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INSIDE: VIKING RESTART, SUMMER REPAIRS, FALL ATHLETIC SCHEDULES

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North Canton City Schools

Viking Vision

AUGUST: 2020

Academic Excellence . . . Fiscal Responsibility . . . Community Collaboration

VOLUME: 8 ISSUE: 1

Message from Superintendent Jeff Wendorf

Starting the 2020-21 school year is full of challenges for every school district because of COVID-19, and we recognize that the pandemic could affect part or all of the year. Like you, we want all aspects of life to return to normal, but the reality is that we must responsibly plan to educate all children in a way that best suits their needs, while keeping them safe. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) has provided guidance in the Reset and Restart Planning Guide and the COVID-19 Health and Prevention Guidance for K-12 Ohio Schools. In addition, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has shared Covid-19 Planning Considerations: Guidance for School Re-entry. These resources offer many health recommendations and ideas for the upcoming school year. We also have results from a parent survey on restarting school. Based on parental feedback, information from the planning guides, and advice from the Stark County and Ohio Health Departments, we have developed a plan to offer two options to educate each student. The first option is a traditional return to school with safety precautions. The second option is an online option for families who would like or need their child(ren) to remain at home. We know that not everyone will agree with our plan; however, we do ask that everyone understands the complexity of the decision to offer a quality education with reasonable safety protocols. Please keep in mind that this plan may change, based upon the unpredictability of the situation. While we can't promise you that we will have no COVID-19 cases, we can assure you that we will take precautions to try to keep our students, staff, and families safe. We appreciate your input and patience as we make these critical decisions. These are difficult times for everyone, but we will get through this crisis by working together.



Jeff Wendorf
SUPERINTENDENT
NORTH CANTON CITY SCHOOLS
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Change in Students' First Day

We have changed the first day of school for our students in order to give our faculty and staff more time to prepare for our Viking Restart.

Monday, Aug. 24, 2020 First Student Day - Grades 1-3, 6 & 9

Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2020 First Student Day - Grades 4-5, 7-8, 10-12

Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2020 First Student Day - Preschool

Friday, Aug. 28, 2020 First Student Day - Kindergarten

We are tentatively planning to hold orientations and Meet the Teacher events online.

Specific details will be shared by your student's building principal.

VIKING RESTART PLEDGE

Follow these **FOUR** steps:

- 1 **COMPLETE DAILY WELLNESS CHECKS**
- 2 **WASH YOUR HANDS.**
- 3 **WEAR A MASK.**
- 4 **WATCH YOUR DISTANCE.**

Follow NCCS COVID-19 updates at <https://www.northcantonschools.org/COVID-19.aspx>

All FOUR One Viking Family

I pledge to take responsibility for my own health, protect others, and keep the North Canton City Schools safe from the spread of COVID-19 and other infections as instructed by the school district.



Viking Restart 2020-2021

After weighing the results of the Parent Survey and the advice from the ODE, the Ohio and Stark County Health Departments, and the American Alliance of Pediatrics, NCCS decided to offer parents two options in order to meet their needs and concerns. Therefore, parents were free to choose the option that best suits their family. Families indicated their choice of option by submitting a form to the North Canton City Schools District Office by Friday, July 31.

Option 1

Students attend in school in-person with safety protocols. Be prepared to move to Remote Learning at any time due to COVID-19.

Option 2

Students stay at home with daily engagement in online learning with connection to NCCS educators.

In-Person Learning

The results of the parent survey show that 61.4% of parents are in

favor in returning to a full-time model with students learning in their school buildings. We will offer school five days a week with certain parameters in order to provide as much safety as we possibly can during this unprecedented time.

Grades K-5

- Elementary principals are working together to develop best practices that can be shared across the district.
- Lunch seating will expand. Where possible, students will be permitted to take their lunch to the gymnasium or outside, weather permitting. More grab and go options will be provided in addition to our traditional favorites.
- Students will go outside for recess, and they will maintain safe physical distancing and potentially get a break from their masks.
- Classroom activities will be modified to avoid the sharing of classroom supplies.

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The Viking Vision

The *Viking Vision* is published by the North Canton City School District and given free of charge to community residents, businesses and school district employees. Our purpose is to share information regarding the mission and activities in the North Canton City School District. The *Viking Vision* is not intended to be a public forum.

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The Viking Vision
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Non-Discrimination Policy

The North Canton City School District affirms that no persons shall, on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity conducted under its auspices. This shall extend to employees therein and to admission thereto. Inquiries concerning the application of this policy may be referred to the superintendent or designated coordinator. This policy shall prevail in all board policies concerning school employees and students. Title VI complaints (sex, race, color, national origin, or disability) should be referred to David Pilati, Assistant Superintendent, at 330-497-5600 or pilatid@northcantonschools.org.

Did You Know



Dave Pilati
 ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

With the 2020-21 school year approaching, I want to share a few pieces of information that you may not be aware of. So here we go . . .

Did you know that since it was shared in the June 2020 Viking Vision that the district's kindergarten through second-grade staff spent time last school year engaging in professional development activities pertaining to the science of reading, and the district has now secured another grant? North Canton City Schools Director of Instruction Michelle Hostetler and Coordinator of Gifted Programs Denise Cooley were the individuals who coordinated the submission of the original grant and this latest grant, which is for approximately \$12,000. The funds, provided by the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation, will be used to continue providing primary grades teachers with professional development and more resources to continue to implement some of the instructional shifts associated with the latest research on how students learn to read.

Did you know that students will not have to take SLO tests this school year thanks to legislation passed in Ohio in June? As part of House Bill 164, schools will not have to calculate student growth measures attributed to teachers as they have in past years. The legislators enacted this change to reduce the amount of testing that students will be required to engage in during the 2020-21 school year due to the uncertainty of whether or not schools may have to go into remote learning due to COVID-19. This will allow teachers to spend more time focusing on instruction for the upcoming school year.

Did you know that North Canton City Schools teachers are ready to help fill in any gaps that may exist in students' learning from the end of last year due to being in remote learning for the final 10 weeks of the school year? Teachers will work with students to assess their knowledge and if needed, will work to provide instruction to students and connect them with resources that will help bridge any gaps in order to help prepare them for this year's academic work. Because of this effort, when students

in kindergarten through eighth grade will take the online Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) tests early in the school year that they have taken for the past several years, it will be extremely important for students to try their absolute best so that the results provide accurate information to teachers on any deficit areas that exist for students. Teachers will then be able to use the information from the MAP tests to plan instruction, and intervention if needed, for all students—including those who are taking their classes online.

Did you know that planning has begun with architects to begin to design the two new elementary school buildings that will be constructed in the North Canton City School District? Meetings with Sol Harris Day, the architectural firm who has been contracted to design the new preschool through 2nd grade building and the new 3rd through 5th grade building, have been taking place every two weeks. Conversations will soon take place pertaining to number of classrooms and instructional spaces as well as the types of classrooms, instructional spaces, technology, etc. that will best serve the needs of the almost 2,000 students that will learn each year in these two buildings.

Lastly . . . something that we do not yet know but have been asked about is . . . *Will state tests take place in the 2020-21 school year or will they be canceled as they were in the 2019-20 school year?* As of today, state tests are still scheduled to take place in the 2020-21 school year, so our teachers will work with students to prepare them for these tests as they have in the past. The important thing to note is that whether the state tests do or do not occur, North Canton City Schools teachers will still be teaching the same curriculum no matter what because the curriculum is aligned to state standards which is what the state tests are aligned to as well. If we receive any information pertaining to state tests, we will communicate what we know to students and parents.



North Canton City Schools Board of Education



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Board of Education meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m. in the INQspot at Hoover High School.

North Canton City Schools District Central Office

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Summer Repairs



Todd Henne
DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS

The summer sun means one thing for the NCCS buildings and grounds: time for repairs! Using money earmarked for capital improvements as part of the 2013 Permanent Improvement levy, this summer's work was both important and extensive.

Thanks in large part to low oil prices, the district feels we got more from our money than a typical summer. For our asphalt projects, the low cost of oil played a significant role in savings for the district. At Hoover, we were able to replace the entire north lot. This lot was in dire need of repairs as it was done with the 1996 building of Hoover High School. With the difficult Ohio winters, 24 years is a long time for asphalt. At the middle school, we replaced the southwest lot that holds parking for many teachers each day.

At Hoover, roofs are another constant area in need of repairs or updates. The district was able to replace two different roof sections, both original to the 1996 construction of Hoover High School. The first was the area over the Lecture Hall which also serves as the home of the North Canton Playhouse. With the Playhouse investing over \$1 million in private funds last summer, the district did not want that investment ruined with a leaking roof, hence the decision to replace the 24-year-old roof. The second job done was the roof over the auxiliary gym. Over the course of the last two years, this roof caused the high school more issues than any other roof in the district.

The transportation department was also able to use permanent improvement levy funds coupled with a federal grant to purchase six new propane fueled school buses. The grant will reimburse the district for approximately 50% of the cost. Currently, the district is getting 12-14 years out of each bus, and approximately 200,000 miles before being pulled off the road. We are always looking to get the maximum life from our buses, but we are constrained by meeting the safety requirements enforced by the Ohio Highway Patrol during our annual inspection. While our mechanics do a great job on the

engine, our downfall is often the wet weather and the rock salt used on Ohio roads that leads to a school bus hitting the end of life.

Preparing for Construction

With the successful passage of the bond issue in this spring's election, the NCCS is hard at work behind the scenes making plans for the construction of the two new school buildings - one on the Clearmount site and the other on Charlotte Street, across the field from the current Early Childhood Center.

Earlier this summer, the board of education approved a contract with Sol Harris Day Architecture, a Stark County firm, to provide all the architectural services. That work has already begun. Residents may have seen surveying stakes in the ground along with heavy machinery at the two sites in July. That was part of the soil testing and sampling. As soon as principals return to work in August, more meetings will resume where discussions are made about the number of classrooms needed for each grade level, as well as specialty classrooms such as music and art.

In August, the board of education will select a construction firm. This firm will work closely with the architect and handle all contracts and contractors associated with the building of the new buildings. The contract type will be a "Construction Manager at Risk." This is one of the allowable methods in the state of Ohio to construct new buildings and is chosen in a vast majority of the new construction projects. The benefits for the district are that once a price is locked-in with the Construction Manager at Risk, the district is guaranteed to receive the building for that cost. There is no need to worry if the plumbing bid or the electric bid come in too high, that is the part of the "At-Risk" for the construction management firm to handle in their bid process. Also, once the project is in full swing, the construction manager schedules are the subcontractors to keep the buildings progressing on time. Otherwise, a school district could be caught up in the daily back and forth between scheduling multiple contractors and attempting to keep

a multi-million-dollar construction job on time and on budget. Since the North Canton Schools has not built a school building since 1996, it is not the type of job we want to learn as we go.

As we approach September, the district will host a stakeholders meeting conducted by Sol Harris Day. This meeting and its unique parameters are a requirement from the state of Ohio to use the nearly \$20 million in state funds as promised for this project. This meeting will consist of teachers, administrators, and community members. As we have talked to other schools that have been through the process, the common theme is that the architects take the goals and vision of this community and put it into the design. That is the part that makes the buildings feel as our own, and uniquely designed for the students and staff of the North Canton City Schools.

The plans right now are tentative, but the goal is that "dirt will be moving" at the two construction sites by the Fall of 2021. If so, that would give the construction company almost two years to complete the project by July 2023 with a planned opening for the first day of school in August 2023. After we have occupancy permits on the two new buildings, the district will move to the demolition phase for the existing elementary buildings.



**NORTH CANTON CITY SCHOOLS
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NCCS Athletic Department:
HooverVikings.com



New Student Registration in Process

The North Canton City School District is currently enrolling new students in kindergarten through twelfth grade for the 2020-2021 school year. Parents should enroll children who turned five years old on or before August 1, 2020, for kindergarten. Due to concerns about COVID-19, the district is no longer doing in-person registrations for new students. Parents or guardians who have not yet enrolled their children should go to www.northcantonschools.org and click on "How do I?" in the top right-hand corner of the website. Parents should then scroll down to "Register my child for school," which will take them to the school registration page and downloads for the registration packets. If you have any questions regarding the process, please feel free to call the school district office at 330-497-5600. The application packets for kindergarten and grades one through twelve will be on the right side of the computer screen.

Once parents/guardians have downloaded the appropriate packet, they should complete the enrollment forms and gather the required documentation. When all the required documents are ready, the application and documentation can be submitted in one of three ways:

- 1.) Email to District Registrar at Laura.Kennedy@northcantonschools.org
- 2.) Fax the information to Student Registration at 330-497-5618.
- 3.) Mail your information through the United States Postal Service to:

North Canton Schools
ATTN: LAURA KENNEDY
525 7th Street NE
North Canton, OH 44720
Please note that partial documents and paperwork will not be accepted.

Once your paperwork is received you will be contacted in August to confirm official enrollment.



Unity Challenge to Dismantle Racism

The North Canton City School District is participating in the Unity Challenge to Dismantle Racism and we encourage citizens of our school district to join us in this important effort.

The 15- Day Unity Challenge to Dismantle Racism is designed to create dedicated time and space to build more effective social justice habits, particularly those dealing with issues of race, power, privilege, and leadership. The challenge was created by the Dismantling Racism Coalition of Stark County, a collaboration between United Way of Greater Stark County, YWCA Canton, Child & Adolescent Behavioral Health, Coming Together Stark County, Stark County Educational Service Center, Kent State University at Stark, Stark County Collaborative on Race Relations, Stark County Health Departments, Stark County Mental Health and Addiction Recovery, Stark Education Partnership, and The Greater Stark County Urban League.



Through this website, <https://www.dismantlingracismstarkcounty.org/unitychallenge>, individuals can register to participate in a number of activities that explore race, power, privilege, and leadership.

The launch date for the challenge is the end of August 2020. Please join us in this important effort.

Additional Changes

1. Our drop-off and pick-up procedures will be modified to limit visitor traffic inside each of our schools.
2. We will limit assemblies and field trips this year in order to reduce exposures outside the school building.
3. *Meet the Teacher/Open House* and orientation events will be modified and likely held virtually.
4. Because we need to limit the number of people other than students and staff who enter our schools this year, IEP meetings and other meetings with parents will be held virtually and in those limited cases where visitors need to come in the building, they will require prior authorization by an administrator.
5. We promise to keep you informed as changes become necessary as we move through this unprecedented time.

Please be patient with us as we are determined to work collaboratively to protect our students, staff, and families. All school buildings will communicate their adjustments to the items above.



Viking Restart 2020-2021 Continued from page 1

Grades 6-12

- Students in the middle and high school buildings will follow traditional schedules. Hallways and staircases will be set up for one-way traffic, where practical, in order to limit face-to-face contact of individuals. We are currently investigating ways to expand classroom and cafeteria spaces.
- More specific information will be shared from the building principals in August.

Viking Online Learning

- Choosing the NCCS Online School means students will access their education completely online.
- The district is currently planning to use Acellus as its online curriculum provider with a North Canton City Schools teacher connected to each course (there could be some exceptions to this).
- Because we are using an online curriculum provider, all lessons and assessments are already created and will permit the student to work through instructional lessons and assessments with the North Canton teacher serving as a resource.
- At the elementary grades, the contact with the teacher will be more frequent; whereas at the middle and high school levels, students will need to work more independently but will still have access to teachers to provide assistance. An online option is not available for preschool students. Preschool classes will be smaller than in the past and allow for appropriate physical distancing. Choosing the NCCS Online School

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- Preschool classes will be smaller than in the past and allow for appropriate physical distancing

Due to having to coordinate district staffing, students who choose Viking Online School at the beginning of the school year will be required to stay online for at least the entire first semester.

Students will then be able to transition back to attending school in-person beginning January 19, 2021 or may choose to continue their online learning for the entire second semester of the school year (1/19/21 - 5/27/21).

NOTE: Exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances on an individual basis when there is room in the in-person classes and for IEP students. In the event that the entire district or certain grade levels move again to remote learning as all Ohio schools did in March 2020, students who are already enrolled in the Viking Online School will continue with their online coursework and will not participate in remote learning.

- Students in the Viking Online School are eligible to participate in extracurricular activities (e.g., athletics, speech and debate, after-school clubs, etc.).
- Students in the Viking Online School are not eligible to participate in co-curricular activities when the connected course is not offered online (e.g., marching band, concert band, Junior Achievement Company Program, etc.).

For additional information about the Viking Restart for 2020-2021, go to <https://filecabinet7.eschoolview.com/9F6F2611-039B-4F29-A06F-183DE0048F90/>.

Masks and Face Coverings

- **All teachers and staff** will wear masks or face shields while inside all buildings
- **K-2 students** will wear masks on buses and when transitioning in hallways or throughout the building
- **Grades 3-12 students** will wear masks on buses and throughout the school day, except when eating lunch, with teachers providing mask breaks when students are physically distanced from each other



The only exceptions to wearing face masks is for those individuals who cannot wear a mask or face covering for a medical reason (district form that is authorized by a doctor will need to be submitted to the school in these cases).



Viking Restart: Frequently Asked Questions

ATTENDANCE

School attendance is compulsory in Ohio. The school district's attendance policy complies with state law and guidance from the Ohio Department of Education, any changes in the state policy must be made by the state legislature and shared through the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). We will share any updates as we receive them from the ODE. This information will also be shared in this document.

CLEANING AND SANITIZING

Classrooms will be cleaned daily and in between classes as much as possible. High touch areas will be cleaned as much as possible throughout the day.

FACE COVERINGS

Kindergarten through grade two students must now wear a mask, per Governor DeWine's mandate August 4, on buses, in hallways, and in classes when not physically distant from others. Teachers will determine appropriate distancing for removal of masks and mask breaks. Grades 3-12 students will wear masks on buses and throughout the school day, except when eating lunch, with teachers providing mask breaks when students are physically distanced from each other. The only exception is for students who cannot wear a mask or face covering for a medical reason in which case the parent must submit a district form that is authorized by a doctor.

Also, after consultation with the Stark County Health Department, shields are not permitted for students. Students Pk-12 must wear masks on buses and when moving about the building and anytime not physically distanced from others.

Staff will also be required to wear a face covering. The district will be providing each staff member with a face shield, which can be worn while teaching at a distance of six feet or greater from all students. If working closely with a student or group of students, staff must wear a mask. Masks must be worn by staff members when in the hallways.

FOOD SERVICE

The food service department will be eliminating the salad bar, self-serve and condiment bottles that would be shared by students. Students will find more grab and go options, but we will also continue to have our traditional options that we know our students love. But instead of students serving themselves, our staff will do all the work.

Plans are also underway to add a protective glass barrier between our food and our students similar to what you would find at many quick-service restaurants.

LOCKER USAGE

Locker use will be determined by each building with safety protocols and communicated to parents.

ONLINE INSTRUCTION

Choosing the online option (Viking Online School) means students will receive their education completely online. The district is planning to use Acellus as its online curriculum provider with a North Canton City Schools teacher connected to each student (there could be a few exceptions to this). With Acellus, all lessons and assessments, aligned to standards, are already created and will permit the student to work through instructional lessons and assessments with the North Canton teacher serving as a resource. At the elementary grades, the contact with the teacher will be more frequent whereas at the middle and high school levels, students will need to work more independently but will still have access to teachers to provide assistance. Due to having to coordinate district staffing, students who choose *Viking Online School* at the beginning of the school year will be required to stay online for **at least the entire first semester**. Students will then be able to transition back to attending school in-person beginning January 19, 2021, or may choose to continue their online learning for the entire second semester of the school year (1/19/21 - 5/27/21) if they choose. Exceptions may be made for IEP students in permitting them to return to in-person learning sooner than specified above.

ONLINE LEARNING: ACELLUS

The Acellus curriculum is aligned to the Common Core Standards in math and English Language Arts, just like North Canton's curriculum is aligned with Ohio Standards which is aligned to the Common Core. At the K-3 level, there's a very strong emphasis on math and English Language arts in the North Canton schools, and Acellus will have that same emphasis. However, there will be content work in Social Studies and science, and the standards are very similar to the Ohio standards in those two subjects. Also, our North Canton teachers will have the flexibility to adjust what is taught to ensure that it aligns the best that it can. The benefit of having your child in North Canton's online program is that we will have North Canton teachers connected to your child whereas if you work through Acellus, you will not have a local teacher.

Several other districts in Stark County are using Acellus or another online curriculum provider such as Florida Virtual or Agilix. In all cases, a district teacher is connected to the

students and not an Acellus teacher. In North Canton, a North Canton teacher will be connected to all students. The decision was made to go with an online curriculum provider where the content is already created so that teachers can spend their time actually instructing students instead of spending time creating the curriculum and putting it into an online platform that students could access at home. While we feel our teachers did the best that they could with that in March through May of this past school year, the reality is that they spent far more time creating the curriculum/putting it into the online platform, creating materials that could be accessed online, that they had less time to spend actually teaching students.

ONLINE INSTRUCTION FOR GIFTED STUDENTS

Gifted students will be served either through online honors or Advanced Placement classes (high school students), online enriched classes (middle school students), or enrichment activities assigned

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New Sanitizing Machine

Hoover High School Custodian Dave Brown demonstrates the newest sanitizing machine that will be in use at all district buildings this year. Custodians will be able to sanitize a classroom in approximately five minutes using this new mist-spray system. The fine spray will dry to the touch in five to ten minutes providing proper dwell time to sanitize the room. It can also be used through the hallways and restrooms during the middle of the day to sanitize high-touch surfaces like lockers, doorknobs and restrooms.

#OneVikingFamily

Thank you from the NCCS Lunch Ladies!

One of my favorite memories from the emergency feeding program was seeing the excitement in the faces of the kiddos as they recognized their lunch ladies from school. From the backseat of mom or dad's car, they would yell out "Hi" to their lunch lady and tell their parents "that's my lunch lady!"

LISA SHAW, HOOVER HIGH SCHOOL



One of my favorite memories was being able to do "Turkey Gravy Day" for the seniors! The ones who like it were so excited, and it was great to be able to see their faces and serve them one more time before they moved on to new adventures! One other thing that will stick with me forever was the overwhelming generosity and encouragement shown by the North Canton community. The kind words, gifts, treats and getting to see the children's smiling faces were a huge blessing to our day! I'm very blessed to be a part of this great lunch lady family!!

KELLEE ANDERSON, HOOVER HIGH SCHOOL



I was on the Tuesday and Thursday crew. I was the one who dressed up at the dinosaur. I loved seeing the kiddos light up when they saw me!! It was such a crazy time at that point. It was new. Kids didn't know what was going on. The weather was crazy rainy and cold. Seemed like there was so much negative and uncertainties in the world. Dressing up like the dinosaur game them a sense of fun and normalcy. Something to brighten their day!!! I know it brightening mine. Seeing their little

smiles and giving hope to the parents as they came through was so worth the numb fingers and toes. As lunch ladies, we are the underdogs to teachers and other staff. So, for us to be the ones in the shining light was super cool!!! I love my job I love the ladies I worked with. So glad I'm a Viking and a part of making sure these kids during a time of need have full bellies!!

AMANDA SEIBERT, NORTHWOOD ELEMENTARY



Creating new friendships with staff members from other schools has helped me feel more connected to the district, and I've met some incredible people!!

A young boy named Kit made me smile every time I saw him, but never more than the day he taught me some 'ninja moves'!! He handed me his plastic sword and shield and showed me what to do. On my first try, he said, "that wasn't very good," so he showed me another one and when I was done he said, "that was awesome."

We loved to see what our families were up to. One young lady in particular was spending her time teaching herself how to do lots of different crafts, including teaching herself how to knit or crochet, recently showing us the progress she's made on a blanket. Brenna, you are an amazing young lady and we are looking forward to seeing that blanket when it's done!

There's not much more special than watching families grow right before your eyes! Two sisters started coming to meal service in March. We liked to call them the "basket sisters" because they had us put their meals in two clothes baskets. Grace was pregnant and we got to watch her belly grow and talk to her about her family and pregnancy until one day they pulled up and we looked in and I said, "You're not pregnant anymore!!!!" She rolled down the window and there was this perfect little baby boy!!! It was such a joy to meet these ladies.

Thanks to a sweet little girl named Zetta, I now know how to sign "coffee," "cat" and "more," but my favorite memory from her is the day she pulled up with her dad and I said "Hi sweetie! and she said "Yesterday my dad forgot to get lunch." I laughed and talked to her dad. When I looked back at her in the back seat and said something I can't recall, and her response was "yesterday my dad forgot to get lunch!" I don't think she'll ever let him forget the day he forgot lunch!!

We always felt so appreciated, from the chorus of little voices in the back of a minivan yelling "thank you for your service," to the sweet lady who thanked us every time and told us what a blessing we were. She said, "I'm sure you get tired of hearing it but this is such a blessing to my family!" Nope, we never get tired of hearing that because the community blessed us right back. From the pictures, cards, coffee, hot chocolate, candy, and gift cards to the huge smiles and endless words of "thank you," WE were so grateful to all of YOU!

CHERYL FURBEE, HOOVER HIGH SCHOOL



I really did enjoy helping the community, getting to work with others that I did not know very well, and making new friends.

JULIE FONTE, HOOVER HIGH SCHOOL



Building News



This has been quite the end of school year/summer That in itself is an understatement for sure.

As it started off, I was assigned to help with handing out breakfasts and lunches with an incredible crew, all of us working with one goal in mind—feeding the kids. It was great to be a part of such a wonderful team! I worked with people outdoors handing out the food, while there were

workers inside tirelessly and endlessly keeping things flowing flawlessly.

We battled the elements, often going through multiple weather changes within our four serving hours. It was quite something!! So funny to look back on, but at the time, dang, it was COLD as we clung to the hand warmers generously dropped off by sympathetic parents.

As the end of the school year came, I got more emotional. Seeing the seniors drive past to pick up their yearbooks as we lined the road with our encouraging signs, I couldn't help but get teared up knowing that this was it for them. This was their end of their final year of high school. I wish it hadn't ended this way. They deserved their prom, their trips, their yearbooks being signed, their running around the school as the "big cheeses" we all got to be as seniors. As we waved and cheered, I could only hope that we brought them maybe a smile or two, and the knowledge that we really care for them and wish them all the best and continue to do so.

Then came the summer, the sun, the heat, the HUMIDITY!! Quite different from before! I got to work with a few different people with the same mission as before, and it has been going GREAT!! The awning that we got outside definitely helped! The elements this time had their own challenges, but we have been doing with quite well, I must say. (I must admit praying for a little cooling rainfall from time to time.) The rain we got was an all-or-nothing kind of thing...great at first, but once we were completely drenched, it was a bit much. (I should have put some parameters on what I was praying for.)

We are still serving families and things are still going so well. It is great seeing so many parents and kids come through our line. It is so heartwarming seeing them light up as we hand out their food and wave to us as they leave, knowing we would be seeing them again soon. And the kids' handwritten pictures and even homemade bracelets are unforgettable gifts for which we are forever grateful.

I want to give a HUGE shout out to everyone I have had the honor of getting to know. You are all amazing! You have made this time a pleasure, and I am so glad I was able to do it.

As far as memories go, I've got a lot more now. They will make me smile, laugh, and maybe even shed a tear, and for that I am forever grateful.

CATHY BERKSHIRE, HOOVER HIGH SCHOOL

It has been a joy to see people and their smiling faces as they come up to the middle school each day. The children are excited to see what is in the daily breakfast and lunch bags. It is a surprise for them. The parents, grandparents and children are so appreciative of the meals and us. Their pet dogs are happy, too, as they receive a treat at each visit. The dogs are so cute and range from being 8 lbs to over 140 lbs. I know many of them by name now! Although the weather ranged from rain to over 90°, it was a pleasure serving over 750 children daily. This has been a great opportunity for me to meet so many awesome families! I'm looking forward to seeing many of the students again soon at Greentown!



LAURA FRADL, GREENTOWN INTERMEDIATE



My favorite summer memory was having fun and getting the opportunity to work with the other cooks from the different schools that I don't usually work with, either making new friendships or rekindling old ones. Definitely seeing the smiling faces of the kids as they drove through the pick-up line. They were just as happy to see us as we were to see them!

JULIE MILLER, ORCHARD HILL INTERMEDIATE

My best memory is that all of us each lunch lady crew from every school were working together to help the families of North Canton. We are a food service family, and the cute faces and many thanks didn't hurt either. Scaring Helen was my second-best memory. Lol

CINNAMON PERRY, ORCHARD HILL



Looking back at March when the schools were shut down, all I can think of is the saying "when life gives you lemons make lemonade," and that is exactly what we did!! It was so fulfilling to me to see how excited the kids were to come pick up their meals and a big thank you to all the parents who brought us food, gift cards and gifts and to all the students who made us thank you cards and posters!

For us staff members, we got to work with others we normally don't get to work with as we are in different buildings. It was so much fun! My husband, son and I are all Hoover graduates. North Canton is the best place to grow up and live in. I am a proud Hoover graduate!!!

VAL LORENTZ, NORTHWOOD ELEMENTARY



Viking Restart: Frequently Asked Questions Continued from page 5

through their online teacher (K-5 and middle school students).

Several of the AP classes that Hoover High School normally offers are also offered through Acellus and have been approved by the College Board AP Audit Process and have also been approved by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAS) Clearinghouse.

ONLINE INSTRUCTION IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Acellus provides instructional lessons with videos delivered by a foreign language teacher for each of the foreign language classes that are offered through the online program.

ONLINE OPTION FOR HOOVER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: CAREER TECH

Junior and senior students who enroll in the online option will be permitted to come into Hoover High School and attend a career pathway class if they desire to do so. They will then take their non-career courses online. Due to the hands-on nature of these career pathway classes, they are not offered online.

ONLINE OPTION FOR HOOVER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: CO-CURRICULAR (marching band, band concerts, choir concerts, competitions, and Junior Achievement) AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (athletics, speech & debate, and after-school clubs)

Students in the *Viking Online School* are not eligible to participate in co-curricular activities when the connected course is not offered online. However, an exception has been made in permitting high school students who choose online learning to come into Hoover High School to take band or orchestra in-person. Additionally, there is now an online option for choir offered with Hoover High School choir director, Mrs. Whitesmith.

Yes, students choosing the online option may participate in extracurricular activities. Please keep in mind, however, that academic

requirements for participation must be met by the student. These requirements are the same, regardless of a student choosing in-person or online learning.

ONLINE LEARNING vs. REMOTE LEARNING

The *Viking Online School* is web-based instruction that is designed to present the curriculum through online reading material, instructional lessons, practice, and assessments. Evaluation of student performance is also done online. Students choosing online learning will be required to commit to this option for at least one semester.

Remote learning is a temporary or long-term shift to an alternate means of learning for all students who are participating in the in-person school option. This shift to remote learning will occur if the county reaches Level 4 (Purple) as specified by the state of Ohio or if the state of Ohio closes school buildings again as it did in March 2020. Remote learning was used by our NCCS teachers during the fourth nine weeks of the 2019-20 school year. If a student who has chosen in-person learning is absent from school for an extended period of time or if health officials mandate the closure of a school building(s), teachers will continue course instruction through remote learning. If a shift to remote learning occurs, students who are in the Viking Online School and are accessing their learning online will remain in the Viking Online School.

DEADLINE FOR CHOOSING THE VIKING ONLINE OPTION

July 31, 2020: Deadline for parents to complete Google Form requesting online learning for their child. A student must take all his/her classes either in-person or online through the Viking Online School. Any student choosing in-person learning will automatically be placed in the more traditional setting with safety protocols.

August 17, 2020: Parents and students will be informed of their Viking Online School teachers.

August 24, 2020: Online classes begin for students

ONLINE AND IN-PERSON COMMITMENTS

Because of the changes that would be required in staffing and some differences in when topics are taught in the curriculum, students may return to in-person learning at the beginning of the second semester. Students who choose the online option for the second semester, must remain online for the rest of the school year. Exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances on an individual basis when there is room in the in-person classes and for IEP students.

If a student chooses the in-person option and then wants to move to the NCCS Online School option, the request will be handled on a case by case basis.

ONLINE STAFFING

NCCS encouraged teachers who were interested in teaching online to indicate their interest to the district office. Those who indicated interest were then interviewed and the online teachers were ultimately selected.

QUARANTINE/ISOLATION REQUIREMENTS

We will follow protocols as determined by the Stark County Health Department and other health officials pertaining to contact tracing, quarantining, and notifications.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

Modifications to class change and traffic flow will be communicated by each building.

TEMPERATURE TAKING/ SYMPTOM ASSESSMENT AT HOME AND SCHOOL

Parents must conduct a health screening prior to school for their children every day. Students with any symptoms should stay home, and parents should notify the school attendance secretary. We are still reviewing our procedures with regard to guidelines regarding the student's return to school. If a student becomes ill while at school, office personnel will notify the parent immediately so the student can be picked up by a parent.



District News

North Canton City Schools 2020-21 Calendar (REVISED 7/15/20)

August 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					
September 2020						
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27	28	29	30			
October 2020						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31
November 2020						
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December 2020						
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January 2021						
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- August
- 17-21 Staff Days
- 24 First Student Day: Grades 1-3, 6 & 9
- 25 First Student Day: Grades 4-5, 7-8 & 10-12
- 26 First Day Preschool
- 28 First Day Kindergarten

- September
- 7 Labor Day

- October
- 9 Professional Development Day
- 12 Prof. Development Exchange Day
- 23 End of 1st 9 Weeks

- November
- 25 Conference Exchange Day
- 26-27 Thanksgiving Break
- 30 Conference Exchange Day

- December
- 21-31 Winter Break

- January
- 1 Winter Break
- 14 End of 2nd 9 weeks/1st Semester
- 15 Staff Work Day
- 18 Martin Luther King Day

- February
- 12 Professional Development Day
- 15 Presidents Day

- March
- 19 End of 3rd 9 Weeks
- 29-31 Spring Break

- April
- 1-2 Spring Break

- May
- 27 Last Student Day
- End of 4th 9 weeks/2nd Semester
- 28 Staff Work Day
- 31 Memorial Day

- No School Students & Staff
- No School Students Only
- First & Last Student Day

Board Approved on 7/15/20

February 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
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March 2021						
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April 2021						
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May 2021						
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June 2021						
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July 2021						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Child Find

Each year school districts throughout Ohio participate in an effort to identify, locate and evaluate all children with disabilities, birth through 21; for age birth to 3, an established condition known to result in delay or documented developmental delay; for ages 3 through 21, identification of one or more of the following conditions: Autism Spectrum Disorder, developmental disability, deaf-blindness, hearing impairment-including deafness, intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, emotional disturbance, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury and/or visual impairment-including blindness. Parents are not always aware that there are programs and services available for children identified with a disability.

If you know of a child who may have one or more of the above suspected disabilities, including preschool age children, please contact the Special Services Office at (330) 497-5665.



Food Services



Jill Lauter
Food Service Director

North Canton City School District has announced its 2020-2021 program year policy for **free and reduced meals** for students unable to pay the full price of meals or milk served under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast, After School Care Snack or Special Milk Programs. Each school office and the central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

The Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines will be used to determine eligibility. Children from families whose annual income is at or below the federal guidelines are eligible for free and reduced-price meals or free milk if the school participates in the Special Milk Program.

Application forms are distributed to all homes in a letter to parents or guardians. To apply for free and reduced-price benefits, households should complete an application and

return it to the school. Additional copies are available at the principal's office in each school. A complete application is required. Households which currently receive Special Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits (SNAP, formally known as food stamps) or Ohio Works First (OWF) funds for a child must provide the child's name, the SNAP or OWF case number and signature of an adult household member on the application. Households that do not receive SNAP or OWF funds must provide the names of all household members, the last four digits of the Social Security Number of the adult signing the application or state "none" if the adult does not have a Social Security Number, the amount and source of income received by each household member, (state the monthly income) and the signature of an adult household member. If any of this information is missing, the school cannot process the application.

North Canton City Schools will hold a public meeting on **Wednesday, August 19, 2020 from 5:15 - 5:45 p.m. in Hoover Hall located 525 7th Street, NE.** The purpose of the meeting is to discuss federal funding which supplement programs for students with disabilities (IDEA-B funds). Parents and community members are encouraged to attend.



YOU GIVE YOUR FAMILY 100%.



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Whether you're back to work full-time or staying at home, **your kids expect nothing less than your all.** And, you give it to them. **At the Y, we will too.**


From swimming lessons to child care, your kids will **learn new skills** and **meet new friends** in a **safe and fun** environment, which is pretty **awesome.** Just like **you.**

NORTH CANTON YMCA
200 S. Main St. | North Canton, OH 44720
330.499.2587 | ymcastark.org


UNDERSTANDING CONTACT TRACING

 <p>Person A</p> <p>Confirmed case - self-isolate until 24 hours with no fever and respiratory symptoms have improved (e.g. cough, shortness of breath) and 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.</p>	 <p>Person B</p> <p>Contact of case - if closer than 6 ft. for longer than 15 minutes then Person B must stay home and monitor symptoms. If a casual contact of a confirmed case, self-isolation should take place for 14 days after their last contact with the confirmed case.</p>	 <p>Person C</p> <p>Contact of contact - should stay home or monitor symptoms only if Person B has developed symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19.</p>
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Why is the health department contacting me?

Once you are a confirmed case, the health department is notified and will call to help track your sickness. They can offer education and guidance while monitoring symptoms.




IF CONTACTED BY THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT, PLEASE ANSWER OR CALL THEM BACK!


Key tips to stay social but remain safe from COVID-19




Wash Up




Mask Up



Back Up



Stay home when sick!



Visit [RestartStark](https://RestartStark.org) for more information!



Technology Department



Kim Nidy
Tech Director

As we gear up for the start of a school year like nothing we have experienced before, many parents are making the decision about what is best for their family. They are deciding between returning to school in person or enrolling in the Viking Online School. Regardless of the decision, it is our goal to support our families in order to have the best educational experience possible.

As we reflected on our remote learning experience in the spring, one area that stood out was the struggle that parents and guardians had supporting their children in this new digital learning environment. While most of our students are accustomed to using technology on a regular basis, that is not the case for all students in all grades, and certainly not the case for our parents and guardians.

The Technology Department is working hard to create a Parent Academy that will contain resources that help parents better understand the technology used in our district. The Parent Academy will be housed in Schoology and will contain written

as well as video instructions for topics around Chromebooks, Google Apps, Schoology, and other relevant tools used in our classrooms.

Not only will these be important resources for the fall, but they will also be great for any new family

entering North Canton City Schools. Parents will receive information soon explaining how to join the group and we will also encourage questions and suggestions that will help us continue to expand the information covered.



And the Beat Goes On!

The pandemic has caused cancellation of the OMEA State Marching Band Finals, but the Hoover High School marching band is still moving forward with their competition show, according to Director Ron Varn. “We are planning to perform for the football crowd as well as for our parents and friends in a live stream of the show. The show is called “Mirror Image” and our logo looks like MirrororriM.”

Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, the marching band camp was modified to be held at Hoover High School. Mr. Varn was determined not to disappoint his

students or risk their safety. “This was a challenge, but we tried our best to have band camp be as close to the same as possible. We have adjusted our choreography to observe social distancing, have remained outside, and have added bell covers for added aerosol dispersion. I served on an OMEA task force of four directors that worked in conjunction with the Stark County Health Department, and the Stark County Superintendent to devise and implement safety protocols for the marching band.”

“I have been at NCCS for 34 years and have never seen anything quite like this. We’ve had challenges over

the years, but nothing even close to this. I would add that I am so honored and humbled by the support from students and parents and their willingness to adapt to an ever-changing environment.”



Hoover High School is a 2020 Best High School, based on rankings from U.S. News & World Report. To read more about Hoover High School’s success, go to <https://www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools/ohio/districts/north-canton-city/hoover-high-school-15276>. Congratulations to Hoover High School administration, staff, and students in receiving this honor!



