



COUGAR NEWSLETTER

Publication of the New Prairie High School Administration

January 2024



Welcome back, Cougars!

As we begin this second semester, I would like to take a moment to share my appreciation for the dedication, resilience, and hard work shown by everyone over the first half of the school year. The challenges we faced together have only made us stronger, and I am confident that the coming months hold even more opportunities for growth, learning, and success. Now is the time to approach this semester with a renewed sense of curiosity, a commitment to excellence, and a supportive spirit for one another. Remember, your potential is limitless, and I am excited to witness the amazing achievements that lie ahead. Here's to a semester filled with inspiration, collaboration, and the pursuit of knowledge. Let's make it a remarkable journey together! – Mr. Heinold



Each month, we will be putting together a newsletter to highlight some important information that we would like to share with our NPHS families. You may always contact the school for more information.

SAT School Day Preparations

NPHS staff has set a school-wide goal for improving SAT scores for our junior class based on the SAT School Day Test. We will be actively assisting students in understanding the test format, types and rigor of questions, and strategies useful for standardized testing. These additional preparation sessions will be held during Success time, and students may be assigned multiple sessions based on student PSAT data. PSAT scores, along with a score report letter were sent home to all 9th-11th grade students who took the PSAT in October. The SAT School Day Test for all NPHS juniors is tentatively scheduled for March 5th, 2024.



Smart Social

Some of you may have already created an account on SmartSocial.com and can see the number of free resources available to help educate and prepare families for keeping students safe online. If you have not already logged in, we would encourage all families to take advantage of this amazing free resource. There are videos and articles for topics such as: cyber bullying, using AI tools in school, parent guides for popular video games, and "What to Know" about common social media apps. Finally, I'd like to share this recent updated [resource](#) from SMART Social. This article includes information about parental controls for iPhone devices.

STATE CHAMPIONS

This past month, our 2023 State Championship Softball team was recognized during half time of one of our girls basketball games. During the ceremony, players and coaches unveiled the championship banner that will be hung in the main gym. All members of the team also received their state championship rings. You can see the state championship display just outside the gymnasium in the Hall of Champions. The display includes the trophy, game program, and a clip of the state game. Congratulations again to New Prairie's first team state championship in school history!



FAFSA Information

A FAFSA parent letter has been mailed to all parents of NPHS seniors. The state of Indiana is now requiring that every senior file the FAFSA. This requirement applies to ALL students in the Class of 2024 regardless of their postsecondary plans. Please make sure that you have filled out your FSA ID request form so that as soon as FAFSA is open, you'll be ready to go. If you need any help, the people at INvestED Indiana offer free FAFSA help, and they are amazing! You can contact an INvestED team member at 317-715-9007. We encourage you to watch for more information on College Goal Sunday, Indiana's largest FAFSA filing event, to be held on Sunday, February 25, 2024. You can also reach out to your student's school counselor for assistance.

ATTENDANCE

Student attendance in high school is crucial for academic success as it directly correlates with the level of engagement and participation in classroom activities. Regular attendance not only enhances students' understanding of the curriculum but also fosters a sense of responsibility and discipline that are essential for future endeavors. Additionally, consistent attendance facilitates positive relationships with teachers and peers, creating a supportive learning environment. Students must maintain an attendance rate of at least 90% to be eligible for school dances and field trips.

Second Semester Updates

Course Selection

Scheduling for the 24-25 school year will begin in January. The Guidance Department will hold class meetings during Success Time after Winter Break to introduce the scheduling process to students.

Weather Cancellation - eLearning Days

NPUSC will utilize the following guidelines for weather cancellation days: the first two weather cancellation days will be made up on 2/19/24 and 3/11/24. On cancellation days 3-7, we will be instructing LIVE through Zoom. Any weather cancellation days beyond that will be made up in late May/early June. A daily eLearning schedule will be shared with students and families soon.

School Dances

We are planning two school-sponsored dances in the second semester--Winter Formal and Prom. Eligibility and visitor information for school dances can be found in the 2023-2024 Student Handbook located on the New Prairie High School website under "Info".

Student Parking

We will be adding extra parking spaces for students receiving their licenses in the second semester. Contact the main office staff for more details.





NPUS OPEN TUTORING SCHEDULE 2024

ALL TIMES ARE 2:30-3:30PM CST

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|------------------------------|------------|---------------|---------------|--------|----------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | WINTER BREAK - NO SCHOOL | | | | | |
| 7 | 8 NO SCHOOL | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 NO SCHOOL | 16 MATH | 17 SCIENCE | 18 ENGLISH | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 MATH WORLD LANGUAGE | 23 MATH | 24 SCIENCE | 25 ENGLISH | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 MATH WORLD LANGUAGE | 30 MATH | 31 SCIENCE | ENGLISH | | |

After School Tutoring

NPUS will continue to offer after school tutoring for the following subjects: math, english, science, and world language. A calendar will be published each month on our NPUS Facebook page and through Schoology. Tutoring is from 2:30-3:30pm. Students will meet the tutors in the cafeteria annex on the assigned days. There is no need to pre-register for a tutoring session.

2024-2025 Calendar

In December, the New Prairie United School Corporation School Board voted to approve the 2024-2025 school calendar. This calendar was emailed out by Dr. White in mid-December. You can find a copy of the approved calendar on our school website, or by clicking [here](#).

NAEP Testing Date

New Prairie High School was selected by National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) to administer both a reading and math exam for select 12th graders on February 1st. Parents of selected students will be notified by email on January 10th. Also known as the Nation's Report card, NAEP is a national resource for continuous assessment of what students know and can do. More information can be found at the following website:

<https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/>

IMPORTANT DATES

1/8 - Teacher Work Day - No students

1/9-1/17 - Grade Level Meetings during Success Time

1/15 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School

1/16 - Clark Lewis Program

2/1 - NAEP Testing Date - Selected Seniors ONLY

2/6 - Step Up Day

2/6 - Course Selection Night - Incoming NPUS Freshman

2/16 - FLEX Day

2/19 - Snow Make-Up Day

3/5 - SAT School Test Day (Tentative)

Also, check out npcougars.com for athletic dates/times, ticket information, and post-event summaries.

Contact Information

Phone: (574) 654-7271
(219) 778-2215

<https://www.npusc.k12.in.us/new-prairie-high-school/>

facebook.com/newprairiecougars

Mr. Justin Heinold, Principal
justinheinold@npusc.k12.in.us