North-Rose Wolcott Middle School
Student/Parent Handbook
2026 - 2027

Dear NRW MS Families,

Welcome to the 2026–2027 School Year!

We are so excited to begin another year together at NRW Middle School! Strong communication and shared understanding between home and school are essential to student success, and this handbook is designed to provide you with the key information you need as a valued member of our learning community.

We are so proud of the growth we've seen and the positive momentum that has been built at the middle school. Our students are becoming more confident in their understanding of school-wide expectations, routines, and procedures, and the sense of pride and connection within our school culture continues to thrive.

We are deeply committed to supporting our students through both academic and social-emotional challenges. Our goal is for every student to feel safe, respected, and inspired through high-quality instruction and a caring environment. With your continued support, we can ensure that each student has a meaningful and successful middle school experience.

Thank you for being our partners in this important work. Together, we all play a critical role in making NRW Middle School a place where students truly learn, grow, and shine!

Sincerely,

Crystal Yarnes
Middle School Principal

Joseph Canori
Middle School Assistant Principal

NRW Middle School

Address:

North Rose-Wolcott Middle School
5957 New Hartford Street
Wolcott, NY 14590

Phone Number:

315.594.3130

Building / Office Hours:

Office Hours: 7:00 am - 4:00 pm

Visitor Information:

All visitors entering the building must go directly to the main office, provide identification, and sign-in.

District Website: www.nrwcs.org

School Website: www.middleschool.nrwcs.org

Social Media:

Like us on Facebook → North Rose-Wolcott Central School District

We are the North Rose-Wolcott Cougars!

North Rose-Wolcott
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Academics.
Commitment.
Excellence.

Our Vision

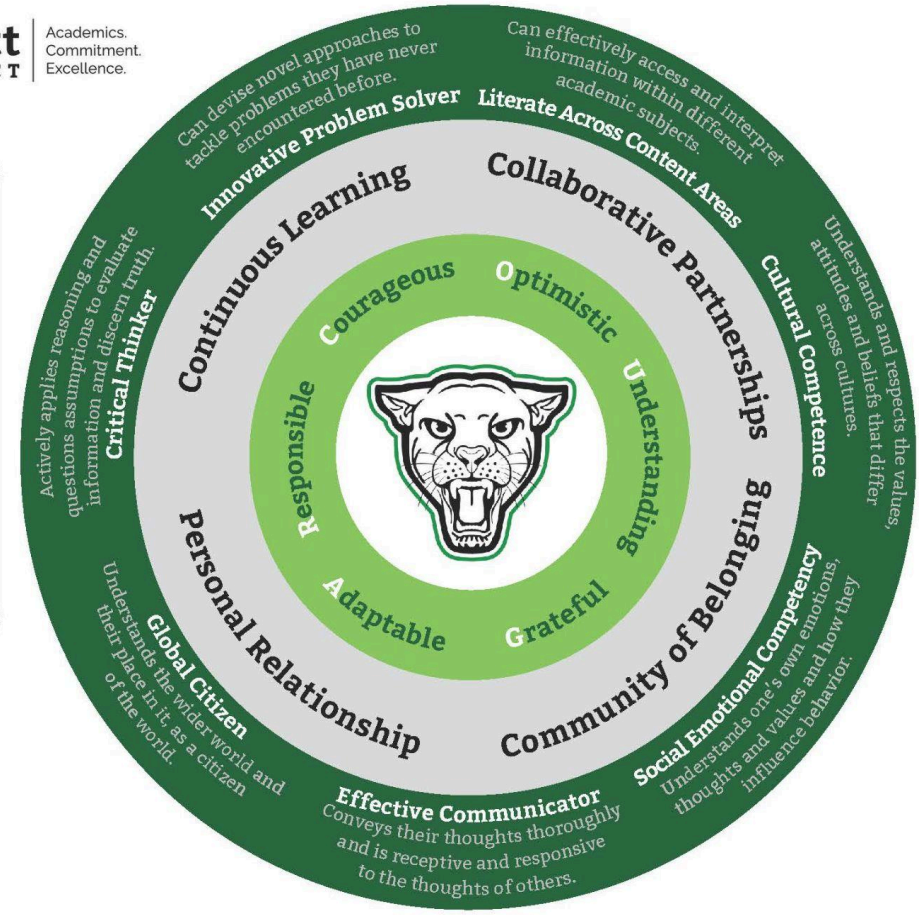
North Rose-Wolcott is a community where all learners are engaged in experiences that grow their individual potential.

Our Mission

We will create a community of belonging and a mindset of continuous learning by building collaborative relationships.

Legend

- Cougar Values
- Community Promises
- Portrait of an NRW Graduate



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Board of Education

Lucinda Collier: President
Tina Reed: Vice President
John Boogaard
Linda Eygnor
Lesley Haffner
Travis Kerr
Nikole Smith

District Administration

Michael Pullen	Superintendent
Megan Paliotti	Assistant Superintendent for Instruction & School Improvement
Andrew DiBlasi	Director of Business Operations and Finance
Chelsea Eaton	Director of Special Education
Laurie Elliott	Community Schools Administrator
Nicole Sinclair	High School Principal
Lisa Visalli	High School Assistant Principal
Crystal Yarnes	Middle School Principal
Joseph Canori	Middle School Assistant Principal
Karen Haak	Elementary School Principal
Amy Wiktorowicz	Elementary School Assistant Principal - Intern
Mark Mathews	Principal of Alternative High School
TBD	Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics
Bill Pinkerton	Director of Transportation
Chris Cappelli	Director of Facilities
Rita Lopez	Director of Food Services

North Rose-Wolcott Middle School Faculty and Staff:

Principal: Crystal Yarnes

Assistant Principal: Joseph Canori

Secretaries: Jamie Bundy and Jennifer Bundy

5th Grade: Alexis Ball, Leisel Everdyke, Hannah DeCracker, Jessica Burgess, Jill Ricci

6th Grade: David Hahn, Caitlyn Bishop, Kelly Cole, Jessica Burgess, Ryan Beer, Jill Ricci

7th Grade: Paul Maring, Lindsay Wiegand, Pete Treasure, Crystie Weigand, Ethan Durocher, Michael Groth, Mikayla Horn

8th Grade: Michelle Morgan, Kathleen Vona-Winters, Tony Tubolino, Danielle Burry, Ethan Durocher, Crystie Weigand, Ellen Freyer

Art: Samantha Christian, Margaret Macaluso

Music: Alex Richwalder, Christina King

Librarian: Emma Yusko

PE/Health: Will Korzeniewski, Kurt Laird, Casey Harrigan

Mental Health Team: Sara Boogaard (Psychologist), Mary Finn (Counselor), Carrie Hoestermann (SW)

Speech: Ashley Kennedy

ENL: Maja Swatsy

Math Interventionist: Melissa Minichiello

Reading Interventionist: Adam Bishop

Nurse: TBD

SRO: Kyle Gravino

BELL SCHEDULE

North Rose-Wolcott Middle School		
Grades 5-8 Bell Schedule		
Arrival	7:23	
Advisory/AM Announcements	7:23 - 7:43	
Late Bell is at 7:30 AM		
1st period	7:45 - 8:28	
2nd period	8:30 - 9:13	
3rd period	9:15 - 9:58	
4th period	10:00 - 10:43	
5th period/Lunch	Lunch 5/6 10:45 - 11:15	Grade 7/8 Class 10:45-11:28
	Lunch 7/8 11:30 - 12:00	Grade 5/6 Class 11:17-12:00
6th period	12:02 - 12:45	
7th period	12:47 - 1:30	
8th period	1:32 - 2:11	
Advisory/PM Announcements	2:13 - 2:15	
Dismissal	2:15	
Activity Period	2:17 - 3:00	

Cycle Day Calendar

North Rose-Wolcott CSD
2026 – 2027 Cycle Day Calendar

No School	A Day	B Day	C Day	D Day

September 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		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			

October 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				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

November 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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					

December 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		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		

January 2027

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

February 2027

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21/28	22	23	24	25	26	27

March 2027

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	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			

April 2027

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				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	

May 2027

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						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					

June 2027

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		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			

Communication Systems

NRW Middle School Communication Systems		
Communication System:	**Reason for use:**	**How to access...**
ParentSquare	• Get notifications about the most current information. • Communicate with your child's administrators and teachers.	http://www.parentsquare.com/ - Website ParentSquare - App *If you do not currently have access, please contact the main office. ***More information can be found at** https://www.nrwcs.org/students-parents/parentsquare
SchoolTool Parent Portal	• View your child's grades and schedule • Stay up-to-date with your child's assignments • Check your child's attendance	http://edutech.schooltool.com/nrw - Website SchoolTool Mobile - App *If you do not currently have access, please complete the Application for the Parent Portal and return → You will receive an email with your login instructions. ***More information can be found at** https://www.nrwcs.org/students-parents/parent-portal-schooltool
NRW CSD Website	• Access all district and building level information including events and current updates. • View monthly newsletters	www.nrwcs.org – District Website https://middleschool.nrwcs.org/–NRWMS Website
Email	Communicate with teachers and staff at NRW Middle School.	All email addresses for faculty and staff are located on our website.
NRW Facebook	View current information and events within the NRW School District.	www.facebook.com/nrwcsd/

ACADEMICS

Marking Period Dates 2026-2027

Marking Period	Beginning	Ending
1	9/8/26	11/13/26
2	11/16/26	1/29/27
3	2/1/27	4/16/27
4	4/19/27	6/25/27

SchoolTool (Grades/Assignments/Attendance/Behavior)

SchoolTool is our district-wide student management system. On this site you can log-in to check attendance, behavior, assignments, and grades. You can also find links to email teachers on this site. Checking SchoolTool frequently is the best way for students and parents to stay current on student progress. If you need assistance accessing Schooltool, please contact our Parent Liaison Sam Gardner at sgardner@nrwcs.org.

Accelerated Coursework

We offer students the opportunity to participate in accelerated courses beginning in sixth grade. To be enrolled in accelerated courses of study, students must meet the following criteria:

Complete All Assignments

- Ensure timely completion of all assignments, including homework, to fully engage with and benefit from the accelerated curriculum.

Participate in NYS Assessments

- Actively participate in New York State (NYS) assessments, as they are critical for measuring progress and maintaining course standards.

Maintain a Class Average of 80% or Higher

- Achieve and sustain a class average of 80% or above to demonstrate proficiency and readiness for the rigor of accelerated coursework.

Actively Participate in Learning

- Engage actively in class discussions, activities, and projects. Your involvement is essential for a successful learning experience.

Seek Help When Needed

- Take responsibility for seeking help or clarification from teachers or peers whenever challenges arise to ensure continuous progress and understanding.

Accelerated Courses Offered:

Sixth grade accelerated courses: 6E Math, 6E Science
Seventh grade accelerated courses: 7E Math, 7E Science, Technology E
Eighth grade accelerated courses: Algebra, Living Environment, English, Social Studies, Studio Art

Homework

At NRW MS, homework assignments must be designed to provide immediate academic benefits, including:

- Better retention of factual knowledge
- Increased understanding
- Curriculum enrichment
- Learning outside of school
- Better study habits and skills

Homework at NRW MS is...	Homework at NRW MS isn't...
• Meaningful activities that can be completed at home with little supervision or direction, unless it's a family activity • Connected and relevant to classroom learning or experiences • A tool to measure students taking responsibility for their own learning • Independent practice worthy of feedback from teachers, staff , and classmates • Occasionally a family project, such as a game, art project, writing assignment, etc.	• Busy work • For parents, brothers, or sisters to complete • Always the same • A stack of multiple worksheets • Always the same amount of time per night • Meaningless • Disregarded upon return to school

Homework Expectations:

- Homework will count toward students' overall grade averages.
- Weekly Homework will be assigned in all core classes
    - (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, Spanish).
- Homework will be clearly communicated each Monday through:
    - Student agendas
- Assignments will be designed to be completed without technology in Grades 5–7, since these students do not bring Chromebooks home.

Accelerated classes may have different homework expectations based on the pace and rigor of the course.

Interventions

Reading WIN: "What I need" is a time for students to receive extra support in the areas of reading. We will review growth and progress each marking period in order to ensure students are receiving the most effective support.

Math WIN: "What I need" is a time for students to receive extra support in the areas of math. We will review growth and progress each marking period in order to ensure students are receiving the most effective support.

ASSESSMENTS

i-Ready Diagnostic Assessment for Reading & Math

i-Ready is an online program for reading and/or mathematics that will help your student's teachers determine your student's needs, personalize their learning, and monitor progress throughout the school year. i-Ready allows your student's teachers to meet them exactly where they are and provides data to increase your student's learning gains.

September 16th - Reading Benchmark
September 18th - Math Benchmark
January 20th - Reading Benchmark
January 21st - Math Benchmark
June 8th - Reading Benchmark
June 10th - Math Benchmark

Midterms

January 26th - January 29th - Dismissal at 11:15

NYS Standardized Testing

NYS Assessments ELA (grades 5-8)
April 20th & 21st

NYS Assessment Science (grade 5 and 8)
April 27th

NYS Assessments Math (grades 5-8)
May 4th & 5th

Regents Exams
Spanish - June 14th
Algebra 1 - June 16th
Living Environment - June 17th

Surveys

As part of our yearly schedule, we ask students and families to participate in surveys that give us information about how to improve our school. Each student is expected to participate in the surveys to the best of their ability.

TRANSPORTATION

Bus Garage Contact Information:
Phone 315-587-2905 & FAX: 315-587-2906

Bus Routes

Bus Routes are planned to safely and economically accommodate the greatest number of students. The Transportation Director considers walking distances to pick up points, time en route, and road conditions, turn around places, and the age of the children. Routing problems may be discussed with the Director of Transportation. Route changes need to be approved by the Board of Education

Bus Rules

New York State regulation states that the driver of a school bus has the same authority with the children, as does a parent. The driver is given the responsibility of enforcing District safety rules. It is essential that parents/guardians review the following expectations with their child:

- Students are required to practice the same kind of conduct that is expected in the classroom. Cooperate with your driver and do not distract him/her.
- The driver may administer assigned seats at any time.
- Keep your head and hands inside the bus. Aisles must be clear and students are to remain seated at all times while the bus is in motion.
- Students are expected to be courteous to one another and to the driver.
- Profanity will not be tolerated.
- Violence or threats of violence will not be tolerated. Pushing and/or fighting is forbidden.
- Drinking and eating on the bus is not allowed except with the permission of the driver or teacher supervisor.
- Smoking and alcoholic beverages are not allowed.
- Flammable materials may not be brought on the bus.
- Secondary students can only ride the 2nd trip (morning) three times. The driver can refuse to transport the student to school after the 3rd time.
- Students are expected to keep the bus clean at all times.
- Animals may not be brought onto the bus at any time.
- Any act, which endangers, impairs, and/or impedes the health, safety, or welfare of others on the bus, will not be tolerated.

Penalties for Violating Bus Rules

The violation of some of the preceding rules is more serious than others. Penalties may range from a reprimand by the bus driver or a Report of Student Misconduct to suspension from school and/or total loss of bus riding privileges for a specific time period.

If a student is suspended from riding the bus, that student loses the opportunity to ride any other bus including activity runs, field trips, athletic events, etc. for the same period of time.

The building principal or the superintendent will determine the appropriate penalty in each situation and they may consult with the bus driver and review the student's disciplinary history both on the bus and in school before making a determination. Offenders are entitled to minimal due process procedures.

Some offenses are more serious than others. Accordingly, some penalties must be more severe. Some offenses will result in almost automatic loss of bus privileges and/or suspension from school; less serious infractions will result in one of several penalties available. Any act that is in violation of public statutes may result in one of several penalties available. Any act that is in violation of public statutes may result in legal action as well as school penalties.

CAFETERIA SERVICES

Breakfast/Lunch

Breakfast will be served in the cafeteria and eaten in Advisory each morning. Lunch will be served in the cafeteria.

Payment

Each student has an account in the cafeteria. Parents may send in cash or check, payable to North Rose-Wolcott Cafeteria or use the online pre-payment system (**MySchoolBucks.org)** for which you can find a link to on the district webpage. All money will be deposited into their child's account.

Free and Reduced Lunch

All students enrolled in the North Rose Wolcott Central School District are eligible to receive a free healthy breakfast and lunch at school for the 2026-2027 school year. This opportunity is made possible by the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program's Community Eligibility Provision (CEP).

To help us continue providing these types of benefits to your children, please fill out and sign the Household Information Form sent home each year, which is required for administrative purposes. This form allows our school to benefit from various state and federal supplemental programs like Title IA, At Risk (31a), Title IIA, E-Rate, etc. This information is critical in determining the amount of aid the school receives from a variety of supplemental programs, as well as other student benefits.

MEAL MODIFICATIONS

Meal Modifications Federal regulations governing the operation of Child Nutrition Programs, Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 require that children with disabilities be offered the opportunity to participate in all academic and nonacademic activities including the school nutrition programs. The District will make reasonable accommodations to those children with disabilities whose disabilities restrict their diets, such as providing substitutions and/or modifications in the regular meal patterns. Such meal substitutions for students with disabilities will be offered at no extra charge. A student with a disability must be provided substitutions in food when that need is supported by a statement signed by a physician attesting to the need for the substitutions and recommending alternate foods.

However, the school food service is not required to provide meal services (for example, School Breakfast Program) to students with disabilities when the meal service is not normally available to the general student body, unless a meal service is required under the student's individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 Accommodation Plan as mandated by a physician's written instructions

Though not required, the District will also allow substitutions for non-disabled children who are unable to consume the regular meal because of medical or other special dietary needs if the request is supported by a statement signed by a recognized medical authority.

The District may also allow substitutions for fluid milk with a non-dairy beverage that is nutritionally equivalent (as established by the Secretary of Agriculture) to fluid milk and meets nutritional standards for students who are unable to consume fluid milk because of medical or other special dietary needs if the request is supported by a statement signed by a recognized medical authority. A statement signed by a recognized medical authority must be submitted to the school nurse. The school nurse will coordinate with the Food Service Department to record the modification into the Point of Sale System. The Food Service Director will work with the kitchen staff in the designated building to make the best substitution supported by the statement signed by a recognized medical authority. If any changes occur and the substitution no longer needs to be made the kitchen will continue to make substitutions until a new statement is submitted by a recognized medical authority.

LOCKERS

Students will be assigned a locker in an area reserved for their grade level. Students should be mindful of the two-minute passing time; depending on the location of their classes and lockers, they may not be on-time for class if they stop at their locker. Students should plan which supplies they carry with them accordingly.

Only coats, jackets, backpacks, and school-related items and supplies may be kept in lockers. Any food that is placed in a locker must be taken home at the end of the day or thrown out. Leaving food in a locker is unsanitary and attracts pests.

SCHOOL BAGS

To maintain safety and reduce classroom clutter:

- Students **may bring a backpack**, but it must be **no larger than 16" (H) x 12" (W) x 7" (D)**.
- **Oversized backpacks, sports duffels, and large bags will not be allowed** during the school day.
- Students will have full access to their lockers and are encouraged to use them.
- Need a bag? **Drawstring bags** will be available for students who don't have a compliant one.

ARRIVAL, ADVISORY, & DISMISSAL EXPECTATIONS

Arrival

Upon entering the building, students will go directly to their lockers and pick-up breakfast in the cafeteria. 5th grade students will immediately go to the second floor where all 5th grade lockers are located. 6th grade lockers are located on the first or second floor. 7th and 8th grade lockers are on the first floor only. Our goal is to minimize interaction between 5th and 6th graders with the older students as much as possible. Students must be in their Advisory at 7:30 a.m. as the tardy bell rings at this time.

Advisory

Advisory begins at 7:30am. Students are expected to be on-time. This is one of the most important times in the schedule as it sets the tone for the rest of the day. Students will quietly eat their breakfast while engaging in a short social-emotional check-in. Attendance will also be taken at this time.

Dismissal

Students will be dismissed from their last class at 2:11 p.m. and be expected to go to their advisory to return their chromebook. At 2:15 p.m. students will be dismissed from Advisory and should get their belongings out of their lockers and must exit the building quickly and quietly if they are not remaining for Activity Period, which begins at 2:17 p.m. All students are expected to leave the building at the end of the Activity Period at 3:00 p.m

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

COUGAR

EXPECTATIONS
in the classroom

Cell Phones	Students should have cell phones put away at all times.
Tardies	Students must enter the class on time, or with a pass from who they were with.
Dress Code	Students will follow the school dress code at all times.
Defiance	Students should follow any reasonable request made by a staff member.
Missing Assignments	Students are responsible for completion of **all** assignments.
Inappropriate Language	Students are expected to use school appropriate language. ex: not swearing, derogatory/hurtful comments towards others and self etc.
Classroom Avoidance	Students will report to and stay in class for the duration of the period. If they leave/avoid, any missed work needs to be made up.
Peer to Peer Misconduct	Students should be showing **COUGAR PRIDE** expectations towards each other and adults.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

At NRW, every student plays an important role in building a safe, respectful, and thriving school community. These expectations guide our actions and choices every day.

Be Safe

- Follow directions from staff the first time they are given.
- Walk calmly in hallways and classrooms - no running or horseplay.
- Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.
- Report concerns to a trusted adult.
- Use equipment and materials correctly.
- Stay in designated areas at all times.

Be Where I Belong

- Be on time and prepared for every class.
- Stay in your assigned area during the day.
- Get permission before leaving the classroom.
- Participate in appropriate school activities.

Do My Best

- Give your full effort in class and on assignments.
- Ask for help when you need it.
- Take pride in your work.
- Keep a positive attitude and stay engaged.
- Set goals and work hard to achieve them.

Be Kind

- Treat others the way you want to be treated.
- Use kind words and actions.
- Include others and stand up against bullying.
- Celebrate differences and respect everyone.

Let's work together to make NRW a place where everyone feels safe, supported, and inspired to do their best!

Be Safe • Be Where I Belong • Do My Best • Be Kind

MONTHLY COUGAR VALUES

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER
Courageous Showing bravery, leadership, overcoming fears or challenges	**Be Safe** Following directions, keeping hands to oneself, behaving responsibly	**Optimistic** Identifying the good in others, having a positive outlook
DECEMBER	**JANUARY**	**FEBRUARY**
Be Where I Belong Being on time, prepared to learn, and participating in school activities	**Understanding** Being aware of other people's feelings and perspectives, listening attentively	**Do My Best** Giving your full effort, asking for help when needed, setting and working toward goals
MARCH	**APRIL**	**MAY**
Grateful Showing appreciation and thankfulness, recognizing the good in yourself and others	**Be Kind** Treating others with respect, using kind words and actions, standing up against bullying	**Adaptable** Being flexible and willing to learn, embracing new situations
JUNE		
Responsible Being accountable for yourself, showing reliability and good judgment		

Our Vision: North Rose-Wolcott is a community where all learners are engaged in experiences that grow their individual potential.

Our Mission: We will create a community of belonging and a mindset of continuous learning by building collaborative relationships.

COUGAR CASH/COUGAR STORE

It is our goal to "catch" students doing the right thing. Therefore, students have the opportunity to earn "Cougar Cash" for exemplifying our district's Cougar Values. See above Cougar Matrix.

Staff members will hand students Cougar Cash when they see these values in action. Students will be able to purchase items or put their cash into a raffle during lunch periods. The Cougar Store is located directly off the cafeteria. Students may purchase only two items per visit, and may not use other students' cash. We plan to have the Cougar Store open on the following dates:

October 22nd & 23rd
December 10th & 11th
February 4th & 5th
April 15th & 16th
June 3rd & 4th

CLUBS

Clubs offer the opportunity for students to engage in their school community beyond normal school hours. They are important contributors to students' positive engagement in the school and sense of belonging. Students are encouraged to take part in as many extracurricular offerings as possible, though must keep in mind that participation is dependent upon appropriate behavior. Clubs meet seven to ten times per year for regular meetings in addition to other club activities.

National Junior Honor Society (NJHS)

NJHS offers students the opportunity to develop leadership skills while upholding the values of character, scholarship, leadership, and service. Their role is to act as a role model to their peers while contributing positively to the school community and tracking volunteer community service hours.

Middle School Art Club

Art Club offers a creative outlet for students to express themselves with art. Students will have different opportunities to create their own original work outside of the classroom projects. Students will support admissions to the Festival of the Arts, and into other community shows such as the Wayne County Art Show.

Middle School AV Club

The A/V Club gives students the opportunity to organize sound and lighting in the auditorium, provide A/V support for the school musical, and coordinate the delivery of announcements for the building via video announcements, and contribute to messaging on common area TV screens. However, the possibilities are not limited to these opportunities.

Student Council

North Rose-Wolcott Middle School students have a student council that functions primarily to ensure the general welfare of the student body. Elected representatives from all grade levels compose the council. The student body also elects two representatives to the offices of president and vice president.

Student Council members and officers help coordinate school-wide spirit week and other activities that promote student ownership, pride, and engagement. Members are encouraged to develop and roll-out student-led initiatives that improve the overall climate of the school. Students are encouraged to bring their ideas for new activities or concerns to the attention of Student Council members.

Yearbook Club

Members of the Yearbook Club help organize the yearbook throughout the school year. Members should show strong initiative , creativity, and patience as they develop the school's yearbook.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

School dances, talent shows, sporting events, etc. are certified school functions. All of the school rules and regulations for appropriate student behavior apply. Students are expected to act in a reasonable and respectful manner. Once students leave or are dismissed from an event, they may not return. The Middle School is offering a variety of activities and events throughout the 2026-2027 school year. Here are some highlights:

Homecoming Week
October 5th - 9th

Halloween Dance
Friday, October 23rd

Quarter 1 Awards Assembly
Monday, November 23rd

Winter Choir Concert
Wednesday, December 9th

Winter Band Concert
Wednesday, December 16th

Winter Dance
Friday, December 18th

Quarter 2 Awards Assembly
Friday, February 12th

Quarter 3 Awards Assembly
Friday, April 30th

Spring Choir Concert
Wednesday, May 5th

Spring Band Concert
Wednesday, May 12th

8th Grade Dance
Friday, June 4th

Middle School Athletic Awards
Tuesday, June 8th

Talent Show
Wednesday, June 16th

End of Year Awards Assembly
Thursday, June 17th

8th Grade Dinner and Awards
Thursday, June 17th

CODE OF CONDUCT

The entire district Code of Conduct is available on the district website, and a summary of the Code of Conduct is included in the district calendar. The district Code of Conduct has been approved by the North Rose-Wolcott Central School District Board of Education. All students are subject to the district Code of Conduct. Please see the table titled "Offenses and Consequences" in the Code of Conduct for more information about prohibited student conduct.

The Board of Education expects students to conduct themselves in an appropriate and civil manner, with proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students, district personnel and other members of the school community, and for the care of school facilities and equipment. The best discipline is self-imposed, and students must learn to assume and accept responsibility for their own behavior, as well as the consequences of their misbehavior. District personnel who interact with students are expected to use disciplinary action only when necessary and to place emphasis on the students' ability to grow in self-discipline. The Board recognizes the need to make its expectations for student conduct while on school property or engaged in a school function specific and clear.

DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCES

Students are expected to consistently demonstrate *respect, responsibility, and a willingness to learn.* Teachers and administrators will work to teach and reinforce those expectations. When the expectations are not met, teachers and administrators will respond by reteaching appropriate behavior, instituting restorative measures, and/or assigning consequences or outcomes. Disciplinary consequences are assigned in accordance with the district Code of Conduct, as necessary. Consequences may include, but are not limited to, teacher-assigned appointment, administrator-assigned detention, lunch detention, loss of privilege (ex: driving or electronic device use), permanent assigned seat (includes bus), school probation, in-school detention, out-of-school suspension, and referral to law enforcement. When

possible, restitution and/or restoration will be utilized as a response to a Code of Conduct violation. Additionally, opportunities for support will be utilized when possible (examples: No-Contact Agreement, Agreement for Excellence, recurring counseling, parent conference). Students who are found to have used alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs will be expected to engage in counseling related to these behaviors.

Students who are assigned any form of detention or appointment listed above must report on time and follow the instructions of the teacher/supervisor for the duration of the detention or appointment. Electronic device use is not allowed in detention unless authorized by a building administrator. Additional rules for in-school detention and related consequences will be posted in the assigned locations. Students who fail to meet these expectations may receive additional consequences. For more detailed information related to disciplinary consequences, please read the Code of Conduct.

Note for Athletes: If a student is Out-of-School Suspended once in a five week period, he or she is ineligible for extracurricular activities for five weeks from the date of suspension. The Athletic Director will assign ineligibility or eligibility to these students on a case-by-case basis. Students with a Behavior Plan are expected to follow their plans.

RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

We recognize that students have more to learn during their schooling than academics alone. This includes learning how to respect themselves and others, how to problem-solve through difficult situations, and how to be a productive and supportive member of the school community. When the community thrives, our students thrive socially, emotionally, and academically.

Therefore, we are committed to taking a holistic approach to student development by fostering a restorative approach to resolving student conflict and misbehavior that causes harm to others. When a student is allowed space and opportunity to reflect upon their actions, there is the possibility of becoming responsible, wanting to make things right, and learning from their mistakes. While the offender chooses to apologize to those who were directly impacted by their negative choices, the victim is empowered to regain a sense of dignity and control by letting the offender know how their actions affected them. Students are able to repair their relationships with the guidance of a supportive and caring adult who also models for students the problem-solving process that they will one day utilize independently.

Current research strongly supports the position that punitive discipline alone is unlikely to improve behavior, and is in fact more likely to escalate it. Neither does this approach serve to hold a student accountable or provide opportunity for growth. Indeed, some students prefer consequences to a restorative approach in order to avoid being held accountable for their actions. Nonetheless, based on the nature of the misbehavior, restorative approaches may be combined with other school responses to allow for time and space to create a safe

environment for all. Successfully integrating restorative practices creates a school community where harm is repaired, relationships are restored, social-emotional skills are built, productivity increases, and mutual respect fosters a truly welcoming and affirming environment.

PLAGIARISM/CHEATING

Plagiarism is defined as passing or attempting to pass someone else's work off as your own. "Cheating" may involve asking for or giving help on tests or exams, looking at another student's paper during a test, copying homework or term paper, or any other situation where a student takes an unfair advantage over another student. Parents will be notified by the teacher if this occurs. For more information about the consequences for plagiarism, please review the Code of Conduct. Any tests, homework, papers or projects where students are involved in plagiarism or cheating will be assigned a zero (0%).

PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION

Unreasonable displays of affection are inappropriate in our school setting. In the interest of good taste and common courtesy, refrain from embracing, groping or exhibiting other physical contact in the school building or on school property.

STUDENT INTERVIEWS & SEARCHES

The Board of Education is committed to ensuring an atmosphere on school property and at school functions that is safe and orderly. To achieve this environment, any administrator or instructional personnel may question a student about an alleged violation of law or the School District policies or rules, including this Code without first providing the person in parental relation with notice of such questioning or seeking that person's consent.

In addition, any School District administrator or instructional personnel may search a student's person or belongings if the administrator or instructional personnel have grounds to reasonably suspect that the student has violated the law or School District policies or rules and the search will result in evidence of such violation. "Reasonable suspicion" means that whoever is conducting or authorized the search has a good faith reason to believe that the student violated the law or school rules, and that a search will provide evidence of such violation.

North Rose – Wolcott Central School Disctrict

DIGNITY

FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT

What is the Dignity Act?

New York State law that seeks to provide the State's public elementary and secondary school students with a safe and supportive environment free from discrimination, intimidation, taunting, harassment or bullying by employees or students on school property, a school bus and/or at a school function.

Protects students who experience intimidation or abuse based on, but not limited to actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity or expression) or sex.

What is considered "Bullying"?

An intentional unwanted act of **aggression**, based on an **imbalance of power** that is meant to cause harm either physically or psychologically. Behaviors occur **repeatedly** and **over time**, but can be a single event. Includes **cyberbullying**, harassment or bullying that happens through any form of electronic communication.

Impact on the North Rose-Wolcott Community

Reporting: All staff required to orally report any bullying or harassment incidents they become aware of to DASA Coordinator (Assistant Principal) and follow up with written report. Students and family members can also file reports. Electronic forms available on district website.

Responding: DASA Coordinators will promptly investigate all reports. Responding with actions to end bullying/ harassment and to ensure safety of the student(s) involved.

Prevention: All students will receive bullying and harassment prevention programming throughout the school year in class curriculum, class presentations by staff, special assemblies and events.

Training: All staff trained on Dignity Act and related diversity and human relationship topics.

Student Behavior Defined

HARASSMENT/ "BULLYING"

- The creation of a hostile environment by conduct or verbal threats, intimidation or abuse.
- Has or would have the effect of unreasonably and substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits or mental, emotional or physical well-being.
- Such verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that reasonably causes or would be reasonably expected to cause a student to fear for his/her physical safety.

DRAMA

A social interaction characterized by

- Overreaction
- Excessive emotionality
- Continuous over time
- Involvement of extraneous individuals

CONFLICT

- Oppositional interactions, disagreements, or differences of opinion.
- Power is *not* used to exploit or manipulate anyone.
- Usually resolved through pro-social means, but can become aggressive.

Cougar Values

PRIDE

DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT (DASA)

New York State Legislation expands protection against Bullying and Cyberbullying In New York Public Schools. On July 9, 2012, Governor Cuomo signed legislation to protect students from bullying and cyberbullying in public schools. The legislation expands the provisions of the Dignity for All Students Act ("DASA").

DASA protects public school students from discrimination and harassment that occurs on school property or at school functions, based on a student's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, or sex. The legislation adds "bullying" and "cyberbullying" as prohibited conduct. Under the amendments to DASA, "harassment" and "bullying" are defined as the creation of a hostile environment by conduct or by threats, intimidation, or abuse (including cyber bullying) that

- has or would have the effect of unreasonably and substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits, or mental, emotional, or physical well-being;
- reasonably causes a student to fear for his/her physical safety;
- reasonably causes physical injury or emotional harm to a student; or
- occurs off school property and creates or would foreseeably create a risk of substantial disruption within the school environment, where it is foreseeable that the conduct, threats, intimidation, or abuse might reach school property.

In some instances, bullying or harassment may constitute a violation of an individual's civil rights. The district is mindful of its responsibilities under the law and in accordance with district policy regarding civil rights protection. Our designated contact for North Rose-Wolcott Elementary is our assistant principal.

The Middle School DASA Coordinator is our Assistant Principal, Joseph Canori.

However, students are encouraged to report any incidents of bullying, harassment, or intimidation (whether against themselves or others) to any staff member in the building. An investigation into the matter will promptly begin. Upon completion of the investigation, parents of both the complainant and alleged offender will be informed of the determination and the steps taken to ensure there are no further incidents. Consequences will be issued if warranted.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM

Middle school can be a time of great academic stress and social change. The goal of our Mental Health Support Team is to work with students in learning constructive and positive ways to manage academics, feelings and behaviors. Our counseling staff is available for individual and group counseling to address these areas.

Our Mental Health Support Team is:

Mary Finn - Middle School counselor
Sara Boogaard - Middle School Psychologist
Carrie Hoestermann - Middle School Social Worker

Outside Providers:

Wayne Behavioral Health (WBH)
Youth Advocate Program (YAP)
Family Counseling Services of the Finger Lakes (FCSFL)

COUGAR CARE ROOM (CCR)

The Cougar Care Room is a place where students can go to cool down or de-escalate, take a break, have access to further resources, and participate in restorative conversations as needed. In the CCR, students can speak to an adult in a time of need, have time to reflect, or express the need for a conversation with another adult in the building.

Students can self-remove to the CCR by getting a pass from their teacher if their need is urgent. Teachers can also remove a student by giving them a CCR pass due to oppositional or disruptive behaviors, peer to peer misconduct, or a student not being able to function in class. Depending upon the nature and severity of the behavior, a student may return to class, engage in restorative practices, and/or receive consequences from administration.

However, the goal is always to **Reflect - Recover - Repair - Return,** and for students to take responsibility for themselves in order to be successful.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

Any student who brings any prohibited items to school will have such items confiscated. If such items threaten the safety of the school environment, pose a danger for potential harm to others, or offend the morals, values, or rights of any members of the school community, disciplinary actions will follow.

Do not bring any of the following items to school for any reason.

- Obscene materials: this includes books, pictures, music, or any other item that can be considered obscene or inappropriate for the public school setting.
- Tobacco/nicotine: vapes, nicotine gum, cigarettes, chew, snuff,, or any smoking paraphernalia.
- Perfumes, body sprays, or aerosol sprays
- Alcohol in any form.
- Energy Drinks
- Any medication, drugs, or prescriptions. All prescription medications are administered by the school nurse.
- Lighters or matches in any form.
- Toys: Items which may disrupt the educational environment or create potential safety hazards for others should not be found in school. This includes toy guns, weapons, or any others that are found to be unsafe, disruptive, or inappropriate. This includes "fidgets" for students who do not have a plan that is approved by their parent, counselor, and Principal or Assistant Principal.
- All weapons, including pocket knives, are prohibited in school.

DRESS CODE

All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. Students and their parents have the primary responsibility for acceptable student dress and appearance. Teachers and all other district personnel are expected to exemplify and reinforce acceptable student dress and help students develop an understanding of appropriate appearance in the school setting.

A student's attire, dress, grooming and appearance, including jewelry, make-up, and nails, shall:

1. Be safe, appropriate for school and neither distracting from nor disruptive of the educational process.
2. Not include garments that are unduly revealing and see-through garments or lewd clothing.
3. Completely cover the student's underwear regardless of the student's posture or position.
4. Always include footwear that does not pose a safety hazard.

5. Not include hoods, sunglasses, or blankets in school, unless required for a verified medical or religious reason, or special school functions such as spirit days.
6. Not include any item that is vulgar, obscene, libelous, or denigrate others on account of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, or disability (criteria covered under the DASA)
7. Not promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities.
8. Shirts, shorts and skirts must be a length that covers undergarments.
9. Not include jewelry that is disruptive to the educational process (e.g., spiked jewelry, chains hanging from clothing, etc.)
10. All physical education clothing MUST fulfill the dress code requirements.

Each building Principal shall be responsible for informing students and their parents of the student dress code at the beginning of the school year and any revisions to the dress code made during the school year.

Students who violate the student dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offending item, and if necessary or practical replacing it with an acceptable item. Any student who refuses to do so shall be subject to discipline.

CHROMEBOOKS

The North Rose-Wolcott Central School District recognizes that effective use of technology is important to our students and will be essential to them as adults. It is important for students to learn and demonstrate appropriate use of electronic devices and other technologies. Students and parents must sign the NRW Chromebook Agreement for a Chromebook to be loaned to the student. Student computers are property of the NRW school district. It is the student's responsibility to keep their computers free from damage and in good physical and working condition. Students and their families will be held accountable for deliberately damaging computers or treating them so carelessly that it results in damage or destruction.

*Grades 5–7: Students will leave their Chromebooks at school each day. No need to bring them home unless given permission by a teacher or administrator.

*Grade 8: Students should take their Chromebooks home daily to charge them and bring them back to school the next morning ready to go!

Acceptable Use

The school district will provide access to various computerized information resources through the district's computer system. Use of school computers or personal computers (or devices with Internet access while on school property) which violates any aspect of the School District Policy, Code of Conduct, or state, federal and local laws or regulations is strictly prohibited. Using any device system to obtain, view, download, send, print, display, bully/harass or otherwise gain access to or transmit materials that are unlawful, obscene, pornographic, or abusive is prohibited. Students should be aware that data files and

electronic storage areas shall be considered to be the property of the school district and are subject to control and inspection. Students can utilize these devices only for educational purposes. Engaging in activities involving social media or games, for example, is not permitted. Apps or devices that are used to circumvent the district's firewalls and security measures are not permitted. Students are not permitted to take pictures/videos of other students without their permission. Students who engage in unacceptable use may lose access and be subject to further discipline.

Any student who uses an electronic device in an unauthorized or inappropriate way will be subject to disciplinary consequences that may include loss of all electronic device privileges and/or the requirement that a parent/guardian come to school to collect the device. The following expectations are provided so that students and parents are aware of the responsibilities students accept when they use district-owned computer hardware, software, and/or data:

- Do not attempt to access sites blocked by the NRW filtering system at any time
- Do not use the network for illegal activities, including copyright or license violations
- Do not access or online locations or content that do not support the curriculum or are inappropriate including, but not limited to, pornographic sites and sites that may have viruses
- Do not vandalize or tamper with hardware, software, data, system performance or other components of the network. Use or possession of hacking or host file sharing software is strictly prohibited
- Do not download music, games, images, videos, or other media without the permission of a staff member
- Do not upload media to the internet or share content for public or private viewing
- Do not take videos/pictures or audio recordings unless given permission by a staff member for instructional purposes
- You may only listen to music, engage in any educational gaming, or message others on your device during school hours with the permission of a staff member
- Electronic devices that emit sound, including music, may not be audible to others. Keep your volume muted unless directed by a teacherEarbuds, AirPods, and headphones are stored in student bookbags and must remain out of sight
- Students are only allowed to wear earbuds, AirPods, or headphones in a single ear at one time so as to maintain the ability to communicate with others.
- Students will return their devices at the end of the year or when they leave the district
- Lock your device when it is not in use
- Do not share your device or password with others
- Put your device on Standby between classes by closing the lid
- At the end of the day, completely shut down your device. Make sure it is being charged for the next school day. ***Grades 5-7 students are not allowed to take their Chromebooks home. Grade 8 students can take their Chromebooks home.***

Appropriate Communication

- Use appropriate language (void of profanity, slurs, or harassing language)
- Do not impersonate others while communicating on your device

- Do not transmit obscene or harassing messages or media
- Do not reveal personal information of yourself or others (addresses, phone numbers, etc.)
- Email is to be used as a communication tool for school and must be used solely for educational purposes. Email transmissions, stored data, and transmitted data are not confidential, may be monitored by district staff, and are property of NRWCSD

Caring for Your Device

- Use two hands when handling your device. Do not pick your device up by the monitor.
- Close the lid when you are not using or when you are moving your device.
- Never leave your device unattended in a public space.
- Use caution when carrying your device in a crowded hallway.
- No food or drink should be near your device.
- Do not pile items on top of your device.
- Do not leave your device in an automobile, if possible.
- Protect your device from exposure to extreme heat or cold.
- Do not put stickers on your device, batteries, or charger.
- Do not deface your device in any way (marking, painting, drawing, or marring the surface).
- Report any damage that occurs to your device by filling out an *online tech support request* available through the district website.
- In the event a student vandalizes or damages a device due to gross negligence, the student's family will be responsible for the cost of a replacement or repair.

CELL PHONES

Internet-enabled personal devices will not be permitted to be used on school grounds during the school day. This includes instructional periods as well as non-instructional time such as recess, study halls, passing time, lunch and homeroom. At the middle school, devices will be kept in student lockers.

Cell phones must be stored in students' lockers, and kept silent or turned off. All lockers are under 24/7 camera surveillance of security cameras. Unauthorized use of a cell phone during the school day may result in confiscation and require a parent to come to school to pick-up the phone. The creation of a "Cell Phone Agreement" may also be necessary, requiring students to drop-off their phones each morning in the Main Office and pick them up at the end of the school day. Cell phone agreement may last a length of time deemed appropriate by administration, with subsequent violations resulting in longer-lasting agreement. Teachers have the right to confiscate a cell phone and return it to the student at the end of class.

We are committed to ensuring students and families can communicate with one another during the school day when needed. Students may use a school phone to reach their families, and families may contact the main office of their child's school to relay a message. Parents and guardians may also reach out to their student's designated contact through ParentSquare.

OFFICE PHONE USE

Teachers may use their discretion as to when a student will be allowed to leave class to make a call. Office phones or CCR may be used by students with the permission of staff only. If you need to reach your child at any point during the day, please simply call our main office at 315.594.3130.

HALLWAY PASSES

A student must have a pass in the hallways at all times, except for during passing time between classes. Students may not leave the classroom without a hall pass from the teacher or adult in charge. If the student is performing an errand for a teacher they must have a hall pass. Students who are chronically in the hallway without permission will be subject to pass restrictions.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Emergency Plans

In accordance with regulations of the Commissioner of Education, the district has developed Standard Response Protocols to safeguard the safety and health of students and staff as well as district property in the event of a true emergency. Each year the school will practice the segments of the Emergency Response Plan, which will include the following procedures: Lockdown, Lockout, Sheltering students and staff, Evacuation, and Early Dismissal. Every student is expected to comply with all safety procedures and immediately follow adult directions.

Emergency School Closing

In the event of severe inclement weather or mechanical breakdown, school may be closed or starting time delayed. The same conditions may also necessitate early dismissal. School closing, delayed starting time or early dismissal will be reported to parents using the ParentSquare. They will also be announced on TV and radio stations.

False Alarms/Bomb Threats

The sounding of a false fire alarm, lockdown, assistance needed alarm, or the delivery or call in of a bomb threat to a school poses extreme danger to the safety and welfare of everyone in the school. They are violations of criminal law and will result in the following:

- Parents will be notified
- The student(s) will be suspended from the school for *5* days. An individual(s) will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

A Superintendent's Hearing will take place within the 5- day suspension to determine if a long term or permanent suspension of the student is warranted.

Fire Drills and Emergencies

Schools in New York are required to organize 8 evacuation drills and 4 lockdown drills per school year. All students and faculty must vacate the building within 2 minutes once a fire alarm has been sounded. Each room must have directions for evacuation posted clearly near the door. Each teacher is to review the evacuation procedure for their room with each class assigned to the room on the first day of school. Students who fail to comply with expectations will receive consequences.

Students, please follow the procedure described below:

- Upon hearing the fire alarm, please leave assigned rooms immediately without materials.
- All school personnel, except those assigned fire drill duties, will leave the building.
- When you hear the alarm, assume that it is a real fire, and be prepared to listen and follow the directions of any school faculty member. However, if the alarm sounds during a lockdown, do not leave your protected area unless there are signs of an actual fire or a staff member has directed you to do so.
- There is no talking and absolutely no misbehavior during an evacuation drill. Students who do not follow expectations will complete another drill independently.
- Return to the building silently when the "all clear" is given. Speaking may resume in the classroom upon teacher consent.

HEALTH OFFICE SERVICES

The student's health is primarily the responsibility of the parents. If medical care is necessary, every effort should be made to obtain this at times other than during school hours.

Minor first aid is administered at the nurse's office. If more treatment is necessary, including hospital care, the student's parent or legal guardian is contacted. For legal reasons, the hospitals require the signature of a parent or guardian for any (except lifesaving) treatment. Students should report to their class, and request a pass to the Health Office. Properly authorized, the student then becomes the responsibility of the nurse.

The nurse will notify the teacher if the pupil was retained in the Health Office. Otherwise, the student will return with a signed pass. Only the school nurse or principal is authorized to release students from school during the day due to student illness.

Students are NOT to call or text their parents to come pick them up if they feel ill during the school day. It is the responsibility of the nurse to inform parents and to document when a student is sent home ill.

Illness of Student In School

The school will make every effort to inform the parents of any accident or illness occurring at school that may need care or observation at home. No student will be sent home unless a responsible adult is there to receive him/her. If a student is not feeling well they are to ask permission to go to the nurse. The nurse will then evaluate the student and make a decision if the student is to stay in school or go home. The nurse will notify parents/guardians if a

student is to go home. ***Students are not to use their cell phones to text or call home for someone to pick them up as this is a violation of our electronic device policy, and may result in lack of appropriate communication between school and home.**

Medications or Prescriptions

When it is necessary for a child to have medication in the course of a school day, the following regulations governing the administration of medication in schools, according to New York State Education Department , must be followed:

- All medication (including non-prescription drugs) must be accompanied with a written physician's order and submitted to the school nurse. A parent/ guardian must also sign a note requesting that the medication be given in school as per the medical doctor's order. The parents must assume the responsibility to have the medication delivered to the nurse's office, in the original, properly labeled container. Students should not carry the medication from home to school. If this creates a problem, please call the school nurse so that other arrangements can be made

- No change in dosage or frequency can be made without a written physician's order. A new order for any medication is required for each school year. Inhalers are the only medications which students are allowed to carry. A written physician's order must state that the student is responsible and knowledgeable to do so. Under no circumstances should a student keep medication with him/her or in his/her locker or take medication in school except under the supervision of the nurse. Students should never share or give any of these types of medication to another student. This includes prescription AND over-the-counter medication, dietary pills, supplements and vitamins. Violation of this rule could result in suspension from school. It is that important.

- The intent of these regulations is to ensure the safe administration of medication for those who require it.

Elevator Use

Students with a temporary or permanent disability who are not able to climb stairs may use the elevator upon presenting a notice from their doctor to the main office or nurse requesting such use. This usage is limited to the student who is incapacitated, and one student chosen to assist.

ATHLETICS

NRW Modified Athletic Season & Sport Offerings

Fall Season:

- G. Modified Soccer
- B. Modified Soccer
- G. Modified Volleyball
- B. Modified Volleyball
- G. Modified Tennis
- G. & B. Modified Cross Country

Winter I Season:

- B. Modified Basketball
- G. & B. Modified Swimming

Winter II Season:

- G. Modified Basketball
- Modified Wrestling

Spring Season:

- Modified Softball
- Modified Baseball
- B. Modified Tennis
- G. & B. Modified Track & Field

FUNDRAISING/MERCHANDISING

School fundraising projects, events and activities must first be presented to and accepted by the Principal for approval. In general, only one fundraising activity should be conducted at any one time. The use of public school facilities for the benefit of private enterprise is prohibited. The sale of items by students for the purpose of making money, unless it is for the benefit of school-sponsored organizations or recognized charities, is not allowed.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance at school is extremely important to each and every student's success. The New York State Education Department defines chronic absenteeism as missing 10% of school days for any reason, *excused or unexcused.* Chronic Absenteeism is a primary cause of low academic achievement and is a powerful predictor of future dropouts.

Please do not come to school if you are feeling ill. The MTSS Team will be reviewing student attendance each month. Below are the action steps that will be taken depending on how frequently a student is absent:

Action Steps/Interventions
Staff Member will contact parent/guardian.
Letter will be sent home including the attendance ladder and current attendance record.
Attendance Action Plan will be completed with the school counselor and the parent/guardian will be contacted and an attendance plan will be completed and mailed home. A home visit may occur at this step.
A meeting with parent/guardian, administration, and school counselor will occur to review attendance guidelines and possible referrals to outside agencies.
Possible referral to county agencies (example - FACT, PINS, or CPS)

LEAVING THE SCHOOL DURING THE DAY

- Written requests to be excused from school must be brought to office prior to 7:30 A.M.
- A parent /guardian must sign these requests.
- Students must have parental permission to leave with anyone other than their parents/guardian.
- A parent/guardian must sign their child out in the office before they leave.
- Students may never leave the building without proper authorization.

SCHOOL PICTURES

Picture Day is on September 17th. Make-Up Picture Day is on October 20th. A professional photographer takes school pictures once a year in the fall. Information is sent home in advance concerning ordering information.

PHOTO RELEASE INFORMATION

Throughout the year, requests are made from various government agencies for student information. The following information will be made available: student name, parent(s) name(s), address, and phone number. The directory information will be made available unless a dated, written statement by the parent or student (if age 18 or older) is on file denying access to such information. Additionally, the district occasionally uses photos of students to promote events in and around the schools. Any parent/guardian who does not want his/her child's photo to be used for this purpose must state their desire in writing to the Principal.

PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT INFORMATION

It is important that the school have phone numbers where the parents can be reached during school hours. This is critical if sickness arises while your child is at school. If you do not have a phone, please arrange for a relative or friend to take a message for you. Please notify our secretaries at the school office (315-594-3130) of any change of telephone number at home, work, or for an emergency.

ParentSquare will be used for communications between home and school. More information will be provided in the near future regarding parent access and preference settings which includes phone call, email, text message settings of all communications by school district.

PARENT/GUARDIAN VOLUNTEERS

Parents are our Support for Success!

Research shows that parents have a major influence on a child's achievement. When parents are involved, regardless of their family's income or background, children earn higher grades, achieve better test scores, attend school regularly, demonstrate better school behavior and proceed on to postsecondary education.

To ensure the safety of our school community, the District follows specific protocols to process each volunteer application. Please understand that although these steps take time, student safety is our top priority. Volunteer applications **are valid for the current school year only.** Next school year, you will complete the process again to renew your application. We appreciate your understanding that yearly renewal helps to ensure the safety of our students.

Volunteering

If you would like more information about volunteering, please call 315.594.3141. Volunteer applications are available on the district website: select *Volunteer Opportunities* under the "Community" tab on the homepage.

1. Fill out the volunteer application and be sure to:

- Indicate whether you are applying for the first time or renewing your application. Volunteer applications are valid for the current school year only and must be renewed each subsequent school year
- Include a working email address, as we will communicate with you via email
- Completely answer all of the questions. Incomplete applications will not be considered
- Sign and date the application
- Sign and date the Confidentiality Agreement
- Provide a copy of your driver's license/non-driver identification
- Return your completed application to the school office

2. Once the application is received and reviewed, you will receive an email with a link to move forward in the volunteer process. This link is valid for 10 days and only works when accessed on a computer. The link will not work when accessed on a phone or tablet at this time

3. When you open the email, you will see a screen that looks similar to the image on the right. The link will request a Background Check Number, which was provided in the email you received, and will ask you to sign forms and provide information

4. When Intellicorp (through the Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES screening submission portal) receives your information, they usually provide verification to the District within five business days

5. Once the District Office receives the completed application and conducts a final review of all materials, including the information contained in the background check, you may be recommended to the Board of Education for final approval. In that instance, your name will be submitted to the BOE for approval at the next meeting

6. Upon Board of Education approval, you will receive a letter in the mail confirming your opportunity to serve as a volunteer for the current school year

7. Volunteer applications are valid for the current school year. Next school year, you will complete the process again to renew your application. We appreciate your understanding that revisiting each volunteer's information annually helps to ensure the safety of our students

8. The sooner the district receives your application and the sooner you complete the steps for a background check, the sooner the district is able to welcome you as a volunteer

North Rose-Wolcott Middle School

Student and Parent Handbook Contract

★ RETURN TO SCHOOL ★

Our entire faculty and staff would like to provide the best possible educational advantages for the youth of our community. We want all of our students to be successful. School personnel, parents/guardians and students must all try to fulfill their responsibilities for that success to happen. This handbook is intended to be a contract between our school, parent/guardian and student to ensure that we are all doing our part for the wellbeing of our youth.

My child and I have reviewed and understand this handbook.

I certify that I _____ have reviewed this
(Please print Parent or guardian name)

handbook with my child, _____.
(Please print student name)

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____