THE OGRE IS BACK!

*Shrek the Musical* is a production based on the story from the Oscar-winning DreamWorks Animation film, *Shrek*. It’s coming to NCHS! Characters come to life in this musical with fairy tale misfits, a hero, Shrek, a wisecracking Donkey, a feisty princess along with a short tempered bad guy and a cookie with attitude.

*Shrek* is a story of a big green ogre who has been bullied and mocked his entire life. He finds himself an ugly green swamp to retreat to when a gang of homeless fairy-tale characters raid his happy sanctuary. They explain they were evicted from their homes by the terrible Lord Farquaad. Shrek, wanting his own home back, finds Lord Farquaad and strikes a deal with him for Shrek to rescue the lovely Princess Fiona from her tower, guarded by a fire breathing dragon. In return Lord Farquaad promises to return the fairy tale characters back to their homes. Once Shrek rescues Princess Fiona, he discovers there is something appealing yet strange and different about her. He likes her a lot. But why does she always run off when the sun sets?

With the irresistible mix of adventure, laughter and romance, this musical is sure to please audiences of all ages.

The musical will run April 11-14. Shows will be at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. There will also be a 2:00 p.m. matinee on Saturday & Sunday.
School Discipline Data

As a building, we are always looking to improve our climate and culture for learning as well as encouraging behavior that is respectful, responsible, engaging and safe. Our PBIS team has been focused this year on working to teach appropriate behaviors and reward those for reaching that expectation. Some of their work has certainly paid off. Here are some celebrations and areas of improvement we are focused on currently:

Celebrations:

Instances of disrespect are down by 40% from last year.
Instances of student aggression are down by 53% from last year.
Students in unauthorized areas are down by 35% & tardies to class down by 20%. (We are crediting the work of our new hallway safety monitors for this decrease!)

Areas for Improvement:

Instances of disruption are up by 6%.
Insubordination is up by 25%.

FINAL EXAMS (9TH, 10TH & 11TH GRADE)

Assuming we have no more snow/cold days, final exams are scheduled for May 28, 29 and 30. More specific schedules will be shared for those days in the coming months.

FINAL EXAMS (12TH GRADE)

Due to the large number of snow/cold days this year, we will have an alternate schedule for Senior Final Exams in order to complete requirements in time for graduation. Seniors will take their final exams during their regular class periods using the following schedule:

Tuesday, May 21st – 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th hours
Wednesday, May 22nd – Zero, 2nd, 4th, 6th, and 8th hours

Seniors are only required to attend their classes on 5/21 and 5/22 during the periods in which they have to take a final exam. Seniors are not required to attend school on 5/23 or 5/24. Parents do NOT need to call the attendance line for any times their child is not scheduled to take a final exam.

Senior Final Exam Exemption Policy:

- Any Senior student with an “A” or “B” grade average in a class on the last day of the semester will be exempt from the semester final exam in that class provided they are absent from THAT class no more than six periods during the semester.
- We will use Monday, May 20th as the “last day of the semester” to determine their eligibility based on grade average in the class. Therefore, teachers must notify their Senior students by Monday the 20th whether or not they are eligible to be exempt from the final in that class due to their grade average and attendance.

Parents do NOT need to call the attendance line for any times their child is not scheduled to take a final exam.

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Absences from Semester Exams

If your student has to be absent for semester exams you must make arrangements with the Associate Principal to make them up. Any students who are truant, or otherwise unexcused from a semester exam will receive a “zero” (0) for the exam. Semester grades will be averaged accordingly.

The Associate Principal will only approve pre-arranged absences from semester exams under special circumstances. If a pre-arranged absence is not approved and a student chooses to be absent, the absence will be treated as a truancy and a grade of “zero” will be given for the missed exams.

All absences from semester exams must be cleared with the Associate Principal in advance.

Passes During Semester Exams

Please do not call your student out on exam days. All appointments should be made before or after exam days. Students will not be able to leave classes during an exam period. If your student has finished an exam, your student should sit quietly in the classroom until the end of the period.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

High School 2019-2020 registration will be:

August 5th-7th
11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars!

PROM

Prom will be held on April 27th from 8:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. Prom tickets will go on sale March 1st and will be sold through Thursday, April 25. The cost of the tickets will be $10 each. If you plan on bringing a guest, you’ll need to pick up a guest form from the main office. Those forms will be available on April 9th and must be returned by April 25th. No exceptions!

The beginning of prom night usually begins with pictures before going to dinner and the dance. These are the recorded memories you will look back on for several years. After pictures it is off to dinner. Plan on having reservations and make sure you arrive on time so you do not lose your dinner table. Keep your groups small so that you are able to get through dinner in a timely manner. You may choose to have a potluck dinner at home. One person can host the dinner in their home and have everyone bring a dish to share.

Time to dance the night away at the beautiful Parke Regency Hotel and Conference Center, 1413 Leslie Dr., Bloomington. This was the chosen venue to hold Prom for NCHS.

After the dance head to NCHS for a night of activities. The After Prom committee has put together a night of fun, food and raffle drawings. After Prom will be at NCHS from 11:30 pm—3:30 am.

Students must have their ID to attend both the dance and After Prom. Students who attend After Prom are required to stay for the entire event.

DAY BEFORE SPRING BREAK

Due to all of the “snow” and “cold” days this school year, the assembly that was scheduled on March 22 has been cancelled. We will follow a regular bell schedule on that day.
2019 Graduation

There may have been a few moments in the past few years when the reality of this moment seemed so far away. Soon our students will walk out of our high school hallways for the last time.

The NCHS Class of 2019 will graduate at the Grossinger Motors Arena in Bloomington on May 25th, 2:00 p.m. Doors will open one hour prior to the ceremony. Tickets are not needed to attend.

Graduation is a formal event. Students should wear dress clothes and comfortable dress shoes.

A graduation packet will be available via a link set up in a Skyward email before Spring Break. It will also be on NCHS’s website. Take time to read the contents of this packet carefully. The packet will contain information about the Senior rehearsal, Senior Picnic and Graduation.

There are seating areas for handicapped individuals. Please let the door attendant at the Grossinger Arena know as you come in that you need help with handicapped seating and they will help seat you. We suggest you arrive a little early for special seating.

Personal items such as purses, phones and cameras cannot be carried by students during the ceremony and storage for these items will not be available.

All school policies and rules will be observed and enforced at Commencement. No gum please. Disruptive behavior, the use or possession of alcohol or drugs, or any type of weapon will result in the removal of the student from the commencement ceremony.

All books must get turned in and student fees paid in full. Your student will not be able to get his/her transcript if a balance is owed on the student’s account.

2019 Graduation Continued

For the safety and enjoyment of all spectators the arena asks that you please do not bring the following items to the commencement ceremony: frisbees, glitter, confetti, laser pens, silly string, banners, bullhorns, air horns or any artificial noisemakers. Weapons of any kind and non-service animals are also not allowed. Cell phones should be turned off during the ceremony. The Arena staff will be searching bags.

TRANSCRIPTS

A transcript is a comprehensive record of academic information that includes coursework, grades and credit hours. Most colleges require that you send them a current transcript.

Transcripts can no longer be obtained at NCHS. We are using an online digital credential service called Parchment. We are offering this service to make ordering transcripts easier and more efficient.

From the NCHS website click on transcripts on the black bar. For first time users, choose set up a New Learner Account. Fill out the requested information.

The average sending times are within 2 business days from when the order is placed. Print and mail orders will be sent out the same day if they are processed by the sending school before 3PM PST. Mail times vary between USPS & FedEx.

Pre-Order Yearbooks

Last day to order yearbooks for this year will be March 15, 2019. The cost is $60.00.

There is a small limited supply available at the beginning of next year. They will be available for $70.00.

You can order your yearbook through Skyward.
Course Changes

Please review your course choices for next year very carefully. The **deadline for all changes will be March 7th by 3:30 p.m.** Parents should review their student’s course requests prior to March 7th.

Teaching assignments, textbook allocations, supply and equipment expenditures are made based upon our spring enrollment period. Student requests for changes after March 7th will not be honored.

Schedule changes due to the cancellation of courses or sections, failures of required or prerequisite classes or other unplanned occurrences will be handled by your student’s counselor.

Senior Awards Night

The annual Senior Awards Night will be held on Monday, April 29th at 6:30 p.m. in the NCHS Auditorium.

Each award has certain criteria which must be met by the student being chosen for the award. Pins, certificates, medals and scholarships will be awarded. Students do not know what awards they are getting ahead of time. Not all awards are based on academic excellence.

Senior Awards Night is by invitation only. If you are invited you are receiving an award.

Anyone receiving an award should dress appropriately. (Dress pants, collared shirt, skirt, dresses, and nice blouses.) This is a semi-formal event. Ties are optional. If your student is arriving from a school sports event that evening they can attend in their sports attire.

Breakfast with the Principal

Principal Chapman started a new program this year called Breakfast with the Principal. Six to eight parents sign up to have a continental breakfast with our Principal, Mr. Chapman. He tells them a little bit of history about our school, activities that are going on and other interesting information. He then takes them on a tour of our facilities. At the end of the tour is time for open questions and answers. Last but not least the parents receive a little gift bag with school memorabilia inside.

Parents have commented that this is an informative and creative way to reach out to parents and make them feel a part of our school.

**Thank you Principal Chapman!**

Magna Cum Laude & Summa Cum Laude

What is Magna Cum Laude and Summa Cum Laude? These are “Latin honors” that signify different levels of high academic achievement.

Magna Cum Laude means “with great distinction”. Magna Cum Laude is handed out to students who have a grade point average of 4.85-5.099.

Summa Cum Laude means “the highest distinction”. Students with a grade point average of 5.1 or higher would earn Summa Cum Laude.

Cords will be given to all students who earn Magna or Summa Cum Laude to be worn in the commencement ceremony.

The Class of 2018 was the last class for which Valedictorian and Salutatorian designations were recognized.
Freshmen Homerooms
Throughout the school year, the counselors visit their freshmen homerooms monthly. During this time, the counselors work with students to further their knowledge on Career Cruising (www.unit5.org/Page/4530) and continue to build on their Individual Learning Plans from junior high. November and December focused on course selection and how to use Career Cruising as a tool. More recently, counselors distributed a student transcript and explained how to read them. We also discussed the importance of earning the best grades possible, the calculation of cumulative GPA and that courses and grades will continue to build this document until graduation. Plans for future visits include searching for colleges/careers and documenting activities for resume building.

January Course Selection
Counselors met individually with students during English classes to assist with course selection. All students selected courses for the 2019-2020 school year via CareerCruising.com. You can now see the course requests through Family Access. (Select the schedule, then on the top right select 2019-2020 Course Requests.) Please review the selection with your student. Changes can be made by students visiting their counselor. The deadline is March 7, 2019 at 3:30. If changes are needed, this is a great opportunity for students to advocate for themselves by meeting with a counselor and making a request.

SAT, PSAT10 and PSAT9
We always like to say “Testing Rocks!” in the counseling office so the second week of April will be quite busy. Due to new state mandates, we will test approximately 1,600 students over three days. Testing will start with the juniors completing the SAT on Tuesday, April 9, freshmen taking the PSAT9 on Wednesday, April 10 (we are aware this is a late start date), and sophomores taking the PSAT10 on Thursday, April 11. Testing will take place in both gyms, the IMC, and various classrooms. The juniors will be released to leave school after testing concludes, but the freshmen and sophomores will return to their normal school day.

The counselors will meet with the freshmen and sophomores to create College Board and Khan Academy accounts in mid-March. (All juniors created these accounts last year.) Students will be able to access their scores and see an item analysis by mid-May. ALL registration will be completed at school with the counselors. For a “Parent Tutorial”, visit https://www.collegeboard.org/ click on the appropriate exam for your student.

All juniors will be taking the SAT with Essay on April 9, 2019. Prior to the test, the counselors will visit homerooms to help juniors complete a portion of the answer document. At this time, juniors will be asked to select 4 colleges/universities to send their scores to so start thinking! We encourage students to use all 4 sending opportunities. When a student needs to send a score after testing the cost is approximately $12/location.

For all tests, we encourage students to bring a jacket (the temperature fluctuates often), pencils, and a calculator. We ask that all other items-backpacks, bags, phones, beverages, books-be placed in student lockers. Parents can help by making sure your child has had a good night’s sleep and has eaten breakfast. Any students who will be absent on their test date will be required to test on the make-up date, April 23, 2019.
NCHS SPRING PLAY PRESENTS—5 EASY PIECES

5 Easy Pieces is a collection of five one-acts by playwright Jason Milligan and directed by five different NCHS students. One is a comedy about a Beatles-crazed girl in the 60s. Another is comedy about trying to track down a wedding ring that ended up getting baked in a pie and then sold at a bake sale. A third one-act is a touching drama about bereaved parents learning to deal with grief together. A tough trio of cops talking about a possible heist fill out the fourth one-act, while the last is an over-the-top stage mother negotiating to make her daughter the star of the grade school ballet.

Showtimes:
March 1, 2, 8, & 9 at 7:00 p.m.
NCHS auditorium

NCHS Yearbook

This is just a reminder to purchase a 2019 NCHS yearbook before March 15, 2019, if you haven’t done so already. The NCHS yearbook, Reverie, can only be purchased online through Skyward and paid for via Revtrak or by check. The final deadline to purchase a 2019 Reverie will be Friday March 15, 2019. After this date, a final order count will be sent to our publisher, Jostens. You will not be able to purchase a yearbook for 2019 after March 15th from Jostens or from the school.

Any unpaid balance prior to the March 15 deadline needs to be paid in order for the yearbook to be ordered as well. If you have not purchased a yearbook to date, you will need to log into Skyward Family Access and select Fee Management, select Add a Fee, then scroll down to the list on the bottom of the page and click the “Add” button on the yearbook line. You will then be able to pay using RevTrak.

Again, all orders need to be paid online via Revtrak or by check. The cost of the 2019 yearbook is $60.00. The yearbooks will be delivered to the school and distributed during school registration in August 2019. Books will only be held for one school year if not picked up.

Please contact Becky Conley (conleyrr@myunit5.org) in regards to Revtrak/ordering questions, or Mrs. Jennifer Kelly (kellyjl@unit5.org) for ordering issues. Thanks so much!
NORMAL COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

March
1 Fri. College and Career Fair 8:30 a.m.
1-2 Fri.-Sat. Spring Play 7:00 p.m.
7 Thurs. Deadline for 19-20 course changes
7-9 Fri.-Sat. Spring Play 7:00 p.m.
12 Tues. Band Concert 7:00 p.m.
13 Wed. Kindergarten Registration begins
13 Wed. Unit 5 Late Start
15 Fri. Alumni Foundation Mtg. 7:00 p.m.
19 Tues. Iron Pride PTO Mtg. 6:30 p.m.
25-29 Mon.-Fri. Spring Break—No School Enjoy!

April
1 Mon. School resumes from Spring Break
9 Tues. SAT (Juniors)
10 Wed. Unit 5 Late Start
11 Thurs. Alumni Foundation 7:00 p.m.
11-13 Thurs.-Sat. Shrek the Musical 7:00 p.m.
13-14 Sat.-Sun. Shrek the Musical 2:00 p.m.
13 Sat. ACT
16 Tues. Iron Pride PTO Mtg. 6:30 p.m.
18 Thurs. School Improvement Day (No School)
19 Fri. Board Holiday (No School)
26 Fri. Graduation Rehearsal
27 Sat. Prom (Parke Hotel) 8:00 p.m.
29 Mon. Senior Awards 6:30 p.m.

May
3 Fri. Senior Picnic
4 Sat. SAT 8:00 a.m.
7 Tues. Choir Spring Concert 7:00 p.m.
8 Wed. Unit 5 Late Start
8 Wed. Alumni Foundation 7:00 p.m.
9 Thurs. Band Concert 7:00 p.m.
14 Tues. Orchestra Concert 7:00 p.m.
21 Tues. Iron Pride PTO Mtg. 6:30 p.m.
25 Sat. Graduation (Grossinger Arena) 2:00 p.m.
27 Mon. Memorial Day No School
31 Fri. Last day of school—Half day