

# NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



NES



NMS

NHS

## PRESS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

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**October 12, 2021 - Heathsville, VA** The Northumberland County Public Schools' School Board met in-person for a monthly meeting on Monday, October 11. The meeting was open to the public through Zoom audio conference calling as a result of COVID-19 guidelines and in-person. Click on the hyperlinks throughout this document for supporting information or visit [NCPS October School Board Meeting 2021](#).

### Closed Meeting Action Items

- Approval of one interim reading support long term substitute teacher to work part time with students at NES applying funding from ESSER II/III Learning Loss;
- Approval of one interim mathematics long term substitute teacher to work part time with students at NES applying funding from ESSER II/III Learning Loss;
- Approval of two interim long term substitute teachers to work part time with students at NES applying funding from ESSER II/III Learning Loss;
- Approval of one interim full time paraprofessional to support students at NES applying funding from ESSER III Learning Loss;
- Approval of Kelsey Carlton to facilitate the Young Scholars program at NES;
- Approval of Kelsey Carlton to serve as Virginia Tiered Systems and Supports (VTSS) Coordinator at NES;
- Approval of Laurie Maupin to serve as Virginia Tiered Systems and Supports (VTSS) Coordinator at NES.

### Other Actions:

- Approval of 2022-2023 Budget Calendar;
- Approval of Donation from Omega Protein;
- Approval of Donation from St. Andrews Presbyterian Church.

### Public Meeting

#### Presentations / Recognitions

**Meet Our New School Counselors at Northumberland High School (NHS): Mrs. Sheri Gross & Mrs. Renee Johnson.** Mrs. Gross and Mrs. Johnson shared introductory remarks and School Counseling Highlights at NHS. Specifically, Mrs. Gross & Mrs. Johnson highlighted the [Counseling Corner](#). The Counseling Corner provides students, families, and staff with resources for Academic Planning, College & Career Planning, and Social & Emotional Resources.

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## **October is Bullying Prevention Month: Highlights by School Psychologist Amanda Schimmoller.**

Ms. Schimmoller provided highlights from each of three schools regarding [Bullying Prevention Month activities](#). She also called attention to Anonymous Alerts which is a student anti-bullying and safety reporting mobile app to help combat bullying and/or other negative activity in schools by empowering students to come forward to help themselves and other students. Anonymous Alerts is located on the [nucps.net website](http://nucps.net).

**NHS Homecoming Highlights were presented by Luke Swann, Dynasty Cottrell, Anne Shackleford, and Tom Neale.** Homecoming Week will take place October 25-29, 2021. The Homecoming Game will take place on Friday, October 29, 2021. The football game will begin at 7 p.m. and the half-time presentation will include recognition of the entire NHS Homecoming Court and a golf-cart parade.

The Annual NHS Powder Puff game will take place on Thursday, October 28, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. Tickets to the Powder Puff game are \$2. Tickets will be sold at the gate.

NHS will host a Homecoming Festival for high school students during the school day on Friday, October 29, 2021. NHS has partnered with Ultimate Amusements to assist us in providing outdoor entertainment following Covid-19 mitigation and social distancing protocols. Students and staff will be required to follow social distancing and mitigation guidelines that will be put in place for this event.

SPIRIT DAYS FOR OCTOBER 25-29, 2021, as determined by the NHS Student Council Association are as follows:

- Monday- Anything but a backpack (dress to match your object)
- Tuesday- Country vs. Country Club
- Wednesday- Iconic Duo
- Thursday- Throwback Thursday/Decades
- Friday- Green & Gold

## **Finance Report**

Director of Finance **Jason Bellows** presented the monthly finance and revenue reports and updated the board on two grants: E-rate Emergency Fund Connect Award for \$391,680 and the Coronavirus State & Local Recovery Funds (CSLFRF) to Support HVAC Replacement and Improvement Projects for \$240,975.

## **Open Public Comments**

Parent Michael Manyak expressed concern over the current dress code, and provided the School Board with Howard County Public Schools' dress code guidelines. He requested for the review of the current dress code policy.

## **Superintendent's Report**

**School Reopening Highlights.** Dr. Wargo provided the following [comments regarding School Reopening](#). Topics included Parent Conferences & Communication; Thank a Principal Month; School Board Member Meetings with the Northern Neck Technical Center (NNTC) Board, the Northern Neck Regional Alternative Education Program (NNRAEP) Board, and the Northumberland County Education

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Association (NCEA) officers; and Enrollment; and Health & Pandemic Impact Update. The School Board gave a card to the principals and assistant principals in recognition of National Principal Appreciation month.

**Director Updates.** The School Board received correspondence regarding department updates from the following directors: (Links to reports are provided below.)

**Mrs. Stacy Branem,** [Director of Transportation](#)

**Mrs. Sophronia Smith,** [Director of Federal Programs & School Improvement](#)

**Mrs. Javornda Ashton,** [Director of Educational Technology](#)

**Mrs. Virginia Booth,** [Director of Data, Assessment, & Accountability](#)

**Mr. Jeff Brann,** [Director of Facilities & Maintenance](#)

**Dr. Jamie Sears,** [Director of Special Education](#)

**Mr. Adam Letizia,** [Director of Instruction](#)

**Mrs. Saunee Hamlett,** [Director of School Nutrition](#)

**Principal Reports,** (Links to reports are provided below.)

[Dr. Travis Burns](#), principal of NHS provided highlights.

[Mr. Patrick Simmons](#), principal of NMS provided highlights.

[Ms. Martha Williams](#), principal of NES provided highlights.

**October Proclamations.** Dr. Wargo shared information on [Disability History & Awareness Month](#); [Cybersecurity Awareness Month](#); [Bullying Prevention Month](#); and [National Farm to School Month & VA Farm to School Week](#).

## Board Member Comments

Mrs. O'Bier gave an update from the Northern Neck Technical Center. Mrs. O'Bier congratulated all of the NCPS students that placed at the SkillsUSA competition held at the State Fair.

Ms. Mayzek stated that she and Dr. Wargo are meeting every month with the members from NCEA. The meetings focus on wellness checks and discussing what staff members need or want that would help in our new normal environment.

Mr. Perez congratulated the NHS Band on a wonderful job playing in the parade at Warsaw Fest on Saturday, October 9. The band placed 2nd.