



North Fork Local School District Superintendent's Weekly Community Update September 4, 2026

Superintendent's Message

Good morning, North Fork Team,

I want to take a few minutes to thank you for the work you have already put into this school year. The beginning of a school year requires tremendous preparation, flexibility, and teamwork, and I appreciate the commitment each of you brings to our students every day.

As we move forward, I want us to stay focused on the North Fork Way: **Support one another; Assume positive intentions; Solve problems together; Communicate professionally; and Celebrate success.**

I want to emphasize the importance of working together. No one person can do this work alone. Our teachers, support staff, administrators, transportation staff, custodial teams, and everyone throughout the district play an important role in creating a successful school community.

Most importantly, let's continue to keep our guiding principle at the center of our decisions: **We Do What is Best for Kids.**

Thank you for your professionalism, your dedication, and the care you show our students. I am excited about what we can accomplish together this year. Let's make it a great year for our students and for one another.

Scott Hartley
Superintendent

Reflection/Words to Live By

- "I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; TOGETHER we can do great things." - *Mother Teresa*
- "No one can make you feel inferior without your consent." - *Eleanor Roosevelt*



Keep everything in perspective.

District Highlights

Parent Square is beginning to be rolled out. We are excited to see where we can go with our communications program.



Student Activities & Athletics

STAY FOCUSED – One game, one play, one event at a time.

Staff Shout Outs

- I would like to give a shout out to Tracy Poole, Secretary at Utica Elementary. No matter who the person is or what the situation may be, she always knows how to handle it and she does it all with a smile. She is always busy but never too busy to lend a hand however that may be. Without her this place would take a little longer to figure things out and most definitely wouldn't be as much fun while we did. Thanks, Tracy, for making Utica Elementary an enjoyable and positive place to be. Not just for the adults but, most importantly, for the kids!
- The cafeteria staff at Utica Elementary go above and beyond to not only provide the students with delicious and healthy meals, but also to create a caring and fun environment for them. They even take on extra projects to help staff members in need. They all deserve a big shout-out. Thank you!
- A shout-out to Stephanie Kimpel for doing such a wonderful job with our New Staff Orientation! The goodies, binders, meetings, and all the thoughtful details were absolutely wonderful. She did a fantastic job making our new staff feel welcomed, prepared, and supported as they begin their journey with us.



(Please send nominations of individuals or events to Mr. Hartley.)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, September 7	No School - Holiday		
Monday, September 21	Board of Education Meeting	6:00 p.m.	Newton Elem.
Friday, October 2	District-Wide Pep Rally		
Wednesday, October 7	Village of Utica Homecoming Parade		
October 7 – October 10	Village of Utica Homecoming		Main Street
Thursday, October 15	End of First Grading Period		
Friday, October 16	No School – PD/Records Day		

Strategic Plan Spotlight

This week's focus: Communications

Pillar: 1 and 2

How this supports our work:

- A lot has been happening over the last couple of weeks. We have a new website that is up and running. Please keep in mind some page work will still need to be completed.
- Parent Square is rolling out; please take time to learn about the program and how it will help communicate.
- We have received our OFCC enrollment projections. These are used to determine the amount of space needed for future work.

Did You Know?

Little-known facts about the district, statistics, achievement, or interesting information:

Newton Elementary serves communities that historically attended numerous small township schools before consolidation. Many families in the area have attended North Fork schools for multiple generations.

Closing Thought

Mind what we say because, regardless of reality, the perception is that it is true (good or bad).

*No matter what the question, the answer is **EDUCATION!!!***

Thank you for everything you do to support our students, families, and each other. Your dedication continues to make a positive difference every day.

Have a wonderful week!