

NORFOLK MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



October 2026

Dear Middle School Families,

Happy Fall! October is here, and we are nearing the end of the first quarter of school! Students have settled into their learning routines and recently completed the Fall MAP Assessments. In the coming weeks, students and teachers will work together to set individual learning goals based on these results. We are looking forward to connecting with all parents at the upcoming Parent-Teacher Conferences to discuss how we can best support your child here at the Middle School.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Monday, October 12th 4:00pm-7:00pm

Wednesday, October 14th from 4:00pm-7:00pm

Thursday, October 15th from 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Please note there will be no school on Friday, October 16th and Monday, October 19th.

5th Grade: All conferences are scheduled. Information has been sent home with students to help families find a date and time that works best.

6th Grade: Conferences will take place in the gym. These are open sessions with no scheduled times.

We are striving for 100% parent participation at both 5th and 6th grade conferences.

Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) News

Our PTO has already been hard at work supporting and enhancing our school community. Thanks to their generous efforts, we have installed a Gaga Ball pit with a concrete base, added a fence featuring Middle School Panther branding, and installed a projection screen in the gym. The PTO has also helped create a more welcoming and inspiring environment for students and guests by adding motivational messages to our staircases and purchasing rugs and signage throughout the building. We sincerely appreciate the PTO's continued dedication and support!

In addition to supporting students, the PTO shows appreciation for our teaching staff by providing meals and treats throughout the year. We invite you to consider supporting their efforts by signing up to bring items for the upcoming Teacher Meals during Parent/Teacher Conferences. [Click on the link here to sign up to bring an item for teachers to enjoy during Parent Teacher Conference Week.](#)

Upcoming Dine-Out Nights

Another great way to support our PTO is by participating in our monthly Dine-Out Nights. On these evenings, local businesses donate a portion of their sales to our Middle School PTO. Our first Dine-Out Night will be at Freddy's.

Wednesday, October 7- Freddy's 5:00-9:00

Book Fair

The Middle School Library will host a Book Fair during Parent-Teacher Conferences. A portion of all sales directly benefits our school, allowing us to purchase more library books for students. Be sure to stop by!

Reminder from the YMCA:

Only students who are at least 12 years old and are entering the YMCA to use its facilities are permitted on YMCA grounds after school.

Concerns have been raised regarding students gathering outside the YMCA while waiting for rides and engaging in inappropriate or unsafe behavior. To help ensure student safety, all students must be picked up in the designated Middle School pick-up areas or walk directly to their intended destination after school.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for helping us maintain a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

Lost and Found

If your child is missing an item, please encourage them to check the Lost and Found. During Parent-Teacher Conferences, the Lost and Found collection will be displayed in a visible area for families to view.

Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Veik

Important Dates

Saturday, October 3rd

Red Ribbon Run

Wednesday, October 7th

Dine-Out Night-Freddy's

5:00pm - 9:00pm

Thursday, October 8th

End of First Quarter

Friday, October 9th

NO SCHOOL

Monday, October 12th

3:20pm Dismissal

4:00pm-7:00pm--P/T Conferences

Tuesday, October 13th

3:20pm Dismissal

Wednesday, October 14th

2:00pm Dismissal

4:00pm-7:00pm--P/T Conferences

Thursday, October 15th

11:30am Dismissal

1:00pm-4:00pm--P/T Conferences

Friday, October 16th

NO SCHOOL

Monday, October 19th

No School

NOVEMBER 2026

Monday, November 9th

6th Grade Choir Performance at the Norfolk Vet's Home 1:00pm

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday,

November 25th - November 27th

Thanksgiving Break

At all varsity games, Middle School students are expected to either sit with their parents or in the designated Middle School student section. Students are not allowed to be running around or playing football in the grassy areas. If students visit the concession area, they are to complete their purchase and return to their seats. Students loitering in the concession area will be asked to return to their seats to watch the game. Students who exit the gates of the football field will not be able to reenter the game.



The Norfolk Middle School offices close at 4:00pm. Please have your child picked up by 3:40pm, unless the student is meeting with a teacher, working in the AC, or involved in Aftershock.

Thank you for your cooperation!



Reminder from the Health Office:

Please make sure to return the attack on asthma care plans/anaphylactic reactions plans that were mailed home. If there is no longer a current diagnosis of asthma, please let the nurse's office know so that we may update our files.

Thanks,
Cindy Fox, RN



REMINDER!!!

Please make sure to contact the Middle School with any changes to phone numbers or addresses.

Moving??

Please make sure to let NMS know prior to your move. We are here to help your student make a smooth transition to his or her new school!

HOME LOG IN INSTRUCTIONS!

Go to the norfolkpublicschools.org website.

At the top on the middle of the screen there are 3 links that say STUDENTS, PARENTS, and STAFF.

Select STUDENTS. There are links for Infinite Campus, Google and Clever. Log into Google first.

Google login for students:

email address: 1st name+middle initial+last name@students.npsne.org

Password: they will use the password they created on the 1st day of school

Once you are logged in, go back to the NPS website, and log into Clever.

To log into Clever, use the same link under STUDENTS on the website and use the GOOGLE LOGIN BAR. Clever has all the sites that students use in their Classrooms, including Google Classroom and Infinite Campus. Use the Google Login Bar for Infinite Campus also.



Library News.....

Norfolk Middle School library books are due two weeks after they're checked out. Students are allowed to renew their books up to two times. If student books are overdue two weeks or more (without renewing), those books will have a fee assessed equal to the purchase price of the book. Students may have the fee removed by returning the book or paying the fee. In the meantime, students who have fees for these books will not be able to check out books from the library until the fee is taken care of. Please encourage your students to return those books that are assigned a fee. Then, if the book cannot be found, we would appreciate a timely payment for the fee. Thank you!

Norfolk Middle School is having a Book Fair!! The fair will be held at the Middle School library during Parent/Teacher Conferences on October 12th, 14th, and 15th. Come check us out!



JUNIOR OPTIMISTS ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Fifth and Sixth graders are invited to join Junior Optimist International (JOI) to help make a difference during the 2026-27 school year. Members participate in fun projects and activities that help improve the community and better the lives of its residents. JOI members will practice leadership and good citizenship skills. Highlights include working regularly with senior citizens and veterans, feeding the hungry, and sharing the "JOI of Reading" with elementary children. Members work with such community organizations as The Salvation Army, the Arc of Norfolk, and the Norfolk Veteran's Home.

Meetings are held in the media classroom before school on Tuesdays. Members join Mr. Claussen there once let into the building. Feel free to contact him at 402-841-1142 or markclaussen1958@gmail.com with any questions.

INFORMATION FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

Parents/Guardians--

Please review the following important information regarding sending medications to school.

Your written consent is required prior to school personnel providing or administering medication to a child at school.

All medication (prescription and over the counter) products must be sent to the school in the original containers with labels in tact, including child's name, physician's name (prescription medication only) and directions for administering. Medications in bags or any other form of "home packaging" will not be administered, due to safety considerations.

Please contact the health office if you have any questions!

**Thank you,
Cindy Fox, RN
Norfolk Public School Nurse**





Red Ribbon Week

Theme: "Make a Difference. Be a Hero. Stay Drug Free."

Middle School students will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week during the week of October 26th - October 30th. We will be celebrating healthy choices by participating in the daily themes as follows. The theme is a reminder that everyday Americans across the country make significant daily contributions to their communities by being the best they can be because they live Drug-Free!

Theme: "Make a Difference. Be a Hero. Stay Drug Free."

Monday, Oct. 26th:

"Land of the Free Day"

Honor the heroes that fought for our Country
Dress in Red, White, and Blue

Tuesday, Oct. 27th:

"Round up a Drug Free Future"

Dress up in your cowboy/cowgirl western gear

Wednesday, Oct. 28th:

"Throw Back to Preschool Day!"

You've been Drug-Free since Preschool....Keep it going!
Dress like you were in preschool

Thursday, Oct. 29th:

"Super Hero Teacher Day-Be the Hero of Your Future"

Dress up as your favorite teacher as your "superhero"

Friday, Oct. 30th:

"Celebrate Panther Pride by Being Drug Free"

Wear panther gear

Each day, we will award a "Best Dressed Prize to one 5th grader, one 6th grader, and one staff member!

5th Grade Orchestra, 6th Grade Orchestra, and 6th Grade Band News

Kimberly Erickson, Director
KimberlyErickson@npsne.org
@NMSBandO
Website: <http://goo.gl/V4Jhef>

Google Classroom

All students need to check their Google Classroom Accounts regularly to make sure they have completed all of their assignments. These can be found under "Classwork."

Wayne State College Honor Band Auditions

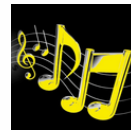
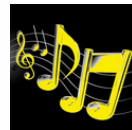
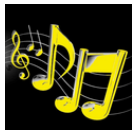
Band students have had the opportunity to sign up for the Wayne State Honor Band auditions. This group consists of 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade students from Nebraska, Iowa, and South Dakota. Students that signed up to audition will receive music to begin preparations for their auditions. The first two weeks of November will be reserved for recording auditions. Weekly lessons will continue until recordings are complete. Some students may finish early, but all recordings must be complete by Thursday, November 19th. The permission form and entry fee are due by October 15th.

The Honor Band will be held at Wayne State College on Saturday, January 23, 2027. If your son/daughter is auditioning, please check your calendars to make sure there are no other conflicts on this day.

Middle School Instrumental Winter Concert
December 7th at 7:00pm/Students Report at 6:15pm

Johnny Carson Theater

Students will soon be working on some great music for their upcoming concert. This is a **required** event for all 6th Grade Band and 5th and 6th Grade Orchestra students. Orchestra students need to dress in black and white dress clothes. Band students need to wear dress clothes (any color). There will be 6th grade band dress rehearsals at JCT in the morning and both Orchestras will be in the afternoon. If you would like to help chaperone dress rehearsals, please let me know. More information will be sent home in November.



The Red Ribbon Run is Saturday, October 3rd at 9:30am at Skyview Lake (East side by the stage). The run is open to K-6th grade students (must be 12 and under). Students were given registration slips in their Physical Education classes. Registration closes this Friday, September 25th.





STUDENTS OF THE MONTH **SEPTEMBER 2026**



AT NORFOLK MIDDLE SCHOOL WE HAVE CREATED A CHARACTER EDUCATION PROGRAM WITH A MONTHLY EMPHASIS ON VARIOUS CHARACTER TRAITS. THIS MONTH'S CHARACTER TRAIT IS RESPECT. THESE ARE THE STUDENTS THAT BEST EXHIBITED THE CHARACTER TRAIT OF RESPECT THIS MONTH:

5TH GRADE TEAM 1A: ISABEL GARCIA FONSECA

5TH GRADE TEAM 1B: KYLAR STEFFENSMEIER

5TH GRADE TEAM 2A: ALEYDA SELLENTIN

5TH TEAM 2B: LILY FARNIK

5TH TEAM 3A: ALEXIS TURNER

5TH TEAM 3B: KAMRYN MORROW

5TH TEAM 4: GEORGIA PORT

6TH TEAM 1: AMELIA GOODMAN

RYKEN ANDERSON

6TH TEAM 2: AFTYN PLASENCIA

COHEN KUEHNER

6TH TEAM 3: MACKENZIE HERLICK

CARTER SCHOLL

SPECIALS: AVA ARNOLD

SHARON HPAUYU

BRENNAN MAUGHAN

WILLOW MILLER

PLEASE BE SURE TO CONGRATULATE THESE STUDENTS FOR MAKING OUR SCHOOL A WONDERFUL PLACE!