



Northbridge Public Schools

Northbridge School Committee

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Northbridge Public Schools School Committee Meeting Agenda Tuesday, April 25th, 2023 7:00PM Northbridge High School Media Center

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Attendance
- IV. Statement of Audio and Video Recording
- V. Statement of Mission
- VI. Student Representative Report (7:05)
- VII. Superintendent's Report (7:10)
- VIII. Presentations: (7:15)
 - A. HOSA Students (Future Medical Professionals)
 - B. 2022-2023 Parent Satisfaction Survey Results
- IX. Consent Agenda (7:30)
 - A. Warrant 43-42s 04/13/2023 \$139,921.21
 - B. Warrant 43-43s 04/20/2023 \$178,081.64
- X. Discussion (7:35)
 - A. MS Cell Phone Policy
 - B. District Bullying Policy
 - C. Transportation Contract Renewal
- XI. Public Comment (7:55)
- XII. Action (8:10)
 - A. 23-24 School Calendar
- XIII. Information
 - A. Senior Events Calendar
- XIV. Adjournment (8:15)

CELL PHONES and PERSONAL DEVICES

Students will not be permitted to use cell phones, headphones or any other personal electronic devices in the classroom. At the beginning of each class, students will place their cell phones (and/or electronic devices) in a designated area. If a student does not place the electronic device in the designated area at the start of class, then it is assumed they do not have one. If a student is found with a phone or other personal electronic device in their possession during class or anywhere else in the building during class time, they are subject to disciplinary action. See below.

Students will have access to their cell phones/personal electronic devices in the cafeteria during lunch time.

Enforcement and Penalties

All staff including teachers, administrators, and support staff are directed to monitor student violations of this policy. Refusal to hand over the phone or electronic device when requested to do so will be considered insubordination, and students will be subject to disciplinary action under the disciplinary code.

Consequences for students found to be in violation of the policy will be as follows:

- **First offense:** Student's electronic device will be confiscated, turned over to the building Administrator, and returned to the student at the end of the school day. A warning will be issued, and the parent will be contacted by the teacher or other individual confiscating the device.
- **Second offense:** Student's electronic device will be confiscated and turned over to the building Administrator. The student will be issued an office detention, the device will be returned at the end of the school day, and the parent will be contacted by the teacher or other individual confiscating the device.
- **Third offense:** Student's electronic device will be confiscated and turned over to the building Administrator. The parent will be contacted by administration. The student will also be issued two office detentions, and the device will be returned only to the student's parent or guardian. The student will also be prohibited from bringing an electronic device to school for two weeks, or alternatively, may be required to leave their phones in the Main Office upon entering the building each day during those two weeks.
- Additional offenses beyond the third offense will result in progressive discipline, up to and including: additional (extended) office detentions; Saturday School; exclusion from extracurricular activities (including clubs, athletics, councils, dances, etc.) or, suspension.

Students who violate this policy more than three times will also not be allowed to bring their device into the building for the remainder of the school year, or they may be asked to turn in their device to administration each morning for the remainder of the school year.

The use of school and personally owned technology on school property or at school events is a privilege, not a right. This privilege comes with personal responsibilities, and if students violate the responsible use of any technology in the school building, your privilege may be revoked and/or suspended.

Additional Information

- Recording of any kind, taking pictures on school property and/or posting of these on the internet is forbidden without prior consent and is subject to additional discipline.
- The school will not be responsible for lost or stolen electronic devices and WILL NOT assist with setting up reparations for stolen items.
- The school administration reserves the right to seize and search a student's cell phone or other electronic device if there is reasonable suspicion that the device has been used to commit a crime or break school rules. This includes the reasonable suspicion of illegal drug activity and/or the sending of bullying or harassing text messages.

JICFB - ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Bullying is defined as the repeated use of a written, verbal, or electronic communication, or a physical act or gesture, or any combination thereof, by one or more students, driver, athletic coach, advisor to an extracurricular activity or by a member of a school staff including, but not limited to, an educator, administrator, school nurse, cafeteria worker, custodian, bus or paraprofessional, directed at another student or staff member that has the effect of:

- causing physical or emotional harm to the other student or staff member or damage to his or her property;
- placing the other student or staff member in reasonable fear of harm to him or herself or of damage to his or her property;
- creating a hostile environment at school for the bullied student or staff member;
- infringing on the rights of the other student or staff member at school; or
- materially and substantially disrupting the education process or the orderly operation of a school.

Cyber-bullying is bullying through the use of technology or any electronic means, and includes the distribution of electronic communications or the posting of electronic material that may be accessed by one or more persons.

In accordance with Massachusetts Law Chapter 92 of the Acts of 2010, An Act Relative to Bullying in Schools, bullying is prohibited in any form:

- At school and at all school facilities;
- At school-sponsored or school-related functions, whether on or off school grounds;
- On school buses and at school bus stops;
- Through the use of technology or an electronic device owned, licensed or used by a school; and
- At non-school-related locations and through non-school technology or electronic devices, if the bullying affects the school environment.

To create more positive school climates and prevent as much bullying as possible, age-appropriate instruction for students in each grade on bullying prevention must be incorporated into a school's curriculum. In addition, Individualized Educational Programs (IEPs) are required to include measures to ensure that children who are particularly vulnerable to bullying obtain the skills to avoid and respond to bullying, an especially challenging task for special needs children.

Professional development for teachers and other staff to help them prevent and stop bullying is required on an annual basis. In addition, schools must offer education to parents about bullying prevention.

To stop bullying as soon as it occurs, all school staff are required to promptly report bullying when they witness or become aware of it. A school principal or his designee must immediately investigate and take appropriate disciplinary action. The attached policy provides more specific information to guide students, staff, administrators, and parents on reporting, investigating, and responding to complaints of bullying and harassment.

Each school district, commonwealth charter school, collaborative, approved private day or residential school and non-public school is required to develop a bullying prevention and intervention plan. The principal is responsible for implementing the plan.

Each plan must contain several provisions, including

- Procedures for responding to and investigating reports of bullying
- Strategies for protecting those who report bullying
- Notice to the parents or guardians of students involved in bullying, including perpetrators and victims
- Appropriate services for students who have been bullied or who are bullies.

Retaliation against a person who reports bullying, provides information during an investigation of bullying, or who is a witness to or has reliable information about bullying is prohibited.

Updated: 5/25/21

Daily Rate Per Bus

	Northbridge*	Other Towns Average	Bellingham*	Douglas	Grafton	Mendon Upton	Milford*	Millbury	Sutton	Uxbridge*
22-23	393.00	448.11	458.47	455.00	409.00	495.00	467.00	435.00	405.00	460.40
23-24	445.00	468.61	469.93	470.00	429.00	544.50	467.00	448.00	426.00	494.47
24-25	468.00	511.60	493.43	490.00	450.00	593.50				531.06

* Indicates schools who use Vendetti

Our Contract is setup as a 3 year contract with an option to renew for 2 additional years. Based on surrounding schools' daily bus rates, it is recommended that we exercise our option to renew.



2023-2024 School Calendar

July '23						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August '23						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
1 Day						

September '23						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
20 Days / 21 Days						

October '23						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
21 Days/42 Days						

November '23						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
19 Days/61 Days						

December '23						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						
16 Days/77 Days						

Calendar Key

No School
Prof. Devel-No School
Early Release Day

- July**
 July Summer School-All Offices Open
- August**
 Aug. 16 District Leadership Team Retreat
 Aug. 14 & 15 New Teacher Orientation
 Aug. 17 & 18 Leadership Institute for DCs & Team Leaders
 Aug. 28 Staff Opening Day Activities @ NHS
 Aug. 29 Prof Dev-Staff Only-full day
 Aug. 30 Prof Dev-Staff Only-full day
 Aug. 31 First Day of School Grades 1-12
- September**
 Sept. 4 Labor Day-No School
 Sept. 5 First Day for Preschool & Kindergarten
 Sept. 27 Early Release Day-Prof. Development
- October**
 Oct. 9 Columbus Day-No School
- November**
 Nov. 10 Veterans Day Observed-No School
 Nov. 15 Early Release-Parent Conferences
 Nov. 22 Early Release Day-Thansgiving Recess
 Nov. 23-24 Thanksgiving Recess
- December**
 Dec 25-Jan 1 Winter Recess
- January**
 Jan. 1 New Year's Day-No School
 Jan. 2 School Resumes
 Jan. 12 Prof Dev-Staff Only-full day
 Jan. 15 Martin Luther King Jr Day-No School
- February**
 Feb. 19 President's Day-No School
 Feb. 19-23 February Recess-No School
- March**
 March 20 Early Release-Parent Conferences
 March 29 Good Friday-No School
- April**
 April 3 Early Release-Professional Development
 April 15-19 Patriots Day/Spring Recess-No School
- May**
 May 27 Memorial Day-No School
 May 29 Early Release-Professional Development
 TBD Last Day for Seniors (no earlier than May 28)
- June**
 June 7 HS Graduation
 June 12 180th Day of School: Early Release Day
 June 13-20 *Weather Related Make-up Days
 June 19 Juneteenth-No School (if yr. extended)
- SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETINGS: 2nd & 4th Tuesdays**
 NHS-427 Linwood Ave
 Media Center - 7:00PM
 Televised on Channel 1
 Televised on Channel 1

January '24						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
20 Days/97 Days						

February '24						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		
16 Days/113 Days						

March '24						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						
20 Days/133 Days						

April '24						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
17 Days/150 Days						

May '24						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
22 Days/172 Days						

June '24						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						
8 Days/180 Days						

Date	Event and Location	Time	Cost	Comments
Friday 5/19	Last Day of Full Classes	7:25 AM - 1:55 PM	None	All Lockers must be cleaned out by the end of the day.
Monday, 5/22/23	Senior Exams 2	7:25 AM - 9:45 AM	None	Students are exempt from final exams with a final grade of 90 or above. Students do not need to report if they do not have a scheduled exam.
Tuesday, 5/23/23	Senior Exams 2	7:25 AM - 9:45 AM	None	Students are exempt from final exams with a final grade of 90 or above. Students do not need to report if they do not have a scheduled exam.
Wednesday, 5/24/23	Seniors Exams 2	7:25 AM - 9:45 AM	None	Students are exempt from final exams with a final grade of 90 or above. Students do not need to report if they do not have a scheduled exam.
Thursday, 5/25/23	1 Exam and Make-ups	8:40 AM - 9:45 AM, make-up exams by appointment	None	Grades close for all Class of 2023 students at 9:00 PM on Thursday, 5/26/22.
Thursday, 5/25/23	Baccalaureate rehearsal at St. Pats	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	None	This rehearsal is for presenters only.
Fri-Sat 5/26-27	Senior Class Trip - Lake George, NY	5:30am Friday- 8:00pm Saturday	\$225pp	All bags will be checked before the trip. All students must ride the bus to and from the trip. Graduates and NHS chaperones only.
Tuesday, 5/30/23	Baccalaureate rehearsal at St. Pats	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	None	All performers must attend.
Tuesday, 5/30/23	Cap and Gown Distribution, NHS Theater	12-2	None. Paid by class treasury.	LOCKERS MUST BE CLEANED OUT, OBLIGATIONS (INCLUDING SPORTS FEES, BOOKS OWED, CLASS DUES, AP FEES, COMMUNITY SERVICE, ETC.) MUST BE FULFILLED BEFORE CAPS AND GOWNS ARE ISSUED.
Tuesday, 5/30/23	Baccalaureate at St. Pats	7:00 PM	None	Students must arrive at St. Pat's Church at 6:15 PM. Appropriate attire (see below) under your gown. No caps or tassels worn at Baccalaureate.
Wednesday, 5/31/23	Graduation Rehearsal: Arrive at NHS at 7:30am - Senior Walk to follow -	Arrive at school for 7:30 AM in the Gym for graduation rehearsal then we go to all schools to walk in Caps & Gowns from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM. Buses will be provided.	None	Rehearsals are mandatory . You will not walk if you do not come to them. Tickets (6 tickets per graduate) will be distributed. Waiting list for additional tickets will be available at this rehearsal.

Date	Event and Location	Time	Cost	Comments
Wednesday, 5/31/23	Class Night; NHS Field House	7:00 PM	None	Parents and families may attend; Proper attire required. (See below)
Thursday, 6/1/23	Graduation Rehearsal; NHS Field House	9:30 AM	None	Rehearsals are mandatory . Additional tickets will be distributed at this rehearsal.
Thursday, 6/1/23	Senior Banquet	6-9	No cost. Paid by class treasury.	This is a cookout and hangout for graduating NHS seniors only. Dress is casual.
Friday, 6/2/23	Senior Breakfast - NHS Media Center & Cap and Gown Pictures in Theater	7:45-9 AM	No cost. Paid by class treasury.	Graduating students and NHS faculty/staff are invited to attend. Cap and gown photos taken in the Theater during the breakfast. Everyone must have a picture taken with cap and gown.
Friday, 6/2/23	Graduation Rehearsal; Field House	9-10:30 AM	None	This rehearsal is a whole school assembly . Graduates should wear their cap and gown at this rehearsal.
Friday, 6/2/23	156th Commencement Exercises - Class of 2023 NHS Field House	Ceremony begins at 6:00 PM; Graduates must report to cafeteria at 5:00 PM	None	Parents, family, and friends are invited to attend; only those with a ticket will be able to enter the graduation ceremony. PROPER ATTIRE REQUIRED! (See below)
Friday, 6/2/23	Operation Graduation	Time TBD. Meet at HS to take a bus to the venue	None	All NHS Graduates are invited to attend
* All dress, cap decorations, etc., will be reviewed prior to the commencement of graduation exercises. No noise makers or balloons. You will be removed from any event due to inappropriate dress. All the activities, including the graduation ceremony, are PRIVILEGES earned not a right of passage. All rules and policies stated in the Student Handbook apply.				
* Proper attire is REQUIRED at all events. (NO sneakers-NO flip flops-NO work boots-NO jeans-No shorts!)				