

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

HIGHLIGHTS FROM OCTOBER 2025 BOARD MEETING

Special recognition was given to the following Leadership Groups:

Project Phoenix helping to create a weekly newsletter for students:

Sebastian Stallard
Abby Straub
Tessa Uccellini

Spirit Project helping to boost school spirit and student engagement:

Kaylee Beerhalter
Riley Ebaugh
Mia Kemper
Dhara Zdobinski

Unified Northgate working on beautifying the Middle/High School building and grounds:

Mariah Christian
Jameson Conway
Nia Townsell
Ella Zaborowski

Student Council Report: Student Council Representatives provided a Student Council report. They mentioned that Homecoming went well. They had a pep rally and they are currently doing Spirit Week. They are considering having National Days where they recognize an event on certain days. They also spoke about Meet the Flames coming up where they will meet the winter athletes. They mentioned an upcoming fundraiser, and also their attendance at an upcoming conference.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Johns provided a Superintendent's report. She mentioned that this month we launched our Coffee & Conversation on School Safety series. The purpose of these sessions are to discuss important topics that impact our school community. These small group sessions are designed to encourage open discussion and questions. There is another meeting scheduled for November 3rd and additional dates can be scheduled as needed. If anyone is interested in attending, they can contact Laureen Dowd at laureen.dowd@northgatesd.net.

Congratulations to Northgate's very own, Zoe Russell, for being selected as the 2025-26 Junior Rotarian. As Junior Rotarian, Zoe will represent Rotary International by attending weekly banquets and presentations at the Shannonpin Country Club. The selection process for Junior Rotarian is both rigorous and competitive, involving a

detailed application, a formal interview with members of the North Boroughs Rotary Club, and a recommendation from a school official. Mr. Stuart Benson served as the Rotary interviewer, and Mrs. Kelly Winovich provided her recommendation. Congratulations to Zoe.

Congratulations to our Cross Country team for their success at the WPIAL Cross Country Championships. Hope Stiteler finished 22nd and Emma Gratner finished 38th to qualify for the PIAA State Championships. Lindsey Persson, Evan Carson, Sebastian Stallard and Nathan Gratner all ran personal bests when it mattered the most. Great work and good luck in Hershey

Every year, the third week of October is coined Digital Citizenship Week. This fall, all elementary students learned to be good digital citizens in Mrs. Maffei's Computer class. Students celebrated Digital Citizenship Week with a Spirit Week. Students dressed as Superheroes to keep themselves and others safe online. They wore the color orange for Unity Day and to stand up against cyberbullying. There was also a "Wacky Socks Day" to reinforce students' digital footprint and remind them to be mindful of what they share online.

Avalon and Bellevue will have their Halloween parades this Friday at 1:45 p.m. Come out and see our elementary students dressed up for the holiday.

This year's 5th and 6th grade musical production will be *The Addams Family*. Rehearsals are currently underway and show date is November 20, 2025. We hope you'll come and support our talented students.

Northgate will be holding instant Decision Day on Thursday, November 13. Instant Decision Day is when admissions representatives from universities come to a high school and meet with interested 12th grade students to determine their admission status to their university. All universities have agreed to waive the application fees so this is a free opportunity to apply to college and find out your admission status instantly.

The Board approved the following items at their October 27, 2025 Board meeting:

- Approved the following athletic supplemental contracts for the winter season of the 2025-26 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Betty Howard	Head Girls' Basketball Coach	\$6,720
Stephon Adams	1st Asst. Girls' Basketball Coach	\$4,480
Ashley Vranick	Head Swimming Coach	\$6,720
Sean Halpate	Asst. Swimming Coach	\$3,920

- Approved Amy Charley and Greg Buzzard as Volunteer Swimming Coaches.
- Approved for the District to launch a student mentor (anti-bullying) leadership program called Upstanders offered through Team Upstanders that aligns with our MTSS program at no cost to the District.
- Approved the following musical supplemental contracts for the 2025-26 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Jessica Haberman	Pit Orchestra	\$1,680
Stephanie Muczyk	Vocal Director	\$1,680
Jack Gusew	Set Construction	\$1,680
Morgan Jessup	Art Director	\$1,680
Kaitlyn Muczyk	Choreographer	\$1,680

- Approved changing the name of the No Place for Hate club to V.O.I.C.E.S. (Visions of Opportunity, Inclusion, Community, Eunoia, Solidarity).
- Approved a supplemental for Taylor Morrison as Avalon Elementary Yearbook Advisor in the amount of \$1,736. This will be one of the six elementary supplemental positions available.
- Approved the attendance of Jason Clarkson to the ASU-GSV Summit April 12 - 15, 2026 in San Diego, CA at a total cost of \$2,550 to the District. The cost of registration is being covered by a scholarship by the League of Innovative Schools.
- Approved Heather Persson as a Science Leader at Avalon Elementary in the amount of \$3,000.
- Approved an Affiliation Agreement for Internship/Practicum, Pre-clinical and Student Teaching between Carlow University and Northgate School District. Also, approved an Affiliation Agreement for Internship/Practicum, Pre-clinical and Student Teaching between the Central State University and Northgate School District.
- Approved the September Treasurer's Report, ratified the September Bill List and approved the Tax Refunds.
- Accepted the Northgate Middle/High School Activities and Athletic Accounts for the period ending September 30, 2025.

- Approved a budget transfer in the amount of \$40,000 from Account 236310 (Central Administrative Services) to Account 110633 (Supplies - Music Contingency). These funds are available as a result of the non-renewal of the District's agreement with Studer Education Services and will be redirected to support new initiatives within the music program.
- Approved a three-year agreement with Waste Management for trash removal and recycling services, effective November 1, 2025, for \$1,886.53 per month in year one, with a 6% increase in years two and three.
- Approved the first reading of the following policies:
 - 317 (rev) - Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures
 - 320 (rev) - Freedom of Speech by Employees
 - 718 (rev) - Service Animals In Schools
- Approved to rescind the following policy, which is superseded by 320:
 - 420 - Freedom of Speech in Noninstructional Settings
- Approved an increase in hourly rate for part-time lunchroom supervisors from \$13 an hour to \$14 an hour effective January 1, 2026.
- Approved the Faculty Handbook.
- Approved the hiring of Elizabeth Ceaser as part-time teacher assistant.
- Approved Jeanne Schrenk as a substitute elementary lunchroom supervisor at Bellevue Elementary.
- Approved agreements with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU) for translation services through TransPerfect Remote Interpreting as follows:
 - Effective January 5, 2026 - Written translation services an annual participation fee of \$500.
 - Effective February 10, 2026 - Telephone interpretation services at an annual fee of \$120 with a standard usage rate not to exceed .95 per minute, and video interpretation at a rate of \$3.25 per minute.
- Adopted a Resolution urging the Pennsylvania General Assembly to end the State Budget Impasse.

The Board approved the following at their October 14, 2025 General Meeting:

- Approved an athletic supplemental contract with Tiana Morgan as 7th grade Girls' Basketball Coach in the amount of \$3,920 for the fall season of the 2025-26 school year.
- Approved an agreement with the Seneca Valley School District for cyber services.
- Accepted the resignation of Lianna Orellana as part-time Teacher Assistant, with her last day being October 3, 2025.
- Approved Dr. Nancy Bowman's attendance at the PDE-SAS Conference, December 7 - 10, 2025. Total cost to include registration, lodging and mileage not to exceed \$1,100.
- Approved Dr. Michael Amick and Mr. Michael Wagstaff (Middle/High School), and Ms. Qualisha Zyhier (Bellevue Elementary) to serve as Truancy Officers for Northgate School District, in addition to Dr. Joseph Peacock (Avalon Elementary), and Ms. Amy Pizzica (Middle/High School) who were previously approved. (This includes being able to issue truancy citations and disorderly citations for the District.)
- Approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Northgate Education Support Professionals Association (PSEA-NEA) regarding flexible days/hours for one teacher assistant.
- Approved Robin Sefras as a substitute elementary lunchroom supervisor at Bellevue Elementary.