



Tiger-rific News

We're an "A" School

North Grade K - 8 School Newsletter

Nicole Patterson

Principal

824 North "K" Street

Lake Worth, FL 33460

Sarah Larralde

Assistant Principal

Volume 19, Issue 8

May, 2026

PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

We are in the final stretch. It is May. There is only four weeks of school remaining. During this short time, we have a lot going on at North Grade with end-of-year exams for middle school and standardized testing for grades 3 through 8. Our Kindergarteners, first, and second graders completed their testing last month

With that being said, it is still very important that students do not miss any instructional time – students need to be at school every day and for the entire day. Please try to schedule any appointments after the school day so instructional time is not missed.

We will also be holding our 5th Grade and 8th Grade graduations at the end of the month. This is a bittersweet time for our students and staff as many of our students will be leaving North Grade and continuing their education at another school. We wish them all the happiness and success they deserve. They will be truly missed.

Nicole Patterson
Principal

Sarah Larralde
Assistant Principal



Calendar of Events ~ May

1-22	FAST I B.E.S.T Tests ~ Grades 3– 8
4	SAC Meeting ~8:15 am in Cafeteria
4-8	Staff Appreciation Week
5	Last day students can check out books from the media center
10	Mother's Day
TBD	Last PTO Meeting @ 8:15 am
25	Memorial Day ~ No School
27	8 th Grade Graduation @ 9:00 a.m.
28	5 th Grade Graduation @ 9:00 a.m.
29	Last Day of School



North Grade K – 8 Guidelines For Success

Show Respect

Act Responsibly

Be Kind

Do all you can to help yourself and others find success!



NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOMS

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

We are in the final stretch of Kindergarten! Our last math unit will be all about measurement, including rules of measurement, measurable attributes, and comparing these measurements. Our final reading unit will be wrapping up as well as we review characters, settings, important events, identifying topic and details, as well as applying all of our phonics skills to reading our leveled texts. We are so proud of our Kindergarten Tigers! –

FIRST GRADE NEWS

As we begin to look forward to summer fun, please continue to encourage your first grader to continue reading at home. It is so important for our little readers to continue practicing their skills in order to retain what they have worked so hard to learn this year. Try to make reading at home fun and relaxing by creating a special space for reading and checking out new books every couple of weeks from the library. Provide your child with some post it notes and a pen to mark funny or interesting things that they read in their books so that they can share them with you. Listening to stories at bedtime is also a powerful way to increase reading skills. Please check out the wonderful programs available to young readers at our local Lake Worth Public Library.



SECOND GRADE NEWS

The 2nd Graders are working so hard! In ELA we are in Unit 8 How Wind and Water Change Earth! Our reading stamina has grown tremendously so far this year as we continue to find new interests in the books we read! In Science, we are in Unit 7 where we are exploring and learning about Earth's Systems & Patterns. In Math, we are reviewing Topics 1-13 and continue building our knowledge for next year! Please continue to monitor your child's backpack and stay in constant communication with your child's teacher, especially as the school year begins to wind down. We can't wait for even more learning and adventures in 2nd Grade!

THIRD GRADE NEWS

Dear Parents

Third grade is in the process of reviewing for the upcoming state test. Please review any reading and math skills with your child. We have taught reading skills such central idea and character analysis using fiction. We have taught text structure and text features in nonfiction. We have taught multiplication and division including fractions and geometry in math.

Wish us all the luck. Thank you for your cooperation.

Third grade team

FOURTH GRADE NEWS

Fourth grade continues working hard in all subjects since returning from Spring Break. We just completed a Unit about the transcontinental railroad in ELA and completed our math unit on conversions. We are currently reviewing concepts in both subjects in preparation for end of the year testing. . On May 12th we will be taking the FAST ELA test and on May 13th we will take the FAST math test. We will also be taking the end of year I ready Diagnostic the following week. We are well prepared and know we will do well and will be ready for fifth grade. We have enjoyed learning about the rock cycle and minerals in science and continue working on our writing skills. We are also learning about narrative essays and continue to practice our convention skills, including capitalization, spelling and punctuation. We are all looking forward to summer but continue learning new things in all subjects.

FIFTH GRADE NEWS

5th grade is officially wrapping up the school year! Students are currently finishing the last units in all subject areas as we prepare for a strong end to the year. We also have our FAST assessments in Math, Science, and ELA coming up. We encourage students to stay focused, continue practicing their skills, and get plenty of rest so they can do their very best.

Finally, we are excited to celebrate our students at 5th Grade Graduation on May 28th at 9:00 AM. More details will be shared as the date approaches. Thank you for your continued support as we finish the year strong!

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

(Find middle school news on page 3)

SCHOOL INFORMATION



MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Hello Tiger Parents!

As we step forward into the final 20 days of the 2025-26 school year, we're preparing for the great activities yet to come. Speaking of a great activity, our 8th-grade class will be celebrating their graduation on May 27th at 9 am. Hopefully, the 8th-grade students have found a level of maturity and self-discovery, which assists in the culmination of an inspirational experience in education. Imagine how many "Aha" moments took place during their academic career at NGK-8? That is what makes our profession so special and rewarding.

We have so much to look forward to in May:

- We celebrate our teachers with our National Teacher Appreciation Week, May 4th- 8th.
- Our Spring Concert will fill our hearts with music as our Middle School students soar to great heights on May 12th with their Spring Concert.
- Have in mind we are attending our EPIC UNIVERSAL field trip on May 14th.
- Our final day of school is planned for Friday, May 29th.

Mental Health Matters

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. You must help, support, improve, and maintain your students' mental health. Mental health awareness plays a crucial role in reducing stigma, encouraging early intervention, and fostering empathy and understanding. By normalizing conversations around mental health, it nurtures a more compassionate society where individuals feel empowered to seek help, leading to improved mental well-being.

What is mental health?

Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act as we cope with life. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices. Mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood and aging.

Why is mental health important?

Mental health is important because it can help you to:

- Cope with the stresses of life
- Be physically healthy
- Have good relationships
- Make meaningful contributions to your community
- Work productively
- Realize your full potential

Validating emotions

• Be accepting of negative emotions.

Some people believe that negative emotions are unacceptable, so they hold them until they erupt. Explain to your student that it is normal to have a range of feelings, and encourage them to acknowledge them.

- **Don't minimize.** Middle School is a time of big emotions. Show your student that you understand how they are feeling and that you want to help, even if whatever your student is upset about seems minor to you.

- **Communicate.** Keep communication channels open, even if it seems your student wants to talk to their friends more than you. Remind them often that they can always talk to you about anything. Pay attention to nonverbal cues as well. These are indicators of how a student is doing.

Ms. McGowan (Middle School TOSA)



North Grade K-8

Educate. Affirm. Inspire.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Our school website is the one-stop place for information about the school. You also can find the email address for any staff member here too. The web address to our web page is:

<https://www.palmbeachschools.org/NorthGradeK8>

Check out this page for information about the school and information from the District.



TEAM HOWARD

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Mrs. Howard is thrilled to announce the results from the 2026 Regional Track Meet.

The event was held on April 12th at Traz Powell Stadium in Miami.

Genesis Canales Reyes, Lorenzo Gonzales and Amelia Melendez competed in the 50 Meter Run and the Softball Throw.

Lorenzo, Genesis and Amelia all won the GOLD Medal in the 50 Meter Run.

Lorenzo won the GOLD Medal in the Softball Throw and Genesis and Amelia won a Silver Medal.

They have all been selected to attend the Special Olympics Summer State Games, May 15th & 16th at Disney's Wide World of Sports Complex. CONGRATULATIONS Genesis, Amelia & Lorenzo!!

(Photos on Page 5)



FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. Click on the link below.

<https://getfortifyfl.com/>



MEDIA CENTER NEWS

It has been a very successful year in the school library media center with over 18,000 circulations of print books, a growing number of students taking advantage of morning checkout, and over 200 2nd - 5th graders participating in our reading incentive program graciously funded by a grant from the Education Foundation of Palm Beach County.

The last day to check out books will be Tuesday, May 5th. All books are due back the following Friday, May 15th.

Many thanks for a wonderful year! Please continue to encourage your children to read over the summer. A library card from the Lake Worth Beach or Palm Beach County public libraries are great options and free for residents.



PTO NEWS

Hello North Grade Families,

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Bud's Chicken & Seafood Spirit Night in April. We're excited to announce that we were able to raise over \$450 for our school! PTO was also happy to provide supplies to support the students cleaning up our school on Earth Day. Great job all who participated!

Our last meeting of the year is coming up in May. We will send out once the date is finalized. If you can't make the meeting and would like to know what we discussed, please reach out to us and we'd be happy to share the agenda and outcomes of the meeting. The PTO is also looking for suggestions for the next school year on how we can improve, how to get more parents involved and any ideas for events, activities or fundraisers. Please email us at northgradePTO@gmail.com, all suggestions are welcome!

Thank you,
North Grade K-8 PTO

SPECIAL OLYMPICS



**Amelia competing in the 50-meter run.
GOLD MEDAL WINNER**



**Amelia competing in the soft ball throw.
GOLD MEDAL WINNER**



**Genesis competing in the
softball throw.
SILVER MEDAL WINNER**



**Genesis competing in the
50-meter run.
GOLD MEDAL WINNER**



**Lorenzo competing in the
softball throw.
GOLD MEDAL WINNER**



TEAM HOWARD



**Lorenzo in the 50-meter
run.
GOLD MEDAL WINNER**