

Open House - 10/9/25

- Click [HERE](#) for the schedule for the open house. We look forward to seeing all our families that night
- The PTSO will be at the upcoming Open House. Stop by our table in the Spine to **write your student a note**, which will be delivered in their advisories. We'll have letter forms, paper, and stickers so you can create a personalized message and share your thoughts and encouragement with your student for a great school year!
- The NKHS PTSO will also be accepting donations of **brownie mix for the North Kingstown Food Pantry's** Thanksgiving Drive. The NK Food Pantry hopes to put a turkey dinner on the table of 525 North Kingstown families this Thanksgiving and the high school has been asked to contribute dessert: brownie mixes! Bring your donation to the Open House and drop it off at our table.

Cell Phone Policy implementation - begins Monday 10/6/25

Please be reminded this is in full implementation starting tomorrow. Any phones in sight will be confiscated. Please do not use phones in the school building between the school hours (7.15 am - 1.45 pm). No earbuds are allowed to remain in ears when students are in transit. Use of earbuds will automatically imply they are attached to cell phones when students are moving in the building. So please store them away and out of sight. There was a whole month of warning issued. If students refuse to turn in their phones, we will call parents/guardians immediately. Students will not be allowed to continue their school day unless the phone is turned in to school safe. The student phones will remain in the safe for the entire duration. Thank you for your cooperation in advance

- As of October 6, 2025, we will be implementing the consequences as laid out in the handbook
 - First offense - phone will be confiscated, name of the student will be documented as first offense and phone will be stored in the school safe. Students can have their phone back at the end of school. No parent/guardian intervention needed
 - Second offense- phone will be confiscated and stored in the school safe. Student name will be documented as a second offense and the phone will only be returned to a parent/guardian of the student listed in Aspen
 - Third offense - a parent/guardian will need to meet with school administration with the students to develop a plan. Examples of a plan may include the student turning in their phone each day to be put in the safe or leaving their phone home. This plan will be created in partnership with the family.

Veterans Day cards during advisory (Oct 13- Oct 17)

Advisory Initiative: Christmas Cards for Veterans. Help us honor our service members and veterans!

North Kingstown High School is proud to once again participate in the annual '**Christmas Cards for Veterans**' event, sponsored by VFW Post 152 North Kingstown. This is a special community effort, now in its 13th year, being continued in memory of Ron Rioux (USAF) and sponsored by his wife, Linda Rioux.

The handmade cards made by our students will be placed in care packages for veterans serving overseas (via Lt. Governor Sabina Matos's 'Operation Holiday Cheer') and delivered to local veterans' homes, spreading holiday cheer and gratitude.

The Mission: Make a Card During Advisory

We are asking all students and teachers to dedicate time during **Advisory** week of Oct 13-17 to create a kind, encouraging, and uplifting card.

- **When:** Any day between **Monday, October 13th, and Friday, October 17th.**
- **What to Write:** Include a cheerful message and a note of thanks for their service.
- **Deadline:** All finished cards must be turned in to **Room 317** to **Ms. Mason** by the end of the school day on **Friday, October 17th.**

- **Aspen Workflow for Parents/Guardians- please complete if you have not already done so for 2025-26 School Year. This needs to be completed each year by families**
 - Aspen workflows take the place of paperwork the school used to collect physically. There are three workflows that need to be completed in Aspen; Student Permission, Annual Health Collection, and Update Student Emergency Card (contacts). To complete the workflows, click here to access your [Aspen Family Portal](#). If you need assistance with your Aspen credentials (login), please contact our Guidance department. They have access to view account credentials or reset passwords. Additionally, there is a [self-recovery on the login page for forgotten passwords](#). Please remember that you must use your Aspen username and password in order to complete the workflows (not the student username/password). Also, the Annual Health Collection and Update Student Emergency Card workflows will not reflect any changes until it is accepted by the school. Please do not submit more than once. For additional assistance with Aspen Workflows: [Tutorial Video on Back to School paperwork in Aspen](#)

- In absence of the workflow completion by parents/guardians, it will be assumed that you are agreeing to all the policies and procedures set forth by the school and that you have no special requests or restrictions for the school to follow.
- Additionally, we like to recognize students in weekly emails and newsletters. We rely on permissions completed by parents/guardians to publish student photos, names, etc so it is important that families update/complete the Aspen workflow.
- In addition to the Aspen workflows, parents/guardians can opt out of two additional items for their students if they wish. The items are given below

- **Student Survey Opt out:** Throughout the year, there are several surveys administered by school. These surveys are sometimes required by the RI Department of Education, and to collect student input on other initiatives within the school department. If parents/guardians would like to opt their child out of all surveys administered to the student by the school, please complete [THIS](#) form. *Please note that parents/guardians must complete one form for each child they wish to opt out of the materials. Parents/Guardians can only opt their child out if they are listed as Primary Contact for the child in Aspen.*
- **Instructional Materials Opt out:** The 2025 US Supreme Court case *Mahmoud v. Taylor* ruling requires school districts to provide parents and guardians with notice about lessons involving LGBTQ+ inclusive materials and to allow them to opt their children out of those lessons based on religious objections. If you wish to receive these notices with the opportunity to opt-out, please complete [THIS](#) form. *Please note that parents/guardians must complete one form for each child they wish to opt out of the materials. Parents/Guardians should ONLY complete this form if they wish to receive opt-out notifications. Parents/Guardians can only opt their child out if they are listed as Primary Contact for the child in Aspen.*

- **Newsletter**

Click [HERE](#) to view this week's North Notes (Newsletter)

- **Quote of the week from students**

Students are invited to submit quotes of the week by clicking [HERE](#). If your quote is selected, this will be included in the morning announcement.

- **For HS events calendar** Click [HERE](#)

- **Upcoming days**

Monday	10/6/25	Day 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHS meeting at 6.15 am- Aud • Booster Club at 7 pm- Media Center
Tuesday	10/7/25	Day 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picture retakes in Cafe • Drama Rehearsal at 2 pm- aud
Wednesday	10/08/25	Day 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drama Rehearsal at 1.45 pm - aud • School Safety Presentation at 6.30 pm in Aud
Thursday	10/09/25	Day 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccination Clinic at 8 am • Drama Rehearsal at 1.45 pm - aud • Open House at 6 pm
Friday	10/10/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No School for Students • PD day for all teachers and staff

- Our students and staff have developed **core values** that we will be focusing on this upcoming year. We will be encouraging our students to practice these core values in every part of the building throughout the day. Our staff, faculty and adults will model these values to students through their own practice and live these values each and every day as they interact with students and other members of the school community.

At NKHS we are...

Skillful

Kind and Inclusive

Innovative

Participative

Perseverant
Effective Communicator
Respectful
Self-disciplined

I look forward to serving the students, staff, teachers and the educational community of North Kingstown in the upcoming school year. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

In Partnership,
Shivali Finkelstein
Principal
North Kingstown High School
Email: shivali_finkelstein@nksd.net
Direct Line: 401 268 6230

Every child deserves a champion: an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists they become the best they can possibly be. Rita Pierson, Educator

Excellence is not a skill, it's an attitude - Ralph Marston

Learning is what most adults will do for a living in the 21st Century - S.J Perelman