



## NORTH EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT

50 EAST DIVISION STREET • NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428  
TELEPHONE (814) 725-8671 • FAX (814) 725-9380

[www.nesd1.org](http://www.nesd1.org)

Dr. Michele Spurgeon Hartzell, Superintendent

Mr. Jeffrey Fox, Business Manager

Mrs. Shelley Allen, Administrative Assistant

August 20, 2020

Dear North East Families:

Welcome back to the 2020-2021 school year! We have put many protocols in place to ensure the safety of our students and staff and we are ready to welcome our children to Picker Nation.

The first day for students in grades K-12 is Monday, August 31, 2020. The first day for students that attend the Erie County Technical School will be Tuesday, August 25, 2020. The ECTS students will follow the same A/B schedule as the North East High School. We have included a copy of the district calendar for families as well as the A/B maroon and gold calendar for the high school families.

For families that selected the in-person learning model, this model is designed to provide a traditional educational experience and brings our students back to school. Again, we have taken extreme safety precautions in order to protect our students and staff while maintaining the integrity of a great academic program and school experience.

For parents that selected North East Live-Stream and for high school students streaming on their opposite days, students will log into Google Classroom. Instructions are located on the district website under the School Reopening tab, under the important links at ([www.nesd1.org](http://www.nesd1.org)). Students will follow their daily schedule as if they were sitting in class. All district policies and procedures will be implemented. Recording of live-stream classes is prohibited by a cell phone or any electronic device. Students will need their student ID, which can be found in the Sapphire system, in order to log into the Google platform. If you need help with logging into Sapphire, please contact the building secretaries.

If your child is attending the high school in person and needs access to the internet café on his/her opposite day (maroon or gold), please contact Dr. Renne or Mr. Otis at the high school.

The North East Cyber Academy is completely online, self-directed, and self-paced. It is serviced through our partnership with IU5 and CAOLA. We have been enrolling the students that selected this option with the start date of August 31<sup>st</sup>. The buildings will be in contact with parents that selected this option. Again, this is self-paced and once your child is enrolled, your contact will be with the CAOLA teacher. You will have 10 business days to change back to in-person or live stream model. After ten days, your student will be required to stay enrolled for the quarter and/or semester. We have added an information tab to the district website for parents that selected this option as well as we will be uploading additional parent videos to this tab. You will be required to bring in the signed parent agreement.

If you selected home schooling; this option is run by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Parents are required to submit a program of study to the district, keep daily attendance, and have their child's portfolio evaluated by a certified home school evaluator. Information can be found under Board Policy 137.



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One of the questions we receive most is regarding masks. The Secretary of Health has ordered a mask mandate for all Pennsylvania residents as well as for school students. A revised FAQ from the Pennsylvania Department of Education regarding the masks is located on the district website under the School Reopening tab. As a school district, we are also required to follow this order; however, we will provide many opportunities throughout the day where students will be able to safely remove their masks. Also, teachers will be able to use outdoor spaces for learning and lunches. Normal lunches will be served daily to students that attend NESD. Students enrolled in the NESD district programs will be eligible for lunch. Lunches will be available for pick-up grab and go style and will either be paid, free and reduced, or free.

For families that have selected alternative options and, the high school students involved in the maroon and gold rotation, we greatly appreciate your patience as we get up and running with the different programs as we do anticipate there may be a few growing pains as we move to these platforms.

We strongly encourage our parents to reach out to the building administration with any questions you may have. We once again thank you and appreciate all you have done to support our schools during these unique times and want you to know that we will continue to do the best we can to provide our families with appropriate, flexible, safe, and equitable options. We cannot wait to see our children back in our schools!

Respectfully yours,

Dr. Michele S. Hartzell, Superintendent

Attachments: Virtual Open House Flyer, Academic Calendar, A/B-Maroon/Gold Calendars

If you need assistance, please reach out to our district administration:

- High School: Dr. William Renne, Principal – [wrenne@nesd1.org](mailto:wrenne@nesd1.org)  
Mr. Nathan Otis, Assistant Principal – [notis@nesd1.org](mailto:notis@nesd1.org)
- Middle School: Mr. Greg Beardsley, Principal – [beardsle@nesd1.org](mailto:beardsle@nesd1.org)  
Dr. Steve Karns, Co-Principal – [skarns@nesd1.org](mailto:skarns@nesd1.org)
- Intermediate Elementary: Mr. Brian Emick, Principal – [bemick@nesd1.org](mailto:bemick@nesd1.org)
- Davis Primary: Dr. Jennifer Ritter, Principal – [jritter@nesd1.org](mailto:jritter@nesd1.org)
- Special Education: Mrs. Brianne Hodges – [bhodges@nesd1.org](mailto:bhodges@nesd1.org)
- Transportation/Bus Mrs. Patty Schultz – [pschultz@nesd1.org](mailto:pschultz@nesd1.org)
- Food Service Mrs. Robin Hedlund – [rhedlund@nesd1.org](mailto:rhedlund@nesd1.org)
- Technology: Mr. Tyler Wilson – [twilson@nesd1.org](mailto:twilson@nesd1.org)  
Mr. Peter Zielinski – [pzielinski@nesd1.org](mailto:pzielinski@nesd1.org)
- Superintendent: Dr. Michele S. Hartzell – [mhartzell@nesd1.org](mailto:mhartzell@nesd1.org)

PLEASE CONTINUE TO VIEW NEW INFORMATION ON THE OFFICIAL NORTH EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT WEBSITE AT [WWW.NESD1.ORG](http://WWW.NESD1.ORG) OR THE OFFICIAL NORTH EAST FACEBOOK PAGE AT <https://www.facebook.com/NorthEastSchoolDistrict/>. THESE ARE THE OFFICIAL NORTH EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT PAGES AND ARE MAINTAINED BY NORTH EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT STAFF. THE DISTRICT DOES NOT MONITOR, MAINTAIN, OR COMMENT ON ANY OTHER SITES.

“The Mission of the North East School District is 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.”