



Polar Express

The Northstar Newsletter

Facebook: Northstar Middle School Twitter: @Northstarmiddle #nmmpolars

Main Office:
715.852.5100
School Fax
715.852.5104
www.ecasd.us

March 2024

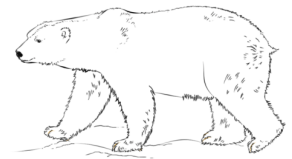
Happy Spring to our Northstar community! Between the warm winter and later sunsets in the evening, we hope you have enjoyed all that outdoors in our area have to offer, we have enjoyed seeing the community take advantage of our wonderful grounds here at Northstar with lots of paw and foot traffic! I look forward to both our physical education and quarter 4 sports getting outside sooner than ever before.

As we round the corner and move towards April, the State of Wisconsin's Forward Exam draws our attention and focus. To prepare for the test, students will have time in class to practice and gain confidence with the testing format and tools. The exam will take place the weeks of April 8 through April 19. For students in all three grades, the exam will cover concepts and standards aligned to their grade level in the areas of Math and English Language Arts. Students in grade 8 will have two additional subjects, Science and Social Studies. Between now and testing weeks, we are working with our students to ensure that we have a testing environment that will allow each student to do their best and build their confidence. The Forward Exam is a great opportunity to showcase what we have worked hard to learn this year. I think of it not as a series of tests, but rather an opportunity to show off! Students are welcome and encouraged to take full advantage of the practice tests both at school and at home.

Looking ahead to future spring fun (and after the Forward Exam concludes), we are hoping families can join us at Sundet Park for our annual School Wide Picnic on May 2. This is an excellent opportunity to gather, have fun, and enjoy the end of another great school year. This free event (sponsored by Title I Funds) will include a meal, community resource information, and more!

The entire staff at Northstar continues to appreciate all that you do in partnership with us and your students' educational journey. Without you, there is no "us" and without "us" education would not be what it is today! Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, and happy Spring!

Adam Keeton
Principal

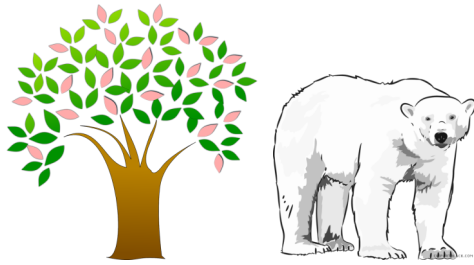


Staff and Bus Driver Appreciation Week is May 6-10!

Teachers and school staff help shape our future and we are looking to thank them for all their hard work! During Staff Appreciation Week each year, the Northstar PTSA organizes several thank you's to our Northstar staff. One of the thank you's is a lunch that includes a chance to win prizes. We would love to showcase a prize from your local business. **Are you willing to donate a prize to be a part of this thank you?** Past prizes from local businesses include gift baskets of their products, gift cards for a later purchase, or even logo wear! Thank you in advance for your generosity! We will also include the name of your business in an upcoming newsletter and Facebook post! Contact Andy Berg ajberg22@gmail.com or Leah Waldie lwaldie1@ecasd.us if interested in donating.



STUDENT SERVICES



Ms. Jennifer Schilling
Student Services Secretary

715.852.5103
jschilling@ecasd.us

Ms. Jenni Berg
School Counselor (Last Names A-J)

715.852.5119
jberg@ecasd.us

Ms. Lisa Sproul
School Counselor (Last Names K-Z)

715.852.5118
lsproul@ecasd.us

Ms. Jana Schilmoeller
School Social Worker

715.852.5194
jschilmoeller@ecasd.us

Ms. Kristen Cowell
School Psychologist

715.852.3588
kcowell@ecasd.us

Career Venture Field Trip

7th grade families, please mark your calendars for our upcoming Career Venture field trip on **Thursday, May 9th** at the L.E. Phillips YMCA Sports Center. The purpose of this field trip is for students to learn more about college and career opportunities in Western Wisconsin. Students will leave school at 9:45 am and will return to Northstar for lunch at school. While there is no cost to families for this field trip, **parent/guardian permission is required**. Please complete the link included in the weekly 7th grade communication email. For more information regarding this field trip or to request a paper copy of the permission form, please reach out to Jenni Berg at 715-852-5119 or jberg@ecasd.us.



Need a little help stretching your grocery budget?

We are here to help!

The Kitchen Cupboard is open to any Northstar family— no application necessary! To place an order, go to www.ecasd.us/Northstar-Middle-School/Home and click on the Kitchen Cupboard Order Form link.

Orders for the week must be submitted on Mondays by 8:00 am and food can be picked up Tuesday-Friday from 7:00 am-3:30 pm in the Main Office.

Paper copies of the order form are available by request.

Interested in donating to the Kitchen Cupboard? Contact Leah Waldie at lwaldie1@ecasd.us for more information! Items currently needed include: laundry detergent, liquid dish soap, household cleaning supplies, deodorant, toothpaste, and shelf-stable microwavable meals such as Mac & Cheese cups and Ramen cups.

Support PTSA using our Scrip program
via RaiseRight!

Scrip via RaiseRight is a program where you order electronic gift cards, use the cards, and then Northstar receives a percentage of that purchase as a fundraiser.

Scan QR code below to get started!

- Remember to not select any cards that are “ship to coordinator” due to the shipping charge.
- Email Ashley Sinette at ashley.sinette@hotmail.com with any questions!

 **RaiseRight**

Formerly ShopWithScrip



❧ Polar Partnership Update ❧

A Message from Your PTSA President:

The end of our school year is approaching so quickly! Thank you for your support throughout this school year. We still have some awesome events that we will need your help with, and we appreciate your assistance and engagement with everything! Thank you to all who have attended monthly meetings; served as officers and committee members; donated time, talent, and resources towards staff appreciation efforts; and attended school restaurant fundraisers! Most importantly, thank you to all for supporting and encouraging your students! Your support makes a tremendous difference in the lives of your student(s) and our staff. Thank you, Polars!



Our PTSA is a fun group and being involved is a great way to meet other parents and staff! Contact us if you have questions or are interested!

Ashley Sinette, parent
northstarptsa@gmail.com

Northstar PTSA Executive Board is Second to None!

Special thanks to all who stepped up and said YES to serving on a committee or as an executive officer this year! We are so thankful for your availability and willingness to serve Northstar. We are looking forward to 2024-25 – may it be filled with activity, creativity, and the vigor of middle school life!

Join us for the last two PTSA meetings of 2023-24!

- Tuesday, April 9 @ 6:30 pm / General Meeting
- Tuesday, May 14 @ 6:30 pm / General and Executive Board Meeting

Meetings are held in the Northstar Commons

Looking forward to Fall 2024



Northstar PTSA Needs You!

Are you looking for a way to become more involved in your Polar's school? Would you like to connect with other parents of Northstar Middle School? Getting involved in PTSA is a great way to do both!

We are currently looking to fill the following PTSA positions for the 2024-25 school year:

President, Vice President, Treasurer and the following PTSA Committees:

- Staff Appreciation
- Concessions
- 8th Grade Celebration Picnic



Upcoming Spring PTSA Restaurant Fundraisers!



Share NIGHT

Give LOCAL

Monday, April 1st – 4pm to 7pm

Join us in supporting
NORTHSTAR MIDDLE SCHOOL
as a percentage of all sales will be donated.

Dine-In, Drive-Thru, Online, Curbside
Thank you for your support!

Culver's

Culver's of Eau Claire – Brackett Avenue
2021 Brackett Avenue
Eau Claire WI 54701
715-831-1060

Culvers: Monday, April 1
Time: 4 pm—7 pm
2021 Brackett Ave.
A portion of ALL sales will support Northstar! If we raise more than \$600 at this fundraiser, each Northstar student and staff will receive a coupon for a free frozen custard!

ARTISAN CRAFTED - LOCALLY MADE

OLSON'S ice cream

SINCE 1944

SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

Help **NORTHSTAR Middle School** raise money in a sweet way with Olson's Ice Cream!

Olson's Ice Cream is helping out our local school districts by raising money and building school spirit! 10% of proceeds from 3:00 PM - CLOSE on April 23 will be donated to NORTHSTAR Middle School!

3:00 PM - CLOSE/APRIL 23, 2024
80 S. Barstow Street, Eau Claire

BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO MAKE SOME SWEET MEMORIES FOR A GREAT CAUSE!

Olson's Ice Cream April 23!

3:00 pm—Close

10% of all sales will be donated to Northstar!



Dairy Queen:
April 2 and May 7!
4:00-9:00 pm

Pinehurst Location (3017 N Hastings Way)

10% of ALL sales support our students!

QUARTER 4 DATES TO REMEMBER



April 1 4:00-7:00 pm PTSA Culver's Fundraiser (Brackett Ave.)
April 2 4:00-9:00 pm PTSA Dairy Queen Fundraiser (Pinehurst)
April 9 6:30 pm PTSA General Meeting
April 15 No School—Staff PD/IP Day
April 18 6:00 pm Band 7 Concert, 7:00 pm Band 8 Concert
April 23 3:00 pm—Close PTSA Olson's Ice Cream Fundraiser
April 25 Rock & Jazz Band Concert
April 26 2:51-4:15 pm Polar Party



May 2 5:00-7:00 pm School-Wide Picnic at Sundet Park
*Rain Location @ Northstar 5:00-7:00 pm
May 6-7 Mile Run in Phy Ed Classes
May 7 4:00-9:00 pm PTSA Dairy Queen Fundraiser (Pinehurst)
May 9 6:00 pm Choir 6/7/8 Concert
May 14 6:30 pm PTSA General & Executive Board Meeting
May 16 6:30 pm Band 6 Concert
May 16 7:00 pm Orchestra 6/7/8 Concert at North High School
May 27 No School
June 4 1:15-2:00 pm Grade 8 Celebration
June 5 Field Trips by Grade Level / Last Day of School

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

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

