



December 2016

Andrew Wood, Principal

Can you believe we are half way through the year? I hear this from students and staff on a regular basis and I often think the same thing as I'm going about my day at Northridge. We've had an exciting first semester filled with wonderful student achievements, but we need to make sure we continue to look forward to the ultimate goal of graduation. This is important for all students, not just our senior class. Each and every class students take is part of their story that will be told at the end of their Northridge High School experience. Students will be sharing that story with college admissions officers, military recruiters, and prospective employers. Each and every day counts and that's easy to forget when days are flying by so fast.

Over the two week break for the holidays take a few moments to think over what you accomplished in your classes the past semester, but also begin thinking ahead to next semester. What are some things you can personally do to increase your learning? Do you need to ask more questions in class? All too often students have questions, but for whatever reason they do not ask them. If you are fall into this category I encourage you take the initiative and let your teachers do their job which is to teach you. Another goal you may want to have for yourself next semester is make yourself a promise to turn every homework assignment in on time and completed. Teachers give homework to students to support the end goal of what they expect students to learn. Completed homework whether it is done correctly or not gives the teacher the information they need to know about what students do and do not understand. Hopefully, when we get back from break everyone will be ready to push themselves to give their best!

Lastly, early in January counselors will be working with students to select courses for the 2017-2018 school year. We have been working to make sure we are offering courses that students need and want next year. It will be very important for parents to be a part of this selection process so we get the most accurate course requests. These course requests will drive what courses are selected to go into the master schedule for next year. Stay tuned for more information regarding scheduling!

Dates to Remember

December

12 Final Exams Begin (13th-16th)
 16 End of 1st Semester
 December 19 - January 3rd is Christmas Break. Teacher work day on January 3rd.
 2nd Semester begins Wednesday, January 4th.

January

3 Teacher Work Day
 3 School Board Meeting 4:00 PM
 4 2nd Semester Begins
 14/15 Musical
 16 No School - MLK Day (snow makeup day)
 17 School Board Meeting 4:00 PM
 21 Science Olympiad Invitational

February

7 School Board Meeting 4:00 PM
 7/8 Dollars for Scholars Phonathon
 11 ACT Test Date
 18 Choir Invitational
 20 No School - President's Day (snow makeup day)
 21 School Board Meeting 4:00 PM
 27 Guidance Walk-in Appointments

STAY UP TO DATE



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Student Scheduling for 2016-17

On January 10th during homeroom, all students will receive information and handouts regarding scheduling and the process that will be used this year.

Teachers will assist students by recommending the next level course that the student should consider.

Students are to take the form home for parent approval before scheduling with their guidance counselor. Watch for additional information in the January *OnSlate* publication.

College Bound Seniors

It is suggested that seniors stay active in checking on the status of College applications. Check for notifications through email, call the college Admission Office, or log onto the college accounts to make sure that all application materials have been received. Check the college Financial Aid offices for information on their scholarships and financial aid guidelines.

College Bound Juniors

Juniors who will be applying to colleges next fall: It is suggested that these students take the SAT or ACT college entrance test this year. Check the personal and family calendars, along with the test dates, to fit in a test during Semester 2. Prepare for the test by logging into your PSAT portal (available in January 2017), and Study Island under student resources on the NHS site.

Financial Aid

Students planning to attend college in the Fall of 2017 should complete the FAFSA form. Two changes in the process have happened this year. The filing window is open from October 1, 2016 till March 10, 2017. Tax information from 2016 will be used. This tax information can be retrieved from the IRS, making the process simpler. Go to <https://fsaid.ed.gov> to begin the process.

College Goal Sunday is being held on November 13, 2016 and February 12, 2017 from 2:00-4:00pm at Elkhart IUSB and Goshen College if you want assistance in completing the FAFSA form.



The Raider MotorSports (RMS) team has recently been working hard to design their vehicles for this year's Shell Eco-Marathon Americas competition in Detroit. RMS entered two cars into the competition this year and found out after phase I results were posted that the Prototype car was not selected into this year's Shell Eco-Marathon. The teams have now been merged into one team to continue working on the Urban Concept vehicle. Be sure to check out our new website raidermotorsports.weebly.com where you can access sponsorship packets and info about the program. You can also request and set up a meeting to speak with one of the executive members of the team.

Raider MotorSports would also like to thank and welcome the following new partners.

Platinum Level

Starfleet Trucking, Inc.
Patrick Industries, Inc.
Lipert Components

Gold Level

Heartland RV, LLC.

Green Level

Headsight, Inc.
Max Myers, Inc.

Silver Level

Middlebury Produce, Inc.

Follow us

Facebook: **Raider Motor Sports**

Twitter and Instagram: **@NHSsmTeam**

Junior Optimist Club

The Optimist Club of Middlebury is honored to announce that a new Junior Optimist Club was chartered at Northridge High School October 2015. Junior Optimist International, the youth club component of Optimist International, is one of the world's largest service club organizations. Junior Optimist has a membership of more than 15,000 students in over 500 Clubs throughout the United States, Canada and the Caribbean.

Anneke Radelich, club president, stated, "To be a part of a group in which everyone is willing to complete services for the good of the community rather than themselves is an incredible experience! I am proud of the numerous opportunities we've completed in these past couple of months and I'm looking forward to members getting engaged in service throughout the rest of the year."

A few of the service projects completed this year are: working at Feed the Children, helping at an Elkhart River Clean Up, assisting at Loveway and working with Middlebury Parks. Upcoming projects are: Bell ringing for the Salvation Army, helping at Middlebury Food Pantry, and many other opportunities.

Members were seen at home football games selling cotton candy. The funds raised are used for donations to various charities. Club members will be seen soon at home basketball games selling cotton candy. Stop by and ask about this new club.

All NHS students are encouraged to attend a meeting to find out about this new service club. Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday's at 8:00 AM in the FIC Room 111.



We need to monitor how many days each student misses school for any reason— excused or unexcused

1. Your children can suffer academically if they miss 10 percent of the school year or about 18 days. That can be just one day every two weeks, and that can happen before you know it.
2. Some absences are unavoidable. We understand that children will get sick and need to stay home occasionally. The important thing is to get your children to school as often as possible
3. Sporadic absences, not just those on consecutive days of school, matter. Before you know it – just one or two days a month can add up to nearly 10 percent of the school year.
4. If too many absences occur, it is still a problem whether they are excused or unexcused because they represent too much lost learning time in the classroom.
5. By high school, chronic absence is a leading warning sign that a student will drop out.
6. Families should avoid extended vacations that require your children to miss school. Try to line up vacations with the school's schedule. The same goes for doctor's appointments.
7. For older children, you can help them develop homework and bedtime routines that allow for 8 ½ to 9 ½ hours of sleep. Make sure that when the lights go out, so do the cell phones, video games and computers.
8. Set an example for your child. Show him or her that attendance matters to you and that you won't allow an absence unless someone is truly sick. Avoid asking older students to help with daycare and household errands.

Science Olympiad News

Science Olympiad has achieved many accomplishments. It was recognized as a model program by the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices in the 2007 report, *Innovation America: Building a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Agenda*. Science Olympiad is committed to increasing global competitiveness for the next generation of scientists. We are very pleased at what we have accomplished here at Northridge. Recently, the students participated at the Whiting High School Invitational on December 3. Northridge placed 4th among some very competitive teams. Several students also received medals in their individual events. The team will compete again at Sylvania Northview outside of Toledo on December 10. The teams that compete here are the top of the nation and we are looking for the challenge of taking them on. The team also has under a month to prepare for our next Invitational at Manchester on January 14 and then a week later will be Northridge's Invitational on the 21. Thanks have to be given to all of the coaches, parents, volunteers and students who participate in this great event.

2017 Middlebury Little League

While winter has just arrived, we are already looking forward to spring and the 2017 little league season. If your son or daughter is interested in participating, please visit our new website <http://middleburylittleleague.website.siplay.com> for registration information.

All registrations will be done online this season using our new sports illustrated play registration software. Please visit our new website for more information.

Have a wonderful winter holiday and we will look forward to seeing all of you at the park this spring.

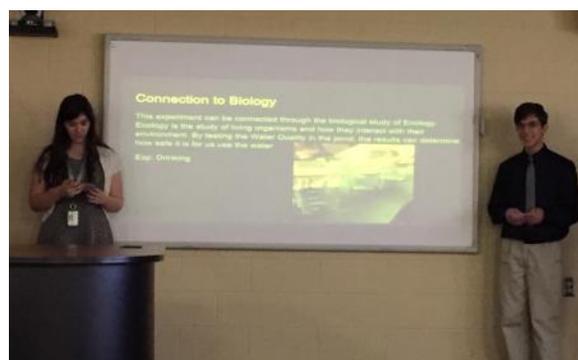
As always, if you have questions you can reach us by:

email at middleburyll@gmail.com

or visit us on facebook at www.facebook.com/middleburylittleleague

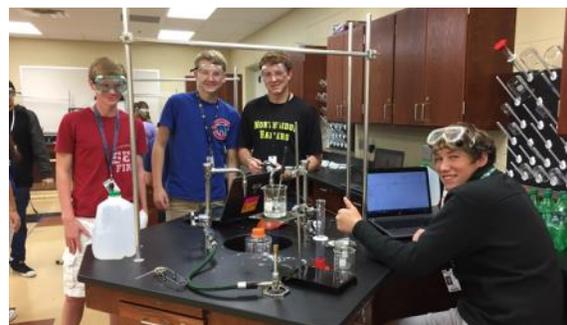
IB News and Views

Our IB program had its Group 4 Science Project Field Day in November. Students chose groups to work in and came up with a project and a hypothesis. They then spent the day collecting data and doing research. In November, the groups presented the findings to the Northridge Science teachers.



Sydney Hale and Alex Miller, two of our full diploma juniors, present their Group 4 project:

Students have registered for their IB exams! We have 42 students taking 98 exams in May 2017. Our current senior class has 6 full diploma students and our junior class now has 14 students.



Simon Grevengoed, Garrett Rondino, Adam Maas, Isaiah Zuercher

Want to know more about our IB program?

Information sessions about our International Baccalaureate program will happen in FIC room 111 on March 23rd during parent teacher conferences. There will be a session at 6:30 pm. Parents are encourage to attend a session to see if the IB program is a good fit for your student.

Also if your student earned an IB diploma or certificate in May 2016 please come to the school and pick them up.

76 Trombones Leads The Music Man to Northridge Stage

The Northridge High School musical *The Music Man* will be presented in the high school performing arts center on January 14 & 15. This well-known and traditional musical provides great family entertainment as Harold Hill, Gary Conservatory – Gold Medal Class of '05, cons his way into the homes and hearts of the stubborn people of River City, Iowa. With his revolutionary "Think System" he convinces the citizens to invest in instruments for a boys' band, but he doesn't know the least bit about music. Before the local librarian can expose him for the crook he is, she finds herself falling in love. Harold, too, has been smitten with love and so must make the decision to stay and be arrested or run for his life. Included are the popular songs Gary, Indiana; Till There Was You; Wells Fargo Wagon; and 76 Trombones.

Tickets will go on sale in the front office of the high school as soon as school resumes January 4th for \$10 each. Performances are Saturday, December 14 at 7:00 pm and Sunday, December 16 at 2:00 pm. All tickets are reserved seating.

Northridge High School presents...

the Music Man

Northridge HS
Performing Arts Center

Saturday, January 14 7:00 pm
Sunday, January 15 2:00 pm

Tickets: \$10
Available in the NHS front office

The poster features a red background with a black silhouette of a man in a suit playing a trombone. The text is in yellow and white.

Raiders Give Back

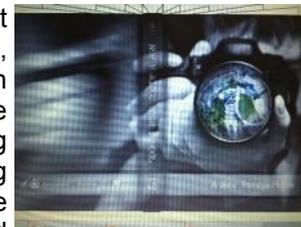
National Honor Society would like to extend a huge thank you to all the community members who contributed to their food drive for the Middlebury Food Pantry earlier this fall. Pam Bingaman, director of the food pantry was thrilled with the donations that showed Middlebury is truly a caring community. (She cried) We don't know exactly how many pounds/items of food were collected but we can say it took 3 cars, 2 SUVs, and a pick-up truck all packed full to transport everything from the high school to the Pantry location. We also had \$750 donated for fresh produce and meat. Thank you Middlebury.



NHS Yearbook

The 2016-17 edition of the Northridge High School yearbook, *THE SHIELD*, is in the making. See the picture below for a sneak peak of this year's cover art with photo by Northridge junior, Jared Squires.

You may order the yearbook for the current school year, 2016-2017, by either picking up an order form available in the front office and returning it with payment or going online to the Northridge High School website and clicking on Jostens.



CLASS OF 2017: Do have a special senior student? Honor their accomplishments by placing a senior baby ad in the 2016-17 yearbook. For further information or any questions, contact Amy Miller, Yearbook Advisor, at 822-5227 or schnicka@mcsin-k12.org. Order now and save!

ON SLATE—On Line or On Paper

The *ON SLATE* is a communication tool from Northridge High School to the students, parents, and supporters of the school. The staff is instructed to provide information that the public needs and wants to know about the NHS students, their activities, and their successes. The goal of this publication is to provide current information so that the students and parents know what events are happening in the near future and who is likely to be involved. Also this is our opportunity to brag a little about the efforts and accomplishments of the students and staff of Northridge High School.

Until approximately two school years ago, each household with students in the high school was mailed a copy of the *ON SLATE*. Now the times have changed. Many of the parents prefer to receive this information electronically rather than as a paper copy. As a result, Northridge staff now produces the on line edition of the *ON SLATE* which is accessible to all who want to see the articles. However, if a parent wants to receive a paper copy of the *ON SLATE* monthly, please call Patti Miller, the Northridge High School building secretary, at 825-2142 and request that the school send a printed copy of the *ON SLATE* to your home whenever a new edition is available.

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Northridge H.S. Newsletter



December Issue



ON SLATE