

North East School District

Welcome Packet 2016-2017



North East School District
50 East Division Street ~ North East, PA 16428

www.nesd1.org

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Welcome to Our Community

North East, Pennsylvania

North East is located in the northwestern corner of Pennsylvania adjacent to New York State and about 40 miles east of Ohio. It is a rural community with a population of approximately 11,000.

North East is located

- 80 miles from Buffalo, New York
- 100 miles from Niagara Falls, New York
- 115 miles from Cleveland, Ohio
- 141 miles from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- 182 miles from Toronto, Ontario in Canada

Size

- North East Township 42.08 sq. miles
- North East Borough 1.3 sq. miles

(These facts are based on the data from the 2000 census.)

Welcome to Our Community

North East Community

The North East community offers a variety of activities, festivals, clubs and organizations; Picnic in the Park; Annual Fireman's Cherry Festival, Wine Festival, Historical Society, Arts Council, Choral Club, Quilters' Guild, Railroad Museum, and many more.

The North East community is fortunate to have a local newspaper, the *North East News Journal*, to keep us up-to-date on current events. The newspaper is delivered free of cost to all residents.

The North East Community Players can add a bit of drama or comic relief when they perform twice a year.

Community Education Program

The North East School District also offers a variety of Community Education Classes twice a year, once in the fall and again in the winter/spring. Some of the classes offered in the past were:

Yoga
Computer
Quilting

Aerobics
Healthy Cooking
Golf

Home Landscaping
Jump Rope for Children
Hip Hop for Teens

Residents receive a Community Education Program mailing and registration form before each session begins.

North East Recreation Commission

The North East School District, along with the North East Borough and the North East Township, works closely with the North East Recreation Commission to offer all residents various recreational activities and programs throughout the year.

For detailed information regarding the North East Community, please refer to North East Chamber of Commerce Booklet which is enclosed or visit their Website at www.nechamber.org.



North East School District

North East School District has a beautiful campus setting that includes four schools, administrative offices, and a transportation center. It is located just south of Lake Erie and east of the city of Erie. North East School District offers its students numerous educational opportunities.

Currently the North East School District proudly serves approximately 1,700 students in Kindergarten through grade 12. The 2016-2017 school year marked the first year of School Performance Profile. Reports are released annually in late September or early October and can be viewed at the following websites:

- <http://paschoolperformance.org/Profile/306>
- <http://paayp.emetric.net/ReportCard/Index/c25/105258303>

The District consists of four schools

- **Earl C. Davis Primary (K-2)**
- **North East Intermediate (3-5)**
- **North East Middle School (6-8)**
- **North East High School (9-12)**

The school district invites everyone to visit the following websites to learn more about the school district, student achievement on Pennsylvania assessments, district budget, annual report, and other important information.

<http://www.education.pa.gov/>
www.nesd1.org

North East School District

Highly Qualified” Instructional Staff 2016-2017

The federal law, the “No Child Left Behind Act”, requires school districts to hire teachers who are highly qualified to teach students at the elementary and secondary levels. In Pennsylvania this requirement means that all teachers have certifications in their areas of expertise. Each year, all of the teachers in North East School District have been deemed highly qualified according to the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The chart that follows provides demographic information about our staff, including instructional, non-instructional, and administrative employees.

Level of Teacher/Administrator/Supervisor Education 2015-2016		
Degree	Teachers/Administrators/Supervisors	
Bachelor’s	58	
Master’s	74	
Doctoral	2	
Instructional Staff Years of Experience in North East School District 2015-2016		
Years of Experience	Teacher/Administrators	
1	19	
2-10	45	
11-20	39	
21-30	27	
Over 30	4	
Personnel Information		
Instructional Staff	Full Time	Part Time
Classroom Teachers	115	
Administrators	9	
Guidance Counselors	5	
Nurses	2	
Librarians	3	
Non-Instructional Support Staff	Full Time	Part Time
Business Manager	1	
Instructional Aides	26	5
School Administrative Support	9	
School Speech Pathologist	1	
LEA Administrative Support Staff	5	
Supervisors	5	
Technology	2	
Other Support Staff	3	

Department Contact Information

Office of the Superintendent	
<p>Dr. Frank McClard 50 East Division Street North East, PA 16428</p>	<p>Confidential Secretary Mrs. Shelley Allen (814)725-8671 Ext. 3906 sallen@nesd1.k12.pa.us</p> <p>Confidential Secretary Webmaster/PIMS Administrator Mrs. Maureen Rizzo (814)725-8671 Ext. 3906 mrizzo@nesd1.k12.pa.us</p>
<u>North East High School</u>	<u>North East Middle School</u>
<p>(Grades 9-12) Principal, Mr. Regan Tanner Assistant Principal, Mr. Bill Renne (814)725-8671, Ext. 1000</p>	<p>(Grades 6-8) Principal, Mr. Greg Beardsley Assistant Principal, Mr. Steve Karns (814) 725-8671, Ext. 2000</p>
<u>North East Intermediate</u>	<u>Earle C. Davis Primary</u>
<p>(Grades 3-5) Principal, Mr. Brian Emick (814) 725-8671, Ext. 3000</p>	<p>(Grades K-2) Principal, Dr. Jennifer Ritter (814) 725-8671, Ext. 3050</p>
<u>Special Education</u>	<u>Technology Department</u>
<p>Special Education Supervisor Mrs. Rebecca Kelley (814)725-8671, Ext. 3018 rkelly@nesd1.k12.pa.us</p>	<p>Coordinator of Computer Services Mr. Matthew Stark (814)725-8671, Ext. 2018 mstark@nesd1.k12.pa.us</p>
<u>School Psychologist</u>	<u>Computer Application</u>
<p>Mr. Tim Baronner (814)725-8671 Ext. 3003 tbaronner@nesd1.k12.pa.us</p>	<p>Specialist/Professional Trainer Ms. Janice McAuley (814) 725-8671, Ext. 2019 jmcauley@nesd1.k12.pa.us</p>
<u>Special Education Confidential Secretary</u>	<u>Computer Support Technician</u>
<p>Mrs. Nancy Bifulco (814)725-8671, Ext. 3027 nbifulco@nesd1.k12.pa.us</p>	<p>Mr. Tyler Wilson (814) 725-8671, Ext. 2020 twilson@nesd1.k12.pa.us</p>
<u>Business Office</u>	<u>Maintenance/Custodial Department</u>
<p>Business Manager, Mr. Jeffrey A. Fox (814) 725-8671, Ext. 3905 jfox@nesd1.k12.pa.us</p>	<p>Facilities Supervisor, William Wingerter (814) 725-8671, Ext. 1283 wwingerter@nesd1.k12.pa.us</p>
<u>Transportation Department</u>	<u>Food Services Department</u>
<p>Transportation Coordinator, Mrs. Patty Schultz (814) 725-8671, Ext. 1289 pschultz@nesd1.k12.pa.us</p>	<p>Manager, Ms. Robin Hedlund (814) 725-8671, 1009 rhedlund@nesd1.k12.pa.us</p>

Strategic Plan

North East School District

MISSION

The *Mission* of the North East School District is to challenge, empower, and engage all students to develop and achieve personal and career aspirations, to pursue lifelong learning, and to be responsible and accountable citizens in a dynamic world.

CORE VALUES

We believe that:

- All people have equal intrinsic worth.
- Life-long learning is essential for the individual and society to flourish.
- Involved families are fundamental to successful communities.
- Understanding diversity enriches life.
- All people have the capacity to contribute; and when they do, everyone benefits.
- Adults are the most influential role models for children.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Our Goal:

- All students will continually establish and achieve significant personal goals and experience the benefit of doing so.
- All students will choose to actively participate in self-designed or existing programs that enhance the community.
- All students will continually and enthusiastically express their love of learning to the world by their words and/or actions.

STRATEGIES

We will:

- Empower all staff throughout the District to achieve all of our Strategic Objectives and Mission.
- Create and sustain a solid foundation of trust extending from within the system outward to the community which will foster the unity essential to achieve our Strategic Objectives and Mission.
- Collaborate with the community so that we all understand, support, and contribute to our Strategic Objectives and Mission.
- We will develop, align, and implement an effective and comprehensive curriculum to ensure the attainment of our Strategic Objectives and Mission.

North East Board of Directors

(Board meetings are the first and third Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM – Elementary Center Board Room)

Dr. Jane Blystone, President
11022 Sunset Drive
North East, PA 16428

Mr. Paul Behnken
2446 Byrd Drive
North East, PA 16428

Ms. Jennifer DeGrosky
11161 Maple Drive
North East, PA 16428

Ms. Erin Janes
137 Culver Court
North East, PA 16428

Mr. Dave Rodgers
163 East Main Street
North East, PA 16428

Mr. Nick Mobilia, Vice President
12234 Archer Road
North East, PA 16428

Mr. Kerry Corbin
9600 German Road
North East, PA 16428

Mr. Andy Fynan
9503 Sidehill Road
North East, PA 16428

Mr. Eric Riedel
12295 Mallick Road
North East, PA 16428

Vision

The North East Board of School Directors is dedicated to making a genuine difference in the gains in educational achievement of the students of the district.

We intend to provide leadership in supporting more graduates who are able and ready to advance successfully beyond our schools.

In doing this, we are committed to a non-threatening culture in our system where all educational stakeholders are comfortable talking together without fear because student learning is the most important issue.

We want staff to be well trained and measures of student achievement to reflect continuous trends of improvement.

We want parents and students to be involved and informed in the student achievement issues.

Philosophy

The North East Board of School Directors believes the manner in which they can function as a leadership team is to work together to carry out the strategic plan and our vision. We will strive to discuss and solve issues on their merits, thereby creating an atmosphere where everyone trusts that any issue can be discussed without fear. Mistakes are treated as lessons.

We believe that while we are entitled to and responsible for our personal opinions and votes, we are also responsible that our differences of opinion should not become a diversion to the greater good of the staff, students, and district.

We believe we are an integral link in creating a seamless mesh in the partnership with our staff and community.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT North East School District is an equal opportunity educational institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin, culture, religion, sex, marital status, age, political beliefs, socio-economic status, disabling condition, or vocational interest in its activities, programs or employment practices as required in Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

Registration

Immunization records, birth certificate, proof of residence, grades/records/report cards, health records, and Individual Education Programs (IEP's) from previous schools when applicable, are required to register a child in a North East School. Registration information and forms are available in the Administrative Office at 50 East Division Street.

FOR ATTENDANCE IN ALL GRADES SCHOOL REGULATIONS in 2013/2014 children need the following:

- ✓ 4 doses of tetanus* (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday)
- ✓ 4 doses of diphtheria* (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday)
- ✓ 3 doses of polio
- ✓ 2 doses of measles**
- ✓ 2 doses of mumps**
- ✓ 1 dose of rubella (German measles)**
- ✓ 3 doses of hepatitis B
- ✓ **2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine or history of disease**

**Usually given as DTP or DTaP or DT or Td*

***Usually given as MMR*

Children ATTENDING 7th grade in 2013/2014 need the following:

- ✓ 1 dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap) (if 5 years has elapsed since last tetanus immunization)
- ✓ 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV)

These requirements allow for medical reasons and religious beliefs.

If your child is exempt from immunizations, He/she may be removed from school during an outbreak.

Pennsylvania's school immunization requirements can be found in 28 PA.CODE CH.23 (School Immunization)

Contact your health care provider or 1-877 PA HEALTH for more information

IMMUNIZATIONS - PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Pennsylvania's school immunization requirements can be found in [28 PA.CODE CH.23](#)

MEDICAL EXEMPTION

Students need not be immunized if a physician or his designee provides a written statement that immunization may be detrimental to the health of the student. If this applies to your student, please call the school nurse for a Medical Exemption Card. When the physician determines that immunization is no longer detrimental, the student will then have to comply with the above immunization requirements. Students over the age of 18 are exempt from the Polio requirements.

RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION

Students need not be immunized if the parent, guardian, or emancipated student objects to the immunizations on religious grounds, or on the basis of a strong moral or ethical conviction similar to a religious belief. You will be required to sign a Religious Exemption Card available at the school health office.

No student should transfer out of the District without a copy of his/her immunization card.



School Closings

If it becomes necessary to close North East School District due to inclement weather or other emergency, school authorities will notify the following television stations: WJET, WSEE, and/or WICU. Please watch these stations for official notification of any unscheduled school closing. You may also check the school website, www.nesd1.org. When there is a 2-hour delay, school will start at 9:45 a.m. for the High School; 9:40 for the Middle School; 10:30 for the Intermediate and Davis Primary Schools.



North East School District also uses One Call Now to notify parents and staff of important notifications. One Call Now is a telephone and email messaging service used by schools to quickly reach parents (and staff too) with important school news. Schools have unlimited use of the One Call Now service for all urgent and non-urgent announcements. Be sure to update the building office's if you have a change in contact information.

With One Call Now you'll always have timely information so you can make the most of your child's educational experience, or so you can make special childcare arrangements when weather or other emergencies require. Schools use One Call Now for:

- Fast emergency response
- School closings, delays, early dismissals
- General information reminders

For more information on One Call Now and how it works, please refer to this website: www.OneCallNow.com





School Health Program

The purpose of the school health program in North East is to provide the means for our children to be in a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being. Parents have the basic responsibility for the health of their children, but the school's concomitant role is to help parents recognize and carry out their responsibility.

The health needs of school children have dramatically changed in recent years. Many challenges are faced daily in today's health setting. More and more students now come to school acutely and chronically ill, with serious emotional troubles, and with special healthcare needs.

The goal of our services is to provide comprehensive health care that includes:

1. Appraisal of the health status of students and school personnel.
2. Assisting in the identification, education and healthcare of special needs students.
3. Counseling students, parents, and staff concerning any health problem.
4. Preventing and controlling communicable diseases
5. Encouraging the correction of remedial defects.
6. Providing emergency care for sudden illness and injury that occur while under the school's jurisdiction
7. Administering medications according to district policy.
8. Referring to and collaborating with community agencies
9. Assisting in the planning for and providing health education.
10. Advocating for the complete health of our children

Health services include:

1. Immunization record review and maintenance.
2. Annual vision screening grades K-12.
3. Annual height/weight measurement grades K-12.
4. Annual Body Mass Index calculations K-12.
5. Annual hearing screening grades K, 1, 2, 3, 7, 11.
6. Medical exams are provided for grades K, 6, and 11.
7. Dental exams are provided for grades K, 3, 7.
8. Scoliosis screening done in grades 6 and 7.
9. Blood pressure checked on all students' grades 6-12.
10. Assisting with obtaining health insurance for uninsured children through the CHIPS program.



MEDICATION PROCEDURES

Students requiring medication during the school day or on school-sponsored trips, should immediately secure proper forms from the school office, which will authorize the school nurse, building principal, and/or his/her designee to give the medication. This is the only way in which the school nurse or building principal can legally give medicine to students. The forms (Form I and Form II) are completed by the family physician and the parent/guardian. A Notary Public's seal is required. Notary service is available in the School Administration Office and provided free of charge to families of school-age children.

Transportation

For bus route information you can contact Patty Schultz, the Transportation Coordinator, at (814) 725-8671, ext. 1289 or email him at pschultz@nesd1.k12.pa.us with any questions

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY RULES FOR STUDENTS

A. AT THE BUS STOP

1. Be waiting at your designated bus stop five minutes before your bus arrives.
2. If you miss your bus, do not run after it.
3. Wait in line at least ten feet from the edge of the highway.
4. Do not carry big and/or awkward objects onto the bus.
5. Wait until the bus stops and the door opens before you get on or off the bus.
6. Wait for a signal from the driver before crossing the street. Be alert for passing motorists. Look both ways before stepping in front of the bus onto the roadway.
7. Use the handrail to get on and off the bus.

B. ON THE BUS

1. Remain seated facing the front of the bus at all times.
2. Keep aisles clear of arms, legs, and carry-on items.
3. Keep arms, hands, head, and feet inside the bus.
4. Get the driver's permission to open or close the windows.
5. Avoid distracting the driver.
6. Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
7. Always talk quietly.
8. Do not engage in any actions that might threaten the safety of other students or the driver.
9. Do not deliberately disobey, abuse, or otherwise show disrespect for the driver.
10. No pushing, fighting, or disruptive behavior in or around the bus.
11. Do not bring on the bus or have in your possession dangerous and/or illegal weapons, alcoholic beverages, narcotics, controlled substances, tobacco products, glass objects, skateboards, or scooters. Roller blades must be in a bag.
12. Do not throw, shoot, or otherwise propel any objects in or around the bus.
13. Do not mar, deface, or tamper with any part of the bus. Students will be responsible to pay for any damages they cause to the bus.



C. GETTING OFF THE BUS

1. Beware of the bus danger zone.
2. When approaching or leaving the bus, always cross at least ten feet in front where the driver can see you. Never cross the roadway behind the bus.
3. If you can touch the bus when you're walking along side of the bus, you're too close.
4. Wait for a signal from the driver before crossing the street. Be alert for passing motorists. Look both ways before stepping in front of the bus onto the roadway.
5. Never re-approach the bus.

You must have written permission from a school administrator to get off the bus at a stop other than your regularly assigned stop. Drivers have the authority to assign seats and make reasonable rules for students to follow (forbidding eating, drinking, radios, etc.).

Refer to the North East School District Discipline Code for additional information. The North East School District Discipline Code (refer to Policy 5151) applies to students during the school day including the time when students are going to and from their homes. This also includes the time when students are waiting for and during the time they are riding the school buses or vans.

Nutrition Program



North East School District is committed to improving the health and well-being of the students and staff. We believe that proper nutrition is an important element for good health and fosters a better learning environment. We operate with this goal in mind: to develop menu and food choices that will exceed the expectation of students and serve to provide a nutritional balance. All reimbursable meals meet USDA guidelines!

Breakfast starts the day off right! Each school serves a variety of breakfast items that may include a hot sandwich, French toast sticks, pancakes, waffles, fresh fruit, fruit juices and/or whole grain toast. Breakfast in the cafeteria is a convenient way to start the day with fuel to succeed all day! Please join us for breakfast!

The Elementary Center offers daily lunch selections from our Entrée Line featuring a variety of home style meals, as well as featured fruits and vegetables. Items may include: soft tacos, French bread pizza, pasta with meatballs, chicken nuggets, as well as many other nutritious favorites. “Smart Snacks” are available after each meal service.

The Middle School features several lunch selections daily. These offerings may include the salad bar, grilled chicken sandwiches, General Tso’s with rice, pasta alfredo with chicken, and the “Picker Bowl” (a student favorite), and Chef salad’s along with a variety of fruits and vegetables! Nutritious “Smart Snacks” are also available after meal service.

The High School offers the salad bar daily with many other Entrees on the main serving line. The items may include: Yogurt parfait lunch, fish sandwiches, assorted wraps, pizza, goulash, chicken & biscuit and the infamous “Picker Bowl” (mashed potatoes topped with popcorn chicken, sweet corn, gravy and cheddar cheese)! Fruits and Vegetables are always available to compliment the meal! The “Smart Snack” program is also available after meal service.

Our on-line payment system is a convenient option for parents/students to make payments to their lunch accounts. The system can also be used to view the activity of your child’s account. The system is called “PayForIt”. Refer to our district website at: <http://www.nesd1.k12.pa.us/pdf/PFIParentFlyer.pdf> to check for the PayForIt link, special events, nutritional tips, and school breakfast / lunch menus. If you have any questions, feel free to contact our Food Service Director, Robin Hedlund at 814-725-8671 ext. 1009.

In the operation of child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, age or disability. If you believe you have been discriminated against write immediately to Dept. of Agriculture, Wash. DC. 20250. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

FREE REDUCED MEAL

Children need healthy meals to learn. North East School District offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs \$1.00; lunch costs \$1.90 for Elementary and \$2.05 for Middle School and High School. However, your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals.

To apply for free or reduced price meals, please call Sally Abata for an application. Her phone number is 725-8671, ext. 3900. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to your child's school office.



Frequently Asked Questions

Who can get free or reduced price meals?

Children in households getting Food Stamps or TANF and most foster children can receive free meals regardless of your income. Also, if your household income is within the limits on the Federal Income Chart, your children can receive free or reduced price meals.

Will the information I give be checked?

Yes, we may ask you to send written proof of the information you give.

What if I stop getting Food Stamps or TANF?

If your children qualify because you listed a Food Stamp or TANF case number, you must tell the school when you no longer receive Food Stamps or TANF.

What if my household size or income changes?

Families who experience an increase of income during the school year are no longer required to fill out another application. Families who experience a decrease in income may update their information to apply for additional assistance related to lunch cost.

If I don't qualify now, may I apply again later?

Yes. You may apply at any time during the school year if your household size goes up, income goes down, or if you start getting Food Stamps or TANF. If you lose your job, your children may be able to receive free or reduced price meals during the time you are unemployed.

What if I disagree with the school district's decision about my application?

You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: Sally Abata, North East School District, 50 East Division Street, North East, PA 16428.

If you have other questions or need help, call 725-8671, ext. 3900.

Standardized Testing

About the Tests

The results of standardized tests are considered by teachers and administrators when various educational decisions are made concerning an individual student. Listed below are tests given in North East School District:

- ✓ **PSSA** – In compliance with the federal “No Child Left Behind Act”, **Pennsylvania State System of Assessment** (PSSA) are mandated tests of reading and math in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 11, and writing samples in grades 5, 8, and 11 and in Science in grades 4, 8, and 11. Students must demonstrate a performance level of proficiency or higher on these assessments. The state awards certificates of achievement.
- ✓ To evaluate how well school districts and individual schools are progressing toward this goal, the state has developed a system called Adequate Yearly Progress. Schools must be able to demonstrate that a specific percentage of students have performed at the proficient level. This percentage will rise steadily over the next 12 years.

Schools also have to demonstrate Adequate Yearly Progress in other non-academic areas. These include attendance rates, graduation rates, and the percentage of students taking the PSSA. If schools do not meet Adequate Yearly Progress in the first year, they will be placed on a warning list. If they do not make Adequate Yearly Progress the second year, the state will place the school on an improvement list.

TYPES OF TESTING

- ✓ **CogAT** - Cognitive Ability Test is given in grade 1
- ✓ **MAP** - Measures of Academic Progress is an on-going, quarterly assessment given to students in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9. The emphasis of the MAP program is to help teachers’ measure student growth throughout the school year and to use assessment data to inform instructional decision- making.
- ✓ **STUDY ISLAND** – Pennsylvania Standards Mastery and PSSA Preparation. Study Island is based on the Pennsylvania Assessment Anchors. Students can access Study Island and learn at their own pace.
- ✓ **ASVAB** – Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery is a multiple aptitude test battery, which assesses a student’s ability to learn new skills and is a predictor of success in training and education programs. This assessment is an option available to juniors and seniors.
- ✓ **CAPS** – Career Ability Placement Survey is a battery of aptitude and ability tests given at the freshman level and utilized in career planning.
- ✓ **ACT** – American College Test measures the knowledge, understanding, and skills that students have acquired throughout their education. This assessment is administered to those juniors and/or seniors who choose to participate and does assess skills in English, math, science, and reading.
- ✓ **PSAT** – Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test is an optional test administered to interested juniors and sophomores. It projects performance on the SAT Reasoning Test and is also the qualifying exam for the National Merit Scholarship Program.
- ✓ **SAT** – Scholastic Aptitude Test is a measure of the critical thinking skills that a student will need for academic success in college. The SAT Assesses how well juniors and/or seniors can analyze and solve problems. There are three sections to the new SAT: critical reading, math, and writing.
- ✓ **Advanced Placement Testing** Students enrolled in Advanced Placement courses may elect to take an Advanced Placement Exam for the subject(s) in which they are enrolled. There is a fee for each exam.
- ✓ **Keystone**

Special Education

Referral - Before a student can be considered for placement in a special education program, a parent/guardian must grant permission, in writing, for an evaluation. Parents/guardians, teachers, and other school personnel may refer a student for an appropriate evaluation. The Permission to Evaluate states:

- ✓ Why the student has been referred for an evaluation.
- ✓ What procedures and types of evaluation will be used.
- ✓ The proposed evaluation date.
- ✓ A copy of the Procedural Safeguard Notice is provided.

Evaluation – Your child will be evaluated using a variety of assessment tools such as a specific type of test, teacher observations, parent information, and a review of records. After the evaluation, a team of qualified professionals meet to discuss the results and recommendations. Along with the parents of the child, the team may include a special education teacher, regular classroom teacher, counselor, therapist, psychologist, and school principal. If a special education placement is recommended, the team will develop an Individual Education Program (IEP).

IEP/NOREP - Every student in a special education program has an Individualized Education Program (IEP) written by the IEP team that identifies goals, and objectives for the school year. The IEP can be reviewed at any time throughout the year. Approval for special education placement is given by the parent's/guardian's signature on the Notice of Recommended Educational Placement (NOREP). The NOREP is kept in the student's permanent school file along with the student's Evaluation Report and IEP.

Services – Once a student has been identified as having a disability and a need for specially designed instruction the team will determine what supports and services the student requires. The district has access to a full continuum of programs and services that include: Learning Support, Emotional Support, Life Skills Support, and Autistic Support. If a student's needs cannot be met within the district or a neighboring district, the team may recommend an alternative education program, a partial hospitalization program, or an approved private school placement.

Due Process – Parents have the option of agreeing or disagreeing on the Notice of Recommended Educational Placement. If a parent does not agree, they may request: a meeting to discuss the recommendation with school personnel, a pre-hearing conference, mediation, or a due process hearing.

Emotional Support - Programs are available for students who have had long-term, significant behavior problems which cannot be explained by intellectual or health factors; problems building relationships with other students and teachers; or behavior problems indicating unhappiness or depression. The goal of the ES program is to teach skills that support positive behavior, which will permit the students to re-enter the regular classroom programs and to be successful with everyday situations.

Learning Support - Programs are available for students who show weakness in reasoning, thinking, reading, writing, spelling, or math skills, but are of average or above average intelligence. The student may be eligible for itinerant, resource, part-time, or full-time Learning Support services based on the needs.

Gaskin v. Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) – a lawsuit resulting in mandated changes in some special educational services. As part of the court settlement, PDE is requiring all school districts to share the Notice of Proposed Settlement (Notice) to the parents of students receiving special education services. A copy of this Notice is now posted in each school building.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA) – a copy of these policies can be found on the following websites: www.nesd1.org under Board of School Directors – District Policies and www.pde.state.pa.us under tab Pre-K through 12 Special Education.

GIFTED SUPPORT

Davis Primary, Grades K-2 students are offered a variety of challenging and enriching activities within the regular classroom. The teachers gather information regarding classroom performance during the school year. Along with this, the students take COGAT tests (Test of Cognitive Abilities). The students who demonstrate the traits of gifted learners may be recommended for the formal screening.

In the **Intermediate School** Grades 3-5, the needs of the gifted and high achieving students are met through classroom differentiation, individualized instruction, and challenge enrichment courses. Data is gathered regarding school performance of all students. The guidance counselor and the classroom teachers regularly assess each student's test scores and school performance. Students are recommended to be considered for program participation based upon exceptional academic achievement and educational need. Also, a team comprised of the principal, the guidance counselor, teachers, parents, and other professional staff will meet, as necessary, to decide if a child should be identified as having a gifted learning need. In addition to classroom differentiation and individualized opportunities, these identified children will attend a challenge math elective, reading elective or both each week.

In the **Middle School**, Grades 6-7, the needs of gifted and high achieving students are met through classroom differentiation, leveled learning classrooms, and Gifted IEP goals according to individual needs. The school principal organizes Gifted IEP meetings and drafts the Gifted IEP's for the identified gifted students in the Middle School. Other options include grade skipping, subject acceleration, enrichment academic competitions, independent studies, and flexible cluster groups

The program of studies for grades 9-12 at the **High School** offers many options to accelerate, enrich, and challenge gifted students. Options include:

Advanced Placement Courses (AP) are offered to qualified juniors and seniors. Students have the opportunity to complete college-level courses at the secondary level and may obtain college credit and/or advanced placement through the Advanced Placement Program. Students enrolled in the Advanced Placement courses may elect to take an Advanced Placement Exam for the subject(s) in which they are enrolled. There is a fee for each exam.

Regional Choice Initiative Program (RCI) specializes in a regional approach to college-accredited courses. Students who qualify will take courses for college credit through Erie County Academy for Collegiate and Advanced Studies. Professors from Gannon and Edinboro Universities conduct these courses. Credits earned through this program are transferable to other colleges.

Mercyhurst, Penn State/Behrend, and Gannon - Qualified students who have completed their sophomore year of high school may enroll at one of the area colleges on a part-time basis upon approval of the guidance department and the principal. All costs associated with attending the college program, as well as transportation, are the responsibility of the student and his or her family.

Post Secondary Education

4-Year Degree Schools	
Allegheny www.alleg.edu	Mercyhurst College www.mercyhurst.edu
Behrend Penn State www.pserie.psu.edu/	Mercyhurst College North East www.northeast.mercyhurst.edu/
Clarion University www.clarion.edu	Slippery Rock www.sru.edu
Edinboro University www.edinboro.edu	Thiel www.thiel.edu
Gannon University www.gannon.edu	University of Pittsburgh in Titusville www.upt.pitt.edu
Grove City College www.gcc.edu	
Technical Schools	
Academy of Cosmetology www.fortis.edu	Great Lakes Institute of Technology/Cosmetology www.ToniGuy-Erie.org
Triangle Technical School www.triangle-tech.edu	
Erie Institute of Technology/Electronics & Computer Careers www.erieit.edu	Pennsylvania Culinary www.pci.edu
Medical Schools	
Great Lakes Institute of Technology/Medical Careers http://www.GLIT.org	LECOM www.lecom.edu
Business Schools	
Erie Business Center http://www.eriebc.edu	Fortis (Previously Tri State Business Institute) www.fortis.edu

Earle C. Davis Primary

Grades: K-2 (Full-day Kindergarten)

50 East Division Street.....725-8671, Extension 3050

Principal: Dr. Jennifer Ritter

INTRODUCTION



E. C. Davis Primary was built and first opened in 1967. Originally, it housed grades one and two. Later, kindergarten and grade three were added, along with central administrative offices. Then in January 2000, the North East Elementary Center was dedicated. Davis Primary had been completely renovated. The Heard School was closed and grades three, four and five moved to become the other half of the Center, now known as North East Intermediate Elementary. These two schools under one roof share a library, cafeteria, gymnasium, pool, large group instruction room, and several other instructional areas. Staffs of both schools work closely together to create a seamless elementary program.

Two of the hallmarks of Davis Primary are the quality of families that send us their children, and the dedication and expertise of the teaching staff. Thankfully, our parents have high expectations for their children and for us. They are actively involved in our programs through a number of volunteer programs (i.e. Helping Hands).

The teachers of E. C. Davis are as capable and professional as one could find anywhere. They have dedicated themselves to each child and have as their mission the child's success. This positive attitude can be seen everywhere throughout the school and nowhere more enjoyably than during Davis "Spirit Assemblies." Four times a year the entire school community gathers to celebrate one another. Students, teachers, parents, and friends join with one another to sing, dance, tell stories, and get to know one another as the "Davis Family." Often there is a theme, such as the "100th Day Celebration," fun and fitness, or making new friends. Other examples of this positive attitude are the annual food drive to benefit the local food bank, and Thanksgiving dinners and Christmas presents that are prepared and taken to needy families.

ABSENTEE

If Parents/guardians do not provide valid excuse or contact the office regarding their child's absence, an automated call will be placed to notify parents/guardians of their child's absence.



If a child will be out for more than three days, you can request their homework; if a child will be returning the next the day, the work will be made up at school.

HOURS OF SCHOOL

Students may enter the building at 8:15 AM if they will be eating breakfast; otherwise, they may enter the building at 8:30 AM

Students go into homeroom at 8:45 AM; they are considered tardy after that. If a child comes to school after 8:45 AM, please have them check in at the office with a note stating the reason they are late.

The entrances to each building remained locked throughout the day. If you have to come to school, please ring the buzzer and wait to be let in.



If a child's dismissal needs to change, please notify the office
NO CHILD WILL BE RELEASED FROM THE CLASSROOM

CURRICULUM

Earle C. Davis Primary children receive an excellent start to their education. Their families and teachers work closely together to provide sound learning opportunities in state-of-the-art facilities. The programs are designed to address the needs and talents of the whole child. A sound, research-based language arts program ensures that every child becomes a reader at Davis Primary. Mathematics, science, and social studies provide essential skills and knowledge. Several support programs are offered to ensure that whatever assistance a student needs is available. Included are Reading Recovery, Title I Reading, Kindergarten Boxes Program, Instructional Aides, Speech and Language, and Guidance to name a few.

BALANCED LITERACY

The balanced literacy program at Earle C. Davis Primary has two main parts: emergent literacy and guided reading. Ours is a research-based program at all levels, including content, practice, and professional development. Emergent literacy focuses on the development of those essential skills that allow children to make sense of sounds and the printed word. Components include phonemic awareness, systematic and explicit phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. A specific set of reading and writing strategies is used to support each component. Among them are the read aloud, shared reading, guided reading, independent reading, shared writing, interactive writing, and independent writing. Guided reading individualizes the development of reading skills for every child through frequent, leveled instruction and assessment. “Guided reading is a context in which a teacher supports each reader’s development of effective strategies for processing novel texts at increasingly challenging levels of difficulty. (Its) overall purpose is to enable children to read for meaning at all times.” (Fountas and Pinnell, 1996) Each year the teacher finds a child’s instructional and independent reading levels. Then a program of instruction and assessment is begun, which optimizes each child’s chances of acquiring skills and developing a life-long love of reading.

TECHNOLOGY

First and second graders visit the computer lab during the week. The Computer Lab is also used as a learning center for several small groups of children at a time. The Internet is also available on each computer. A laptop computer and projector are also available in this lab for teacher use. New additions include: iPads

GIFTED PROGRAM Grades K-2 students are offered a variety of challenging and enriching activities within the regular classroom. The teachers gather information regarding classroom performance during the school year. Along with this, the students take COGAT tests (Test of Cognitive Abilities). The students who demonstrate the traits of gifted learners may be recommended for formal screening.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Several times a year staff and students come together and participate in a canned food drive for the North East Food Pantry. The response is overwhelming, sometimes collecting as much as 1000 pounds of food

If needed, please call the Davis Primary office for more information or visit our website at www.nesd1.org.

GUIDANCE

The North East Elementary Center Guidance Counselor, Ms. Remlee Peck, provides services for students in kindergarten through fifth grade. In addition to meeting with students, teachers, and parents individually, the guidance counselor offers classroom guidance programs in grades kindergarten through five each month. Some of the topics covered are self-esteem, anger management, drug education, respecting yourself and others, feelings, making good choices, friendship, bullying/teasing, conflict resolution and career choices.



SUPPORT GROUPS

“**Banana Splits**” a support group for children who have a “split” in their family, is available for students in Grades two through five.

“**Grief/Loss**”, a support group for children who have lost a loved one, meet for a 6 week program.

Other programs that the guidance department may offer are:

- ✓ **Character Education – Grades K-2** The purpose of Character Education is to help students embrace high ideals and inspire them to make core values part of their everyday lives. The curriculum includes literature, biographies, nature stories, skits, discussion, songs, crafts, games, memory work, etc. Students study one character quality each month using model character traits as displayed by the animal kingdom.
- ✓ **Kids on the Block – Grades K-5 – Sponsored by the Gertrude A. Barber Center Family Support Services Department.** This program promotes acceptance and appreciation of differences among us. There are a special bunch of “kids”, who are actually a very special group of puppets. They dress and act like real children, each has definite likes and dislikes, hopes and fears, talents and limitations. And like real children, some have differences like mental or physical disabilities, and others have lives touched by real problems.
- ✓ **The Bullying Program – Grades K-5 – Sponsored by the Crime Victim Center of Erie County**
- ✓ **Good Secrets, Bad Secrets – Grades K-5 – Sponsored by the Crime Victim Center of Erie County**
- ✓ **Officer Phil (Grades K-5) - Sponsored by the Safety Kids Program and the NE Police Department**

The curriculum, featuring “Officer Phil,” is designed to teach children how to stay safe in a number of different situations. The basic philosophy is that children need to CHECK FIRST before they go ANYWHERE with ANYONE.

Parents interested in videos, DVD’s or books to assist them with the difficult job of parenting are welcome to borrow materials from the Lending Library in the Guidance Office. The Guidance office houses numerous books for children that cover a wide range of topics such as death, divorce, bullying, lying, etc.

Questions regarding PSSA testing may be directed to the guidance counselor, Ms. Remlee Peck. She is the District Assessment Coordinator for all students in Grades 3-8, and grade 11. You may reach her through the Guidance office at extension 3301.

North East Intermediate School

Grades: 3-5

50 East Division Street.....725-8671, Extension 3000

Principal: Mr. Brian Emick



INTRODUCTION

North East Intermediate Elementary school is filled with motivated students in grades three through five. They are focused upon getting the job done while doing their best on every task. A key theme of the Intermediate program is that we work hard, but also we take time to have some fun after we achieve. Rigorous expectations integrated with many opportunities for support and encouragement yield high levels of success in learning. This success is celebrated at the end of each marking period with a special school-wide field trip.

Our school curriculum is carefully developed by teachers to help students become more confident and self-directed learners. Teachers provide carefully planned daily instruction as they encourage students to work hard to succeed. Students learn to take personal responsibility for reading more fluently and critically, writing expressively, solving mathematics and scientific challenges, analyzing problems, and exercising in-depth reasoning. These learning skills are not only essential expectations of No Child Left Behind but are critical to insuring the development of a successful lifelong learner.

As our children choose to work hard to achieve, they need the continuing support of parents, who are their first partners in learning. Putting forth good effort and making wise choices takes perseverance and patience that is made possible by a loving adult who offers boundless encouragement and support. Our parents help their children to become more confident and able students who develop a passion for learning and personal accomplishment.

The new school year should prove both challenging and rewarding for our students. Standards, a rigorous curriculum, assessments and many enriching activities may present a number of hurdles, as well as a variety of exciting options. Our children need encouragement and support from both home and school, as they attempt to make the best choices for success.

ABSENTEE CALL-IN LINE

The absentee call-in line is 725-8671, ext. 3129. A recording will come on to leave a child's name, homeroom number, and the reason for absence. If a child will be out for more than three (3) days, homework may be requested. If a child will be returning the next day, the work will be made up at school.

HOURS OF SCHOOL

Students may enter the building at 8:15 AM if they will be eating breakfast; otherwise they may enter the building at 8:30 AM and report to their homerooms at that time. Students will be considered tardy after 8:45 AM. Dismissal is at 3:25 PM. If a child comes to school after 8:45 AM, please have him/her check in at the office with a note stating the reason they are late. The entrances to each building remained locked throughout the day. If a family member needs to come to school, please ring the buzzer and wait to be let in. **NO CHILD WILL BE RELEASED FROM THE CLASSROOM.** If a child's dismissal needs to change, please notify the office.

CURRICULUM

Teachers have been fine tuning the curriculum to align with the Pennsylvania standards and to encourage children to strive for the highest levels of student achievement. In addition, teachers are using Study Island, Star Reading and Star Mathematics as routine assessments in order to more easily measure student progress. These assessments will be administered periodically throughout the school year. The individual results of each test will help teachers and students identify each student's strengths and weaknesses. Learning activities can then be adjusted and special learning interventions and strategies implemented so that each child will be well prepared.

TECHNOLOGY

Technology education at the Intermediate School is well integrated into the curriculum. The immediate availability of classroom computers as well as open access to the computer lab gives children the opportunity to take advantage of the technology throughout each school day. Although computers are readily used as an essential tool for research, they have become an important means to simply “find out” some interesting fact or salient idea of the moment. Computer technology is also a key to the regular enhancement of individual skills through the Accelerated Reading Program, Study Island, and Accelerated Math. Moreover, students experience individualized, self-paced learning through these programs, which offer challenges up through the eighth grade curriculum in both reading and math. Not only are there additional software programs which enhance critical writing and thinking skills, a wide assortment of educational computer games gives students hours of enjoyment as a change of pace or a special treat during the After School Scholars and Saturday Scholars programs. New Additions: iPads.

ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

CAMPING TRIP: An all-school camping trip is the highlight of each spring. Three different educational themes have been developed: Pioneer American History, Colonial/ Early American History, and Native American History. Children and parents are welcome to participate in a camping adventure filled with experiences that bring alive our nation’s history. The campers learn through interactive simulations, discussions, presentations, and hands-on activities. More importantly teachers, parents, and children enjoy this unique experience together, building a stronger bond of mutual understanding and appreciation.

SCHOLARS PROGRAM: Children are encouraged to “take charge” of their learning by electing to take advantage of the After School and Saturday Scholars Program. This program has become an important service for the many students who realize their own need for extended school time. The Scholar’s program is scheduled for one hour after school each day and for three hours on Saturday from 9:00 AM until noon. Students may choose to stay after school or come to school on Saturday in order to read, to play some computer learning games, to study, to complete homework or simply to spend some extra time with their schoolmates. During the week, teachers are available to help students during scholars. The program has been so successful that students have requested and received days and times for the Scholars Program over extended holidays when school is not normally in session.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: Each year one school-wide charitable venture is chosen. The students initiate the ideas, plan, organize, and implement the fundraiser. The school also cooperates with students from the high school with organized events such as jump-a-thons, to raise money for various charities.

GIFTED PROGRAM: In the Intermediate School Grades 3-5, the needs of the gifted and high achieving students are met through classroom differentiation, individualized instruction, and challenge enrichment courses. Data is gathered regarding school performance of all students. The guidance counselor and the classroom teachers regularly assess each student’s test scores and school performance. Students are recommended to be considered for program participation based upon exceptional academic achievement and educational need. Also, a team comprised of the principal, the guidance counselor, teachers, parents, and other professional staff, will meet, as necessary, to decide if a child should be identified as having a gifted learning need. In addition to classroom differentiation and individualized opportunities, these identified children will attend a challenge math elective, reading elective or both each week.

For more information please call the intermediate office at (814) 725-8671, extension 3000, or visit our website at www.nesdl.org.

North East Middle School

Grades: 6-8

1903 Freeport Road725-8671, Extension 2000

Principal: Mr. Gregory Beardsley

Assistant Principal: Mr. Steve Karns



INTRODUCTION As a member of this wonderful learning community students have many opportunities to grow and learn at the North East Middle School. Students are given the opportunity to develop positive relationships with the middle school students and the staff. Students are encouraged to become an active member of school.

The diversity of the middle school student is well documented. Students come in all shapes and sizes. The middle school student will experience rapid growth and change intellectually, emotionally, socially as well as physically. The student population at any one grade level may be of the same age but vastly different from one another. The

North East Middle School provides a positive environment for students to transition from childhood to adolescence.

The North East Middle School's primary focus is academic achievement while being careful to attend to the needs of the adolescent learner. Teams of teachers provide a sense of family within the larger school community. In addition to the traditional core curriculum of math, language arts, history, and science, students are exposed to foreign language, art, family and consumer science, technology education, music and physical education. Extracurricular activities are provided in clubs, intramurals, student government, and community service groups. All students are given a student handbook. The handbook can also be found on the district website, www.nesd1.org.

ABSENTEE CALL-IN

To report a student absent, please call the office at 725-8671 ext. 2003, before 8:30 AM. A parent may request missed homework at this time.

HOURS OF SCHOOL

Students may not arrive before 7:00 AM. Students must be in their homeroom by 7:40 AM and will be considered tardy at 7:41 AM. Dismissal is at 2:45 PM. If a child's dismissal needs to change, please notify the office.

CURRICULUM

Each grade level in the North East Middle School is made up of two three-teacher teams that deliver instruction in the following content areas: Science, Mathematics, Social Studies, Reading, and Language Arts. In addition to the core subjects, students enjoy opportunities in Band, Chorus, Family and Consumer Science, Art, Technology Education, Foreign Language, Wellness, Guidance and Development Studies.

THE MIDDLE LEVEL LEARNER

Children in grades six through eight are most often from eleven to fourteen years old. This is a time of tremendous change in several areas: physical, intellectual, and emotional. It is a time when each child matures toward adolescence in distinctly individual ways while developing a powerful need for peer identity and group acceptance. It is a time when cultural and political values are explored and questioned. This is the time when children take their first responsible steps toward owning their futures. The children want us to recognize these things. At the North East Middle School, teachers, guidance counselors, administrators, and support staff teach to the individual. Each student's readiness to learn is matched to appropriate experiences whenever possible. This allows us to be constantly aware of each student's strengths, needs, and interests. Insights and information that enhance the child's likelihood of success are shared with everyone concerned.



THE ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT In each grade, teams of educators plan and teach the academic subjects. They team with teachers from other areas to plan and teach interdisciplinary units. Teaming also allows them to share insights and information about the progress and needs of students.

Students spend the majority of each day with their teams that is a group of approximately 90 students who flexibly move throughout the sixth, seventh, or eighth grade house for instruction in language arts, mathematics, social studies and science. There they may also receive instruction in healthy, guidance and study skills.

INTERDISCIPLINARY INSTRUCTION

Our aim is to develop in interdisciplinary approach to instruction. There is significant value in allowing young learners to see the relevance of their various subjects to the real world. Thematic interdisciplinary units of instruction permit this view. They apply the methods and language from more than one discipline to create a central theme, issue, problem, topic or experience.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The North East School District is committed to healthy student growth and development. It continues to recognize the needs for an appropriate student assistance program that will deal with at-risk student behavior among the school population. To ensure that this need is met, the North East Board of School Directors has authorized the establishment of a Student Assistance Program based on the Pennsylvania Department of Education's SAP model. The North East School District's program shall be implemented by the North East Support Team (NEST) in coordination with the prevention, intervention, and outpatient components of the drug committee Greater Erie Community Action Committee (GECAC), and the mental health services of the Hamot Institute for Behavioral Health. In addition, the on-going assistance of local community service agencies will be sought in order to best meet the needs of each individual student.

The NEST program shall emphasize education, prevention, intervention, referral and support services to all students and staff. NEST procedures will utilize uniquely different interventions based upon particular at risk behaviors.

Referral of a student for service will be based on the team decision following a review of all the student's records and input from an appropriate school district staff member. The right of student and parent confidentiality will be strictly respected.

The administration is authorized to utilize the NEST program as an appropriate helping measure as well as the school district's discipline code as an appropriate punitive measure.



EXPLORATORY

In addition to the academics and specials, all students participate in exploratory activities. These explorations are special topics offered as electives. Students choose those that interest them or are suggested to them by the teacher. Examples include computer applications, foreign language, study skills, and lifetime fitness.

LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER

The library is the “hub” of learning at North East Middle School. All students and staff have access daily to the library and related media services. The library’s collection contains works of specific interest to middle level learners, multimedia products, CD-ROM and on-line databases, and a professional library. It is a place to relax, research, and discuss.

COMPUTER/TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

The North East Middle School respects the need of the emerging adolescent and recognizes that each child must be prepared to deal with increasing technological demands of our society. To this end, all students have access daily to a broad range of computer-related tools and applications. Included are access to the Internet, laser printers, and robotics. Students and staff are trained to apply new technologies and associated courseware in ways that enhance and facilitate learning.

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

Each student is recognized as an individual with specific needs, interests, and strengths. For some these needs and strengths demand that the staff alters traditional methods and employs adaptive strategies and resources. This ensures more appropriate instruction and higher levels of success. The North East Middle School provides flexible programming for each exceptional student. This is done in the regular classrooms and in the resource rooms in a balance supportive of each child’s needs and abilities.


GIFTED PROGRAM

In the **Middle School**, Grades 6-7, the needs of gifted and high achieving students are met through classroom differentiation, leveled learning classrooms, and Gifted IEP goals according to individual needs. The school principal organizes Gifted IEP meetings and drafts the Gifted IEP’s for the identified gifted students in the Middle School. Other options include grade skipping, subject acceleration, enrichment academic competitions, independent studies, and flexible cluster groups

GUIDANCE

The guidance counselor works closely with the administrative and teaching staff to offer a comprehensive guidance program for the middle-level learner. Individual and group counseling will be utilized as well as classroom guidance on a monthly schedule for each grade level. The following topics are some of those to be presented to the students throughout the school year:

- Academic Survival Skills
- Leadership
- Decision Making
- Feelings
- Self Concept
- Conflict Resolution
- Preparing for High School
- Careers



Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) The middle school has begun using a new assessment program called Measures of Academic Progress or MAP. Students take the test three times a year in the areas of mathematics, reading, and language usage. The assessment is unique because it is a computerized test which adapts to the student's ability, accurately measuring what a child knows and needs to learn. In addition, MAP will measure academic growth over time, independent of grade level or age. Most importantly, the results our teachers receive have practical application to teaching and learning. MAP test results provide the middle school faculty with timely access to information they can use for instructional planning and school improvement. Following each testing period, parents will receive a report showing the child's growth. For more information about this testing program, go to www.nwea.org

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

Sixth, seventh, and eighth grades are implementing a modified nine-block schedule. This schedule allows for students to receive instruction in math and reading based on assessment data gathered by their teachers.

Wellness, guidance, band, General Music, and Chorus will continue to be offered at the middle school. Other opportunities for students this year will include **Literature** for grade six; enrichment in **Family and Consumer Science** and **Spanish** in grade seven and enrichment for **Art and Tech Ed** for grade eight.

In “Literature Appreciation”, **Sixth Grade** students explore different genres and authors in the NEMS library through readings, book talks and videos. Students also explore the Novelist database and the online catalog to find materials to satisfy personal interests.

The “Extra” classes offered in **Grades Seven and Eight**, allow for a more in depth study of the fine and practical arts. In “Extra – FACS”, Seventh Grade lessons are based on “The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens”. This step-by-step guide helps teens focus on their journey toward self-discovery by improving their self-image, building friendships, resisting peer pressure, achieving their goals, and much more.

In Spanish, **Seventh Grade** students look at the country of Spain, discussing such aspects as bullfights, the foods of Spain, famous artists, the history and geography, music, etc. The class is titled “Spain, A-Z”. In “Extra – Art”, **Eighth Grade** students are working with clay and creating slab built clocks, rattles, “candle” castles and coil pot vases.

In “Extra - Tech Ed”, **Eighth Grade** students put emphasize on techniques in digital photography and digital image manipulation by means of a computer. They will focus on developing an understanding of how the digital camera operates and the necessary skills to create digital pictures for printing.

SCIENCE

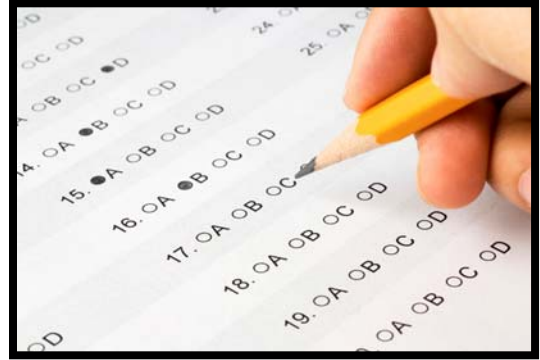
Sixth grade science will develop enthusiasm by presenting a selection of interesting experiences along with hands-on activities to motivate aspiring young scientists. The course begins with an investigation of simple living organisms and their environments, which leads to the study of more complex plants and animals. Highlights in this unit include students setting up aquaria and terrarium to observe the ecosystems of various organisms. Energy sources for the present and the future introduce basic chemical, physical, and ecological properties. Students conduct chemistry experiments and activities with electricity and magnetism.

Seventh grade science is designed to develop an awareness of living things, the processes of life, and the relationships among organisms. A survey of the five kingdoms allows the student the opportunity to compare and contrast various organisms. Concepts of life science are organized to meet the needs and interests of today’s student. Current events are an integral part of the course, allowing for the development of both written and oral skills. Students also engage in cooperative learning units on a regular basis to encourage the development of critical thinking skills.

Eighth grade will explore the basic principles of metric measurement, motion, chemistry, light, sound, energy, and conservation of natural resources. Students are encouraged to “learn by doing” and through hands-on activities, as well as math manipulation and graphing skills. They will be able to relate concepts learned in the classroom to daily life. Current environmental issues will be researched and possible solutions explored. Through group work, the students should complete a project that will demonstrate their stewardship of the environment.

MATHEMATICS

This course reinforces and drills all the basic mathematical functions of whole numbers and decimals and introduces adding and subtracting of fractions. **Sixth** grade students will continue using measurements in the English system identifying terms and properties of simple geometric figures and interpreting simple statistical data. Ratio, proportion, percent, and integers may be introduced if time permits. Computers and calculators will be used throughout the year.



Seventh grade math reinforces and promotes mastery of basic skills, utilizing whole numbers, decimals, fractions, ration and proportion, and basic geometry. It focuses on how and why mathematical rules work, expands math vocabulary, and encourages logical and creative thinking. Cooperative problem solving utilizing everyday situations shows relevance and application of mathematics to future course work and vocational choices. Students who are recommended by their previous teachers, based on performance criteria, may take pre-algebra in seventh grade. This course is designed to prepare the student for a continuous five-year secondary math sequence by introducing basic properties of numbers, integers, vocabulary, and problem solving skills. While strengthening basic skills, students cooperatively create and solve equations logically, stressing how and why each step is necessary. The primary emphasis of this course is to promote reasoning skills necessary for higher math.

In **eighth** grade students will begin Pre-Algebra. Pre-Algebra refines and reinforces basic computation with instruction and practice in problem-solving strategies. Through career and consumer applications, the students have an opportunity to solve real-life problems. Constructions, modeling, and manipulations reinforce basic information processing when performing operations using decimals, fractions, percents, integers, measurements, units, charts, graphs, and geometric properties.

Algebra I is an option intended for the accelerated math student who is beginning a five-year sequence of courses culminating in calculus. Qualified students must exhibit excellent study habits and assume personal responsibility for learning the basic terms, facts, and arithmetic computation skills. Entrance requirements combine performance on standardized tests, a prognosis test, grade B or better in Mathematics 7, Pre-Algebra, and teacher recommendation.

ENGLISH and READING

The four components of the **Middle School English** program are composition, grammar, spelling, and vocabulary. Students use the writing process to complete expository, persuasive, narrative, and descriptive essays. Students also share their writing in public speaking forums.

Every student in the middle school receives daily instruction in a developmental reading class. **Reading classes** have been leveled by ability as determined by the PSSA test, three sessions of MAP testing, classroom grades, and teacher recommendation. These classes are flexibly grouped and students often move from one group to another during the school year. Learning support teachers co-teach one reading class, so that these students will have every accommodation needed to guarantee their success in the regular classroom. All reading instruction is based on the Pennsylvania Department of Education reading standards. Each reading teacher uses a variety of instructional materials including, but not limited to the textbook, Elements of Literature.



HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

Sixth grade Students will be studying the general geography of Pennsylvania; the first Pennsylvanians, up to the Reformation using the text Pennsylvania Our Home by Susan K. Donley. Supplemental materials will be incorporated into the curriculum which included but are not limited to the World Atlas, Scholastic News, and CNN Student News on the web. Students will be involved in hands on activities using iPads, the SmartBoard, laptops and other technology in the classroom.

Seventh grade will concentrate on the Western Hemisphere. Seventh grade students will begin the year with a unit on geographical terms and globe and map skills. This quarter as well as the second and third will be devoted to the study of Canada and Latin America. Although geography will be emphasized, history, culture, and economic activity of these areas will be included.

Eighth grade social studies deals with the history of the United States from 1783- 1900. The students will develop, define, and compare cultures within the United States, be exposed to ideas of the democratic process, free enterprise system, social relationships, and our religious heritage. They will also learn of man's ingenuity to change his environment in order to fulfill his future vocations. A study of the Civil War and the turning point of Gettysburg is used as a major interdisciplinary unit.

WORLD LANGUAGE

An academic course designed to give students an introduction to world languages. The proficiency-based content will promote the understanding, speaking, reading, and writing of simple foreign constructions. The **sixth** grade students will be able to transfer the skills acquired in learning their language. They will appreciate the impact of a foreign culture on our American culture.

An academic course designed to explain the basic language learned in sixth grade. The proficiency- based content includes a review of the materials learned the previous year as well as new materials which make the **seventh** grade student able to deduct the meaning of English words from their foreign roots.

HEALTH

Students in **sixth** grade will study the care and function of the body's system. They will also learn about the wellness concept and prevention of disease and disorders.

Seventh graders will examine life-styles that all promote the quality and longevity of life. Students will study nutrition, diet and exercise, heart disease, infectious diseases, and AIDS.

The **eighth** grade students will learn about the wellness concept and the prevention of disease and disorders. Topics on sexual abstinence, decision making in sexuality, and sexually transmitted diseases will be studied.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Sixth grade students will develop and display desirable social behavior in sportsmanship, cooperation, and competition. They will achieve a higher level of physical fitness with an understanding of terminology of physical fitness. They will develop skills in team, dual, and individual sports, along with the rules and game strategies. Children will work independently at various stations. They also will be prepared with their gym clothes and are encouraged to use the showers.

Students in **seventh** grade will develop and display desirable social behavior in sportsmanship, cooperation, and competition. Students will learn the health- related and skill-related components of physical fitness. The children will evaluate their fitness levels, design an exercise program, and follow the program in a self- directed manner. Students will develop skills in team, dual, and individual sports, along with the rules and game strategies. Children will work independently at various stations. They will also be prepared with their gym clothes and encouraged to use the showers.

Eighth grade students will continue their development of skills, rules, and game strategies in team, dual, and individual sports. They will continue using their knowledge of the components of physical fitness and improving their levels of fitness. Students will also practice the principles of conditioning and training.

The students will develop and display desirable social behavior, sportsmanship, cooperation, and competition. Students will participate in low organizational games and work independently at various stations. Students should be prepared with gym clothes and are encouraged to use the showers.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Students in **sixth** grade will design, build, and test an experimental structure. They will also experiment with pneumatic technology and construct products from wood and plastics.

Seventh grade students will work the various technologies in a small group setting. These will include but not be limited to: Computer Aided Drafting, Pneumatics, Hydraulics, Simple Machines, Robotics, and Electronics.

Students in **eighth** grade will study materials and processes related to industry. A product will be constructed by using a safe manner, hand, and machine tools. Students will program and produce small parts on the CNC lathe.

ART

This course will consist of art problems designed to enable **sixth** grade students to identify good design qualities; draw figures, animals and landscapes; glaze and fire a coil pot; produce an example of commercial art; and recognize various American artists and their works.

This course will consist of art problems designed to enable **seventh** grade students to render design in two and three dimensions; create, glaze and fire a slab pot; learn to use color create feelings and communicate ideas; render an architectural drawing which shows the understanding of terms and function; evaluate the contributions of artists in the heritage of architecture; and study the terms and artists necessary to understand the art heritage of sculpture.

This course is designed to teach **eighth** graders an understanding and appreciation for studio art and history as they relate to each other. Art history will be taught in chronological order. A basis for teaching art skill learning by doing is the concept behind this course. Students will develop a portfolio. An art skills problem will follow each discussion of an art history period. Media will include: pencil, pen and ink, colored pencil, markers, tempera paints, printing materials and sculpting materials.

North East High School

Grades: 9-12

1901 Freeport Road 725-8671, Extension 1000

Principal: Mr. Regan Tanner

Assistant Principal: Mr. Bill Renne

INTRODUCTION

One of the outstanding features of North East High School is its academic program. With the assistance of the counseling staff, North East students select from among a large number of courses to develop a completely individualized program of study designed to address personal, educational, and vocational needs and goals. Students and their parents/guardians are encouraged to take advantage of the scheduled opportunities for meeting with North East faculty to discuss academic options and to plan appropriate educational experiences.



SCHOOL HOURS



Students may enter the school after 7:00 AM. The homeroom bell rings at 7:45 AM; students are considered late after 7:49 AM. Students are dismissed at 2:51 PM.

ABSENTEE CALL-IN LINE

Calls to report that a child will be absent should be made early in the morning (before 8:30 AM). The absentee call-in line is 725-8671 ext. 1003. Please leave the student's name, homeroom number, and reason for absence on the voicemail. If a child will be out for more than 2 days, homework may be requested at this time.

NORTH EAST CURRICULUM

English, social studies, mathematics, science, and world language are offered at various instructional levels to accommodate individual differences in learning style, rate, aptitude, and educational background. Students should select the instructional level within each discipline that affords opportunities for both intellectual challenge and academic success. It is important to review course content, prerequisites, credits, and instructional levels as indicated in the Program of Studies booklet in order to make the most appropriate course selections.

ERIE COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL:

North East High School is a participating school with the Erie County Technical School. ECTS offers many areas of interest: Art and Design, Auto Body, Automotive Technologies, Computer Information Systems, Construction Trades, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, Drafting & Design, Early Childhood Education, Electrical Engineering, Electronics & Computer Technology, Facilities Maintenance Technologies, Graphic Communications, Health Assistant, Metal Fabrication, Plastics Tech (3-year), Tool & Die, Networking Technologies (Seniors), Plastics Tech (Seniors), and Tourism & Hospitality (Seniors). For more information, please refer to this website: www.ects.org



ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES:

Advanced Placement Courses (AP) are offered to qualified juniors and seniors. Students have the opportunity to complete college-level courses at the secondary level and may obtain college credit and/or advanced placement through the Advanced Placement Program. Students enrolled in the Advanced Placement courses may elect to take an Advanced Placement Exam for the subject(s) in which they are enrolled. There is a fee for each exam.

Regional Choice Initiative Program (RCI) specializes in a regional approach to college-accredited courses. Students, who qualify, will take courses for college credit through Erie County Academy for Collegiate and Advanced Studies.

Professors from Gannon and Edinboro Universities conduct these courses. Credits earned through this program are transferable to other colleges.

Penn State/Behrend, Mercyhurst, and Gannon - Qualified students who have completed their sophomore year of high school may enroll at one of the area colleges on a part-time basis upon approval of the guidance department and the principal. All costs and transportation associated with attending the college program are the responsibility of the student and his or her family.

COURSE SELECTION

The course selection process is a complex experience in decision-making. We encourage students to confer with parents, counselors, and teachers to take full advantage of the many excellent educational opportunities available in the high school academic program.

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

For detailed information regarding courses, please refer to Program of Studies for the current year.

Mathematics

North East High School offers a broad range of mathematical options. Starting in pre-algebra, students can progress through algebra, geometry, trigonometry, probability and statistics, and, eventually, calculus. Additional math courses include SAT prep, computer programming and networking, and advanced math.



English

North East's English department gives students a chance to expand their grammar, vocabulary, comprehension, reading, writing, and analytical thinking skills. Basic English courses offered include three levels of difficulty at each grade level (regular, honors, and advanced placement). Students looking to expand their creative talents can take additional courses such as the Reading Workshop, Oral communications, Creative Writing, Journalism, Dramatic Performance, and a Publications Seminar where the students themselves help put together North East's annual year book.

Science

Students of our science program will learn about the workings of the world around them and gain an appreciation for nature and space, while at the same time learning real world applications of the principles taught in their mathematics courses. Once again, science courses are grouped by difficulty and content (General Academic, College Preparatory, and Advanced Placement). Typical courses include Earth and Space Science, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. For students seeking a more hands-on experience, classes like Experimental Biology and Human Biology will give them a chance to gain experience in a laboratory setting.

World Language Department

Many colleges and universities are requiring at least two years of a world language as admission criteria. It is recommended that students considering post-secondary study complete a four-year language sequence. Students are also encouraged to study a second world language sequence while completing a first.

Social Studies

Students will learn about the people, cultures, and governments of the U.S. and other countries around the globe through our social studies program. Courses offered include American Cultures, Contemporary World Cultures, Western Civilization, Principles of Democracy, European History, American Government and Politics, Psychology, Sociology, and Geography.

Physical Education

In the Physical Education Department, students will learn to keep their bodies fit and healthy through exercise, healthy living habits, and preventative health maintenance. Additionally, courses that teach weight training, aerobic exercise, lifesaving fundamentals, and aquatic proficiency are offered.

High School Instrumental Music

The High School Band is comprised of students in 9th through 12th grade with some musically talented 8th graders also taking part. The Band class has two main functions: Marching Band in the fall and Concert Band in the winter and spring.

Marching Band

The North East Marching Band is a highly competitive corps-style band that competes in the Lakeshore Marching Band Association (LMBA) contests. The Marching Band has grown over the last few years and regularly competed in the Open Class division, comprising the largest bands in our area. Marching Band students will spend the summer in several rehearsals per week culminating in a 2-week band camp during which a very intricate field show is learned and refined. Once school starts, there are two after-school rehearsals per week, a Friday night performance and some Saturday competition performances. The Marching Band consists of Winds (Woodwind and Brass), Drum line, Front Ensemble (Mallet and other non-marching percussion instruments), and a Color Guard. All students who wish to be in concert band must participate in marching band.

Concert Band

The Concert Band performs a winter and Spring concert each year and may have other performances as scheduled. The Concert Band plays literature ranging in difficulty from grade three to five (Medium to Difficult) and from a wide range of styles including: marches, Broadway, overtures, medleys, and more.

Jazz Band

Students may take this course as an elective. Jazz Band is comprised of students in grades 9-12. Standard big-band instrumentation is used - saxophones, trombones, trumpets and a rhythm section consisting of piano, bass, guitar and drum set. Students will play music from many different jazz styles including swing, blues, funk, fusion, modern, bebop, and more! The North East High School Jazz Band will perform many concerts through the course of the year in and around the community.

Pep Band

The North East High School Pep Band is open to anyone who plays an instrument in grades 9-12. The pep band provides pre and post game as well as halftime entertainment at several boys and girls varsity basketball games, wrestling matches and even swim meets. The Pep Band plays music ranging from classics to Motown to hits of today.

PMEA (Pennsylvania Music Educators Association) Festivals

Students enrolled in an instrumental ensemble can qualify to audition or be selected for many different honors ensembles including: Jr. High District Band, District Band, Region Band, All-State Band, District Jazz Band, All-State Jazz Band, District Orchestra, Region Orchestra and All-State Orchestra.



High School Vocal Music High School Chorus

Students will have an opportunity to find expression creatively through vocal music. Sight-reading and sight singing are incorporated into the course throughout the year. Good choral techniques and attitudes are emphasized. The repertoire is determined by the size and ability of the group. Senior chorus students are required to perform at all concerts and school functions. The North East High School Chorus is an elective course including students in grades 9 through 12. The class allows for students to become proficient in SATB choral ensemble singing in a variety of styles and difficulty levels. The chorus presents a Christmas holiday concert in December and a spring concert in May where the senior members and their parents receive recognition and awards are presented. Selected students have the opportunity to take part in the PA Music Educators Association (PMEA) festivals such as Junior District Chorus in grade 9 and Senior District Chorus in grades 10 through 12. From there participants can qualify through competition for Region and All State Choirs. The NEHS choir has also performed at nursing homes throughout the area, at Jerry Uht Park in Erie, and at the Millcreek Mall Center Stage during the holiday season. Annual group trips are planned to see a professional musical stage production in various locations including Toronto, Cleveland, and Pittsburgh.

Other Areas of Study

North East High School, in addition to teaching the basics of science, math, English history, and health, also has a wide array of other offerings that are more customized toward student's interests. We have a business department, computer department, communication department, fine arts department, and a music department.



Graduation Requirements

27 Total Credits:

English	4 Credits	Physical Education/Health/Driver Ed	2 Credits
Social Studies	4 Credits	Arts and Humanities	2 Credits
Science	4 Credits	Electives	7 Credits
Math	4 Credits		

Students who choose to attend the Erie County Technical School on a half-time basis beginning the sophomore year must successfully complete 24.0 credits in grades 9 through 12 as follows:

English	4 Credits	Physical Education and Health	2 Credits
Social Studies*	3 Credits	Arts and Humanities***	2 Credits
Science**	3 Credits	Electives****	5 Credits
Math	3 Credits	Erie County Technical School*****	3-9 Credits

* 3.0 credits in social studies to include: 1.0 credit each in American Cultures, Western Civilization, and Principles of Democracy

** 3.0 credits in science to include 1.0 credit in biology

*** 2.0 credits in electives in arts and/or humanities, which could include World Languages, Art, Music, Practical Arts, and/or credits above and beyond those required in English and Social Studies

**** 5.0 credits in electives that have not been counted to fulfill one of the above requirements

***** 3.0–9.0 credits from Erie County Technical School may vary depending on when the student enters into the program



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

(Culminating Graduation Project)

The Pennsylvania Department of Education, in addition to the courses and credits above, requires a "culminating graduation Project." Students will complete a portfolio that will include the following:

- I. Table of Contents
- II. Self-Evaluation
- III. Academic Entries (2 entries in each discipline separated by time to show growth)
 - a. Language Arts
 - b. Social Studies
 - c. Mathematics
 - d. Science
 - e. Electives
- IV. Career Exploration Entries
 - a. Resume
 - b. Cover letter
- V. Personal Choice Entries (optional)
 - a. College Application
 - b. Major Class Projects
 - c. Honors and Awards
 - d. Video/Audio Tapes
 - e. Photographs



Students attending the Erie County Technical School will include their technical entries that span the three-year program in their portfolios.

RANKING POINT SCALE			
	AP	Honors	Regular
A	5.5	5	4
B	4.5	3	3
C	3.5	3	2
D	1.0	1	1
F	0	0	0

GRADE SCALE	
A	93-100%
B	85-92%
C	77-84%
D	69-76%
F	Below 69

ACADEMIC INCENTIVES



ACADEMIC CERTIFICATES

Students should be rewarded for their efforts in the classroom. Therefore, North East High School recognizes students who have put forth an exceptional academic effort during the school year. Each department in the school awards academic certificates to one outstanding student and three commendable students in all subjects taught. These awards are distributed during a formal awards ceremony at the end of the academic year. The recipients are determined utilizing the following criteria:

- 1. Academic performance in the subject area during the current.**
- 2. In case of a tie, subtest scores on the most recent standardized test are used.**

SENIOR AWARDS Senior awards for outstanding achievement are given to one senior in every department who has the highest cumulative grade average in that department's course offerings over the four years of high school. In addition to a framed certificate, the senior's name is engraved on a brass plate and attached to the department's walnut plaque, which is displayed in the gym/auditorium lobby.

ACADEMIC LETTER Students who excel in their honors and academic coursework, academic extracurricular activities, and standardized test scores may receive an academic letter. To receive an academic letter, students must earn a pre determined number of points based on grades, honor role, standardized test scores, rank, academic extracurricular involvement, and individual academic awards. Students may apply for the letter during the second semester each year. Letters are awarded during a formal banquet honoring the recipients in the spring.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY In April of each year, all sophomores, juniors, and seniors who have a cumulative 3.5 grade point average may apply for membership in the North East High School chapter of the National Honor Society. Using a point scale, a faculty committee then reviews each application for performance in four areas: academics, leadership, character, and service. A late spring induction ceremony takes place at the school. Students who have been inducted into the NHS remain members unless their GPA drops below 3.5 or they have been involved in any serious disciplinary action.