

# COUNSELING OFFICE

## NEWSLETTER

October, 2024



## Embracing Cultural Diversity Everybody is welcome here



**UNDER NEW  
MANAGEMENT**

### Counseling Department Change:

The Counseling Department at North Springs has undergone some recent changes. Mr. Mark Sheridan, Assistant Principal will now supervise the department. This change aims to revitalize the counseling department, bringing a new look and creating opportunities to improve processes and increase the counseling department's relevance, all while preserving the achievements of Assistant Principal, Mr. Eric Jones' previous administration.

This is Mr. Sheridan's 6th year at North Springs. Throughout this time here he has worked closely with multiple departments, supporting after-school programs, supervising testing, managing the annual SSEF STEAM Event and more. This is his 19th year in education, including 12 years as a high school science teacher. He is an Atlanta native and UGA graduate and he and his wife are always busy enjoying raising their 2 boys (age 6 and 9). His interests outside of school include soccer (former player and Coach), music, and reading.

**Mr. Sheridan, what is your vision for the counseling department?**

I am looking forward to bringing a more collaborative approach to the counseling department. A high-functioning counseling department serves as a connection to multiple other departments within the school and community. I aim to improve the resources we currently provide as well as to identify and add key services that support our students and parents. To achieve that, I hope to foster an environment of transparent communication and service with our families.

**What are some of your goals for the department?**

My main goals for the department aim to build on the hard work that Mr. Jones and the counseling team have done and continue to do every day. I hope to instill a culture where all feel welcome, and all feel they have a voice. Included in this will be an examination of procedures and policies so that we can more efficiently support our families. We will examine our current strengths and weaknesses and identify next steps to build upon for the future. This includes more improved communication and more frequent opportunities for parents/students to interact (grade level presentations, student-parent conferences, a more robust digital presence, and more).

Throughout this process, I hope that every student at North Springs is able to have the best possible high school experience. As North Springs continues to offer more unique academic opportunities for students, the counseling department will serve as a key resource in supporting their success. I encourage anyone wanting to positively impact our school to continue to reach out and support us as we grow. I look forward to working with you and GO SPARTANS!

October, 2024

# National Hispanic Heritage Month



## Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Heritage Month is an annual celebration of the history and culture of the U.S. Latino and Hispanic communities. In 2024, it will last from Sunday, September 15 to Tuesday, October 15, 2024.

Mrs. Mariam Palacios, North Springs Parent Liason is happy to share that the celebrations at North Springs will end in November 11, 2024 with a College Fair target to our hispanic students and promoted by the National Hispanic College Fairs and the Fulton County Schools.

*We are excited to celebrate this important group of people in our community and beyond* said Mrs. Julie Ferris, World Language lead teacher. She also informed that Spanish teachers, Spanish National Honor Society, and Latin X culture club all are working to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month by learning and presenting about influential Hispanic individuals and about Hispanic influences in many aspects of life thoroughout the United States. The Latin X Culture Club decorated North Springs main hall with posters of influential hispanic people to celebrate our diversity. They are also going to host a glass signing event for Hispanic students to be recognized, and a pot luck of Hispanic Food will be organized before the end of the month.

*We look after all foreign language students but we have a large Hispanic student population. We do our best to help students not simply to adjust but to thrive here in North Springs,* said Mrs. Carolyn Turner, the ESOL lead teacher.

## Parents Welcome:

Continuing with our parent events, we will end September with the 10th and 11th grades Parent Night with Mrs. Shabazz. and Mr. Ellis. We will talk about graduation requirements, college & career information and upcoming Junior Conferences. The conferences are intendend to track Junior progress towards graduation requirements and define action plans if necessary.

The Freshman Night with Mr. Ellis was transferred to 10/08 and will now include a teacher open house portion (5:30pm to 6:30pm) followed by an informational presentation from 6:30pm to 7:30pm in the North Springs' auditorium.

## College Life:

Dr. Pritchett, our College & Career Coordinator, informs that we already have several college visits scheduled for October. Students should look for the presentation posted on their grade level for sign up. The College & Career Center also helps students with College and Job applications. To set up an appointment with Dr. Pritchett students should email her at [pritchettam@fultonschools.org](mailto:pritchettam@fultonschools.org)

**09/30: Sophomore / Junior Night**

**10/08: Freshmen Night**

**10/08: 9th Grade PSAT**

**10/09: 10th and 11th grades PSAT/NMSQT**

**10/08: SAT day for Seniors that signed up for the exam**

**10/23: Spartan Market at Solidarity Food Pantry**

**November 11th, 2024**

**Hispanic College Fair**

**from 9:30am to 12:30 pm**

**North Springs High School**

