



## February 2019 Newsletter

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### **From the Desk of the Principal**

It may be hard to believe but we are quickly reaching the mid-term point of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. I know a great number of parents are frequent visitors to PowerSchool to check on your student's progress at Northwest. If you are not, please consider the benefits of becoming and avid PowerSchool user. In days gone by, in not so hectic times, it was possible to make more frequent contact with our children's teachers about student progress. Now with students and parents not being able to discuss these things at length, a student information system such as PowerSchool becomes a valuable resource of information. Please become a frequent user of PowerSchool. The students, parents and teachers will all benefit in the long run.

Another educational issue of importance is now upon us. Our entire junior class is currently encountering a very important and somewhat stressful time of year. Namely, the statewide tests. As was the case last year, this year Juniors will be taking the ACT test in school. The Nebraska Department of Education has established the ACT as the statewide assessment to be given to all Juniors in Nebraska public schools. The ACT scores of our Juniors will become part of the state accountability process known as AQuESTT. On April 2, our Freshmen and will be taking the MAP tests, our Sophomores will be taking the Pre-ACT, while our Juniors will be taking the ACT. Our Seniors will not have school on April 2. We are encouraging our Seniors to use this day as a Future Day. In other words, use this day to schedule a college visit, consult with a military recruiter, or make arrangements to visit some occupations that they may be interested in pursuing in their future.

The statewide assessments are similar to a photo being taken at one point in time during the school year. In addition to the ACT and MAP tests, we also pay close attention to student progress based upon our own local (classroom) assessments. We believe that the more information that is available regarding student progress the better. Multiple forms of student progress give us a

more accurate view of how students are doing at Northwest.

### **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, February 6th. The meeting will be from 10:00-11:00 AM.

Tim Krupicka, Principal  
Northwest High School

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade & New Student Orientation**

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

### **Reminder**

Just a reminder that if you currently have an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who is planning on attending Northwest High School for the 2019-2020 school year and the student is NOT attending a K-8 Northwest School you will need to fill out an option enrollment form. Please call the District Office if you have questions, [308-385-6398](tel:308-385-6398).



## School Closing Information

Northwest High School will announce school closing information on radio stations KRGI 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



to the ability of the child to get their child to school safely, or return home from school

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

## Parent-Teacher Conference

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held in the new gym

Wednesday February 6<sup>th</sup> 3:30pm-8:00pm

School will have a 12:39 dismissal that day. Lunch WILL NOT be served.

Thursday February 7<sup>th</sup> will be a regular school day at the High School 8:10-3:36.

There will be no school Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>.



## Summer Weights 2019

Please read through the following information regarding the Northwest 2019 summer weight program. The summer weight program begins on **May 28**.

All dates, times and permission information are noted below. Please complete the form below and submit payment.

**\*Payments must be received by FRIDAY, April 12th (NO EXCEPTIONS)**

**Note:** There will be a \$60 lifting fee per participant. Fee is for equipment maintenance and equipment purchases.

**Times: Coach McNeil will assign your lifting time (grades 9-12) and post it May 13th. We start Monday, May 28.**

6:00-7:00 AM Football

7:00-8:00 AM Football/Boys Basketball

8:00-9:00 AM Softball

9:00-10:00 AM Volleyball

10:00-11:00 AM Freshman/Wrestling

11:00-12:00 AM JR High 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade only (2 sessions determined by coaches)

5:00-5:45 PM Multi Sport/Girls Basketball 5:45 – 6:30 Open Lift

A summer lifting shirt will be awarded if you meet or exceed the required amount of supervised lifting AND running/agility sessions. The coaching staff will set amount of days. Please register using this [link](#) (submit form for each participant please)

Please submit your \$60 payment by Friday, April 12 one of the two ways as noted below

1. Cash or Checks payable to “Northwest High School” can be mailed to:

Troy McNeil

2710 N. North Rd.

Grand Island, NE 68803

2. Submit online payment here: <https://payments.efundsforschools.com/v3/districts/55789/>

\*Note: payments subject to small convenience fee.

Questions can be directed to Coach McNeil: [tmcneil@ginorthwest.org](mailto:tmcneil@ginorthwest.org)

## Yearbook Orders Due

March 29<sup>th</sup> is the last day to order your 2018-2019 Viking Yearbook!! If you do not pre order your book



there is NO guarantee that you will be able to purchase one in the Fall. Yearbooks are \$70 payable to Northwest High School. Please

stop by Mrs. Kavan's room to order yours today!

## Student/Teenage of the Month

The Grand Island Elks Lodge #604 would like to recognize the following students for being selected as Teenager or Student of the Month.

M'Kenna Morgan Greuter	- Teenager of the Month
Samson Collins	Student of the Month
Treyton Holcomb	Teenager of the Month
Kaylee Stoppkotte	Student of the Month
Brody Sheeks	Student of the Month

The selection committee reviewed their nomination forms, and they were selected for recognition, based on their school and community activities.

The Elks Lodge will have a youth banquet on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019 to recognize these students and their accomplishments.

## Junior ACT Testing

April 2, 2019 - All juniors will take the ACT as required by NDE, sophomores will take the PreACT, and freshman will complete NWEA MAP testing. All students at Northwest HS have access to [ontocollege.com](http://ontocollege.com), which is an ACT/PreACT prep site formally know as John Baylor Test Prep. This site contains videos with test taking strategies by John Baylor, skills practice and practice tests. Students can also create a free account on <https://academy.act.org/> The ACT Academy site provides students with an individualized learning path based on previous ACT or PreACT scores; or diagnostic quizzes students complete if they do not have a score to enter. All juniors set up an account on the ACT Academy earlier this year. Students can contact Mrs. Ramsey for a login at [qramsey@ginorthwest.org](mailto:qramsey@ginorthwest.org).

## Counselor's Corner



## Senior Yearbook Ads

Show your Senior how proud you are by buying a Senior Ad in the 2018/19 yearbook! All you need to do is choose the size of ad you would like, provide photo(s), provide the message you want to have on your ad, provide the appropriate payment and we will do the rest! Please stop by Mrs. Kavan's room to pick up your order form. Payments are due by March 29<sup>th</sup> to Mrs. Kavan.

## HONORS CONVOCATION

We want to honor our seniors for their hard work and accomplishments. In preparation for Honors Convocation we encourage seniors that are planning to enter the military or who have received a scholarship from an organization or college to please bring that information to the counseling office or email your letters to Brenda at [bdunn@ginorthwest.org](mailto:bdunn@ginorthwest.org) so we can include them in our program. We will make copies of your letters. **We cannot accept phone calls.** The deadline will be May 1<sup>st</sup> to turn these in. Honors Convocation will be held on Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.

**BOYS' STATE and GIRLS' STATE** - Applications for Girls' and Boys' State are available and can be picked up in the Counselors' Office. This is for Juniors only. The deadline is Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>. Boys' and Girls' State is a weeklong program, held in June, that provides training in practical citizenship, leadership and character development. It is designed to motivate young citizens to learn about and maintain our form of government.

The American Legion Junior Law Cadet Program is also available for application. This program will run from June 10-13. You must be a Jr. now with a driver's license or learners permit. Applications can be picked up in the counseling office. They must be returned to the counseling office by Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> so the Legion Post can review them and forward them on to the state.

### **ACT REGISTRATION**

The registration deadline for the April 13<sup>th</sup> ACT test is March 8<sup>th</sup>. Students must apply online. Reminder: Be sure to enter our school code (280-953) to have scores sent to Northwest and college codes so they are sent to your college choices. Most colleges require ACT scores sent directly from ACT. ACT charges an additional fee to send them later. If students need help or a fee waiver they can go to the Counselors' office (only students who qualify for free or reduced lunch are eligible for waivers).

### **ACT FOR JUNIORS**

All juniors will be taking the required ACT on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. This takes the place of NeSA test assessments for juniors. There will be a makeup day for any students that are ill or gone (date to be determined later). Juniors do not register for this and there is no charge for this test. Juniors can use this as a regular test date to report to colleges.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS AND FAFSA**

Whether you think you will qualify for government assistance or not, any student planning to attend college needs to complete the FAFSA. This is how colleges determine scholarships and how much financial aid they will offer. The FAFSA opened for application on October 1 so anyone who hasn't applied yet should do so as soon as possible. The FAFSA determines your level of financial need and is also required by some scholarships for application.

**Here is the information again for those who still need to apply.** 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, be careful with your information!* You will use your 2017 tax information. You can make an appointment with EducationQuest if you need assistance filling this out or follow their tutorial online. They have locations in Kearney, Lincoln or Omaha.

### **Community Service Hours**

Students need to complete a minimum of 40 hours of community service as part of their graduation requirements. If you are in question of how many hours your student has completed, please contact the counseling office.

[Community Service Form](#)

