

NES Connection

Northern Elementary Summer Update, August 08, 2021

Sunday Connections Resume!

Sunday Connections resume with the intention of keeping families and faculty updated on our strategic planning, fall reopening and community celebration.

Some weeks may be sparse, others weighty, and yet we hope to keep you informed as we move through the summer.

PDF's of each NES Sunday Connection can be accessed on our website at: [Northern Elementary Website](#).

Sapphire Parent/Community Portal Information

[Click here to access or create your Parent Portal](#)

Homeroom Assignments Released

Homeroom Assignments have been posted to the Sapphire Parent Portal. Families may access their child's portal by clicking [here](#) and entering the log-in information.

If you have not created a Parent Portal Account, which is different than the account created for Registration, please see the information below which provides directions on how to set this up.

Sapphire Parent Portal for New Users

New Families to the district are asked to create a Parent/Guardian Portal Account in our Sapphire System. The system will not longer assign a PIN; this will not be required on the new site. Attached you will find directions to create this important account.

Upon completion, this account provides access to your child's school records: class assignment, report cards, attendance information, etc. The Parent Account is a separate account from the Registration Account used to enroll your student.

We wish to support our Kindergarten and New Families needing assistance in this process. Please reach out to our school with any questions or email sapphirehelp@northernnyork.org if you need additional help with the new portal login.

Sapphire Community Portal LINK: <https://northernnyork-sapphire.k12system.com/CommunityWebPortal/>

Video LINK: [New Sapphire Community Portal Update July 2021](#)



New Community Portal Account Directions_2022.pdf

Download
311.1 KB



How to Add a student to existing Sapphire Community Portal Account.pdf

Download
136.1 KB

Sapphire Parent Portal: Updates for Individuals with Accounts prior to August 1, 2021

Our Student Information System, Sapphire is now officially upgraded. The new site is basically redesigned to better accommodate various mobile devices such as tablets, phones, and laptops.

Parents/Guardians who already have an account will need to log in with user name and password. You will be prompted to provide your PIN the first time you login to the new portal. Below you will find a document that reviews the process to complete in order to convert your account to the new portal.

If you do not remember your PIN number, please contact our NES School Office (717-432-8691 x 1500) for assistance. Following this one-time PIN entry, current users will no longer need a PIN.



Sapphire Upgrade Community Portal Parent Directions For Pre-August 1 Accounts.pdf

Download
305.0 KB

NES Welcomes Washington Township Families

Northern Elementary Welcomes Families with Year of Community.

Our Northern Family continues to grow with the addition of new families to the District. This year, we enthusiastically welcome many new K-5 students from Washington Township. Our focus on **Community** aims to underscore the many strengths that come from a community centered on shared ownership, beliefs and goals. 2021 offers the opportunity for our Northern Elementary Family to expand and deepen with new relationships and resources.

Washington Township Transition - District Information can be found [here](#).

NES Family Ambassadors - updated link

We look forward to welcoming new families joining our NES Family in 2021 and building connections for the new year. With this, we are looking for NES Ambassador Families, willing to serve as a community connection for incoming families. This role would include reaching out to make a connection with a new family, serving as a liaison for community happenings as they integrate to the Dillsburg/NES/Northern York community. This is also a great opportunity for student-student connection.

If you are interested and/or willing to serve as a NES Family Ambassador, please complete this quick 30 second survey, located here: [NES Ambassador Survey](#).

Northern Elementary School Welcome Events

GR 1-5 Washington Township/New Family Tours

AUGUST 16

Washington Township and New Grade 1-5 Families are invited to tour our building on **August 16, 2021**. We look forward to providing new families with an informal chance to see where

classrooms are located, have an opportunity to ask questions and build comfort for their child's entry to school. We are so eager to meet our new NES'ers!

New Families in Grades 1-5 may sign up for a 25 minute session by clicking on [Sign-Ups via Time to Sign Up](#) and RSVP'ing for that day.

GR I-5 Open House Event

AUGUST 25

Grades 1-5 Open House is slated for the evening of **August 25, 6:30PM-7:30PM**.

We invite all GR1-5 families to join us on this evening, as this is a chance for children to meet their teacher and tour the school in advance of our first day.

Kindergarten Welcome and Orientation Event

AUGUST 26

Kindergarten Parents/Guardians and Kindergarten student(s) are invited to a Kindergarten Welcome and Orientation, slated for **6PM** and **7PM** on **August 26**.

To afford smaller gatherings on this evening, each classroom cohort will be split into two sessions. Please see the schedule for you and your child's arrival on that evening:

Thursday, August 26, 6:00 PM - 6:50 PM =

Mrs. Baechtle's Class: Session for student's with last name beginning with A-K.

Mrs. Clendaniel's Class: Session for student's with the last name beginning with A-Ha.

Ms. Schiffgen's Class: Session for student's with the last name beginning with A-P.

Thursday, August 26, 7:00 PM - 7:50 PM =

Mrs. Baechtle's Class: Session for student's with the last name beginning with L-Z.

Mrs. Clendaniel's Class: Session for student's with the last name beginning with Ho-Z.

Ms. Schiffgen's Class: Session for student's with the last name beginning with Q-Z.

This is an evening tailored just for Kindergarten. It provides an orientation to school procedures, access to their child's classroom, time with the administrator, and an opportunity to meet their child's teacher. Information specific to this event will also come via email.



2021 NES KDG Welcome and Orientation Night.pdf

[Download](#)
169.6 KB

K - 5 Back To School Information Night

SEPTEMBER 16

On **Thursday, September 16, 2021**, parents are invited to attend our NES Back-to-School Night in their child's homeroom.

Mrs. Armbruster and Grades K,1,2 meet: 6:00 PM-6:45 PM

Mrs. Ensminger and Grades 3,4,5 meet: 7:00 PM-7:45 PM

This orientation is for parents/guardians only, as the classroom teacher will share pertinent information about the grade level program and curriculum. If there is a need to provide us with personal, individual information about your child, please schedule an appointment with the teacher and/or principal at a time other than this evening.



2021 NES Back to School Night.pdf

[Download](#)
184.5 KB

Important 2021-2022 School Information

Visit our School Website to stay connected.

Start and End of Day

First Day of School

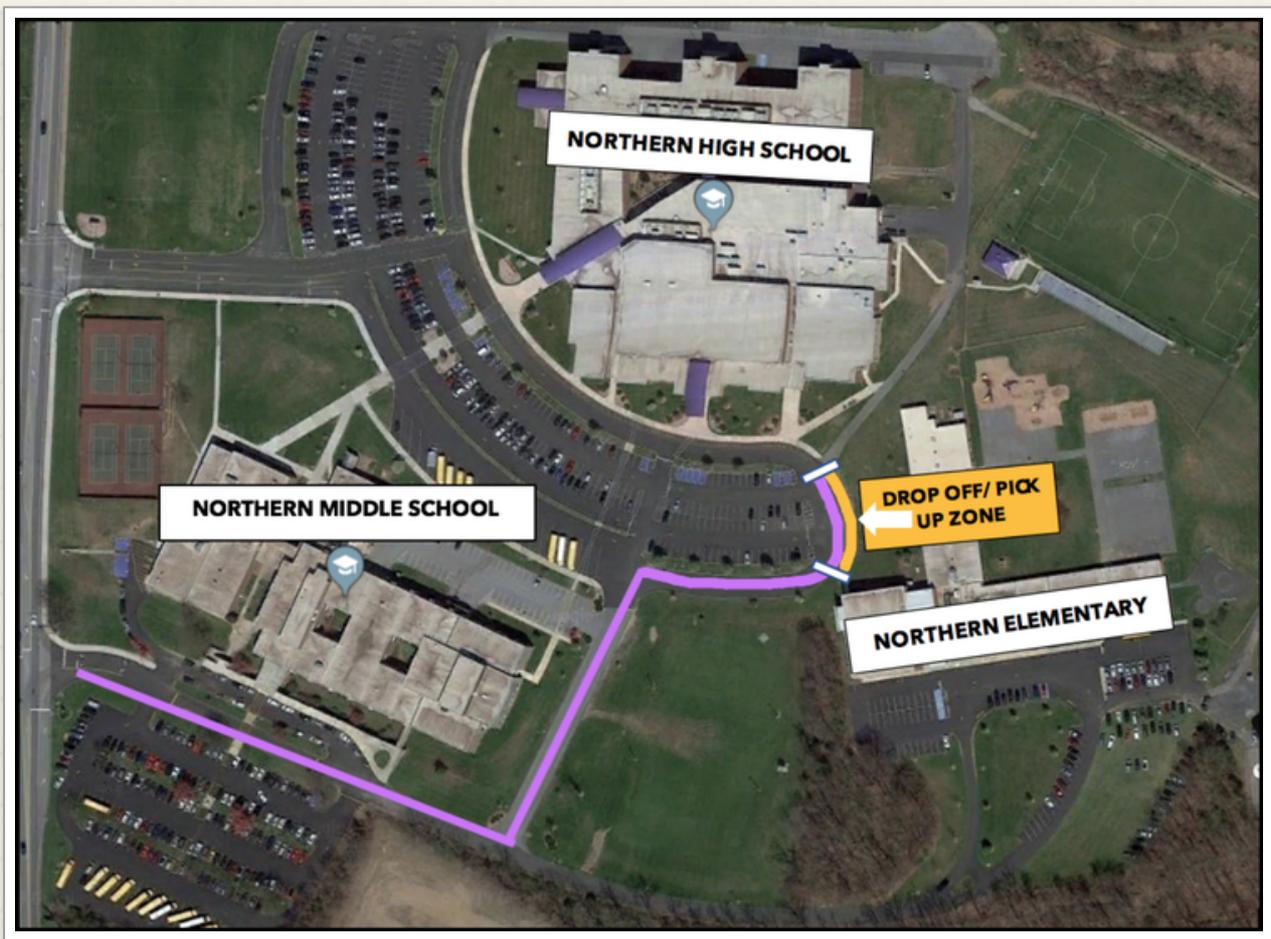
The first day of school for children is **Monday, August 30, 2021**. It is a Cycle Day 1. Our school day starts promptly at 9:00 AM and student entry begins at 8:45 AM.

Please note, students *may not* be dropped off at the school in advance of 8:45 AM. Students *arriving after* 9:00 AM will need to be signed into the *main office*, located in front of Northern Elementary, by the person dropping them off.



NES 2021 Process for Reporting Student Absence.pdf

[Download](#)
431.5 KB



Car Rider Drop Off and Pick Up Information

Car Riders

AM Entry to Building: 8:45 AM - 9:00 AM

PM Dismissal to Parents: 3:30 PM - 3:40 PM

Our car rider loop is located in the back of Northern Elementary, between the High School and Northern Elementary. Vehicles should enter via Middle School drive, turn left onto Polar Bear Drive and turn right to the Drop Off/Pick Up Zone.

Vehicles are required to move forward to the very end of the line, closest to the High School, assisting us in keeping the line of traffic flowing. It is important that vehicles stay on the left side of the yellow line. Students should be released via the passenger side and only when the vehicle is within the yellow lined zone. Parents remain in their vehicles, as Northern Elementary staff will support student entry into the building.

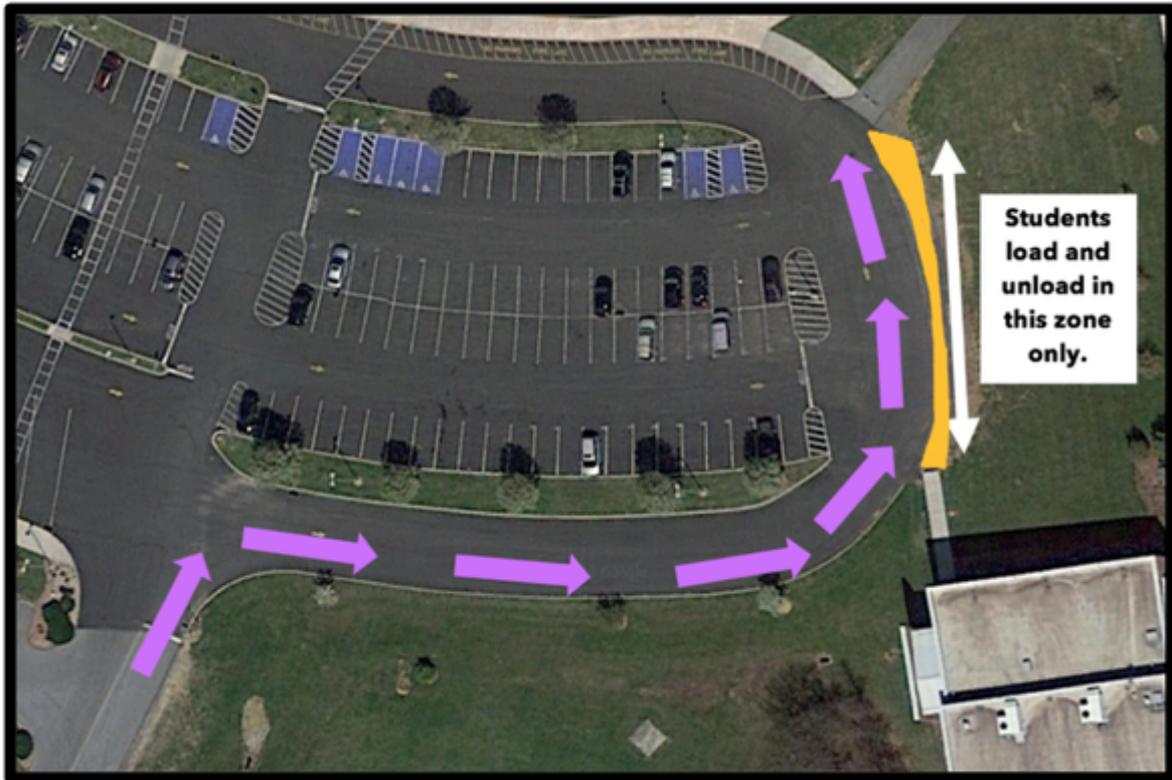
Please ensure that your child is packed and ready for exit upon entering the car rider line. It is important that the flow of this line remains expedient and safe, permitting both exit and entry within the time allotted for this service.

If your child will be a **daily** parent pick up or an **occasional** parent pick up, the car rider dismissal registration form on our website will need to be filled out. This form will allow you to register for a tag for the car pick up line. Please visit www.northernpolarbears.com/nes and select the "Car Rider Registration Form" and complete the required information. The form can

be additionally accessed [here](#). A three day turnaround from completion to available tag is necessary.

Families will be able to pick up car rider tags for the 2021-2022 school year at our NES GR1-5 Open House and Kindergarten Welcome Events. More information about this process is available on our website and will be communicated through an email.

Back of Northern Elementary



Transportation: Bus and Van Information

Transportation Information:

Please be advised that your child's bus information has been released to the Sapphire Parent Portal. Please check your Parent Portal for accuracy and reach out to the school with any questions.

Information on bus procedures can be found via the video below. It is important to note that at this time, all bus and van riders will be required to wear a mask when using District Transportation, per State Law. Please see our District Opening Plan, included in this week's Smore News.

Students traveling by vans to our school will receive their information via a phone call directly from the assigned van driver. This call also takes place much closer to the start of school. Please contact the transportation office at (717) 432-8691 ext. 1106 with any questions.

We strongly encourage students to ride the school bus to and from school, starting the very first day. This

hand to assist all children in arriving safely to their classrooms.

Please Note:

Northern Elementary is growing. We will likely have an additional 2 buses to our roster. Please anticipate some delay over the first ten days of school as we work to ensure that students are getting on to the correct bus/van, and as drivers get used to their routes.

We still ask that parents be at the bus stop 5 minutes in advance of their child's pick up / drop off times; even though we may likely have some delay.

It is important to remind our families that State Law prevents adults other than the bus driver, students, and district personnel to board buses. Have a question or concern you wish to relay? If it is vital, quick and non-confidential information for the driver, share with them from the stop. If it is vital, lengthy and confidential information, please call into the school and we will follow up on your request or concern.

Thank you in advance of our year. We greatly appreciate your patience and partnership as we work through the logistics of transportation, prioritizing the safety of all student passengers.

Food Services

School Breakfast and Lunch Information

Our school cafeteria will provide students breakfast and lunch for the 2021-2022 school year. We are pleased to relay that the District is participating in the Seamless Summer Option, providing students enrolled to receive a nutritious breakfast and lunch each school day, at no cost to the household.

MyPaymentsPlus Online Account

Although no further action is required from you, if you wish to open a MyPaymentsPlus account for your child, please visit www.mypaymentsplus.com. MyPaymentsPlus, a convenient, easy and secure online prepayment service, allows parents to deposit money into a school meal account and provides parents the ability to view account balances, add funds electronically, and view what is purchased each day. Parents can also sign up to receive an email when a low fund balance occurs. Parents/Guardians may forgo opening such an account this year.

Free and Reduced Priced Meals

Additionally, households who may qualify for Free or Reduced priced meals are strongly encouraged to complete a Free and Reduced Priced Meal Application (below). This is important as families that apply for and are approved for free or reduced priced meals may be eligible for additional discounts or approved benefits. Again, although no further action is needed for children to participate in the meal programs without paying a fee or submitting an application, families are encouraged to completed and return a new application by October 12, 2021. Please see more information on whether your family meets the criteria outlined below.

Breakfast and Lunch Menus

Menus are available online by visiting the district webpage: www.northernpolarbears.com and selecting the lunch bag/apple icon. Additional information regarding the school lunch program can also be found at the Food Services section of our website.

Sunshine Cafe Seating

Students will sit by classroom cohort, spaced as feasibly able within the cafeteria. Our lunchtime routines are supported by school staff in each lunch period. The yellow table in the cafe, our Sunshine Table, serves to support allergy free eaters. Students with allergy restrictions sit at this table, with peers eating the District meals that day. This ensures a nut and peanut free experience for all seated at the table. This table is disinfected with "Sunshine Table Only" materials.

Sunshine Cafe Climate

The climate in the cafeteria seeks to ensure the safety and security of all our students. Once seated, students engage in conversation with the peers at their cohort table and are supported with accessing condiments, forgotten utensils, etc by school staff. A touchless water bottle station is located just outside the cafe and students are permitted access to this water source. Our safety procedures for communication and attention to cafe volume is, "Lights off, Voices off." This signal is used to ensure silence for important directions and/or safety alerts.

Students are celebrated, classroom cohorts are spotlighted, and fun events are previewed as a part of the Sunshine Cafe experience. Each classroom cohort has 30 minutes in the Sunshine Cafe.

2021-2022 Lunch Schedule

It is important to note that we cannot accommodate visitors in the Sunshine Cafe. With space capacity and safety in mind, we encourage families to avoid requesting visitation during this time. It's particularly fun to see our packers, open love notes from families during lunchtime! Oftentimes, our staff reads the notes to students as a part of their individual requests. Feel free to slip a note of encouragement into your child's lunchbox or backpack and stay tuned for PTO fundraising initiatives that further celebrate your student during this time.

Kindergarten Lunch: 12:30PM - 1:00PM

Grade 1 Lunch: 11:55 AM - 12:25 PM

Grade 2 Lunch: 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM

Grade 3 Lunch: 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM

Grade 4 Lunch: 11:20 AM - 11:50 AM

Grade 5 Lunch: 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Lunch Packer Reminders

Although free meals will be provided by the District this year, students may choose to pack their lunch each day. These lunches should be nutritional. Sodas are not permitted as part of the lunchtime experience and the school does not have cooling or heating opportunities for meals. Please pack items that require a cool climate, with an icepack and items that require heating, in a thermos. We additionally ask families to refrain from packing meals in glass containers.



NYCSD Free and Reduced Meal Packet 21-22.pdf

 [Download](#)
5.0 MB

Other Important Reminders

School Supplies

Basic school supplies are provided to your child by the district and students do not need to bring materials from home. Students are welcome to bring their own book bag and lunch box from home.

Personal Items

Students are reminded to leave toys and other valuable items at home. Students are not permitted to swap or exchange personal items at school.

Birthdays

Students are celebrated via school-wide recognition and classroom tradition (e.g. song, sticker, crown, etc.) on their birthdays. Snacks and treats from home are not permitted for classroom celebration. The PTO additionally celebrates students in their birthday month via the Birthday Books Program, inviting students to select a brand new book for their personal library!

NES Connection Opportunities

Ways to Stay Connected

The staff and I look forward to working with you and your child as we strive to provide the best education possible. With the home and school working together, I am confident your child will have an excellent educational experience at Northern Elementary School. Please see the main ways to stay connected with NES:

Website: Our website at www.northernpolarbears.com/nas has a wealth of information about our school, along with updated calendar, teacher websites, and more. Please bookmark this site and visit often!

Smore News: Our school news can additionally be reviewed weekly at this link: [NES Connection](#).

Sapphire Parent/Community Portal: Please take a moment to ensure that your contact information is accurate in the [Sapphire Parent Portal](#). The primary email address listed in our system is used to send out weekly messages. If you wish to receive text message updates from NES, please ensure that "SMS" is checked by your cell phone number in the contact information in the Parent Portal.

Twitter: For daily highlights of school events and happenings, be sure to follow us on Twitter

@NESPolarBears!

Facebook: Follow the [NES PTO](#) on Facebook!

Thank you for your ongoing partnership in your child's educational journey at NES. We look forward to connecting with you and your family in 2021-2022, our Year of Community!

Link your Weis Club Card to Support NES!

Wish to support our NES Cubs each time you shop?

Please consider linking your Weis Club Card to Northern Elementary. This act will attribute funds to our school, without impacting your individual points.

Just one step needed: present the unique barcode in this email and ask the cashier to scan the barcode and your Weis Club card. That's it, no other steps required!



Our school's code

Northern Elementary School

0 00000 87834 0

weis
markets

www.weismarkets.com



Weis Club Card Helps NES.pdf



Download
381.6 KB

Check out our Northern Elementary PTO
FB Family

NES PTO Seeks Your Support

Our NES PTO is seeking a parent/guardian to serve as Co-President in the Fall. Individuals interested in this position may reach out to Tanja Worrall at tmworrall86@gmail.com

Our 2021 PTO Board includes:

Co-President: Erin Stein erin_stein@yahoo.com

Co-President: Vacancy

Vice President: Tanja Worrall tmworrall86@gmail.com

Secretary: Amy Harlacher amy.n.harlacher@gmail.com

Treasurer: Kiely Holcomb kiely23@hotmail.com

As we enter 2021, our fundraising efforts remain critical having lost the opportunity for Race for Education last year. The funds raised support student tees, yearbooks, field trips, fun events and so much more. We look forward to your collaboration and participation in planning for and attending our PTO sponsored events. Interested in supporting the PTO in some capacity? Reach out to our members at nespto1@gmail.com.



Make a Difference!

The PTO is preparing to go BIG in the 2021-2022 school year. Now is your chance to get in on the planning and brainstorming for next year. Make a difference in not just your student's life but in all 300+ lives.

#NESleads
nespto1@gmail.com
FB Northern Elementary PTO

NYCSD 2021-2022 ReOpening Information

[Click here to learn more about the NYCSD Fall ReOpening and Health and Safety Plan.](#)

NYCSD Fall 2021 Health and Safety Plan

Northern York County School District's plan for the 2021-2022 school year is for students and staff to return to school in-person on August 30, 2021. The Northern York County School District will continue to monitor the guidance from the Commonwealth of PA and the CDC, and based on our district and community needs, update our plans accordingly.

Click [here](#) to read the full draft of the Health and Safety plan.

NYCSD School Community 2021 Opening Update

The Fall Opening was recently communicated to staff, families and NYCSD community from Superintendent Kirkpatrick. The full document can be accessed [here](#), or downloaded below.

One note of importance is the federal requirement of mask-wearing when riding District Transportation. Please see pg. 4 of the Community Document for more clarification on this requirement.

As noted in the document, students and staff will still have the option of wearing or forgoing the use of masks when off District Transportation.



Fall Open 2021 Community Info..pdf



Download

1.1 MB

Northern York County School District 2021-2022

School Year Calendar



Board Approved - March 23, 2021

July 21						
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- Act 80 - No School
 - Early Dismissal
 - New Teachers
 - School Closed
 - First/Last Day of Class
 - In-Service - no students
 - End of Marking Period
- Aug 19-20 New Teachers
 - Aug 23-27 Inservice (Aug 27 - Flex)
 - Aug 30 First Day of School
 - Sep 3 & 6 - Labor Day/School Closed
 - Sep 24 - Early Dismissal
 - Oct 15 - Farmer's Fair/School Closed
 - Nov 3 - End of MP1
 - Nov 5 - Early Dismissal
 - Nov 24 - Act 80/School Closed
 - Nov 25-29 - Thanksgiving Break
 - Dec 23 - Early Dismissal
 - Dec 24-31 - Christmas Break
 - Jan 14 - Early Dismissal
 - Jan 17 - Inservice/School Closed
 - Jan 19 - End of MP2
 - Feb 18 - School Closed
 - Feb 21 - Inservice (Flex)/School Closed
 - Mar 25 - End of MP3
 - Mar 25 - Act 80 Day/School Closed
 - Apr 14 - Early Dismissal
 - Apr 15-18 - Easter Break
 - May 30 - Memorial Day/No School
 - May 31 - MS/HS Early Dismissal Only
 - Jun 1 - Last Student Day/Early Dismissal
 - Jun 2-3 - Teacher Inservice
 - Snow Make-up - #1 Feb 18
 - Trade Days - Aug. 27, Feb 21



NYCSD Approved 21-22 School Calendar.pdf

[Download](#)
146.0 KB

2021-2022 Grade Level Learning Teams

Kindergarten Team:

- Ashley Baechtle
- Paula Clendaniel
- Kristina Schiffgens

Grade One Team:

- Andrea Daly
- Erica Sinclair
- Meredith Warner

Grade Two Team:

- Katie Benfer
- Sheri Henry
- Ashley Ashcraft

Grade Three Team:

- Mackenzie King
- Samantha Moose

Madeline Snyder

Grade Four Team:

Scott Eyster (Social Studies, Science, Intervention/Enrichment)

Sadie Landis (English Language Arts)

Laura Witmer (Mathematics)

Grade Five Team:

Sarah Krieger (English Language Arts)

Allyson Lang (Mathematics)

Melanie Vogt (Social Studies, Science, Intervention/Enrichment)

New Additions to our School Faculty



Kristina Schiffgens - Kindergarten

Pictured with daughters, Grace and Julianna, Ms. Schiffgens joins our NES Kindergarten Team having served as KDG LTS at DES. You will find that her enthusiasm is palpable!



Erica Sinclair - Grade 1

Pictured with her lovely family, Mrs. Sinclair rejoins our NES Family, having served as Kindergarten Teacher many years ago, and now joining our Grade 1 Team. We are thrilled for her return!



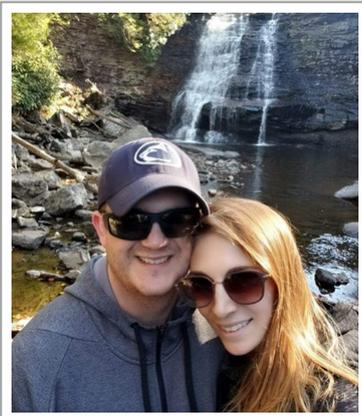
Katie Benfer - Grade 2

Miss Benfer joins our Grade 2 Team as a recent graduate of Messiah University. An accomplished individual, Miss Benfer eagerly anticipates the arrival of her classroom family!



Mackenzie King - Grade 3

Miss King joins our Grade 3 Team as a recent graduate of Messiah University. She has a minor in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) and gets married in November!



Sadie Landis - Grade 4

Pictured with her husband, Mrs. Landis moves from a Long Term Substitute position to English Language Arts teacher on our Grade 4 Team. A graduate of Millersville University, she has experience working with students K-5.



Laura Witmer - Grade 4

Pictured with her beautiful family, Mrs. Witmer joins our Grade 4 team as she enters her 11th year of teaching. With a Masters Degree in Education and a passion for curriculum and instruction, she looks forward to



Melanie Vogt - Grade 5

Pictured with her niece and nephew, Ms. Vogt joins our Grade 5 Team, coming from Colorado Springs, CO. She brings a diverse background of experience and tremendous strength in classroom community and student leadership!



Ashley Ashcraft - Grade 2

Mrs. Ashcraft our most recent hire, comes to us from Virginia with 10 years experience at various grade levels. Recently returning to the local area, we welcome look forward to introducing Mrs. Ashcraft in our next NES Connection!



English Language Development

With growing ELD numbers, our program will be split into Elementary and Secondary supports. Ms. Sandy Isolino shifts to the Secondary focus in 2021. We are so grateful for her partnership and look forward to sharing our new hire in the next few weeks.

Save the Date 2021: More information to come!

August 1: Sapphire 2021 Rollover

August 2: 8AM, Homeroom Rosters Released to Sapphire Parent Portal

August 16: Washington Township/New GR1-5 Family Tour

August 25: Grades 1-5 Open House Night

August 26: Kindergarten Welcome and Orientation Night

August 30: 1st Day of School!

September 03: No School

September 06: No School - Happy Labor Day!

September 14: Bible Adventure Launches (GR3-5 opt-in only)

September 15: Life Touch Fall Picture Day

September 16: K-5 Teacher Presentation Night

September 24: Early Dismissal at Noon



Northern Elementary School

 @NESPolarBears

 657 S. Baltimore Street, Dillsb...

 jcal@northernYork.org

 7174328691

 northernpolarbears.com/Dom...