

# NES Connection

Northern Elementary School News - 08/29/2021

Northern Elementary School

Secretary: Mrs. Gayman

Principal: Ms. Cal

Nurse: Mrs. Kramer

Counselor: Mrs. Surubaru

Phone: 717-432-8691 ext. 1500

Email: [nesoffice@northernnyork.org](mailto:nesoffice@northernnyork.org)

## Quick Links and Important Forms for You

The quick links below provide a direct link to the documents you may need. Please see the files related to the quick links, posted below for your convenience.

1. **Wish to see our NES Procedures and Routines in one location?** Check out our [NES Informational Smore](#) here.
2. **Wish to see your child's report card and other important documents?** Create and sign into the [Sapphire Parent Community Portal Account](#). This is different than the account used for registration.
3. **Wish for your child to have access to his/her school device?** Verify the [required NYCSD forms](#) after creating or signing into your account.
4. **Wish to pick up your via our Car Rider line?** Sign up for a [Car Rider Tag](#) which permits you to pick your student up at the end of the day. Please see the important drop off and pick up procedures below.

5. **Wish to assist our teachers and students as a volunteer this year?** Fill out the [volunteer](#) form and complete the required clearances.
6. **Wish to plan lunch for your student?** Check out the [Food Service](#) menus and information.
7. **Wish to [stay connected](#) with NES?** We tweet daily!



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

[Download](#)  
305.0 KB



NES 2021 Parent Pick Up Drop Off Information.pdf

[Download](#)  
465.1 KB



NES Aug-Sept Lunch Menu.pdf

[Download](#)  
271.2 KB



NYCSD Approved 21-22 School Calendar.pdf

[Download](#)  
146.0 KB



## Start and End of School Day

The first day of school for children is **Monday, August 30, 2021**. It is a Cycle Day 1. We are excited for your child's arrival!

**Start of Day:** Our buses, car riders and van riders will be released into the building at 8:45AM. Our school day officially begins at 9:00AM. Students arriving after 9:00AM will need to be signed into the main office, located in the front of Northern Elementary.

**No Visitation:** The start of day is a busy time for our faculty, working to ensure the safe entry of students into our building. We ask that families refrain from coming to school to take pictures of students getting off buses. Visitors are not permitted on the sidewalks or grassy areas for this purpose. Capture a 1st day photo before arriving to school, and send to [jcal@northernnyork.org](mailto:jcal@northernnyork.org) with the subject line: Photo. We will use these 1st day submissions to spotlight our Cubs in our NES Connection Video.

**Items Permitted:** Students may bring a backpack, their lunch box (if packing), and water bottle. Basic school supplies are provided at school. No toys or other valuable items should come from home.

**Mobile Phones:** If a student is bringing a cell phone to school, per parent direction, this item should remain in the student's backpack and on silent until the student gets home. Cell phones may not be used to take photos, to access social mediate or to text when at school or on the bus.

**End of Day Parent Pick Ups:** In an effort to get our parent pick-ups into vehicles before our buses are called, for the first several weeks **we will begin our parent pick-up process at 3:20PM**. This will eventually shift back to 3:30PM and families will be notified of that change once our procedures are seamless.

**End of Day Bus Dismissal:** Bus riders will be released at 3:40PM. We wish to ensure that students board their correct bus, please anticipate possible delays as we get this process streamlined and as drivers get to know students and bus stops.

## NES Health and Safety

Masks optional in building  
Masks required on district transportation  
Surfaces cleaned daily  
Routine handwashing procedures  
Child ill, keep at home and communicate absence  
3 feet of separation, where feasible  
Contact tracing protocols continue  
Shared materials w/ handwashing & sanitizer use  
Access to bottle filling stations, fountains disabled

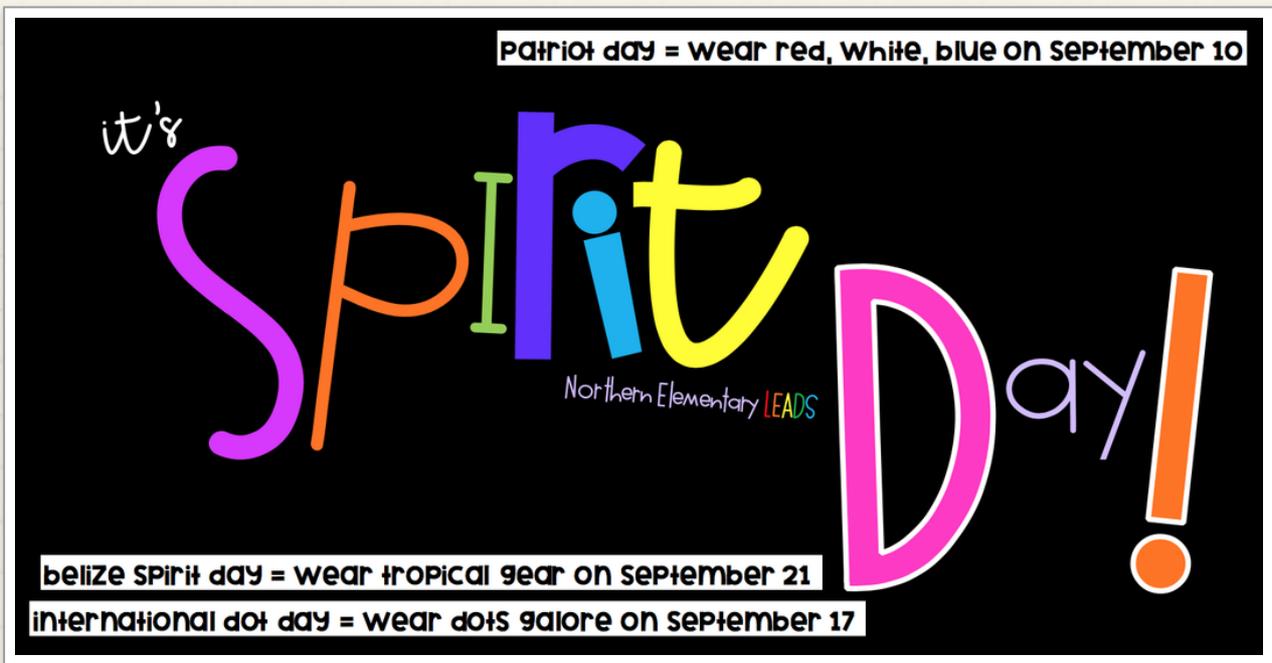
## Medication Reminders

### Medication Reminder to Parents

Student medications may not travel to/from school with students. If your child has a medication that must be dispensed at school, please communicate this to the school nurse [NESnurse@northernYork.org](mailto:NESnurse@northernYork.org) and deliver this item to the school between the hours of 8:30AM-4:00PM.

Families may visit the [District Health webpage](#) to review the medication policy and to obtain the medication order request forms that must be signed by a physician. Families who need this information printed for them should contact the school office to make this request: [NESOffice@northernYork.org](mailto:NESOffice@northernYork.org)

Reach out to Mrs. Krammer, school nurse, with any questions at 717-432-8691 ext. 1502.



2021-22 Kindness Calendar.pdf

[Download](#)  
3.2 MB

## Important Dates

- August 30: 1st Day of School! Our School Day = 9AM-3:40PM
- September 03: No School
- September 06: No School - Happy Labor Day!
- September 11: Patriot Day: wear red, white, blue.
- September 13: Dillsburg Library Visits Grade 1
- September 14: Bible Adventure (GR3-5 opt-in only)
- September 15: Life Touch Fall Picture Day
- September 16: K-5 Teacher Presentation Night (6PM and 7PM)
- September 17: International Dot Day: wear dots, dots, and more dots!
- September 21: You Better Belize It Day: wear tropical gear!
- September 24: Early Dismissal at NOON, no lunch served.

## Back to School 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

## Sapphire Parent/Community Portal Information

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

# Sapphire Parent Community Portal Accounts

## Parent Portal Documents

The [Sapphire Parent Portal](#) remains your go-to location for district information and student documents. You received your homeroom letter and Open House information through the parent portal and throughout the year you will find forms that require your consent and/or review. This is also where report cards and attendance letters are posted.

Beginning of year documents that you will need to sign include:

- 2021 – 2022 Student Device 1:1 Acceptance Form
- 2021 – 2022 Contact Information Validation
- 2021 – 2022 Medical Verification Form

Make sure that you create and log into your parent portal for access to these important documents throughout the year. If you are having trouble access the portal, please contact the office at 717-432-8691 x1500 or email [nesoffice@northernYork.org](mailto:nesoffice@northernYork.org). We are happy to assist you.

## Time Sensitive: 1:1 Device Consent

### 1:1 Technology Acceptance Form, located in [Sapphire Parent Portal](#)

The Northern York County School District values the use of technology on instructional practices and learning. One to one device initiatives require a financial commitment from the School District, and we are particularly grateful for the priority given to this initiative by Northern York.

- Students in K-2 will be assigned an iPad for use at school

- Students in 3-5 will be assigned a Chromebook for use at school.

With this, the District has posted a 1:1 Technology Acceptance Form that parents are to read and sign, after reviewing with their child.

**It is important to note:** School devices will not be issued until a parent has signed the Student Device Handbook. Any missing 2020-2021 technology must be returned or paid for before student devices are assigned (devices, cords, hot spots, etc.).

To access the 1:1 Technology Acceptance Form, please go to the [Sapphire Parent Portal](#) and sign the form electronically. Once in the Sapphire Parent Portal, click on the [Student Data Forms](#) link. There, you will find the 1:1 Technology Acceptance Form to read, review, electronically sign, and submit for approval.

***Students will receive their school-issued device within the first 8 days of school, following parent completion of the 1:1 Technology Acceptance form in Sapphire and the return or payment of outstanding technology.***

## Seeking Volunteers: Junior Achievement

Northern Elementary partners with Junior Achievement, a worldwide nonprofit organization that presents important life skills through hands-on educational lessons focusing on financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and work readiness. [Click here to review the programs available.](#)

Caring adults (like you) are asked to volunteer to share the JA program with students in the classroom. Our goal is to inspire young people to value our free enterprise system and to improve their quality of life through their understanding of financial literacy.

As a classroom volunteer, you will discover the benefits of having a direct impact on local education and the fun of sharing your life experiences with a classroom full of students.

Interested in volunteering? See the attachment below or [click here](#) to sign up. Don't forget to list Northern Elementary School as your school of interest and be sure to complete the [NYCSD volunteer requirements](#).



Junior Achievement Electronic Sign-Up Form.pdf

[Download](#)  
107.4 KB



Junior Achievement FAQ Document.pdf

[Download](#)  
274.7 KB

# Check out our Northern Elementary PTO FB Family



## 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

## NES PTO Board 2021-2022

We are so pleased to announce our 2021 PTO Board:

Co-President: Erin Stein [erin\\_stein@yahoo.com](mailto:erin_stein@yahoo.com)

Co-President: Lydia Flinner [lflinner815@gmail.com](mailto:lflinner815@gmail.com)

Vice President: Tanja Worrall [tmworrall86@gmail.com](mailto:tmworrall86@gmail.com)

Secretary: Amy Harlacher [amy.n.harlacher@gmail.com](mailto:amy.n.harlacher@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Kiely Holcomb [kiely23@hotmail.com](mailto:kiely23@hotmail.com)

Interested in supporting the PTO in some capacity? Reach out to our members at [nespto1@gmail.com](mailto:nespto1@gmail.com).

## PTO Tuesday Meetings

We invite you to attend our PTO Tuesday Meetings, held in our **NES Library** from **7PM-8PM** on the following evenings:

- **September 7, 2021**
- **November 2, 2021**
- **January 4, 2022**
- **March 8, 2022**
- **May 3, 2022**

This is a fantastic opportunity to offer ideas, partner further, and add to our NES Community. Unable to attend? Our PTO Meeting notes will be posted to our website. We look forward to collaborating with you this year!

## Help Us Raise Funds As You Shop!

Our PTO collaborates to gain funds from your regular shopping! This does not impact your account in any way.

- **Box Tops Rewards** earns cash for our school. This program has moved to a mobile application. Download the app by [clicking here](#).
- **Amazon School Rewards Program** earns cash for our school via Amazon Smile. Use [this NES link](#) to make your purchases on Amazon, with no impact to your account. Amazon rewards our school with funds.



Box Tops Family Letter.pdf

[Download](#)  
85.2 KB



Box Tops How-To.pdf

[Download](#)  
168.5 KB

## 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



www.weismarkets.com



Weis Club Card Helps NES.pdf

Download  
381.6 KB

## Important 2021-2022 School Information

Visit our School Website to stay connected.

## Transportation: Bus and Van Information

Reminders from our Transportation Department include:

- Pick up and drop off times are estimated.
- Times and stop locations may need to be adjusted.
- Students are to be out and visible 5 minutes before the bus is expected to arrive and younger students should be accompanied by an adult.
- All changes must be made on the "Change of Information" form and given to the building secretary prior to the start of school.
- Board Policy #810 provides authorization of the use of cameras on school buses, including those that capture video and audio recordings. These cameras monitor the behavior on the bus to ensure that the established bus safety and conduct rules are being followed. Video/Audio cameras will be randomly rotated among all regularly scheduled buses based upon the number of incidents of misconduct.
- The Student Transportation Handbook may be downloaded from the District website at [www.northernpolarbears.com/transportation](http://www.northernpolarbears.com/transportation).

NES LEA'S on the bus and van:

- Stay in assigned seat
- Back and Bottom on seat
- Facing forward at all times
- Body out of aisle
- Inside voice conversation with seatmate
- Hands and Feet to self
- Kind words
- No eating or drinking
- Listen to driver

### **Transportation Information:**

All bus and van riders will be required to wear a mask when using District Transportation, per State Law.

We strongly encourage students to ride the school bus to and from school, starting the very first day. This practice will support their success in arrival/dismissal routines. Staff members will be on hand to assist all children in arriving safely to their classrooms.

### **Please Note:**

Northern Elementary is growing. We have a total of 7 buses and 8 vans. 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.

Bus drivers are not permitted to release Kindergarten and Grade 1 students without an adult at the stop for pick-up.

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 for 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**

Meals are free for students this year thanks to the Seamless Summer funding provided to our school district.

### **Breakfast and Lunch Menus**

Menus are available online by visiting the district webpage: [www.northernpolarbears.com](http://www.northernpolarbears.com) and selecting the lunch bag/apple icon.

### **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

## **NES Connection Opportunities**

### **Ways to Stay Connected**

*Website:* Our website at [www.northernpolarbears.com/nes](http://www.northernpolarbears.com/nes) 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!



## Northern Elementary School

 @NESPolarBears

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