



## NMRSD Update November 13, 2023

### NMRHS Giving Tree

"The North Middlesex Giving Tree is a high school student-run organization that works to assist local families during the holiday season by providing gifts for children and Thanksgiving food baskets for families. The Giving Tree sponsors over 300 children each year, so your assistance is greatly appreciated!

If you know of any local families whom we may be able to help out this holiday season, please contact us at [nmgivingtree@nmrsd.org](mailto:nmgivingtree@nmrsd.org) and let us know! Our deadline for accepting new families is November 20th."

### HBMS Choir Fundraiser

HBMS CHOIR PROGRAM  
**CAROL GRAMS FUNDRAISER**

**DECEMBER 15th**  
(Snow Date Dec. 16th)  
Arrives between  
5 - 8 p.m.  
Townsend & Ashby

Send a Carol-Gram to someone special!

Performed by our 5-8 Grade Choir Members

1 Carol for \$5  
2 Carols for \$8  
3 Carols for \$10  
4 Carols for \$15  
5 Carols for \$20  
Bonus Carol for \$5

Choose from:

- Jingle Bells
- Joy to the World
- Dreidel Dreidel Dreidel
- We Wish You a Merry Christmas
- Feliz Navidad
- Bonus Carol - All I Want for Christmas by Mariah Carey

Scan the QR Code to order your Carol Gram!  
<https://hbms-choir.cheddarup.com>

## **NMRSD Food Drive**

All seven North Middlesex School District schools will join forces in a food drive to benefit our local food pantries!

This event, being billed as ‘Stuff The Bus,’ involves each school serving as a food donation site and, at the end of their drive, filling the North Middlesex Regional School District mini-bus with everything they collected.

Once ‘stuffed,’ the donations will be delivered to TEO and PACH in time for the Holiday and winter months ahead.

The bus will also appear at Baileys Bar & Grille, where patrons can donate to our cause and receive a \$10 voucher, good at all three MRG locations.

We will also be parked at Hannaford on Saturday the 16th, where grocery shoppers can donate food while completing their shopping.

Please bring your food donations and drop them off at any of our schools, Bailey’s or Hannaford.

Let’s ‘Stuff The Bus’ for those in our community!

**North Middlesex School District**

**STUFF the BUS FOOD DRIVE**

**December 6th - December 20th**

**School Drop Off Locations**

- North Middlesex IIS
- Ashby Elementary
- Varnum Brook Elementary
- Nissitissit MS
- Squannacook Early Childhood
- Hawthorne Brook MS
- Spaulding Memorial

**Needs**

- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Hand Soap & Dish Soap
- Aluminum Foil
- Taco & Chilli Seasoning
- Knorr Rice & Pasta Sides
- Hormel Instant Meals
- Condiments & Spices
- Jello & Pudding Cups
- Veggie Straws
- Gluten Free Snacks
- Breakfast Cereal
- Pancake Mix & Syrup
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Granola
- Cereal Bars
- Juice Boxes and Bottles
- Canned Fruits & Vegetables
- Canned Soups
- Canned Tuna & Chicken
- Boxed Rice, Quinoa
- Instant Potatoes
- Scalloped Potatoes
- Pasta & Sauce

**Catch the bus, December 9th at**

**Bailey's BAR & GRILLE**

**Get a MRG \$10 voucher for your food donation.**

**Voucher is good from January 1 - March 1**

**December 16th the bus will be at**

**Hannaford**

**THANK YOU**

### **NMRHS Baseball**

Brighten up your Holiday table with a specially marked bouquet purchased from our local Hannaford's Supermarket (Harbor Village) during December, and support our high school baseball program with each purchase!

**Give the Best Gift**

**Hannaford**

Give the gift of a Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet. During the month of **December**, every purchase of this bouquet at our selected Hannaford will send us \$1.

[hannafood.2givelocal.com](http://hannafood.2givelocal.com)  
Bloomin' 4 Good Program

The purchase of this bouquet sends \$1 donation to our beneficiaries.

**Benefiting Organization:**  
North Middlesex Regional HS Baseball

**At This Hannaford Location:**  
Harbor Village Plaza  
18 Main Street  
Townsend, MA

### **Outstanding School Lunch Balance**

Townsend Ecumenical Outreach (TEO) recently contacted the district with an offer to help families who may have an outstanding school lunch balance. Families in this situation are encouraged to contact Kym at 978-877-6002 or [info@teo-ma.org](mailto:info@teo-ma.org) for support in satisfying outstanding balances.

### **Building Counselors**

As the role of traditional school counselors (previously referred to as Guidance Counselors) has evolved to meet the needs of our students, please read this article to learn more about the role of a school counselor in today's schools:

[Guidance-Counselor-vs-School-Counselor](#)

For more information on this, please contact your child's school counselor.

### **Parents/Caregivers - Who to Contact**

Very often, students and/or caregivers are unsure who to contact in the North Middlesex Regional School District in case of questions, concerns, or problems.

Please direct these to the appropriate contact(s) below to ensure a prompt response.

*Classroom issues...*contact the teacher first. If you have additional concerns, contact the School counselor. If you are still concerned, contact the building Principal.

*Scheduling issues...*contact the School Counselor first. If you have additional concerns, contact the building Assistant Principal/Principal.

*Curriculum issues...*contact the appropriate teacher first. If you have additional concerns, contact the building Principal. Finally, contact the Assistant Superintendent's office to speak with the applicable Director.

*Special Education issues...*contact the appropriate teacher(s) first and then your son/daughter's special education liaison (listed on your child's IEP), if warranted. If you have additional concerns, contact the building Assistant Principal/Principal. Finally, contact the Student Services office.

*Behavioral issues...*contact the teacher first. If you are still concerned, contact the Guidance Counselor and then the building Assistant Principal/Principal.

*Social, emotional, personal, health, or family issues...*contact the School/Adjustment Counselor or the nurse to discuss your concerns with them. If necessary, also contact the building Assistant Principal/Principal. Contact the Student Services office if you feel your concern has gone unresolved.

*Homeless or temporary housing (McKinney Vento Status):* Contact the Guidance Counselor and inform them of your status. In some instances, they may direct you to the building Principal. Finally, contact the Student Services office. The homeless liaison (Brad Brooks) will be notified of the status, and transportation will be arranged through his office (if needed).

*Athletics issues...*contact the coach first. If you are still concerned, contact the Director of Athletics. Finally, contact the Principal.

*Attendance issues...*contact the School Counselor first. If attendance issues continue, contact the building Assistant Principal/Principal.

*Report Cards & Transcripts...*contact the School Counselor first. If you have additional questions, contact the building Assistant Principal/Principal.

*Harassment & Discrimination...*contact building Principal. If you are still concerned, contact the Title IX and VI Coordinators. Finally, contact the Human Resources office.

*Bullying...*contact the School Counselor. If you are still concerned, contact the building Assistant Principal/Principal.

*Technology questions and/or issues...*contact the district technology office.

*Student Activities/Clubs...*contact the advisor first. If you are still concerned, contact the building Assistant Principal/Principal.

*Special Education Transportation (VanPool Transportation)...*contact the Student Services office.

*Transportation (Dee Bus)...*contact the building secretary, followed by the building Assistant Principal/Principal. Finally, contact the business office.

*Food Service...*contact the Food Services Manager. Finally, contact the business office.

*Ethics Questions...*contact the Massachusetts State Ethics Commission. The Commission's Legal Division provides free, confidential advice to anyone subject to the conflict of interest law. To obtain advice from the Commission, call (617) 371-9500 or (888) 485-4766 or request advice online.

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/state-ethics-commission-frequently-asked-questions>

*District Policies...*contact your School Committee representative or the committee chairperson.

For email contact to a specific faculty, staff, or committee member, please enter the person's first initial and last name @nmrsd.org, for example, [jdoe@nmrsd.org](mailto:jdoe@nmrsd.org).

**2023-2024 NMRSD Administrative Team**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>School</b>
Anne Cromwell-Gapp	Principal Extended Day Program Coordinator	AES
Kate Guziejka	Principal	SMS
Stephanie Thompson	Assistant Principal	SMS
Ami Dolan	Co-Principal	VBES
Meghan Branco	Co-Principal	VBES
Chantele Olmstead	Principal	HBMS
Jason White	Assistant Principal	HBMS
Lauren Young	Principal	NMS
Evan Worth	Assistant Principal	NMS
Tim McMahon	Principal	NMRHS
Laurie Smith	Assistant Principal	NMRHS
Ryan Demar	Assistant Principal	NMRHS
Matt Dawson	Athletic Director & Facility Rentals	NMRHS
David Amari	Director of Facilities and Grounds	District
Cathryn Hampson	Supervisor of Health Services	District
Jeremy Hamond	Director of Operations Technology Facility Use Student Registration	District
Nancy Haines	Business Manager	District
Anne Marie Tucciarone-Mahan	Director of Human Resources	District

	Title VI/IX Coordinator for Staff	
Brad Brooks	Director of Student Services Special Education Counseling Homeless Liaison ADA Compliance Officer	District
John Judge	Assistant Director of Special Education Out-of-District Coordinator SECC Administrative Supervisor	District
Diane Gleason	Administrative Coach Grant Writer	District
Margaret Desilets	Evaluation Team Leader	District
Gary Burboa-Reese	Assistant Superintendent Homeschooling Title VI/IX Coordinator for Students	District
Kevin Cormier	Director of STEM (Math, Science, & Engineering)	District
Lisa Comeau	Director of Humanities (English, Language Arts, History & Social Sciences)	District
Brad Morgan	Superintendent	District

### **2023-2024 School Committee Meeting Dates**

For now, all sub-committee and most school committee meetings will continue to be virtual as we continue to receive feedback that it is more convenient for the public to attend. Attendance at school committee meetings is one of the best ways to remain current with district policy, budgetary matters, and news.

Unless noted otherwise, all meetings are held on Thursday evenings and begin at 6:00 p.m. For the full docket of meetings, please click on the link below:

[SC Meeting Calendar.pdf](#)

Please note these dates are subject to change as committee business necessitates.

### **2023-2024 School Calendar**

For the full 2023-2024 school calendar, please click the link below:

[School Calendar](#)

### **2023-2024 Caregiver-Teacher Conferences (November/March)**

Due to the feedback we received, this year will be a little different than the past couple of years and will be as follows:

***Elementary*** will encourage in-person but offer virtual if requested.

***Middle*** will remain virtual.

Please keep in mind that while these are scheduled conference blocks, caregivers can request, either through the teacher or a guidance counselor, a meeting as well. Every effort needs to be made to ensure that these requests are granted in a timely manner.

### **NMRSD Adopt a Spot Program**

We will continue the NMRSD "Adopt a Spot" Program, which provides opportunities for companies, civic groups, and community members to adopt a "spot" (island/mulch bed/entryway) to create attractive, welcoming "oases" throughout the District. Adopters agree to invest "sweat equity" to maintain a spot at one of our schools, in return for which an Adopt a Spot sign recognizing the spot's adopter will be installed by the District. Adopters agree to maintain the area for one fiscal year (July-June) during the summer, fall, and spring seasons. Spots are available at all of our schools.



To begin the process of becoming a Spot Adopter, please contact Andrea Royer at 978-597-8713 ext. 1900 to find a spot that suits your interest and discuss guidelines.