



October 2016 Newsletter

From the Desk of the Principal

We are off to a great start here at Northwest High School. It doesn't seem that long ago that we were welcoming back students to the building and now we are nearly to the end of the first quarter. I am impressed with our students and their desire to achieve academically and in all activities. Students and teachers need to put in the commitment to education to in order for us all to achieve and we have the type of building that does just that. The administration appreciates the support that we receive from families in to make our work with students productive.

It takes teamwork to make education as success and the support that we receive from our parents, students, teachers, and community is essential if the process is to work well. We urge all parents to stay active and involved with the education of their students. Ask questions of your students when something appears to be wrong or out of character. Consult with teachers, counselors, and administration if there are issues that may be difficult to solve on your own. We are here to support your efforts with your children.

Parent-Teacher Conferences were well attended this year with the earlier conferences. As we started the school year earlier this year, naturally PTC was also earlier. We really appreciate the parents that attended the conferences and the input that you provided for us and for our staff. We want to be the best partners possible in educating your students. We remind all parents to take an active role in making communication with teachers regarding your student's progress in school. The educational process cannot be a success unless we have the teamwork of students-teachers-parents. If you feel that more time is needed to discuss matters relating to your student, please make arrangements with the teacher to meet during the teacher's planning period or at another arranged time. We also encourage parents to actively follow your student's progress on Powerschool and also to be a

frequent visitor on the Northwest High School website. It is on the website that you will find our school activity calendar and also, with the click of a handy button, the daily bulletin.



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, October 5, 2016. The meeting will be from 10:00-11:00 AM.

Tim Krupicka, Principal
Northwest High School

Junior & Senior Class Parent Meetings-

We will be having our initial Junior and Senior Parent meetings on Wednesday, October 5. The Junior Parent meeting will be in the NWHS Cafeteria at 7:00 PM. The Senior Parent meeting will also be in the Cafeteria at 7:30 PM. These will be organizational and informational in nature.

Attendance

We ask that parents notify the Central Office by phone **(308)-385-6394** when your child will not be in school. To facilitate working parents you may email us at



at abeckmann@ginorthwest.org or you may leave a message on our voicemail.

When emailing or leaving a message please state your child's first and last name, the date of the absence and the reason for the absence along

with a number you can be reached at for questions.

Homecoming Royalty

Congratulations to the 2016 Homecoming King Christopher Rosenlund and Queen Lauren Knox. Fellow senior candidates, Madi Bahe, Kylie Broich, Addisyn Dupler, Maddie Mazour, Jaydon Casillas, Coleman Cooper, Tanner Lierman, and Chevy Stout joined them.

Blood Drive

The Northwest FBLA and National Honor will be hosting a blood drive on Tuesday, October 11. Sign up sheets will be located in the office and in classes. You can also sign up online at [Northwest Blood Drive Sign-up](#). Students 16 or older are eligible to donate if you have not given. Students who are 16 may donate if they have a parent waiver signed. If you are eligible to donate, please consider taking the opportunity to save a life!

Powerschool

As a parent, we are sure you will want to keep up with what is happening at school. With the help of PowerSchool you can keep track of your student's grades, attendance and school announcements.

Open your web browser to www.ginorthwest.org. There you will find an icon at the very bottom of the front page that says PowerSchool, click on this. If you have not yet set up an account please click on **"create account"**. This is where you will create a user name and password. You will then scroll down to link students; in this portion you will enter the access ID and password that was given to you during parent teacher conferences. You will also have the options of adding additional students. The staff in the central office will

be happy to assist in obtaining your ID's and passwords if you were unable to attend conferences.

Once your account is set up you will be taken to a page that shows your student's attendance, as well as their grades. Click on a specific grade to see all the assignments that have been recorded. When you click on the teacher's name it will take you to your email programs. You can then send the teacher an email with your questions or concerns.

PowerSchool is also available as an app on your cellular device or tablet

John Baylor Test Prep

John Baylor will be at Northwest High School Thursday, October 13 from 7:30-9:30 am, location to be announced. Anyone taking the ACT on October 22 should consider attending the Test Prep Review Session. Please sign up in the Central Office if you plan to attend.

Northwest High School provides the John Baylor Test Prep On-Line at Home program to all students. If you are interested in setting up an account please email Mrs. Ramsey at jramsey@ginorthwest.org and she will set you up an account. Please provide the email you would like to use for the account.

Careers Class

Sophomores taking Careers class this semester visited Central Community College-Hastings Campus on September 20. It was a good trip to understand opportunities available at that campus. The same group of students will travel to University of Nebraska-Kearney on October 20.



Freshman Academy

One of the most important items that parents should be able to do is access PowerSchool, in order to look at their child's grades and attendance. I have sent the following example of an e-mail I sent to a number of parents and want to be sure that all parents are able to get into PowerSchool to see how their son or daughter is doing.

ginw.powerschool.com

Parent or guardian name,

*Above your name is the website you need to go to. You will need to **create an account** when you get to that site. When you get into filling in the information on that page you will need to enter the following for these fields:*

Access ID -

Access password -

I included a screenshot of that page just in case it helps. Once you get everything filled in you should be able to get into PowerSchool to check on grades, etc. Please let me know if this does not still make sense or work for you and I will be glad to call you.

One issue that I wanted to address was cell phones / headphones. So far, cell phones have not been a major issue with the freshmen but there have been times that students are trying to listen to music, when they are not supposed to. In order for students to truly understand the instructions given by the teacher, they must be listening. When a teacher specifically has told the students that they are not to be listening to music, they need to follow those rules. The first time a cell phone is taken away by the teacher, it is given to an administrator and the student owes one hour of detention. Please make sure you have a discussion with your child about the importance of appropriately using their cell phones.

The freshmen have most of their core classes (English, Math, Science & Social Studies) during periods 3- 6 (9:32 - 2:00). We understand that it is impossible to always schedule doctor's appointments around these times but if it is at all possible, please try to do so. When your child does miss school, be sure to call the main office so they can mark their attendance correctly. After five absences to any class in a semester, a parent will receive a letter from the school, regardless if they are excused absences or not. This is in accordance with state statute while also allowing us

to effectively communicate with parents. If your child is late to a class (tardy) three times, they will owe a detention for that teacher. Please call or e-mail me to discuss any attendance questions you might have.

The freshmen were given MAPS tests and were tested in Reading and Math. These tests are norm-referenced tests, which help our district to place children in the appropriate level class. These tests also help us to show how our students compare nationally to other kids, along with giving us data to show if there is yearly growth. These tests will be given again at the end of the year in April / May. Please let me know if you have questions about the results of these tests. I will be glad to sit down and discuss the results with you.

As a reminder, our after school study hall is available on M, T, Th & F from 3:40 - 4:10 each of those days. A different academy teacher staffs this each week, and I make sure that I help cover this study hall from time to time too. The study hall is there as a support for students who may not be able to get answers from home or just a quiet place to get assignments done so they won't have homework. Students can be assigned to attend this study hall as a consequence though if they are not getting work done. If your child does need to stay after school on Wednesday nights, there is a study hall provided by the school due to the early dismissal each Wednesday.

As I conclude my newsletter, I want to make sure that all parents know how to get ahold of me. My phone number and extension at the school is 308-385-6394 (Ext. 5123) and my e-mail address is mmoser@ginorthwest.org Please feel free to contact me with any questions you have. The goal of the Freshmen Academy is to make sure that your child is supported and that they have a good base after their freshmen year so that they stay on track to graduate in 2020. Go Vikings!!!!!!

By Marty Moser

Freshmen Academy Director / Assistant Principal

Counselor's Corner



SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships have started to come into the Counseling Office and these will be posted on the new spreadsheet scholarship list. The spreadsheet can be found on the Counseling Page under Scholarships on the school website. Hopefully this newer format will make it faster for students to quickly see the scholarships they are eligible for. Scholarships will be updated throughout the year as they become available.

VISITS

Seniors should be planning to visit colleges over the next couple of months and we encourage parents to go along on these visits. It's a good idea to have 3 visits completed before December. If you need help starting this process, stop in the counseling office.

FAFSA REMINDER!

Completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is the most important step towards college. This determines your level of eligibility for college financial aid and is also required by some scholarships for application. **The FAFSA website opens October 1 this year.** (College financial aid deadlines may also have changed according to the NEW FAFSA dates so make sure you are applying on time).

First, you and a parent will need to create usernames and passwords at fsaid.ed.gov. You will need email addresses for each of you (not your school email). Then go to fafsa.gov to complete the application. These are the only official websites, there are some copycat sites so make sure you enter the right one! You will be using your 2015 tax information this year so there's no waiting for tax returns before applying.

Whether you think you will qualify for government assistance or not, APPLY, the earlier, the better! The EducationQuest website is full of good information and a tutorial on how to complete the FAFSA. You may make an appointment with EducationQuest at any of

their locations in Kearney, Lincoln or Omaha if you need help filling yours out. EducationQuest also has a helpful booklet that's full of good tips and information. Stop by the counseling office and pick one up.

APPLYING TO COLLEGE

When applying to college, students will be required to send a transcript. Transcripts should now be requested by emailing the counseling secretary, Brenda Dunn at bdunn@ginorthwest.org this should be faster and more convenient for seniors. We recommend that seniors set up a new email account if they plan to attend college, use this email when applying and check it frequently. The counseling office will use email to send seniors messages through their Northwest email accounts, such as new scholarships, reminders, etc. so they should check this often, as well. We want seniors to become familiar using their email, as colleges will use email as their main source of communication with students.

COLLEGE DAYS:

EducationQuest will again sponsor "Apply to College" days to get students to apply to college as soon as possible. This campaign will be held Oct. 5th and 6th in the library. Students will apply to the college of their choice online with the help of the counselors. College representatives will also be here to assist students and answer questions.

PSAT/ASVAB TESTING:

Juniors will have the opportunity to take the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship (PSAT/NMSQT) on October 19th. The test measures reading, math, and writing skills needed for college and is the first step in entering the National Merit Scholarship Corporation competitions for scholarships and recognition. Students wanting to take the test can register in the counseling office by bringing in a \$15.00 check by October 17th.

Juniors may also take the ASVAB test on October 11th. This is an optional test and if your son/daughter wants to take this test they can sign up in the Counselors' Office.

Counselors will meet with all juniors to talk about transcripts, community service hours and 4-year plans. The 4-year plan will be reviewed and revised with the student and a copy will be mailed home along with information about college visits.

CAREERS CLASS TRIPS:

Sophomore students currently in a Careers class will be visiting 2 different college campuses during this semester. They will visit UNK and CCC-Hastings. Students in 2nd semester Careers class will also be visiting college campuses. Letters will be sent out with more information as these dates approach.

Please feel free to contact us at any time with questions or comments. We can be reached at 385-6394, ext. 5117. Mr. Manhart will be responsible for students whose last names start with A-K and Mrs. Merritt is responsible for students with last names L-Z. Mr. Moser can also be reached at this extension with any questions you may have about your freshman.

FRESHMEN NOTES:

Mrs. Merritt and Mr. Manhart met with freshmen during the second week of school. Students completed the "COPS" (Career Occupation Preference System) Survey. This is a career inventory that the counselors use to assist students in developing their 4-year plan and career goals. A copy of their 4-year plan will be mailed home after counselors meet with each freshman. We encourage parents to discuss this plan with them to help them prepare for their future.

Please feel free to contact us at any time with questions or comments. We can be reached at 385-6394, ext. 5117. Mr. Manhart is responsible for students whose last names start with A-K and Mrs. Merritt is responsible for students with last names starting with L-Z.

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, Blake Beran, Madison Beran, Arthan Bhatt, Lindsay Borer, Emily Broadwell, Kylie Broich, Bailey Bryant, Jerald Buettner, Emily Bykerk, Jaydon Casillas, Coleman Cooper, Carry Cornelius, Quinn Cruz, Nolan Dennhardt, Miranda Eastman, Richard Eckhart, Katelyn England, Joel Erdmann, Wyatt Eriksen, Tanner Fieldgrove, Michael Fischer, Matthew Fredricks, Jon Frericks, Morgan Garrett, 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, Jay Laub, Aaron Levering, Joseph Lind, Katey Loman, Dakota Martin, Ryan McDermott, Nate Mead, Alisha Michalski, Dawson

Nellson, Andrean Olson, Andres Ortega, Reagan Ostdiek, Jeremy Parr Jr., Kelsey Placke, Christopher Rosenlund, Lexi Sadd, Mikel Schlick, 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, Preston Ellworth, Hunter Fogle, Brady Glause, Megan Gydesen, MaKenzie Hageman, Taylor Hageman, Chance Hall, Tyler Hedman, John Hosch, Caleb Jacobsen, MacKenzie Knapp, Brennin Leach, Keaton Ludwig, Adam Mason, Taryn Mayfield, Matthew Meyer, Trenton Meyer, Kyrstin Milligan, Deanna Montanez-Mendoza, Jacob Mueller, Dalton Quandt, Kelsey Ritchie, Rebekah Saddler, Damon Sanders, Sydney Simmons, Gavin Sliva, Katie Springer, Wyatt Stueven, Jadeyn Stutzman,, Luke Thiessen, Nakia Wilkerson, Ryan Zimmerman

Class of 2019

Kayla Bornemeier, Brook Buhrman, Alisha DeHart, Angel Duran, Carlos Duran, Arianna Elstermeier, Sydney Holmes, Madison Jankovitz

Class of 2020

John Campbell, Jakeb Larson, Abigail Leigh, Louis Loman, Ana Pascual, Tyler Rinkol, Jared Rosenlund, Ashlyn Sutherland, Alexis Zlomke

