



# NEW MILFORD HIGH SCHOOL

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Dear Students and Families of New Milford High School,

I am writing to you today to welcome you all to the 2022-23 school year! We have been working hard all summer at NMHS to rebuild after the fire and prepare for a successful upcoming school year for all. All students will be returning to NMHS for the first day of school on Tuesday September 6th and I would like to remind people that 9/6 and Wednesday 9/7, are scheduled early release days for students but grab and go breakfast, lunch, and bus transportation will be provided for all NMHS students. We will not be the victims of circumstance this year and use the fire as an excuse for anything rather we will have a victor mindset where we will adapt and overcome all adversity emerging triumphant from unfortunate circumstances!

While each year it is sad to say goodbye to the departing Senior class we are thrilled in welcoming the graduating class of 2026 and all of our returning Green Wave students! While you will all have a busy start to the school year I wanted to provide an overview of several things we will focus on for the school year:

**Daily Expectations-** We focus on respect and acceptance as a member of the Green Wave community daily. We will not tolerate hate or violence and have staff available to assist student needs and emergencies and will adhere to the [NMPS dress code policy](#). Every staff member is available to help a child in need please ask for help when needed. There is no excuse for tardiness to any class- plan accordingly with your teachers. Students must have a staff issued pass at all times and students and staff will begin wearing their school issued ID badge daily in the 22-23 school year. Loitering in an unsupervised area of NMHS during school, or after school is not permitted, and will result in administration of school consequences, parent meetings, and potential loss of school privileges including, but not limited to, **any school sponsored event or extra-curricular event**.

**Attendance-** Daily attendance at NMHS is essential for success and we need your children every day. School begins at 7:35am daily and ends at 2:15pm. All exterior ground level doors are locked after 7:45am and anyone arriving late is expected to use the front main entrance only. If your child is absent for any reason you must call/email the absence in immediately to the attendance office ([kellethk@newmilfordps.org](mailto:kellethk@newmilfordps.org); x1167). If your child becomes ill at school, they will be sent to the nurse for evaluation and if dismissed for parent pick up, you will be contacted by the nurses office and attendance will be modified accordingly at the school that day. Families will receive automated phone calls from NMHS daily around 9:30am and again at 1:30pm to notify you if your child is absent from class. If you receive a call, follow up with the classroom teacher or your child's guidance counselor. NMHS staff will be meeting bi-weekly to review attendance data to inform families of the possibilities of truancy and subsequent planning to assist in getting students to NMHS daily. Any student leaving early is expected to check out in the main office, receive a dismissal pass, leave through the front main entrance, and present that dismissal pass to security as you depart.

**Focus on Academics-** Rigorous academics are a part of life at NMHS. While teachers have available time to assist after the school day (email to arrange in advance), and National Honor Society tutoring in the Library Learning Commons daily after school with a late bus at 4:30pm, NMHS will also be introducing Science Based Research Intervention courses for students for the 2022-2023 school year. Multiple data points have been reviewed including

**Work ~ Achieve ~ Value ~ Empower**

#### New Milford Mission Statement

*The mission of the New Milford Public Schools, a collaborative partnership of students, educators, family and community, is to prepare each and every student to compete and excel in an ever-changing world, embrace challenges with vigor, respect and appreciate the worth of every human being, and contribute to society by providing effective instruction and dynamic curriculum, offering a wide range of valuable experiences, and inspiring students to pursue their dreams and aspirations.*

end of year grades, standardized assessments (SBAC, PSAT, SAT, NGSS), and universal screener instruments (MAP testing) have been used to assign students to these mandatory sections for skills development, credit recovery, and getting back on track for academic success and graduation! During the 3rd block each day, NMHS will have **Advisory**, a time to focus on school and life related topics, and **Take Time to Read** (3TR; read a book of choice, school related material where we drop everything to value the important of literacy) are part of our daily business at NMHS.

**Communications-** If you have questions about classes- please contact your [teacher](#) first. If you need additional support- please contact your [guidance counselor](#), and our amazing staff is here to support your child on their journey to success at NMH including department chairs, student support staff, and school administrators. Student schedules, grades, and attendance are available daily using the PowerSchool Parent Portal. [HERE](#) is a link to helpful parent resources and if you need assistance with resetting passwords email guidance, and for technical issues submit a tech ticket by clicking [HERE](#). A daily bulletin email will continue to be provided and it is housed inside the Parent Portal. A once a week “Principal’s Message” using SchoolMessenger will be provided at the end of each week and include important updates, topics, and links for students and families. Please consider following me, as I will celebrate students and staff on Instagram @NMHS\_Principal. Finally, please feel free to use our [website](#) to find resources and contact information for staff or feel free to contact the main office at 860-350-6674 for assistance.

**Documents-** At the beginning of each year there are important documents that you and your child must complete including [parking](#) (if applicable), students' [photos](#), as well as the district Acceptable Use Form, and the NMHS handbook receipt to name a few. It is critical that these documents get returned in a timely fashion to get our students on track for a successful year. If you need assistance please contact the main office at 860-350-6674x1000 for assistance.

**Activities-** CIAC Fall sports are underway and our NMHS [fall sports communication is available now](#) from our AD. NMHS is proud of our band, choral, and performing arts and look forward to packed theater throughout the year. NMHS is excited to present our students with a regularly scheduled monthly Wingman and Activity Period for 22-223. The Wingman program is a unique youth leadership program that inspires ALL children to go above and beyond and create inclusive communities in their schools. Trained Wingman student leaders work with their peers with hands-on activities on Wingman day to foster empathy and empower people with the belief that they matter. Students walk away with skills and strategies to apply to their everyday interactions with others.

***In the event that you are receiving this communication, but your child is registered at a different high school for the 2022-2023 school year, please call our office at 860-350-6674 x1102 so we can take the appropriate steps to correct this situation.***

In closing, we are both excited and eager to begin the new school year at NMHS. While we will have high expectations focused on continued improvement with academics, attendance, attitude and involvement with activities for all learners, we will have continued support, growth, and development of student and staff social and emotional health and well-being. I am confident that working collaboratively with students, school and parents that we will forge trusting and caring relationships, create rigorous and relevant learning opportunities and develop a successful and positive school atmosphere where students, staff and families look forward to going. *Please enjoy the final days of summer with family and friends and we look forward to greeting you all on Tuesday 9/6!*

**Go Green Wave!**

Respectfully,



Raymond Manka  
Principal