

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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May 8, 2023- Heathsville, VA The Northumberland County Public Schools' School Board met in-person and virtually for the regularly scheduled May School Board meeting. The meeting was open to the public through Zoom audio conference calling and in person.

Action Items

- Approval of Northumberland County Public Schools to oversee all in-house custodial services and hiring and employment of custodians for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Approval of **Kenneth Mastin** as the substitute custodian for the 2023-2024 school year..
- Approval of **Anne Mahan** and **Lynn Mills** to assist with ESSER reimbursements.
- Approval of **Brantley Swift** as NES Kindergarten teacher for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Approval of **Jordan Gibson** as NMS/NHS Band teacher for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Approval of **Sheila King** as NMS Computer Literacy/Keyboarding teacher for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Approval of **Anna Kissne** as a substitute car driver for the 2022-2023 school year.
- Approval of **Dennis Lee** as Assistant Outdoor Track Coach for the 2022-2023 school year.
- Approval of **Hannah Rogers** as Coach of NHS Dance Team for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Approval of the Extended School Year (ESY) services for students with disabilities.
- Approval of summer teachers and support staff with the same pay as last summer's program (2022).
- Approval of the Retirement of **Anne Gardiner**.
- Approval of overnight field trip requests for NHS Volleyball and NHS Outdoor Track.
- Approval of April Check Register.
- Approval of the Donation for
- Approval of Senior Picnic Proposal to be held at Bay Quarter Shores.
- Approval of Change of Date for June School Board meeting to Monday, June 5, 2023.

Presentations

- End of School Year Updates - Dr. Jamie Sears presented on behalf of Dr. Travis Burns, Principal, NHS, [NHS End of Year Updates](#) ; Mrs. Dawn Conley Taylor, Assistant Principal, NMS, [NMS End of Year Updates](#); Mrs. Martha Williams, Principal, NES, [NES End of Year Updates](#)
- Northumberland Elementary and Northumberland Middle Schools are being awarded a 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant for 2023-2024 by Jill Sears, Marketing and Development Director of the Boys and Girls Club
- Senior Picnic Proposal by Mrs. Shelby Brooks

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Holly Wargo reported school division updates:

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- NCPS currently is recruiting for the following open positions: middle school counselor, high school counselor, and high school English teacher.
- The Northumberland County Litter Committee, with the assistance of Beta Clubs and JROTC, hosted a Tire Amnesty Event on April 29, 2023. The event was a tremendous success.
- NCPS continues to strengthen inclusive practices and has established a taskforce and is working on professional development opportunities for the upcoming school year, to include Convocation.
- Standards of Learning testing is in progress throughout the month of May.
- NCPS is preparing for online enrollment and registration for the 2023-2024 school year.
- All computers will need to be returned to the technology staff at the end of this school year for updating and maintenance. Notification has been posted via website, social medias, letter, and phone calls home.
- Federal and ESSER reimbursements continue to be filed for approval.
- One 53 passenger school bus for students with disabilities has been ordered with an expected delivery date of July 2023. Thank you to the Board of Supervisors for approving this order.
- NCPS School Nutrition team received commendations during a federal review: “The cafeteria staff makes great effort to cook meals from scratch. We commend you for these efforts and encourage you to continue serving more scratch-made foods . . .”
- The academic and athletic new construction project is progressing: We have drywall hung and finished at 85%; we are awaiting electrical panels which are scheduled for next week; we will start install as soon as they arrive; doors and hardware have arrived will be installed next two weeks; the gutter and exterior of building is complete; sitework on exterior should start in next two weeks; we still are awaiting HVAC arrival of the units to work on interior painting and flooring; delivery of HVAC has been moved delivery back to June.

The School Board received monthly reports from each department as follows:

- [Instructional Updates](#) from Mr. Adam Letizia:
- [Special Education & Related Services Updates](#) from Dr. Jamie Sears
- [Educational Accountability Updates](#) from Mrs. Javornda Ashton
- [Testing & Accountability Updates](#) from Mrs. Virginia Booth
- [Federal Programs & School Improvement Updates](#) from Mrs. Sophronia Smith
- [Transportation Updates](#) from Mrs. Stacy Branem
- [School Nutrition Updates](#) from Mrs. Saunee Hamlett
- [Maintenance & Facilities Updates](#) from Mr. Jeff Brann

School Board Member Comments

- Mrs. Dana O’Bier stated the NNTC held a monthly meeting on April 25, 2023. She would like to remind everyone that the Completion Ceremony for the NNTC Stem Academy is on Monday, May 15th at 6 PM at the Rappahannock High School Auditorium. Some of the classes at the NNTC still have spaces available: Computer Information Systems has 7, Horticulture and Landscaping has 10, Carpentry has 3, Marine Trades has 6. All other classes are full and have waiting lists. If you know of any interested students, please encourage them to apply.
- Mrs. Gayle Sterrett stated that CBGS is having Senior Night tonight.
- Dr. Cheryl Davis asked that we remember that 3 weeks from today is Memorial Day and asked that we never forget those who have served our country.