

# Polar Express

The Northstar Newsletter

Facebook: Northstar Middle School Twitter: @Northstarmiddle #nmopolars

Main Office:  
715-852-5100  
School Fax  
715-852-5104  
[www.ecasd.us](http://www.ecasd.us)

## January 2022

Happy New Year from Northstar Middle School! As the unofficial mid-point of the school year, the new year finds us preparing for second semester. It also begins our planning for the 2022-23 school year. Below are a few items that I would like to share with our Northstar community.

First, a gigantic THANK YOU to all of our families who supported the 'Season of Giving' program this year. Because of your generosity, \$2090.00 was distributed to Eau Claire Area School District families in need. In addition to all donors, we would also like to thank Ms. Jenn Junker, our Partnership Coordinator, and our Student Services staff for their coordination of this program.

Second, Northstar will be administering Wisconsin's Forward Exam to all students beginning on April 4. The Forward Exam is the state of Wisconsin's standardized test given to all public-school students. While we are still finalizing the exact schedule, the exam will be given to all Northstar students between April 4 - 14. The Forward Exam assesses all students in the areas of math and reading. Our grade 8 students will also complete tests covering social studies and science. Thank you in advance for making sure your child is well-rested and in school during these important days.

Finally, even though today's high temperature is a balmy 3 degrees, summer school is not that far away. Discovery classes, open to all incoming grade 6-8 Northstar students, will be held between June 13 - 30. In addition, summer music lessons for band and orchestra will take place between June 13 - July 21. Our district summer school catalog will be mailed to your home in the coming weeks.

Thank you for continuing to support your child's education! This is particularly appreciated given our current school year challenges associated with Covid-19. It is a pleasure to be part of this vibrant school community! Please mark your calendar for our Spring Family-Teacher Conferences on February 24. I hope your family enjoys a positive and productive start to 2022!

Tim Skutley  
Principal



### Public School Open Enrollment: February 7 – April 29, 2022

Wisconsin's inter-district public school open enrollment program allows students and families who don't live in our district to open enroll into the Eau Claire Area School District (ECASD). Wisconsin residents in grades 4K-12 may apply to participate in open enrollment. Students in pre-kindergarten may participate in limited circumstances; parents should call ECASD Administration Department at 715-852-3003 to find out if their preschool-aged child(ren) qualify. Students who are currently attending ECASD through open enrollment DO NOT need to reapply.

The open enrollment application for the 2022-23 school year is February 7 – April 29, 2022. An online application will be available to the public beginning February 7 at the Wisconsin Department of Instruction website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment>. Please call 715-852-3003 or email [districtadministration@ecasd.us](mailto:districtadministration@ecasd.us) for more information.

Have you moved outside of the Eau Claire School District this year? If so, you need to complete a Tuition Waiver form. Contact ECASD Administration Department for more information at 715-852-3003. Students that move into the district after January 2022 and anticipate moving out of the district before the 2022-2023 school year will not be eligible for a Tuition Waiver. Students must apply for open enrollment during either the regular open enrollment or alternative open enrollment to be eligible to attend the ECASD during the 2022-2023 school year.

By completing an open enrollment application, you are applying to attend the Eau Claire Area School District. You have the opportunity to indicate which school your child would prefer to attend; however, the district will determine placement based on space availability.



...for *your support* of our Fall 2021 restaurant fundraisers!

Together, we raised over **\$1,700** just by eating!

All funds support student programs and learning—outstanding!

# STUDENT SERVICES

Ms. Jennifer Schilling  
Student Services Secretary

715-852-5103  
[jschilling@ecasd.us](mailto:jschilling@ecasd.us)

Ms. Jenni Berg  
School Counselor A-J

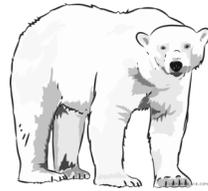
715-852-5119  
[jberg@ecasd.us](mailto:jberg@ecasd.us)

Ms. Lisa Sproul  
School Counselor K-Z

715-852-5118  
[lsproul@ecasd.us](mailto:lsproul@ecasd.us)

Ms. Oceana David-Weber  
School Psychologist

715-852-4672  
[odavidweber@ecasd.us](mailto:odavidweber@ecasd.us)



## Student Registration

The registration process for next school year has begun! **Throughout the month of January**, we will complete the 2022-2023 registration for all 5th-8th grade students. We value parent/guardian input, so we ask that you sign your student's registration card after reviewing the information with them. Additionally, if you have questions about registration, please contact us at 715-852-5103.

## Polar Club (Study Club)

The purpose of Polar Club (Study Club) is to provide students with an opportunity to study after school in a structured area with staff who can assist with their study skills and homework. Polar Club is held on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays right after school until 4:00pm in Room #855– 8th grade computer lab. A snack will be provided. A permission slip to attend can be picked up in Student Services. Please feel free to email Debbie Mathews- [dmathews@ecasd.us](mailto:dmathews@ecasd.us) or Kay Zych-[kzych@ecasd.us](mailto:kzych@ecasd.us) for further information.

## Student Information Update

We want to help your child be as successful as possible here at Northstar. We are aware that changes/events outside of school can have a substantial impact on a student's ability to focus and learn in school. Some of these impactful changes/events include parents separating or divorcing, death of a family member or friend, significant change in socio-economic status, welcoming a new sibling, parent re-marrying, including new stepsiblings, etc. If your child is experiencing such an occurrence, please consider sharing this information with our school counselors, so we can best meet your child's needs.

## Check out our website and social media!

Website: [www.ecasd.us](http://www.ecasd.us)



Northstar Middle School



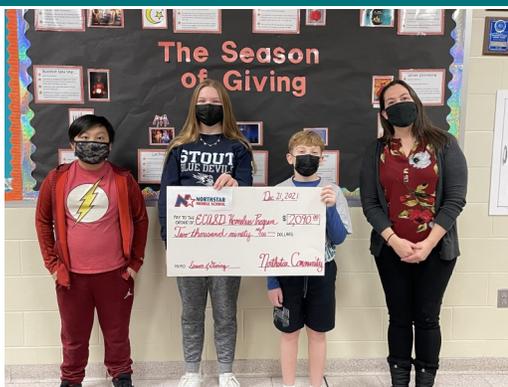
@northstarmiddle

**#nmstpolar**



Updates from ECASD and our school can be found here as well as reminders for upcoming events!  
Stay connected!

# ☞ Polar Partnership Update ☞



## Season of Giving Check Presentation to ECASD Homeless Program

Northstar students presented a check to Dani Graham, ECASD Homeless Program Coordinator, to help local families in need. Special thanks to all who supported the Season of Giving Program by participating in our Donut and Donate Drive, Student Council sponsored Penny War, and PTSA Season of Giving Scrip Program. Your generous hearts are a gift to many.

## Northstar PTSA Needs You!

Northstar's PTSA is a vibrant and active group of parents, grandparents and caring adults who come alongside to support Northstar students and staff. A non-profit organization, Northstar's PTSA pays for and organizes school programs and events as well as assists with purchasing items for our school. We encourage you to get involved at Northstar. Joining our dynamic PTSA is a great place to start!



**Interested?** Reach out to the Northstar PTSA co-presidents for more information.



Jenn Junker, Partnership Coordinator  
jjunker@ecasd.us  
715.852.5107

Cindy Swing, parent  
c\_swing@sbcglobal.net  
715.461.0836

## Northstar PTSA Appreciates our Volunteers!

Family and community volunteers' talents and time are highly valued at Northstar, and we put them to good use for our school and children. Though we haven't been able to host as many volunteers "in person" this year as we have in years past, our Northstar volunteers have found ways to give of their time. Thank you to all who have attended PTSA and FACS meetings; served on committees; donated items for staff appreciation and to Northstar at large; provided snacks for our after-school clubs; sent in notes of encouragement; attended virtual conferences; supported our Cans for Kids program; contributed to Season of Giving and families in need; attended school restaurant fundraisers; helped with the Mile Run and Back to School night; and donated time and talents in so many other ways. Your efforts help make Northstar such a special school.



Need help filling your cupboard? We are here to help! To place an order, go to link: [Kitchen Cupboard Order Form on the Northstar homepage](https://www.ecasd.us/Northstar-Middle-School/Home) <https://www.ecasd.us/Northstar-Middle-School/Home>



## PTSA DQ FUNDRAISER

**First Tuesday of the Month**

**10% of all sales support our students.**

**Mark your calendars!**

\*Tuesday, February 1\* \*Tuesday, March 1\*  
Pinehurst Dairy Queen 4-9 p.m.

## Upcoming PTSA Restaurant Fundraisers in 2022!



### Burrachos: February 15th



5314 Prill Road, across from Kohl's  
Order online at [www.burrachos.com](http://www.burrachos.com) and write *Northstar* in the comment section before checkout OR order in person and mention *Northstar* before paying cashier.

**Place your order the day before or on day of event**  
25% of ALL sales will be donated to support student programs and scholarships. Support a local restaurant while supporting Northstar! It's a win-win!

### Panda Express: March 15th

2403 London Road  
Order online at [PandaExpress.com](http://PandaExpress.com) or the App. entering 333079 in the fundraiser code box or bring a paper flyer in person!



NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
 U.S. Postage Paid  
 Permit No. 1557  
 Eau Claire, WI 54701

Northstar Middle School  
 2711 Abbe Hill Drive  
 Eau Claire, WI 54703



## QUARTER 3 DATES TO REMEMBER



Jan 14	End of 2nd Quarter
Jan 17	ECASD Board Meeting
Jan 17-18	No School
Jan 20	Start of 3rd Quarter Athletics
Jan 25	7:00 p.m. Band 6 Concert
Jan 27	7:00 p.m. Orchestra 6 Concert
Feb 1	4:00-9:00 p.m. Dairy Queen Fundraiser (Pinehurst)
Feb 7	ECASD Board Meeting
Feb 15	Burrachos Fundraiser
Feb 15	6:30 p.m. PTSA Executive Board Meeting
Feb 21	ECASD Board Meeting
Feb 24	No School Family/Teacher Conferences
Feb 25	No School
Mar 1	4:00-9:00 p.m. Dairy Queen Fundraiser (Pinehurst)
Mar 5	Solo and Ensemble at South Middle School
Mar 7	ECASD Board Meeting
Mar 15	Panda Express Fundraiser
Mar 17	6:30 p.m. School Play Performance
Mar 18	End of 3rd Quarter