

# ***NKN Middle School Newsletter***

March, 2023

## **From The Principal**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This newsletter indicates the end of trimester 2! We only have 12 weeks of school left in the 2022-2023 school year. It has been an amazing year, and we have an amazing 12 weeks ahead of us.

With April right around the corner, it brings the Smarter Balanced Assessments for all middle school students. As mentioned in previous newsletters, April 10 through April 18 are the dates we will assess all students. For these 8 days, students will have a completely different schedule than they are used to. The schedule will include testing blocks, which are longer classes so that students can have more time to concentrate on doing their best work. Also, the schedule will have more breaks and fun activities for students to wind down after testing. If at all possible, please schedule medical appointments or vacations outside these 8 days. We are hoping for 100% attendance for our testing window.

April 20 and 21 are set aside for Student Led Conferences. The spring conferences are an opportunity for students to share their digital portfolio. This portfolio is a showcase of the learning your student has accomplished since the beginning of the year. Students are excited about their accomplishments and are eager to share them with you. On April 3, all students will bring home a document requesting families to choose a time for a conference. Teachers will work 8:00 am to 8:00 pm on April 20th to accommodate working families, and work from 8:00-12:00 on Friday, April 21. Please look for this information on April 3, and send it back as soon as possible to ensure you get the time requested.

There are many other happenings occurring between now and the end of the year. Please check out the **Important Dates to Remember** in this newsletter. We will add dates, and share them in our weekly communication as needed.

That is it for now! I wish everyone a restful spring break!

Lori Dilbeck,  
Principal

# WHY STATE TESTING PARTICIPATION MATTERS TO STUDENTS

## Important Dates to Remember

March 13 - Board Meeting, 6:30  
March 24 - 6th Grade Field Trip to the Oregon Coast Aquarium  
March 27 - April 2 - Spring Break  
April 10 - April 18 - State Assessments  
April 20 -21 - Student Led Conferences - No School  
April 24 - All School Assembly - Prevention Solutions  
May 17 - 5th Grade Orientation Night  
May 19 - Final Dance - 6-8 graders are welcome to attend

## From Our Nurse

April 24th 2:30-3:30pm  
Middle School Assembly

Prevention Solutions partners discuss survey results from last fall around alcohol and substance use. Good news is that NKN Middle Schoolers are making healthy choices & we want to highlight healthy as the normal for our school.

April 24th 5:30-7pm

Parent and Community Night at the NKN High School Library

Prevention Solutions partners discuss survey results from last fall around alcohol and substance use. Participants can ask questions! Also, learn how to talk to our youth about topics surrounding alcohol and substance youth. Look for a flyer with more details coming soon!

## Counselor Corner

Middle school is a unique time in a person's life that is not necessarily the easiest time to navigate. Because of the social dynamics and the typical changes that happen during this stage, it creates an environment in which we start to see an increase in bullying behavior. We often see students trying to play around with sarcasm, jokes, and playful teasing that they may see adults partake in. They start to shift from the imaginative and active play we see in elementary to social interactions. This is all typical and can sometimes lead to hurt feelings, misunderstanding, and broken friendships. These situations create a great learning opportunity for students to understand the impact of their words and the social dynamics of using this type of humor. The other person also gets an opportunity to learn how to set boundaries and be assertive when boundaries are crossed. Peer conflict may be best addressed by conflict resolution or peer mediation. These are all good and natural things to happen during this age so we can help them become more well-rounded adults.

## **From our Family Resource Coordinator**

Hello from the Family Resource Center. Our job here as the FRC is to help our students by meeting their basic needs. This ensures they go on to be the successful students they were intended to be. We offer many things from our room from hygiene items to shoes, to food for the weekends. If you would like to donate to our program the following is a list of items we currently accept:

Jeans  
T-Shirts  
Hoodies  
Jackets  
Leggings  
Sweats  
Sweatshirts  
Athletic shorts  
Athletic tennis shoes  
Boots  
Casual shoes  
New undergarments  
Socks (lightly used)  
School supplies  
Backpacks  
New Toiletries  
New Hygiene items  
Dry pantry goods (not expired)  
Canned goods (not expired)

Please no ripped, stained or heavily used items. Thank you for the support of our program, we are happy to have a Community like ours.

## **From the Office**

Report cards will be mailed out this coming week. If you've recently changed your mailing address, please contact our office at 503-355-2990 to update your records.

## **Community Service Hours**

Don't forget to turn in your community service hours to your student's advisor! They are due no later than the 15th! Call Adri in the office for more information.

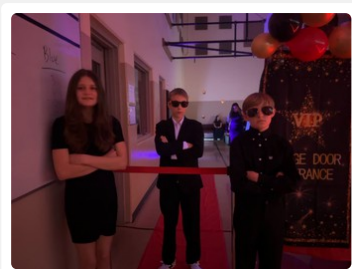
Need some ideas for community service? See this list!

- Clean up trash on the beach or at a park
- Help an elderly neighbor
- Read to younger kids at your local church, elementary schools, libraries.
- Volunteer to shelve books at a library
- Make bathroom kits for shelters

- Help at sporting events for your school
- Help with our Robotics club or in our own library!
- Help with events at NCRD in Nehalem
- Volunteer at your local animal shelter
- Bake for an elderly neighbor
- Help a younger child with homework or reading
- Make donation baskets for communities
- Help with Family paint nights at Elementary Schools

## Winter Formal was a Night to Remember!

The students, staff and Parent Group volunteers had a great time Thursday night at our Winter Formal. The theme was 'A Night In Hollywood' and it was a huge hit! There were plenty of snacks, italian sodas, dance moves and dance offs, and even a VIP area with a disco ball! Check out some photos here!







# ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Neah-Kah-Nie School District believes regular school attendance is essential for a student's success in school. Attendance is an area we focus on in order to improve student achievement and ensure all students at Neah-Kah-Nie Schools have the opportunity to maximize their potential.

The district has a new attendance protocol with a dedicated team at each school to:

- Assist families and students in improving student attendance.
- Reduce chronic absenteeism.
- Multi-tiered Attendance Team : Parents, Teachers, Secretary, Principal, Family Resource Coordinator (FRC), Counselor, ESL & Special Education staff.

## We encourage families to help your child build the habit of good Attendance

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day.
- Help your children maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try to schedule medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Seek help from school staff and other parents or community agencies, if you need support.

## Chess Tournament Updates!

Hello All,

I am excited to report on our chess tournament on Saturday, March 4, that was held at TJHS. We want to thank the Jr Hi facilities for our event. We had 52 students competing in three divisions from Tillamook and Neah-Kah-Nie School Districts. There was amazing talent and great manners exhibited by all of the students. Parents, coaches and myself were so impressed!

The top players and teams have qualified to compete at the state level to be held at Portland Expo on April 14, and 25. They are:

K-5 team: Nehalem

6-8 team: TJHS

K-4 Individual: Julean Anctil and Jerzy Golden from Nehalem

5th Individual: Aaron Anctil, Emory Dietrich & Teddy Sheppard from Nehalem

6th Individual: Keegen Roddy from NKN MS  
7th Individual: Karson McNutt from NKN MS  
8th Individual: Karsten Johansen from NKN MS  
HS Individual: Dillon Gardner from NKN HS (9th Grade)

There were many close games with grace and good winners and good losers.  
I want to thank all of our coaches and their schools for their support in making this our best chess year yet. And then there is the state tournament coming up!

Jim Cox  
Program Manager  
Region 15  
Chess For Success