



NORTHRIDGE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SUMMER 2024 NEWSLETTER

Message from the Superintendent

As we wrap up another year at Northridge Local Schools, we have much to celebrate. We are excited to announce the launch of our strategic plan, setting the course for our district's future. Our students have achieved remarkable academic accolades, including National Honor Society inductions and the Purple Star Award for supporting military families.

Financially, we are in a strong position, closing the year as expected and keeping two major capital projects—the middle school plumbing and the athletic complex—on time and within budget. The nearly completed athletic complex promises to be a fantastic space for our community and is set to be opened at the end of the summer.

This year has offered a well-rounded experience for our students, from record-setting athletic seasons to outstanding band, chorus, and theater accomplishments across all grade levels. At Northridge, we emphasize more than academics; we foster a sense of community and Viking pride.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to making our school a wonderful place to learn and grow.

Dr. Kristine Michael

Dr. Kristine Michael
Superintendent



VIKING VOYAGE
Listening, Learning, Leading

Inside:

Celebrating the Class of 2024!

Strategic Planning Update

Partnership with Neighborhood Bridges

Athletic Complex Grand Opening

District Financial Update

Stay in touch!

www.northridge.k12.oh.us



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Celebrating the Class of 2024!

Congratulations to the Class of 2024! Best of luck as you embark on this new chapter of your lives. We couldn't be prouder of you!



Embarking on Our Strategic Planning Initiative

Northridge Local School District is beginning a strategic planning process to shape its future. Engaging administrators, faculty, students, parents, and community members, the district will assess its current status, identify key areas for development, and set strategic goals. Starting this fall and concluding in winter, the process aims to create a comprehensive plan that serves as a roadmap, ensuring a positive and purposeful educational experience for all students.



Stories from around Northridge Schools

Northridge Elementary School



Annual 5th grade trip to camp at Heartland.

NES students have fun and build community at Donuts with Grownups, sharing breakfast with their families.



NES students and their families enjoy S.T.E.A.M. Night 2024.

Northridge Middle School



On the 8th grade Washington DC trip, students visited key landmarks including Arlington Cemetery, where they laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.



We Are Northridge Wall features students who have demonstrated Respect, Responsibility, and Safety.

In the 8th-grade Social Studies classrooms, Mr. Elliott and Mrs. Miller presented the Ohio State University 4H Extension Office's Real Money, Real World program. Students learned about budgeting, distinguishing between wants and needs, and the impact of taxes on take-home pay.



Northridge High School



Sophomores Lily Hill, Alyssa Evans, and Kylie Samples in the LPN nursing lab on signing day. C-TEC offers high school students the chance to explore career paths to earn 2-year degrees or certifications and jump-start their futures.

NHS Brings 'Into the Woods' to Life: Northridge High School's performance showcased exceptional talent, engaging elementary students and senior citizens with a special preview and community outreach.



Ohio Department of Education Awards NHS with Purple Star Award for its support of military families and their children.

Supporting Military Families

Track & Field Team Sets New School Records



Bodhi Foster set a new school pole vault record.

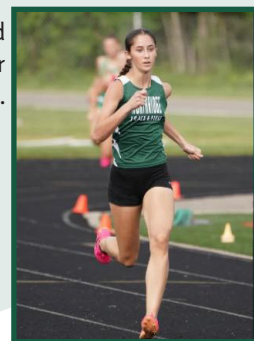


A new school record was set by the 4x800 relay team of **Logan Knerr, Braden Yutzy, Ben Hilton, and Jack Van Fossen.**



Ava Travis finished 12th in the state for the 400 m dash.

Isabel Evans was State Champ in 100 m hurdles and State Runner-Up for the 300 m hurdles!



Music Program Thrives through Passion and Community

Northridge Schools' grades 6-12 music program has experienced significant growth and success under the leadership of band director and Northridge alum Mr. **Alex Healey**. The program begins in 6th grade and includes two middle school bands (6th grade band and 7-8th grade band), a high school concert band, jazz band, and marching band.

Since graduating from Ohio University in 2021 and returning to teach at Northridge, Healey has overseen the band's growth from 50 students to an impressive 150 students today. This spring, the high school concert band participated in the Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) large group contest for the first time in the school's history and received a Superior rating in class B, the highest marks a school can achieve.

"Watching kids find themselves in music, create a community, and make beautiful music together is incredibly rewarding," said Healey.

Of the 12 graduating seniors in the High School Concert Band, five are continuing their music studies in college. Among them is Lydia Oney, who is following in Mr. Healey's footsteps by attending Ohio University to study Music Education. Reflecting on her experience, Oney said, "The music program has meant the world to me as it has always been a fun and safe environment to be yourself while being able to make music with friends. It also provides the ability to learn new skills and leadership opportunities."



Behind the scenes with Mr. Healey



Northridge Marching Band



Northridge Concert Band gets "Superior" rating at OMEA

Neighborhood Bridges Will Help Meet Needs

Northridge Schools are proud to partner with Neighborhood Bridges to address the growing needs within our community. Neighborhood Bridges, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, matches individual student needs with donors. By helping pay for a student's college applications or covering bills if power or heat is turned off, Neighborhood Bridges directly supports Northridge kids and families. Needs are posted anonymously, and donors sign up to fill them. Through this collaboration, parents, community members, and staff create a team to identify and support those in need, embodying the Viking commitment to kindness. Northridge parent and involved community member Lauren Alspach will serve as the Area Director.



Want to get involved?

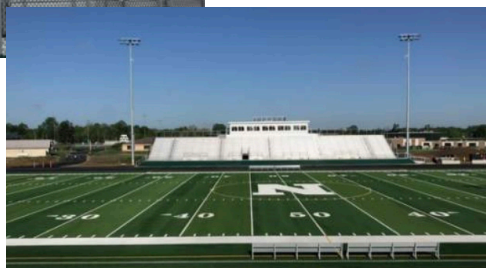
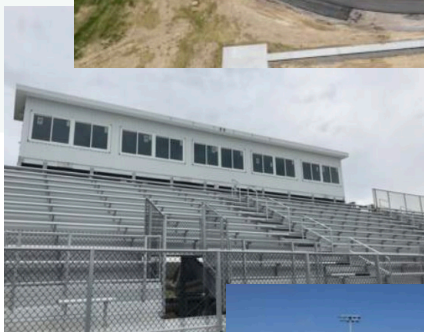


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Athletic Complex Update: Grand Opening Set for August 12

The stadium construction is progressing rapidly, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony scheduled for August 12. The turf field is complete, the grandstands are built, and the scoreboard is up. Summer projects include completing the concession stand, concrete walkways, gravel under the grandstands, fencing, and play clocks. We look forward to cheering on Northridge Vikings in the 2024-2025 school year!



Update from Britt Lewis, Treasurer/CFO

The Northridge Local Schools' financial forecast remains stable. Revenue projections have increased from the November forecast due to the district's conservative budgeting with property tax collections. The continued growth within our community, combined with increased revenue projections, has enabled us to maintain fiscal responsibility, especially since most of our funding comes from local sources. We are deeply grateful to our community for their ongoing support, which allows us to provide the quality education our community expects.



Our current facility projects, the District Stadium and Middle School Plumbing renovations, remain on schedule and within budget, with anticipated completion dates in August 2024. We commend our Athletic Boosters for raising \$1.6 million to-date toward their continued \$2 million goal, significantly contributing to the overall \$8 million cost of the stadium. Once completed, the stadium will be a wonderful addition to our community's athletic and marching band programs.

I am also proud to share that our district recently received its eleventh consecutive clean audit and ninth Auditor of State Award for 2022-2023. This honor is awarded to districts that meet all the criteria for a "clean" audit.

Northridge Local Schools remain committed to financial transparency and accountability while providing the necessary resources for our students' success. None of this would be possible without the support of our Northridge community. Thank you!