



December /  
January  
2019/2020

# Norfolk Middle School Newsletter

## From the Desk of the Principal

It is hard to believe December is here, and the end of the first semester is near. Our Middle School staff has enjoyed getting to know your child. Please help your child wrap up the semester by checking their grades on Infinite Campus. If you need information on how to do this, please contact the office.

**Weather:** Students will be going outside, weather permitting, during the winter months for activity time. Make sure your child comes to school with warm coats, hats, and gloves. If you know of a child that needs a coat, hat, or gloves, please contact our school counselor's office. We may be able to help that child.

**Lost and Found:** Our lost and found is overflowing right now. If your child is missing something, please have them give our lost and found a look. The three clothing bays are located right outside our office.

**Supervision:** We do not have supervision for students until 7:30am. Please keep that in mind when you drop off your child in the morning. Our after school supervision ends at 3:40pm. Make sure that your child is picked up prior to that time, unless a teacher has made arrangements with you.

**Winter Concert Season:** Our fifth and sixth grade orchestra, along with our sixth grade band will be performing at Johnny Carson Theater on Thursday, December 5th at 7:00pm. Our choir will be performing at Johnny Carson Theater on Monday, December 16th at 7:00pm I would encourage you to come and support our talented students.

Thank you for all your support this school year. On behalf of the Middle School staff, we would like to wish each one of you a wonderful holiday season.

*Mr. Hughes*

## Important Dates:

**Thursday, December 5th:**  
Middle School Orchestra and  
6th Grade Band Concert  
Johnny Carson Theater  
7:00 pm

**Thursday, December 16th:**  
Middle School Choir Concert  
Johnny Carson Theater  
7:00 p.m.

**December 23rd—January  
3rd:**  
No school for students-Winter  
Break

**Monday, January 6th:**  
School resumes

**Monday, January 20th:**  
No School

**Monday, January 27th**  
PTO Meeting @ 6:00

**February 3rd & 5th:**  
4:00pm –7:00pm  
Parent Teacher Conferences

**February 6th:**  
11:30 Dismissal  
1:00-4:00 Parent Teacher Con-  
ferences

**Friday, February 8th:**  
No school



## From the Principal



Thomas Edison said that he did not fail at making the light bulb one thousand times, but rather that “the light bulb was an invention with 1,000 steps.”

“I’ve missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I’ve lost almost 300 games. Twenty-six times I’ve been trusted to take the game winning shot....and missed. I’ve failed over and over and over again in my life. That is why I succeed.” (Michael Jordan)

“Making mistakes is a natural part of all learning. Those who we consider to be “great” are clear that mistakes lead to learning.”

The latest research on mathematics shows that mistakes are a very important part of learning math! When a person makes an error in math and they have the opportunity to learn from it, they actually develop a much stronger understanding. In fact, the research states that students learn more from making mistakes than from getting all the right answers. When your child makes an error, it offers insight into what understanding your child has about a mathematical idea. It allows parents and teachers to talk to the child about what they know, and ask questions to stretch their thinking around where they are currently developing their understanding. Parents can ask, “How do you know that? What was your thinking here? Is there another way you could solve that?” This conversation helps to develop the crucial skills of reasoning and communication and is therefore more helpful than simply showing a child how the math is done. When you support an attitude that values learning from mistakes, you are telling your child that, mistakes are a valuable and natural ingredient in learning and lead to deeper understanding. Research shows that this attitude supports stronger achievement!

6th Grade Team 1 would encourage all parents to start a Twitter account with your son or daughter. Once you have joined the Twitterverse, we hope you follow @NMS\_6thGr\_Team1. By following us, you will be treated to notices about upcoming tests, project due dates, pictures of projects, and students, and info about students.

Team 1 teachers would love to see you follow us.

Mrs. Brummond, Miss Johnson, Mr. Skiff, and Miss Uttecht



Dear Parent(s),

Team 2-6<sup>th</sup> grade is now a user of Twitter. Follow our handle: at:

@Team2\_6<sup>th</sup>\_NMS

We will be posting announcements regarding homework, tests, quizzes, special projects, and other great things your children are doing here at the Norfolk Middle School. Join today and stay in touch.

Looking forward to your follow,

6<sup>th</sup> Grade-Team 2 Teachers

Mrs. Miller, Ms. Mimick, Mrs. Strand and Mrs. Peterson



**A Full Classroom** is connected. Please follow us on Twitter as we use this social media tool to share our work, learning, and life at school.

Follow Nancy Full @ afullclassroom

Catch a glimpse into our classrooms and your child's learning.

"Tweetfully yours,"

Mrs. Full



**Mark Your Calendars!!!!**  
**Fifth grade Band Concert will be held May 12th,**  
**2020!! More details to follow.**

Don't forget that Artsonia can help you with your Christmas Shopping. You can buy personalized gifts featuring your child's artwork or even order your Christmas Cards. My personal favorites are the blank cards, for my kids to write thank you's, and the snap my art jewelry.



**Reminder to Parents:**

**We will be taking your children outside for activity time unless it is raining or there is snow on the ground. Please make sure they come to school with coats, gloves, hats and proper shoes.**



5<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra,  
and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band News  
Kimberly Erickson, Director  
KimberlyErickson@npsne.org

Twitter: @NMSEandO  
Website: <http://goo.gl/V4Jhef>



Text Number: 81010  
5th Orchestra@500go  
6th Orchestra@600go  
6th Band@600bo  
After School Practices@200c5  
Jazz Band @jb100  
Honor Band Lessons @200c5



**Norfolk Middle School Instrumental Music Concert**  
**6th Grade Band and 5th/6th Grade Orchestra**  
**Thursday, December 5, 2019 at 7:00 PM**

On Thursday, December 5, 2019 the Middle School 6th grade Band, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra, and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra will be presenting their December Concert at the Johnny Carson Theater (Sr. High School) at 7:00 pm. Students are to report at 6:15 to their warm-up rooms to tune. This is a required concert for those performing! The students have been working very hard on their music and are ready to perform for their parents, relatives, friends, and teachers! We look forward to seeing you there!

**Concert Attire:**

- Orchestra students need to dress in black and white dress clothes.
- Band students need to wear dress clothes, any color.

**Dress Rehearsals:**

- All performing students will have a dress rehearsal during the day on December 5.
- Students will take their instruments to Johnny Carson for dress rehearsal and then leave them at the High School until the concert. After the concert, all students will need to take their instruments home. (Mrs. Erickson will be responsible for the larger instruments including: percussion, baritones, tubas, baritone saxophone, string basses, and cellos).

If you should have any questions feel free to call me at school or email me at

[kimberlyerickson@npsne.org](mailto:kimberlyerickson@npsne.org). I look forward to seeing you at the concert!

Mrs. Erickson



**Instrument Rentals**

All rental agreements and fees are due for Band and Orchestra instrument rentals. The office will be contacting any student that has not paid their fee. Please get those turned in.

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**Wayne State College Honor Band Auditions:**

The Honor Band will be held at Wayne State College on Saturday, January 25, 2020. We had 18 students complete the audition process. Great job to all students on their hard work. Wayne State College will announce the accepted students before break.

# Reading Classic

....And we're off! Reading Classic has started well. As of today, we have 9 active teams and 3 other teams semi-active.

We will start meeting biweekly. The students know what to do for now. They will continue to record in their binders and read. If all the books have been read by a team, each team is encouraged to read books that other team mates have read. Here are the dates for the upcoming Monday meetings:

November 18

December 2, 16 (holiday party - will send out more information later)

January 13, 27

February 10, 24 (this may change as competition nears)

Thank you for being a part of our Reading Classic team. Let us know if you have any questions!

Mrs. Korth ([tamelakorth@npsne.org](mailto:tamelakorth@npsne.org))

Mrs. Henderson ([tinahenderson@npsne.org](mailto:tinahenderson@npsne.org))

For more information: <http://readingclassic.wixsite.com/read>



## Come one, come all!

The Middle School choir will be performing their winter program on Monday, December 16th at the Johnny Carson Theater. The performance will begin promptly at 7:00pm. Students need to be at the Senior High no later than 6:30pm.

You won't want to miss this performance! We look forward to seeing you there!

