



North Fork Local School District Superintendent's Weekly Community Update September 11, 2026

Superintendent's Message

Good morning, North Fork Team,

As we get closer to the middle of the first quarter, I want to take a moment to recognize the great work happening throughout North Fork Local Schools. Our students and staff have made a strong start to the school year, and it is exciting to see learning, relationships, and school spirit continue to grow.

The middle of the first quarter is also a good time to pause, reflect, and make adjustments where needed. Our focus remains simple: **We do what is best for our students.** Every day, that means creating positive learning environments, supporting our students, and working together to help every child succeed.

Thank you to our teachers, staff, administrators, students, and families for the effort and commitment you bring to our schools each day. I appreciate all that you do for our students and look forward to a successful remainder of the first quarter.

Redskin Pride – District Wide!

Scott Hartley
Superintendent

Reflection/Words to Live By

- “Life is a series of natural and spontaneous changes. Don’t resist them; that only creates sorrow. Let reality be reality. Let things flow naturally forward in whatever way they like.” - *Lao Tzu*
- “Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you’ve imagined.” - *Henry David Thoreau.*



Keep everything in perspective.

District Highlights

We have a lot of new items this year, from new communications to ELA and benchmarking programs. Take it one step at a time; we know our staff's professionalism.



Student Activities & Athletics

“ABILITY – is what you’re capable of; MOTIVATION – determines what you do; ATTITUDE – determines how well you do it.” - Lou Holtz

Staff Shout Outs

- Brandon Wygle has spent long hours in the heat mowing, mowing more, and weed-eating at Newton. Everything looks great. Staff members are appreciative of Brandon's work at Newton. Thank you, Brandon, for all you do. We appreciate you!
- I'd love to offer a shout-out to our new admin, Brian and Michael, and Ashley, too! (Anonymously, of course!) This year, despite some hiccups that were out of their control, has already been one of the best starts I've seen in a LONG time. I love that they are always present, available, and vigilant.
- Our technology ladies, Heidi, Kim, and Jenn. They are working tirelessly to get technology, new curricula, and our new benchmarking system up and running, along with all of their other daily tasks. They are quick to respond, and I think they are owed more thank-yous than they have probably been given!



Important Information

Please review the following items carefully:

1. Communicating with our parents with positive messages helps to support the work we are doing. When you have time, look at the training in the ParentSquare modules.
 2. Win-Win met on Wednesday and talked about the creation of the evaluation committee, ELA/math curriculum, and all of the new things coming at us.
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UPCOMING EVENTS

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		
Monday, October 19	Board of Education Meeting	6:00 p.m.	Utica Middle School

Strategic Plan Spotlight

This week's focus: Academic Excellence

Pillar: 3

How this supports our work:

- Work continues with the new benchmarking program. We ran a trial and are ready to open it up to the staff to begin using it.

Did You Know?

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

The district has had an agricultural education tradition for decades.

A 1995 township planning document specifically identifies an agricultural department among North Fork's educational programs.

Safety Minute

Reminders about school safety:

- Creating a safe learning environment is the foundation of a successful education.

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!