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Dear NCHS Parents:

Natrona County School District will require all spectators and school visitors to wear face coverings at all times while attending any NCS D Elementary, Middle Level, or High School level indoor event, program, or activity. This includes all NCS D indoor sporting events, music or theatre performances, parent/teacher conferences, Open House events, and all other indoor events or activities inside a district facility. This also pertains to any outside agencies utilizing NCS D facilities.

Due to the nature of movement and socializing at such events, face coverings will be required to be worn at all times. During these events face coverings will be required regardless of social distancing and/or when sitting with immediate family. Face coverings will be required to be worn prior to entering the building or facility. If a spectator or school visitor chooses not to comply with the face-covering requirement, they will not be allowed to attend the event, performance, or activity.

If your students need additional academic support, we offer after school tutoring in the Library Monday - Thursday from 3:30 - 4:30 pm. Saturday school will be held Saturday, December 12th and Saturday, January 9th from 8:00 - 11:30 am, also in the Library. All teachers are also available each day during Mustang Connections.

Even though we are not yet through the first semester, we will soon be selecting schools and classes for the 21-22 school year. In order to prepare for registration, we need all parents to access the parent portal of Infinite Campus to update your contact and other pertinent information. Please go to the following link to complete your child's update: If you need help, please let us know and we will be happy to walk you through the process. Please call 253-5306 for assistance.

First Semester ends on January 22nd. Honor Rolls are based on Semester grades. We would like to remind you of our honor roll requirements. In order to qualify for honor rolls at Natrona County High School, students must maintain a minimum grade point
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December 2020/January 2021

A
Natrona County
High School
Parent Newsletter

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NCHS Attendance
253-1705

average of 3.0, and be enrolled in 5 or more classes. If students are taking some of their classes at the College, it is up to the individual student to bring their grades to the registrar, and to make sure they have turned in their BOCES paperwork if they are asking for dual credit. NCHS calculates Honor Rolls on semester grades.

Seasons Greetings from the faculty, staff and administration of Natrona County High School.

Sincerely,
NCHS Leadership Team



Celebrating Excellence

Staff of the Month for **November** were **Mike Botkin**-NCHS Resource Teacher, **Caitlin Urhammer** - NCHS Art Teacher and **Janea Quig**- Secretary Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Gabby Haigler** for becoming the 3 time state champion in the statewide diving competition. She placed 1st with a personal record of 445.4 points!

Volleyball All conference awards went to the following- **Alesha Lane, Megan Hagar, Quinci Mooren**. All State awards went to the following- **Quinci Mooren, Megan Hagar**. The Co-Conference Defensive Player of the Year went to **Erin Weibel**. Way to go Fillies!

Congratulations to the Cross Country girls that took home state titles, **Delilah Baedke and Hailie Wilhem**.

Six NCHS DECA students competed and won a National Challenge for the SUTUP Challenge. SuitUp increases college and career awareness and preparedness for students through innovative virtual business competitions. Through SuitUp, students experience solving a realistic corporate challenge, such as designing a new product for Nike or solving a community problem through Snapchat. In teams of 8-10 with their classmates, they log onto Zoom and have the opportunity to interact with corporate volunteers who coach them on the marketing, financing, and strategy before helping them pitch to live judges. The students that competed were **Bryce Hebert Sidney Hurlbut, Elena Galles, Calla Shosh, Brady Dutcher, Shelby Lopez**

NCHS DECA participated at the MEC Conference this year the following awards went to Top Exam: **Calla Shosh, Brady Dutcher, Cassidy Madrid**. Top NOVICE role play: **Taly Wagner, Allen Catallier, Calla Shosh**. Top ADVANCED role play: **Shelby Lopez, Sidney Hurlbut, Taylor Atchley**. We are looking for new members to join so if teachers have a student with a business idea, please have them check into DECA.

The Mustang Battalion, Army JROTC, NCHS earned Honor Unit With Distinction during today's inspection by our Headquarters, the 5 ROTC Brigade out of Ft. Sam Houston TX. The cadets presented two presentations: what the cadets are doing to improve our organizations and our service learning project. Our improvement revolves around improving our academic abilities and our culture. Our service learning briefing revolved around learning about our Wyoming National Guards involvement in the Korean War. Each cadet is required to build and maintain a portfolio of work, fitness, and self-development. Several cadets had their portfolio reviewed by our inspectors. Our cadre maintains a portfolio showing how we keep current and improve our teaching abilities. Each of these events are scored by the inspectors. The Mustang Battalion earned a 97.5 percent and status as an Honor Unit with Distinction. We keep this status for the next 3 years.

Honor Unit with Distinction is the highest rating that an Army JROTC can earn. It is earned by scoring no less than a 95% on the inspection. Congratulations to the the Army JROTC program!

The NCHS culinary students ended quarter one with a friendly Chopped! competition. The winner by a margin of 4 votes is the team of **Madyson Korogi and Mikayla Dutcher** from Orange C Culinary Arts 1 class! Their Tim Burton inspired design showed some serious creativity. Good Job!

Football All-State Awards went to the following: 1st Team **Brady Dutcher, Braxton Bundy, Harrison Taubert, Jace Gorge, Dominic Bradach, Kaeden Wilcox, Ben Hoppens**. 2nd Team - **Koby Kelly, Jace George, D'Anthony Smith, Jesse Raabe, Nolan Valdez** All-Conference 1st Team- **Koby Kelly, Brady Dutcher, Jace George, D'Anthony Smith, Dominic Bradach, Jesse Raabe, Kaeden Wilcox, Nolan Valdez, Ben Hoppens**. 2nd Team - **Ben Hoppens, Avery Cox, Myllian Allison, Robert Douglas, Colter Helm, Phil Bergman, Brenden Nelson, Preston Propp, Beau Hawkins, Koby Kelly, Kaeden Wilcox, Jace George**. Honorable Mention - **Matthew Barrett, Cody Crawford**. Congratulations!



Remember.....

Every day is a **GREAT** day

to be a

Mustang!!

C O U N S E L O R S ' O R G A N I Z A T I O N

NCHS Counseling Office 253-1517

The NCHS Counseling Department is dedicated to preparing accountable life-long learners through academic support, career and postsecondary planning, and social and emotional support. Please contact your school counselor with any questions or concerns you have during this academic year.

NCHS Counseling Office 253-1517, room 170
Students are assigned to school counselors by last name. The following is the list of school counselors and their assignments:

Brandi Ramage	A-Fe students, room 178
Cari Langley	Fi-Ma students, room 184
Missy Nack	Mc-Sm students, room 180
Marvin Birzer	Sn-Z students, room 186
John O'Connor	College Selection Facilitator Mon/Wed+Fri. am room 154

Free College Classes for High School Students

Any high school student in good standing may take college classes at Casper College. Tuition and books for these classes are paid by a grant through the BOCES/A.C.E. Program. To be eligible, a student must have at least a 2.0 GPA (C average). See page 7 of the NCSD HS Course Catalog for more details. Jeana Lam-Pickett, BOCES Coordinator at Casper College, will be in the NC Counseling Center on Mondays and Tuesdays through December to help students with enrollment for the spring semester. Make an appointment in the Counseling Center.

*****Important for Seniors*****

If you haven't already had your senior interview with your counselor, please stop by the counseling office to schedule an appointment. This includes students attending PIC, Natrona Virtual, and those taking English through Casper College this year. For information about college and scholarships, please make an appointment with Mr. O'Connor, our college selection facilitator.

Things you will want to talk about:

1. Progress toward graduation
2. Hathaway eligibility and additional scholarships
3. Plans after graduation: college, career/vocational programs, scholarships, Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA), jobs or the world after high school. Fill out the FAFSA now if you plan on going to college. Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov for more information.
4. Check your name on Infinite Campus and make sure the spelling is correct and that we have your legal name including a middle name for you to be printed on your Diploma. (This needs to be done before December 18th)

Senior Alert

Senior year is hectic for both parents and students. In order to assist seniors with the proper planning for post secondary training, follow these guidelines:

1. Encourage your student to pursue post-secondary education. If they are not interested in college, urge them to explore options in the military or vocational training. Remember that with the exception of a few private vocational schools, most vocational education opportunities in the state of Wyoming occur at our eight community colleges.
2. If your student has questions about post-secondary education, have them make an appointment with their counselor or Mr. O'Connor (college counselor).
3. Complete college applications as soon as possible. Priority application deadline for both Casper College and The University of Wyoming is December 1st. Out of state applications should be completed in December.
4. Register for the February 6th ACT by January 8th if your student has not taken or needs to retake the test (www.act.org).
5. Plan school visits to help decide if that school is the right fit for you.
6. Students should request letters of recommendation (from teachers, employers, coaches, etc.) at least two weeks prior to needing them.
7. Be aware of the Hathaway Scholarship requirements (Hathaway Eligibility Requirements). Information can be obtained from your high school counselor or by going online to the Wyoming Department of Education website (<https://edu.wyoming.gov>).
8. Check our scholarship bulletin on the NCHS website each month for upcoming scholarship opportunities (Scholarship Bulletin). You won't get scholarships if you don't apply for them!

FAFSA Reminder

1. The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is an application that college bound students use to apply for the Federal Pell Grant, Federal work-study and Federal subsidized and unsubsidized student loans.
2. Many private scholarship funds, such as the Richardson Scholarship at Casper College and UW, use the FAFSA to determine which students qualify for the scholarship.
3. Students and Parents need to complete their FSA ID, which is a username and password log in for the FAFSA. This can be done at any point prior to completing the FAFSA. Both the student and parent will need valid email accounts.
4. The FAFSA application is available now. It is recommended that the FAFSA be completed on-line at www.fafsa.ed.gov. If you do not have on-line access, contact the counseling office for specific dates that FAFSA workshops to assist parents and students will be offered.

Junior Alert

Juniors this is a reminder that NCHS will be giving all 11th grade students the ACT test in April. Stop by the counseling office to get tips on preparing for the test, areas that you might need to work on, minimum ACT scores for the college of your choice, why you have to take the ACT test, etc. It's important that Juniors are on track to graduate and apply for the Hathaway scholarship. Have your junior stop by the counseling office to speak with his/her counselor to make sure he/she is taking the right classes.

IB Happenings

For the school year ending May 2020, NCHS had nine IB Diploma Candidates, and we are pleased to report that eight of them met the requirements to receive their IB Diploma. Over the last five years, 56 of 65 IB Diploma Candidates (86%) have earned IB Diplomas. That accomplishment is not only a testament to the dedication and hard work of those students, but also to the talent and commitment of our dedicated NCHS teachers. We at NCHS greatly appreciate the support of the Ruth R. Ellbogen Foundation and the John P. Ellbogen Foundation, whose financial contributions make participation in the IB Program a possibility for many students who would not otherwise be able to afford it. Overall, we had 52 registered students who took 131 exams in May of 2020 (although with the covid situation, they did not actually complete the end-of-year exams and were graded on Internal Assessments and other criteria). Of those tests, 88% received scores of 4 or better, which generally qualifies students to receive college credit at Casper College and/or the University of Wyoming. After a couple of declining years, the current year has 87 students registered to take 205 exams, our highest numbers since 2016.

The annual Induction Ceremony and Hard Work Café normally takes place right after Christmas break, but due to the covid pandemic, will not take place this year. Likewise, the 8th Grade Open House, which normally takes place in January, is also being cancelled. Parents who have questions concerning the IB Program at NCHS can contact Marvin Birzer, IB Coordinator, at marvin_birzer@natronaschools.org, or 253-1594.

Senior Pictures

DUE BY TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2020 to Lisa Gray at NCHS. All photos may be submitted to room 1070 in the southeast front of the building. Digital copies may be sent to lisa553@myncsd.org or provided on a disk or jump drive. A response for receipt will be sent.

THERE IS NO LATE SUBMISSION AVAILABLE! After the due date passes, we will use the Life Touch school picture taken at registration or your student will be listed under the no photo available section.

The photo submitted MUST be a portrait (vertical) photo, wallet size. Please note that we reserve the right to crop pictures in order to provide the best fit on the page. WE DO NOT TAKE HORIZONTAL OR SQUARE PHOTOS. We reserve the right to refuse a photo with questionable or provocative attire. NO photos promoting violence, drugs or alcohol will be permitted. If it's not allowed in school, it's not allowed in the yearbook.

Please DO NOT submit photos printed on a home printer, scanned and printed or are out of focus. We cannot fix the quality of the photo.

If you have not already booked a professional photographer and are wishing to do so, you should do it as soon as possible in order to get it back in time. You may also take the photo yourself provided the resolution of the image is 225 or greater, in JPG format and submitted on CD or through electronic mail.

Senior Parents FYI.....

Important Dates - Mark your Calendar!!

Following is a list of important dates
Please mark your calendar for remainder of the 2020-21 school year

- October 7th & 8th - Senior Class Meeting in Auditorium during MC
- October 13th & 14th - Senior ordering for cap & gown in commons
- October 30th - End of 1st quarter
- November 2 - No School/Professional Development Day for Teachers
- November 12 - Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
- November 25 - 27 Thanksgiving Vacation
- December 15th - SENIOR PICTURES DUE!!
- December 21 - January 4 - Winter Break
- January 5 - School Resumes - Black Day
- January 18 - Equality Day - No School/offices closed
- January 22 - End of first semester/1st semester grades due
- January 25 - Beginning of Second Semester - Orange day
- February 12 - Professional Development Day - No School for Students
- February 15 - President's Day - No School
- March 11 - Spring Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00 - 7:30 p.m.
- March 26 - End of 3rd quarter/3rd quarter grades due
- March 29 - April 2 - Spring Break/No School
- April 6 - ACT Testing Day
- May 19 - Grades due for seniors
- May 21 - Last Day for Seniors/BBQ
- May 24 - Senior Awards Ceremony 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium
- May 27 - Graduation @ Casper Events Center 7:30 p.m.
Mandatory practice for graduating seniors 8:00am -10:00am Casper Events Center
- May 31 - Memorial Day/no school/offices closed
- June 8 - Last Day of School/ End of Second Semester

