

UPDATE FROM THE NMRSD SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE APRIL 8, 2018

NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the NMRSD School Committee will be held on Monday, April 9, 2018; at North Middlesex Regional High School at 7:00 p.m. Agenda items include the following:

1. Superintendent's Report

- Accelerated Repair Projects Update

2. Building Committee Report Update

- Building Committee Athletic Alternate Proposal Discussion/Vote

3. Finance Subcommittee Update

- FY19 Budget Update and Final Adjustments Discussion/Vote

OLD BUSINESS

1. The School Committee moves to appoint TBD to the position of Superintendent of Schools beginning July 1, 2018, pending successful contract negotiations. Discussion/Vote

NEW BUSINESS

1. To authorize the superintendent to award the contract for the Varnum Brook Elementary School Roof & HVAC and the Hawthorne Brook Middle School HVAC Bids as part of the Accelerated Repair Project. Discussion/Vote

2. School Choice Openings 2018 - 2019 Discussion/Vote

The superintendent recommends that in accordance with state law requiring all schools to be open for school choice, the North Middlesex Regional School District accepts choice students for the 2018 - 2019 academic year in the following school/grade levels where space is available. The administration will be cautious not to accept a number of choice students that would adversely affect district finances.

NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT

The next meeting of the North Middlesex Regional High School Building Committee will be held on Monday, April 9, 2018; at the high school at 5:00 p.m. Agenda items will include the following:

OPM Report

a) Phase 2 Hazardous Material Update

- Progress Report
- Review of Cost
- NMRSD Consultant (Terracon) Report/Update

b) NMRHS Building Committee Sub-Committee Athletic Alternate Proposal

c) Construction Progress Photo Report

d) Review Contractor's Progress Schedule

e) Review OPM Change Order Log

f) Review OPM Project Budget

THE SCREENING BRIEF INTERVENTION AND REFERRAL TO TREATMENT PROGRAM

In compliance with MGL Chapter 71, Section 96 and 97, North Middlesex Regional School District will be conducting verbal screenings of students in grades 7 and 9 related to the use of alcohol, marijuana and other substances using the Screening Brief Intervention and Referral Treatment (SBIRT) program. The goal of this program is to let students know that school staff is available to reinforce healthy decisions and to assist them in obtaining support if needed for substance use-related problems.

All screenings will be conducted confidentially by our school nurses in private one-on-one sessions. The district will utilize the CRAFFT II screening tool, which is the most commonly used substance screening tool for adolescents in Massachusetts.

Students who are not using substances will have their healthy choices reinforced by the screener. The screener will provide brief feedback to any student who reports using substances, or who is at risk for future substance use. If needed, the school will refer students to our counseling staff for further evaluation. This program focuses on harm prevention and will not result in disciplinary action. Results of the screening will not be included in your student's school record. The screening is voluntary, and students may choose not to answer any or all of the screening questions.

As with any school screening, you have the right to opt your child out of this screening. The opt-out form is attached. If you decide not to have your child participate in the verbal screening, you will need to send the completed opt-out form to the nurse at your child's school. A parent/guardian informational night is scheduled for April 10, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. at North Middlesex Regional High School to address any questions you may have regarding this screening. You can also contact your child's nursing office with any questions.

The screening schedule is as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Hawthorne Brook Middle School | May 21st to May 24th, 2018 |
| Nissitissit Middle School | May 15th to May 18th, 2018 |
| North Middlesex Regional High School | April 25th to April 27th, 2018 |

NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL WINTER COLOR GUARD

Congratulations to the NMRHS Winter Color Guard for winning their division title at the NESBA Winter Season Championships held on Saturday, March 31st in Salem, MA.

CAMP INVENTION (MESSAGE FROM MR. JUDKINS)

Wild and crazy ideas become reality in this year's all-new Camp Invention program, Fast Forward! Campers in grades K-6 explore the technology behind self-driving cars and create vehicles of the future, build their very own "smart" homes, design a mechanical robot dog and take home an Optibot, a robot that senses dark and light surfaces. Local educators lead the week of fun, hands-on, STEM activities that allow children to think big, explore their curiosity, and never give up! Early registration discounts are available, so don't delay. Visit campinvention.org or call 800.968.4332 to register. Use promo code Ideas15 to save \$15 (expires 5/4).

Students entering grades 7-9 have the opportunity to learn all about our program as Counselors in Training.

Camp Invention also offers an amazing volunteer program for students in 10th grade and beyond. Our Leadership Intern program is nationally recognized and will give students a tremendous opportunity to learn about inventions and Intellectual Property. Please contact Branden Judkins at bjudkins@nmrsd.org for more information.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM NM CARES

NM Cares is hosting a free 'Knowledge is Power' event on Friday, April 13th at 6:30 p.m. at the Townsend Ridge Country Club. Presenters from Advocates Inc. will answer drug-related questions, including why young people start using drugs, and how to seek channels of recovery for yourself or a loved one. A free Narcan training session will be held immediately after the presentation. Narcan (generic name Naloxone) is an opioid reversal nasal spray, available from local pharmacists without a prescription.