

Date: 3/11//2026 HS Principal Update, Prepared by Mary Yakibchuk, for NCS School Board

- Field Trips Update:
 - 10th graders enjoyed exploring the Science Museum of MN, and watching ~~Macbeth~~, ahem, "The Scottish Tragedy" at the Guthrie in Minneapolis. It was a great day of learning and fun.



- Dan Rogers will be taking the 8th graders on an all day field trip this Thursday to Boswell Energy Center and the Rapids Energy Center.
 - Students will have an opportunity to see first hand how the fossil fuel coal is used as the energy source for electricity. They will also see how the Rapids Energy Center uses alternative sources for generating both heat and electricity.
- Ms. V will take the Art students to Minneapolis Institute of Arts for an all day field trip, leaving in the am, getting back around 6:00 pm.
- Band Update, in Heller's words:
 - ***"The senior high band performed at MSHSL large group contest on Monday. At large group contest, the band was judged on a scale of 1-5 on a variety of musical elements (tone, rhythm, technique, etc.) with 40 points possible from all the categories. The band earned an overall "Excellent Rating" with the average of all three judges' scores being 31.33 points. This is a huge milestone for the Northland band as the program has not attended contest in several years. A huge round of applause for our students!"***



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- Way to go NCS HS Band!
- Schedule Update:
 - The [2026-2027 Master Schedule](#) is nearly complete. Next step, interest surveys, choosing which electives to offer, and finalizing pre-registration/numbers
 - This is based on not filling the .5FTE in Science
 - You will note Bio will be taught at all three HS grades, this is to minimize the number of preps HS Science teacher needs to teach any one year, Chemistry will be taught the following year grades 9-11, and Physics/Earth Science to all HS the year following, then cycle repeats
- NCS Hosted Spring Pow-wow, Tuesday, March 10
 - I think my favorite part is Grand Entry, when we get to see folks in regalia or uniform marching together!
- We have narrowed our search to three 6-12 Curriculums:
 - Savvas (Pierson)
 - McGraw Hill
 - Dave Ramsey (Personal Finance)
 - We have not discussed SEL much yet, and maybe will just go with K-12 2nd Step. (since it offers for grades 9-12 now)
- Overall, this still seems to be a really great year!
 - I have had numerous conversations with new students and parents, or others working with those students that describe our school as offering a better experience than their previous schools. In the words of one student, when describing the difference, says: "Everyone is really nice here." and "the academics are more challenging." Another describes Northland as a place that really cares about how they are doing, and wants them to do well." I could not be more proud of the community of students and staff we have built together, to support each other, and our students, so that our efforts are so visible, effective and appreciated.