

August
2023

Northstar Middle School PTSA Summer Newsletter



INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER

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Welcome!

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& Committees

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NOW!

Welcome Everyone!

Welcome back to school! **A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR 6TH GRADE**

FAMILIES! Our Northstar PTSA and you play a key role in our students' success. We invite and encourage your involvement at Northstar in any way that works for you! Please read through this newsletter to learn more about the PTSA and how you can get started.

Visit the PTSA section on the Northstar webpage to read our 2022-2023 Annual Report and see what we accomplished last year. Have a great year!

-Northstar PTSA Co-Presidents (Email: NorthstarPTSA@gmail.com)



Northstar PTSA 2023-2024 Executive Board & General Meeting Dates



We need
your input!

On **Tuesday, September 12 at 6:30pm**, Northstar PTSA will be holding our **FIRST GENERAL MEETING OF THE YEAR** in the Northstar Commons. The agenda will be on the PTSA section of the Northstar webpage. All meeting dates for this year are listed to the right.



- Tuesday, **August 8** - Executive Board Meeting
- Tuesday, **September 12** - General Meeting
- Tuesday, **October 10** - Executive Board Meeting
- Tuesday, **January 9** - Executive Board Meeting
- Tuesday, **February 13** - Executive Board Meeting
- Tuesday, **April 9** - General Meeting
- Tuesday, **May 14** - General/Executive Board Meeting & End of Year Celebration

All meetings are open to EVERYONE!

All meeting times are 6:30pm. Executive Board meetings are held in the Staff Lounge. General meetings are held in the Commons. **Students, families, and community members are welcome!!**

Northstar 2023-2024 Executive Board & Committees

ECASD Family Advisory Council (FAC)

We are in need of one more FAC rep! Email us for details.



The FAC presents parent concerns, opinions, and perspectives to the superintendent and school administrators. The meetings are held the **first Tuesday of every month from 7:00-9:00 p.m.** at the ECASD Administration Building, October-May. Parents can contact our Northstar Representatives if you have district-wide concerns or comments you would like them to share at the meetings. [To learn more, visit the ECASD webpage.](#)



The mission of the Northstar PTSA is to be advocates for our children & their safety, to model the core values of the school and community, and to enhance our children's education by building a partnership between families, educators, and community.

The Northstar PTSA is a non-profit organization that supports Northstar Middle School students.

We pay for and organize school programs & events, as well as assist with purchasing items for our school.

Executive Board Positions Include:

- Co-Presidents
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Partnership Coordinator
- Teacher Representatives
- Student Representatives (TBD by Student Council)

PTSA Committees

Throughout the year, we have many opportunities for you to lend a hand! **Our committee members can be as involved as they wish. Every little bit helps!**

Committee / Activity Examples:

- * Mini Grants
- * Parent Volunteer Committee
- * Sunshine Committee
- * Scrip Program
- * Restaurant Fundraisers
- * Staff Appreciation Week
- * Concessions
- * Eighth Grade Celebration Picnic
- * Family Advisory Council (FAC)

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

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WE NEED YOU!!

Interested in helping?

Contact us today at
NorthstarPTSA@gmail.com

PTA



EXTRA CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL!

The PTSA uses funding to pay for various programs such as **class field trips, classroom resources, school grants,** and other **student focused activities!** We want our students to spend time focusing on academic growth, not spend time selling door-to-door. Therefore, the PTSA uses **a few methods** for raising funds for student & school activities; these methods include: **Restaurant fundraiser** events, the **SCRIP program** (year-round & holiday), **Concessions,** and **Box Top digital app** (no physical clipping, just scan and upload).

Help us reach our goal of \$5,500.00!

Restaurant Fundraisers

Throughout the school year, the PTSA hosts fundraisers at local restaurants as an easy and fun way to raise funds. Before each fundraiser, you will see an announcement made publicly through the **Northstar webpage,** Northstar's electronic newsletter **Northstar Notes,** and through **Facebook.**

All you need to do is stop by and eat (or order your food for take out)!

Be sure to mention you are supporting Northstar's fundraiser when you pay so we get credit for your food purchase. More details are always included closer to each event. We hope that you will take the time to join us at all or some of the restaurant fundraisers and help support our students in this fun and easy way! Last year we raised **\$2438.20** just by eating!

Example restaurants include: DQ, Ramone's Ice Cream Parlor, Burrachos, Panda, Panera, and more!

Exact dates and restaurants will be announced soon!



SCRIP Fundraising

The PTSA **SCRIP Program** gives Northstar families an opportunity to purchase gift cards from local and national retailers, restaurants, and online businesses. It's a great way to **give gifts** to people out of town and also shop at your **favorite local places** while supporting Northstar PTSA. Cards can also be used to pay for prescriptions, groceries, eyeglasses, travel, gas and more!

Families purchase gift cards at face value (no mark-up) and Northstar's PTSA receives a small cash rebate from every card sold to be used to support student programs. It's a win-win! Last year, the SCRIP Program helped us raise **\$923.47** for Northstar PTSA!



Use your phone to scan the QR Code to get started today!

Concessions

Concessions are sold during various middle school sporting events throughout the year. **Last year we earned \$2026.90!** Families can help by purchasing a snack or beverage during games (cash only); & also by volunteering to help run the booth for a night.

Box-Tops are now collected digitally; no more clipping!



Last year we earned **\$93.10!**

- **Download** the app
- **Scan** your receipt
- **Locate** your product & **add** to our school awards!



Have a fundraising suggestion or idea? Contact the Northstar PTSA at NorthstarPTSA@gmail.com

Northstar Middle School Backpack & School Supply Programs

Backpack Program



All sixth grade students and those students who are new to ECASD will be given an ECASD backpack. Backpacks will be distributed on **Schedule Pick Up Day, August 21**, from **9 – 11 am (7/8 graders)** and **1 – 3 pm (6 graders)**.

In addition, the Northstar PTSA Backpack Program provides miscellaneous school supplies to Northstar students who are in need. There are many supplies available! The Eau Claire Area School District also has backpacks and supplies available.

If your family is in need of backpacks or miscellaneous school supplies for the 2023-2024 school year, contact our Student Services Department (715-852-5103).

Like Northstar on Facebook: www.facebook.com/Northstar-Middle-School

Follow Northstar on twitter: @Northstarmiddle #nmspolar



Get Involved

JOIN THE PTSA

Please take time to **BECOME A MEMBER of OUR PTSA**. Our children need your support! **Membership is open to everyone!** We work and support our Northstar students locally, but we are also supported by a much larger network through the National PTA. **Please complete your membership form now.** You can drop off or mail membership forms to the school.

Check out some of the resources available to you for free as part of your membership:

- Free subscription to *Our Children* digital magazine
- The PTA e-newsletter: *PTA Advocacy Insider*
- Access to exclusive member content on the PTA.org website
- Online e-learning
- Discounts on national sponsor products
- And much more!!!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Take a moment to fill out the **PARENT VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SHEET AND VOLUNTEER AGREEMENT** included in this newsletter.

Drop off in the office or mail them to:

Northstar Middle School PTSA
2711 Abbe Hill Dr. , Eau Claire, WI 54703



Northstar PTSA

What is Northstar PTSA? Who are we? What do we do for Northstar?

The mission of the Northstar Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) is to be advocates for our children and their safety, to model the core values of the school and community, and to enhance our children's education by building a partnership between families, educators and the community.

Northstar's PTSA is a vibrant and active group of parents, grandparents and caring adults who come alongside to support Northstar students and staff. A non-profit organization, Northstar's PTSA pays for and organizes school programs and events as well as assists with purchasing items for our school.

⇒ **Just a few examples of what PTSA pays for:** Field trips, classroom resources, program grants, athletic and club support... and much, much more!

We are also part of a nationwide community of parents, teachers, and child supporters who help to influence laws that effect children in public education.

- Join Northstar PTSA
- Serve on the PTSA Executive Board
- Sell concessions for Northstar sports
- Serve refreshments at band/orchestra concerts
- Chaperone a Polar Party
- Organize a meal for conferences
- Organize the 8th grade celebration
- Setup and assist with the mile run
- Coordinate appreciation for staff
- Assist with book fairs
- Support Northstar PTSA programs
- Volunteer in Northstar's food pantry
- Share your opinions or concerns at meetings
- And more!

Where can I get more information?

Reach out to the Northstar PTSA co-presidents for more information:

Misty Schmidt, Parent / Co-President
NorthstarPTSA@gmail.com
Call/Text: 602-576-6237

Ashley Sinette, Parent / Co-President
NorthstarPTSA@gmail.com
Call/Text: 715-338-5242

The most precious gift adults can give their children is time.

