

North Syracuse Central School District

# NorthStar Lights

Issue #5 | November 20, 2020



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## Message from the Superintendent



Hello North Syracuse Central School District Parents, Guardians, Teachers and Staff!

Before I begin my short message this week, I want to let you know that our weekly newsletter will not be distributed next week due to the Thanksgiving Recess. I hope you have a wonderful, albeit very different, holiday with your loved ones.

As I'm sure you know, Central New York continues to see an uptick in cases of COVID-19 and because of that, in-school testing has taken place in some of our impacted buildings. *CNYCentral's* Mary Kielar was at Roxboro Road Elementary School's testing on Tuesday and shared a [video news story online](#). I want to extend a tremendous "Thank You" to all of our staff members who assisted with testing and to our families who allowed their children to be tested. It is very clear to all of us that we all want our students back in school and that we are doing to do what needs to be done to keep our buildings open.

With that being said, please know that I understand that the work everyone is doing is exhausting - students, parents, teachers and staff. With the new challenges that arise daily, we are working at an incredible pace that is taking its toll on all of us. I am hopeful that this Thanksgiving break will provide some time to rejuvenate and refresh. Please stay safe and have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,  
Daniel D. Bowles, Superintendent of Schools

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## Morning Meal Pickup Begins at Roxboro Road Middle

## School on December 2

Throughout the 2020-2021 school year, the North Syracuse Central School District has been providing free meals during the school day and offering evening meal pickup for remote learners. In an effort to provide an additional option for families, beginning December 2, the District will offer **Wednesday morning meal pickup at Roxboro Road Middle School ONLY**. Wednesday morning meal pickup at Roxboro Road Middle School will take place from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. each Wednesday that school is in session. Families can pick up multiple meals if desired.

**Evening meal pickup** will continue at all secondary buildings (addresses listed below) every **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday**. Evening pickup is from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m.

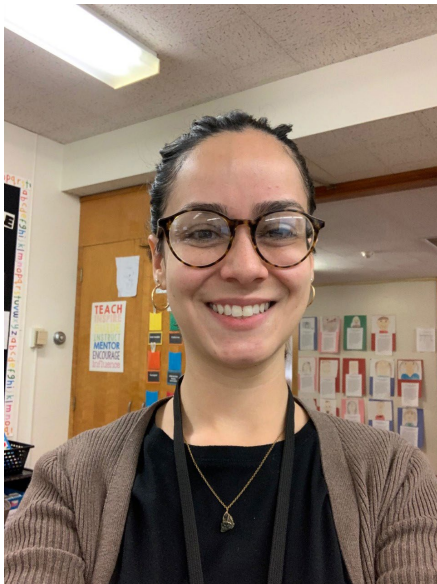
Evening Meal Pickup Locations:

- Cicero-North Syracuse High School (6002 Route 31, Cicero) inside of the school at the main entrance by the flag pole (MOVED as of 11/2)
- North Syracuse Junior High School (5353 West Taft Rd., N. Syracuse) at the school's kitchen door in back of building
- Gillette Road Middle School (6150 South Bay Rd., Cicero) at the school's front door
- Roxboro Road Middle School (300 Bernard St., Mattydale) at the school's front door

[Click here for additional information about the NSCSD Food Service Program.](#)

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## NSCSD November 20 Shining Star: Lakeshore Road Elementary School Teacher, Ginell Iversen



Jason Armstrong was nervous about his son, Dorian, transitioning from KWS Bear Road Elementary School to Lakeshore Road Elementary School this year. He wants to credit's Dorian's classroom teacher, Ginell Iversen, for making the transition easier. "I appreciate her for building a positive climate and culture in her class and making my son feel the joy of being in school in such a difficult time," he said.

"Dorian is sharing more about school than he has in the past. He is excited to attend, motivated to learn and he says he really likes his teacher and his class this year," Armstrong added. "Thank you Ms. Iversen!"

[Click here to read more online or to nominate your own Shining Star.](#)

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## Share a Shout Out to a Shining Star

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to unexpected challenges to both teaching and learning but we know that many of our students and teachers are thriving in this environment. We also know other staff are going above and beyond to keep students and families safe and informed.

We'd love to hear (and share) the inspirational stories you have so we can keep the positive vibes going. If you'd like to recognize a North Syracuse Central School District student, teacher, employee or even a volunteer, please complete a short online form giving us some basic information.

["Nominate" a Shining Star](#)

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## K-4 Families Asked to Submit Instructional Model Choice

K-4 parents have the opportunity to switch their child's instructional model following Trimester 1. Much time and thought has gone into this transition plan so that it is as smooth as possible. The key component to making a smooth transition is accurate information from parents. This means that we need 100% participation on this survey in order to accurately place every single student. The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the transition plan. If you have any additional questions, please review the Parent Video, Parent FAQ and/or contact your child's home school.

[Click here to take the survey.](#)

- Allen Road Elementary School (315) 218-2300
- KWS Bear Road Elementary School (315) 218-2400
- Cicero Elementary School (315) 218-2500
- Lakeshore Road Elementary School (315) 218-2600
- Roxboro Road Elementary School (315) 218-2700
- Smith Road Elementary School (315) 218-2800

Additional details are available by clicking the following links:

- [Parent FAQ Document](#)
- [Parent Video](#)
- [Parent Overview Document](#)

## Paige's Pajamarama "Team C-NS" gets support from Cicero Falcons



Members of the Cicero Falcons Pop Warner football team came together to support Cicero-North Syracuse High School students in the Paige's Pajamarama competition. While many of these players participated in pajama day fundraising efforts in their schools, they were inspired to continue the fundraising efforts together as a team.

These football players raised an additional \$150 through a virtual pajama day fundraiser. C-NS Principal's Cabinet members Giorgio Rawda and Gus McElwain were able to visit a practice to collect the Falcon's donations.

Donations for Paige's Butterfly Run in support of Team C-NS are being accepted through Wednesday, 11/25. To donate, simply Venmo @PaigesButterflyRun-Inc. and put C-NS High School in the memo.

[Click here to read the full article and see more pictures online.](#)

## Wellness Wednesdays



When NSCSD school buildings had to close their doors to students and staff in the Spring of 2020, the District started "Wellness Wednesdays" as a way of pulling families together in spite of COVID-19. As the 2020-2021 school year progresses, we need to connect now, more than ever, so we've gotten the "Wellness Wednesdays" band back together. The Wellness Wednesdays website will be our way of sharing resources, information and

importantly YOUR thoughts, photos and artwork.

A large number of respondents to our recent parent survey reported being interested in receiving strategies for Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) at home. The Wellness Wednesday topic for this week is supporting SEL at home. [Click here to read about 5 easy to do social emotional learning activities.](#)

[Visit the Wellness Wednesdays Website](#)

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## C-NS High School's Pete Moore Named Educator of Distinction by NSHSS



Pete Moore, an educator at Cicero-North Syracuse High School in Cicero, NY, was recently selected as a Claes Nobel Educator of Distinction by the National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS). A role model to pupils, Pete was nominated by a student for outstanding dedication and commitment to excellence in the profession.

Each year student members of NSHSS are invited to nominate the educator who has made the most significant contribution to their academic career for the Claes Nobel Educator of Distinction award. This honor recognizes exemplary educators whose passion and devotion inspire their students to grow and develop as scholars, leaders, and citizens.

[Click here to read more about Pete Moore.](#)

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## "Supporting Your Child During Remote Learning" Family

## Forum Video Online



### North Syracuse Central School District Third Annual Family Forum Event:



# Supporting your child

*During remote learning*



The team of NSCSD professionals that came together three years ago to organize events focused on issues parents and their children may be experiencing, has come together to provide "Supporting Your Child During Remote Learning" in video form. The presentation is designed to provide context and tips for parents on Executive Functioning, Organization, and Breaks and Rewards.

With a focus specific to the needs of K-6 students, parents will be able to access the [20- minute video presentation by clicking here](#) at whatever time works for their schedule.

[The slides are also available to download by clicking here.](#)

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## Send Us Your Photos!



Because this school year has been so different, it has been challenging to get new photos for our District website at [www.nscsd.org](http://www.nscsd.org) and other publications. So...we need your help!

We would love to share your photos of at home school environments. If you're willing to share, please send your high quality images using the link below. We'll be using your photos in this newsletter and other publications throughout the school year. Additionally, high resolution, horizontal photos will be considered for the District website.

Pictured above: Aubrey and Wesley Coyle hold the bridges they built for the **MOST's Build 'Em and Bust 'Em** bridge building competition. Aubrey, an 8th grade student at North Syracuse Junior High School, won for Best Team Name with Six Sticks Strong. Mrs. O'Connor, a teacher at Roxboro Road Middle School, also proudly reports that a team of her students (Emily Truong and Ava Ricci) won first place in the (virtual) Bridges competition in Category 1. [Click here to read more about the MOST's competition and watch the event video.](#)

Pictured below: Debbie Barbuto, a 2nd Grade Teacher at KWS Bear Road Elementary School, is working completely remote this school year and she just received some words of encouragement and praise from the mom of her student, Nolan Caruso. Nolan's mom, Lindsay, took time to email Ms. Barbuto with some pictures of her son doing a science experiment and the following message: "Nolan is loving the science experiments!!!!!! I just wanted to thank you so much for keeping them interested and on task and engaged!!!! You're doing a fantastic job just in case no one tells you. "



Submit Your Photos Now!

## Important Upcoming Dates

**November 20**  
10 Week Report Cards (Gr. 5-12)  
Available Online

**November 25-27**  
No School for Students/Staff  
Thanksgiving Recess

**November 30**  
Deadline for K-4 Families to Complete Instructional  
Model Change Requests

**December 4**  
1st Trimester Report Period Ends (Gr. K-4)

## Quick Links

- [Technical Help Website](#)
- [Family Wellness Website](#)
- [Online Calendar](#)
- [Google Classroom Help](#)
- [Meal Pickup Information](#)
- [K-4 Instructional Model Change Requests](#)







North Syracuse Central School District would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact North Syracuse Central School District directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: [Unsubscribe](#)

SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.