



COUGAR NEWSLETTER

Publication of the New Prairie School Administration

May 2025



May is finally here, and with it comes celebration, reflection, and pride in all that our students have accomplished this year. As we prepare to close out the school year, we're taking every opportunity to recognize the hard work, growth, and achievements of our students—both inside the classroom and throughout our community.

For our Seniors, the final chapter of their high school journey is here. Graduation is more than just a ceremony—it's a tribute to years of dedication, resilience, and leadership. We are incredibly proud of this graduating class and all they have given to the New Prairie community. Their contributions have helped shape the culture and spirit of our school, and we are excited to see the great things they will do in the next chapter of their lives.

I want to thank our families for your continued support, involvement, and belief in our mission. Your partnership makes all the difference and helps create the incredible community we are so proud to be a part of.

As Always, Go Cougars!

—Mr. Heinold, NPHS Principal



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.

STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK

May 5th through May 9th is National Teacher Appreciation Week! It is during this time that we reflect on and show our outward appreciation for these staff members who serve students on a daily basis to ensure that they have the skills and content needed to be successful at NPHS and beyond.

Our school groups and a number of community partners have organized special treats for our staff throughout the week. If you have a moment this week, please consider sending an encouraging note/email to your students' teachers. Even the smallest positive note could have a huge impact on the staff.

2025-2026 School Information

In preparation for next school year, all families will be emailed information at the conclusion of this school year. That packet will include a final report card for the year, a letter from our health services department, and materials from the school office. Next year's schedules will not be sent home in this packet of information. Schedules will be available to pick up during our Open House event on August 5th, 2025 at New Prairie High School. Students can also see their schedules PowerSchool on August 5th.



EXCEPTIONAL LEARNERS SPOTLIGHT

Highlight 1: Lord of the Flies Reading Comprehension

This semester, we read Lord of the Flies with the students. We had some great discussions and activities where they were looking at big ideas like leadership, what happens when things get tough, and how people interact with each other. They were able to utilize critical thinking skills while looking at some pretty deep comprehension questions.

Highlight 2: SAT Prep

We have been putting in some focused work on SAT English and math skills. Through targeted assignments and strategies, the students are building their understanding of key english and math concepts and getting familiar with these types of test questions. The goal is to make them more confident and set them up for success down the road.

Highlight 3: Fast ForWord Reading Program

Our students have been very successful with the Fast ForWord program. It is this cool program that gives each student personalized exercises to help them with reading skills, from hearing sounds to understanding what they read. We are seeing real progress with it, and it is helping our students become stronger and more confident readers in all their classes.

Highlight 4: Journal Reflections

We also do regular journal writing with the students. The prompts are designed to get them thinking about what they are learning, exploring their own ideas and feelings, and just getting their thoughts down on paper. It is also a great way for them to reflect and for us to get to know them!

PE/HEALTH SPOTLIGHT

Big news from the PE department—we've added some awesome new tech to the weight room! We're now using a system called Perch, which uses 3D cameras to track things like bar speed, bar path, power output, and more. Basically, it gives you live feedback on how you're lifting so you can see your progress in real time.

It's a great way for students to set goals, improve technique, and push themselves in a smart, safe way. Whether you're just getting started or already hitting big numbers, Perch helps everyone take their training to the next level.

We're pumped about how it's going so far, and we can't wait to see how it helps our students grow stronger and more confident every day!



AP Exams

From May 5th through May 16th, students enrolled in AP courses will be taking their AP exams. Scoring well on these exams can save time and money in college! If your student is taking one or more of these exams in the next two weeks, encourage them to get a good night's rest, eat a healthy breakfast, and remember their training! Students have been preparing all year for these tests. Good luck!



End of Year Items

Final Exams will be scheduled on Thursday, May 22nd and Friday, May 23rd. Odd class periods will have finals on Thursday, and even class periods will have finals on Friday.

School iPads will be collected on Friday, May 23rd after the 6th period final. Returning students will turn in their iPad and case. Graduates and those not returning to NPHS will also turn in their charging bricks and cords.

Since students will be returning technology items at the end of the final day of school, we kindly ask that students stay until the end of the school day. Calling out students early will disrupt the collection process for our staff.

IMPORTANT SENIOR INFORMATION

Here is some extra information for Senior families.

- The Senior Awards Ceremony will be held on Monday, May 19th in the NPHS auditorium at 7:30am. Parents are invited to attend and should plan to arrive by 7:20am.
 - During the ceremony, staff will be presenting and recognizing department awards to recipients.
 - All students will be recognized through their Senior Slides.
 - Community scholarships will be presented on an individual basis outside of the ceremony this year. Students selected for scholarships will have their information shared during the presentation as well as on our NPHS Facebook page.
- Reminder that students must be passing all graduation required courses on Friday, May 23rd to participate in our graduation ceremony.
- Senior graduation practice and luncheon will be on Wednesday, May 21st. Students should bring their cap and gowns for this day as they will be touring all three elementary schools in a Graduation March for our aspiring Cougars.
- The NPHS Graduation Ceremony will be on Sunday, June 1st at 2pm at Amzie Miller Field. Gates will open one hour beforehand. Tickets will not be used for this event. Additional graduation information will be sent directly to Senior families through email.

Celebrate Your Graduate & Give Back!

Make your graduate's big day even more memorable with beautiful flowers and thoughtful gift items available for purchase at graduation! Surprise your student with a bouquet or keepsake to honor their accomplishments while supporting a meaningful cause. Proceeds from these sales will go toward helping NPHS students and families in need during the holiday season, providing essentials and holiday cheer when it's needed most. It's a simple way to celebrate and give back at the same time. You can use the QR code to the right to pre-order your items and pick them onsite at the school prior to the ceremony that day, or you can purchase in person from a limited selection the same day.

GRADUATION

CELEBRATE YOUR GRADUATE

BEAUTIFUL BOUQUETS

GRADUATION GIFTS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE CEREMONY FOR PURCHASE!

PRE-ORDER USING THE LINK BELOW & PICK UP YOUR ORDER AT OUR TABLE ON GRADUATION DAY!

SCAN ME

thecommentmentgroup.com/newprairiehs/

Transfer Applications

Out of district transfer applications are now open for the 2025-2026 school year. Current students must complete a new form every year. The transfer form can be accessed by clicking on the link below or visiting our NPUSC District website under "Info" and "Transferring to NPUSC".

<https://www.npusc.k12.in.us/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Outside-District-Student-Transfer-Request-Form-2025-2026-.pdf>

Summer School Update

Unlike previous years, New Prairie High School will not be offering Summer School at the end of the 2024-2025 school year.

Important NPHS Links

[Daily Bell Schedule](#)

[Military Opt Out Form](#)

[Grade 12 Vaccination Reminder](#)

[Building Map](#)

[Dismissal Procedures / Parking](#)

[Volunteer Background Check](#)

IMPORTANT DATES

5/5-5/9 - Staff Appreciation Week

5/5-5/16 - AP Exams

5/8 - Community & Career Fun Fair

5/11 - Mother's Day

5/12 - Biology ILEARN

5/19 - Senior Awards Ceremony

5/21 - Senior Graduation
Practice/Activity Day

5/22 - Odd Period Finals

5/23 - Even Period Finals

6/1 - Graduation Day

8/5 - NPHS Open House

8/7 - First Day of School

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



Attention all businesses & community organizations!

New Prairie United School Corporation in partnership with Amazon Web Services and the Health Foundation of LaPorte will host a Community & Career Fair on Thursday, May 8, at New Prairie Middle School, where students and families can discover the wide range of opportunities and resources available to them right here in our community! If your business or organization would like to be an exhibitor at our event, please scan the QR code below to register or contact Deb Cole at debracole@npusc.k12.in.us or 574-654-0495.



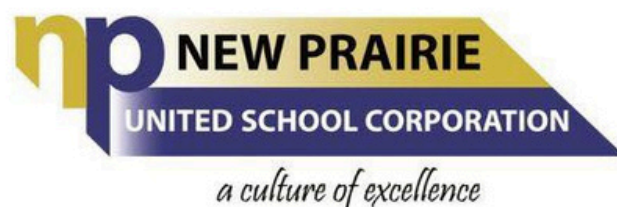
COMMUNITY & CAREER FUN FAIR

MAY 8, 2025

**SESSION 1 - 7:00 a.m.-2:45 p.m. CST
STUDENTS ONLY**

SESSION 2 - 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. CST

All students, parents, and community members are welcome! There will be food, games, prize giveaways, and more!



Save-the-Date

Sport Physical Night

When: May 19th, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Who: Students wanting to participate in sports who will be in middle or high school during the 2025-26 school year.

Where: New Prairie High School
5333 N. Cougar Road
New Carlisle, IN 46552

Cost: \$25 per student



