

The Viking News

NORTHDALÉ MIDDLE SCHOOL

MARCH 2010

CALENDAR OF EVENTS QUARTER 3

March

- 2Conferences
3:15-8:00 PM
- 3Picture Day
- 4Conferences
5:15-8:05 PM
- 9-10TEAE Testing
- 12Orchestra Festival
all day – Anoka High School
- 17-18Musical Play, "Aladdin"
7:00 PM
- 30End of Quarter 3
- 31Staff Planning Day
– NO SCHOOL

April

- 1-6Spring Break
– NO SCHOOL
- 7Quarter 4 Begins
- 9MCA Pep Fest
- 13-14MCA Testing – Math
- 20-21MCA Testing – Reading
- 27Choir 6 Concert
7:00 PM
- 29People's Choice Program
5:30-7:30 PM

May

- 3Orchestra Festival
Coon Rapids High School
7:00 PM
- 6Mid Quarter Day
Band 6 Concerts
7:00/8:00 PM
- 13Orchestra 8 Concert
7:00 PM
- 14Student Activity Event
3:10-5:10 PM
- 175th Grade Welcome Event
6:00-8:00 PM
- 18Choir 7 Concert
7:00 PM
- 20Band 7 Concert
7:00 PM
- 25Choir 8 Concert
7:00 PM
- 27Band 8 Concert
7:00 PM
- 31Memorial Day Holiday
– NO SCHOOL

June

- 9LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
FOR STUDENTS
- 10-11Staff Planning Days
- 21Summer School Begins



Principal Jacklitch receives \$4,000 fundraiser check from Linda Sell, Marketing Director, Northtown Mall. Thanks to all who supported our fundraiser and shopped at Northtown.

Welcome, Mr. Griffith!

At the start of semester two, Northdale welcomed a new staff member. Mr. Griffith, 7th grade Social Studies, replaced Mrs. Malm, who left NMS



to teach full time at Coon Rapids Middle School. Welcome to Northdale, Mr. Griffith!!!

HOLIDAY

Fun at Northdale

The Northdale staff greeted students with holiday songs as they arrived on December 22nd.



NMS VOLUNTEERS!

Thanks to all of our volunteers who have helped out since the beginning of the year. Everyone here at Northdale appreciates you. **Each and every one of you makes a difference!**

Susi Kaas	Paula Larson	Dawn Thompson	Christi Kelm
Michael Hayes	Vicky Stein	Christine Godzala-Walytka	Michelle Larrabee
Rene Monkelien	Sheri Belchak	Helen McClintock	Anastacia Lubansky
Dwight Tole	Betsy Farley	Rebecca Mizell	Michelle Maeckelbergh
Bev Mahto	Lori Pilarski	Krystina Kaas	Victoria McLachlan
Debbie Blatz	ZhaQuita Taylor	Jill Goldade	Lori McNulty
Karri Hausker	Julie Murphy	Kim Janecek	Melissa Meyers
Holly Hokkanen	Joyce Noe	Leslie Peck	Susan Mielke
Melissa Goodman	Linda Langren	Viola Richard	Matt Parrow
Caroline Berg	Christy Stanley	Troy Heifort	Jafus Smith
Janell Wiberg	Wendy Trenda	James McQuay	Shelley Snell
Beth Winter	Shanty Vinjamuri	Sherryl McQuay	Tanya Stenquist
Christine Laudenbach	Tressa Landin	Vicky Hoel	Gwen Wellner
Katie Wahl	Rhonda Pierce	Teresa Vork	Tami Wendt
Penny Young	Michele Ryan	Kathryn Curley	John Zeller
Laurie Allen	Alexandra Andersen	Nancy Schmitz	Renee Burge
Sheila Bauer	Danubia Conwell	Ann Abrahamsen	Dawn Deal
Elizabeth Schwartz	Melody Olson	Vikki Engelson	Real Fournier
Jennifer Bundy	Kristyn Parrow	Lauri Bourgeois	April Lennox
Stacey Huerth	Jennifer Robinson	Karalee Cin	Deanna Mikkelsen
Michelle Klinga	Karen Anderson	Ruth Johnson	Tanya Mikkelsen
Heidi Pekos	Julie Bathels	Andrea Keinholtz	Gia Nelson
Al Dalcin	Susan France	Joyce Luckow	Sabrina Flowers
Angela Soden	Brenda Hegg	Amy Maurer	Kary Taylor
		Rhonda McKinney	

* We sincerely apologize to any volunteers that may have been missed. This list was current as of February 4, 2010 and was pulled from all volunteers who logged in on the volunteer sign in sheet.

Please contact Melanie Wallwork, Volunteer Services Coordinator, at 763-506-5432 or by email at melanie.wallwork@anoka.k12.mn.us if you are interested in volunteering at Northdale. Thank You!

Make a difference and Volunteer at NMS!

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

Students around Northdale are preparing for Battle! Since October, NMS students have been eagerly reading from a list of 25 contemporary and classic books. On February 26, teams of three students will compete against other teams to answer questions from the books listed on the Battle of the Books list. In order to do well in the competition, students are making sure someone from their team has read each book. The books chosen for this year's battle include all the 2010 Maud Hart Lovelace nominees (the

Minnesota book award) as well as some classic books. Students noted they had read many of these books already!



Northdale Middle School would like to thank the following businesses that gave generously to help with the purchase of books, so that all students participating could have access. Several

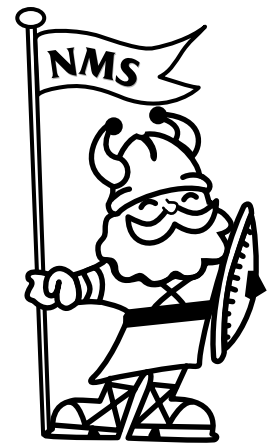
businesses have also provided prizes for participants.

Perkins, Blaine
Designer Sign, Blaine
Let's Dish, Blaine
Anoka County Parks and Recreation
Target, Blaine
Walmart, Coon Rapids



CUSTODY ORDERS/COURT DOCUMENTS/ DIVORCE INFORMATION

Please make sure we have up-to-date custody orders, court documents, divorce information, etc. If we don't have a legal order showing sole physical and legal custody, we can't stop a parent from picking their child up at school. Contact Ms. Sydness (763-506-5407) if you are unsure or to verify that the paperwork we have is current.



BRIDGE TO KNOWLEDGE

What is it? A fun Saturday event for twenty students to explore a wide-range of enriching topics in a series of sessions

When? March 20, 2010

Where? Jackson Middle School (Parents provide transportation.)

Time: 9:00 – Noon

Cost: Free for those students who were selected to attend

Look for flyers with more details at conferences.



IN CASE OF ACADEMIC EMERGENCY – CLICK HERE!

From Mrs. Braun, Library Media Specialist

“How do I solve this math problem?”

“What is an adjective anyway?”

“Why is the GNP of Sudan so low?”



Do you ever need help with your homework and the teachers have gone home and Mom and Dad just aren't sure how to help you out? The Anoka County Library system has the assistance you need. They are offering one-to-one live homework help and skill building activities from online tutors for students in grades 3 – 12. **Homework Rescue** is a fabulous FREE service available seven days a week, from 1pm to 11pm. You need an Anoka County Library card to access it, but library cards are FREE. The online tutors will help in all major subject areas: Math, Science, Social Studies, Spanish, English/ Language Arts, Writing and Reading.

Homework Rescue is powered by Brainfuse certified tutors who are U.S.A. based and have four-year college degrees and teaching experience. Tutor training and curricula are based on Minnesota state standards. The service is available in English and Spanish. The tutors undergo background checks and the tutors do not have access to the student information. This is a safe connection that is compliant with the federal legislation that protects children on the internet (COPPA/CIPA).

The tutors will respond to questions very quickly, just minutes for the question I asked. However, they do say that the response will be within 24 hours. Math is covered to the highest levels- Trig and Calculus. Help with Spanish class is available also.

How does it work? Simply log on to the Anoka County Library at www.anoka.lib.mn.us from your home computer or from the public library and look for the **Homework Rescue** icon, a life preserver, on the homepage. Enter your library barcode number and log in. You select your grade level, subject area and enter a question or scan in worksheets to be seen by the tutor. After your question is submitted, click on the "Message Center" on the menu bar across the top of the page to check to see when the tutor responds. My question was answered immediately. You may want to read the FAQ (frequently asked questions) first to really understand all the capabilities of the system.

In addition to help with specific homework questions, **Homework Rescue** will provide interactive skill building and help writing papers and improving written communications. They also offer help that adults might be interested in like citizenship test prep and resume writing. It is like having a multitasking teacher sitting right next to you as you do your homework. The best thing is that it is free to anyone who has an Anoka County library card. I hope you will remember that when you think no help is available, the **Homework Rescue** system will be there for you!

What is HelpNow?

HelpNow is a comprehensive suite of tutoring services designed for a range of academic needs; whether it's tackling a tough homework problem, learning an academic skill, or writing a term paper.

When can I access HelpNow services?

Please contact your Librarian for the exact hours that HelpNow is available

What services does HelpNow offer?

- **Homework Help:** Students submit a question in our online classroom and receive live, one-on-one assistance from a Brainfuse tutor.
- **Skills-Building:** Our skills building service helps students master a concept or skill through state-aligned online lessons, presented by Brainfuse tutors in one-to-one sessions. HelpNow Skills Building has been designed for a variety of age groups and academic needs.
- **24-Hour Writing Lab:** Our writing instructors help students become better writers by providing constructive feedback and other assistance within 24 hours of receiving a student's submission.
- **Test Center (available in some libraries):** Visit our online assessment library to take practice standardized tests (SAT, ACT, GED and more) and practice subject specific tests, like math and science. Get results instantly and, if you choose, share them with one of our tutors for a targeted skills building session.
- **24/7 Help Center:** Students submit questions via our online form and a tutor will respond to the student's question within 24 hours.
- **Foreign Language Center:** Students receive live online help with their foreign language homework from our fluent foreign language tutors.
- **Adult Education Center:** Adults can receive live online help from our trained adult education specialists in areas such as US Citizenship testing, resume and cover letter writing assistance and core subject education.
- **Full Spanish Speaking Service:** Spanish-speaking tutors are offered coextensively (same subjects and hours of availability) with our English-speaking tutors.

www.anoka.lib.mn.us

NORTHDALE RECOGNIZED NATIONAL AFRICAN AMERICAN PARENT INVOLVEMENT DAY ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2010.

Northdale Middle School celebrated our second annual National African American Parents Involvement Day (NAAPID) on Monday, February 8th.

The focus of this year's event was to support parental involvement in the schools. The premise of the national celebration is that "...parents have significant influence on their children's success in school. Their attitudes and values are important in shaping not only their relationship with their child, but their children's relationship with the school. When parents are involved with their children and involved with the school, their children experience greater academic success."

The NMS student population continues to become more diverse, which offers students a great opportunity to learn about all cultures. This event is a great opportunity for parents and school staff to build community and make connections. Our goal will be to continue to explore ways that we can work together to support all students.

Desired outcomes of NAAPID:

- Parents receive resource information about NMS
- Parents receive tools for providing support to their students
- NMS gains feedback from parents regarding how we may better support students from all cultures

The evening included:

- presentations from school staff, Northwest Suburban Integration District (NWSID) and PACER's Parent Involvement Resource Center (PIRC)
- student performances and recognition
- cultural competence updates from the District Student Services Department
- cultural competence updates from NMS's Cultural Competence Team (CCT), parent volunteer efforts and NMS's Diversity Committee



FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE - GRADES 7 & 8

If you have any of the following items at home that you do not use, please consider donating them to the FACS department:

FACS Wish List:

- woven fabric for shorts (1 1/2 yards)
- polar fleece
- polyester fiberfill
- pins with beaded ends
- 1/4" wide ribbon
- 8" zippers
- all purpose thread
- 1 inch wide non roll elastic



7th graders are proud of the shorts they sew in FACS.



While sewing shorts **7th graders** learn measuring, technical reading, time management and sewing construction techniques.

After they complete their shorts, they enjoy creating designs for bookmarks, bags, purses, etc.



Time management, teamwork, food preparation and table setting are essential to a successful **8th grade** FACS stir fry lab.



8th graders learn the art of garnishing as they prepare fruit pizza.

8th graders get creative with their fruit pizza.

Fruit pizza tastes great in 8th grade foods lab and students get their serving of the fruit group.



MATHEMATICS

Congratulations to Northdale's math team for being named district champions for the 2009-2010 season of math league. Matthew Cook was the top individual scorer in the district and Amy Callahan earned 7th place.



MUSIC

March is "Music in Our Schools" ("MIOSM" month)

This is a month when schools across the country take time to focus on the benefits of music education. Not only does involvement in music help a person become well-rounded, there is brain research that shows positive affects on the brain. March has several music activities. There is a District-wide 8th grade honor band on March 5-7. There is also a District-wide jazz fest on March 19 with another jazz band concert at Coon Rapids HS for the Northdale and Roosevelt jazz bands. Band students in grades 7 and 8 will be participating in a "Music is Math" project for the entire month. Take time to listen to your band student practice this month!

NMS SOLO & ENSEMBLE CONTEST & CONCERT

Fifty-one student groups auditioned to participate in the first Northdale solo and ensemble concert. The auditions were held during the school day on Friday, January 15th. Seventeen groups were chosen to participate in the concert and awarded the prize of lessons with University of Minnesota music majors that specialize on their instrument to prepare for the concert. The event is sponsored by Miss South Central Minnesota, Aja Majkrzak, as part of her platform for the Miss Minnesota 2010 competition. The concert will be held Thursday, March 11th at 7:00 p.m. in room 702.

DISTRICT HONORS ORCHESTRA

Five Northdale Middle students were chosen by an audition process to be members of the Anoka-Hennepin District Honors Orchestra. The orchestra is open to students in grades 7, 8, and 9 which includes our twelve secondary schools.

The students practice weekly under the baton of Mr. Michael Halstenson at Anoka Senior High School. They will give two concerts in March and make a CD. Chosen from Northdale were: violinists Charlotte Stenzel, Joe Kohlmeyer, and Sallee Brandt, violist Anna Insley, and bassist Shauna Langren. Johnna Lawrence, JMMS, is the manager and Sylvia Wilson is the NMS orchestra teacher. This opportunity is made possible by a grant from the Anoka-Hennepin Educational Foundation.



SCIENCE



Sixth Grade

Unbelievable, we are already halfway through the school year! 2010 is off to a great start.



January started with our sixth grade students experiencing Physics with the PHYSICS FORCE from the University of Minnesota. Physics is fun!

The Physics Force is an entertaining outreach program of the Institute of Technology at the University of Minnesota developed to make science exciting and fun for students. A trademark of their demonstration is "bigger is better." Why implode a pop can when a 55-gallon drum is available? Or shoot down a mythical monkey when the target could be a physics teacher

dropping from a scaffold 20 feet high!

We just completed our Motion and Forces unit and are now working on Electricity and Magnetism. Students will be learning concepts from chapter 19 on electricity and chapter 21 on magnetism out of their textbooks. We will be doing demonstrations, labs, and computer activities to help the students better understand these science concepts.

A reminder: 80% of the students' grade is based on assessment. A test retake opportunity is offered to those students that show they attempted to learn the material, but still have some misunderstandings. We provide this second chance learning opportunity on Wednesday nights after school until 4:10 pm. An activity bus is available for students at 4:10.

Thank you for all your support this year and we look forward to seeing you at conferences in February.

Mrs. Stratton

Mrs. Elstad

Mr. Perreault

NMS presents

Disney's **"ALADDIN JR."**

March 17th and 18th at 7:00 PM

NMS Cafeteria

The performances are free to the public.

There will be a donation box at the door.

Concessions and flowers will also be sold at the door.



**A DAY EXPLORING THE ARTS FUNDED
BY THE TARGET FOUNDATION**

