NORFOLK MIDDLE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

November 2026

From the Principal's Desk:

Happy November! As we enter this season of gratitude, I want to thank our students, families, teachers, paraprofessionals, office staff, custodians, and lunch staff for making Norfolk Middle School a special place each day. Your commitment and dedication make a positive difference in our school community. I look forward to our continued partnership in helping all students reach their goals.

Parent-Teacher Conferences: Thank you for taking an active role in your child's education by attending our fall parent-teacher conferences. If you have questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher. You can also monitor your child's grades through the Infinite Campus Parent Portal.

PTO News: We invite you to support our Parent-Teacher Organization by participating in Middle School Dine Out Nights. On Tuesday, November 10, Raising Cane's will donate 15% of qualifying sales to the Norfolk Middle School PTO. Please mention the Middle School fundraiser when ordering in person or use the code RCFUND96 when ordering online. Thank you to everyone who donated treats for our teachers during parent-teacher conferences!

Before and After School: If your child walks to and from school, please remind them to use designated crosswalks. Morning supervision and breakfast begin at 7:30 a.m. Please do not drop off students before that time. After-school supervision ends at 3:40 p.m. Please arrange for your child to be picked up before then unless you have made arrangements with a teacher or the Achievement Center.

Weather: As temperatures drop, please ensure your child comes to school dressed for the weather, including a warm coat. Students go outside for Activity Time most days. In the event of a weather-related late start or school cancellation, you will receive an automated message from the NPS Central Office.

Lost and Found: If your child is missing a jacket, sweatshirt, water bottle, lunch bag, or another item, please encourage them to check the Lost and Found in the north stairwell near Door #3.

PBIS: Norfolk Public Schools uses Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) to promote a positive school climate and learning environment. This proactive approach supports students' behavioral and social development through clear expectations, consistent instruction, and positive reinforcement. Our schoolwide expectations encourage students to be respectful, responsible, resourceful, and resilient.

We wish you and your family a November filled with gratitude, kindness, and time together.

Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Veik

Important Dates

Monday, November 2nd
Character Education Assembly

Monday, November 9th
Veteran's Day Program @ The Veteran's Home
1:00pm

Tuesday, November 10th
Veteran's Day Program @NMS
2:30pm

Tuesday, November 10th
Raising Canes PTO Fundraiser

Tuesday, November 10th and Thursday November 12th
5th Grade GI Days

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
November 25th, 26th, and 27th
Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER 2026
Tuesday, December 1st
Culver's Dine Out Night
5:00pm - 8:00pm

Monday, December 7th
6th Grade Band/Orchestra and 5th Grade Orchestra Concert @ Johnny Carson Theater
7:00pm

Friday, December 11th
NO SCHOOL

Thursday, December 17th
5th / 6th Grade Winter Choir Concert
@Johnny Carson Theater
7:00pm

Monday, December 21st -Monday, January 4th
Winter Vacation
NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, January 5th
SCHOOL RESUMES

Dear Parents and Families:
Thank you for making the NMS Library Fall Book Fair a success. With the funds raised, we will be able to add new books and supplies to our library.

Thank you to the parent volunteers who aided in our efforts! You are appreciated!

We hope to see you and your child at our next fair in February. Until then, happy reading!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Showalter and Mrs. Wiebe
Book Fair Chairpersons



Be sure to check lost and found, located near the NMS office , for missing hats, jackets, lunchboxes, sweatshirts, etc. It is beginning to overflow already this year!

Reminder from the Health Office:

Please make sure to return the attack on asthma care plans/anaphylactic reactions plans that were mailed home. If ther 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

Don't forget Artsonia for your Holiday shopping!!
20% of your purchase comes directly back to our art program and they have some AWESOME stuff!
*My favorites are "snap my art jewelry" and thank you cards featuring your child's artwork.

SPELLING BEE WINNERS

The Norfolk Middle School Spelling Bees were held on Thursday, October 15th and the winners outlasted their classmates in both 5th and 6th grade. The sixth grade winner was Jack Calvert, with Harper Muehlmeier receiving runner up honors. First place in 5th grade went to Sofia Neira Marin, with Vayda Stevens earning second place. Everyone was amazed at some of the workds that were spelled by these ace spellers! Other participating for 5th grade included: Reagan Poulsen, Isabel Garcia Fonseca, Clara Waite, Briella Bayne, Ryan Saavedra, Luana Anez Centurion, Alyvia Beattie, Mateo Max, Danna Nava Ramirez, Haven Andersen Soto, Leo Calderon, Melanie Becerra, Spencer Carmichael, Kamryn Morrow, Sloane Settles, Emory Johnson, Georgia Port, Devyn Sukup, Lauren Barg, Kallee Diaz, Brantley Everett, Sabrina Garza, Wilson Powers, Kessleigh Kolar, Brennan Lampert, and Eimy Darias Pernus. Other 6th graders competing were: Mason Lewis, Hendrix LaVey, Jacob Halligan, Eden Shoop, Phoebe Krause, Roberto Ramirez, Fischer Klawitter, Karley Prauner, Julius McWilliams, Mackenzie Herlick, MJ Brausey, Yazmin Mendoza, Grant Canham, Thaxton Prahl, Ty Toltzman, Emma Vaughan, Logan Haisch, Giovanna Romero, Audryanna Kittle, A'Dareus Brown, Cruz Kilpatrick, Emerson Wasenius, Cyrus Beyer, Gabrielle Austin, Alee Sukup, and Amelia Goodman.



Dear 5th Grade Band Parent(s) or Guardian(s),

Welcome to Band! The rewards of being a part of this exciting musical organization are great!

The first few weeks of learning to play a band instrument are especially important. Good practice habits need to be established at home from the beginning, and a parent or guardian can HELP!

Help to set up the best possible practice facility. Having a music stand is recommended for best posture while playing. If a DVD player or computer is available, the student will be able to play along with accompaniment recordings. Look at the instructions on how to download the computer program to use at home! It is awesome to play along with!

Establish a regular time and routine for practice sessions. I have a goal for the students of 100 minutes of practice time each week! Regular practice is really important since I see your child only 25 minutes once a week for a lesson. Please help them make sure to write their practice time down in their lesson book.

Listen enthusiastically to your child's practicing. Recognize his or her efforts when practicing. You are the audience your child will most appreciate.

Participate in our three-way partnership: parent(s)/guardians, student, and teacher working together to make band an enjoyable and worthwhile experience. Please let me know if you ever have any questions or concerns. My email at school is abigailburns@npsne.org or call and leave a message at school at 402-644-2569.

Thank you for your continued support of your child and the 5th grade band!

Abigail Burns and Carrie Jensen



CHOIR NEWS

Veteran's Day Performances: The 6th grade choir will be performing for local veterans at the Norfolk Veterans Home on **Monday, November 9th** at **1:00pm**. Weather permitting, students will be walking to this performance. Students will need to wear walking shoes and dress in layers for this performance.

The sixth grade choir will also be performing for the middle school students at Norfolk Middle School **Tuesday, November 10th** at **2:30pm**. Parents are welcome to attend this performance. Students will need to wear red, white, and blue for this performance.

5th and 6th Grade Winter Concert at Johnny Carson Theater: For the winter concert this year, choir students will be presenting the Surfin' Santa Operetta. It will take place on December 17th at the Johnny Carson Theater. Students' call time will be 6:30pm, with the concert scheduled to start at 7:00pm. This performance promises to be a memorable evening of fun music performed by 140 combined choir students. Please note that student attendance at this concert is required for student grades. We hope to see you there!



5th Grade Orchestra, 6th Grade Orchestra, and 6th Grade Band News
Kimberly Erickson, Director
KimberlyErickson@npsne.org
@NMSBandO
Website: http://goo.gl/V4Jhef

Norfolk Middle School Instrumental Music Concert
6th Grade Band and 5th/6th Grade Orchestra
Monday, December 7, 2026 at 7:00pm

On **Monday, December 7th** , the Middle School 6th grade Band, 5th Grade Orchestra, and 6th Grade Orchestra will be presenting their December Concert at the Johnny Carson Theater (Sr. High School) at 7:00pm. Students are to report at 6:15pm 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, any combination
Band students need to wear dress clothes, any color

Dress Rehearsals:
All performing students will have a dress rehearsal during the day on December 7th.
Students will take their instruments to Johnny Carson Theater 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 would like to help chaperone the Band in the morning and/or the Orchestras in the afternoon, please let me know ASAP!

If you have any questions feel free to call me at school or email me at kimberlyerickson@npsne.org
I look forward to seeing you at the concert!
Mrs. Erickson

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 have received music to begin preparations for their auditions.
The Honor Band will be held at Wayne State College on Saturday, January 23, 2027. Weekly lessons will continue until recordings are complete. Some students may finish early, but all recordings must be completed by Wednesday, November 18th.

The Red Ribbon Run was held Saturday, October 3rd at Skyview Lake. Please congratulate these students for medaling in the event:

Girls 9-10 Year Old Divison: 1st Place: Sofia Neira Marin with a time of 5:05, 2nd Place: Aleyda Sellentin-5:09

Girls 11-12 Year Old Division: 1st place: Ellie Mather-4:42 and 3rd place: Olivia Eason-5:44

Boys Overall Winner: Owen Bierman with a time of 4:14

Boys 9-10 Year Old Division: 3rd Place: Corbin Dobler-4:50

Boys 11-12 Year Old Division: 2nd Place: Peyton Jorgensen-4:39 and 3rd Place: Jax Horst-4:49



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH
OCTOBER 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 PERSEVERANCE. THESE ARE THE STUDENTS THAT BEST EXHIBITED THE CHARACTER TRAIT OF PERSEVERANCE THIS MONTH:

5TH GRADE TEAM 1A: CAROLINA HERNANDEZ ARRONTE
5TH GRADE TEAM 1B: KNOX HENN
5TH GRADE TEAM 2A: ALEXANDRA MENCHU NAVA
5TH TEAM 2B: NOELIA ESPARZA
5TH TEAM 3A: WILLIAM LONDON
5TH TEAM 3B: JAX LIND
5TH TEAM 4: ERINA IBRAHIMI
6TH TEAM 1: MELISSA GONZALEZ FIGUEROA
DANIEL MORA
6TH TEAM 2: LUCY CLAPP
CESAR HERNANDEZ
6TH TEAM 3: AYMES BARLOW
ANDI ANDERSON
SPECIALS: CARSON RUTLAND
JAXON LUCAS
ANDRII KOVAL
MELANIE CRAWFORD

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

JOIN OUR FUNDRAISER AT RAISING CANE'S

Mention the fundraiser at the register and Cane's will donate **15%** of sales to:

Norfolk Public Middle School

DATE & TIME:

Tuesday, November 10th, 2026

LOCATION:

1150 S 13th St, Norfolk, NE

Scan, Order Online, Use Code RCFUND96



CanesAndCommunity.com