

The Niagara Falls City School District



2026 – 2027

- Niagara Falls High School • Abate Elementary School • Hyde Park Elementary School • LaSalle Preparatory School •
- Kalfas Primary School • Maple Avenue Elementary School • 79th Street Elementary School • Cataract Elementary School •
- Community Education Center • Gaskill Preparatory School • GJ Mann Elementary School •
- Bloneva Bond Primary School • DiFrancesco Center •



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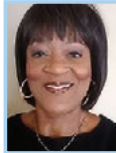
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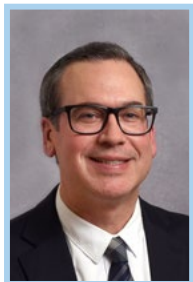
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Welcome to the 2026–2027 school year! While this marks my very first welcome message to you as your Superintendent, I have been with the Niagara Falls City School District for many years, and I know firsthand the immense dedication of our staff, the passion of our families, and the incredible potential of our students. I enter this new role with a strong sense of gratitude and a clear understanding of what makes our district so special.

Because I have walked our hallways and worked closely with so many of you, I know that our greatest strength is how we take care of one another. This year, we are renewing our pledge to making certain that every family is fully supported. We know that students cannot learn effectively if their basic needs are not met. Together with our community partners, we

are expanding our district outreach to ensure all families have direct access to meals, school supplies, clothing, and emotional support resources. No one in our community walks alone.

Thank you for your ongoing trust, your partnership, and the warm welcome you have extended to me in this new role. I look forward to working alongside all of you to make this an outstanding school year.

Stanley Wojton
Superintendent of Schools

Regular meetings are generally held the fourth Thursday of the month at Central Office, 630 66th Street. Exceptions are noted on the calendar. Review meetings are also scheduled once a month. Presentations begin at 5:30 p.m., voting at 7:00 p.m. (for regular meetings). The public is welcome. The Board provides time at its regular meetings for the public to make comments relating to District policy. All board meetings are livestreamed on our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/NFCSD>



Residents who wish to write to the Board may address communication to: President, Board of Education, 630 66th Street, Niagara Falls, New York 14304. If there is a concern at school, please contact your child's teacher or school administrator first. If the issue cannot be resolved at the school level, contact the Superintendent's Office. If it still is not resolved, contact the Board of Education.

Board members serve five-year terms; the election and budget vote will be held Tuesday, May 18, 2027. Petitions must be filed in April.

The District uses the same polling sites as the general election. If you are unsure of your polling site, call District Clerk Judie Glaser, at 716-286-4204 or visit www.nfschools.net.

Strategic Goals

1. To exceed and continuously improve learner outcomes against academic standards.
2. To achieve the highest level of employee cooperation, trust, and empowerment.
3. To effectively control financial costs, while maintaining quality education.
4. To achieve the highest level of partnerships with our community.
5. To provide, integrate, and promote technology throughout all facets of our organization.

The **vision** of the Niagara Falls City School District is to be a world-class quality educational organization.

The **mission** of the Niagara Falls Board of Education is to guarantee educational excellence by creating strategic goals, which we will monitor, analyze, assess, and evaluate utilizing our quality processes and ensuring customer satisfaction.

PHILOSOPHY

Learning For All ... Whatever It Takes



USE OF INTERNET-ENABLED DEVICES DURING THE SCHOOL DAY POLICY

New York State has passed a law banning the use of internet-enabled devices during the school day. The Niagara Falls City School District (NFCSD) Board of Education has adopted the following policy to prohibit the use of internet-enabled devices by students during the school day on school grounds. This policy aims to ensure that students remain focused on their academic responsibilities throughout the school day.

For purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

"Internet-enabled devices" means and includes any smartphone, tablet, wearable technology (i.e., smartwatch, wireless earbuds) or other device capable of connecting to the internet and enabling the user to access content on the internet, including social media applications

"Internet-enabled devices" do not include:

1. Non-internet-enabled devices such as cellular phones or other communication devices not capable of connecting to the internet or enabling the user to access content on the internet; or
2. Internet-enabled devices supplied by the District, charter school, or Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) that are used for an educational purpose.
3. "School day" means the entirety of every instructional day, during all instructional time and non-instructional time, including but not limited to homeroom periods, lunch, recess, study halls, and passing time.
4. "School grounds" means in or on or within any building, structure, athletic playing field, playground, or land contained within the real property boundary line of a district elementary, intermediate, junior high, vocational, or high school, a charter school, or a BOCES facility.

However, students may be authorized to use an Internet-enabled device during the school day on school grounds:

- a) If authorized by a teacher, principal, or the District for a specific educational purpose;
- b) Where necessary for the management of a student's health care
- c) In the event of an emergency
- d) For translation services
- e) On a case-by-case basis, upon review and determination by a school psychologist, school social worker, or school counselor for a student caregiver who is routinely responsible for the care and well-being of a family member; or
- f) Where required by law.

Students must be permitted to use an internet-enabled device where the use is included in the student's:

- a) Individualized Education Program (IEP); or
- b) Section 504 Plan.

ON-SITE STORAGE OF INTERNET-ENABLED DEVICES INCLUDING CELLPHONES

Students are required to store their internet-enabled devices in designated on-site storage areas during the school day.

In grades PreK through 6, on-site storage areas may include, but are not limited to, student lockers, cubbies, storage bins in classrooms, or any other designated secure storage areas in the school's main office.

In grades 7-12, students will place internet-enabled devices into secure, sealable bags designed to store and restrict access to these devices. These bags will be stored in on-site storage areas, which may include, but are not limited to, student lockers, designated secure storage areas in an administrative office, or the school's main office. Any internet-enabled devices and/or wearable technology that is too large to fit into a secured, sealable storage bag must be stored in student lockers or other designated secure storage areas in the school.

Students in grades 7-12 may also be permitted to carry these bags with them throughout the day, provided they do not attempt to open the bag and utilize their devices without permission or exemption as stated in this policy.

Designated on-site storage areas, as noted in this policy, are easily accessible to students and provide adequate security to ensure the safekeeping of the students' devices.

METHODS FOR PARENTS TO CONTACT STUDENTS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

To accommodate necessary communication, parents or persons in parental relation may use the following methods to contact their student during school hours while adhering to this policy:

- a) School office, school clinic, school classroom phones: Parents or persons in parental relation may call the school's main office, clinic, or classroom, and the staff can relay messages to the student or call the student to the phone to speak with their parent or person in parental relation.
- b) District email: Parents and persons in parental relation may use the District email system to send messages. These emails may be monitored by school staff, who can then forward the messages to the students.
- c) School public address system: In case of an emergency, the school's main office can use the classroom public address system to notify students directly or ask them to come to the office.
- d) District auto dialer system: In case of an emergency, a school or the District can use the auto dialer system to contact parents and provide information or ask them to come to the school.
- e) School messaging application: The District uses a secure messaging application which allows parents or persons in parental relation to send messages to their student. The messages can be monitored and delivered by school staff.
- f) Written notes: Parents or persons in parental relation can drop off written notes at the school's main office, which can then be delivered to the student by school staff.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE FOR ACCESSING INTERNET-ENABLED DEVICES DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

The District is prohibited from suspending a student solely for accessing internet-enabled devices in violation of this policy.

The District will adhere to the following progressive discipline procedure for students who violate this policy:

First Infraction: The student will receive a warning and be provided with a copy of the policy for review.

Second Infraction: Immediate confiscation of the device. The device will be held for the day and will be returned to the identified owner by the main office and/or the dean's office at the conclusion of the school day. The parent or person in parental relation will be notified and informed regarding penalties for further infractions.

Third Infraction: Immediate confiscation of the device. The parent or person in parental relation will be notified and informed regarding the penalty for a further infraction. The device will be held by the school in a secure location and will only be returned to the parent or person in parental relation by the main office and/or the dean's office upon their request and retrieval.

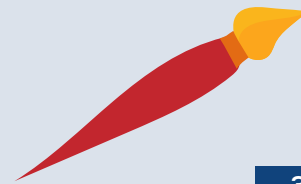
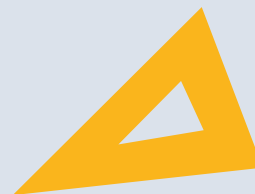
Fourth Infraction: The student loses device privileges for the remainder of the year. If brought, the device is held until the end of the school year; return is determined by the Superintendent or designee.

POSTING AND TRANSLATION OF POLICY

The District will post this policy in a clearly visible and accessible location on its website. Translations of the policy into the 12 most common non-English languages spoken by limited-English proficient individuals in the state will be provided upon request by a student or other persons in parental relation to a student.

REPORTING AND MITIGATION ACTION PLAN

Beginning September 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, the District will publish an annual report on its website detailing the enforcement of this policy within the District in the prior school year. This report will include non-identifiable demographic data of students who have faced disciplinary action for non-compliance, as well as an analysis of any demographic disparities in the enforcement of this policy. If a statistically





Registering New Students Grades PreK 3 - 12

All new students need to be registered with the District Central Registration Office located at 630 66th Street. Staff is available between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Families should go to Door 1 (the Main Door to the Administration Building). Parents or guardians should bring a photo ID, the child's birth certificate, proof of immunizations, proof of residence (utility bills, for example), and any custody papers and enter Door 1, the Main Entrance of the Administration facing 66th Street.

Visitors to School Practice

The Niagara Falls City School District's priority is to keep our students and staff safe through our layered security approach at all our schools. Keeping safety and security in mind, we have updated the visitor's practice. Anyone entering a school must be prepared to present a driver's license or government identification and be checked in before entering one of our schools. Visitors will have to pass through the school's secured entry control point, which will include weapons scanners and a bag check. Before coming to the school, please call the school's main telephone number and make an appointment for your visit. If you need to leave something for a student, there will be a space provided for you to do so without entering the school. Once a visitor clears security, he or she is to proceed to the school's main office. The school administration will deny entrance to a school if it determines the visit is in contrast to the visitor's practice, the good order of the school, safety, and security concerns, or violates a court order or law.

We appreciate your cooperation with this practice.

School Day Schedules:

Elementary Schools 8:45 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Prep Schools 7:25 a.m. – 2:25 p.m.

Niagara Falls High School 8:00 a.m. – 2:35 p.m.

Who to Call

Call your child's school teacher for report card problems, working papers, and academic progress inquiries. For a problem at school (such as conflict with another student), or to volunteer, please call your child's school principal. Also, check our district website for the Parent Portal, updated information, board minutes, and district announcements at www.nfschools.net.

Transportation

State-subsidized bus transportation is provided free to all children grades K - 6 who live more than one mile from the schools they attend and students in grades 7 - 12 who live more

than 1.5 miles from the schools they attend. Students do not need to apply; eligibility will automatically be determined by computer registration. Transportation for special education students will be determined by the Committee on Special Education. Parents must inform the child's school of any address change to ensure services. A student is the responsibility of the school district while on the school bus. Students are required to conduct themselves on the bus in a manner consistent with established standards for classroom behavior.

Attendance Requirements

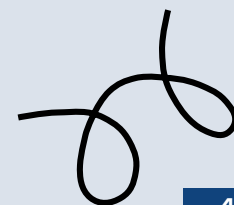
Regular attendance is important for success in school. Parents should make every effort to have their child in school, on time, rested and ready for learning. Only illness, emergency, medical, or dental reasons should keep a child from attending school. A student must bring a note for the absence as required by State Attendance Policy.

Student Meals

Since the District implemented a program available to the state of New York called the Community Eligibility Provision, all students attending District schools are eligible to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch at school at no charge to their household. Although the household income eligibility form is not used to determine student eligibility, all households need to complete the household income form, regardless of income levels. Data gathered remains confidential and helps the District qualify for grants that provide things such as after school and summer programming, and is used to calculate certain District reimbursements from the State. It is important that we receive one application per household that lists all students. This form must be filled out and returned to your youngest child's school. Additional copies may be picked up from any school.

Breakfast After the Bell

In accordance with Section 2, Part B of Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2018, all public elementary or secondary schools with at least seventy percent or more of its students eligible for free or reduced-price meals under the federal National School Lunch Program are required to offer all students a school breakfast after the instructional day has begun, "breakfast after the bell." The schools meeting 70 percent free and reduced price were determined by the State Education Department (SED) based upon data submitted through the Basic Educational Data System (BEDS) for the prior school year.





Grades PreK 3 - 12

PreK Mission and Objectives

The Niagara Falls City School District is pleased to provide quality early childhood programming for 3-and 4-year-old children residing in the city of Niagara Falls. PreK programming focuses on the social, emotional, academic and behavioral needs of all students. This mission is accomplished by striving to meet the following objectives:

- To create a positive, nurturing and safe environment for all children and their families
- To establish classroom rituals and routines that are adhered to daily
- To foster positive relationships with each child, and his or her family members
- To follow a research/evidence based early childhood curriculum with fidelity
- To provide high quality, on-going training and professional development for teachers and staff
- To administer the Ages and Stages and Ages and Stages SE, highly regarded screening tools, to determine the individual strengths, weaknesses and development of each child
- To connect families with resources outside of the school District that address needs other than educational
- To monitor each child's progress, and report that information to the child's family in a timely manner
- To differentiate instructional strategies, schedules and learner outcomes to meet the needs of each child

Prekindergarten 3 (PK3) and Prekindergarten 4 (PK4) Facts:

- Free, full-day program to all families residing in the city of Niagara Falls
- PreK 3 and PreK 4 classes
- Students must be the age of the program they are registering for on or before December 1st of the enrolling year
- The curriculum used is aligned to the New York State Early Learning Guidelines (Creative Curriculum – Teaching Strategies)
- Breakfast, lunch and a fresh fruit snack are provided free of charge daily
- Transportation is not provided
- Daily schedule aligns with the Kindergarten – 6th grade schedule (dismissal is at 3:10p.m. Monday – Friday)

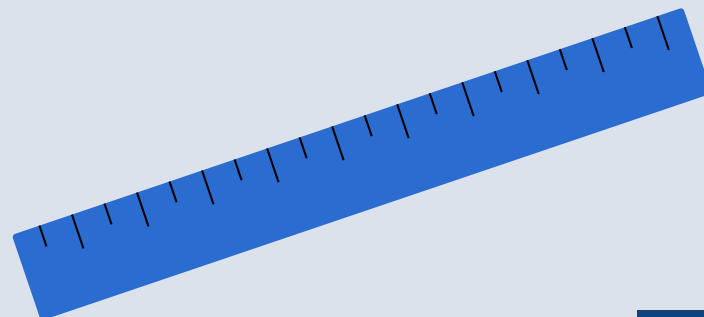
- Translation support is available for families in need of assistance
- Families and teachers may receive guidance from the Committee on Pre- School Special Education upon request

Early Head Start and Head Start

Funded by the Office of Head Start, the District offers free, full-day Early Head Start and Head Start programs for infants, toddlers, two-year olds and preschoolers starting at the age of six weeks. This opportunity is available to families living in the city of Niagara Falls who meet income and/or other eligibility criteria determined by the Office of Head Start. We use the Creative Curriculum – Teaching Strategies aligned to the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework: Ages Birth to Five. The children enrolled are provided a comprehensive early childhood program that includes a breakfast, lunch, and a snack, daily, free of charge, as a part of the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Children receive health screenings, and families get support in accessing the health services they need. Parents serve on Policy Council and committees that make program decisions; participate in classes and workshops; and volunteer in a variety of ways. The program also helps parents and families achieve their own goals, including employment, housing, and adult education. Early Head Start is for children under the age of three and is currently available at the Community Education Center, 6040 Lindbergh Avenue. The Head Start program is for children 3 – 4 years old and is located at the DiFrancesco Center, 901 24th Street.

LaSalle Early Childhood Center

The LaSalle Early Childhood Center partnering with the District, offers one PreK 4 classroom at their center. We look forward to working with the teachers and staff at the center throughout the 2026-2027 school year.



Acceleration, Enrichment Programs

The District offers an Enrichment Program for students in grades two through six and a Comprehensive Accelerated Program for students in grades seven and eight. The Enrichment Program is located at Harry F. Abate; the Comprehensive Acceleration Program is offered at both prep schools, which also offer accelerated courses in math and science. As part of the identification process, students in grades one and six take the CogAT aptitude test offered by the District. Off year testing is also offered through either teacher or parental request. Test results from multiple assessments and student academic data are also evaluated. Qualifying students are offered placement in the respective program. CogAT testing is scheduled to take place the week of February 22, 2027.

The Enrichment and Accelerated curriculum are designed to lead students to Advanced Placement courses at Niagara Falls High School. However, students not in the Enrichment or Accelerated programs are still provided the same opportunity to take Advanced Placement (AP) courses at the high school level. The program is monitored by the District Enrichment and Acceleration Committee and facilitated by the Assessment Office. More information concerning the elementary enrichment program can be found on the Abate Elementary website.

For more information about the Comprehensive Accelerated Program, please contact Assistant Superintendent of Assessment Lynne Tompkins at 716-286-4285. For more information about the Advanced Placement program, please contact your child's high school guidance counselor.

Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) has created a Skills and Achievement commencement credential as an option for students with disabilities. This provides this group of students with a commencement certificate similar in form to the diploma issued by the school district. Students must be exiting school after attending at least 12 years, excluding kindergarten. The Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential must be accompanied by documentation of the student's skills, strengths, and levels of independence in academics, career development, and foundational skills necessary for post-school living, learning, and working. Students may also earn a New York State Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential. This will recognize each student's preparation and skills for postsecondary employment. For more information, log on to the New York State Education Department website: www.nysed.gov.

Say Yes Niagara Falls' partnership with Say Yes BUFFALO enters its second year

The premier last year of Saturday Academy Programs attracted hundreds

Say Yes Niagara Falls has just completed its first year! After several years of discussion and planning, the Niagara Falls City School District and Say Yes Buffalo premiered Say Yes Niagara Falls in the 2025 - 2026 school year. Say Yes Niagara Falls will be a game-changer for the district's students as they prepare for life after graduation.

Say Yes Niagara Falls aims to enhance the district's capabilities to serve the community in three program areas: 1) Community School initiative featuring **Saturday Academy programming**, 2) a **workforce development** initiative featuring both earn-while-you-learn modern youth apprenticeships and direct-hire opportunities for Niagara Falls High School graduates, and 3) a mentorship and youth leadership program for young men of color called **Breaking Barriers**.

Say Yes Niagara Falls has also formed the **Niagara Falls Scholarship Endowment Campaign**, a campaign to raise funds to support graduates of Niagara Falls High School in their postsecondary studies in perpetuity. This fund mimics the Say Yes Buffalo Scholarship Endowment Fund, which after a ten-year campaign stands close to completion at \$61 million. The goal for the Niagara Falls Scholarship Endowment Campaign is \$20 million.

Say Yes Niagara Falls will host **Saturday Academy events** during the 2026-2027 school year. Events will feature hands-on learning opportunities primarily focused on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics), community resources, and fun activities for all ages and abilities, along with breakfast and lunch. It's a welcoming space designed to support students and strengthen family connections.

Rise and Saturday Shine!

Say Yes Niagara Falls' Saturday Academies take off

The first months of Say Yes Niagara Falls were extraordinary! Starting in October 2025, Saturday Academies are one of the first programs to roll out of the new partnership between Say Yes Buffalo and Say Yes Niagara Falls.

Four schools rotated as hosts of Saturday Academies. The events run on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to noon and include free breakfast and lunch. This free program is open to Niagara Falls City School District students and families (children under the age of 14 must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or trusted adult).

Activities that have taken place at Saturday Academies include:

- Zumba class
- Mobile planetarium
- Buffalo Zoo Animal Wonders
- Drum circles
- Robot building
- Crafting
- Henna designs
- Fitness

SAYYES
BUFFALO **SAYYES**
NIAGARA FALLS

The above activities promote learning and group interaction, skills that participants can take to the classroom.



District Safety Measures / Security

Student safety is the district's top priority. To ensure a secure environment, the district utilizes numerous safety methods. Here are a few:

- Evolv Concealed Weapons Protection devices are located at the entranceways to all district buildings and sports venues. This state-of-the-art device scans people and bags, providing alert images to help pinpoint potential threats
- Increased police school resource officers (SROs)
- CPTED principles (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design), providing clear outlines of district property using fences, hedges, etc., and improved lighting /well-lit pathways
- Ballistic window film, which makes it harder for intruders to quickly break through windows and helps prevent injuries from flying glass
- Security cameras throughout the district
- Raptor identification system requires all visitors to present a driver's license or legal ID for a background check
- Anonymous threat reporting tools like the Sandy Hook Promise Reporting System highlight the district's proactive efforts to prevent violence and ensure swift emergency response

Lockdown Drills

As required by New York State Law, each school in the District must conduct four lockdown drills each school year. The District has to notify parents, students and staff ahead of lockdown drills and ensure that these drills do not mimic a school shooting or any other act of school violence that could traumatize the children (using props, actors, or tactics that mimic violence). The following drills could occur at any school on any given day: lockout, lock-down, evacuation, or shelter in place. Utilizing the mass telephone broadcasting system (auto dialer), schools will notify parents and caregivers at least one week before a drill. Students and staff will be notified before the drill begins. In the event of an actual emergency, parents and guardians will be notified using the telephone broadcast messaging system. All numbers on file for each student will be called as soon as possible. Text messages will also be sent to all cellphone numbers the District has on file. Therefore, it is important that all contact information be kept current with the school staff.





2026-2027 Graduation Requirements

New York State High School Graduation Requirements

Credit requirements for all diploma types students must complete and pass 3 or 4 credits in each of these subjects (14-16 total credits):

- Social Studies (4 credits)
- English (4 credits)
- Mathematics (3 credits)
- Science (3 credits)

Additionally, students must earn credits in the following subject areas (8 credits):

- Art or Music (1 credit)
- Second Language (1 credit)
- Physical Education (2 credits)
- Health (.5 credits)
- Electives (3.5 credits)

Total 22 Credits

Exam Requirements for Regents/Local Diploma

In addition to the 22 credits required, District students will earn a Regents Diploma by passing the following five Regents Examinations:

Traditional Pathway:

- Algebra 1
- Life Science / Biology or Earth and Space Science
- Global History & Geography
- U.S. History
- English Language Arts

Alternative Option:

- 1 Math (e.g. Algebra)
- 1 Science (e.g. Life Science / Biology)
- 1 Social Studies (e.g. Global History & Geography)
- English Language Arts
- 1 Pathway Assessment: Science (Earth and Space Science), Math (Geometry) or Social Studies, (U.S. History), or earn a Career Development & Occupational Students Credential (CDOS)

Exam Requirements for Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation

Students must complete 22 credits AND earn at least 65% on the following Regents Examinations (8 total):

Traditional Pathway:

- Life Science / Biology*
- Earth and Space Science*
- Algebra 1**
- Geometry**
- Algebra 2**
- Global History and Geography
- U.S. History
- Comprehensive English

* Two (2) sciences: (One must be life science and one must be physical science)

** Three (3) Math

Alternative Option:

- **STEM (Mathematics) Pathway Combination:** ELA, one (1) social studies, four (4) math, two (2) science (1 must be life science and 1 must be physical science) = 8 Assessments
- **STEM (Science) Pathway Combination:** ELA, one (1) social studies, three (3) math, three (3) science (1 must be life science and 1 must be physical science) = 8 Assessments
- **Pathway Combination (other than STEM):** ELA, one (1) social studies, 3 math, 2 science (1 must be life science and 1 must be physical science), one (1) Pathway (other than science or mathematics such as a 5 credit sequence in music, art or career and technical education - CTE) = 8 Assessments

In addition to each of these combinations, a student must pass a foreign language locally developed LOTE (Spanish 3) examination

Niagara Falls High School Extra-Curricular Activities

Eligibility

The following guidelines have been established for academic eligibility:

1. At the time of an event or start of a sport season, the most recently completed marking period grades and attendance totals (or final course / summer grades for fall events / sports) are utilized to determine eligibility.
2. Students must pass four credit bearing classes, plus physical education, totaling at least 4.5 credits.
3. Students must maintain an 85% attendance rate.
4. Additionally, students must accrue a minimum of 4.5 course credits each year in high school to be eligible. A cumulative credit total based on the student's grade level is required:
 - For 10th graders – minimum 4.5 credits
 - For 11th graders – minimum 9 credits
 - For 12th graders – minimum 13.5 credits
5. All students must be present a minimum of three full class periods on the day of activity/sport to participate that day.

Probation

1. If a student is ineligible at the beginning of a marking period, they will be placed on probation for five weeks. They will be re-evaluated at the end of the five-week period. At that time, they must meet all eligibility requirements above. If they do not, they are ineligible to participate for the remainder of the marking period.
2. For sports, students are able to practice during the probationary period, however they may not participate in games / matches / competitions.
3. Students are only allowed one probationary period each school year. Weekly progress reports to the athletic director will be used to monitor work for students who are on probation. A student will need a parent signature to acknowledge the plan.

Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential

The Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential (SACC) is a New York State credential available to students with severe disabilities who are assessed using the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA). It recognizes each student's academic achievement, work readiness, and independent living skills developed throughout their school years. While

the SACC is not a high school diploma, it reflects meaningful progress toward individualized goals and helps prepare students for future employment, community participation, and adult services. For more information, visit www.nysed.gov or talk with your student's school psychologist.





What is Emergency Day Payback?

New York State schools must be in session at least 180 days per academic year. Every District schedules extra school days, so that if weather or other factors prevent schools from opening, students can still get in 180 instructional days.

Weather or other emergencies can sometimes cause a district to use more than the extra days they planned in the schedule. When that happens, days that were initially scheduled to be days off must become regular instructional days (emergency payback days).

To help parents and staff plan for such a situation, the District has predetermined which days would become school days if needed.

The plan for using emergency day payback:

If the District uses three emergency days and still must close schools for one more day, April 2, 2027, will become a school day. If still more days are needed, the following scheduled days off will become school days, in this order: April 2, 2027, April 1, 2027, March 31, 2027.

It is highly unlikely that we would use all these days. But, to clarify, here is a specific, hypothetical example:

- If we must close school for four days over the course of the year, we will use our three scheduled emergency ("extra") days, and change March 31, 2027, to a regular school day. In this way we maintain 180 instructional days.
- If we must close school for five days over the course of the year, we will use our three scheduled emergency days plus make up days April 2, 2027 and April 1, 2027.
- If we use no emergency days, everyone attends the 183 scheduled days.

Emergency Closings

If schools must be closed due to inclement weather or other emergencies, the District will notify parents and students in the early morning or, if possible, the evening before by utilizing the District's telephone broadcast ("auto dialer") and text alert messaging systems. The District's website, Facebook page, and X account will reflect the closed status. Closings also appear on the websites, and bottom-of-the-screen crawls on WGRZ-TV, WIVB-TV, WKBW-TV, and Spectrum News.

NIAGARA FALLS WOLVERINES





2026-2027

Parent Portal

The District has a PowerSchool Parent Portal that allows a student's parent(s) or guardian(s) to view the student's school information. Using the parent portal, parents and guardians can only see information relating to their child(ren).

To use the parent portal, just create an account. The only requirement is that you have an email address. During the creation process, add all your children to one account. If you need assistance, you can contact your child's school or call our help desk at 716-286-4212. If you have more than one child, you will need each student's Access ID and Access Password. Find PowerSchool on our homepage at www.nfschools.net under Parent & Guardian.

To Reach Staff

You can communicate with your child's teachers or any other member of our staff using the following methods:

- **Voicemail** - Leave a message anytime by calling 716-286-4101 and entering the staff member's extension when prompted. (Find extensions on our website under Staff Directory)
- **Email** - Every employee has a District email account. In most cases, the address is firstinitiallastname@nfschools.net. For example, Mary Jones would be mjones@nfschools.net
- The district has replaced the Remind Me app with ParentSquare. Documentation and guidance on using ParentSquare is available in the Technology and Information Services – Help Resources section of the district website.

In some cases, two people may have similar names, which changes their email addresses. If you are unsure about the correct email address, call the school and ask specific questions or visit nfschools.net and consult the staff directory.

OSC TV - Our Schools Channel

Our Schools Channel is operated by Niagara Falls High School(NFHS) students who are part of the media production program. The programming that it creates or accepts from schools and colleges to be broadcast is educational. The mission of the OSC is to promote a better understanding in the community by providing quality educational programming and to offer an outstanding educational experience by providing NFHS media production students with unique opportunities to develop technical and communication skills through the operation of an actual television station.

The OSC runs a community billboard between programs. Community organizations, school districts, reunion committees, and other groups are welcome to submit

information for inclusion. Please include your contact information when emailing your submission to: rstrangio1@nfschools.net.

Public Use of School Facilities

Under Niagara Falls City School District policy, some conditions pertain to the use of school buildings, grounds, and equipment. Please make sure you read these conditions before submitting a request for approval to use school facilities. A complete list of conditions and a form for facility use can be found on the district website, nfschools.net

Return the completed form to the Business Office:

Niagara Falls City School District

Business Office 630 66th Street

Niagara Falls, NY 14304 Fax: 716-286-4248





2026-2027

Asbestos Notification

In compliance with the requirements of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), a management plan and supportive data prepared in accordance with the requirements of the law are on file in each school and at the District office. Every six months, the District conducts surveillance of the asbestos areas to detect any changes in condition. The District also carries out a complete re-inspection of all asbestos areas every three years.

School Pesticide Notification

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a systematic approach to managing pests, focusing on long-term prevention or suppression with minimal impact on human health, the environment, and non-target organisms. Our strategies for managing pest populations are tailored to the specific pest species and its potential threat to our students, staff, property, and the environment.

Additional information may be obtained by calling the National Pesticide Telecommunications Network Information at 1-800-858-7378 or the NYS Department of Health Center for Environmental Health Information at 1-800-458-1158.

Transcripts

The Records Office at the Community Education Center stores transcripts from Niagara Falls High School, LaSalle Senior High School, and Trott Vocational School. Transcripts can be sent to you or on your behalf. Once three copies have been sent, a \$3 fee will be charged for each additional transcript request.

Contact us at 716-286-4256 or email arecords@nfschools.net. You can also fax your request to 716-286-4124, attention: Records, or mail it to NFCSD, attention: Records, 630 66th St., Niagara Falls, NY 14304.

Parent Involvement

Parents are encouraged to be involved in their child's education through school parent groups, volunteer activities developed in each school, and board of education committees.

The District Parent Committee, comprising members from each school's parent group, serves as a liaison between the individual schools and the superintendent.

Individual schools will name two representatives and one alternate to the District Parent Committee. For more information, contact your school's parent group.

Parents volunteer many hours of work in classrooms, helping to supervise field trips, keep students focused, and ensure assignments are completed. They reinforce the importance of each day's class work. The benefit of parent involvement is incalculable and irreplaceable. Even occasional help shows a child that school matters. Staying in touch with the school makes a significant difference.



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2026





Outstanding Alumni

Outstanding Alumni

To date, the district has recognized the individuals listed below as Distinguished Alumni of the Niagara Falls City School District. If you would like to nominate someone to be considered for this honor, please email Julie A. Doerr at jdoerr@nfschools.net, using the subject line "Alumni;" or you may call 716-286-4245.

Recognized 2025:

- **Jawdat Mustafa, M.D., Niagara Falls High School Class of 2011** – Nationally recognized physician devoted to research and practice addressing health disparities among underserved populations
- **Dr. Cynthia (Cindy) Di Laura Devore, Niagara Falls High School Class of 1965** – Published author and former speech pathologist for disabled children and adolescents, and school health physician. She has received New York State and national recognition for distinguished service to high school athletics
- **Fritz Proctor, Niagara Falls High School Class of 2015** – Painter with over nine million followers on TikTok, one million followers on YouTube, and over 250,000 followers on Instagram (as of May 2025). His exhibits have been popular worldwide with solo and group showings.

Recognized 2023:

- **Gerald DeMunda - Niagara Falls High School Class of 1966** - Killed in action in Vietnam at age 20
- **James Vaccarella - Niagara Falls High School Class of 1943** - World War II hero in Battle of the Bulge, Purple Heart recipient
- **Viola Vaughn - Niagara Falls High School** - Recognized as a CNN Hero in 2008 for educating hundreds of young African women in academia and employment

Recognized 2020:

- **Rev. Dr. Silvester S. Beaman - Niagara Falls High School** - Pastor of Bethel African Methodist Church in Wilmington, Delaware; delivered benediction at the inauguration of President Joe Biden on January 20, 2021

Recognized 2019:

- **Rick Manning - LaSalle Senior High School** - Professional baseball player – Cleveland Indians
- **Carol Leary Gigliotti- Niagara Falls High School** - Bay Path University President

- **Craig Rogers - Niagara Falls High School** - Economist, Canisius College
- **Ted Simonin - LaSalle Senior High School** - Children's book author

Recognized 2018:

- **Mark Bridges - LaSalle Senior High School** - Oscar-winning costume designer
- **Chauncey Brown - Niagara Falls High School** - Ophthalmologist in Wilmington, Delaware
- **Lynn Ligammari - Niagara Falls High School** - Nationally renowned saxophonist
- **Richard MacDougall, Lt. Col. (Ret.), U.S. Army - LaSalle Senior High School** - counter-terrorism expert
- **LuAnn Via (nee Strasburg) - LaSalle Senior High School** - President and CEO of Christopher Banks, a NYSE listed women's apparel chain

Recognized 2017:

- **Kelvon Agee - Niagara Falls High School** - Emmy Award-winning director of photography/producer – Deadliest Catch (Discovery Channel)
- **Sgt. John T. Anderson - Gaskill Jr. High School** - Namesake of the John T. Anderson Broadcast Journalist of the Year Award, Department of the Army
- **Jane Bryant Quinn - Niagara Falls High School** - nationally known finance journalist and author
- **Andrea Patterson - Niagara Falls High School** - cancer researcher
- **Tommy Tedesco - Niagara Falls High School** - Studio musician, The Wrecking Crew

Visual and Performing Arts

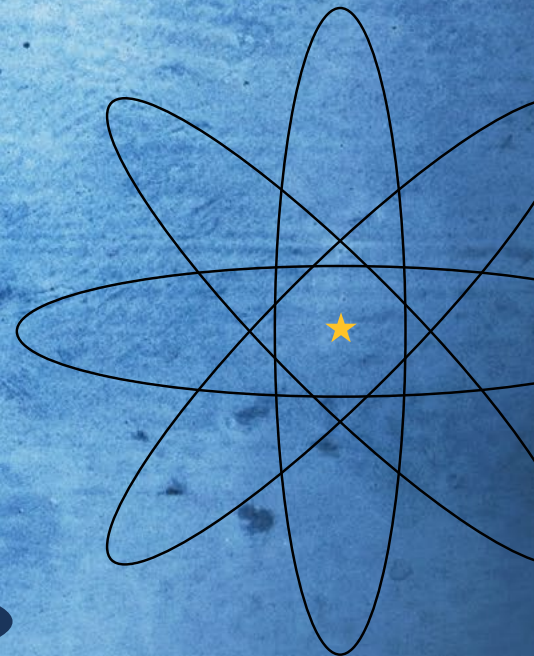
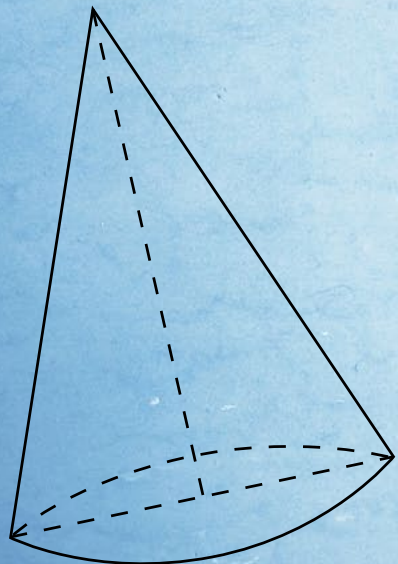
We celebrate the arts in a big way in the Niagara Falls City School District. In 2026-2027, the Niagara Falls High School Proscenium Players is presenting four productions and each prep school will perform its own musical. In addition, there will be a musical presented by the elementary schools, and one featuring Niagara Falls High School and LaSalle High School alumni.

The District is proud to employ highly skilled art, drama, and music teachers who are highly regarded in their respective arts communities. That is one reason our performing and visual arts offerings are the best in Western New York.

Join us often! Note that tickets are required for student and alumni drama and musical productions.

AUGUST | 2026

BACK TO SCHOOL



August | 2026

JULY 2026							SEPTEMBER 2026						
			1	2	3	4			1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31			27	28	29	30		

For an updated list of
school events, go to
www.nfsschools.net.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 • JV and Varsity Football start date	18	19 • Modified Football start date	20	21	22
23	24 • All Other Fall Sports start date • Hyde Park Elem. Open House 4:00 p.m. • 79 th Str Open House 4:00 p.m.	25 • Abate Open House	26 • NFHS 9 th Grade Orientation	27 • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	28 • Teachers report to schools all day A.M. Faculty Meeting P.M. Teacher Prof. Dev. Day	29
30	31					

- HFA Abate School
- CES Cataract Elem.
- HJK Kalfas School
- GJM Mann School
- BBP Bloneva Bond Primary
- GPS Gaskill Prep
- LPS LaSalle Prep
- CEC Comm. Education
- PAC Performing Arts Center at NFHS
- NFHS Niagara Falls High School
- BOE Board of Education
- SCD Superintendent's Conf. Day
- UPK Universal Prekindergarten
- NFT Niagara Falls Teachers
- DPC District Parent Committee

- EVENTS**
- Aug. 17 JV and Varsity Football start date
 - Aug. 19 Modified Football start date
 - Aug. 24 All Other Fall Sports start date
 - Aug. 25 2026 Abate Open House
 - Aug. 26 NFHS 9th Grade Orientation
 - Aug. 27 Board of Education Meeting
 - Aug. 31 79th Street School Open House
 - Aug. 31 Hyde Park Elementary Open House

SEPTEMBER | 2026



September | 2026

AUGUST | 2026

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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 | 2026

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		

For an updated list of school events, go to www.nfsschools.net.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 - Teachers Report To Schools All Day A.M. NFT Meeting P.M. Faculty Meeting - LaSalle Prep - Open House - CES Elem. Open House 3:30 p.m. - HJK Open House 4:00 p.m.	2 - First day of school Kindergarten - 7th grade and 9th grade 79th Street Elem. Open House 4:30 p.m.	3 - First day of school 8th and 10th grades - Maple Ave. Elem. Open House 4:00 p.m. - NFHS Open House - GJM Elementary Open House 5:00 p.m.	4 Professional Development Day: No students	5
6	7 Labor Day No staff/students LABOR DAY	8 First day of school all grades report	9	10 BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	11 NFHS Senior Sunrise	12
13	14 NFHS Family Engagement Group 6:00 p.m.	15	16 NFHS Picture Day - grades 9-11	17	18 79th Street Elem. i-Ready Assembly Grades K - 6 9:30 a.m.	19
20	21 NFHS Picture Day - grades 9-11	22	23	24 BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	25	26
27	28	29	30			

- HFA** Abate School
- CES** Cataract Elem.
- HJK** Kalfas School
- GJM** Mann School
- BBP** Bloneva Bond Primary
- GPS** Gaskill Prep
- LPS** LaSalle Prep
- CEC** Comm. Education
- PAC** Performing Arts Center at NFHS
- NFHS** Niagara Falls High School
- BOE** Board of Education
- SCD** Superintendent's Conf. Day
- UPK** Universal Prekindergarten
- NFT** Niagara Falls Teachers
- DPC** District Parent Committee

EVENTS

- Sept. 1** Teachers report to school all day A.M. NFT Meeting P.M. Faculty Meeting
- Sept. 1** LPS Open House
- Sept. 1** CES Open House
- Sept. 1** HJK Open House
- Sept. 2** 79th Street Elem. Open House
- Sept. 2** First day of school Kindergarten - 7th grade and 9th grade
- Sept. 3** First day of school 8th and 10th grades
- Sept. 3** Maple Ave. Elem. Open House
- Sept. 3** NFHS Open House
- Sept. 3** GJM Elementary Open House
- Sept. 4** Professional Development Day - no students
- Sept. 7** Labor Day - No staff/students
- Sept. 8** First Day of School - all grades report
- Sept. 10** Board of Education Meeting
- Sept. 11** NFHS Senior Sunrise
- Sept. 14** NFHS Family Engagement Group
- Sept. 16** NFHS Picture Day - grades 9-11
- Sept. 18** 79th Street Elem. i-Ready Assembly Grades K - 6
- Sept. 21** NFHS Picture Day - grades 9-11
- Sept. 24** Board of Education Meeting

OCTOBER | 2026



October | 2026

SEPTEMBER | 2026

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

NOVEMBER | 2026

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
29	30							

For an updated list of
school events, go to
www.nfsschools.net.



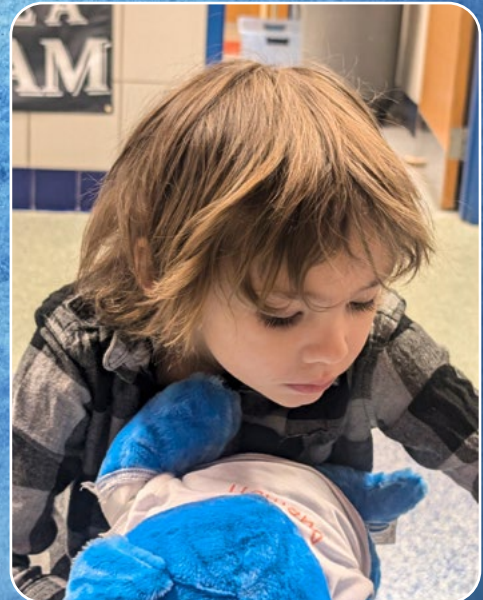
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 • HFA Say Yes NF Saturday Academy 9:00 a.m.
4	5	6 • 12 th Grade Picture Day	7 • Hyde Park Elem. – PEG Meeting 5:00 p.m.	8 • 12 th Grade Picture Day • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	9	10
11	12 • Holiday: No staff/No students	13 • Homecoming Spirit Week • NFHS Family Engagement Group 6:00 p.m.	14 • Homecoming Spirit Week	15 • Homecoming Spirit Week • 79 th Street Elem. Fall Picture Day • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	16 • Homecoming Spirit Week • Winter Sports Arbiter Registration begins	17 • Homecoming Dance 7:00 p.m. • Homecoming Football Game
18	19	20 • Hyde Park Elementary – Original Picture Day	21 • LaSalle Prep Parent/Teacher Conference #1 • Maple Ave Elem. Fall Picture Day • District Parent Committee 5:30 p.m.	22 • CES, Elem. Parent Conferences 3:30 p.m. • NYSSBA Convention	23 • NYSSBA Convention	24 • NYSSBA Convention • Bond Say Yes NF Saturday Academy 9:00 a.m.
25	26	27 • NFHS Blood Drive	28 • Maple Ave Elem. Fall Fest Family Celebration • CES Elem. Picture Day	29	30	31 

- HFA Abate School
- CES Cataract Elem.
- HJK Kalfas School
- GJM Mann School
- BBP Bloneva Bond Primary
- GPS Gaskill Prep
- LPS LaSalle Prep
- CEC Comm. Education
- PAC Performing Arts Center at NFHS
- NFHS Niagara Falls High School
- BOE Board of Education
- SCD Superintendent's Conf. Day
- UPK Universal Prekindergarten
- NFT Niagara Falls Teachers
- DPC District Parent Committee

EVENTS

- Oct. 3 Say Yes NF Saturday Academy @HFA
- Oct. 6 12th Grade Picture Day
- Oct. 7 Hyde Park Elem. PEG Meeting
- Oct. 8 12th Grade Picture Day
- Oct. 8 Board of Education Meeting
- Oct. 12 Holiday: No staff/No students
- Oct. 13 - 16 Homecoming Spirit Week
- Oct. 13 NFHS Family Engagement Group
- Oct. 15 79th Street Elem. Fall Picture Day
- Oct. 15 Board of Education Meeting
- Oct. 16 Winter Sports Arbiter Registration begins
- Oct. 17 Homecoming Football Game
- Oct. 17 Homecoming Dance
- Oct. 20 Hyde Park Elem. Original Picture Day
- Oct. 21 LPS Parent/Teacher Conference #1
- Oct. 21 Maple Ave Elem. Fall Picture Day
- Oct. 21 District Parent Committee
- Oct. 22 - 24 NYSSBA Convention
- Oct. 22 CES Elem. Parent Conferences
- Oct. 24 Say Yes NF Saturday Academy @ Bond
- Oct. 27 NFHS Blood Drive
- Oct. 28 Maple Ave Elem. Fall Fest Family Celebration
- Oct. 28 CES Elem. Picture Day

NOVEMBER | 2026



November | 2026

OCTOBER | 2026

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DECEMBER | 2026

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31			

For an updated list of
school events, go to
www.nfschools.net.

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 • 79 th Street Elem. Parent/Teacher Fall Conferences 4:00 p.m.	3 • Superintendent Conference Day All Levels A.M./P.M. Professional Development	4 • Hyde Park Elem. PEG Meeting 5:00 p.m. ELECTION DAY 	5 • NFHS Community Musical 7:00 p.m.	6 • NFHS Community Musical 7:00 p.m.	7 • NFHS Community Musical 1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. • CES Say Yes NF Saturday Academy 9:00 a.m.
8	9 • NFHS Family Engagement Group 6:00 p.m.	10	11 • VETERANS DAY: No staff, no students VETERANS DAY 	12 • NFHS 12 th Grade Picture Day • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	13 • NFHS 12 th Grade Picture Day • CES Elem. Picture Re-take Day	14
15	16 • All Winter Sports start date	17	18 • District Parent Committee 5:30 p.m.	19 • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	20 • NFHS 12 th Grade Photos Due	21 • Hyde Park Say Yes NF Saturday Academy 9:00 a.m.
22	23	24	25 • No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff  THANKSGIVING	26 • Thanksgiving: No staff, no students THANKSGIVING DAY 	27 • Thanksgiving: No staff, no students	28
29	30 • NFHS Picture Retake Day Grades 9 – 11					

- HFA Abate School
- CES Cataract Elem.
- HJK Kalfas School
- GJM Mann School
- BBP Bloneva Bond Primary
- GPS Gaskill Prep
- LPS LaSalle Prep
- CEC Comm. Education
- PAC Performing Arts Center at NFHS
- NFHS Niagara Falls High School
- BOE Board of Education
- SCD Superintendent's Conf. Day
- UPK Universal Prekindergarten
- NFT Niagara Falls Teachers
- DPC District Parent Committee

EVENTS

- Nov. 2 79th Street Elem. School Parent/Teacher Fall Conferences
- Nov. 3 Superintendent Conference Day all levels A.M./P.M. Professional Development
- Nov. 4 Hyde Park Elem. PEG Meeting
- Nov. 5 NFHS Community Musical
- Nov. 6 NFHS Community Musical
- Nov. 7 NFHS Community Musical
- Nov. 7 Say Yes NF Saturday Academy @CES
- Nov. 9 NFHS Family Engagement Group
- Nov. 11 Veteran's Day – No staff, no students
- Nov. 12 NFHS 12th Grade Picture Day
- Nov. 12 Board of Education Meeting
- Nov. 13 NFHS 12th Grade Picture Day
- Nov. 13 CES Elem. Picture Re-take Day
- Nov. 16 All Winter Sports start date
- Nov. 18 District Parent Committee
- Nov. 19 Board of Education Meeting
- Nov. 20 NFHS – 12th Grade Photos Due
- Nov. 21 Say Yes NF Saturday Academy @Hyde Park
- Nov. 25 No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff
- Nov. 26-27 Thanksgiving – No staff, no students
- Nov. 30 NFHS Picture Retake Day Grades 9 – 11

DECEMBER | 2026



December | 2026

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

For an updated list of school events, go to www.nfschools.net.

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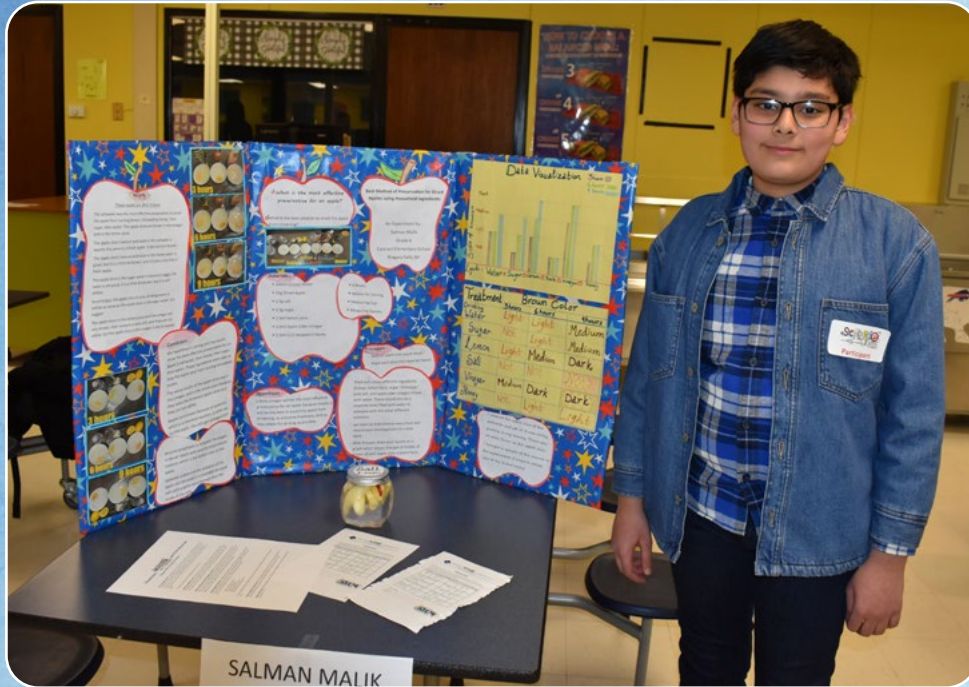
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 • 79 th Street Elem. Picture Retake Day	2 • Hyde Park Elem. Picture Retakes Day • Hyde Park Elem. PEG Meeting 5:00 p.m.	3 • 79 th Street Elem. Fall Picture Makeup Day	4 • CES Basketball Classic	5 • CES Basketball Classic • Fire Fighter Toy Fund and Telethon
6 HANUKKAH 	7 HANUKKAH 	8 • NFHS Chorus Concert. 6:30 p.m. HANUKKAH 	9 • NFHS ChoralFest 6:30p.m. • Maple Ave. Elem. Picture Retake Day • GPS Prep Winter Choral Concert 6:30 p.m. HANUKKAH 	10 • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m. HANUKKAH 	11 HANUKKAH 	12 • HFA Say Yes NF Saturday Academy 9:00 a.m. HANUKKAH 
13 HANUKKAH 	14 • NFHS Family Engagement Group 6:00 p.m.	15 • LaSalle Prep Winter Choral Concert 6:30 p.m.	16 • NFHS Band Concert 7:00 p.m. • District Parent Committee 5:30 p.m.	17 • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	18	19
20	21	22	23 • WINTER RECESS: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff • WINTER RECESS: No 12-month staff	24 • WINTER RECESS: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff • WINTER RECESS: No 12-month staff	25 • WINTER RECESS: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff • WINTER RECESS: No 12-month staff	26
WINTER RECESS     WINTER RECESS           WINTER RECESS						
				CHRISTMAS EVE 	CHRISTMAS DAY 	KWANZA 
27	28 • WINTER RECESS: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff • WINTER RECESS: No 12-month staff	29 • WINTER RECESS: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff • WINTER RECESS: No 12-month staff	30 • WINTER RECESS: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff • WINTER RECESS: No 12-month staff	31 • WINTER RECESS: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff • WINTER RECESS: No 12-month staff		
WINTER RECESS         WINTER RECESS            WINTER RECESS						
KWANZA 	KWANZA 	KWANZA 	KWANZA 	KWANZA NEW YEAR'S EVE  		

HFA	Abate School
CES	Cataract Elem.
HJK	Kalfas School
GJM	Mann School
BBP	Bloneva Bond Primary
GPS	Gaskill Prep
LPS	LaSalle Prep
CEC	Comm. Education
PAC	Performing Arts Center at NFHS
NFHS	Niagara Falls High School
BOE	Board of Education
SCD	Superintendent's Conf. Day
UPK	Universal Prekindergarten
NFT	Niagara Falls Teachers
DPC	District Parent Committee

EVENTS

Dec. 1 79th Street Elem. Picture Retake Day
Dec. 2 Hyde Park Elem. Picture Retake Day
Dec. 2 Hyde Park Elem. PEG Meeting
Dec. 3 79th Street Elem. Fall Picture Makeup Day
Dec. 4-12 Hanukkah
Dec. 4 CES Basketball Classic and Fire Fighter Toy Fund
Dec. 5 CES Basketball Classic and Fire Fighter Toy Fund
Dec. 8 NFHS Chorus Concert
Dec. 9 NFHS ChoralFest
Dec. 9 Maple Ave. Elem. Picture Retake Day
Dec. 9 GPS Prep Winter Choral Concert
Dec. 10 Board of Education Meeting
Dec. 12 Say Yes NF Saturday Academy @HFA
Dec. 14 NFHS Family Engagement Group
Dec. 15 LaSalle Prep Winter Choral Concert
Dec. 16 District Parent Committee
Dec. 16 NFHS Band Concert
Dec. 17 Board of Education Meeting
Dec. 22 Last day of classes before winter recess
Dec. 23 - 31 Winter recess: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff
Dec 23 Dec. 31 Winter recess: no 12-month staff

JANUARY | 2027



January | 2027

DECEMBER | 2026

	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11
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18	19	20	21	22	23
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30	31				

FEBRUARY | 2027

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

For an updated list of
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01

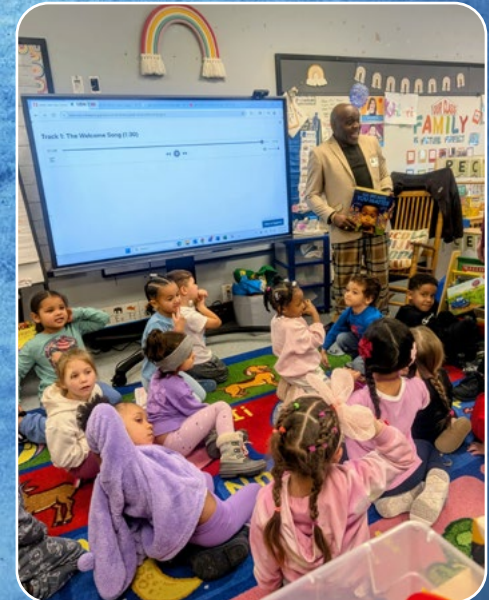
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 • WINTER RECESS: No staff, no students  WINTER RECESS  KWANZA  NEW YEAR'S DAY	2
3	4 • Return from winter recess	5	6 • Hyde Park Elem. PEG Meeting 5:00 p.m.	7	8	9 • Bond Say Yes NF Saturday Academy 9:00 a.m.
10	11 • NFHS Family Engagement Group 6:00 p.m.	12	13 • GPS Prep Musical 5:30 p.m.	14 • GPS Prep Musical 5:30 p.m. • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	15 • Superintendent Conference Day Elem./Prep A.M./P.M Professional Development	16
17	18 • Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: No staff, no students  MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	19 • NFHS 24-hour Play Festival	20 • District Parent Committee 5:30 p.m.	21	22	23
24	25 • Regents Exams	26 • Regents Exams	27 • Regents Exams	28 • Regents Exams • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	29 • Regents Exams	30
31						

HFA	Abate School
CES	Cataract Elem.
HJK	Kalfas School
GJM	Mann School
BBP	Bloneva Bond Primary
GPS	Gaskill Prep
LPS	LaSalle Prep
CEC	Comm. Education
PAC	Performing Arts Center at NFHS
NFHS	Niagara Falls High School
BOE	Board of Education
SCD	Superintendent's Conf. Day
UPK	Universal Prekindergarten
NFT	Niagara Falls Teachers
DPC	District Parent Committee

EVENTS

- Jan. 1** Winter recess: No staff, no students
Happy New Year!
- Jan. 4** Return from winter recess
- Jan. 6** Hyde Park Elem. PEG Meeting
- Jan. 9** Say Yes NF Saturday Academy @Bond
- Jan. 11** NFHS Family Engagement Group
- Jan. 13** GPS Prep Musical
- Jan. 14** GPS Prep Musical
- Jan. 14** Board of Education Meeting
- Jan. 15** Superintendent Conference Day Elem./Prep A.M./P.M -Professional Development
- Jan. 18** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day:
No staff, no students
- Jan. 18** CES Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Jan. 19** NFHS 24-hour Play Festival
- Jan. 20** District Parent Committee
- Jan. 26 - 29** Regents Exams
- Jan. 28** Board of Education Meeting

FEBRUARY | 2027



February | 2027

JANUARY | 2027

						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							

MARCH | 2027

		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				

For an updated list of school events, go to www.nfsschools.net.

02

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 • 3 Hyde Park Elem. Parent/Teacher Conference	4	5	6
7	8 • NFHS Family Engagement Group 6:00 p.m. • Winter Sports Arbiter Registration begins	9 • Choral Fest 6:30 p.m.	10 • LPS Parent/Teacher Conference	11 • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	12	13
14 VALENTINE'S DAY	15 • President's Day: No staff/no students 	16 • CES Elem. Parent/Teacher Conference 3:30 p.m. 	17	18 • CES Elem. Parent/Teacher Conference 3:30 p.m.	19	20 • CES Say Yes NF Saturday Academy 9:30 a.m.
21	22 • NFHS Winterfest Spirit Week	23 • NFHS Winterfest Spirit Week	24 • NFHS Winterfest Spirit Week • District Parent Committee 5:30 p.m.	25 • NFHS Winterfest Spirit Week • NFHS Blood Drive • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	26 • NFHS Winterfest Spirit Week	27 • NFHS Winterfest Dance 7:00 p.m.
28						

HFA	Abate School
CES	Cataract Elem.
HJK	Kalfas School
GJM	Mann School
BBP	Bloneva Bond Primary
GPS	Gaskill Prep
LPS	LaSalle Prep
CEC	Comm. Education
PAC	Performing Arts Center at NFHS
NFHS	Niagara Falls High School
BOE	Board of Education
SCD	Superintendent's Conf. Day
UPK	Universal Prekindergarten
NFT	Niagara Falls Teachers
DPC	District Parent Committee

EVENTS

Feb. 3 Hyde Park Elem. Parent/Teacher Conference
Feb. 8 NFHS Family Engagement Group
Feb. 8 Winter Sports Arbiter Registration begins
Feb. 9 Choral Fest
Feb. 10 LPS Parent/Teacher Conference
Feb. 11 Board of Education Meeting
Feb. 15 President's Day: No staff/no students
Feb. 16 CES Elem. Parent/Teacher Conference
Feb. 18 CES Elem. Parent/Teacher Conference
Feb. 20 Say Yes NF Saturday Academy @CES
Feb. 22 - 26 NFHS Winterfest Spirit Week
Feb. 24 District Parent Committee
Feb. 25 NFHS Blood Drive
Feb. 25 Board of Education Meeting
Feb. 27 NFHS Winterfest Dance

MARCH | 2027



March | 2027

FEBRUARY | 2027

	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						

APRIL | 2027

				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	

For an updated list of
school events, go to
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03

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 • NFHS BandFest 7:00 p.m. • Hyde Park Elem. PEG meeting 5:00 p.m. • Hyde Park Cap and Gown Day • 79th Street Elem. Spring Pictures	4 • 79th Street Elem. Spring Conferences 4:00 p.m. • 79th Street Elem. Spring Picture Day	5	6 • Hyde Park Say Yes NF Saturday Academy 9:30 a.m.
7	8 • NFHS Family Engagement Group 6:00 p.m. • All Spring Sports start date	9	10 • Superintendent's Conference day All levels A.M./P.M. - Professional Development	11 • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	12 • 79th Street PreK and 6th Grade Cap/ Gown Pictures	13
14 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS 	15	16	17 • District Parent Committee 5:30 p.m. • 79th Street Elem. Cap and Gown Pictures	18 • NFHS Ranked Musical Production 7:00 p.m. • 79th St. Elem. Parent /Teacher Conferences 4:00 p.m. • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	19 • NFHS Ranked Musical Production 7:00 p.m.	20 • NFHS Ranked Musical Production 1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
21	22 • Spring recess: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff	23 • Spring recess: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff	24 • Spring recess: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff	25 • Spring recess: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff	26 • Spring recess: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff, 12-month staff	27
	 SPRING RECESS		 SPRING RECESS		 SPRING RECESS	
28	29 • Spring recess: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff	30 • Spring recess: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff	31 • Spring recess: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff			
 EASTER SUNDAY	 SPRING RECESS		 SPRING RECESS			
	 EASTER MONDAY					

HFA	Abate School
CES	Cataract Elem.
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SCD	Superintendent's Conf. Day
UPK	Universal Prekindergarten
NFT	Niagara Falls Teachers
DPC	District Parent Committee

EVENTS

Mar. 3 79th Street Elem. Spring Pictures
Mar. 3 NFHS BandFest
Mar. 3 Hyde Park Elem. PEG meeting
Mar. 3 Hyde Park Cap and Gown Day
Mar. 4 79th Street School Spring Conferences
Mar. 4 79th Street Elem. Spring Picture Day
Mar. 6 Say Yes NF Saturday Academy @Hyde Park
Mar. 8 NFHS Family Engagement Group
Mar. 8 All Spring Sports start date
Mar. 10 Superintendent's Conference day All levels A.M./P.M. - Professional Development
Mar. 11 Board of Education Meeting
Mar. 12 79th Street Elem. PreK 4 and 6th Grade Cap/Gown Pictures
Mar. 17 District Parent Committee
Mar. 17 79th Street Elem. Cap and Gown Pictures
Mar. 18 79th Street Elem. Parent/Teacher Conferences
Mar. 18 Board of Education Meeting
Mar. 19 NFHS Ranked Musical Production
Mar. 20 NFHS Ranked Musical Production
Mar. 22 No teachers/No 10-month staff/No students
Mar. 23 - 31 Spring Recess- No teachers/No students/No 10-month staff
Mar. 26 No 12-month staff
Mar. 28 Easter

APRIL | 2027



April | 2027

MARCH | 2026

	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			

MAY | 2026

						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					

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school events, go to
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04

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 • Spring recess: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff • Report cards mailed (elem.)	2 • Spring recess: No teachers, no students, no 10-month staff	3
4	5 • Return from spring recess	6	7	8 • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	9	10 • HFA Say Yes NF Saturday Academy 9:30 a.m.
11	12 • NFHS Family Engagement Group 6:00 p.m.	13	14 • Hyde Park Elem. PEG Meeting 5:00 p.m.	15	16	17
				TAX DAY		
18	19	20	21	22 • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	23	24 • Bond Say Yes NF Saturday Academy 9:30 a.m.
			PASSOVER	PASSOVER	PASSOVER	PASSOVER
25	26	27	28 • District Parent Committee 5:30 p.m.	29	30 • NFHS Superintendent's Conference Day A.M./P.M. Professional Development	
PASSOVER	PASSOVER	PASSOVER	PASSOVER	PASSOVER		

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DPC	District Parent Committee

EVENTS

Apr. 1 - 2 Spring recess - No Teachers/No Students/No 10-month staff
Apr. 5 Return from Spring Recess
Apr. 8 Board of Education Meeting
Apr. 10 Say Yes NF Saturday Academy @HFA
Apr. 12 NFHS Family Engagement Group 6:00 p.m.
Apr. 14 Hyde Park Elem. PEG Meeting
Apr. 22 Board of Education Meeting
Apr. 24 Say Yes NF Saturday Academy @ Bond
Apr. 28 District Parent Committee
Apr. 30 NFHS Superintendent's Conference Day
 A.M./P.M. Professional Development

MAY | 2027



May | 2027

APRIL | 2027

				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	

JUNE | 2027

			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				

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school events, go to
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05

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 • AP Exams	4 • AP Exams	5 • AP Exams • Hyde Park Elem. PEG Meeting 5:00 p.m.	6 • AP Exams • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	7 • AP Exams	8 • CES Say Yes NF Saturday Academy 9:30 a.m.
9	10 • AP Exams • NFHS Family Engagement Group 6:00 p.m.	11 • AP Exams	12 • AP Exams • NFHS Band Spring Concert	13 • AP Exams • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	14 • AP Exams	15
MOTHER'S DAY 	16	17	18 • NFHS Blood Drive • CES PreK4 and 6 th grade Cap/Gown Pics • Board and Budget Vote	19 • 2027 District Art Show 5:00 p.m. • NFHS Choir Concert 6:30 p.m. • BOE Meeting (Statutory) Time TBD	20 • LPS Spring Choral Concert 6:30 p.m. • GPS Spring Choral Concert 6:30 p.m.	21
22	23	24	25	26 • District Parent Committee 5:30 p.m.	27	28 • No teachers, no students, no staff
29	30	31 MEMORIAL DAY  • Memorial Day: No staff, no students				

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BOE	Board of Education
SCD	Superintendent's Conf. Day
UPK	Universal Prekindergarten
NFT	Niagara Falls Teachers
DPC	District Parent Committee

EVENTS

- May 3 - 14** AP Exams administered
- May 5** Hyde Park Elem. PEG Meeting
- May 6** Board of Education Meeting
- May 8** Say Yes NF Saturday Academy @CES
- May 10** NFHS Family Engagement Group
- May 12** NFHS Band Concert
- May 13** Board of Education Meeting
- May 18** NFHS Blood Drive
- May 18** Board and Budget Vote
- May 18** CES PreK4 and 6th grade Cap/Gown Pics
- May 19** 2027 District Art Show
- May 19** Board of Education Meeting
- May 19** NFHS Choir Concert
- May 20** LPS Spring Choral Concert
- May 20** GPS Spring Choral Concert
- May 22** Say Yes NF Saturday Academy @ Hyde Park
- May 26** District Parent Committee
- May 28** No Teachers/No Students/No staff
- May 31** Memorial Day: No staff/No students

JUNE | 2027



June | 2027

MAY | 2026

							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						

JULY | 2026

					1	2	3
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

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06

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 • Hyde Park Elementary PEG Meeting 5:00 p.m.	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	11 • NFHS Senior Class Day • NFHS Senior Sunset • CES Fun Day	12
13	14 • 14 NFHS Family Engagement Group 6:00 p.m.	15	16 • CES PreK 4 Moving Up Ceremony	17 • CES PreK 3 Prom	18 • 18 NFHS Senior Class Prom • Juneteenth Observation: No staff, no students	19
FLAG DAY  20	21 • CES PreK Water Day	22	23 • CES Grade 6 Picnic	24 • Last day for students • CES Grade 6 Moving Up Ceremony • NFHS Graduation Rehearsal Mandatory 10:00 a.m.	25 • NFHS Graduation 6:00 p.m. • Rating day for teachers: No students Last day for teachers	26 
FATHER'S DAY  27	28	29	30			

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NFT	Niagara Falls Teachers
DPC	District Parent Committee

EVENTS

Jun. 2 Hyde Park Elementary PEG Meeting
Jun. 10 Board of Education Meeting
Jun. 11 NFHS Senior Class Day
Jun. 11 NFHS Senior Sunset
Jun. 11 CES Fun Day
Jun. 14 NFHS Family Engagement Group
Jun. 16 CES PreK 4 Moving Up Ceremony
Jun. 17 CES PreK 3 Prom
Jun. 18 NFHS Senior Class Prom
Jun. 18 Juneteenth Observation: No staff, no students
Jun. 21 CES PreK Water Day
Jun. 23 CES Grade 6 Picnic
Jun. 24 Last day for students
Jun. 24 CES Grade 6 Moving Up Ceremony
Jun. 24 NFHS Graduation Rehearsal Mandatory
Jun. 25 NFHS Graduations
Jun. 25 Rating day: No students
 Last day for teachers

JULY | 2027



July | 2027

JUNE | 2027

		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			

AUGUST | 2027

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				

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 • BOE Meeting 5:30 p.m.	2	3
4 INDEPENDENCE DAY 	5 • Independence Day Holiday: No staff, no students	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 • Last day for Early Head Start students	23 • Last day for Head Start/Early Head Start 11-month staff	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- HFA Abate School
- CES Cataract Elem.
- HJK Kalfas School
- GJM Mann School
- BBP Bloneva Bond Primary
- GPS Gaskill Prep
- LPS LaSalle Prep
- CEC Comm. Education
- PAC Performing Arts Center at NFHS
- NFHS Niagara Falls High School
- BOE Board of Education
- SCD Superintendent's Conf. Day
- UPK Universal Prekindergarten
- NFT Niagara Falls Teachers
- DPC District Parent Committee

Jul. 2 Board of Education Meeting
Jul. 5 Independence Day Holiday: No staff, no students
Jul. 23 Last day for Early Head Start students
Jul. 24 Last day for Head Start/Early Head Start 11-month staff



2026-2027 Contacts

Superintendent of Schools

Stan Wojton.....716-286-4190

Administrator for Human Resources

Maria Massaro.....716-286-1260

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

Carrie Buchman716-286-4207

Assistant Superintendent of Student Services and Programs

Cheryl Vilardo716-286-4280

Assistant Superintendent of Operations

Derek Zimmerman.....716-286-4260

Assistant Superintendent of Assessment

Lynne Tompkins.....716-286-4201

Administrator for Early Head Start and Head Start

Dr. Lynnette Haley O'Stewart.....716-286-0774

Teachers on Special Assignment

Frank Coney III (*Special Ed.*)716-286-4274

Catherine Contento (*Special Ed.*)716-286-4282

Tom Fisher (*Curriculum*).....716-286-4255

Ashley Chambers (*Special Ed.*)716-286-4284

Marc Catanzaro (*Curriculum*) TBD

Admin. for School Business Services

Julie Jacklin.....716-286-4223

Budget Manager

Markasia McCreary716-286-4260

Administrator for Information Services

Ray Granieri716-286-4292

Community Relations Director

Julie A. Doerr716-286-4245

District Clerk

Judie Glaser.....716-286-4204

District Transportation Coordinators

Kasey Dixon716-286-4239

Mike Schwenkbeck.....716-286-4234

Food Service Administrator

Kevin Edwards716-286-4271

Medical Director

Philip Sauvageau, M.D.....716-286-0787

Director of Facilities III

Michael Macri716-286-4243

Athletic Director

Joseph Contento.....716-286-0794

Purchasing Agent

Ann Schiro716-286-4214

Niagara Falls High School 4455 Porter Road, 14305

CHIEF EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR: Edward Ventry

PRINCIPAL: Bryan Rotella

HOUSE ADMINISTRATORS: Katharine Popovice, Michael Corsaro, Danielle M. Zona

DEANS: Richard Slaiman, Ebone Rose, Don Bass, Mia Bianco, Don McCoy, Erik Olander

Office716-278-5800

Attendance716-286-7912

Clinic 716-286-7909

VPC/BFE Admin.716-286-7990

Guidance.....716-286-7928

MST/HSR Admin.....716-286-7995

Family Resource Center716-286-0745

Gaskill Prep School 910 Hyde Park Blvd., 14301

PRINCIPAL: Valerie Rotella Zafuto

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: Freida Cowart

DEAN: James Belin.....716-278-5800

Main Office.....716-278-5820

Absences.....716-286-4200

Guidance Counselors.....716-278-5820

Clinic.....716-278-5826

Fax.....716-278-5829

LaSalle Prep School 7436 Buffalo Ave., 14304

PRINCIPAL: Italo Baldassare

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: Jolene Nearhood

DEANS: Noelle Gaetano, Bryan Dean

Main Office.....716-278-5800

Guidance.....716-278-5885

Clinic.....716-278-5888

Attendance.....716-278-5880

Fax.....716-278-5899

79th Street Elementary School 551 79th St. - 551 79th St., 14304

PRINCIPAL: Rocco Merino

Main Office.....716-278-7900

Fax.....716-278-7901

Harry F. Abate Elementary School 1625 Lockport Rd., 14305

PRINCIPAL: Allen Cowart

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: Tracy Spagnolo

DEAN: Goldie Burton

Office.....716-278-7960

Clinic.....716-278-7964

Fax.....716-278-7979

Bloneva Bond Primary 2513 Niagara St., 14303

PRINCIPAL: Nicholas Ruffalo

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: Dr. Bhawana Chowdry

DEAN: Teresa Chandler

Main Office.....716-278-5860

Clinic.....716-278-5863

Fax.....716-278-5876

Cataract Elementary School 6431 Girard Ave., 14304

PRINCIPAL: Christopher Murgia

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: Chrisheena Hill

DEAN: Matthew Laurie

Main Office.....716-278-9120

Clinic.....716-278-9127

Fax.....716-278-9122

Hyde Park Elementary School 1620 Hyde Park Blvd., 14305

PRINCIPAL: Diane Ostertag

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: Dr. Bradley Wingert

DEAN: Sophia Williams

Office.....716-278-7980

Fax.....716-278-7988

Henry J. Kalfas Primary School 1800 Beech Ave., 14305

PRINCIPAL: Kathleen Urban

Main Office.....716-278-9180

Clinic.....716-278-9183

Fax.....716-278-9173

Geraldine J. Mann Elementary School 1330 95th St., 14304

PRINCIPAL: John Briglio

Office.....716-278-7940

Clinic.....716-278-7942

Fax.....716-278-7946

Maple Ave. Elementary School 952 Maple Ave., 14305

PRINCIPAL: Leah Baldassare

Main Office.....716-278-9140

Clinic.....716-278-9142

Fax.....716-278-9156

Community Education Programs 6040 Lindbergh Ave., 14304

ADMINISTRATOR: Dr. Lynnette Haley O'Stewart

Main Office.....716-286-0771

Fax.....716-286-0776

Early Head Start Community Education Center (CEC) 6040 Lindbergh Ave., 14304

Center Director Skye Fain.....716-286-0770

Head Start DiFrancesco Center, 901 24th St., 14301

Steffany Smith, Center Director.....716-216-3880

Indian Education

Linda Capton.....716-286-4132

Teacher Resource Center

Christine Barstys, Director

Office.....716-286-0747

Fax.....716-286-7949

Focus on Families

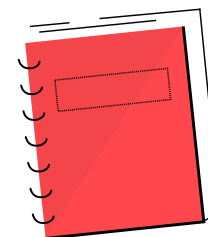
Judith Martin, Coordinator716-286-0745

Fax.....716-286-7953

Orleans Niagara BOCES 4232 Shelby Basin Road

Medina, NY 14103

Superintendent - Dr. Taweepon Farrar 716-731-6800





2026-2027 Health Services

Health Services

The goal of school health services is to ensure the health, safety and well-being of each student so that they can reach their full learning potential.

First Aid

A registered professional school nurse is assigned to each school and will provide immediate medical care to an injured or sick person, but may not go beyond their legal duties to apply second dressings or care for injuries that occurred at home or elsewhere. The school nurse **MUST** be able to contact the parent/guardian of a child in case of sudden illness or accident. Please be sure to update your child's school with any changes in contact information.

Medication in School

Whenever possible, medication should be given at home. However, if your child needs to take medication during school hours, the following New York State Law requirements must be met:

- The parent/guardian will provide a written order from a licensed provider
- The parent/guardian will provide written consent for the medication to be administered
- The medication must be hand delivered to the school nurse by the parent or a responsible adult
- The medication must be in the original pharmacy container with the proper label. Over the counter medications (i.e., Tylenol, Advil, etc.) need to be in their original, unopened containers

Please note that over the counter items such as Caladryl, antibiotic ointment, sunscreen, etc. cannot be utilized without following the above procedures. The use of cough drops in the school setting was reviewed with the school medical director. Cough drops serve no medical purpose and the danger of choking is a serious issue. Health Services policy states that the use of cough drops is **NOT** allowed in the school setting.

Students will be washing their hands frequently throughout the day. If soap and water are not available, hand sanitizer will be used. If you wish to opt your child out of using hand sanitizer, please send an opt-out letter and notify your child's school nurse.

Immunization Requirements

All students attending school will be required to have a complete immunization record on file. New York State law requires that students attending PreK programs, or in grades K-12 must provide proof that they have been properly immunized at each grade level. Note: As of June 13, 2019, the state no longer allows for non-medical exemptions for immunizations for children. Due to this legislation NFSD can no longer accept a religious exemption of vaccines for children.

Health Screenings

In accordance with New York State Education Law, the school nurses will conduct vision, hearing and scoliosis screenings on the required grade levels. The school nurse will notify parents/guardians if any problems are indicated during the screening.

Physical Examinations

New York State law requires a health examination for all new entrants and students in grades PreK or K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 & 11. Proof of examination must be submitted within 30 days of the start of the school year. It is highly recommended that students see their own private provider for a complete physical examination required for the above grade levels, to obtain working papers, and to meet the requirement for interscholastic sports participation. **SPORTS UPDATE:** Niagara Falls City School District will now be

accepting sports physicals from your child's primary care provider. An additional physical by the school district is no longer required. At your child's next doctor's appointment, please ask for a copy of their physical exam. If you are unsure if your child is due for a physical, please contact your school nurse or call 716-286-0788.

Body Mass Index Survey

New York State Education Law, Section 903, was amended to read "Each health certificate shall also state student's body mass index (BMI) and weight status category... each school and school district shall participate in surveys directed by the commissioner of health pursuant to the public health law..." The Niagara Falls School District may be selected to report student weight status category information. Parents/Guardians may opt out of the BMI and weight status anonymous survey by notifying their child's school nurse in writing.

When to Keep Your Child Home

Please do not send your child to school if he or she has any of the following:

- A fever (100 degrees or greater) in the last 24 hours
- If your child has a persistent uncontrolled cough or heavy nasal discharge
- If your child vomited before school or complains of a sore throat
- If your child generally does not feel well
- If your child has an unidentified rash

Encourage good hand washing with soap and water with your child to prevent the spread of germs.

Head lice

(Pediculosis) are tiny wingless insects that live close to the scalp and feed on human blood. An infestation can occur with prolonged head to head contact and less commonly by sharing personal items, such as clothing, hats and brushes/combs. Head lice do not jump, hop or fly. They are not dangerous and do not transmit disease. Head lice often infest people with good hygiene and grooming habits.

The most common symptom is scratching the head or feeling a "tickling" sensation. However, it may take up to 4-6 weeks after lice have been on the scalp before itching begins.

The school nurse may inspect students who exhibit signs of a potential infestation. If nits or live lice are found the parent/guardian will be contacted and encouraged to take their child home for treatment. However, if they are unable to do so, the student may stay for the remainder of the day.

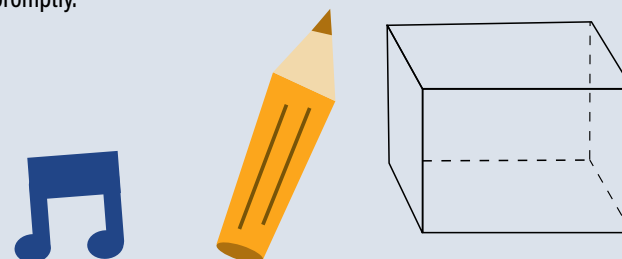
Based on best practices, classroom screenings for lice or nits (eggs) are no longer standard. Studies have shown that it does not have a significant effect on controlling head lice. Letters are not routinely sent home to families when lice is detected in school. Parents should be checking their child's head weekly at home. If you suspect your child may have head lice or the school nurse notifies you of an infestation, contact your physician promptly.

Nurse Practitioner

Mary Victoria Duncan FNP-BC

Medical Director

Philip Sauvageau, M.D.



Niagara Falls Board of Education
630 66th Street
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

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