



January 2017 Newsletter

From the Desk of the Principal

The start of a new semester seems to be a time for both a renewal of the old and a look forward to the new. For all of us, it should be a time that we reflect on what we did well in the previous semester and to make attempts to better ourselves for the second semester. Our winter concerts are behind us and all of our winter activities and sports are in full swing. It is a time when our students and coaches/sponsors are sometime caught up in the flurry of activities that our family time is moved to the back seat. Please make every attempt to put family time at the top of the list. This may mean, in most cases, that the entire family attends the school events. Make the best of the limited time that we have together as families.

It is very important that in spite of some dark and cold weather in the winter months that we start the second semester with enthusiasm and a strong sense of purpose. If grades weren't to the levels that were expected in the first semester, the second semester offers renewed hope and promise. Students should utilize every opportunity, including the Intervention period, to get the help needed for grade improvement. We strongly encourage parents to make contact with your student's teachers and to keep student progress updated with the PowerSchool system.

This is also the time for students to begin making registration plans for the 2017-18 school year. Please take note of any information in the school newsletters and the letters that come from the counseling office. It is really important to encourage your son/daughter to take a challenging course load their junior and senior years to better prepare themselves for the next level of education. Statistics indicate that the highest rate of dropouts in college occur between year one and year two. Many experts attribute this, at least in part, to a less rigorous schedule the last year of high school. Please help us to do all we can to best prepare students for their future.

Please note that second semester resumes after our winters break on Wednesday, January 4.

Meeting With The Principal

In order to better communicate with the parents of Northwest students, I will be holding a monthly meeting with any parents that will be willing to discuss questions that arise, offer advice, or just chat. These meetings will be held on the first Wednesdays of the month. The next meeting will be scheduled for Wednesday, January 4th. The meeting will be from 10:00-11:00 AM.

Tim Krupicka, Principal
Northwest High School

8th Grade & New Student Orientation

Please make plans to attend the 8th grade & new student orientation night on Thursday February 2nd at Northwest High School. The evening will begin with an open house at 6pm followed by a short program at 7pm in the auditorium.



School Closing Information

Northwest High School will announce school closing information on radio stations KRG1 AM/FM, KSYZ, KZ100 and TV stations KSNB, KOLN/KGIN, NTV AND KLKN. Northwest will remain in session whenever possible. Parental/guardian decisions, with the respect



safely will not be questioned. We do require parental/guardian notice before we will excuse a student, or all a student to leave the building. Please report absences, or early dismissals to the Central Office 308-385-6394.

Freshman Academy

In our second year with Freshman Academy, it looks like we have another great bunch of kids. At the time I wrote this, we had 94% of the freshmen that will pass all of their classes. Way to go! Way to go! First of all, thank you to the following Freshman Academy teachers who helped advise and work with me in order to make it successful: Mrs. Mazour, Mr. Prokesh, Mrs. Haith, Mr. Menke, Mrs. Coates, Ms. Welch, Ms. Topil, Mrs. Verba and Mr. Gehring. I really appreciate all of their time and dedication to help the freshman transition to high school and the willingness they all had in order to help our students be successful.

The freshman really worked hard until the very end of first semester. Way back on September 19, 2016, we had 74% of the freshman class passing all of their classes. We continued to make very good progress and after the first semester ends, we should have 94% of the freshman passing all classes. Congratulations to all of the students and teachers on achieving this percentage and also for working very hard right up until the very last day. A support that was in place during the entire semester, was the after school study hall. This runs from 3:40 - 4:10 each night (except Wednesday), and it is held in a different Freshman Academy teacher's room weekly. During this second semester we will continue to offer this support, but also are going to tweak it a little. If a student is failing one class, they **must** come to this study hall once during the week OR work with a teacher in their room before school

for 25 - 30 minutes. If a student is failing two classes, they **must** go to study hall twice, or work with a teacher before school. This same pattern follows for students failing three or four classes. Between these supports and also having intervention three to four times per week, students should be able to get the help they need.

Throughout first semester, some freshmen were awarded Viking Bucks for demonstrating good character. Once a month, all students at Northwest had lessons taught to them from John Wooden's - Pyramid of Success. These building blocks of character education include loyalty, poise, cooperation, etc., as examples. If a student received one of these Viking Bucks, they had to turn it in to Mr. Moser so that he could personally congratulate them. Then it was placed into a box and their name could be drawn for some additional prizes donated by local businesses (Thank you to Wal-Mart, Sonic, Hy-Vee, Dairy Queen, Arby's, Panda Express, Taco John's, Olive Garden). Congratulations to all students who received these Viking Bucks. If any student did not turn theirs in to Mr. Moser, please do so as it is never too late.

In December, about 40 freshmen had an opportunity to give back to the community. Ms. Topil organized a community service project for her math students, which was absolutely wonderful. Students raised money by selling tickets (chances) to advisement classes for opportunities to win breakfast pizza, rolls and juice or Eileen's Cookies. When all of the money was added up, it totaled \$700. The generosity of Northwest students and staff is amazing!!!! This money was then used to go on a shopping trip to Wal-Mart where supplies were purchased and then taken to the Hope Harbor. When at Wal-Mart, the students used coupons to get the best deals, while also staying within their budget. Students were able to take a tour of Hope Harbor and hear a short presentation. There is no doubt that many students had an even greater appreciation of all that they have and should be thankful for. Thank you to all of these students and to Ms. Topil for organizing this.

One area that I want to work on with the freshmen is in the area of community service. In order to graduate from Northwest, you must have 40 hours of community service. I will be working on setting up an opportunity for the freshmen some time in the spring. This will give them the chance to get some of those hours done and will help them understand what opportunities are out there, as well as, truly know why helping to give back to the community is

so important. Please look for this date and time in one of my upcoming newsletters.

If any student or parent of a freshman has any questions, please contact Mr. Moser at 308-385-6394 (Ext. 5123) or mmoser@ginorthwest.org. The best way to prevent problems is through excellent communication. As next semester begins, I will be making phone contact with parents at 3, 6 and 9-week checkpoints. If a student is failing or nearly failing a class, or if they have attendance issues, you will be receiving a phone call from me to discuss things that can be done to help and to possibly set up a parent meeting. If there is ever anything that I can do I am happy to help and want your children to be successful at Northwest. Go Vikings!!

Counselor's Corner



SCHOLARSHIP REMINDER

Seniors, be sure to check the scholarship list on the school website under the Counseling Office. The Warren and Velda Wilson Scholarship is now open. Several of our seniors receive this every year. The application is entirely online so if students have problems getting it to work with their computer, please don't hesitate to come to the counseling office and we will help you work through it. There may be scholarships that do not work with Chromebooks, so if students have trouble with an application, it could be their computer. They can use the library computers or come to the counseling office if they need help. REMINDER: The Susan Thompson Buffett scholarship is due Feb. 1. Many of our students get this scholarship.

2017-18 CLASS REGISTRATION

Mr. Manhart and Mrs. Merritt met with students in their classrooms to begin the registration process. Students were given their registration forms and will return them to the counseling office. Students planning to register for CCC classes next year should know that the college requires them to take either the ACT or the new ACCUPLACER test. For those students not taking the February ACT, a time will be scheduled at Northwest for them to take the ACCUPLACER test.

Fee Waiver

The NCAA, NAIA and the ACT provide fee waivers for their registration fees. Come see us if you qualify for free/reduced lunches and we'll help you work through the process of using fee waivers.

ACT

The next ACT registration deadline is **JANUARY 13th**. This will be for the February 3rd testing date. Fee waivers are available, come to the counseling office if you receive free/reduced lunches.

Jr Viking Wrestling Club

The Northwest Jr Viking Wrestling club will start practice for the Pre-K thru 2 graders Thursday, Jan 5. Practice time is from 6:00 to 6:45. 3rd thru 8th grade will practice from 6:45-8:00. Practices will be held on Monday and Thursday nights on the wrestling deck at Northwest High School. Parents can still register your child for the club. There is an online signup at the Northwest Jr Viking Facebook page (www.facebook.com/NorthwestJrVikingsWrestling/).

You can also access the calendar on the Facebook page. If you have any questions please contact Coach Paige (jpaige@ginorthwest.org) or Coach Sybrandts (bsybrandts@ginorthwest.org)



4-YEAR PLANS

Counselors will also be visiting with the sophomores in Careers classes in early January to revise their 4-year plans. This is a good time to talk with your child about what their future career goals are so they can take appropriate classes to achieve that goal.

CAREERS CLASS TRIPS

Sophomore students in a Careers class this semester will be visiting two different college campuses as a requirement for this class. Students will visit Hastings Central Community College on March 22nd and the University of Nebraska at Kearney on March 29th. A letter will be sent home soon with more information about these trips.

NCAA & NAIA REMINDERS

Want to play a college sport? You need to register with an eligibility center. Website addresses are www.ncaa.org or www.PlayNAIA.org. Come to the Counseling Office if you need help with either of these applications or need a fee waiver.

FAFSA

The FAFSA website opened on October 1st this year. Parents and seniors should be completing this as soon as possible as federal funds are first come, first served.

Community Service Hours

Congratulations to the following students who have completed their community service hour requirements:

Class of 2017

Casey Adams, Hilario Alcorta, Rachel Atkins, Madison Bahe, Blake Beran, Madison Beran, Arthan Bhatt, Whitney Bicknase, Chance Boersen, Lindsay Borer, Emily Broadwell, Kylie Broich, Bailey Bryant, Jerald Buettner, Emily Bykerk, Jaydon Casillas, Hunter Cook, Coleman Cooper, Carry Cornelius, Quinn Cruz, Nolan Dennhardt, Miranda Eastman, Richard Eckhart, Dalton Elliott, Katelyn England, Joel Erdmann, Wyatt Eriksen, Tanner Fieldgrove, Michael Fischer, Mitch Fisher, Matthew Fredricks, Jon Frericks, Morgan Garrett, Taylor Harris, Zach Harris, Jacqueline Heaton, Jessica Hoffman, Trevor Holcomb, Sierra Holliday, Secret Homolka, Amelia Iversen, McKenna Johnson, Ashley Kenyon, Lucas Kneeland, Lauren Knox, Benjamin Krupicka, Maddie Mazour, Kaylee Gibson, Jay Laub, Aaron Levering, Joseph Lind, Katey Loman, Dakota Martin, Emily Maruska, Ryan McDermott, MacKenzie McNeel, Nate Mead, Alisha Michalski, Dawson Nellson, Lacie Nelson, Andrean Olson, Andres Ortega, Reagan Ostdiek, Bryan Palomares, Jeremy Parr Jr., Kelsey

Placke, Cassandra Pokorney, Cherokee Reinhart, Christopher Rosenlund, Lexi Sadd, Mikel Schlick, Ryan Schneckloth, Sydney Schumm, Brady Semm, Kristen Setlik, Paige Shubert, Addison Simmons, Taylor Smith, Jeffrey Sokol, Andrew Strek, Arik Strek, Luke Sutherland, Amber Teutsch, Jadeyn Trejo, Daniel Velasquez, Dalton Wicht.

Class of 2018

Wyatt Ames, Brandon Armstrong, Tyler Baker, Megan Bartz, Erika Bennett, Merriah Bockmann, Kayla Bourland, Fletcher Bydalek, Abigail Campbell, Gage Evans, Preston Ellworth, Daniel Fisher, Hunter Fogle, Brady Glause, Megan Gydesen, MaKenzie Hageman, Taylor Hageman, Chance Hall, Tyler Hedman, Tanner Hodson, John Hosch, Caleb Jacobsen, MacKenzie Knapp, Brennin Leach, Keaton Ludwig, Dylann Luther, Adam Mason, Taryn Mayfield, Matthew Meyer, Trenton Meyer, Kyrstin Milligan, Deanna Montanez-Mendoza, Jacob Mueller, Madison Pierce, Dalton Quandt, Kelsey Ritchie, Rebekah Saddler, Halle Samples, Damon Sanders, Jordan Sandoval, Michael Schomer, Caitlyn Shafer, Sydney Simmons, Gavin Sliva, Hope Smith, Katie Springer, Wyatt Stueven, Jadeyn Stutzman,, Luke Thiessen, Sharilyn Tuttle, Nakia Wilkerson, Ryan Zimmerman

Class of 2019

Kayla Bornemeier, Brook Buhrman, Megan Cooper, Alisha DeHart, Angel Duran, Carlos Duran, Arianna Elstermeier, Sydney Holmes, Madison Jankovitz, Jakeb Larson, Abigail Leigh, Louis Loman, Ana Pascual, Tyler Rinkol, Jared Rosenlund, Ashlyn Sutherland, Alexis Zlomke

Class of 2020

Whitney Brown, John Campbell

