

October 9, 2015

Neah-Kah-Nie Middle School

School District #56

PROGRESS

We're already halfway through the first trimester of the school year. Please take some time to the content of this newsletter. Information on upcoming events, items of interest to both parents and students, ideas for increasing academic success, and how to reach staff for further support are included.

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES COMING SOON!

Thursday, October 22nd
(times are prescheduled)

Communication about conference scheduling will be sent home with students. If you have not already requested your conference time, please contact your student's Advi-

sor as soon as possible. Parents/guardians are scheduled to attend the conference with their students. The purpose of the October conference is to set goals for the school year. Your child's progress report will be provided during the conference.



Se habla español aquí. Si usted necesita un intérprete para las reuniones con el maestro de su hijo o simplemente tiene preguntas o preocupaciones, por favor llame a Karen en la oficina, 503.355.2990.

Reminder for Late Start Wednesdays....students should not arrive at the school prior to 9:30am

Important Immunization Alert! If your child is in need of further vaccinations, a letter is enclosed outlining what is needed. **Please note that Oregon law has changed regarding nonmedical exemptions.** Nonmedical exemptions claimed prior to March 1, 2014 have been removed. In order to claim a nonmedical exemption, you **must** receive required education from a health care practitioner or by watching the online education modules provided by the Oregon Health Department. A letter is enclosed if this applies to your child. **Students out of compliance will not be admitted to school on exclusion day, February 17, 2016.**

Important Dates to Remember:

- **October 22nd - Student Led Conferences** (22 de octubre - Conferencias dirigidas por los estudiantes)
- **October 23rd - Staff Development - No School** (23 de octubre - Desarrollo del Personal - No hay clases)
- **October 27th- Parent Club Meeting 6pm @ MS Library** (27 de octubre- reunión del club de padres a las 6pm en la biblioteca)
- **November 9th - Picture Retake Day** (9 de noviembre - Día de retomar fotos)
- **November 9th - School Board meeting** - District Office 6:30 pm (9 de Noviembre - Reunión de la Junta Escolar - Oficina del Distrito 18:30)
- **November 11th - Veterans' Day** - No School (11 de noviembre - Día de los Veteranos - No hay clases)
- **November 25th - No School** (25 de noviembre - No hay clases)
- **November 26th - Thanksgiving - No School** (26 de noviembre - Acción de Gracias - No hay clases)
- **November 27th - No School** (27 de noviembre - No hay clases)

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Student Profiles:

We have enclosed a copy of your student's profile. **Please read it to ensure we have accurate information.** Please notify the office immediately of any corrections that need to be made.

Invoices:

If an invoice is enclosed for money due for your child's MealTime, library fines or mandatory fees still due, please pay them promptly.

Letter from the Principal

Dear NKN Middle School Community Members,

The first six weeks are in the books and the 2015-16 school year is off to a great start. We have a productive mix of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders this year who are working hard at meeting social and academic expectations. We also have decent sized population of 'new-to-the-area' students who are learning what it means to be a Raider. Overall, we are happy with the direction we are headed.

I want to take some time this newsletter to assure you how important school safety is in light of the events in Roseburg. No school community should have to live through that type of experience, and we all wish those fellow Oregonians spiritual and physical recovery. Here at NKN Middle School we train monthly on school safety issues, and lockdown drills is one of those ways. Students and teachers are trained to react to all types of emergencies, and as a district we have recently adopted a Standard Response Protocol. This protocol prepares the school, police departments, and other essential personnel to react swiftly to threats in and out of the building. You have my word that besides your child's education his or her safety is our number one priority at school.

In order for it to be our priority we rely on our instincts, local knowledge, and professional judgment in assessing every one of our students to make sure they remain healthy in mind and body. The middle school years can be a very emotional time for young people. They often don't contemplate the consequences for their actions and let impulse guide their decisions. We have a good team in place, including a Student Support Coordinator that monitors your children to make sure they don't fall through the cracks. Many of the perpetrators in these tragedies are students who have fallen through the cracks at some point in their childhoods, and we want to make sure we don't let that happen to any Neah-Kah-Nie students.

We maintain a positive attitude here and are proud to share that students are engaged with their teachers and peers and making lifelong connections to learning and friends. Our football team is having success on the gridiron, our volleyball team is once again competing with the best of them, and our cross country team hasn't never had this many participants. Add our great band program, science imagination club in the library, and honor society activities and we can proudly say there is a place for everyone.

And there is a place for parents as well. I encourage you to contact raiderparents@gmail.com for volunteer opportunities coming up. I also encourage you to sign up as a classroom volunteer if your schedule allows. Most, if not all middle school students have no desire to have their mom or dad here at school, but we can find you a place to help that limits your exposure to those OMG MOM! moments every middle schooler dreads.

Now more than ever we are in this thing together. Be well, and I wish health to you and yours.

Until next time,

Leo Lawyer

Principal

Contact Information

All staff at NKN have e-mail so parents can easily stay in communication with their student's teacher. E-mail addresses are.....

Mr. Albrechtsen - stevea@nknsd.org

Mr. Bayouth - fredb@nknsd.org

Ms. Real Bayouth - marisar@nknsd.org

Mr. Bitts - rubenb@nknsd.org

Mrs. Cooper - joc@nknsd.org

Ms. Crow - sarahc@nknsd.org

Mr. Douma - coreyd@nknsd.org

Mr. Gienger- timg@nknsd.org

Mrs. Grelck - cynthiag@nknsd.org

Mr. Herder - robh@nknsd.org

Mr. Kelley- gregk@nknsd.org

Mr. Lawyer - leol@nknsd.org

Mr. Sherren - steves@nknsd.org

Mr. Shipman - jakes@nknsd.org

Mr. Zaugg - russellz@nknsd.org

You can also contact the school by calling 503-355-2990 or 866-966-2990, faxing 503-355-8514, or writing 25111 Hwy 101 N, Rockaway Beach, OR 97136. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the school.



Reminders

We have just a few items we would like to remind students and parents about. They are...

*As winter approaches, we may face school closures due to inclement weather. In addition to FlashAlert and the district web page, you may call the middle school office at 503-355-2990 for closure updates. When possible the district will initiate calls to all families via the automated call system.

*When providing permission for bus passes, please remember to include city, bus number, and bus stop location.

*Please be sure to call the office (503-355-2990 or 866-966-2990) prior to 8:45 a.m if your student is going to be absent. We have a 24-hour phone message line and an automated call system.

*Students absent from school due to illness or unexcused absence are not permitted to attend after-school activities on the day of their absence.

*Middle school students are not allowed to carry medications. (This includes cough drops, aspirin, vitamins, etc.) Parents must check medications in and out at the office.

*Unless specifically stated, the standard dress code applies to all school events and activities. Halloween costumes are not allowed.

*Students should not arrive at school prior to 8:15 am and 9:30 am on late start Wednesdays. Students not involved in extra curricular activities are not allowed to remain on campus after the end of the school day.

*The handbook provides clear guidelines for electronics. Students may not use cell phones while at school.

Daily announcements are available on our web site! Go to ...
www.nknsd.org

Check it out!

If you prefer to receive daily announcements via e-mail, please contact Karen Snider at the middle school office.

Student of the Month

CONGRATULATIONS to our students who have earned recognition as “September Student of the Month” for outstanding academic achievement and citizenship! Way to go!!!!

6th grade— Madi Hopkins and Matthew Spellman

7th grade— Dinah Schultz and Cody Myers

8th grade— Aspen Becker and Aarren Haylett



News from the Library:

-Mr. Shipman brought us a set of really neat Rubik’s Cube variants for our collection, and everyone has been learning how to solve these neat puzzles. It is great fun for everyone to test out the puzzles before purchasing them from the sand dollar cart with their rewards.

-We had our first Maker Monday event of the year on October 5th, and Tuesday was the perfect day to test our designs out. I am always amazed what Middle Schoolers can accomplish in 10 short minutes of the challenge. No two kites were remotely alike, and they all flew at least for a short time.

NKN Media Crew has 8 members this year, and a big shout out to those students for agreeing to take pictures of extracurricular events, and of school activities.

-The STREAMlab is a work in progress, the former computer lab space hosts a variety of neat technologies including a Silhouette Cameo vinyl cutter, three Arduino kits, two Lego robotic kits we will be having Thursday after school meetings most weeks to try out these neat tools and learn to use all the software involved.

October 26th-30th Red Ribbon Week

Monday, October 26: Wear Red: to shred drug use

Tuesday, October 27: Twin Day: to double up against drugs

Wednesday, October 28: Hat Day: use your head to outsmart drug use

Thursday, October 29: Team Jersey Day: team up against drugs

Friday, October 30: Dress to Impress Day: success is drug free

Special request: If you take photos of school events and activities and think some might look good in the yearbook. Please send them to the yearbook advisor at lauried@nknsd.org. We’d love to include as many as possible.

Mealtime



Meals at the middle school cost \$1.60 for snack and \$2.90 for lunch . The good news is that you can keep track of your student's meal balance by registering on MealTime On Line. You are not required to make on line deposits, although you may if you wish. You can even receive low balance warning emails, if you set your profile up that way.

To set up a MealTime On Line account:

1. Go to new NKN website (www.nknsd.org)
2. Click on "Parents"
3. Go to Mealtime Online and click the "login" button
4. Click on "create new profile"-- this is where parent info goes, including email address, and where the option to have low balance notifications can be checked.
5. Go to mealtime signin, and log in using the username and password you created.
6. Click on "Meal Account Deposits". This is where you will add your students to your profile. You will pick state and school and enter your student's name and student ID to set this up (contact the school office to get your student's ID number, if you don't know it).

Once your MealTime On Line account is set up, to check your student's balance, just:

1. Go to www.nknsd.org
2. Click on "Parents"
3. Log in to "Mealtime Online"
4. Click on "Meal Account Deposits"

Meals

Every year, eligibility for free or reduced meals "rolls over" for 30 days. October 20th marks the end of that time. If you believe your child should continue to qualify for free or reduced meals, and you have not reapplied for this year or received a notice from the district office, please reapply as soon as possible. You may do so online using the parent link at the district website, www.nknsd.org, or by completing a paper application available at the school office. If you need assistance, please do not hesitate contacting your school secretary or call Kathie Sellars or Ashley Arthur at the district office. We are all happy to provide assistance.

Thanksgiving Food Basket

The Rockaway Lions Club will have a limited number of food baskets for families in need. The applicants must live in the area bounded by Garibaldi to the south and Manzanita to the north. A committee will review the applications and if approved the applicant will be notified by mail or telephone. Please call Mr. Herder in the counseling office (503-355-3604) as soon as possible if you would like an application.



Sports

Football, Volleyball, and Cross Country seasons are wrapping up. Schedules of remaining games are listed below. Come check out some of the remaining events and support your RAIDERS!

2015 Football Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent/Location</u>
10/13 Tu	Knappa/NKN
10/20 Tu	Vernonia/NKN
10/27Tu	Ilwaco/Ilwaco

Come out and support your Raiders!



2015 Volleyball Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent/Location</u>
10/14 We	Warrenton/NKN

Last game of the season! Don't miss your chance to see the Raider girls play!



2015 Cross Country Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent/Location</u>
10/16 Fr	McMinnville/McMinnville
10/20 Tu	Districts*/Tillamook
10/25 Su	PDXC State Meet/Portland

*Mid-Columbia District Championships

Flu Shots

Flu shots are now available through the Health Department. The schedule of countywide flu clinics can be found on the county website at www.co.tillamook.or.us or call 503-842-3900 or 1-800-528-2938.

Parent Group

NKN Middle School Parent Group will meet **Tuesday, October 27th, at 6:00PM** in the library. Come join us as we plan this year's events and fundraisers. We will be starting our first fundraiser of the school year soon. We will be selling chocolate in time for the holidays. Look for information coming home with your student soon.

Your Parent Group works to provide extras to students, staff, and school to enrich the middle school experience for all of our students. This year we would like to add more activities and sponsor more events. We would love to hear your ideas.

Our Facebook page, **Neah-Kah-Nie Middle School Parent Group**, is updated regularly with Parent Group, school, and district happenings. If you have an event you'd like me to post, or you have any questions or ideas about Parent Group, feel free to contact me via Facebook, email me at raiderparents@gmail.com, or call or text me at 503-801-2903.

I look forward to planning an exciting year with you,

Wendy K.



If you have not already signed up for Parent VUE, it is an excellent tool....right at your fingertips! Parent VUE provides you with timely access to your child's progress, course schedule, attendance, school events, etc. If you would like to get information to sign up and log on, please contact the office at 503.355.2990.