

**NORTHERN BEDFORD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
Agenda for April 8, 2025**

Opening

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge and Prayer led by Steve Cottle.
3. Roll Call
4. Review of the Agenda by the Superintendent.

Public Comment and Reports

5. Recognition of Citizens who wish to address the board.
6. Communications: Request for FMLA leave by Brianna Clouse; Retirement letter from Kenneth Dibert.
7. Superintendent evaluations are at each board members seat for your review.
8. Announcements: The May board meeting will be held Tuesday, May 13, 2025 in Room 136 of the High School. The preliminary budget for 2025/26 will be voted on at this meeting.
9. Approve the minutes from the March 11, 2025 board meeting. RALPH SCOTT JOHN ESHELMAN
10. Preliminary Budget Presentation given by Mr. Beatty.

Personnel

11. Approve, with regret, of the retirement of Kenneth Dibert as the Automotive Mechanics teacher effective at the end of the 2024/25 school year. RALPH SCOTT JEN MCCOY
12. Approve the FMLA leave request of Brianna Clouse to begin on or around May 20, 2025 with the return with the start of the 2025/26 school year. ANDREA POTEAT JOHN ESHELMAN
13. Approve Alissa Walker to do student teaching with Todd England during the 2025/26 school year. JEN MCCOY ANDREA POTEAT

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**APPROVALS – CONSENT MOTION 14-33 RALPH SCOTT STEVE COTTLE EXCEPT 20,
27 AND 33**

14. Approve to purchase a Cantek S371 36" Widebelt Sander 3 Phase from Taco Tools in the amount of \$16,400. This is a Supplemental Equipment Grant purchase for 2025/26.
15. Approve to purchase an Indoor Expandable Walk-In Storage Floral Cooler from Bush Refrigeration in the amount of \$14,700. This is a Supplemental Equipment Grant purchase for 2025/26.
16. Approve Hostetler's Refrigeration to install the indoor expandable walk-in storage floral cooler at a cost of \$4,540. The Supplemental Equipment Grant will cover \$4,044.51 of this cost in 2025/26 but the remaining \$495.49 will be covered by unbudgeted local expense.
17. Approve Change Order #001 for the Elementary Replacement window project with Modern Art to include blinds at a cost of \$25,600. This project is part of the DCED Public Facility grant in which the district is responsible for 25% match of this project.
18. Approve the purchase of 5 replacement computer stations for the Food Service lines in the amount of \$4,084.10 to be paid from the Food Service Account as an unbudgeted expenditure.
19. Approve the purchase of 5 touch pads from Primero Edge for the Food Service lines in the amount of \$880 to be paid from the Food Service Account
20. **Approve to transfer \$412.24 from budgetary reserve for a floor air conditioning unit for the Press box. RALPH SCOTT JEN MCCOY 7-1 WITH JOHN ESHELMAN VOTING NO**
21. Approve the following to attend the State FBLA Conference in Hershey, PA on April 7-9, 2025. School district covering costs for each totaling \$2,730 as budgeted for the advisors from budget.

Garry Black
Marcus Yeatts
Shawn Cerully
Jodi Gartland
Jennifer Aungst
22. Approve Brett Keith to attend PMEA All State Choir to be held April 9-12, 2025 at the Kalahari Resort in Poconos, PA. Total cost to the district is approximately \$450 as a budgeted expenditure.
23. Approve Brett Keith to attend NaFME/PMEA Eastern Division Conference April 23-26, 2025 with the district only providing substitute teacher costs.

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24. Approve to enter into an agreement with Appalachia Intermediate Unit 08 for the Substitute Teaching Consortium for the 2025/26 school year in the amount of \$500.
25. Approve Moments Photography Inc as the school district photographer to include athletic and activities as a three year contract starting with the 2025/26 school year and ending with the 2027/28 school year.
26. Approve Dr. Richard Miller as the 2025/26 Graduation speaker.
27. **Approve the NBC Band to have a car wash on April 12, 2025. ANDREA POTEAT JEN MCCOY 7-1 WITH JOHN ESHELMAN VOTING NO**
28. Approve the following as volunteer coach for the 2024/25 Spring Sports season:

Ian Zimmerman	Track
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29. Approve the following as volunteers.

Chelsy Hart	Band
Danielle Lynn	Band
30. Approve the attached revised 2025/26 school calendar.
31. Approve the following policies on first reading:

Policy 103	Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students with attachments
Policy 104	Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff with attachments
Policy 234	Pregnant/Parenting/Married Students
Policy 247	Hazing (Reporting Form)
Policy 249	Bullying/Cyberbullying (Reporting Form)
Policy 252	Dating Violence (Reporting Form)
32. Approve to suspend board policy 707 to allow for the Dance-a-thon Easter Egg hunt fundraiser to be held on Sunday evening of April 13, 2025, in the event it cannot be held on Friday night April 11th or Saturday night April 12th due to weather. This approval does not extend beyond the date listed in the motion.
33. **Approve the attached Cyber School Resolution to be shared with Pennsylvania State Legislators. JOHN ESHELMAN RALPH SCOTT 7-1 WITH STEVE COTTLE VOTING NO**

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REPORTS – JOHN ESHELMAN JEN MCCOY

34. Approve the following reports and invoices

- Administrative Reports
- Federal Programs Report
- Athletic Report
- Financial Reports and Budgetary Transfer
- Approve payment of invoices

35. Adjournment – JEN MCCOY ANDREA POTEAT ADJOURNED 6:52 PM

The Board of Directors of the Northern Bedford County School District met on Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 6:00 pm in Room 136 of the high school building in Loysburg, PA.

The following board members were present: Jack Briggs, Mike Cottle, Steve Cottle, John Eshelman, Jenn McCoy, Andrea Poteat, Ralph Scott, Kelly Steele and Randy Wiand. Absent Steve Cottle

Also present Mr. Todd B. Beatty, Superintendent; Mr. Shawn Cerully, High School Principal, Mrs. Kendra Pritchett, Middle School Principal, Mr. Trevor Replogle, Elementary School Principal; Mrs. Lindsay Cherry, Special Education Supervisor. Miss Teri Biddle, Board Secretary/Business Manager. Members of the public included: Tom Schmitt, Morrisons Cove Herald, Savanna Hershberger and Sarah Blubaugh from the Bedford Gazette.

1. Randy Wiand called the meeting to order.
2. Roll call with all members present except Steve Cottle.
3. Prayer and pledge to the flag was led by Jack Briggs.
4. Review of the Agenda was done by the Superintendent.
5. There were no citizens who wished to address the board.
6. Savanna Hershberger gave the student representative report as follows:
 - Last week was Read Across America week. Students who participated in the National Honor Society journeyed over to the elementary school to read stories to the students. Cat in the Hat and Things 1 and 2 may have also made surprising appearances.
 - The FFA hosted an area dodgeball tournament on March 4th last Tuesday. This was the largest crowd in years with teams from Williamsburg, Central, Chestnut Ridge, and Bedford.
 - The combined FCCLA and Art Club soup and bowl fundraiser successfully took place this past week. Both clubs worked hard to prepare the best food and bowls for the event.
 - Wyatt Clouse, Kaylee Ebersole, Raegan Snider, and Ava Helsel were all sent off to the PIAA wrestling states last Wednesday with a parade led by the marching band.
 - Girls basketball played at home on Saturday for their state playoff game. They played Mount Calvary Christian.
 - Current Issues took a field trip to Washington D.C to explore the holocaust museum and see the legislative process firsthand.
7. Student representatives from the High School Musical Departments presentation of "Little Shop of Horrors".
8. It was announced that the April board meeting will be held Tuesday, April 8, 2025 in Room 136 of the High School.
9. John Eshelman moved, seconded by Jen McCoy, to approve the minutes from the February 11, 2025 meeting. All members present voted "yes".
10. Review the upcoming bidding of the food service equipment: Standing Mixer replacement in High School Cafeteria; quantity of 2 refrigerated pass thru stand replacements for the Elementary Cafeteria, a Combi Oven replacement for the High School Cafeteria and quantity of 2 warming cabinets for the High School cafeteria utilizing current food service fund balance.
11. Election of IU08 Board of Director representatives for terms running July 1, 2025 thru June 30, 2028.
12. Mike Cottle moved, seconded by Andrea Poteat, to approve the 2025/26 IU08 Budget. All members present voted "yes".

13. Jen McCoy moved, seconded by Andrea Poteat, to approve the following as substitutes:
Nicole Zimmerman IU with all members present voting "yes".
14. John Eshelman moved, seconded by Kelly Steele, to approve the following Policies with all members present voted "yes".:
Policy 917 Parent and Family Engagement
Policy 918 Title I Parent and Family Engagement
15. Mike Cottle moved, seconded by Jen McCoy to approve the continuation of service with Bettwy and Emergency 24 for district fire alarm and monitoring needs with the understanding the new service contract reverts all liability back to the school district. This is an annual budgeted item of \$600. All members present voted "yes".
16. Andrea Poteat moved, seconded by John Eshelman, to approve to draw the remaining \$616,000 from the Somerset Line of Credit to the PLGIT Capital Reserve. This is reimbursing the district for the payment of the Wellness building. All members present voted "yes".
17. Jen McCoy moved, seconded by Mike Cottle, to approve Ryan Cherry to attend PA State Athletic Directors Conference in Hershey on March 19-21, 2025 with an approximate cost of \$1,000. This is a budgeted expenditure. All members present voted "yes".
18. Andrea Poteat moved, seconded by Mike Cottle, to approve to purchase a Manitowoc cube styler icemaker for the Athletic trainer from Carnegie Food Service Equipment and Supplies in the amount of \$4,610.24. Purchase comes with 3 year part and labor on the machine, 5 years parts and labor on evaporator; 3 years labor for the compressor. This is an athletic expenditure paid by the general fund that was unbudgeted for the 2024/25 school year. All members present voted "yes".
19. Mike Cottle moved, seconded by John Eshelman to approve the following reports and invoice payments: Administrative Reports; Federal Programs Report; Athletic Report; Financial Reports and Budgetary Transfers; Approve payment of invoices
20. A discussion on transportation issues was held.
21. John Eshelman moved, seconded by Andrea Poteat to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 pm.

Resolution Denouncing the Misuse of Taxpayer Funds in Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School Funding and Urging Legislative Reform

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's cyber charter school funding system requires local school districts to pay tuition rates that are not based on the actual cost of educating students in a cyber setting, resulting in tuition payments that vary widely from \$6,975 to \$25,150 per student for regular education and \$18,329 to \$60,166 per student for special education; and

WHEREAS, more than one billion dollars in property tax revenue is diverted annually from local public schools to pay cyber charter school tuition, forcing school districts to cut essential programs, reduce resources, and increase property taxes to compensate for these excessive costs; and

WHEREAS, a newly released audit from Pennsylvania Auditor General Tim DeFoor has confirmed that the five largest cyber charter schools have amassed enormous reserves, with fund balances increasing by 144% from \$254 million in 2019-20 to \$619 million in 2022-23, revealing that cyber schools receive far more taxpayer money than is necessary to educate students online; and

WHEREAS, the audit further uncovered that cyber charter schools are using taxpayer dollars for questionable expenditures unrelated to direct student instruction, including real estate acquisitions, lavish capital projects, gift cards, staff bonuses, vehicle payments, and advertising, highlighting a severe lack of oversight and transparency; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Department of Education has failed to provide adequate regulatory oversight, allowing cyber charter schools to operate under expired agreements and without sufficient financial or academic accountability resulting in these entities ranking at the top in revenue and among the lowest in student performance; and

WHEREAS, this ongoing financial mismanagement and lack of oversight undermine the quality of education for students in both traditional public schools and cyber charter schools while placing undue financial strain on local taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, numerous school boards, education advocates, and taxpayer organizations across Pennsylvania have called for immediate legislative reform to correct these funding inequities and ensure responsible stewardship of public education funds; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Bedford County School District taxpayers bear a burden of over \$405,000 dollars annually in cyber-school tuition costs, resulting in the average individual parcel costing the owner in our district an additional \$93.00 dollars in taxes to fund largely ineffective schools with huge fund balances; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Bedford County School District, like most other school districts in the commonwealth, offers our own virtual-learning option for Northern Bedford County students, making an alternative cyber school an unnecessary taxpayer expense; and

WHEREAS the reforms set forth in the 2024-25 budget have clearly failed to have any meaningful impact on this growing problem;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northern Bedford County School District Board of Directors formally denounces the current cyber charter school funding system for its misuse of taxpayer funds and calls upon the Governor and the Pennsylvania General Assembly to enact meaningful reforms that:

1. Align cyber charter school tuition rates with the actual cost of delivering online education to prevent overpayments and financial waste.
2. Implement stricter financial oversight and accountability measures to ensure cyber charter schools use public funds appropriately.

3. Require cyber charter schools to return excess reserves to local school districts or reinvest them directly into student instruction.

4. Ensure that public school districts and their taxpayers are not forced to disproportionately bear the financial burden of cyber charter tuition costs.

5. Strengthen Pennsylvania Department of Education oversight and enforcement of cyber charter school academic performance and financial practices.

6. Hold publicly funded cyber-charter schools to the same standards, expectations, and regulations as all other public schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Northern Bedford County School District Board of Directors directs the Superintendent to share this resolution with the Governor of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania General Assembly, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and other relevant stakeholders to advocate for immediate legislative action.

Adopted this 8th day of April 2025, by the Northern Bedford County School District Board of Directors.

ATTEST:

_____ Mr. Randy Wiand, President, Board of Directors

_____ Mrs. Jennifer McCoy, Vice President, Board of Directors

_____ Mr. Jack Briggs, Board of Directors

_____ Mr. Mike Cottle, Board of Directors

_____ Mr. Steve Cottle, Board of Directors

_____ Mr. John Eshelman, Board of Directors

_____ Mrs. Andrea Poteat, Board of Directors

_____ Mr. Ralph Scott, Board of Directors

_____ Mr. Kelly Steele, Board of Directors

Northern Bedford County School District 2025-26 School Calendar

18 - Teacher In-Service
19 - Teacher In-Service
20 - First Student Day

AUGUST 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Note: 9 Student Days
10 Teacher Days

1, 2 - No School (New Year)
19 - No School (MLK Day - Teacher In-Service)
23 - No School (Teacher In-Service)

JANUARY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				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

Note: 20 Student Days
20 Teacher Days

1 - No School (Labor Day)
22 - No School (Teacher In-Service)

SEPTEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	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				

Note: 20 Student Days
21 Teacher Days

13 - No School (Make-Up Day #1)
16 - No School (President's Day) (Make-Up Day #3)

FEBRUARY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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

Note: 18 Student Days
18 Teacher Days

13 - No School (Columbus Day)

OCTOBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			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	

Note: 22 Student Days
22 Teacher Days

12 - No School (Make-Up Day #2)
13 - No School (Make-Up Day #4)

MARCH 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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				

Note: 20 Student Days
20 Teacher Days

11 - No School (Veteran's Day)
25 - Two Hour Early Dismissal (PM Conferences)
26 - No School (AM Conferences)
27, 28 - No School (Thanksgiving)

NOVEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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					

Note: 16 Student Days
17 Teacher Days

3 - No School (Good Friday)
6 - No School (Easter Monday)
24 - Two-Hour Early Dismissal

APRIL 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			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		

Note: 20 Student Days
20 Teacher Days

1 - No School (Buck Season)
23 - Two-Hour Early Dismissal
24-31 Christmas Break

DECEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	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			

Note: 16 Student Days
16 Teacher Days

13 - Two-Hour Early Dismissal
25 - No School (Memorial Day)
28- Last Day for Students (Two-Hour Early Dismissal)
29 - Teacher In-Service Day

MAY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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					

Note: 19 Student Days
20 Teacher Days

Schedule for Make-Up Days

- February 13, 2026
- March 12, 2026
- February 16, 2026
- March 13, 2026

Teacher In-Service - ACT 80
Teacher In-Service - ACT 48
No School-Possible Make-Up Day
First & Last Student Day
Holiday
Parent/Teacher Conferences
Two Hour Early Dismissal

*Use of 5 non-student/5 FID days will be used as necessary to maintain the last student day of school.
**In the event all snow/non-student/FID days are used additional days will be made up at the end of the school year.

Northern Bedford County School District
2025/2026 School Calendar-Approved 2/11/25(amended 4/8/25)

Month	Day	Description	Student Days	Faculty Days
August	18	In-Service Day for Teachers (Act 48)	9	10
	19	In-Service Day for Teachers (Act 80)		
	20	First Day for Students		
September	1	No School (Labor Day)	20	21
	22	No School (Teacher In-Service Day Act 48)		
October	13	No School (Columbus Day)	22	22
November	11	No School (Veteran's Day)	16	17
	25	Two Hour Early Dismissal (PM-Parent/Teacher Conferences)		
	26	No School (AM-Parent/Teacher Conferences)		
	27,28	No School (Thanksgiving)		
December	1	No School (Buck Season)	16	16
	23	Two-Hour Early Dismissal		
	24-31	No School (Christmas Break)		
January	1,2	No School (New Year's Day)	20	20
	19	No School (MLK Day) (Teacher In-Service Day Act 80)		
	23	No School (Teacher In-Service Day Act 80)		
February	13	No School (President's Day) (Make-Up Day #1)	18	18
	16	No School (President's Day) (Make-Up Day #3)		
March	12	No School (Make-Up Day #2)	20	20
	13	No School (Make-Up Day #4)		
April	3	No School (Good Friday)	20	20
	6	No School (Easter Monday)		
	24	Two-Hour Early Dismissal (NBCAA Invitational Track Meet)		
May	13	Two-Hour Early Dismissal (District Track Meet)	19	20
	25	No School (Memorial Day)		
	28	Last Day for Students (Two-Hour Early Dismissal) Graduation		
	29	In-Service Day for Teachers (Act 48)		
Total Days			180	184

NORTHERN BEDFORD COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS



Administrative Reports

Superintendent Administrative Report

Todd Beatty
Superintendent

Elementary School Report

Trevor Replogle
Elementary Principal

Middle School Report

Kendra Pritchett
Middle School Principal

High School Report

Shawn Cerully
High School Principal

SUPERINTENDENT

PRELIMINARY 2025/26 BUDGET

This month marks the normal presentation of a very preliminary 25/26 school budget. Many changes/adjustments occur between now and the final approval in June. Although we are very diligent in our spending, costs have continued to increase as we see it every day in our personal lives. Cyber tuition, special education, supplies, shipping, wages, transportation, and health insurance are just a few examples of increases. Currently our budget stands at \$803K deficit which includes a recommended 3.00% tax increase.

CHARTER SCHOOL FACTS

Why charter schools should receive less revenue than school districts as a matter of fairness and transparency. School districts have expenses that charter schools do not (or at least go well beyond those of charter schools) and are subject to numerous costly mandates that may not apply to charter schools. These additional expenses and mandates have a significant impact on school district budgets and inflate tuition rates used to pay charter schools.

For example, school districts are required to:

- Pay tuition to charter schools. Paying tuition to charter schools is an expense that is unique to school districts. Yet, those costs are included in the calculation for charter school tuition rates. Tuition payments alone accounted for more than \$2.6 billion (7.6%) of school district spending in 2021-22.
- Provide transportation to charter school students. Even if a school district does not provide transportation to its own students, it is still required to provide transportation to students attending a charter school within the district and charter schools within 10 miles of school district boundaries.
- Participate in the Public School Employees' Retirement System (PSERS). With mandatory employer contributions to PSERS above 30% for the foreseeable future (meaning that participating school entities are required to contribute an additional 30+ cents on every dollar spent on salaries to PSERS), having the ability to not participate in PSERS presents the opportunity for considerable savings. In 2021-22, 22 charter schools did not report any contributions to PSERS in their Annual Financial Reports.
- Develop special education plans and comply with special education caseload limits. State regulations require school districts to develop and implement a special education plan which specifies the special education programs and services available in the district and impose limits on the number of students that a district special education teacher may have assigned to them.
- Identify students who are gifted and provide them with an individualized educational program. State regulations for gifted students require school districts to develop plans to identify, screen and provide specially designed instruction to children who are gifted.

SUPERINTENDENT (cont'd)

CHARTER SCHOOL FACTS (cont'd)

- Provide students with access to career and technical education programming. State regulations require school districts to make career and technical education available to any student in the school district's high school.
- Ensure that every professional staff member is appropriately certified. Charter schools are only required to ensure that at least 75% of their professional staff are appropriately certified. Employing certified educators comes with additional cost to the school entity reflecting the educator's qualifications.
- Provide health services to nonpublic schools. State law and regulations require school districts to provide school nurse services to private and parochial schools within its jurisdiction.
- Levy, assess and collect local taxes. In order to generate the local revenues vital to school district operations, districts are required to incur the costs associated with levying, assessing and collecting taxes.

School districts also provide a variety of extracurricular and non-instructional programs for students that go well beyond those offered or provided by charter schools. This includes interscholastic athletics, clubs, band, theater, and other activities. Charter schools may also provide these activities, but school districts are required to allow charter school students to participate in school district activities in most instances.

It also includes food services, library services and health services, which cyber charter schools do not provide. The tuition rate calculation does not consider what charter schools need to provide an education. This is particularly true for cyber charter schools that do not have much of the overhead and infrastructure of traditional school districts and brick-and-mortar charter schools. These cyber charters benefit from receiving inflated tuition rates.

Cyber charter schools receive the same tuition payment as brick-and-mortar charter schools despite not having the same overhead and infrastructure costs of traditional school districts.

Charter schools also do not have the same special education costs as school districts and comply with a more limited set of regulations for special education as compared to school districts. A 2016 PSBA study found that school districts paid charter schools more than \$100 million more for special education than charter schools reported spending on special education. By the 2020-21 school year, that overpayment had grown to \$185 million.

SUPERINTENDENT (cont'd)

CHARTER SCHOOL FACTS (cont'd)

Conclusion Do charter schools really receive less funding per student than school districts? The short answer is yes, but less than one-quarter of the 25% claimed by charter schools. And the reasons for the difference are clear and fair given that charter schools directly receive some of the same state and federal funding as school districts and are exempt from many costly mandates placed on school districts. Charter schools were created to operate with more flexibility and less funding than traditional school districts. Charter schools are exempt or granted flexibility from many of the costliest mandates that drive school district spending, so they should operate with less funding. Even with less funding, there is ample evidence that charter schools are being overpaid, especially for special education and cyber charter students. It is time to dispel the myths about charter school funding and talk about real funding reform that would save school districts and taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars each year.

ELEMENTARY

Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten Registrations

We recently had our Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten (PK) registrations. We had 9 new students register for Kindergarten for next school year and we had 31 students register for next year's PK and Head Start. We are anticipating more students to register in the next few weeks.

PSSA Testing Schedule

Students in grades 3-5 will take the PSSA math and ELA (English Language Arts) assessment and grade 5 students will also take a PSSA science assessment beginning in April. The ELA assessment will take place April 22-24. The math assessment will be April 29-30 and science assessments will be May 1-2.

Religious Release

The Religious Release program sponsored by the Southern Cove/Yellow Creek Ministerium begins on April 8 for students in grades 3-5. We currently have 76 students participating in this 5-week activity.

PTO Book Fair

The annual PTO spring book fair is scheduled for April 14-17.

FirstEnergy Presentation

On March 26, our students in grades K-2 and 3-5 had the opportunity to participate in two engaging and informative presentations provided by FirstEnergy. These sessions focused on ways students and teachers can reduce energy usage at home through simple, everyday actions.

The presentations were age-appropriate and emphasized the importance of energy conservation in a fun and accessible way. As part of the program, each student and staff member received an energy education kit. These kits included LED light bulbs, LED night lights, and other energy-efficient technologies to support families in making more sustainable choices at home. We appreciate FirstEnergy's partnership in providing our students with practical tools to help build a more energy-conscious future.

March Character Kids

The elementary school recognizes a Character Kid of the month based on the Character Traits of Responsibility, Citizenship, Caring, Respect, Trustworthiness, Fairness, and Kindness. Students receive a certificate, and a picture is placed on the school Facebook page and sent to the local newspapers. The March Character Kids are listed below.

PK – Payton Stanton, K – Derek Deittle, 1 – Bryer Steele, 2 – Elaina Snyder, 3 – Harper Seville, 4 – Gabe Brockus, and 5 – Blakely McCoy.

ELEMENTARY (cont'd)

Community Reading Day

Community Reading Day, sponsored by the Bedford County Chamber of Commerce, was held on April 3. Community volunteers were here to read to the students in grades PK through grade 3.

Upcoming Elementary School Field Trips

Students will be attending the following field trips during the month of May.

Preschool - Reasy Family Farm

Kindergarten - Ritchey's Day and Morrison's Cove Memorial Park

Grade 1 - Old Bedford Village

Grade 2 - Shawnee State Park

Grade 3 - Lincoln Caverns

Grade 4 - Pittsburgh Zoo

Grade 5 - Penn's Cave

FEDERAL PROGRAMS REPORT

Annual parent meeting held on March 24 at 8:30 AM.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Students of the Month

Students of the Month are nominated each month based on school pride, citizenship, and work ethic. Faculty and staff then have the opportunity to vote on students who are demonstrating our Panther PRIDE traits by being Positive, Respectful, Involved, Dependable, and Excellent.

NBC Middle School March Students of the Month:

Grade 6	Lyila Hughes	Tyler Hughes & Jenny Burkett
	Cyrus Sleighter	Michael & Terra Sleighter
Grade 7	Ellie Miller	Justin & Emily Miller
	Dane Barnes	Sean & Lenore Barnes
Grade 8	Brynn Miller	Lucas & Jennie Miller
	Cody Martin	Kevin & Anita Martin

Musical

Students in both the middle school and high school enjoyed participating in this year's Spring musical, *The Little Shop of Horrors*. Middle school students participated both on stage and behind the scenes. The students were essential in making sure that the puppets were in place and kept safe, as well as moving the large scenery pieces in time with onstage and musical action. Our cast and crew members had great experiences collaborating with upperclassmen and performing for our community.

Reading Competition

Eight middle school students competed in the Bedford County Reading Competition on Tuesday, March 18th. This annual competition was hosted at Claysburg High School. Teams from each Bedford County school and Claysburg battled as they answered questions from 35 different book titles. Our NBC "Page-Turning Panthers" took third place. Our students, Adella Kauf, Charlotte Snyder, Annika Camenga, Darcy Gates, Lylah Yorke, Ashlynn Detwiler, Isabella Verdiglione, and Daylynn Gochnour represented NBC with confidence and determination. NBC is set to host this event for the 25-26 school year.

MIDDLE SCHOOL (cont'd)

Middle School PRIDE Team

Students and staff celebrated our Panther PRIDE by participating in a variety of activities throughout the past month. Students enjoyed dress up themes such as PJ Day, Favorite College or Sports, Surfer or Biker Day, Throwback Decades, and NBC Spirit Wear. Students also engaged in a Shamrock Scavenger hunt, a Paper, Rock, Scissors contest, and a Volleyball tournament. Staff enjoyed a snack cart treat each day for one week. We are grateful to our middle school and high school student PRIDE teams for working hard to boost morale throughout the school as we head into the final marking period of the 24-25 school year!

Crochet Club

Students began showing an interest in a new activity period last year, Crochet Club! Several students have joined Miss Patton for this new activity. These students are learning how perseverance can help you take on new hobbies! Miss Patton was recently asked by some high school students to begin offering this club at their level as well. She reported a successful first session in March!

Dairy Field Day

On March 31st, 12 middle school FFA members and 35 high school members attended Dairy Field Day. Dairy Field Day was hosted by the Snider Family and held at Singing Brook Farm in Imler, PA. Members participated in four stations. The first station was dairy judging, where students put their skills to the test and judged three different classes of Holsteins (yearlings, 3 year olds, and 5 year olds). The second station was veterinarian Jenn Kauf, from Dairyside Veterinary, performing an udder dissection and discussing the mammary system of a dairy cow. The third station was PA Game Commission Warden Charles Onder discussing the effects of CWD and trapping in Pennsylvania. The fourth station was Melanie Barkley from Penn State Extension discussing and performing a hands-on demonstration of biosecurity and the importance of quarantining animals after bringing them home. The day wrapped up with students enjoying donuts and chocolate milk sponsored by the Bedford County Holstein Club, as well as trophies being awarded to the top dairy judging contestants. We are proud to have represented our school well, as Wyatt Sweinhart placed second in the Junior division, Blaire Gable placed first in the junior division, and Aaron Conley placed second in the senior division. Additionally, Northern Bedford had several alumni there to help support our efforts! We already set a date for next year, and the Bowman family, from New Enterprise, will be hosting Dairy Field Day 2026!

Math Department Update

Amanda Williamson, IU8 Math Education Consultant, worked with the middle school math department on Friday, April 4th. She has been working with our team to identify needs, implement improvements, and support our students as we work to help students improve their math skills and retention.

MIDDLE SCHOOL (cont'd)

What's So Cool About Manufacturing Video Contest

Mrs. Mowery and students in the After 3 program visited New Enterprise Stone and Lime and worked together to create a video clip promoting this manufacturing company. This video was entered into a contest with the other Bedford County schools and Fulton County schools. Voting for "the best video" begins April 14th and ends April 16th. Please be sure to visit this website and vote often for our NBC video! Yes, you can (and should) vote more than once!

<https://www.whatssocool.org/>

Middle School Upcoming Events

- Apr. 14-16** What's So Cool About Manufacturing Video Voting Contest
- Apr. 17** Dance-a-Thon Assembly
No After 3 Program
- Apr. 18** NO SCHOOL – Good Friday
- Apr. 21** NO SCHOOL – Easter Monday
- Apr. 22-24** PSSA Testing AM – ELA
- Apr. 24** After 3 Parent Night
- Apr. 25** TWO HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL – NBCAA Invitational Track Meet
- Apr. 27** Spring Concert
- Apr. 28** Midpoint of 4th MP
- Apr. 29** Assembly with Jim Law
- Apr. 29-30** PSSA Testing AM – Math
- Apr. 30** Interim Reports due – 9 AM
MS Cornhole Tournament & Outdoor Fun - PM
- May 1** PSSA Testing – Science
- May 7** Band Carnival Fundraiser Event
- May 13** Keystone Testing – Algebra 1
Last day of After 3 Program
Music Dept. Spring Concert
- May 14** Keystone Testing – Algebra 1
TWO HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL – DISTRICT V Track Meet

HIGH SCHOOL

Spring Keystone and NOCTI Testing

Spring Keystone testing is scheduled, as follows, for any student that is currently enrolled in algebra 1, algebra 1B, honors biology, biology, honors English 10, English 10. The NOCTI will be given to all CTE senior students who are "completers" in their respective program. Students have been working very diligently in preparation for the upcoming exams.

NOCTI - April 15 and 16

Keystone Algebra 1 – May 12 and 13

Keystone Biology – May 15 and 16

Keystone Literature – May 19 and 20

School Musical Performance

On March 20 - 22, 2025 the NBC Choral and Music Department presented the Spring Musical *Little Shop of Horrors* to the public and school community. The performance brought together the collaboration between students from the performing, visual, and industrial arts content areas. We'd like to thank all of the students, parents, and community members who were able to support this year's production.

Dance-a-Thon

The annual Dance-A-Thon egg hunt will take place on Friday, April 11th. Registration begins at 6:00 and the hunt begins at 8:00 PM.

Dance-A-Thon will take place on Thursday, April 17th. This tradition continues to represent the very best of our district. We look forward to this year's event.

HS Guidance

Mrs. Swanseen has met with students in grades 8, 9, 10, and 11 to begin the scheduling process for next school year. Course selections have been entered into Focus, a tentative master schedule has been formulated, and the initial run of schedules has been completed. This scheduling process will continue into the summer as standardized test scores, year-end grades, student-requested changes, and classroom sizes are received. Final student schedules will be published approximately two weeks prior to the start of the 2025-26 school year.

Grade 9 students had the opportunity to apply for the Youth Leadership Bedford County program for next school year. Two students have expressed an interest in participating in this leadership development program next school year, which is sponsored by the Bedford County Chamber of Commerce.

During the evening of April 3rd, Mrs. Swanseen met with parents of students interested in our Dual Enrollment/Early College offerings for next year to explain the application process. We currently offer the following dual enrollment courses through ACM, SFU, MAC, and PHCC: Anatomy & Physiology II, Calculus, EC English 12 (Freshman English 101/Intro to Literature 103), Public Speaking, EC Social Studies (Sociology 101/History of Western Civilization 101), and

HIGH SCHOOL (cont'd)

HS Guidance (cont'd)

Government/Economics. Many students also take online courses via ACM to supplement their elective options. Approximately 30 students have indicated an interest in taking at least one of these early college courses for the 2025-26 school year. ACM will visit the morning of April 15 to assist students in registering for ACM early college courses and to walk current seniors through the transcript request process.

High school seniors seeking post-graduate employment were encouraged to attend the PA CareerLink Employment Fair that was held at the Bedford Co. Fairgrounds on Wednesday, 4/2. Over 60 employers participated and offered on-the-spot interviews to attendees.

All grade 10 students will attend the Blair Co. Career Fair at the Blair Co. Convention Center on Thursday, 4/24. Students will have the opportunity to meet with four different presenters throughout the morning and learn more about careers aligned to their interest areas.

Bedford County Scholastic Hall of Fame

Three Northern Bedford seniors will be inducted into the Bedford County Scholastic Hall of Fame. Jaylyn Resh, representing University Prep; Avery Aungst, representing Business; and McKenna Morris, representing CTE will join students from all other Bedford County high schools and the Bedford County Technical Center in the 2024-25 induction ceremony. The honor is bestowed upon the students and sponsored by the Bedford County Regional Education Foundation. The banquet and award ceremony will take place on Wednesday, April 23rd at 6:00 PM at the Whispering Hollow Estate.

Courtyard

Mrs. Kensinger's students are continuing to make plans for our courtyard. They plan to use extra pavers to make a small patio at both of the side doors that includes a step into the building. Additionally, they are going to redo the vegetation around the tables at the top.

Grant Funds for CTE

I am excited to inform you that NBC was awarded almost \$16,000 in grant funding for our CTE programs. With these funds, we were able to purchase **NAME** for our Building Construction class and a new cooler for our Horticulture program.

Class Advisors/ Fundraising

I recently met with our class advisors to discuss ways to help students fundraise as a class. We plan to inform the students of their current class balance at the beginning of each year and help the students to fundraise as they see fit. The fundraisers will ultimately be used for various items during their senior year such as prom, class events, etc. By doing so, the students will have the ability to participate in and/or enhance class activities as seniors.

HIGH SCHOOL (cont'd)

Math Professional Development

On Friday, April 4th, the math department and I met with Mrs. Amanda Williamson from Appalachia IU8. We discussed aligning instruction with the stages of learning, designing practice opportunities that match student abilities, and how to appropriately structure lesson plans to better reach all students.

ATHLETIC REPORT

Athletic Report

Team Records			
Girls Track & Field	n/a	JH Girls Track & Field	n/a
Boys Track & Field	n/a	JH Boys Track & Field	n/a
Varsity Softball	1-4	JH Softball	4-1
Varsity Baseball	3-3	JH Baseball	4-1

		Bedford Gazette All-Stars	Inter-County Conference All- Stars
Grade	Name	Sport	Sport
12	Wyatt Clouse	Wrestling	Wrestling
10	Emily Dennis	Wrestling	X
10	Amberly Detterline	Basketball	X
9	Myha Dixon	Wrestling	X
11	Kaylee Ebersole	Wrestling	X
12	Ava Helsel	Wrestling	X
12	Wesley Horsh		Basketball
9	Yasmin Miller	Wrestling	X
12	Aidan Pittman		Wrestling
12	Aiden Replogle		Wrestling
11	Nolin Snider	Wrestling	Wrestling
12	Raegan Snider	Wrestling	X
11	Alyssa Yeatts	Basketball	X

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, April 24 @ 3:00	Varsity Baseball @ Altoona Curve Invitational
Friday, April 25 TBD	Varsity Baseball @ Altoona Curve Invitational
Saturday, April 26 @ 10:00	Junior High Track & Field @ Everett Invitational
Friday, April 25 @ 3:00	NBCAA Track & Field Invitational (Home)
Friday, May 2 @ 1:00	Altoona Invitational
Monday, May 5 @ 3:00	ICC Championship Meet (Windber)
Wednesday, May 14 @ 3:00	District V Track and Field Meet (Home)

GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL PLAYOFFS:

#3 seed Varsity girls District 5A playoff action:

First Round Tues. Feb. 18 th	Defeated #6 seed Rockwood
Semi Final Thurs. Feb. 20 th	Defeated #2 seed Southern Fulton
Championship Thurs. Feb. 27 @ UPJ	Defeated # 4 seed Fannett-Metal DISTRICT 5 CHAMPIONS!
First Round State Playoffs -Sat. Mar. 8	Defeated District 3 #5 seed Mt. Calvary Christian
2 nd Round (Sweet Sixteen) State Playoffs Wed. Mar. 12	Lost to District 1 #2 seed Delco Christian