 1
April 2
April 26
May 6
May 15
May 27
May 30 Last Day for Students (2-Hour Early Dismissal/Graduation)
May 31

HOME OF THE PANTHERS



Equal Opportunity Education Institution - Northern Bedford County School District, along with our <u>Career and Technical Education</u> (<u>CTE) programs</u>, is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, and handicap in its activities, programs, or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504. For information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures, contact Mr. Todd Beatty, sec. 504 coordinator, at 152 NBC Drive, Loysburg, PA 16659 (814) 766-2221 or email at <u>tbeatty@nbcsd.org</u>. For information regarding services, activities and facilities that are accessible to and useable by handicapped persons, contact the District Superintendent, Todd Beatty, at the above address or telephone number.