Dear Parents/Guardians,

Happy autumn! It seems as if summer just began and already it’s autumn. We hope that you and your child are enjoying the first few days of NHS Bears season. Looking ahead, on Oct. 16, we will host PSAT Day. Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors will take the PSAT most of the morning followed by an abbreviated day for all students. Since the spring assessment for juniors is the redesigned SAT, we will continue to spend the year orienting students and staff to the shifts in instruction necessary so that our students will be prepared.

For those of you returning to NHS, please continue your involvement whether it’s through a parent club, a sports booster organization, or simply following up with teachers when you have questions (or commendations!). For those parents of you who are new to us, please see our homepage for pertinent information and make note of the emails from class advisors regarding information specific to the class. This month is a busy one with college representatives meeting with students in the Career Center every day, Spirit Week, our annual Activities Fair, guidance development lessons, Marching Bears competitions, and other exciting events.

We’re glad you’re here!

Sincerely,

Reginald Roberts
Principal, Norwalk High School
(203) 838-4481

Welcome back! Have a great year!
The NHS Marching band 2019 season began in August when the students rehearsed for 2 full weeks learning drills and preparing for this year’s show “The Ripple Effect”, which is like a pebble being dropped into the water and creating ripples. One action causes multiple chain reactions. The Marching Band is the largest competitive team in Norwalk with 150 members. The season runs through November culminating in the US BANDS National Championship Competition at MetLife Stadium in NJ. September was a busy month for the band and MBI (Marching Bears, Inc the parent organization) with competitions at Brien McMahon HS and Naugatuck HS, home football game performances and 2 of their largest fundraising activities; the Oyster Festival and Norwalk Boat Show.

The NHS Marching Band home show, “Cavalcade of Bands,” is on Saturday, October 12th at Testa Field. Please come see a day of awesome performances, cheer your friends in the band and show our visitors what a great school community we have!

Upcoming shows and performances:

- October 5th - Cheshire HS
- October 12th - Norwalk HS - Home Show “Cavalcade of Bands”
- October 18th - NHS Football Game
- October 19th - Bunnell HS
- October 26th - USBANDS N.E. State Championship
- November 1st - NHS Football game

For the latest NHS band schedule, please visit www.nhsband.com and click on MBI calendar.

How can I support the band?
In addition to attending shows and cheering for the band, you can support them by contributing to their monthly Can & Bottle drive held at Andrews Field on the second Saturday of the month from 9:00am - 1:00pm. This event is year round and if you contribute in October, you can watch the band practice when you drop off your returnable.

Thank you for supporting the NHS Marching Band!
The English department started the new year with updated district-wide quarterly assessments and a new Honors curriculum in all grades. We received positive feedback from seniors in the new Poetry through Music elective course and we have an established group of seniors pursuing independent projects in the senior Earned Honors program. This fall there will also be a Broadway field trip and Mrs. Strom will help students launch the Bear Supporters, a group that intends to support students through times of stress.

Additionally, a designated group of English teachers are brainstorming ways to work Capstone exploration into English classes for 9th graders beginning in October. We will be working closely with the social studies department to initiate the Capstone project and will finish outlining the plan for grades 10, 11, and 12 this fall.

Lastly, the English department will again be hosting some quarterly writing contests for students. With a desire to create an active writing center in the English Resource Center (ERC), we hope to inspire more writing - and better writing – through

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**YEARBOOK**

Attention, parents! 2020 yearbooks are for sale online with early bird pricing ($50) until Oct. 12. Please visit [https://yearbookforever.com](https://yearbookforever.com) and purchase your copy of *Reminiscentiae* today. Want a book from a previous year? Check with Mrs. Barone, Yearbook Adviser, at baronek@norwalkps.org.

**Senior parents**, the time for scheduling your son or daughter’s senior portrait is now! Please note that these are not the same as school ID photos taken in the fall. The yearbook only uses senior portraits from Prestige Portraits (a division of Lifetouch), so please make your appointment for a sitting today. All appointments will be made and modified on www.prestigeportraits.com. Each student has been issued a unique Confirmation Code for the website, which was sent home via postcard and also emailed to the Yearbook Adviser, Mrs. Barone. If students need assistance, they may see Mrs. Barone (214D) or call Prestige Portraits directly at 800-426-9533. **Upcoming senior portrait dates are:** October 10-11; November 20-22; December 19-20.
NORWALK HIGH SCHOOL NOW HAS A
DEBATE TEAM!

We have been fortunate enough to have the best students in the world; students that have so
much intellectual curiosity, emotional resolve and pride in their peers, their school and their
faculty, a Debate Team has been established for the 2019-2020 school year! It began as an
idea amongst English Teacher Mr. Rodriguez and a few of his AP Language Students last
year and through hard work, the willingness to stay after school and the confidence to try
something new, the Norwalk High School Debating Bears entered the first novice
scrimmage of the 2019-2020 Connecticut Debate Association Debate Season. We are going
forward with a healthy roster of 16 Debating Bears lead by our Senior Team Co-Captains
the consummate Julia Dufort, the luminous Maddie Boone, the dynamic Hugh Ireland
and the meticulous Brynn Schmitt.

Congratulations to the to all the brave debaters who took a chance on Saturday and tried
something new. To place their faith in me as a coach and most importantly in themselves
as debaters is awe inspiring to say the least. Our debating bears paired off against local high
schools with great success on Saturday with Maddie Boone and Catherine
Sheehan going undefeated against AITE Stamford and Amity Regional, Alexandra
Kolestos and William Yates taking down Weston High School, Cece Clyne and Hugh
Ireland winning over Stamford High School and Julia Dufort and Brynn
Schmitt victorious over Westhill. It was a great showing overall with many instances of
our debaters losing by a slim margin of just one point.
Our next competition is Saturday October 12th at Stamford HS followed by Saturday November 16th in Wilton and Saturday December 7th at a site TBD. Please mark your calendars. Our team has a healthy chance of competing in the State Tournament this year. Let us rest, regroup and prepare for our next showdown. Thank you to parents for giving your time and transportation to our kids to make this all possible. This being our first season we have very little in the way of funding, but I could not think of a better way to volunteer my time and for you/your children to spend a Saturday. Let us look forward to this coming season with positivity, determination and vigor. Fundraising ideas and practice techniques will develop over time but your enthusiasm is what makes this all possible. Great job everyone!

There is still time to get involved!
See Coach Rodriguez in room 211D for more information!
2019 marks the 11-year anniversary of the Norwalk STEM Travelers!

Our organization was founded in 2008 to facilitate and support global exploration in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields. The NST has toured locations such as Ecuador and the Galapagos, Costa Rica, Iceland, Greece and Belize, completing research for further application both in and outside the classroom. Our South Africa tour marks the first African tour destination for Norwalk High School in over 11 years. Now included as an extra-curricular option in the Interdisciplinary Global Engagement Pathway, students completing a project along with our tour can be eligible to receive elective credit, work towards the fulfilment of their Capstone requirement, as well as receive a Certificate of Global Engagement from the State of Connecticut.

Our next informational meeting will be held Wednesday, October 16th at 6pm in the NHS Library. For more information on how to participate in the 2020 South Africa tour, please visit: www.eftours.com/2062736kc or contact Ms. Engle at: englec@norwalkps.org

DUE TO POPULAR DEMAND:
We were able to open an additional 14 more enrollments, so we ask that all interested students please contact Ms. Engle in 307A for application information. This tour is open to all NPS students, currently in 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade.
News From the Science Department

The Science Department is in need of a full-size refrigerator as part of the NGSS curriculum. If you or anyone you know is willing to donate a new or used refrigerator, please contact me at (203) 838-4881 at extension 13312. Thank you for your support!

News From The NHS Art Department

The NHS Art Department welcomes all new and returning students to the Art Department for the 2019-20 school year! We offer art classes for all experience levels, abilities and interests in Visual Art. We encourage all NHS students to take an art class during their NHS Career. Find a home in the Art Department! All Art Department students are busy learning elements and principles of art and design to apply to their artwork in process. Students are working diligently creating original artwork to display in upcoming art exhibits and juried competitions. Our first exhibit will be the Art Show at Candlelight immediately followed by our N.H.S. submissions to the 2020 Scholastic Art Awards.

Please notice our new creative murals throughout the hallways and in the cafeteria painted by Ms. Delong’s Honors Portfolio class. These murals visually demonstrate students’ positive thoughts and emotions toward student life at NHS! They reflect our NHS Core Values and Beliefs.

Thank you to all parents who attended Parent Night. The Art Teachers enjoyed meeting with you and explaining what your child will learn in art class. Art teachers have classroom supply wish lists. Please contact your child’s teacher if you wish to donate any supplies to the classroom. The N.H.S. Art Department is excitedly awaiting the arrival of a newly updated Art Resource room. Please remember all art students need a pass from an art teacher to use the art resource room. Also immediately following school in the Art Department:

Ms. O’Connor holds the Fueling Lakota Club in room 303E, Wednesday afternoon.
Mr. Franco holds Build ON in room 308E, Wednesday afternoon.
Ms. Larson holds Style Club in room 307D, Thursday afternoons.

Come join the N.H.S. Art Department. Learn while making artwork to be proud of. Meet new friends and have fun!

Ms. O’Connor  Ms. Delong  Mr. DeSalvo  Mrs. Ellett  Mr. Franco  Ms. Larson
News from the School Nurse

To Ninth Grade Parents specifically and all parents generally

We welcome you and your child to Norwalk High.
A couple of procedural here at NHS that are different from Middle School:

- **Ninth Grade physicals:** All ninth graders are required to submit the Connecticut Health form completed by the Parent on Page One and by the doctor on Page Two along with a vaccine record. The physical must be performed between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020.

- **Sports Physicals:** Students who participate in school sports must submit a physical every year. A physical for sports is good for one calendar year plus 28 days. This allows a grace period for Insurance Companies that require a full year between physicals. Ninth graders who supplied a sports physical performed before July 1, 2019 must still supply a physical for ninth grade that is performed after July 1, 2019. This ninth grade physical will of course be valid for sports for the next year.

- **Absences:** There is no attendance line. If your child is absent you need to write a note that include the days your child is out of school. The note goes to their House Office secretary in either A house or E house. Unfortunately, you will still receive the robo-call later in the day advising you of your child’s absence.

- **Activity Restrictions:** Any note that restricts your child’s activity for sports or gym comes to the nurses’ office. If your child needs to use the elevator they would get one from the nurses’ office. There is a $10 deposit which is returned when the student returns the key to us. The doctor’s note must specifically request the use of the elevator. All doctor’s notes should include either the length of the restriction or the date of the evaluation. “Until further notice” is not acceptable.

- **Dismissal for illness:** Students who are dismissed during the day due to illness will be dismissed through the nurses’ office. If your child calls you directly to be dismissed because they feel ill please have them go to the nurses’ office for a dismissal pass.
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GO TO: WWW.STOPANDSHOP.COM

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Enter school code: 07279

Costs you nothing!
Register up to two schools

Norwalk High School Digital Media Pathway
If you have news or would like to contribute information for the next newsletter, please send an email to the editor of the newsletter, Mr. Anthony Rodriguez at nhsfactfinder@outlook.com.

If you want your name added to the email reminder list, please send an email to nhsfactfinder@outlook.com. Your comments and contributions are appreciated.

Core Values and Beliefs

Norwalk High School, a community of students, teachers, administrators and families, embraces its diversity and encourages intellectual curiosity.

We value a safe, accepting culture rooted in a rigorous, relevant curriculum rich with technology and artistic expression.

We must challenge students to become knowledgeable, ethical citizens capable of making independent and collaborative decisions in real-world settings.

We must prepare students for the social, civic, and technological demands of the 21st century in order to effectively participate in an ever-changing global society.