

North Syracuse Central School District

# NorthStar Lights

Issue #2 | October 30, 2020



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## Message from the Superintendent



Hello North Syracuse Central School District parents, guardians and staff! What a difference a week makes...last Friday we were enjoying 80 degree weather and this week we have snow in the forecast! This serves as just another reminder of the incredibly fluctuating environment we are in.

As we head into the weekend, I wanted to send just a few reminders:

- Our NSCSD family survey closes tomorrow, Friday, October 30. [Click here to complete the survey](#) if you haven't already done so.
- Halloween is this Saturday, October 31. [Please follow these tips for celebrating safely.](#)
- Daylight Savings time ends this Sunday, November 1. Don't forget to turn your clocks back by one hour.
- Election Day is next Tuesday, November 3. If you're unable to vote on Tuesday, there are additional options this year. See more in the Vote 2020 article below.
- Our NSCSD STAFF survey closes Monday, November 2. [Click here to complete the survey.](#) Please know that although the survey is geared toward our instructional staff, we welcome feedback from all employees. If you work in a non-instructional role in the District, please skip over the questions that do not pertain to you and provide comments at the end of the survey.

Be sure to read the Vote 2020 article below to see more about polling locations and how those changes may impact you. Thank you again for taking time to read this newsletter.

Sincerely,  
Daniel D. Bowles, Superintendent of Schools

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## Vote 2020

North Syracuse Central School District families and staff are encouraged to vote in next week's general election. Polling locations and times vary but will be open throughout the day on Tuesday, November 3. This year, New York State is providing [additional vote options allowing early voting or voting by absentee ballot](#) due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Because the **KWS Bear Road Elementary School and Cicero Elementary School buildings** are used as polling locations, students that normally attend in-person learning *in those buildings* will take place in remote instruction on Tuesday, November 3. The North Syracuse Central School District Jerome F. Melvin Administrative Office Building (5355 W. Taft Rd., N. Syracuse) is also used as a polling location. To ensure adequate parking is available for the large number of voters expected that day, all district office employees are being asked to park in the lot for North Syracuse Junior High School staff.

Please remember to exercise your right to vote!

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## NSEEP Students Enjoying new Opportunities to Learn through Play on School's new Inclusive Playground

*Receipt of \$50,000 in Grants from CNY Community Foundation and Jim and Juli Boeheim Foundation Helped Push Project Forward.*

Students in the North Syracuse Early Education Program (NSEEP) have been spending time this fall enjoying some new learning opportunities available through their school's new inclusive and accessible playground. After years of planning and fundraising, the playground is now a reality thanks to the support of the community and the generosity of some local grantors.

[Click here to read the full article 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 are feeling the need to connect 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.

The "Wellness Wednesdays" topic for the current week is Navigating the waters of learning during COVID; Tips for helping students with technology, Ideas to fortify our resilience and normalizing that this is in fact a challenging time.

[Visit the Wellness Wednesdays Website](#)

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## Share a Shout Out to a Shining Star

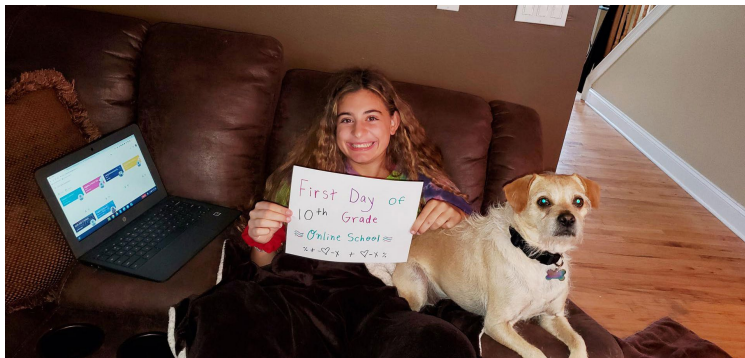
The COVID-19 pandemic has led to unexpected challenges to both teaching and learning but we know that many of our students and teachers are thriving in this environment. We also know other staff are going above and beyond to keep students and families safe and informed.

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, employee or even a volunteer, please complete a short online form giving us some basic information.

["Nominate" a Shining Star](#)

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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.

Submit Your Photos Now!

Give the Gift of Blood this  
Holiday Season!  
November Blood Drives

C-NS senior, Giovanni Heater,  
featured in CNY Central  
local news story

Nominate a student in the  
2021 Prudential Spirit of  
Community Awards

## Important Upcoming Dates

**November 3**  
**Election Day - VOTE!**

**November 9 (Rescheduled)**  
Board of Education Meeting

**November 11**  
Veteran's Day - No School for Students/Staff

## Quick Links

- [Parent/Guardian Survey Closes October 30](#)

- [Technical Help Website](#)

- [Family Wellness Website](#)

- [Online Calendar](#)

- [Google Classroom Help](#)



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