

2025-26

Updates from North Thurston Public Schools



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Today's agenda

- Welcome and Introductions-Troy
- Our annual theme-Troy
- District academic updates-Sarah
- Dual Language Program-Antonio
- Technology Vision-Cory
- District budget updates-Heather
- 2024 capital levy updates-Sean
- District construction updates-Sean
- Compassionate Community project-Amy
- Questions



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Expect great things!

- Our annual theme
- We want learning to be fun *and* rigorous!
- We know all students can reach their potential
- We foster learning environments with:
 - Rigorous instruction
 - Innovative experiences
 - Clear expectations
 - The support and resources students need to succeed



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2025-26 district initiatives

All schools

- Restorative Practices
- Inclusionary Practices & Universal Design for Learning
- Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)

Elementary

- ELA/Social Studies Curriculum Implementation

Secondary

- Secondary Grading Practices



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District academic updates

- We continue making gains in math and reading to recover from learning loss during the pandemic.
- We offer more than 100 dual credit classes through Advanced Placement, College in the High School, and Running Start
- Students have access to a wide variety of Career and Technical Education courses—for example:
 - Welding
 - Auto mechanics
 - Woodworking
 - Web design
 - And many more



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Dual Language Immersion Program

Through a classroom made up of half native English speakers and half native Spanish speakers, with lessons taught in both languages, young learners can develop skills in two languages to serve them throughout their lives.

Who is eligible?

- NTPS students entering Kindergarten–5th grade in fall of 2025.
 - Up to 1st grade at Pleasant Glade Elementary
 - Up to 2nd grade at Mountain View Elementary
 - Up to 5th grade at Lydia Hawk Elementary



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Program Goals:



- to equip students with the skills that will enable them to communicate bilingually and bi-culturally;
- to develop listening, speaking, reading, writing, and global competence skills in two languages: Spanish and English
- to develop proficiency in all academic content areas and
- to increase awareness of students' own culture and appreciation of the culture(s) of others.



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Transitioning to middle school

2026-2027 School Year

Nisqually Middle School

Science Social Studies



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Purpose of technology at NTPS

How Technology Supports Teaching & Learning

- Enhancing Instruction & Engagement
 - Technology is used to intentionally strengthen instruction and personalize learning
- Fostering Collaboration & Creativity
 - Digital tools support student collaboration, communication, and creative expression
- Developing Future-Ready Skills
 - Students build digital literacy and responsible technology habits they need for future success



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Screen time and balance

How NTPS Balances Technology Use

- Intentional & Balanced Classroom Use
 - Teachers blend technology with hands-on learning to support learning goals
- Focus on Quality, Not Quantity
 - We emphasize purposeful, academically aligned technology use
 - Technology is used when it adds value to learning (feedback, accessibility, collaboration)
- Supporting Healthy Digital Habits
 - Teachers model responsible use
 - Students take breaks, move, and engage in non-digital activities throughout the day



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Parent access to Canvas

How Families Stay Connected to Learning

- Parents can join Canvas as Observers to view assignments, grades, and announcements
- Observers can view but not edit or submit student work
- **Canvas 101 for Parents & Guardians**
 - Step-by-step guides and videos to help families get started
 - Find this resource under "Family Tech Tools" on the NTPS website

Canvas Learning Management System (LMS)

Middle and high school teachers use Canvas for organizing assignments, quizzes, and other in-class work. This learning management system has been adapted by many public community colleges and universities in Washington.

Guardians are automatically added with observational access to their students in Canvas. The platform operates on a website, but is also available as a smartphone app (for student and observer access).



GUARDIAN LOGIN

STUDENT & STAFF LOGIN

Canvas 101 for Parents & Guardians

CANVAS 101 FOR PARENTS & GUARDIANS

This course, created by our technology instructional specialist, is a great way to get started with Canvas. It's a course in Canvas!



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District budget updates

- 2025-26 enrollment: 14,712 students.
- In August, the School Board approved a balanced budget for 2025-2026 school year.
 - Includes all district costs, such as employee salaries and benefits, supplies, facilities, information technology, and transportation.
 - 6 percent balance to ensure continued financial stability.

ntps.org/budget



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2024 Capital Levy for Safety, Technology, and Facilities Improvements



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NTPS began collecting funding in spring 2025 for projects approved by the **2024 Capital Levy for Safety, Technology, and Facilities Improvements**



Districtwide student safety and security enhancements, including upgrades to video security system, interactive flat panels in classrooms, student laptop replacement



Facility infrastructure and building exterior improvements, roof replacements, parking lot improvements and boiler upgrades



Expansion of district preschool opportunities through construction of additional classrooms and spaces for parenting classes, other family support at the Lacey Education and Family (LEAF) Center



Updates and repairs to school nutrition and food preparation systems



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Ongoing and upcoming capital levy projects

- Interactive flat panels installed at **Timberline High School**, and **Lacey, Lydia Hawk, Meadows, Olympic View, and Pleasant Glade Elementaries**—more schools to come!
- Chromebook refresh for all 6th- and 9th-grade students
- Laptop refresh for all **Summit Virtual Academy** students
- Replacing dishwashers and disposals at **Meadows** and **Horizons Elementaries** and replacing the freezer at **Horizons**
- Security camera system upgrades
- Refreshing assistive technology for students with special needs
- Replacing aging projectors and audio systems in gyms and commons
- Breaking ground on new Lacey Education and Family (LEAF) Center



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Lacey Education and Family (LEAF) Center

- Breaking ground during the 2025-26 school year!
- Funded by 2024 Capital Levy for Safety, Technology, and Facilities Improvements
- Indoor and outdoor preschool spaces
- Family-friendly spaces for parenting classes and supports
- Library (partnership with Timberland Regional Library)



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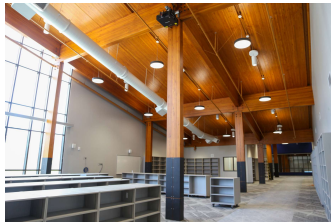
Additional district construction updates



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River Ridge High School modernization

- 2020 bond
- Classroom wing opened in September!
- New student parking lot and bus loop
- New student commons and kitchen
- Upgraded athletics facilities:
 - Auxiliary gym
 - Weight room, pool
 - Baseball fields
 - Tennis courts



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River Ridge High School

- Next steps:
 - Administrative offices
 - Music wing
 - Spin room
 - CTE building renovation
 - Refurbished theater
 - Track and field



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RMAC South remodel

- 2020 bond
- Replace southern portion of building:
 - **Ignite Family Academy** (NTPS family partnership program)
 - NTPS Family & Youth Resource Center
 - South Sound Reading Foundation
 - Student Records



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Additional district upgrades

- Refinishing the gym floor at **Mountain View Elementary** and adding a two-classroom modular classroom building
- Kitchen chiller upgrades at **Nisqually Middle School**.
- Mechanical upgrades at **South Bay Elementary**.
- Security upgrades at **Envision Career Academy**, and **Seven Oaks** and **Lakes Elementaries**.
- New play structure at **Seven Oaks Elementary**.
- Lighting improvements at **Nisqually Middle School** and **Timberline High School**.
- Completing lighting at the new **Nisqually Middle School** track and field to provide capacity for school and community sports events.



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2025-26

Compassionate Community Project

Collecting items for
North Thurston Public Schools
families in need!

- ♥ New shoes
- ♥ New clothing (children and teens)
- ♥ New socks and underwear
- ♥ Soap
- ♥ Full-sized shampoo and conditioner
- ♥ Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- ♥ Deodorant
- ♥ Toilet paper and paper towels

ntps.org/compassion



Family & Youth
Resource Center



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Questions?

