



Ritu Ahuja  
Principal

# The BEST of Northwood Elementary

Check out our school website! [www.northwoodelementary.com](http://www.northwoodelementary.com)



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**BEST = Building Excellence Successfully Together**

**August 16, 2019**

## Calendar Dates:

August 18	PTA Kindergarten Playdate – <b>CANCELLED</b> (due to heat) - Will be rescheduled in the fall
August 20	Julia Bernath Community Mtg. - Johns Creek Environmental CTR 9:30AM
August 25	PTA First Grade Parents Night Out at Senor Patron 7:00-9:00PM
August 26-30	PTA Enrichment Fund Week –See below under PTA
August 28	Curriculum Night Grades 1, 2, and 5 (5:30 – 7:00PM)
August 29	Curriculum Night Kindergarten, 3, and 4 (5:30 - 7:00 PM)
August 30	Parent Academy-Understanding My Child's GA Milestones 7:45 am
August 30	PTA Bruster's Night
September 2	Labor Day Holiday – No School
September 3	School Governance Council (SGC) Release Day - Students Stay Home

Welcome to Northwood Elementary's first edition of the BEST for 2019-2020. For those of you who are new to Northwood, the BEST will be emailed to you each Friday.

**Important: 2019-20 School Governance Release Days for Students:**  
**9/3/19, 10/10/19, 2/14/19, and 3/12/20**

**These are work days for teachers - students do NOT attend school on these dates. Please make alternative arrangements for your students on these days.**

## Visitor/Volunteer Procedures 2019-2020

**All parents must follow the volunteer procedures below – Any previous volunteer must re-apply for volunteer status. Please allow 24-48 hours to process.**

We welcome visitors and volunteers to our school! Many procedures have been put into place by our school district to ensure the safety of all students when a visitor or volunteer is on campus. Sometimes these processes can seem cumbersome, but we appreciate your patience in helping us maintain our number one focus; the safety of our children!

[Please see details on new visitor/volunteer procedures](#)

## **Kids Hope USA at Northwood**

We are excited to offer a mentoring program here at Northwood, in partnership with Northminster Presbyterian Church and Kids Hope USA, in which selected students will have an opportunity to meet with a mentor for one hour each week throughout the school year, focusing on the child's emotional, social, and academic needs. The program will begin for the new school year next month, and further information will be provided to parents whose children are eligible to participate. Training and support will be provided to the mentors.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a mentor, and building a one-on-one relationship with another Northwood child, please contact Lisa Hubbert at [lhubbert@mindspring.com](mailto:lhubbert@mindspring.com) to find out more.

## HANDBOOK HIGHLIGHTS

### ARRIVAL

The school day for students begins at 7:40 a.m. Students are permitted to enter the school building at 7:10 a.m. after the school bell rings. If you are carpooling, students are expected to remain in cars with their parents until the bell rings at 7:10. Parents are not permitted to drop off their children unsupervised outside/inside the school any time before 7:10. These procedures are in place for the safety of all students.

### BIRTHDAYS

Your child will be recognized on his/her special day, with an announcement on Explorervision and a special birthday pencil. **Please do not send cake, cupcakes, balloons, party favors, or party invitations to school as these will not be distributed.** If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday at school, you may purchase a special treat from our cafeteria for your child's class. More information and pricing will be available on Northwood's website or you may contact our Cafeteria Manger Lisa Sutton at [Suttonlf@fultonschools.org](mailto:Suttonlf@fultonschools.org).

### Bus Changes

Students must get on and off the bus at their own stop. Students may not ride another bus for the purpose of visiting a friend. If it is necessary to change buses due to a long term childcare situation, written authorization must be obtained from the Fulton County Transportation Department at 470-254-2970. Children may only ride the assigned bus or exit at their assigned bus stop. Bus stop changes can be made for child care purposes only. One day changes must be approved by a building level administrator and long term changes must be approved by Transportation North. **IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS ONLY**, a building level administrator may grant bus changes. Parents must send a written request to an administrator. **The method of transportation will not be altered without a written request from a parent and approval from the administration.**

### EARLY CHECK-OUT PROCEDURES

The school day ends at 2:20 p.m. Please avoid early checkouts as instruction goes on until 2:15; however, if your child **must** be checked out early, do so before 2:00 p.m. After 2:00, students will be sent using normal dismissal procedures so as not to interfere with the school-wide dismissal process. **All check-out changes must be in writing. You may find our change in transportation form on our website.** You can send a note with your child in the morning or drop off the note during the day before 1:50. **No changes will be accepted through email or phone call. Faxes will be accepted only in case of an emergency and have to be approved by an administrator. Faxes will require a photo id along with the request.** Any student leaving before the regular dismissal time may only be signed out through the office by a custodial parent or an adult listed as an emergency contact. Do not go directly to your child's room—teachers are instructed not to dismiss students to adults at their door. **Be prepared to show your driver's license when checking out students.**

### WHO'S NEW AT NORTHWOOD

We are very lucky to have the following staff  
join the Northwood team.

Michelle Levine	Assistant Principal	Kathleen Casul	Teacher
Maureen Innes	Psychologist	Lauren Coachman	SDI Coach
Lauren Cole	Third Grade	Marilou Escalante	SDI Coach
Allison Melton	Third Grade	David Cheek	PE Itinerant
Dominique Alonso	Teacher	Matthew Cerione	PE Itinerant



Sunday August 25th- First Grade Parents Night Out at Senor Patron 7-9pm

Questions: Please contact Sarah Levin [social@northwoodpta.com](mailto:social@northwoodpta.com)

## Enrichment Fund Week is Coming! August 26<sup>th</sup> – August 30<sup>th</sup>

Enrichment Fund Drive is a fabulous week of giving and fun. During this week, students get to participate in fun activities each day for the chance to win rewards for most participation. It's also a big week for the Northwood community, as this week is our big rally to earn donations that directly help fund things like school buses for field trips, new courtyard developments, and expanded math curriculums for our students!

Please go directly to [https://northwoodpta.membershiptoolkit.com/open\\_forms](https://northwoodpta.membershiptoolkit.com/open_forms) and select the 'Donation Any Time' option to donate to the Enrichment Fund today!



### ENRICHMENT FUND WEEK: UNDER THE BIG TOP!

WHEN: AUGUST 26<sup>TH</sup> – AUGUST 30<sup>TH</sup>

Help us reach our goal by August 30<sup>th</sup>!

\*\*\* **\$20,000** \*\*\*

**COME JOIN THE NORTHWOOD CIRCUS!**

**Monday: We've Got Spirit Day!**

Wear your Northwood colors and gear! Take pictures and tag Northwood Elementary PTA on [FaceBook](#) or [@Northwood\\_Explorers\\_Official](#) on Instagram with the hashtag **#WeAreNorthwood** to enter to win free passes and prizes from Area 51 mini golf. Winner announced Friday.

**Tuesday: Crazy Hair Day**

Crazy hair—don't care! Ditch the top hat and have fun with your hair as you express your Northwood pride. *\*Please respect the Student Handbook guidelines.*

**Wednesday: Clownin' Around with Crazy Socks**

Rock your crazy socks loud and proud! Got Northwood socks? Break them out!

**Thursday: Circus Animal Day**

It's a bird...it's a plane...no, it's...our Northwood circus animals! Wear the colors of your favorite animals! Bring on the show!

**Friday: Compassion Day and Scream 'N Nuts Celebration**

"Sprinkle Kindness" on our friends and faculty. Pay \$1 to send two notes to the compassion wall for all to see. Also, join us at Scream 'N Nuts **all day**, mention Northwood, and we earn 20% of all proceeds! Compassion Note purchases begin Monday and will be hung on Friday.

**All Week: Spare Change Drive & Compassion Notes**

These are two great opportunities for the students to participate in the fundraising efforts!

- **Spare Change Drive:** Each hall will have spare change collection jars by grade. **The grade** that collects the most spare change will award each student a free round of mini golf from our partners at Area 51!
- **Compassion Notes:** The compassion notes are pre-filled words of encouragement and gratitude to share with the whole school! \$1 purchases 2 notes that will be hung on our "Sprinkle Kindness" wall!

### HOW ARE THE FUNDS USED & WHAT'S THE BENEFIT?

All contributions are tax deductible, and all proceeds directly benefit Northwood Elementary for things like:

- Field Trips and Buses
- Supplies for Math Curriculums
- New Courtyard

### HOW CAN I DONATE?

**DONATION IS FAST AND EASY BY:**

- ✓ Purchasing a PTA Membership with Enrichment Fund Contribution
- ✓ Writing a check to Northwood Elementary PTA
- ✓ Encouraging your children to bring in spare change or purchase compassion notes

Visit [www.NorthwoodPTA.com](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com) to donate today!



For more information or for questions, please email [vp4@northwoodpta.com](mailto:vp4@northwoodpta.com)



Thank you to the following businesses who donated items to our amazing teachers for back to school.

- **Area 51- Aurora Cineplex and The Fringe Mini Golf**  
5100 Commerce Parkway
- **Corner Bakery Cafe**  
10920 Haynes Bridge Road
- **Hola Taqueria**  
688 Holcomb Bridge Road
- **Office Depot**  
1580 Holcomb Bridge Road
- **Pike Nurseries**  
2955 Holcomb Bridge Road
- **The School Box**  
6270 North Point Parkway
- **Versona**  
7300 North Point Parkway
- **Walmart Supercenter**  
970 Mansell Road

**\*We are happy to provide information about the following programs, but please note that they are not sponsored by Northwood Elementary School\*\*\***

#### **Centennial Junior Knights Lacrosse Registration for Fall 2019 is now OPEN!**



Lacrosse is the fastest-growing sport in the U.S. It's a SUPER-FUN game that's based on non-stop action and teamwork. The Centennial Junior Knights have teams for both boys and girls in elementary school and middle school. No previous lacrosse experience is necessary. We're looking to recruit brand-new players! (loaner equipment is available, if needed)

**For the Fall 2019 season, we will offer the following:**

##### **BOYS' PROGRAMS**

**U9** (grades 2-3)

**U11** (grades 4-5)

**Middle School** (grades 6-8)

##### **GIRLS' PROGRAMS**

**U11** (grades 4-5)

**Middle School** (grades 6-8)

## **Paint Can Recycling Fundraiser - Time to Declutter for a Good Cause!**

Bring your used paint cans to be recycled and disposed of properly! You'll benefit the **Centennial HS Girls Volleyball** team and it will declutter your basement or garage. The recycling fundraiser will be held on **Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup> from 8am-2pm** in the **Centennial High School parking lot**. Customers pay a per-can fee for disposal. For example, to dispose of a gallon latex can, the fee \$3. All latex and oil-based paints in any size container, including spray cans, are accepted.

Details & pricing can be found at [www.centennialathletics.com/girls\\_volleyball](http://www.centennialathletics.com/girls_volleyball)



Lunch Menu

## Cafeteria News

Visitors are welcome to eat with their children beginning **Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup>**. Adult lunches are \$3.45. Please have only your child join you at the designated visitor tables. Please remember that outside food is not allowed. This can be a special “Parent and Me” treat.

### Announcement for School Breakfast Programs:

Your friendly cafeteria staff would like to Welcome Back all students! Did you know that a hot and fresh breakfast is served every morning in the cafeteria? It's a proven fact that breakfast helps jumpstart your brain for a day full of activity and learning – so be sure your child starts their school day ready to go with a delicious breakfast! We invite your child to visit the cafeteria from 7:10AM to 7:35AM to get their breakfast! The cost is \$1.10.

### Lunch Menu – August 19-23

<http://www.fultonschools.org/en/divisions/ops/Nutrition/Pages/MenuCalendars.aspx>

**8/19 – Italian Pasta Bake – Chicken Taquito – Cheese Pizza Pack**

**8/20 – Tangerine Chicken – Burger Sliders – Jamwich Pack**

**8/21 – Salisbury Steak – Chicken Filet Sandwich – Hummus Plate**

**8/22 – BBQ Pork – Cheese Stuffed Breadstick – Turkey Chef Salad**

**8/23 – Seafood Basket – Cheese Pizza – Meat Lover's Pizza – Lunchbox Buddy**

Equal Opportunity Agency

Compliance Coordinator 404-763-4585

TTY: 1-800-255-0135