

AUGUST 14, 2024



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Welcome Back to School!

The first day of the new school year is Monday, August 26. Whether you are a student, a parent, a teacher, an instructional assistant, or even an administrator, the anticipation of the first day of school is filled with excitement, hope, and just a little anxiety. Our staff has spent hundreds of combined hours attending conferences, trainings and planning sessions to prepare for the new school year. We look forward to introducing our students and families to new learning strategies and opportunities that have developed from our summer commitment to learning. We hope that you will find this issue of our Back to School Newsletter informative and helpful as both you and your children prepare for the new year.

New Student Orientation

NPHS will host an orientation for students **new** to North Point on Wednesday, August 21, from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm. New students and their parents will have an opportunity to tour the building, locate their classrooms and lockers, explore extra-curricular opportunities, and purchase spirit wear. Staff will be available to answer questions about StudentVue/ParentVue and transportation.

There will be two opportunities to attend a general information session presented in the gymnasium, one at 4:00 pm and another at 5:00 pm. The information presented will be repeated at both sessions. It is not necessary to attend both sessions.

[Click here to see the NPHS New Student Orientation presentation.](#)

[Click here to see the New Student Orientation pamphlet.](#)

Scan the QR code to review the agenda and information for New Student Orientation.



First Day of School

When students arrive at school on Monday, August 26, they should locate and report to their administrative homeroom. Homeroom locations can be found in the StudentVue app. Additionally, homeroom locations will be posted by grade-level throughout the building as noted below:

9th grade = Pool Windows

10th grade = Media Center Windows

11th grade = Main Street Courtyard Windows

12th grade = Upstairs Hallway

Transportation

Through Where's the Bus, parents and students can see real-time bus arrival and drop off data, and afternoon pick ups and drop offs. The system has been enhanced this school year to include additional bus routes. The WheresTheBus app is free to CCPS households, simple to use, and takes less than 5 minutes to set up.

To access:

1. Go to [WheresTheBus.com](https://www.wheres-the-bus.com) or download the app in the Google Play Store or Apple App Store.
2. Create an account and select Charles County Public Schools from the drop-down menu and add your child's student ID and birth date.

CCPS meals prepayment system moves to MySchoolBucks

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) has moved its meal prepayment system to MySchoolsBucks for the 2024-2025 school year. The system replaces MyPaymentsPlus and is accessible at any time. Parents with existing MySchoolBucks accounts can log into the system and load money by credit/debit card or e-check to their child's meal account.

With the new platform, parents are not able to divide funds between a meal account and a general account (used to buy a la carte items). Any money left on student accounts was moved to the new platform.

Visit www.myschoolbucks.com to access or create a new account. Parents creating new accounts must know their child's six-digit student identification number. The number is in ParentVue, on the main page for the desktop version, and under the main student menu in the mobile app (click on the three lines in the lower left-hand corner to view a student's child's ID which will show their ID number).

A free MySchoolBucks mobile app is available in Google and Apple stores. The app icon is blue with My School Bucks written in white text in the square.

Bookbags and laptop bags

Per CCPS policy, all bookbags, backpacks and bags larger than an adult hand must be secured in a student's assigned locker during the school day. Students should carry their laptop in a CCPS-approved sleeve or carrier. The graphic below shows the types of carriers that are approved to be used by students.



TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION

Make sure your laptop works *before* school starts.

- Please be sure to turn on your CCPS issued laptop a few days before school starts, particularly if it's been off all summer. Turn it on, restart it, and let it stay on for a few hours so that it can pull down any necessary updates.
- If your laptop is broken, please return it to the Main Office at North Point for repair or replacement as soon as possible. If you wait until the first day of school to return a broken laptop then there will likely be a delay in getting it repaired or replaced.
- Incoming freshman that are exchanging their middle school laptop will also need to bring their charger to return as well.

One-to-One (Laptop) Information and Policy

All NPHS students are issued an assigned CCPS laptop device. Returning students kept their devices at the end of the school year in June. Ninth graders and students new to North Point will receive their laptops in the first weeks of school. NPHS will handle exchanging current middle school laptops for rising ninth graders when they pick up new laptops.

CCPS laptops are the only devices to be used. Students and parents are responsible for understanding the policies related to the device. CCPS devices issued through North Point High School are for educational use only including – official school system/school communication, accessing Synergy, accessing school appropriate websites for assignments, creating, and saving school assignments.

CCPS devices should not be traded and/or loaned to another student or individual. The student to whom the device is assigned is responsible for all content created, viewed, saved, downloaded, and/or shared on the device.

Loss of or damage to a CCPS device is the financial responsibility of the student and parent to whom the device is assigned.

Learning Expectations with Devices

- CCPS/NPHS device brought to school every day – fully charged before school begins
- Used as the official electronic device in all classrooms
- Use programs only approved and/or pre-loaded by CCPS – students may not download programs Smartphones/cellphones may not be used as a substitute for your CCPS laptop – tests/quizzes, assignment completion/submission
- Use CCPS Office 365 account to save assignments, projects, notes

Device Safety

- Accounts, usernames and/or passwords are never to be shared with another student/individual
- Laptop devices should never be loaned to another student/individual
- Personal, identifiable information should never be posted on the internet
- Never leave devices unattended
- Secure devices in lockers when not in use and during after-school activities

Device Care

- No decorations, stickers, drawing or writing on the device
- No eating or drinking near the device
- Do not expose the device to extreme heat, cold or rain
- Clean with a dry soft cloth only
- Do not drop or slam the device on any surface
- Close the screen when not in use
- Unplug when fully charged

CCPS Cell Phone Policy for High School

Students may bring their phone or device but once school begins the device must be powered completely off (not on vibrate or silent mode) and must remain in a non-visible, secure location, with the exception of lunchtime.

- Phones and devices may be used during approved times but must not be disruptive or serve any inappropriate purposes, such as loud/explicit music or videos, recording, airdropping sending or posting inappropriate messages or images (via text or social media), or any type of cyberbullying.
- At the end of the lunch or activity period, all phones and devices must be immediately powered back off and returned to a non-visible, secure location, until the end of the day.
- Administrators and/or teachers may allow the use of cell phones for specific academic purposes; such opportunities will be communicated in advance.
- Cell phones or electronic devices with camera and/or video functions must not be used to take or transmit any image or video at any time, even if the use of the phone or device is otherwise permitted.

Types of Cell Phone Violations

Below are examples of violations of the above policy. This is not a complete list. In general, violations include any use of a cell phone/smartphone that creates a disruption to the learning environment for an individual and/or group or creates a potential safety concern.

- Making/receiving calls
- Texting Viewing/posting on social media
- Streaming video or music
- Gaming Video/Audio recording
- Taking photographs
- Possession of a phone during standardized tests (i.e. MCAP, AP, certification exams)



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<https://sideline.bsnsports.com/schools/maryland/waldorf/north-point-high-school>



Senior Breakfast

The annual Senior Breakfast for the Class of 2025 will be on Friday, August 30. NPHS is seeking donations for the breakfast. Items requested are: bottled waters and juices, individually wrapped breakfast items such as muffins, pop-tarts, danish, cereal bars, and honey buns. **ALL ITEMS MUST BE INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED.** Please drop off donated items to the main office by August 29.

Senior Dues

Senior dues are \$140. Dues cover cap and gown, senior picnic, awards, and diploma. Dues can be paid online at gofan.co or with cash, check or money order (made out to North Point High School). Dues should be paid in full by January 31, 2025.

Student Parking

Any student that will be driving to school will need to have a parking permit. You can find the latest information for parking on the NPHS website at [Student Driving & Parking Policy](#). The application process will continue to remain open until all spaces are issued.

North Point Athletics

Northpointathletics.com is the place to go for all NPHS athletic information. There you will find links to game schedules, purchase tickets, how to register for a sport, and much more. Tickets to athletic events can be purchased through [GOFAN](#). Cash payment is not accepted at the entry gates.

NPHS Dates

August 21	New Student Orientation 4 pm - 6 pm
August 26	First day of school
September 2	Schools closed - Labor Day
September 13	Schools closed
September 18	NPHS Open House 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Helpful links

Northpointathletics.com

[Free and reduced meal application](#)

[NPHS](#)

[CCPS](#)

Myschoolbucks.com

[Transportation](#)

[Where's the Bus](#)

