



NORMAL COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

3900 East Raab Road • Normal, Illinois 61761 • Phone (309) 557-4401

July 23, 2018

Dear Parents & Guardians:

On behalf of myself and the entire administrative team at Normal Community High School, we want to welcome you to the 2018-2019 school year! We are eager to start a new school year full of both celebrations of student achievement as well as new challenges at NCHS. This will be my second year as building Principal and another year that I look forward to partnering with parents in creating an excellent environment for all of our students. Part of what makes NCHS a special place to learn and teach are the incredible educational opportunities that occur here on a daily basis. It's important, especially at the high school level, to keep parents and students abreast of what goes on. There is where our communication to you is vital. I will be working this year to streamline some of my communication home to families.

This year, I will be scaling back on the monthly posts and focusing more on highlighting school wide information via social media. You can still expect quarterly newsletters with important information and upcoming events, however myself, Mrs. Maurer, and Mr. Kearfott are all active on Twitter and are able to quickly tweet items out that you will find of interest!

Follow us on Twitter!



[@NCHS_Principal](#) (Mr. Chapman, Principal)
[@nchsironmen](#) (Mrs. Maurer, Assoc. Principal)
[@IRON_ATHLETICS1](#) (Mr. Kearfott, Athletic Dir.)

I will send home Skyward emails with pertinent information as appropriate. I will try and consolidate information in these emails as to not clog your inbox with information that isn't critical. I would encourage you to read these, as email will be a primary method of communication for school wide information. I will send School Messenger phone calls to relay information that is best conveyed verbally. Again, I will only use these when appropriate and with information pertaining to the masses. You can rest assured that if you're receiving a School Messenger phone call from me, it's important! ☺

Standards Based Grading (SBG) will continue to be a topic that our teachers will be learning and gradually implementing. SBG is a way of communicating with students about what they know and what they don't know. Through this clearer communication, students will be able to focus their attention on what they need to learn and therefore achieve at a higher level. For parents, this may look a bit different at first, but in the end, students will still have grades of A-F as they have in the past. This is simply a continuation of what incoming 9th graders have already been exposed to at the Junior High level. Our teachers will be working hard to make sure everyone understands what is being taught and how it is being assessed. Continue to look for course information from each of your child's teachers.

This year, our building is fortunate to have the addition of a College & Career Counselor who will be Mrs. Karrin Hawkins. Mrs. Hawkins has been a counselor in our building for several years and is excited for her new position as the College & Career Counselor! With the assistance of our other counselors, Mrs. Hawkins will be working with students in a variety of ways. Mrs. Hawkins will be assisting students with college and career development, working with staff to align work-based learning opportunities for students, host presentations and webinars for parents, helping to educate students on dual credit and AP offerings, and ultimately working to make all college and career information accessible 24/7. From assisting students with college applications and selection, to exposing students to potential job opportunities post high school, Mrs. Hawkins is a much needed asset in serving our students and we're excited to have her!

Lastly, if you have an incoming Freshmen student interested in learning more about the building without the hustle and bustle of the typical first day, I would encourage you to attend the Freshmen only Open House on Friday, August 10th from 5:30 – 7:00 pm. Students will begin the evening with a mock run through of their schedule by completing a shortened bell schedule. Then, some staff will meet with students in the cafeteria to explain how lunches work, have a snack, and answer any questions they may have about HS. If parents attend, they will be in the auditorium and will be hearing from Iron Pride (PTO), Josten's, the B/N parent group, school nurse, and counselors. The spirit store will be open. Parents will also be able to turn in physicals, medicine, and any other necessary health forms to our nurse. Nurse Tamara will be there as well to answer questions. Hope to see you there!

Important Information/Dates to Remember:

✓ **Walk-in Registration:** This will be at NCHS during the following dates & times:

- Freshmen (8/6/18): 11:00 am – 1:00 pm & 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- Sophomores (8/7/18): 11:00 am – 1:00 pm & 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- Juniors (8/8/18): 11:00 am – 1:00 pm & 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- Seniors may register during any of the above times.

*Please remember to register online through Skyward Family Access prior to your arrival at walk-in registration.

***Please bring a printed receipt of the Fee Management page (either showing that you have paid or with the fees you will pay at the cashier).** This will speed up the process during registration because otherwise you'll need to go to a computer lab and print it first.

*Athletic passes for the year will be sold at registration. Once parents/students have purchased this, if they so choose, that designation will show up on their student ID.

*Parking passes will be sold to seniors and juniors first, with any remaining passes being offered to sophomores at a later date.

*School yearbook pictures are taken at walk-in registration as well as pictures for Student ID's.

✓ **Freshmen Only Open House:** August 10 from 5:30 – 7:00 pm.

✓ **Freshmen Physical:** Freshmen students need to have a physical on file by the first day of school. Remember that a school physical will count as a sports physical as well. However, a sports physical does not meet the requirements of a school physical. Please also ensure your

freshmen have had a second chicken pox/Varicella vaccination by the first day of school.

- ✓ **First Day of Student Attendance:** August 16th
- ✓ **“Code Red” Building Evacuation Drill:** This will be conducted on the very first day of student attendance (8/16). Students will be evacuated to Eastview Christian Church. This drill occurs annually and is conducted to ensure that students and staff know the process and procedure for evacuating the building in the event of an emergency.
- ✓ **Student Attendance:** If your student is going to absent at any point during the school day, please call our attendance line at 309-557-4450.
- ✓ **Back to School Night:** August 23rd from 6:30 – 8:30 pm.

I look forward to serving the students, parents and staff at NCHS this year. On behalf of all of the Normal Community staff, we extend a heartfelt welcome as we begin a new school year! Please call our main office at 557-4401 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Trevor M. Chapman
Principal
Normal Community High School

Home of the Ironmen