



NORTH EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT

50 EAST DIVISION STREET • NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428
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Dr. Michele Spurgeon Hartzell, Superintendent

Mr. Jeffrey Fox, Business Manager

Mrs. Shelley Allen, Administrative Assistant

December 7, 2020

Good Evening North East Family,

The North East School District is dedicated to keeping our doors open during the 2020-2021 school year. We understand the best place for our students is in the classrooms. Our staff has been working very hard to ensure our students continue to receive an outstanding education. Due to current trends of COVID-19 in state, local, and community data, we are making changes to our district calendar and modes of learning prior to the winter break. In addition, to be proactive to prevent the potential spread of COVID-19 after winter break, we will also be amending our modes of teaching and learning in order to embed a natural quarantine for all students following the break. **As of today**, the changes include the following by building with a chart listed below for your convenience.

The district was notified of three positive cases on Monday, December 7, 2020, at the high school. Due to the new Pennsylvania Department of Health Guidance, the high school will need to move to full-remote Livestream immediately on Tuesday, December 8, 2020. Students in grades nine through twelve will be full-remote Livestream from Tuesday, December 8th through Tuesday, January 12, 2021. ECTS students will follow the ECTS calendar.

Students in grades six through eight will be in full-remote Livestream from Monday, December 14th through Tuesday, January 12, 2021. December 11th is a planned early dismissal/hybrid day. There was one positive staff case over the weekend.

ALL district athletics and extra-curricular activities will be suspended from Tuesday, December 8, 2020, with activities/practices resuming on Wednesday, January 13, 2021.

Students in grades kindergarten through 5th will operate on our full remote Livestream platform from December 21st through January 12, 2021. December 11th is a planned early dismissal.

All students will return to their current schedule on Wednesday, January 13, 2021. During this time the Erie County Technical students would report to the ECTS on their respective days, when the ECTS center is open.

During the weeks of January 4, 2021 through January 12, 2021, we will not be providing our internet café and no students will be permitted on campus. Students that normally use our internet café will work with their building administration and teachers to ensure they have assignments. No drop off or pick up of assignments will take place during this time. Pick-up of assignments for internet café students will be on Friday, December 18th and Monday, December 21st.

Meals will be provided through January 12, 2021, except for the regularly scheduled winter break, during remote Livestream learning. A meal sign-up will be provided on the district website at nesd1.org by December 9th. Please contact Mrs. Robin Hedlund with any questions regarding meals at rhedlund@nesd1.org.

The district also will be providing virtual individual and group student sessions on managing stress, depression, and self-esteem during this time by our mental health liaison Mrs. Kristen Righi, Ms. Heidi Martin, SAP Liaison, and Student and Family Relations Specialist, Mr. Joe Rizzo. Mrs. Righi and Mr. Rizzo will schedule these sessions and a link will be posted on the district website. In addition, we have enclosed several resources of our guidance and student assistance specialists to assist our students from grades kindergarten through twelfth.

DATE	High School	Middle School	Intermediate Elementary	Davis Primary
12/8-1/12/21	Livestream			
12/11/20 <i>On district calendar</i>	Hybrid Livestream PM-Independent Study	Hybrid Early Dismissal\ 10:50 AM PM-Independent Study	Hybrid Early Dismissal 11:45 AM PM-Independent Study	Hybrid Early Dismissal 11:45 AM PM-Livestream Practice
	ECTS Livestream			
12/14-12/18	Livestream	Livestream	In-person*	In-person*
	ECTS In-person			
12/21, 12/22	Livestream	Livestream	Livestream	Livestream
	ECTS - TBD			
12/23-1/1/21	Winter Break	Winter Break	Winter Break	Winter Break
1/4/21-1/12/21	Livestream	Livestream	Livestream	Livestream
	ECTS - TBD			
1/13/21 Resume	Resume A/B Schedule	Resume In-person (including livestream)	Resume In-person (including livestream)	Resume In-person (including livestream)
	ECTS - TBD			
*Please have a plan in place for full Livestream				

If you need help or assistance, please reach out to our district administrators:

- High School: Dr. William Renne, Principal – wrenne@nesd1.org
Mr. Nathan Otis, Assistant Principal – notis@nesd1.org
- Middle School: Mr. Greg Beardsley, Principal – beardsle@nesd1.org
Dr. Steve Karns, Assistant Principal – skarns@nesd1.org
- Intermediate ES: Mr. Brian Emick, Principal – bemick@nesd1.org
- Davis Primary: Dr. Jennifer Ritter, Principal – jritter@nesd1.org
- Special Education: Mrs. Brianne Hodges – bhodges@nesd1.org
- Technology: Mr. Tyler Wilson – twilson@nesd1.org
Mr. Peter Zielinski – pzielinski@nesd1.org
- Superintendent: Dr. Michele S. Hartzell – mhartzell@nesd1.org

We want to ensure we are protecting our students and staff and once again ask that you do your part, especially during our winter break, by staying home, not having gatherings (students or adults), students not participating in travel teams, wear your face mask, wash your hands, and social distance. It is also very important that if you are sick, or have been asked to quarantine that you follow these directions in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Again, please have a plan in place as data does change daily.

We are very proud of all the hard work of our teachers, support staff, administration, and pandemic team in order to keep our doors open.

Sincerely,



Dr. Michele S. Hartzell, Superintendent

Mission: “to challenge, empower, and engage all students to develop and achieve personal and career aspirations, to pursue lifelong learning, and to be responsible and accountable citizens in a dynamic world.”

RESOURCES

Please visit our district website for the new Department of Health guidelines and Frequently Asked Questions.

If your child needs to speak with someone due to feeling stressed or feeling isolated at this time, please have them contact one of our school counselors:

- High School
 - Mrs. Dawn Coletta – School Counselor - Erie County Technical School/Learning Support, (IEP/GIEP) – dawncoletta@nesd1.org
 - Mrs. Laura Panek – School Counselor – Freshman & Juniors – lpunek@nesd1.org
 - Mr. Matt Puskar – School Counselor – Sophomores & Seniors – mpuskar@nesd1.org
 - Mrs. Heidi Martin – Student Assistance (SAP) Liaison – hmartin@nesd1.org
 - Mr. Joe Rizzo – Student and Family Relations Specialist – jrizzo@nesd1.org

- Middle School
 - Mrs. Nicole Welch – School Counselor – nwelch@nesd1.org
 - Mrs. Heidi Martin – Student Assistance (SAP) Liaison – hmartin@nesd1.org
 - Mrs. Kristen Righi – Student Assistance (SAP) Liaison krighi@nesd1.org
 - Mr. Joe Rizzo – Student and Family Relations Specialist – jrizzo@nesd1.org

- Elementary Center - Intermediate and Davis Elementary Schools
 - Ms. Kimberly Hart – School Counselor – khart@nesd1.org
 - Mrs. Kristen Righi – Student Assistance (SAP) Liaison – krighi@nesd1.org
 - Mr. Joe Rizzo – Student and Family Relations Specialist – jrizzo@nesd1.org

If you or someone you know is having a mental health crisis or needs support, there are several resources available (*Not NESD resources*):

- Safe Harbor Warm Line – 877-550-4007 open Tuesday-Saturday, noon-7:30 p.m. for anyone who just needs to talk to someone.
- Safe Harbor Crisis Center – Emergency Line - 814-456-2014