

Norton Middle School

# Wildcat Roar

A newsletter for the parents and community of Norton Middle School.

• 215 Norton Rd. • Columbus, OH 43228 • (614) 801-3700 •

• A South-Western City School • nms.swcsd.us •



## October & November 2015

### *Dates to Remember*

10/1/15 FB @ Pick Ridgeview  
10/2/15 Cookie Dough Sale Ends  
10/5/15 BOOK FAIR WEEK  
10/5/15 SPIRIT WEEK  
10/5/15 Choir/Orchestra Fundraiser Begins  
10/5/15 VB @ Jackson MS  
10/7/15 VB vs PVMS  
10/7/15 B FB @ PVMS  
10/8/15 Interim Reports Go Home  
10/8/15 FB vs PVMS @ WHS  
10/13-16/15 DC Trip  
10/14/15 **EARLY DISMISSAL**  
10/15/15 8th Gr to State House  
10/16/15 **COTA Day—No School**  
10/19/15 Choir/Orchestra Fundraiser Ends  
10/20/15 PTSA Mtg. 6:00pm  
10/21/15 Parent Teacher Conferences  
10/22/15 Parent Teacher Conferences  
10/23/15 DC/CATS Yankee Candle Sale Begins  
10/30/15 End 1st Nine Weeks  
  
11/2/15 Begin 2nd Nine Weeks  
11/5/15 Picture Retake Day  
11/6/15 Yankee Candle Sale Ends  
11/11/15 Report Cards Go Home  
11/16/15 Winter Sports Pictures  
11/17/15 PTSA Mtg. 6:00pm  
11/25/15 **No School**  
11/26/15 **Thanksgiving—No School**  
11/27/15 **No School**

Picture Retake Day is Thursday, November 5. This is for students who need to retake or for students who were not at NMS on the original Picture Day. Details will be available at the school soon.

## From the Desk of Ms. Davis,

As we move into the middle of the first quarter, I want to provide parents and students with some **Study Skill Tips** for success. Taking time each night to help your child stay organized and prepared will help students to be more successful. Students do not have to study for hours to be successful, but they do need to work smarter to read and review each night. The simple yet effective Study Skills Tip will make a difference in your child's confidence and performance.

### **Study Skills Tips for Students**

#### **Listening:**

Concentrate on the teacher, avoid talking when the teacher is providing information

Tune out noise and remain engaged

Discuss the lesson's content with a classmate to listen for different perspectives

Focus on the 5 W's and 1 H: What? Why? Where? When? Who, How?

#### **Taking Notes:**

Do not write down or highlight everything

Concentrate on the main idea and supporting facts 5W's and 1H

Put the notes in your own words, add pictures or comments to connect to what you already know

Re-read notes to yourself so that the note makes sense when you study with a parent/guardian/peer

Keep the notes for each class in a separate folder or section of your notebook, stay organized

#### **Remembering:**

Highlight important notes, add pictures, or explanations in the margins

Study notes each evening to keep the content fresh in your mind, avoid cramming at the last minute

Generate questions the teacher might ask, answer the question

Have a parent/guardian/peer quiz you

#### **Study Area:**

Find a quiet area away from distractions

Keep the area uncluttered and organized

Good lighting, fresh air, and a comfortable temperature will enhance the learning environment

A health snack can provide brain power

#### **Read**

Read for at least 20 minutes each night; take time to read each evening in order to improve comprehension skills

Teach a parent what you learned during the day, teaching and discussing will solidify the content

When you improve your reading, you will improve in all content areas.

Be present and engaged in each class, every day. You will be surprised how much you will remember.

Welcome back to another exciting school year at NMS! Student Council Representatives have been chosen. Generally 1-2 representatives are chosen per homeroom by an election process. Each candidate must agree to the following if they choose to run:

- Must be able to attend monthly meetings
- Must be comfortable reporting information back to their homeroom
- Must be able to help organize and attend special events (dances, concessions, etc.)
- Must represent NMS positively in and out of school

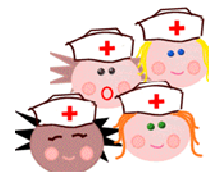
Congratulations to the following Student Council representatives for the 2015-2016 school year:

**Mr. Anderson:** Jared Brown, **Mrs. Balik:** Ayla Casto and Anais Fernandez, **Mrs. Collins:** Abigail Davies and Jada Widen, **Mrs. Davis:** Breyonna Campbell, **Miss Dean:** Jackie Carrillo, Alicia Cruz-Siders, and Keisoun Ransaw, **Miss Fabrizio:** Maksim Linnik and Kaydince Sigman, **Mrs. Freisthler:** Seth Aldridge and William Frederick, **Mrs. Gill:** Shea'Lyn Krumm, **Miss Hobzek:** Jamie Horn and Casey McGruder, **Mrs. Jacobs:** Marcus Horsley, Daniel Littlejohn, and Ramy Shehata, **Mr. Javorsky:** Luke Lewis and Yoshi Monjaras, **Mrs. Johnson:** Alexis Perkins and Caleashea Stair, **Mrs. Jordan:** Sean Harrison and Cassandra Thomas, **Mrs. Koehler:** Kalista Prak and Olivia Schumacher, **Mr. Moore:** Rachael Binion and Joe Hesson, **Mr. Schmall:** Ibrahim Kamara and Ana Gonzalez-Villa, **Ms. Sears:** Jair Lopez Ramirez and Kristina Worthington, **Mrs. Throckmorton:** Aden Aden and Wilson Romero, **Mrs. Vanden Eynden:** Mustafa Mohamed and Elijah Richardson, **Mr. Wiedemann:** Kyle Stage and Kyle Sturgill



Hello, my name is Jodi Smelko-Schneider, RN, BSN, LSN and I am the school nurse at Norton Middle School. I am in the clinic on Fridays. I have been a Registered Nurse for 20 years and have adult, neonatal, and pediatric hospital experience. I have previously practiced at Doctor's Hospital and Nationwide Children's Hospital. I have also taught Health Technology at the South-Western Career Academy. Currently, I am in my second year of working toward achieving a Master's of Nursing at Wright State University. This is my 5<sup>th</sup> year at Norton Middle School and I have always enjoyed the wonderful students here and the caring staff. Coming to Norton Middle School is always a bright spot of my week.

Please submit proof that your child has received the state mandated Tdap vaccine required for all students entering the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. If your child has not received this immunization, please make an appointment with a health care provider for your child to receive the Tdap vaccine. The vaccine can be administered at your child's pediatrician, the health department, or a Minute Clinic. Once your child has received this required immunization, please send proof of vaccination to the school nurse, Jodi Smelko-Schneider, RN, BSN, LSN.



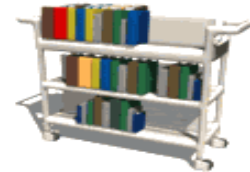
Norton Middle School PTSA is looking for new members. Please stop in the school office to join or have your student pick up a form to bring home. We accept memberships all year. The cost is \$5.00 and we would like to have your input in making NMS a great place for our students.



Please help the NMS PTSA by sending in your Box Tops. Send your Box Tops to the school office in a baggie with your student's name and grade on it. We will be tracking Box Tops donations to see which grade can bring in the most.

**Scholastic Book Fair**

The NMS ERC is hosting a book fair October 5—October 9. Students will visit with their Language Arts class and have time during study hall and home-room for purchases.



NMS is also a Labels for Education school. Feel free to send in any labels to the school office. Thanks for you help!

**Parent Teacher Conference Request**

**Wednesday, October 21, 2015      4:30 pm - 7:30 pm**

**OR**

**Thursday, October 22, 2015      4:30 pm—7:30 pm**

Please complete the following information and send to the office with your student or email Dawn Scott at dawn.scott@swcsd.us to request a conference with your student's teacher(s). You will receive a confirmation email or note concerning your request.

Student's Name

Parent's Name

Date and Time Available to Meet

Parent's Phone Number & Email

Teacher

Teacher

Teacher

Teacher

Teacher

Teacher

Teacher

Teacher

Conference requests will be filled in the order they are received.

## Washington DC Update

Prescription medications (the exact amount needed for the trip in its original container) and the doctor completed medication forms for all DC trip students need to be turned into the office by Friday, October 9th.

Any questions regarding this year's trip should be emailed to: [joshua.doran@swcsd.us](mailto:joshua.doran@swcsd.us).

The bus will depart NMS no later than 6am on 10/13/15. All students should be here to check in with their small group leader by 5:30am.

## 7th GRADE PARENTS

There will be two introductory meetings for students and parents following Parent Teacher Conferences, 10/21/15 and 10/22/15, beginning at 7:30 pm in the NMS Auditorium. Please join Mr. Anderson and Mr. Doran to get important information regarding next year's trip.

### **A Note From Mr. Winner**

#### **Hello Norton Families!**

I want to take this opportunity to remind everyone about our winter sports season which is rapidly approaching. The sports offered are boys and girls basketball, wrestling, and cheer. We look forward to having an outstanding winter season to back up the strong fall season we are currently having.

Two important things to remember, please start saving up now for the Pay to Participate fee of \$75. That will be due BY November 20th or the first scrimmage date (whichever comes first depending on the sport). If you are planning on applying for an SBC Scholarship, those will be due to Mr. Winner's office by the morning of November 6th. Finally, all students MUST have an ACTIVE physical on file with the school before any try-outs or practices begin. There will be no exceptions to this or any other deadline, so please plan ahead and get paperwork in as soon as possible.

I encourage everyone to think about participating in a winter and/or spring season sport. You will have fun and enjoy your time at school even more! If you have any questions, please come see me.

Go Wildcats!

## **Parents Right To Know**

Under the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), parents have the right to request information regarding the qualifications of their student's classroom teacher including:

- ◆ If the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade level and subject areas taught
- ◆ If the teacher is teaching under emergency or provisional status
- ◆ The teacher's baccalaureate degree major, graduate certification, and field of discipline
- ◆ Whether the student is provided services by a paraprofessional and if so, their qualifications

If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact your building principal or Melvina Torbert in the State and Federal Programs Office at 614-801-8398.

## **Let's Go Norton!**

Norton MS Spirit Week is October 5-9, 2015. Spirit Week is when we take the time to recognize our fall Scholar-Athletes and ramp up to the football game on Thursday, October 8th at 7:00 pm against our rival, the PVMS Panthers, in the Westland HS stadium. The entire school will participate in a Pep Rally on Thursday before the game during last period. Each day that week has a particular theme and students are encouraged to dress up (no costumes) according to the theme for the day.

Monday—Moustache Day

Tuesday—Neon Day

Wednesday—Super Hero Day (no costumes)

Thursday—Blue, Black, and White Day and Black Out for football game

Friday—Favorite Team Friday

Activities sponsored by NMS  
Cheerleaders



The **2015-2016 edition of the NMS Yearbook** is now on sale. The deadline for all orders and money is January 15, 2016. Books are \$33.00 without a name stamp and \$38.00 with a name stamp (student's name imprinted on the front cover). Extra books will be limited and sell out quickly. Be sure to preorder your book so as not to miss out.

Students may pay in cash, check (payable to NMS), or by credit card online or over the phone. To use your credit card call 1-866-287-3096 or go to [www.YearbookOrderCenter.com](http://www.YearbookOrderCenter.com) and use order number 13776.

Please contact Mrs. Oakes or Mrs. Throckmorton if you need more information.

National Junior Honor Society held its officer elections this month. Congratulations to the following students:

Abigail Davies & Rachael Binion  
Co-Presidents  
Kalista Prak -Vice President  
Seth Aldridge -Secretary

National Junior Honor Society is an organization that focuses on Scholarship, Service, Leadership, Character, and Citizenship. The nomination and review process begins in January, with the induction ceremony taking place in March. To be considered for induction into NJHS, students must consider the following:

- A. Must be a second semester 7th grader or a member of the 8th grade.
- B. Must be in attendance at Norton Middle School for at least one semester.
- C. Must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.75 (out of 4.0)
- D. Upon meeting the above requirements, candidates are then considered based on their service, leadership, character and citizenship.

For more information please contact Miss Fabrizio at [holly.fabrizio@swcsd.us](mailto:holly.fabrizio@swcsd.us).

## Breakfast Club Reading Group

On September 23rd NMS will begin a partnership with the Southwest Public Library. Students and a library staff member will select a book to read and discuss the book in a small group setting. The discussion will take place during the student's regular scheduled homeroom period. It is our hope that this opportunity will expand students' reading skills and provide a structured, yet casual forum for discussing the book amongst friends. Students will also be encouraged to volunteer at the library during the summer. This is a wonderful way to give back and receive community service hours.

The Drama Club will get up and running toward the end of October. If your student is interested in being a part of Norton's Drama Club be sure they listen for announcements or speak to Dr. Whitehead or Miss Hobzek.



### Athletic Date Changes

Please note that **PAY TO PARTICIPATE** and **SUCCESS BEYOND THE CLASSROOM (SBC)** dates have been adjusted. Following are the updated dates for both:

#### SBC Scholarship Dates:

Winter	November 6, 2015
Spring	March 11, 2016

Applications for SBC are to be brought to the school office by the morning of the due date or mailed to: SWCSO, Attn: SBC, 3805 Marlane Drive, Grove City, OH 43123. Applications must be received by the deadline date—not just postmarked.

#### Pay to Participate Dates:

Winter	November 20, 2015
Spring	March 24, 2016

Athletes may not participate after these dates without fees being paid.

Questions—Please see Mr. Winner



## Congratulations to the 2015 NMS Football Cheerleaders

Jamile Almonte  
Hanah Enright  
Alexandra Mohler  
Abigail Perry  
Isabelle Rodriguez  
Christina Zanish

Geralan Barnette  
Morgan Hall  
Sandy Moreno-Catalan  
Adamary Ramirez-Sanchez  
Malia Shotts  
Coach—Mrs. Caster

Breeyona Campbell  
Hailie Marcus  
Bayley Mullins  
Caleigh Ratliff  
Savannah Swenson

## The 2015 NMS 7th Grade Volleyball Team

Avery Bartholow  
Alexis Bennett  
Lyhea Correa  
Autumn Davies  
Jenny Garcia  
Elizabeth Green  
Laina Morgan  
Sofia Rodriguez  
Madison Ruzicka  
Jalyssa Secession  
Coach—Miss Fabrizio



## The 2015 NMS 8th Grade Volleyball Team

Sydnee Avila  
Susan Bing  
MacKenzie Burk  
Kailee Carder  
Lynette Esparza  
Gwen George  
Hailie Marcus  
Bayley Mullins  
Kalista Prak  
Caleigh Ratliff  
Olivia Schumacher  
Averi Sites  
Coach—Mrs. Oakes

## Introducing the 2015 NMS Football Team

Abu Abdikadir  
Jared Brown  
Austin Clary  
Bryce Eddy  
Andres Flaker-Simmers  
Tristan Fregozo  
Sean Hand  
Marcus Horsley  
Xavier Jolley  
Jadin Litchfield  
Miguelangel Martinez  
Nathan Mechling  
Mustafa Mohamed  
Adrian Ochoa  
Jacob Reid  
Elijah Richardson  
Raymond Sosa-Estrella  
Miguel Trujillo  
Phillip Walton  
Keyaunte Wilkerson  
Coach—Mr. Green  
Coach—Mr. Schmall

Nicholas Baker  
Paul Bussey  
Jason Cooper  
Dakota Ferguson  
Zachary Foreman  
Seth Gosnell  
Justin Harter  
Evan Ighnat  
Ethan King  
Daniel Littlejohn  
Chase McGath  
Jason Meininger  
Denver Nicholson  
Bryson Palmer  
Daniel Reyes  
Aiden Rodriguez-Cone  
Nicholas Spires  
Melvaun Wallace  
John Watkins  
Hamze Yaasin  
Coach—Mr. Javorsky

Colton Bogle  
Robert Clark  
Drew Curtiss  
Cameron Fessler  
William Frederick  
Colin Green  
Dareece Holton  
Peterson Iresne  
Luke Lewis  
McKenna Luchene  
Caelan McGhee  
Trintan Mendoza  
Alexander Nordlund  
Adam Pellican  
George Reyes Garcia  
Donald Sipe  
Ruvim Titenok  
Owen Walton  
Kyle West  
Coach—Mr. Rutan  
Coach—Mr. Rohde

*Spirit Week is 10/5/15-  
10/9/15. Volleyball will play  
@ PVMS Wednesday at 5:15  
pm, B football will play @  
PVMS Wednesday at 5:30 pm,  
and football will play PVMS  
at WHS Thursday at 7:00pm.*







## Make Every Day Count: Boost School Attendance

**T**o stay on track in school, students need to be present every day. Missing 18 or more days of school in a year puts a child's high school graduation at risk, according to BoostUp.org, a national dropout prevention campaign. Being absent for just two days every month of the school year can put a child behind academically.

Students with regular attendance are more likely to read well by third grade and score higher on tests. They also tend to be more engaged in school and feel better about themselves.

Put your child on the path to success with these attendance strategies.

**Make school a priority.** Every absence (excused or not), can impact a child's academic achievement. Talk to your child about how important their education is. Make daily routines for homework and waking up on time for school.

Maintain communication with teachers and keep an eye on your child's academic progress. If your child seems disconnected from school or is prone to skipping class, try signing him or her up for an after-school activity. A report by the University of Minnesota found that students in an after-school program attended 18 more days of school and missed nine fewer than their peers.

**Make a plan.** If your schedule or transportation situation makes getting your child to school a challenge, ask for assistance. Make a carpool or transportation plan with other parents or family members, or ask your school principal for community programs or school initiatives that may help.

**Report in.** Know your school's attendance policies. If an absence or early dismissal is unavoidable, contact your school. If your family's religious observances fall on school days, let teachers know early in the year which days your child will miss.

**Carefully weigh sick days.** If your child is sick, talk with your health care provider to determine whether they should stay home from school. If the doctor or nurse recommends that your child stay home, find out exactly how long and on what conditions he or she can return to class (for example, after 24 hours of antibiotics).

Before keeping your children home, make sure they aren't faking symptoms. Regularly feigning sickness may be a sign that your child is anxious about facing a challenge at school, such as bullying.

**Schedule wisely.** Know your school's calendar, and arrange doctor and dentist appointments after school, on weekends, or during holiday breaks, if possible. Resist the urge to schedule vacations when students will miss school. This gives students the impression that school is not a priority.

**Help students complete assignments.** When your child has to miss school, make arrangements with teachers

to pick up a packet of make-up work. Ensure that your child follows through, and be available to explain concepts or monitor their work. If your child's absence will be lengthy (for surgery, for instance), alert teachers as soon as you know and pick up assignments as the days go on.



### Web Resources

**Get Schooled** has a number of attendance-related games and tools, including the Attendance Counts calculator and celebrity wake-up calls for students. <https://getschooled.com/>

The Children's Hospital of Colorado's **How Sick is Too Sick?** guide can help families decide which symptoms should keep students at home. <http://bit.ly/1B60RIA>

**Attendance Works** offers research, webinars, and handouts designed with elementary and middle-level parents in mind. <http://www.attendanceworks.org/tools/>