

North Syracuse Central School
District

NorthStar Lights

Issue #8 | January 8, 2021



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

Happy New Year and welcome back! As seems to be the case these days, we are dealing with something different than our expected return to school. We are experiencing [increased positivity rates throughout the county](#) and within our community. Out of an abundance of caution, the NSCSD made the decision to continue with fully remote instruction through next Friday, January 15. We are planning for students to return to the hybrid schedule on Tuesday, January 19.

Please remember that all students are using [Classlink](#) for attendance and should be logging in each day they are working remotely from home, including Wednesdays. Students with Chromebooks can log directly into Classlink using the welcome screen. Students using other devices should go to [nscsd.org](#) first and click on the Classlink Launchpad banner at the top of the webpage. This will ensure that a student's attendance for the day will be logged.

To ensure that all students have uninterrupted access to healthy meals, the District has expanded meal pick up options for families during the period of remote instruction. See the article below or [click here](#) to learn more.

Throughout the next several weeks we will be working with the Onondaga County Department of Health to coordinate dates for additional asymptomatic testing in our schools. We will communicate testing schedules with our families and staff as testing dates are determined.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support as we work through the challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,
Daniel D. Bowles, Superintendent of Schools

NSCSD January 8 Shining Star: Gillette Road Middle School's Domenic Liccione

This week's Shining Star is Domenic Liccione, currently a band teacher, who has also been the chorus and classroom music teacher at Gillette Road Middle School. In addition to teaching, Mr. Liccione has been directing the school's musical productions for the past two decades.

Mr. Liccione has a passion for teaching and music and he shares that appreciation with his students. In her nomination for the instructor, Amanda Coyle, the mom of four of Liccione's current and former students, wrote, "He inspires my children (and so many others) to appreciate music and aspire to be great musicians."

[Click here to read more about Mr. Liccione.](#)

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.

A huge "THANK YOU" to everyone who has already submitted nominations for shining stars! We're excited to have received so many entries and are working to put together the more than a dozen stories we have already gotten. Keep checking this newsletter for your nomination!

["Nominate" a Shining Star](#)

District Expands Meal Pick up Options During Extended

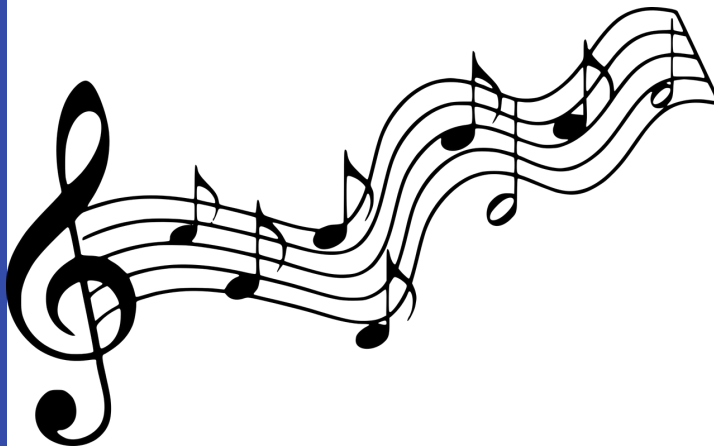
Period of Remote Instruction

On January 2, the North Syracuse Central School District made the decision to have students participate in fully remote instruction through January 15 due to increasing COVID-19 positivity rates. In an effort to ensure that students have uninterrupted access to meals, the District is expanding their meal pick up options during the period of remote instruction.

The District is offering morning and evening meal pick up at select locations. Morning meal pick up (9 a.m. to noon) is available at both Roxboro Road Middle School (300 Bernard St., Mattydale) and Lakeshore Road Elementary School (7180 Lakeshore Rd., Cicero) every Monday through Friday. Evening meal pick up (4:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.) is available at all of the District's secondary school buildings, Cicero-North Syracuse High School (6002 Route 31, Cicero), North Syracuse Junior High School (5353 West Taft Rd., N. Syracuse), Gillette Road Middle School (6150 South Bay Rd., Cicero) and Roxboro Road Middle School (300 Bernard St., Mattydale) every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The expanded program will continue through January 15.

[Click here to read more about the expanded meal program.](#)

Holiday Wishes from the C-NS Vocal Jazz Group



[Click here to view a video holiday message from the C-NS Vocal Jazz Group.](#)

C-NS Business Department Offers Opportunities for Students to Earn College Credit

Attention parents of C-NS sophomores and juniors: Did you know that your son or daughter has many opportunities to earn college credit while in high school. The business department offer several classes where students can earn SUNY OCC and or Syracuse University credit hours. Students can contact any business teacher or their guidance counselor for more information. Click [here](#) or on the video to learn more.

Wellness Wednesdays



This holiday season, please let go of the stress and enjoy the holidays!

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.

[Visit the Wellness Wednesdays Website](#)

Use the SchoolMessenger App to Control the Types of Messages you Receive from the NSCS

The North Syracuse Central School District uses the [SchoolMessenger notification system](#) for text/email and telephone messages to our families. The SchoolMessenger app is also available for use on mobile devices and can be downloaded through Google Play on in the App Store. [Click here to download the SchoolMessenger mobile app user guide.](#)

If you have a child enrolled at one of our schools, you will automatically receive phone call, email and text alerts pertaining to that school and will receive some district-wide messages. Different messages are sent out in various alert formats. [Click here to learn more about message types used by the NSCS.](#)

Control the messages you receive!

Parents and staff can sign-up for the [SchoolMessenger App](#) to control the types of messages receive from the district. By signing up the this FREE service, parents and staff can opt into or out of message categories. [Click here to sign-up for the app or log-in on your computer.](#)

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 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.

[Click here to view our parent notification regarding student photos.](#)

[Submit Your Photos Now!](#)



Similar to other communities in New York State, Onondaga County has combined with its municipalities, to address a comprehensive plan for police reform. Community forums will be taking place throughout the month of January. [Click here](#) to learn more and to participate in the online sessions.

Important Upcoming Dates

January 18
Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - No School for Students/Staff

January 19
Students Return to Hybrid Learning

January 25
Board of Education Meeting

February 1
20 Week Report Period Ends (Gr. 5-12)
Board of Education Meeting

Quick Links

- [Technical Help Website](#)
- [Family Wellness Website](#)
- [Online Calendar](#)
- [Google Classroom Help](#)
- [Meal Pickup Information](#)
- [NYS COVID-19 Report Card](#)
- [Superintendent's Updates](#)



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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.