# NES Connection

Northern Elementary Sunday News - 12/05/2021

# This Week's Lunch Menu

Monday: BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich

Tuesday: Walking Taco

Wednesday: Steak Parmesan

Thursday: Chicken Alfredo

Friday: Deep Dish Pizza

Lunch 2 = Mini Coth Dogs



NES December 2021 Lunch Menu.pdf



### Important Dates

12/03: Cycle Day 3

12/06: Life Touch Pictures, retake packets come home

12/08: Holiday Shoppe, NES Sunshine Cafe, 4-7PM

12/10: NOTE: PTO Family Holiday Movie Night CANCELLED due to limited interest

12/13: GR5 Choral Dress Rehearsal

12/14: GR5 Elementary Choral Concert, 7PM Northern High School Auditorium

12/17-12/23: Winter Spirit Week

12/17: Ugly Holiday Sweater Day: wear a fun, festive and/or ugly sweater

12/20: Elf on a Shelf Day: Wear red, white, green and/or hats, headbands, etc.

12/21: Lights and Leggings Day: Wear festive lights, holiday leggings or tees

12/22: Wacky Winter Wonderland Day: Wear tropical or island gear!

12/23: PJ's on Parade Day: Wear your warmest school appropriate PJ's

12/23: K-5 Holiday Classroom Gathering: snacks provided by NES

12/23: Early Dismissal at Noon; No Lunch served



#### 2021-22 Kindness Calendar.pdf

Random Acts of Kindness serves as our Classroom Family Meeting focus at school. Check out the great ideas for spreading sunshine, here!



### NES PTO Holiday Movie Night: Cancelled

Please note: The Family Holiday Movie Night, slated for 12/10/21, has been cancelled due to limited interest and volunteer availability.

# NES Holiday Shoppe = Wednesday 12/08, 4PM-7PM

The NES Holiday Shoppe will take place this Wednesday evening, 4PM-7PM in the NES Sunshine Café (cafeteria). Families may enter and exit via Door 9 and/or 10.

Students must be accompanied by an adult. Our PTO helpers will ensure "secret" purchasing as requested. Items range from \$1-\$6.



## Safety Meetings at NES: Lockdown Drill

Our monthly Safety Meetings are hosted by Ms. Cal to review safety protocols and the purpose for safety drills, which is to increase our physical preparedness for unexpected emergencies and to process through scenarios that allow for proactive response.

Underscoring each drill review, is the reassurance of deep CARE for our students, working to have them view drills as a positive, proactive event and not something to be fearful of.

#### **LOCKDOWN DRILL**

The required Lock-Down drill, (Intruder drill) will take place the week of December 6th. This will be a modified drill due to the current health and safety plan in place. Targets discussed will include:

- · Voices Off to hear and/or give directions
- Eyes / Ears alert to the safest choice (assess location) and response
- Lock-Down Procedures take place
- Eyes / Ears alert, voices off, and continued safety assessment, remain in effect throughout the event
- Stay in response-mode until "All Clear" is given by administrator

Please know, we take time to carefully unpack this drill with children before and after the drill event. We wish for students to feel safe, empowered and supported in our school. Following

the drill, an email will be sent to families indicating its completion.

### NES Bus Safety and Expectations

#### **BUS SAFETY FOCUS**

On 12/01/2021, our school wide safety meeting focused on safe behaviors for travel on bus and vans.

- Students were reminded of bus expectations including:
- · Back and bottom on seat
- Facing forward (body out of aisle)
- · Body next to window if seated alone
- · Quiet (inside) voice with seat mate
- · Hands and feet to self
- Stay seated until vehicle comes to a complete stop
- No seat changes
- No eating, drinking or toys on the bus
- Listen to driver

Children are additionally reminded of these expectations during our end of day announcements and are provided reminders from drivers before and during the runs.

The <u>Transportation Handbook</u> additionally outlines student expectations and the steps we take to supporting a safe environment on the bus.

By this time, students have had coaching conversations that include modeling of appropriate seating and our focus on leadership extends to the bus and vans.

Our students recognize that it takes their leadership with responsible choices to support a safe and caring community. Grade 5 student leaders have been selected to assist our youngest Cubs and we will continue to foster a partnership for older and younger students through bus buddies and reading mentors.



NES 12-01-21 Bus Safety.pdf



#### Northern Elementary School WINTER SPIRIT WEEK 12/17/21-12/23/21 monday tuesday thiorsday Briday wedhesday 12/20/21 12/17/21 12/21/21 12/22/21 12/23/21 ELF ON A SHELF PJS ON PARADE UGLY HOLIDAY LICHTS AND WACKY WINTER SWEATER DAY LEGGINGS DAY WONDERLAND DAY DAY DAY II'S A COZY 1/2 DAY WINTER BRINGS A FESTIVAL YOU ARE DOING GREAT. IT'S THE DAY AFTER WINTER TT'S NATTONAL UGLY HOLIDAY CELEBRATE YOUR INNER ELF! OF LICHISI SOLSTICE - WACKY STYLEI BEFORE WINTER BREAK! SWEATER DAY. WEAR TROPICAL WEAR A FUN. WEAR YOUR WEAR RED. WHITE. **WEAR FESTIVE** LIGHTS, HOLIDAY CEAR. ANTHING FESTIIVE OR UGLY CREEN, HEADBANDS WARMEST ISLAND THEMED SCHOOL PJS **SWEATER** OR HATS LECCINCS OR TEE

#### NYCSD Covid Update and Information

Click here for important information, related to NYCSD current status, mask mandate and Health and Safety Plan.

#### When should a student stay home from school?

Students should remain home from school if they are

- Experiencing 1 or more symptoms from Group A,
- Experiencing 2 or more symptoms from Group B, or
- Taking fever reducing medication.

Group A  1 or more symptoms	Group B  2 or more symptoms
Cough Shortness of breath Difficulty breathing New olfactory disorder New taste disorder	Fever (measured or subjective) Chills Rigors (severe shivering) Myalgia (muscle aches) Headache Sore throat Nausea or vomiting Diarrhea Fatigue Congestion or runny nose

# II/30/21 Health and Safety Update: Close Contacts

The Board of Directors voted to approve a change in the implementation of the Health and Safety Plan such that close contacts <u>without symptoms</u> may return to school immediately if wearing face coverings.

Close contacts without symptoms that return to school will wear face coverings for 10 days from the day of close contact or 7 days from the day of close contact with a negative test result administered on day 5 or later. If the mandate is terminated, this requirement will remain in place for close contacts without symptoms that return to school.

For this practice to be safe and effective, families need to ensure that students with COVID symptoms do not come to school.

Individuals with symptoms must remain at home. The District will continue to report positive cases and contact trace. Positive cases will still be required to isolate as directed by the DOH.

This change will take effect starting Tuesday, November 30.

#### Mesh Masks or Masks with Vents: Not Permitted

This communication is to clarify that **mesh masks and masks with vents** do not meet the department of health mask definition. With this, your student will be provided a school mask, should a mesh mask or mask with vent be worn. Inquiries/questions regarding this should be directed to 1-877-724-3258.

# NES Year of Community Informational Smore

Click here to review important NES information about building procedures and more.

#### Our Daily Schedule

- 8:00AM = school office opens
- 8:45AM = students are released into the building from buses, vans, and car rider drop off
- 8:45AM-9:00AM = grab and go breakfast
- 9:00AM = official start of the school day, which includes the *National Anthem*, *Pledge of Allegiance* and *NES Leadership Pledge*
- 9:00-9:15AM = Classroom Family Meeting
- 10:45-1:30PM = recess and lunch periods for K-5
- 3:30PM = van riders and car riders are dismissed by groups
- 3:40PM = bus riders are dismissed
- 4:00PM = school office closes

## Important Procedural 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. We do not chare birthday invitations from home unless the entire class.

**is invited.** The PTO celebrates students in their birthday month via the Birthday Books Program, inviting students to select a brand new book for their personal library!

### Important 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 <a href="MESnurse@northernyork.org">NESnurse@northernyork.org</a> and deliver this item to the school between the hours of 8:30AM-4:00PM.

Families may visit the <u>District Health webpage</u> 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: <a href="https://www.neguest.com/neguest/">NESOffice@northernyork.org</a>

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

#### Check out our NES PTO Facebook Family

#### PTO EVENTS: SAVE THE DATE!

• SKATING PARTY NIGHT: January 30, 2022, 4PM- 6:30PM Fountain Blu Skating Rink. Our PTO is working hard to fundraise and foster community at NES! Thank you PTO!

#### NES Parent Teacher Organization: Board and Meetings

Co-President: Erin Stein <u>erin\_stein@yahoo.com</u>
Co-President: Lydia Flinner <u>Iflinner815@gmail.com</u>
Vice President: Tanja Worrall <u>tmworrall86@gmail.com</u>
Treasurer: Kiely Holcomb <u>kiely23@hotmail.com</u>

Secretary: Jen Sultner, newly elected.

We wish to thank Mrs. Amy Harlacher for her fantastic support over the last few years as secretary!

Interested in supporting the PTO in some capacity? Reach out to our members at <a href="mailto:nespto1@gmail.com">nespto1@gmail.com</a>.

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

- 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? PTO Minutes will be attached to this NES Connection quarterly. We look forward to collaborating with you this year!

# CLICK HERE: Survey Family Feedback/Strategic Planning

Have a few moments to help NES grow? Consider sending us anonymous feedback that will aid in strengthening our approach. Highlight ideas that allow us to grow, spotlight areas you are pleased with, offer insight on ways we can improve.

# NES needs your feedback: Please click on survey above.

We are seeking the feedback of all parents/guardians as we gear up for Strategic Planning at NES and NYCSD. Please take the survey linked below, to provide our school and district with important feedback. Your input is vital and valued. Thank you so much for supporting us in this way.

## Gratitude Gateway Display: Family Sign-Ups Welcomed

Interested in brightening up our Gratitude Gateway (Main Lobby) with a family crafted fun display?

CLICK HERE to sign up for a month! We are grateful for your kind, creative spirit!

### Box Tops Rewards Help NES

Our school gains 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 <u>clicking here</u>.

Wish to support our NES Cubs each time you shop? **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!



### End of Day Car Rider Pick Up Information

Click here to sign up for a Car Rider Vehicle Registration Tag.



NES 2021 Parent Pick Up Drop Off Information.pdf



#### Northern Elementary Website

Missed a Sunday Smore Connection or wish to visit your teacher's website? Click here to access our School Website.

## family Resource: Polar Cares

Polar Cares is a clothing closet to be used by NYCSD families. Polar Cares is organized and kept up by the Kiwanis Club of Dillsburg and members of the NYCSD staff. There is clothing and shoes for infants through adults, along with underwear and socks in the closet. We also have a toiletries closet and cleaning supplies as well.

There are 3 ways families can visit the Polar Cares Closet.

1. Make an appointment through the polar cares email <a href="mailto:donatepolarcares@gmail.com">donatepolarcares@gmail.com</a>

- 2. Contact Mrs. Surubaru, <u>psurubaru@northernyork.org</u> -school counselor, for an appointment.
- 3. Visit via the monthly Polar Cares events that will begin in October.

### Important: Reporting Student Absences

#### Reporting your child's absence:

Please communicate student absences, early dismissals and car rider pickups by:

- PREFERRED = emailing <a href="mailto:nesoffice@northernyork.org">nesoffice@northernyork.org</a>
- calling our main office: 717-432-8691 x1500,
- or if before 8AM, calling our hotline: 717-432-8691 x 5555

Important Note: Please do not send emails regarding absences, early dismissal and/or car rider pickups to Mrs. Gayman or Ms. Cal's email address. We wish to ensure that your information is received, and if sent to those emails, they could be missed when these individuals are out of the building. Please send to: <a href="mailto:nesoffice@northeryork.org">nesoffice@northeryork.org</a>. Thank you for your assistance and understanding.

Please communicate to the school whenever your student will be:

- absent for the day
- · picked up early for an appointment
- absent for an educational trip
- quarantining due to close contact outside of school

Medical providers may fax or email an excuse to our school office: **FAX 717-432-7329** or email to <a href="mailto:NESOffice@northernyork.org">NESOffice@northernyork.org</a>

#### Verifying your child's absence =

Please send in an excuse (written or digital) within three days of the student's return to school. If an excuse is not received within three days of the student's return to school, it is considered unlawful. Please see the PDF file below and our NYCSD Elementary Handbook for specifics regarding student absences.



NES 2021 Process for Reporting Student Absence (1).pdf



Sapphire Parent/Community Portal Information

Click here to access or create your Parent Portal





### NES Connection Opportunities

#### **Ways to Stay Connected**

Website: Our website at <a href="https://www.northernpolarbears.com/nes">www.northernpolarbears.com/nes</a> 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: <u>NES</u> Connection.

Sapphire Parent/Community Portal: Please take a moment to ensure that your contact information is accurate in the <u>Sapphire Parent Portal</u>. 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 <a href="mailto:oNESPolarBears">oNESPolarBears</a>!

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!

#### NYCSD Parent Handbook

2021-2022 Parent Handbook. This document may be downloaded or viewed as a PDF on the website.



NYCSD Approved 21-22 School Calendar.pdf





## Northern Elementary School

@NESPolarBears

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