



Feb

NORTH NEWSLETTER

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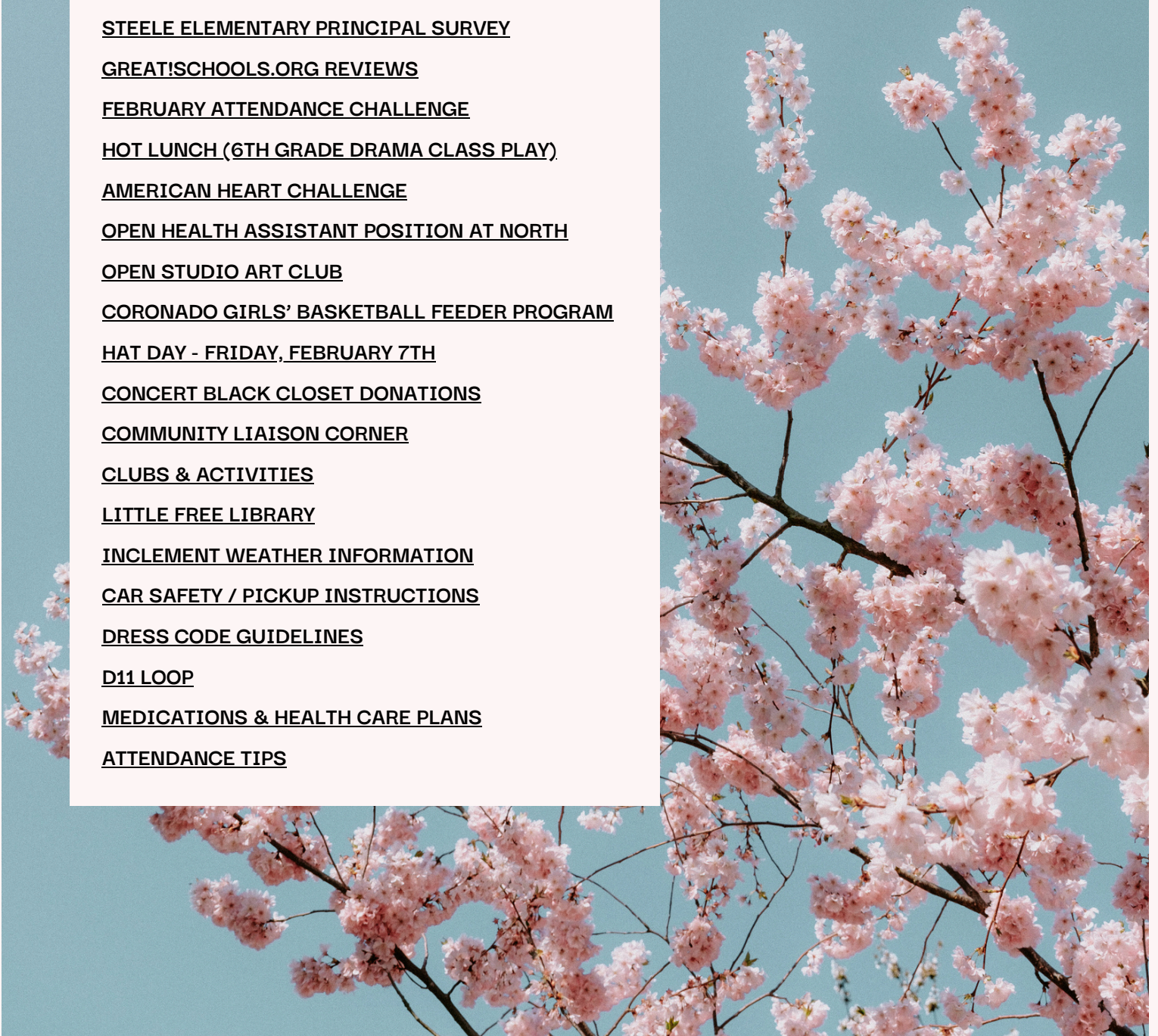
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A Word from Our Principal

FEBRUARY 2025

Dear Vikings and Families:

It's pretty much a constant that every time I am ready to write my note for the newsletter that I reflect on just how fast the months are passing - I simply cannot believe it's January 31st. The last few weeks with such cold weather have been odd for everyone, and I am thankful for perhaps a reprieve this coming week, and I'm sure our students are as well. We have been busy with getting the second semester rolling, looking at student data and planning modifications before testing, and gearing up for intense sports and performance seasons. Over the coming months, if you haven't had the opportunity to watch our students in action doing what they love, please prioritize it - whether it's theatre, band or orchestra, art shows, or sports, our kids are thriving, and we are thankful for your partnership in extending them those opportunities with us.

Parents, we need your assistance in some areas for the end of this semester and extending into next year. Of utmost priority is our need for parents to fill out the 5E Survey at the following link: https://survey.5-essentials.org/sd11/?target_name=parent. This survey does take about 10 minutes, but it provides us important information that we use in our end-of-year planning. To receive results, we need to have 20% of parents fill it out - we currently sit at 14% completion, and the survey closes on February 7th, so please take the time in the next week to fill it out. We sincerely appreciate you.

Similarly, the priority permit window for students to choose into North for the 25-26 school year closes on Friday, February 14th. Our permit list looks great, as do our applicants in 6th grade for our Gifted and Talented Academy (GTA). However, we absolutely think we will fill 6th grade and our GTA earlier than in prior years, so if you have friends or family looking to attend North at any grade in this upcoming school year, please remind them to fill out the choice application form and/or the GTA application before that February 14th deadline. This will ensure they have the best opportunity to attend North next year. As a middle school, our strengths in diversity and community, academic and extracurricular offerings, and overall performance is drawing families to us, and that is incredibly exciting and a credit to our teachers/staff, our families and community, and our students for making North an excellent place to be!

Important Upcoming Dates:

- **Monday, February 3rd** Staff Professional Development Day (No Students)
- **Friday, February 7th** Mid-Quarter Grades Collected
- **Monday, February 17th** Presidents' Day (District Closed - No Staff or Students)
- **Monday, March 3rd** Staff Professional Development Day (No Students)
- **Thursday, March 13th** End of Quarter 3
- **Friday, March 14th** Staff Work Day (No Students)

Again, as I iterated in January's Newsletter, the end-of-year testing window is March 31st - April 11th, so please prioritize your student's attendance during that time and please do not plan any extended trips during this window. We sincerely appreciate you, and we hope you have a lovely weekend!

Sincerely,

Stephanie Leasure

Principal

North Middle School





NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL'S *purpose statement*

In the District 11 I.B. Continuum, North Middle School learners are excited to attend and expected to succeed as members of a diverse, connected community - dedicated to developing their academic skills through their interests and talents.

**Please click the link
for this month's
Upcoming Events.**

COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 11
NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL
2024-2025

KEY	
No Students	[- Beginning of Quarter
Schools Closed] - End of Quarter

1st Semester 2024

AUGUST						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	[6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August
8/6 6th Grade First Day
8/7 First Day Back (All)
8/21 Picture Day
8/21 Back to School Night
8/22 Vision-Hearing Screening

SEPTEMBER						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

September
9/2 Labor Day (No School)
9/16 P.D. Day (No Students)
9/24 100-Year Celebration

OCTOBER						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11]	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	[21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

October
10/1 Official Count Day
10/8 School Picture Retakes
10/11 End of Q1
10/14 PT Con. (No School)
10/15 PT Con. (No School)
10/14 - 10/18 Fall Break
10/21 Beginning of Q2
10/23 Student Half Day
10/23 PT Con. (Half Day)
10/31 Halloween

NOVEMBER						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

November
11/11 Veteran's Day (School in Session)
11/18 PD Day (No Students)
11/25 - 11/29 Thanksgiving Break (No School)
11/28 Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20]	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

December
12/20 End of Q2
12/23 - 1/6 Winter Break (Students)
12/23 - 1/2 Winter Break (Teachers)
12/24 Christmas Eve
12/25 Christmas

January
1/1 New Year's Day
1/3 Teacher Work Day
1/6 PD Day (No Students)
1/7 Beginning of Q3
1/20 MLKJr. Day (No School)

JANUARY						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

2nd Semester 2025

February
2/3 PD Day (No Students)
2/14 Valentine's Day
2/17 Presidents' Day (No School)

FEBRUARY						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March
3/3 PD Day (No Students)
3/13 End of Q3
3/14 Teacher Work Day
3/17 Beginning of Q4
3/24 - 3/28 Spring Break

MARCH						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13]	14	15
16	[17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April
4/18 Good Friday
4/20 Easter

APRIL						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May
5/11 Mother's Day
5/23 End of Q4
5/23 Last Day of School
If additional days are not required.
5/26 Memorial Day
5/27 Teacher Work Day

MAY						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23]	24
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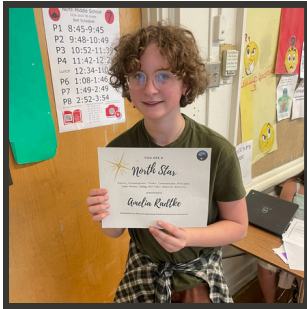
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE LEARNER PROFILE

INQUIRERS... KNOWLEDGEABLE... THINKERS... COMMUNICATORS...
PRINCIPLED... OPEN-MINDED... **CARING**... RISK-TAKERS...
BALANCED... REFLECTIVE

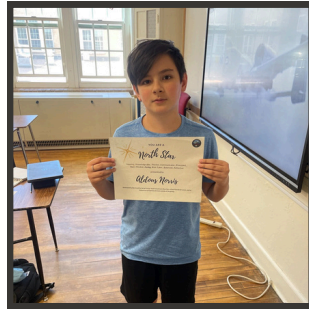
We show empathy, compassion, and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.

North Star VIKING HIGHLIGHT

The following Vikings have demonstrated themselves to be exceptionally **CARING** and have received the North Star Award.



AMELIA RADTKE
7TH GRADE



ALDOUS NORRIS
7TH GRADE



VESNA KILLIAN
7TH GRADE



NORA GOFF
7TH GRADE



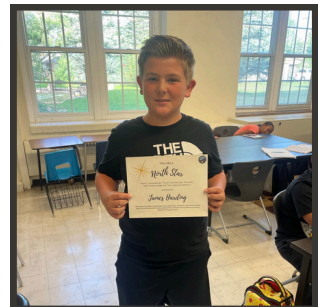
FLYNN BURROW
7TH GRADE



EMIRETH LUGO
7TH GRADE



HARPER GRAF
7TH GRADE



JAMES HARDING
6TH GRADE

ROLLING CONSTRUCTION NEAR NORTH M.S.

North Parents,

Please be aware of construction beginning around North Middle School at the beginning of February. Construction will begin on N Royer St between E Yampa & E Cache la Poudre St, but will move to other streets later. We will do our best to keep you updated as changes occur! Please see the [N Royer Construction](#) page for construction details.



FORMER STEELE PARENTS, GUARDIANS, & STUDENTS

Steele Elementary has begun the process of hiring their next principal at Steele and they would like your input! As a former Steele parent/guardian or a resident of Steele's boundaries, please complete the [Steele Leadership Survey](#). If you are a former Steele student, please complete the [Student Input Survey](#).

Great!

SCHOOLS.org

Hello North Middle School families,

We'd love to hear from you! Sharing your experiences at North Middle School on GreatSchools.org helps other families learn what makes our school special. Your feedback is a wonderful way to give back and support our community as new families consider schools for the upcoming year.

Please take a moment to leave a review on [our GreatSchools profile](#).

Thank you for being part of our school family. Wishing you a joyful holiday season!

[Escribe un opinión de North Middle School.](#)

Attendance Challenge

February 24th - 28th



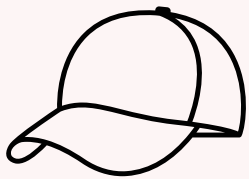
The grade with the best attendance will claim the title of Top Grade of the Week and score these amazing rewards:



Extra Pride points for the **WHOLE GRADE!**



15 min. Walk & Talk with Friends - the perfect break!



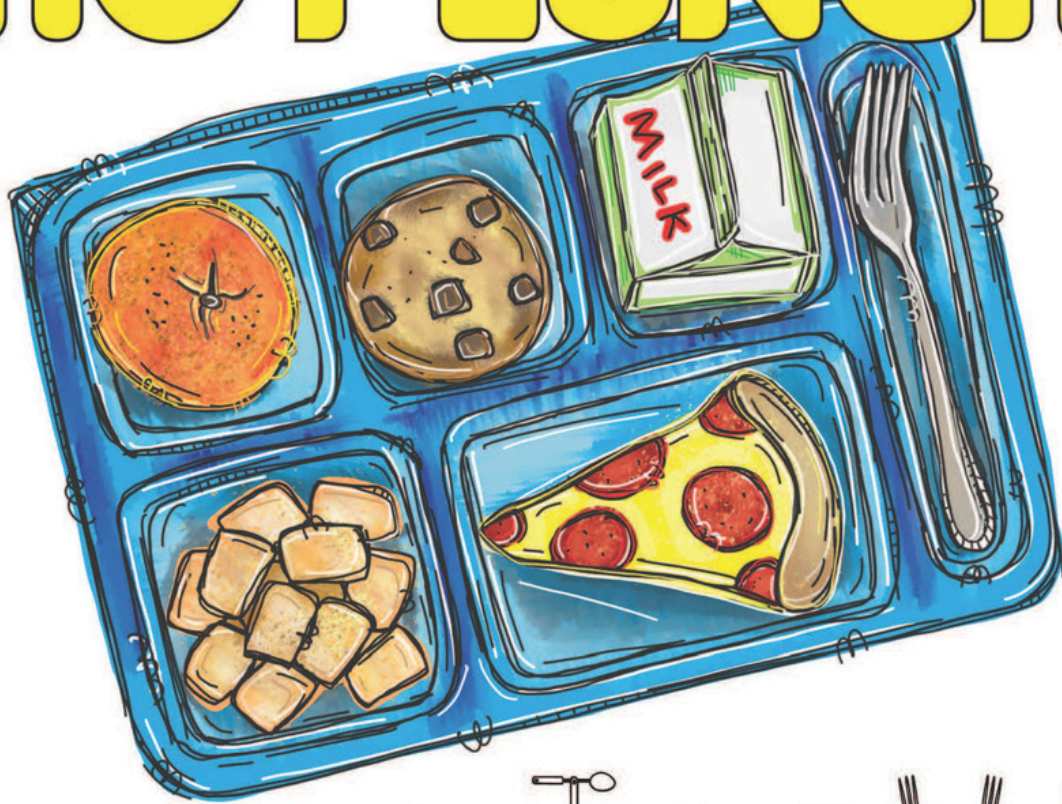
Free Hat Day! Rock your coolest hat all day.



*Ultimate Bragging Rights
Show everyone who's boss!*

A PRESENTATION BY NORTH'S
6th Grade Drama Classes

HOT LUNCH



by Tracy Wells

FEBRUARY 26 @ 5:30 PM NORTH DAY CAST

FEBRUARY 27 @ 5:30 PM VIKING DAY CAST



At the North MS Cafetorium

FREE ADMISSION

CASH CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE FOR SALE

PRODUCED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH STAGE PARTNERS
WWW.YOURSTAGEPARTNERS.COM



American Heart Association.
KIDS HEART CHALLENGE | **AMERICAN HEART CHALLENGE**



Amaya
Grade 1

Noah
Grade 4

Kara
Grade 12

Micah
Grade 3

Ryder
Grade 12

Hailey
Kindergarten

Poulima
Grade 3

Lilliana
Grade 2

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY OF LIFESAVERS

Registration is now open! Our community counts on lifesavers like you. Please sign up for **Kids Heart Challenge** or **American Heart Challenge** so you can learn how to keep your heart and brain healthy while raising funds to help kids with special hearts. By completing **Finn's Mission**, you'll also learn the lifesaving skill of **Hands-Only CPR** and how to recognize a stroke.

STEP 1



REGISTER TODAY!

Download the AHA Schools app, scan the QR code or visit heart.org/Schools to get started!



STEP 2

COMPLETE FINN'S MISSION!

Join the movement to create communities of lifesavers across the nation by completing Finn's Mission and learning Hands-Only CPR!



TIPS



REGISTERING MULTIPLE STUDENTS? Create an account for each student with the same parent email but different usernames.



SCAN CHECKS to instantly see your online total update with our AHA Schools app.



HAVE A MATCHING GIFT? Send your matching gift confirmation (email/photo/screen grab) to matchinggifts@heart.org.



Join the American Heart Association in saving lives and advancing health and hope for everyone, everywhere.



HEALTH ASSISTANT POSITION OPEN NOW

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Basic First Aid
- Medication Administration
- Health Information Organization
- Immunization Record Organization
- Communication/Collaboration with School Nurse

BASIC REQUIREMENTS:

- High School Diploma
- First Aid/CPR (District provides certification)
- Ability to Work Independently and with Others
- Good Communication

SCHEDULE:

- 4-5 Hours a Day on Student Contact Days
- \$15.00 an Hour

NORTH
MIDDLE

CONTACT LANIE ROBERDS, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, 719-328-2410



OPEN STUDIO ART CLUB

Want to create some art?
Join Mrs. Murphy every Wednesday from
4pm to 5pm for Open Studio! Open
Studio is self directed, independent study
studio time . No need to sign-up just
sign-in whenever you feel like coming in
and creating.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Mrs. Murphy at jillian.murphy@d11.org

THE EVENT WILL START ON

5
Feb. 2025

**Room
102**

North Middle
School





CORONADO GIRLS BASKETBALL FEEDER PROGRAM

WHO:

- Any 4th-8th grade athlete interested in learning and growing in her basketball knowledge

TRAINING SESSIONS SCHEDULE:

- Sundays starting December 8th from 4:00-6:00 PM

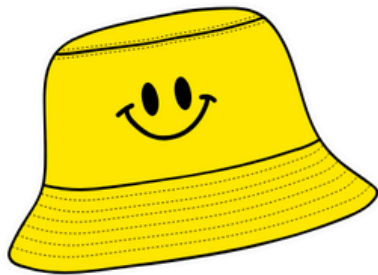
COST:

- \$10.00 per month

LOCATION:

1590 W. Fillmore St Colorado Springs CO 80904

**FOR MORE INFO, GO TO THE HEJA APP & ENTER TEAM CODE
GZ-944371**



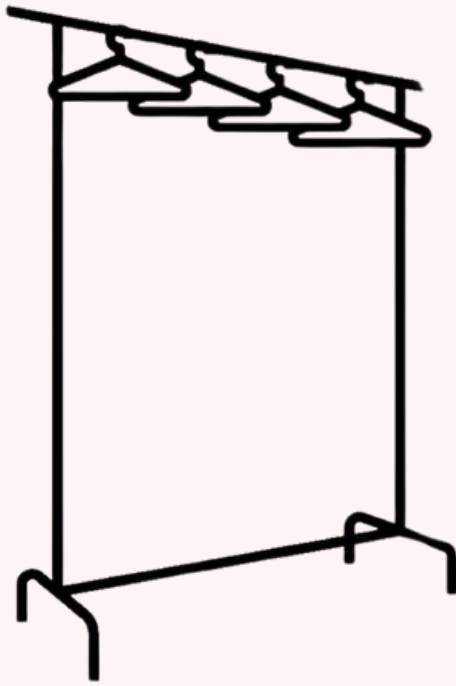
HAT DAY



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

**Buy a wristband in the
Cafeteria before School
for **\$1.00!****

***Your hat cannot cover
your face. No hoodies!***



CONCERT BLACK

*Donations
Welcome*

**NICE, DRESSY, SEMI FORMAL
SOLID BLACK CLOTHING NEEDED**

IF YOU'RE LOOKING TO REPURPOSE GENTLY USED CLOTHING
ITEMS, CONSIDER DONATING YOUR SOLID BLACK ITEMS TO
NORTH'S BAND & ORCHESTRA CONCERT CLOSET!

YOUR DONATION CAN HELP A STUDENTS IN NEED THIS SCHOOL
YEAR ACQUIRE CONCERT CLOTHES.



**CLOTHING & SHOES
IN ALL SIZES
ARE GREATLY
APPRECIATED!**

-MS REEVES

Thank you!

TANESHA.REEVES@D11.OG 719-328-7566



COMMUNITY LIAISON CORNER

In partnership with Eye Love Care, we will be hosting a free optometry clinic providing comprehensive eye exams for students on March 12th and March 13th. Packets will be sent home with students, and parents can opt in to receive this service for their child. Please look for packets around the last week of February.

In addition to the free exams, students who need glasses will be able to pick out frames from a large assortment and the Eye Love Care staff will deliver the glasses back to the school and students in about a week or two following the eye exam. Glasses are also free of charge.

Learn more by watching the [Eye Love Care “No Vision Left Behind” 2025 video](#).

Family Engagement Tip for February:

Families often ask, “How can we support our kids in school?” Here are some helpful tips to support your child’s learning:

- Actively communicate with your child’s teacher and stay informed
- Regularly check grades and homework assignments. You can do this by accessing PowerSchool.
- Create a positive learning environment at home that allows for quiet study space, supplies, and assistance when needed.
- Encourage a love of learning. Read to or with your child and discuss what they are learning in school.
- Support learning ownership - encourage your child to ask questions, engage in class, and seek help when needed.
- Attend school events. Consider volunteering and participating in things such as the PTA, School Accountability Committee, or other opportunities.
- Help your child build confidence and resilience by celebrating hard work and improvements.
- Address concerns early and look for solutions and positive ways to move forward.
- Make sure basic needs are being met, such as getting enough sleep, limiting screen time, eating healthy, and balancing responsibilities with fun or down time.

CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

	CLUB	MEETING DAYS	START/END	TIMES	SPONSOR	LOCATION
M O R N I N G	NJHS (By Invite Only)	Fridays	August - May	7:45 - 8:40	C. Radtke & K. Trujillo	Library
	Harry Potter Club	Fridays	November - May	7:40 - 8:25	K. Johnson	Room 138
	Prayer Club	Wednesdays	September - May	8:15 - 8:40	R. Sevits	Room 202
	Babysitting Club	Thursdays	February - May	8:00 - 8:40	K. Hatley	Room 250
A F T E R N O O N	Dungeon Masters	Mondays	August - May	4:00 - 5:30	C. Bricker	Room 258
	Dungeons & Dragons	Fridays	August - May	4:00 - 5:30	C. Bricker	Room 258
	Mathletes	Mondays	August - May	4:00 - 5:00	A. Clay	Room 244
	Magic the Gathering	Mondays	September - May	4:00 - 5:00	Ray Sevits	Room 202
	Board Game Club	Tuesdays	September - May	4:00 - 4:45	Kelly Gallegos	Counseling
	Drama Club (Audition Only)	Weekdays	Aug. - December	4:00 - 5:30	A. Gaden	Cafetorium
	DJ Club	Tuesdays	November - May	4:00 - 5:30	T. Reeves	Annex 210
	Pride Club	Wednesdays	August - May	4:00 - 5:00	Kate DeJong	Room 230
	Anime Club	Thursdays	Sept. - December	4:00 - 5:00	W. Williams	Room 236
	Kids on Bikes	Thursdays	Sept. - December	4:00 - 5:30	Kate Bauder	Room 160
	Bouldering Club	3rd Thursday of the Month	November - March	4:30 - 6:00	J. Walker	Pure Bouldering Gym
S P O R T S	Boys' Basketball	Weekdays	January - March	4:00 - 5:30	C. Yunker	Gym
	CoEd Track	Weekdays	March - May	4:00 - 5:30	J. Walker	North Field
	Hybrid Spring Sports (Details to Come): Girls' & Boys' Soccer, Boys' Volleyball, Girls' Golf, & 6th Grade Flag Football					

North Middle School's LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

is looking **BARE**! If you are able to donate lightly-used books, please bring them in to Attendance or place them directly into the Little Library at the Main Entrance!



Please Remember! The Little Library is “**Take a Book, Leave a Book.**”
Please return books when you are done, or drop off a new book!

Inclement Weather Information

What to Know Before the Snow

It's just a matter of time before the weather starts to turn cold and the snow starts to fly! Weather severity will determine D11's response.

What types of inclement weather decisions are there?

Depending on weather severity and how many remote learning days have been used during a school year, one of three decisions will be made:

- Full closure--all District 11 schools and offices will be closed and there is no expectation of remote working/learning.
- Two-hour delay--School will start in-person exactly two hours later than normally scheduled. There will be no AM preschool, and buses will pick up exactly two hours later than normal. Morning Jazz Band does NOT meet on Two-hour delay days.

How are the inclement weather decisions made?

Sudden weather changes are part of what we expect in Colorado. To help us ensure the safety of our students and staff to the best of our abilities, School District 11 has appointed supervisory personnel to drive sections of the District during a predicted storm. We assign the driving sections because, as we all know, the weather in one part of our city can be completely different than in another part of the city during a storm. The supervisory personnel report on weather and road conditions, especially noting poor visibility, poor traction and other hazardous street conditions, wind chill factors, and snow accumulation. These on-the-street supervisors report their findings, and the Superintendent is briefed on the conditions. We evaluate the conditions and further driving reviews and conversations may occur.

The employee reports are used in addition to the reports from the U.S. Weather Bureau and the Colorado Springs Street Division, and in coordination with neighboring school districts. After all the data is examined, a decision is made for either a delayed start, a remote learning day, a full school closure, or school as usual. All of this usually begins the night before a storm is predicted to hit and is accomplished by 5:30 AM so you may be notified in a timely manner.

May I choose to keep my child home if the decision is made to hold in-person learning?

You as a parent/guardian make the final decision concerning the safety of your child. If you think conditions are unsafe when the District keeps schools open, you may keep your child at home. Remember to follow the proper absence reporting procedures by calling your child's school to report the absence, and your child's absence will be excused; all work may be made up without penalty.

How will inclement weather announcements be made?

The District uses the D11 Loop email, app push, and text messaging system to send announcements about inclement weather days. If you have not yet opted in to receive text messages and would like to, please visit www.d11.org/loop and follow the instructions. You may also view any of the D11 school or district websites, where an alert will automatically pop up after a decision has been made. The local TV stations (KRDO, KXRM, KOAA, and KKTU) will also report these decisions and a tweet will be shared via the District's Twitter feed, @CSSD11.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT www.d11.org/administration/schools/weather

IF YOU *drive a car* AROUND NORTH MS

North Middle School's high percentage of commuter families means that before and after school, traffic can be a concern. We appreciate your attention to the following:

1. **DO NOT USE or BLOCK the HANDICAP SPOTS** in front of the school.
2. PLEASE park legally in the neighborhood. Avoid blocking driveways.
3. Respect the **BUS ONLY LANES** from the corner to the driveway on EL Paso.
4. Park in the lot across El Paso at Yampa or the Admin Building parking lot when our spaces out front are full.
5. Please **DO NOT DROP OFF** students in the **Staff Parking Lot** on the east side of the building.
6. Respect the traffic cones by the cafeteria - personal cars are **NOT** permitted in this area.
7. Do not allow students to run between parked cars to cross the street. It only takes one slip for a disaster to occur. Remember that gravel and sand are just as slippery as ice!

Click [here](#) for a view of the parking available around North.



DRESS CODE *guidelines*

In general, your student's clothing should follow these guidelines:



- NO VISIBLE SHORTS, BOXERS, OR UNDERWEAR AS A RESULT OF SAGGING PANTS
- NO STRAPLESS SHIRTS OR EXCESSIVE CLEAVAGE
- ALL GRAPHICS ON CLOTHING ARE SCHOOL APPROPRIATE (AS DETERMINED BY THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION) INCLUDING NO SEXUAL INNUENDOS OR DRUG/ALCOHOL REFERENCES
- SHORTS, DRESSES, AND SKIRTS MUST APPROPRIATELY COVER THE BUTTOCKS
- NO SEE-THROUGH FABRIC
- D11 DOES NOT ALLOW BARE STOMACHS OR BACKS, PAJAMAS, SOFT-SOLE SLIPPERS, HEELIES, BANDANAS OR BANDANA ARTWORK, OR HATS/BEANIES

District 11 Loop

The **D11 Loop** is specifically designed to help YOU have fast and accurate information when you need it, where you need it. Our **North home page**, Instagram and Facebook stay updated with current activities. The loop allows you to manage your contact information and select your students' schools. Friends and family should register as a Community Members in order to receive our notices.

Student information is **ONLY AVAILABLE TO PRIMARY CONTACTS**.

Medications

A healthy school year for your child includes a partnership between home & school. When possible, the best approach is for parents to administer medication to their children outside of school hours. However, when your child needs medication during school, Medication forms, Asthma Health Care Plans and Allergy Health Care Plans are **REQUIRED**.

Medications (prescription AND over-the-counter) can ONLY be given at school under the following conditions:

1. All medications **INCLUDING OVER THE COUNTER ITEMS**, must be ordered by healthcare providers with prescriptive authority.
2. **There must be a SEPARATE Medication Form for EACH medication.**
3. Written permission by parent and physician must be on file at the school for all cases (that medication form again!)
4. All medication forms must be renewed each school year.
5. Medications must be in the **original, properly labeled container**.
6. All medications must be kept in the health room/office, except for students whose doctors require them to carry medications (for example: inhalers, Epi-pens, etc.) These students will need completed Care Plan paperwork on file.
7. Health Care Plans signed by the healthcare provider are required for Asthma/inhalers, allergies, and diabetes supplies.
8. If your student occasionally needs O.T.C. pain killers or allergy meds, please get the Medication form signed by the doctor and provide a small bottle of the medication to keep at the school. It is perfectly okay to have the doctor/PA/nurse to prescribe it "as needed" to cover headaches, cramps, etc.
9. **DO NOT send cough drops, pain relievers antihistamines, etc. in with your student.**

If an emergency arises and we do not have medications, we will call 911 and notify you immediately.

Attendance

If you will be picking your student up during the school day, please call the Attendance Office first thing in the morning, or at least 30 minutes prior, and we will do our best to have your child waiting and ready.

REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR PHOTO ID EACH TIME YOU PICK UP YOUR STUDENT!

Due to the volume of attendance calls we receive, we request a 24-hour window to make necessary adjustments. Please monitor PowerSchool for updates, as we are not able to return all attendance-related phone calls.

WHEN YOUR CHILD IS SICK OR ABSENT:

- Please keep sick children home. They can't learn well when they don't feel well.
- Students with fevers over 100° are not allowed to stay in school or ride the school bus
- ALL medication, including over-the-counter items such as Ibuprophen or cough drops, must have a medical form signed by a practicing physician, on file.
- **Call 719-328-2435 within 48 hours to excuse students**
- Absences of more than 3 days require a doctor's note in order to be excused
- **Homework requests need to be made directly to the teacher via email**
- Absences (such as trips) of 4 or more days require paperwork. Check with the Attendance Office. The teachers need several days' notice to create alternate assignments packets and to plan around tests and activities when you want to take work with you. Most classwork depends on in-class instruction, please do not expect to be able to use work packets to get your student completely caught up. In some classes, especially Math and World Languages, the teacher will not be able to provide advance work.