



COUGAR NEWSLETTER

Publication of the New Prairie School Administration

January 2026



Welcome back, Cougars! We are excited to begin the second semester of our school year and look forward to continuing the tradition of excellence that New Prairie is known for.

The Spring semester can fly by quickly. And for our Seniors, this is their final semester to soak up all that high school has to offer. Events such as Prom, Spring athletics, Spring concerts, school musical, club competitions, and this year's Riley Dance Marathon provide many ways for students to stay engaged and enjoy these final months of the 2025-2026 school year.

We also take time in the Spring to make preparations for the following school year for our underclassmen and incoming Freshmen. Students will begin scheduling classes for next year over the next couple of months. We encourage all parents to talk with your students and their counselors about all of the options to develop a plan for success.

As always, Go Cougars!

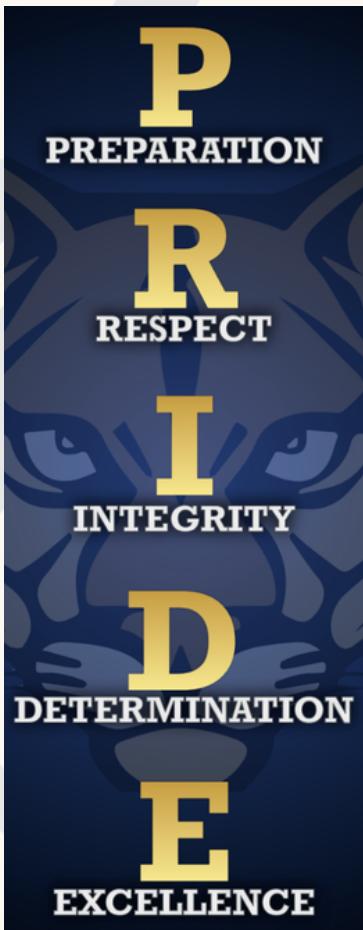


– Mr. Heinold
NPHS Principal

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.

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 are available to all 9th-11th grade students who took the PSAT in October. The SAT School Day Test for all NPHS Juniors is scheduled for March 10th, 2026.



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, 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 26-27 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 2/9/26 and 3/16/26. On cancellation days 3-7, we will be instructing LIVE. Any weather cancellation days beyond that will be made up in late May/early June. A daily eLearning schedule is attached to this newsletter.

Student Parking and Parent Pick-Up/Drop-Off

This is a reminder to families who pick-up and drop-off students at NPHS. No adults should be driving through the student lots to pick-up or drop-off their student. This must be done in the horseshoe in front of the main entrance. Do not attempt to pick-up students anywhere else on campus. Thank you for your support in helping to run an efficient arrival and dismissal process.

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



Athletics Online Store

The New Prairie High School Athletic Department has an online store for NP Spirit Wear. You can access the store [here](#).



School Information

In this section, there are a number of key pieces of information to get the school year started right. You can view documents using the links below. Please contact the Main Office if you have any questions.

[Daily Bell Schedule](#)

[Military Opt Out Form](#)

[Grade 12 Vaccination Reminder](#)

[Building Map](#)

[Dismissal Procedures/Parking](#)

[Volunteer Background Check](#)

NPUSC District Calendar

In mid-July, the School Board adopted an update to the 2025-2026 School Calendar, including modifying a select number of Late Start Friday dates. [Clicking on this link](#) will take you to the updated calendar located on the NPUSC website.

IMPORTANT DATES

1/6 – First Student Day of Semester 2

1/15 – Blood Drive

1/19 – MLK Day – No School

1/23 – Two-Hour Delay Schedule

2/12 – Step Up Day/Course Selection Night for Incoming Freshman

2/16 – Snow Make-Up Day--School in Session

2/23 – Flex Day

2/26 – HS Parent-Teacher Conferences

3/10 – SAT School Day Test (Juniors)

Also, check out [npcougars.com](#) for athletic dates/times, ticket information, and post-event summaries.

Contact Information

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

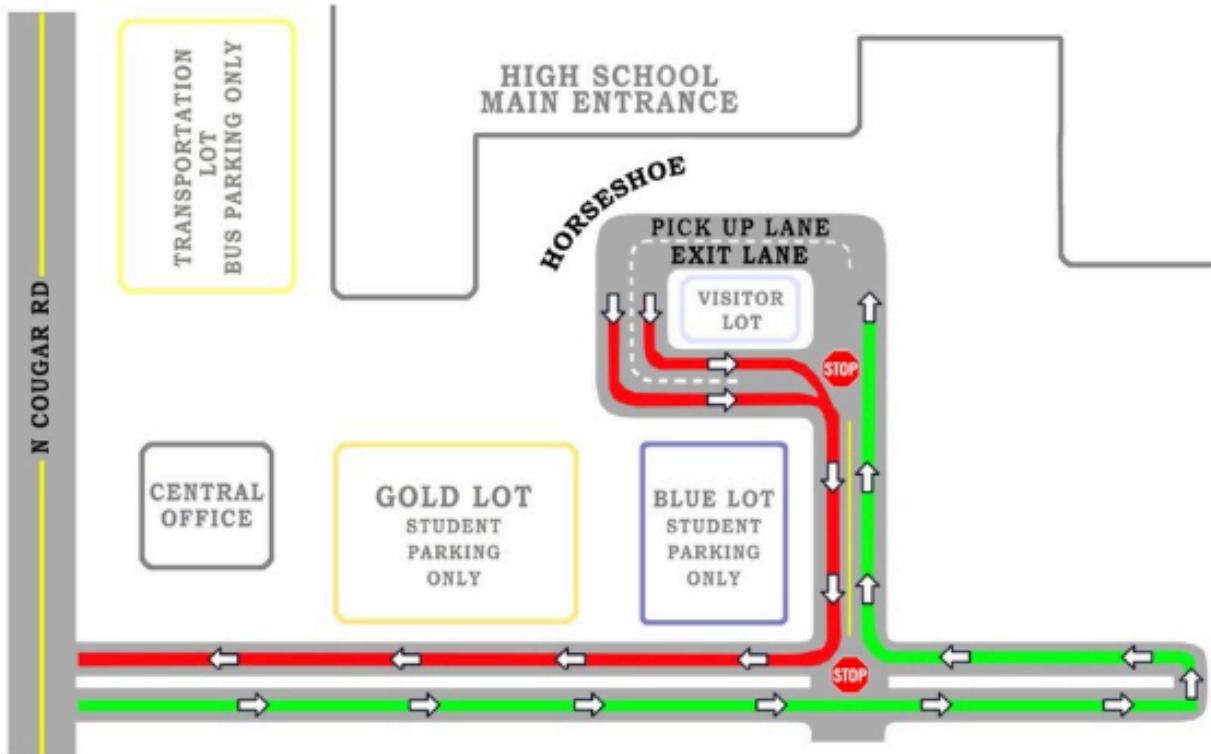
<https://www.npusc.k12.in.us/new-prairie-high-school/>

facebook.com/newprairiecougars

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

NEW PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL

Dismissal Expectations and Parking



Please follow these guidelines to ensure the safety of our students during pick up and drop off. We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to a safe dismissal each day.

Guidelines:

- Please follow the green line for entering the pick-up line.
- Pull up NEXT to the sidewalk so your student can enter the vehicle safely.
- Once your student has entered the vehicle, pull carefully into the exit lane shown in red.
- We DO NOT want students crossing traffic to enter cars, for any reason.
- Please DO NOT park in any of our lots during pick-up and drop off.
- Anyone who needs to enter the building must park in the visitor lot only. These spaces are limited and cannot be used for picking up or dropping off students.
- DO NOT attempt to pick up students in ANY other areas on campus.

Important Times:

- First period begins at 7:15am M-Th. On Friday, 1st period begins at 8:00am.
- Our main entrance doors open for students 25 minutes before 1st period.
- The "warning bell" reminds students to head to class 5 minutes prior to 1st period.
- Our last period ends at 2:20pm and students are dismissed for the day.
- Buses depart from campus to take students home at 2:25pm sharp. Traffic on Cougar Rd will be stopped for approximately 3 minutes to allow buses to leave.



WHO: New Prairie United School Corporation
for Boys & Girls Club

Thursday, February 5th, 2026

WHEN:

HOW: Show this flyer to our staff and your Organization
will receive a 25% giveback of your total purchase



Full Tilt Arcade & Pinball
Address: 701 N Fail Rd, LaPorte, IN 46350
Phone: (219) 369-4469
Email: Info@FullTiltFun.com
www.FullTiltLP.com



2025-2026 NPHS Synchronous eLearning Schedule

Begin at 9, 25 minute sessions

Teacher Preparation	7:00 -- 9:00 (2 hours)
Class period	Monday - Friday
1	9:00 – 9:25 (25 mins)
2	9:30 – 9:55 (25 mins)
3	10:00 – 10:25 (25 mins)
M: Cougar Mentor Time T-TH: Success	N/A
4	10:30 – 10:55 (25 mins)
5	11:00 --11:25 (25 mins)
6	11:30 – 11:55 (25 mins)
7	12:00 – 12:25 (25 mins)
Lunch	12:25 – 12:55 (30 mins)
Independent Work, Teachers Available for Questions by Email	12:55 -- 2:30 (1 hr 35 min)