# Northstar Weekly

## Home of the *Polars*

Main Office: 715.852.5100
Student Services: 715.852.5103
Partnership Coordinator: 715.852.5107

**May 20, 2021**

## Northstar Middle School Calendar

**May**
31 No School, Memorial Day

**June**
3 8th Grade Celebration and PTSA sponsored picnic
3 Last Day of School

**HAVE A FANTASTIC SUMMER!**

## Important Links

**Northstar Middle School Website**

ECASD Latest COVID-19 Information

Eau Claire Community Food and Other Resources

ECASD Community Events and Resources

At-School Breakfast and Lunch Menus and Pickup Breakfast and Lunch Menus

Updated 2020-21 ECASD School Calendar

**ECASD PREPARING FOR IN-PERSON LEARNING FIVE DAYS A WEEK FOR 2021- 2022**

As of now, the ECASD is planning on in-person learning five days a week next school year. Please continue to check Skyward emails and the District website for more information throughout the summer. Don't forget to update your information in Skyward if you have any changes over the summer.

## Tech Support and Resources

**Technical Support for all ECASD families is available from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM Monday through Friday by calling 715-852-3411**

**Lus Hmoob**

Yog koj xav tau tus neeg Hmoob txhais daim ntawv no ua lus Hmoob rau koj los yog koj muaj lus nug txog daim ntawv no, hu rau Annie (715-852-6577).

**En Espanol**

Spanish: Si desea que alguien le traduzca esta carta o si tiene preguntas, llame a Irene Salazar al (715) 852-4943.

Find us on Facebook **HERE**

# News and Announcements

## ECASD Summer Programs

**Free to ECASD students!** Families who have registered students for summer school programming should receive confirmation letters later this month. If you have not registered yet and are still interested, contact Theresa Curtis at **tcurtis@ecasd.us**. (Many classes and camps are currently full and accepting names for a waitlist.) To view the summer program booklet and programs specific to middle schoolers, go to: **Summer Program Guide 2021**

- Pages 16 & 17 – General Middle School Classes
- Page 22 – Middle School Strength & Conditioning Class
- Pages 29-30 – Athletic Camps

### STUDENTS SHOULD KEEP DEVICES OVER THE SUMMER

The Eau Claire Area School District has asked all students returning next fall to keep their District-issued devices over the summer and bring them back to use next school year. Our students had the opportunity to pick up a FREE ECASD backpack at Northstar to use to protect their devices.

### SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEY

Families should check for a recent Skyward email which includes a link to a school climate survey sent by the ECASD. Please take a few minutes when you can to complete the survey.

### COHORT C MATERIAL PICK UP NEXT WEEK

The **FINAL** materials pick up day is **Thursday, May 27, 7:00 am – 4:30 pm**! Pick up at Door 1. If you have questions about materials, please reach out to your teachers. There is also a dedicated webpage for our Cohort C families. Check it out here.

### MAY ECASD SPECIAL EDUCATION FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Check out the May 2021 Newsletter from our ECASD Special Education Department.

### 2021-22 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the **2021-22 School Calendar** and mark down those important dates!

### ECASD ENROLL TODAY

From pre-K to high school, **enroll NOW** in the Eau Claire Area School District for the 2021-2022 school year! #ECASDinspire

### COMMUNITY EVENTS AND RESOURCES

Check out the ECASD Community Events and Resources page at the District website for information regarding upcoming community events and continuing resources for school-age students and their families.

## NORTH High Fall Sports – Informational Meeting for 8th Graders

We are excited to welcome the coaches & athletes from North High's FALL Sports Programs to Northstar on **FRIDAY, May 21st** for a preview of what is available to you for over this summer and next fall from North High School Athletics!

On Friday, May 21st (2:30pm), students will head to the gym area and meet coaches/athletes from:

- Boys' Soccer
- Girls' Volleyball
- Football
- Cross Country
- Girls' Swim & Dive Team
- Dance
- Summer Strength & Conditioning Program

HUSKIES NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

# News and Announcements

## 2020 8th Grade Celebration June 3rd!

We invite ALL 8th grade students (Cohort A, B, and C) to be a part of this year's Northstar 8th Grade Celebration! This annual celebration is the culmination of their middle school experience and is designed to recognize every student and give staff the ability to celebrate with them. Their hard work throughout their middle school years and resilience during this challenging time absolutely needs to be recognized!

Cohort A and B students will attend a full day of school on June 3. Students will enjoy activities throughout the day and will be treated to a picnic lunch sponsored by Northstar's PTSA. We welcome our Grade 8 Cohort C students to join us for our picnic lunch and celebration from 12:00- 2:45. If your Cohort C student would like to attend, please contact Northstar's office at 715-852-5101 before May 28th!

Due to COVID spacing and capacity restrictions, the program will be attended by our 8th grade students and staff only. We will record the presentation and send it to your family via Skyward Message Center. Please take time to enjoy the video and celebrate your student! We are excited to recognize each student individually during the program so be sure to watch! Questions? Call 715-852-5101.

**YEARBOOKS STILL FOR SALE!**

There are 50 Northstar Yearbooks **LEFT to purchase**! Hurry and get your order in TODAY!

Yearbooks are $20 and can be purchased at www.yearbookforever.com

## VACCINATION CLINIC AT ZORN ARENA OPEN TO 12 AND OLDER

A new regional COVID-19 mass vaccination clinic is open at the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire's Zorn Arena. Everyone age 12 and up who lives, works, or studies in Wisconsin is now eligible for the vaccine. The Pfizer vaccine will be offered for free at this clinic and proof of insurance or citizenship is not required. Zorn Arena is located at 121 Garfield Avenue. Beginning May 18, hours will be Tuesday-Thursday 3 pm-7 pm, Friday 10 am-2 pm and Saturday 9 am-1 pm.

- Appointment preferred but walk ins accepted until 6:30 pm daily. Go to https://vaccinate.wi.gov/en-US. to book an appointment.
- If under 18, parental consent is required to book an appointment and a parent may need to come to the appointment.
- Residents without internet access or who need help signing up should contact the call center at 844-684-1064 for help.

# News and Announcements

## Library News . . .

- **iPads and laptops** are going home for the summer. If a family would prefer to opt out, please email Mr. Skutley.
- Please **return all overdue library and classroom books**. Reminder notices will be mailed to homes the week of May 17. Time to clear your library account before summer vacation!
- **Free books!** During lunch, the week of May 17, students may choose from new and withdrawn library books to take home and keep. Good time to start building your summer library!
- **Northstar Summer Open Library** June 14 – August 5, Monday-Thursday (closed July 5), supervised 8 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Stop by and check out books for summer reading.

Be sure to stop by during lunch and choose your free book!

### ECASD SCHOOL BASED MENTAL HEALTH UPDATES

### MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

Mental health is relative to our physical and daily wellbeing, in COVID times and otherwise. Please check out the following link to the ECASD Nursing Department webpage which is updated monthly with information and resources on how to improve and maintain healthy thought processes, attitudes, practices, and relationships - for both adults and children. Link: ECASD | School Nurse

Check out MAY Mental Health Article:
Teaching Your Child the Art of Happiness

ECASD School Based Mental Health Webpage

ECASD Virtual Wellness Room

Parent and Guardians! We value your insights and want to continue to address your concerns and provide relevant resources! Please send feedback regarding the monthly Mental Health Contributions from Dec.2020-May 2021to skewin@ecasd.us.

**To all who supported Northstar PTSA's**

**Burrachos Benefit Night!**

**A special thank you to the crew at Burrachos for helping to support Northstar student programs and scholarships this year!**

BURRACHOS FRESH MEXICAN GRILL

# Important Resources for Families

## Help empty Northstar's Kitchen Cupboard and stock your shelves for summer!

**Northstar's Kitchen Cupboard is OPEN 2 more weeks!**

To place an order, go to link:
**Kitchen Cupboard Order Form.**
(Order forms can also be found on the Northstar homepage.)

Orders must be submitted by Monday, 8 am
**Pick up food on Tuesday or Thursday** (7:30 am – 3:00 pm) in Northstar's main office. Food will be labeled with your student's ID number.

**Upcoming Orders Due:**
Monday, May 24
Monday, May 31

**Pick Up Food:**
Tuesday or Thursday of that week!

## WIC can help you enjoy extra fruits & veggies this summer!

- This summer, WIC participants will receive $35/month to buy fruits and vegetables at the grocery store. (A family of two WIC participants will receive **$70/month**!)
- Participants will also receive a one-time benefit of $30 to buy fruits and vegetables from local farmers' markets.

**For more information or to apply, call us or visit** wic.echealthdepartment.org

WIC EAU CLAIRE CITY-COUNTY (715) 839-5051

Eau Claire City-County Health Department

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

## Summer Pop-Up Food Pantry

Anyone in need of extra food is invited to pick up some fresh, assorted groceries.

**June 11 · July 9 · August 13**
**11 am—12 pm**

**2nd Friday of the month at Lakeshore Elementary**
711 Lake St, Eau Claire

SPONSORED BY Feed My People FOOD BANK (715) 835-9415 | fmpfoodbank.org

# Important Resources for Families

## Weekend Kids' Meals Available this Summer and 2021-22 School Year!

**Read below for important details . . .**

The Eau Claire Area School District in partnership with Feed My People Food Bank is excited to let families know that **Feed My People Weekend Kids Meals** will be available to all ECASD students the summer of 2021 as well as during the 2021-2022 school year.

New in 2021, families will use an online tool to sign-up for Weekend Kids Meals for this summer and next school year. Go to **Weekend Kids Meal Sign-Up** to sign-up your child(ren) for these opportunities. (Sign-up web address: **https://bit.ly/3y88udA** )

Paper copies will also be provided to students (located in Northstar main office) to complete and return to school if online registration isn't possible for your family.

Learn more about the program at **www.ecasd.us/fmp** where you can find answers to frequently asked questions. More information about how meals are distributed at our schools will be provided by the individual buildings. Please contact your child's school Partnership Coordinator (Jenn Junker @ jjunker@ecasd.us) or Dani Claesges at **dclaesges@ecasd.us** for more information.

El Distrito Escolar del Área de Eau Claire, en asociación con Feed My People Food Bank, se complace en informar a las familias que las comidas de fin de semana para niños Feed My People estarán disponibles para todos los estudiantes de ECASD durante el verano de 2021 y durante el año escolar 2021-2022.

Como novedad en 2021, las familias utilizarán una herramienta en línea para inscribirse en las comidas de fin de semana para niños durante este verano y el próximo año escolar. Vaya a Registro de comidas para niños de fin de semana para inscribir a sus hijos en estas oportunidades. (Dirección web de registro: **https://bit.ly/3y88udA**)

También se proporcionarán copias en papel a los estudiantes para que las completen y las devuelvan a la escuela si no es posible para su familia el registro en línea.

Obtenga más información sobre el programa en **www.ecasd.us/fmp**, donde puede encontrar respuestas a preguntas frecuentes. Los edificios individuales proporcionarán más información sobre cómo se distribuyen las comidas en nuestras escuelas. Para obtener más información, comuníquese con el Coordinador de asociaciones de la escuela de su hijo o Dani Claesges en **dclaesges@ecasd.us**.

Yog koj xav tau tus neeg Hmoob txhais daim ntawv no ua lus Hmoob rau koj los yog koj muaj lus nug txog daim ntawv no, hu rau Blia (715-852-6850).

# News and Announcements

**Food and Nutrition News. . .**

## SUMMER FOOD RESOURCES

Check this out ⇒

The ECASD is excited to provide **free summer breakfast and lunch** for children age 18 and under *and* for students with physical and cognitive disabilities up to age 21. Please see the Summer Food Program Schedule for all the details or check page 6 of the Summer Program Guide mailed to all families.

We are also offering pick-up service at DeLong and Northstar ONLY from June 14 through August 5 from 7:30-8:15 am and 11:55 am-12:30 pm when summer school is in session. A breakfast and lunch for each child can be picked up during either of those drive-up times.

**BIG SHOUT OUT TO AMANDA** in Food Services! Thank you for showing up EVERY DAY this school year, braving the elements, to serve our families to go meals . . . and always with a smile. You brighten our day!

Special **THANK YOU** to our fantastic **FOOD SERVICE STAFF** for providing safe and healthy meals to our students during this challenging school year!

# Polar Highlights

## Northstar's Edible Classroom "Springs" into Shape!!

Garden Club students are part of something new and exciting at our school!
The Northstar Edible Classroom is approximately 1,150 square feet of student-centered, outdoor learning space. Our raised garden beds will begin to take shape summer 2021 and will continue to grow and expand year after year. This tasty teaching space will positively impact our Polars academically, socially, and their overall mental well-being.

The Garden Club has sown seeds, cared for seedlings, cleaned up our Northstar landscaping, designed and created garden signs, and built raised flower beds. Garden Club will conclude by planting the flower beds for all students to enjoy!"

# Polar Highlights

Northstar Edible Classroom would like to thank the following for their support: **Chippewa Valley Growers, Green Oasis Garden Center, Bonnies Plants, Miracle Gro, and Northstar PTSA**. Additional appreciation goes to Golden Apple Recipients- **Mr. Camlek and Mr. DeRusha** for donating their Golden Apple funds and **Mrs. Xiong** for donating a portion of her Kohl Fellowship award.

# Polar Highlights

## Spring Sports are Back! And it feels GOOD . . .

**SOFTBALL**
Is in full "swing" as athletes participate in a scrimmage against other Northstar athletes.

**GIRLS' SOCCER**
Players work on their ability to pass around defenders through their Monkey in the Middle drill during practice. What a sight for sore eyes—to see students once again able to participate in after school sports!

**BOYS' TENNIS**
Athletes take a break from drills to "show their stuff". There is nothing like seeing the tennis courts come to life with Aces and spirited volleys.

# Polar Highlights

## TRACK

With a season that started with rain and snow, our track athletes have persevered through the elements to perfect their running, jumping and throwing abilities. Our athletes have sprinted short distances of 100, 200, and 400 meters, and have run longer distances like 1 to 2 miles. Competition and camaraderie have been at its finest while athletes learned how to long jump, high jump, throw discus and shot put as well as run over the hurdles. We are proud of how our track athletes have grown as competitors as well as leaders.

# Polar Highlights

## NMS Art Students Give Back to the Community

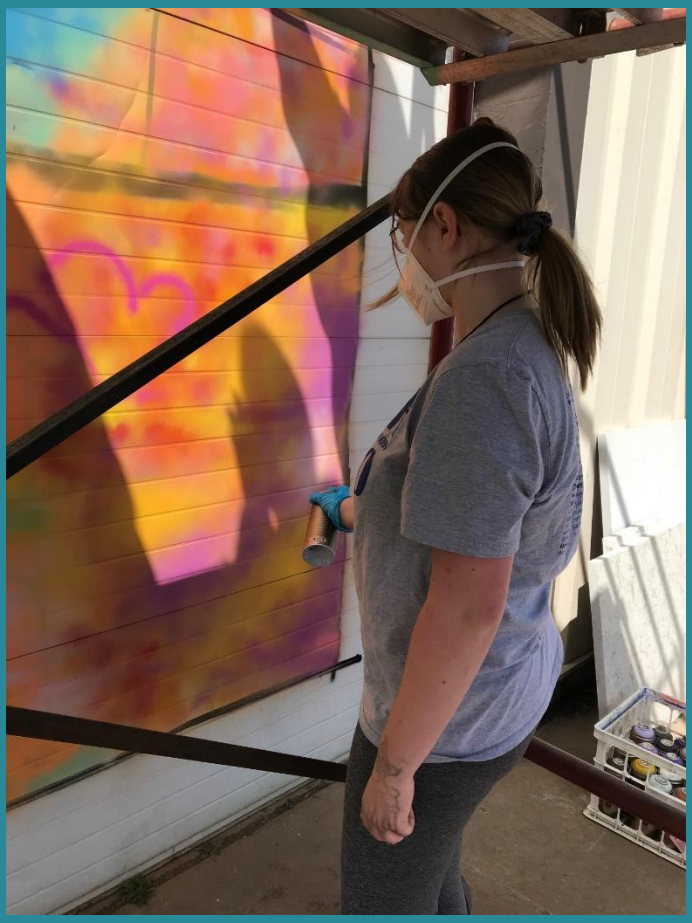
NMS art students take part in a collaborative project with schools across the district. Students from NMS, Delong and Memorial shared their art skills as they painted a mural at the Artisan Forge Building! The project? An overhead abstract map of Eau Claire. Click the links below to read more about this awesome project. They even received some nice press coverage!

**WQOW News 18:**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SNQyc8_JQxY

**Volume One Link:**
https://volumeone.org/photos/sets/2021/05/10/276391-photos-ec-students-create-mural-at-artisan-forge?fbclid=IwAR0Xb1TU2fT0kF8WXXZ-SPpewfmmYT0rvBS2HU_80Pu9QrR5IMDWX_YarzI

**Before . . .**

**After . . .**



# Polar Highlights

**In Person PE Class is Alive and Kicking!**
Students enjoy fresh air and friendly competition as they take part in field hockey and softball. It looks like Mr. Stowell is back in his element-- in person with students!

## Easy Ways to Support Northstar

[Ways to Support ECASD]

ECASD has partnered with Amazon Associates. Shop with this link and a portion of the sale is donated to the ECASD. As an Amazon Associate, ECASD earns from qualifying purchases.

## CANS FOR KIDS

**Save your aluminum cans and earn money for Northstar!**

- Save Your Cans
- Bring to Northstar's south parking lot near Door 5
- Cans will be taken to recycling center periodically
- Money will go directly into student programming fund
- Have a truck or trailer? Volunteer to take cans to recycling center! Contact the main office if interested!

PTSA®
everychild. onevoice.®

## THANK YOU

to all who attended the
**PTSA Meetings this year!**

Visit Northstar webpage to view May meeting minutes.

## MEET YOUR PTSA Officers for 2021-22 School Year!

**Co-Presidents: Cindy Swing & Jenn Junker**
**Secretary: Heidi Frank**
**Treasurer: Malissa Dahlstrom**

We are excited to welcome our new officers! Thank you for your willingness to serve our Northstar community. A huge shout out to all that served this past year. We appreciate **YOU**!

Are you looking for a way to become more involved in your Polar's school? Would you like to connect with other parents of Northstar Middle School? Getting involved in the PTSA is a great way to do both!

**PTSA Current needs for 2021-22:**

- Committee Members
- Committee Chairs

Check out our committees below! See something that interests you? Contact Jenn Junker (jjunker@ecasd.us) or Brenda Xiong (bxiong@ecasd.us) if you'd like to learn more.

• Parent Volunteer Coordinators • Membership • Discount Card Fundraiser • Staff Appreciation Week • Eighth Grade Celebration • Concessions

## Family Advisory Council

A **BIG** thank you to our FAC representatives who have graciously given their time this year, serving as a liaison to Norhtstar and our school district. We are thankful for your service and look forward to hearing from you next year as you serve as FAC reps for 2021-22!

**Stephanie Bautsch**
**Rob Geske**
**Melissa Sterling**

## HUGE THANKS TO OUR NORTHSTAR PTSA

Thank you to all our PTSA members for supporting Northstar students and staff this year. Our PTSA is comprised of students, staff and parents/guardians.
We appreciate each one of you!

Special shout out to **Student Council members** for showing up and contributing to our monthly meetings. Our meetings were all-virtual this year. After being on Teams meetings throughout the day for school, these students still showed up and participated. Thank you!

**2020-21 Student Council Members**
Charleigh Albright • Malena Carlson • Winter Fedie • Aunika Geske • Liam Muska • Aria Randall • Max Westom