Dear Parents & Guardians:

The cooler weather is finally here, and our Fall sports are well into their seasons. There is much to celebrate at Normal Community High School, as the calibre of kids here is incredible. I am always impressed at the level of talent that I observe from work in the classroom, to our incredible music program, to our athletic field. I recently attended the choir concert and was completely blown away at the level of musicianship from our students. I have closely observed our student cheering sections at our football games and have been impressed at the level of excitement that they bring to the games as well!

One change in the main office that we want parents to be aware of is the addition of Mrs. Natalie Shumaker to the Administrative Team. Mrs. Shumaker replaces Mr. Fabish, who has moved out of state. Mrs. Shumaker has already been at NCHS since the beginning of the school year as the Administrative Intern, so she is already very familiar with our building. We wish Mr. Fabish best of luck in his new adventure and welcome Mrs. Shumaker to the main office. Another new addition to our building is in the counseling office. Mrs. Penny Fisher is our new Registrar. Mrs. Fisher comes to us from Evans Jr. High School, where she was the administrative assistant in the guidance office. We welcome both Mrs. Fisher and Mrs. Shumaker!

One way to become more connected with our building is to visit our online school newspaper. The Inkspot is the official student-produced media for news and information at NCHS. The Inkspot staff is composed of a group of sophomore-senior students taking Journalism I, II or III. The staff members compose stories meant to inform, interpret, and entertain. Published pieces include a wide range of news stories, opinion pieces, features, videos, sports news, editorial cartoons, and infographics. Take a look!
A BIG WELCOME!

In a school the size of NCHS, we are bound to have a large number of new students joining us at the beginning of each year. This year we had over 100 new students from across the state and country. The question is what are we doing to help ensure that they have a smooth transition to our building? Feed them of course! We have a group of new student ambassadors (Iron Hosts) who work hard to guarantee that new students feel welcome to the building and understand all of the activities that NCHS has to offer.

BLOOMINGTON EDGE TEACHER OF THE WEEK

Recently, the Bloomington Edge started a "Surprise A Teacher" program. Teachers are nominated by fans of Bloomington Edge and a few weeks ago Mrs. Baez, from the English Dept., was nominated and recognized! The mascot from Bloomington Edge came to school to surprise her with a gift basket of school supplies. Congratulations to Mrs. Baez!
WJBC ATHLETE(S) OF THE WEEK

Over the past several weeks, we have had multiple students recognized as the WJBC Athlete of the week. WJBC Radio, in conjunction with Meatheads of Bloomington-Normal & Roberts Trophies coordinate this effort. Congrats to the athletes below who have been recognized!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Daylen Boddie (Football)</th>
<th>Daylen threw four touchdown passes and rushed for 141 yards as the Ironmen defeated Normal West, 50-16, in the Chili Bowl.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grace Cleveland (Volleyball)</td>
<td>Grace led the Ironman with 43 kills and 7 blocks to lead NCHS to a four-game sweep of the Intercity Volleyball Tournament.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kavya Sudhir (Tennis)</td>
<td>Kavya led the Ironmen to the title at the Purple-Gold Invite in Bloomington by winning a singles crown and combining to win a doubles title with Oliva Kraft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josef Halcome (Soccer)</td>
<td>Josef scored the game-winning goal in the final minute of a 3-2 win over Champaign Centennial. He also kicked the game winner in a 2-1 win over Danville.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NCHS FFA Horse Judging Career Development Event

Recently, NCHS and NCWHS competed in horse judging at the Illinois FFA Horse Judging Career Development Event at Black Hawk College. Normal Community (Varsity) placed 1st in the Reasons Division of the contest (in which students have to orally defend their choices), which is the 1st Career Development Event State Championship in our program's history!

Team Members are:
NCHS (Varsity): Emily Krawczyk (8th High Individual), Claire McCombs (9th High Individual), Kenzie Kraft, Maddie Kraft  
NCHS (JV): Syd Whalen, Courtney LaVere, Georgia Merkle, Lexi Whalen
ROCKS IN UPTOWN NORMAL

Recently, a group of NCHS students worked diligently to make our community a happier place to be! Seventeen of our students painted cheerful images and messages on rocks earlier in the month with the intent that others may find them. The hope is that someone would discover them and that it might brighten their day! Students hid more than 30 rocks in Uptown Normal as part of this activity after they were painted. This notion of creating items to spread happiness certainly isn’t new, but one that is catching on throughout the nation.

Amy Veselak, Erin Sanders and Sherrie McAndrews worked with some of their students to make this happen.

HOMECOMING COURT

2017 Homecoming Court:

Carter Aaron, Madison Bryant, Varshaun Dixon, Katarina Gustafson, Krithik Rao, Aliyah Muhammad, Colin Laffey, Alexis Showalter, Andrew Zajac & Lauren Smith

King & Queen
Krithik Rao & Lauren Smith

STAFF APPRECIATION

Is there a teacher or other staff member at NCHS who has made a lasting impact on your child? If so, here is a perfect opportunity to recognize them that requires very little effort. The link below is to a Google Form that takes only a few minutes to fill out. It’s an opportunity for parents, students, community members and fellow teachers to quickly recognize some of the great work that our educators do at NCHS. It will generate a PDF that the NCHS administration can share with the appropriate staff member as forms are completed.

A huge thanks to those who have already taken the time to do this. I have received close to 100 responses!

Link: https://goo.gl/forms/sbI4QFEtP9S0cI23
Important Information/Dates to Remember:

✓ **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.

✓ **IronPride**: Parents, please remember to like IronPride on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ironprideorganization](http://www.facebook.com/ironprideorganization). This group serves in a role that was previously called “PTO” and works to promote a connection between NCHS parents and our building. Iron Pride also has a trailer set up at all home football games with Ironmen gear, so check them out. They also accept credit cards!

✓ **Unit 5 Late Starts**: October 18th, November 1st & December 13th.

✓ **Thanksgiving Break** (No School): November 22nd – 24th

✓ **Winter Break** (No School): December 22nd – January 8th

Please continue to check our NCHS homepage for updates. The purpose of our website to help you find information quickly, so please know we will continue to do so even though our template has to change. You may also see a few student surveys posted on our website as we are working this year to include some “student voice” in how we implement policies and procedures in our building. One effort revolves around asking our student population how they would best like to be communicated with, while the other effort is to create an online “student suggestion box”. We are excited to see what suggestions our students have in an effort to keep lines of communication open between students and administration!

Thanks for all you do, as parents. We appreciate your support!

Sincerely,

**Trevor Chapman**

Trevor Chapman  
Principal  
Normal Community High School

“Home of the Ironmen”