

NKN Middle School Newsletter

October 8, 2021

Dear NKN Middle School Families,

We have had an amazing two weeks of fully in-person instruction. Students have been actively engaged in lessons, collaborating with peers, and enjoying time with their grade level friends. Although there are several extra safety measures in place, teachers are saying that this is beginning to feel like "normal" school again. I have shared a few pictures below of what our days look like at the middle school.

As we move into October, we get closer to Student Led Conferences. October 21 and 22 are the two days we have set aside for advisory teachers to meet with students and parents/guardians. October 21, teachers will be working from 8:00 am - 8:00 pm to help accommodate those parents who work during the day. Friday, October 22, teachers will be available for conferences from 8:00-12:00. Invitations to sign up for a time that works best for you will be coming very soon. Our goal is to have 100% participation in these conferences, so please check your email for the invitation, and sign up for a time slot.

Student Led Conferences differ from Parent Teacher conferences in that they place students at the helm of the discussions. For this year, our focus is on care and connection. During Advisory, students are investigating the following themes: Who I am, Where I come from, and What I care about. They will select portions of this investigation to share at their conference. Parents will also have the opportunity to give their input during conferences and should be prepared to share the following for their student: one strength they have noticed, one hope they have, and one thing they are grateful for.

One of the traditions for 6th graders at the middle school is Outdoor School. Outdoor School is an opportunity for students to learn about soil, water, plants and animals, as well as other natural sciences specific to our local community and economy. For many children, ODS is their very first experience hiking in a forest, getting their feet wet in a stream or exploring sea life along the beach. This year our sixth graders will participate in a modified Outdoor School at Twin Rocks Friends Camp from October 26 - October 29. This Outdoor School experience will consist of 4 days of camp where students arrive at camp at 9:30 each morning and leave camp at 3:30 to be back to the middle school by the end of the school day. More information will be shared with sixth grade families from the sixth grade teachers.

In closing, I wanted to thank you for being flexible with the many transitions we have had this year and also thank you for sharing your student with all of us at the middle school. It is amazing to be working

with them in person!

Take care,

Lori Dilbeck, Principal

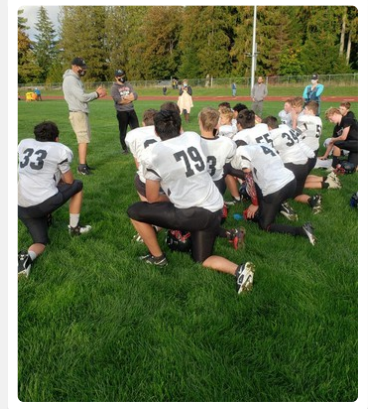


PE

Students are learning how to play hand ball.



Physical Distancing in the Classrooms.



Sports

The football season has been successful! The Raiders are undefeated.



Calling all Chromebooks!

We are missing several Chromebooks since the beginning of the school year. We need all of them and the chargers back at school so that students can use them in their classes. If you notice your child has a school Chromebook and/or a charger at home, please have them bring it to school.

Thank you!

Introducing Jen Hopkins as the NKN Middle and High School Family Resource Coordinator!

My name is Jen Hopkins, and I am the Family Resource person for the Neah-Kah-Nie High School and Middle School.

What this means for your student and family is that I have the ability to help you with a variety of things. I can supply clothes, shoes, coats, school supplies, sports apparel, water bottles, snacks, and weekend food bags. For families, I have resources to help with household expenses including rent, electricity, and water. We have many resources in the Community at our fingertips, and we can help you access them.

Another part of our Family Resource Program is accepting donations of many kinds. If your family has an over-abundance of the items I mentioned above, please feel free to share.

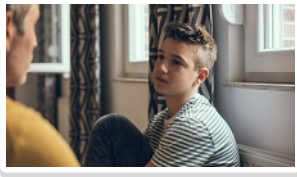
You can find me in the high school in my super awesome closet which is the first room on the right after entering the library), but if I am not there, just ask any staff member to track me down. I am looking forward to working with you and helping fulfill needs for you and your families. SEE YOU IN THE HALLS!



From the School Counselor

It has been really great getting to know all of the students as we have transitioned back into in-person learning. There is no doubt there is a lot of resilience walking through our halls! While all of our students are strong and resilient learners there are still times that they struggle and you may become concerned as a trusted adult in their life. The best way to stay connected is through communication. The link below is a great resource for all adults to check out. There is a lot of information on a variety of topics that will better equip you to support your child in their hardest times. If you have any questions or would like more information don't hesitate to email me at atwooda@nnksd.org.

Warmly,



 **Preventing Suicide**

www2.childmind.org

NKN SPORTS UPDATE

A message from Cynthia Grelck, NKN Middle School Athletic Director


Raider fall sports are wrapping up for the 2021 season. We were super excited to have over 50 students participating this fall between football, volleyball, and cross-country. Boys basketball will be kicking off our winter sports season starting in November, followed by girls basketball and wrestling starting in January. If your child is interested in participating in any of the upcoming winter sports, please make sure they have a current physical and paperwork on file with the office so they can be ready to go at the start of the season.




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