

THE HUSKY VOICE

Principal's Update

MARCH 2022



Husky Families,

It is hard to believe that it is already March, and in a few short months our 8th graders will move on to high school. Even though the sun is coming out, this is not the time to slow down. Right now is the time when staff and students need to buckle down and prepare to push hard through the end. We want our Husky 8th graders ready for high school, and we want our 6th and 7th graders prepared for more difficult courses next year. Coasting has never prepared anyone for anything. It is only possible to coast if you are heading downhill. Now is the time for students to remain disciplined, set aside time for homework each night, make schoolwork a priority, and arrive to class on time each day ready to learn. We want to continue to grow right up to the last bell. There is so much time for growth between now and June.

March is also the time when we begin registering for next year's classes. Northwood has many great academic opportunities for students, and we have worked to expand students' choices. Students and parents, please go to the links provided in the body of the email (where you clicked to view this Newsletter) to view our course offerings. It is recommended that parents and students go over course options together as we get ready to register for next year. Registration for current 6th and 7th grade students will take place in their social studies classrooms in March.

Attendance for our school has been an issue this year. Much of the attendance issue has been outside of your or our control due to illness and quarantines. Now that cases appear to be calming down, I am looking forward to seeing an improvement in our attendance. It is important for students to remember that the attendance and punctuality habits we form during middle school will help propel us to success in high school and beyond. It is important to continue to make school a priority, as the commitment habits we develop here will translate to success with our jobs and families later on in life. (You will find another article I wrote about the importance of attendance further down in this issue).

I am so thankful and honored to be here working with your kids. Our staff sets out each day to help each kid who walks through our doors. Northwood students are inspiring and make our jobs easy. They are creative, hardworking, intelligent, and kind. Thank you for allowing us to have an impact. WE BELIEVE IN YOU!

"When students are nurtured in a culture where educators believe in their potential to do the extraordinary and work together to achieve this end, ALL students can be successful." --Dr. Anthony Muhammad

Troy Hughes
Northwood Principal
We Believe in You!



HUSKY ATHLETICS

MARCH 2022



Use QR code to
access Husky
Athletics Page

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS MATTER!

THANK YOU, 7TH GRADE BASKETBALL PARENTS!

The 7th grade basketball season was a success and a portion of that was due to the patience and flexibility on your part. We really appreciate all of the support we've received from parents as we made our way through changing protocols and season schedules. Thank you!

8TH GRADE BASKETBALL HITS THE COURT

The Husky basketball teams are excited to start the season this week with big games against our district rivals. Game schedules are on the Northwood website under the "Calendar" tab. Coaches will also send home a hardcopy. Please email them if you have any questions.

MIDDLE LEVEL ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY

Recognizing the unique developmental needs of the middle level student, the WIAA, along with Mead schools, promotes activities that build student-athlete success. The following characteristics are critical for a successful middle school sports program:

Competitive Balance – promoting equal opposition and balancing competition through communication and scheduling

Participation – emphasizing fun & lifelong play over always getting the win

Skills Building – presenting developmentally appropriate practice

Sportsmanship – developing a positive team attitude, self-control, mutual respect with opponents, positive adult role models, and celebrating excellent play

6TH, 7TH, & 8TH GRADE TRACK AND 7TH & 8TH GRADE BASEBALL START APRIL 11TH –

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Spring is here (or hopefully on its way), which means baseball and track starts on Monday, April 11. Please register your student-athlete on FamilyID, which is found under the "Activities" tab on our website. Our registration numbers determine our game/practice schedules, coaching positions, and how we can utilize our facilities.

Athletes with incomplete paperwork or unpaid fees two school days prior to the start of the season WILL NOT be able to begin practice until completed and could lose the ability to participate for a portion or all of the season.

If your child does not have a physical (good for 2 years), please get it scheduled & provide a copy to the Northwood Business Office before the first day of practice.

Fees include: ASB \$15 & Participation \$35. Fees can be paid at the business office or online through TouchBase, which can be found on the "Quick Links" under the "Our School" tab.

After School Activity Buses Must Be Reserved

Activity buses will be available for athletes that need a ride after practices. Pick-up time at Northwood will be at 5:00pm. If you need to register for the activity bus, please complete the Registration Survey, which can be found on our Athletic website. PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE BACK BUS LOOP/FIRE LANE AT ANY TIME FOR ANY REASON OTHER THAN AN EMERGENCY.



Athletic Director: Mr. Round
patrick.round@mead354.org

WHAT'S NEXT! MAY 2022 – 6TH GIRLS AND BOYS BASKETBALL

HUSKY HAPPENINGS

Northwood Events

MARCH 2022

MARCH MADNESS FOOD DRIVE

Northwood Middle School 2022

Items that are most needed are:

- *Grains such as hamburger helper, pasta, rice and mac and cheese
- *Canned fruits and veggies
- *Toiletries (Toilet paper, Shampoo, Soap, Deodorant, etc.)
- ** They have a lot of Canned Protein but all donations are appreciated.



Starts on March 7th and will run thru March 25th.

Classes will receive points for item donations.

Spirit Week

Mon, Mar 14th-Western Day

Tues, Mar 15th-Jersey Day

Wed, Mar 16th-Anything but a Backpack

Thurs, Mar 17th-St. Patrick's Day



Beginning Band Concert
Northwood Middle School

7pm-8pm

Northwood Commons

Tuesday

March 1st, 2022



Academic Enrichment Club

Every Tuesday in the Northwood Library
2:30pm-4:45pm-no registration required
contact: rebecca.whitaker@mead354.org



2022-23 REGISTRATIONS

MARCH 2022

Pre-Registrations for 6th & 7th grade

2022-23 7TH GRADE STUDENTS

Current 6th grade students at Northwood will be meeting with their counselor March 22nd & 23rd to pre-register for their 7th grade year

2022-23 8TH GRADE STUDENTS

Current 7th grade students at Northwood will be meeting with their counselors March 9th-15th to pre-register for their 8th grade year

Have questions regarding pre-registration for your current 6th or 7th grade student, please contact their counselor at:



All 6th grade students and 7th gr
Students w/ last name A-K:
alana.cummings@mead354.org



7th gr Students w/ last name L-Z:
brock.salzman@mead354.org

Use QR Code below to
access course
catalogs for the
2022-23 school year



DR. SEUSS

MARCH 2022

Read Across America Week



7th grade Leadership Reads to Elementary Students

Students from Northwood's 7th grade leadership class recorded themselves reading Dr. Seuss books to share with our elementary students at Farwell, Brentwood and Midway.



Read Across America Day &
Dr. Seuss' Birthday
Wednesday, March 2nd



HUSKY ATTENDANCE

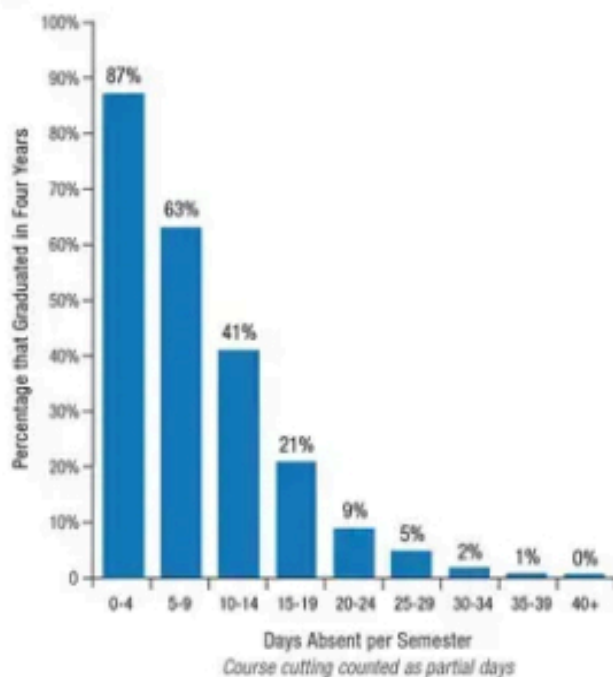
MARCH 2022

Attendance Matters

The Value of Regular Attendance

We know it is important for students to be in school every day, but do we really know how important? A 2007 study by the University of Chicago (mdrc.org) helped shed light on the value of attendance. According to the study, missing five to nine days per semester can drop a student's on time graduation probability by 24%. Student attendance is one of the top two closely linked indicators of academic success and graduation, the other being GPA.

Four-Year Graduation Rates by Freshman Absence Rates



There are many reasons regular attendance is critical. First of all, students can't learn the material if they are not in class, and tomorrow's lesson, more often than not, builds on what is learned today. So, one day of school can have a drastic effect on how well a student may learn on the next day or in the coming weeks. Learning the skills of regular attendance and completing tasks on time can also play a critical role in life after high school. If students do not learn the importance of committing to tasks and working hard every day, it can have a drastic impact on their college education or careers later in life. Success as adults highly depends on the gritty habits students learn in youth.

Research also shows that students of parents who believe education and attendance are important also believe that it is important to be at school. Parents simply communicating their beliefs about the importance of committing to school can play a significant role in students' outlooks. (Graph from mdrc.org)

Not only is attendance important for student success, but schools are also bound by laws. Specifically, Washington state schools are bound to follow the Becca Bill which states that 10% or more absences require a doctor's letter to be excused. When students do not show up, courts may get involved. So, not only is attendance critical to success, it is also the law. Parents, you can use the PowerSchool app to track attendance in real time. It will also give you alerts when your student is not in class. This is a great way to stay in the know.

Troy Hughes

Principal, Northwood Middle School

HUSKIES HELPING HUSKIES

**See Something
Hear Something
Say Something**

24-Hour Regional Crisis Line

1.877.266.1818

Operated by Frontier Behavioral Health



Emergency Call 9-1-1

**Suicide Concerns
call 1.877.266.1818 or
text 741741**

The Northwood Counseling Team is available to help



Use QR code for direct access to Northwood Counselor's Page

Call 509.465.7527 to speak with one of our counselors

Alana Cummings

Brock Salzman

What should I do if...

I believe someone may want to injure themselves?

I'm having thoughts of injuring myself?

Find a trusted adult, call 911 & report anonymously