

USD 251 NORTH LYON COUNTY
SUMMER 2023
PATRON NEWSLETTER



SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

Dear North Lyon County School Community,

It is a privilege to welcome our students and families back to the 2023-2024 school year. I hope that everyone is enjoying their summer.

We should all be very proud of the many recent accomplishments of our students at North Lyon County. Some of those accomplishments include:

- 100 percent graduation rate
- 4 Kansans Can Star awards: High School Graduation, Civic Engagement, Academically Prepared for Postsecondary, and Postsecondary Success
- ACT average composite score above the state ACT average composite score
- State Assessment scores above the state median score in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science in various grades

In addition to academic success, our school district has many other positive attributes to offer the families of North Lyon County, including:

- Small town values
- Small class sizes resulting in individualized attention, more student participation, strong student – teacher relationships, and socialization opportunities
- 9 Career Pathways at NHHS
 - Fashion, Apparel, and Interior Design Pathway
 - Family Community & Consumer Pathway
 - Health Science Pathway
 - Web & Digital Communications Pathway
 - Early Childhood Development & Services Pathway
 - Business Management and Entrepreneurship Pathway
 - Business Finance Pathway
 - Power, Structural, & Technical Systems Pathway
 - Comprehensive Agriculture Pathway
- Numerous extra-curricular activities – football, volleyball, cross country, basketball, wrestling, track, baseball, softball, band, choir, scholars bowl
- Various student clubs – FFA, FCCLA, FBLA, HOSA, FCA, NHS, STUCO
- 1:1 student technology
- Modern Early Learning Center that opened during the 2022-2023 school year for four-year olds

USD 251 is continuing to be proactive in planned preventative maintenance as well as capital outlay upgrades and replacements. During the spring and summer of 2023, our school district has completed the replacement of large sections of windows on each campus with grant funding, completion of remodeling a storage building at NLC for a new weight room, purchase of new weight equipment for NLC, purchase of two new SUV's, track repair at NHHS, tuck pointing at the district office, NLC gym floor sanding and refinishing, and restroom improvement at the softball field in Allen. The remaining projects to be completed this summer are concrete repairs at NHHS, floor tile replacement in two rooms at NHHS, flagpole replacement at the NHHS football field, gravel for the Early Learning Center parking lot, NHHS football fence repair, and installation of lockers in the NHHS south hallway. Proactive maintenance and prioritizing capital outlay needs serves to promote a better and safer learning environment for all students.

Our district has been awarded a second Kansas Pre-School Pilot Grant and a Safe & Secure Schools Grant for the 2023-2024 school year.

Our district is looking forward to working closely with all of our families during the 2023-2024 school year to provide students with the most effective education possible. Enjoy the remainder of summer!

Respectfully,

Robert W. Blair, Superintendent
USD 251 North Lyon County

BUILDING INFORMATION

The district administrators will report for duty on Monday July 31, 2023. If you have any questions or need assistance with school related issues, they will be glad to help you. The administrator's names and school phone numbers are as follows:

Robert W. Blair, Superintendent of Schools, (620)481-2085

David Watkins, Principal at Northern Heights High School, (620)481-2087

Robert Hampton, Principal at NLC Elementary School and NLC Early Learning Center, (620)481-2086



ENROLLMENT DATES AND TIMES

Monday, July 31, 2023 1:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Preschool/Elementary/Middle School/High School Enrollment
Tuesday, August 1, 2023 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Preschool/Elementary/Middle School/High School Enrollment

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

FREE/REDUCED MEAL APPLICATIONS are available NOW!!!

The process is confidential and information is not made public. There is a link on our website for an online application or a form can be picked up at the District Office at 614 Main Street in Americus. If your student(s) qualifies for FREE meals, you can also submit an application for FREE textbooks. District Office summer hours are Monday – Thursday from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

TEXTBOOK FEES

Kindergarten – Grade 12	Textbook Fee	\$50.00
	Technology Fee	\$35.00
	Band Instrument Fee (monthly, if renting school instrument)	\$10.00
Grade 9 - 12	Art Fee (per class)	\$15.00
	FACS Fee (per consumable class)	\$15.00
	Vo-Ag Fee (mechanics, advanced mechanics and science, per class)	\$15.00
	Driver's Education Fee	\$85.00

SCHOOL HOURS

Preschool/Elementary/Middle School 8:10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
High School 7:50 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.

BUS ROUTES

Parents will be notified of bus route times as soon as possible following enrollment. Please make sure your correct address and phone number are listed on all forms at enrollment.

ATHLETICS

Athletic Practices will start on August 14, 2023. All students who plan to participate in these activities must have a physical signed by a licensed physician and parent/guardian on file at the school before they may practice.

FOOD SERVICE NOTE TO PARENTS

We are pleased to once again announce that the offer vs. serve meal pattern will be followed again this year for all K-12 students, NLC Early Learning Center will be required to follow serve method.

For those children who have small appetites, the offer vs. serve is wonderful. A school lunch consists of five different food items from four food component groups. When a lunch program offers only the serve form of meals, students must take all items to meet the meal requirements.

Under the offer vs. serve method, the following conditions must be met: a) all five food items must be offered to all students; b) the serving sizes must equal the minimum required quantities; c) the lunch must be priced as a unit and students may take 3, 4, or all 5 items for the same price d) students have the option of which item(s) to decline. If you wish to have your child take all items on the menu, please encourage your child to do so.

Those involved in the lunch program will continue to work hard to serve well-balanced and well-received meals.

Please plan for your children to eat breakfast and lunch with us at school. Our cooks do an excellent job in preparing and serving meals. We appreciate your interest and support in the program.

LUNCH AND BREAKFAST COST

BREAKFAST	Grades PK - 8	\$2.15
	Grades 9 -12	\$2.40
	2 nd Chance Breakfast (NHHS only)	\$3.00
	Adult	\$3.00
LUNCH	Grades PK - 5	\$3.20
	Grades 6 - 8	\$3.30
	Grades 9 - 12	\$3.40
	Adult	\$5.00
EXTRA MILK	Per Carton	50 cents

JOIN OUR TEAM!!!

USD 251 is seeking applications for the following positions:

Full-time CUSTODIAN; part-time CUSTODIAN; BUS DRIVERS for all routes, daily and activity;

VOLLEYBALL COACH at NHHS; ASST. BOYS BASKETBALL COACH at NLC; SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS;

For more information please call the District Office at (620)481-2085.



DRUG FREE SCHOOL AND WORKPLACE

The unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students or school employees on school premises or as a part of any school activity is prohibited. This policy, and any curriculum used in conjunction with it, shall be evaluated at least every-other year using criteria developed by the superintendent and approved by the board. The board shall receive a report after each of these reviews are conducted. This policy is required by the 1989 amendments to the Drug Free School and Communities Act. P.L. 102-226. Compliance with the policy is mandatory.

ASBESTOS

We are required by Federal Law to yearly notify patrons about the presence of asbestos in our buildings. In all of our schools, there is asbestos in some of the floor tile, and in Americus we have some steam pipes wrapped with material that contains asbestos. This asbestos is checked on a regular basis and was found to be in good condition in our 2021 inspection. We plan to maintain the floors and remove the pipe wrapping as the need arises. We possibly will remove asbestos from our buildings each summer until completed.

SENIOR CITIZEN PASSES

Just a reminder, if you are age 65 and over, a resident of USD 251 and do not have a senior citizens pass, please come by the District Office in Americus! Going forward, Senior Citizen Passes will be lifetime passes and require you to show an ID if asked. We appreciate your cooperation!

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

In accordance with federal and state law, it is the policy of USD #251 that no student, applicant, employee, or other person will be discriminated against or harassed on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age or disability. This policy covers all aspects of admission, access, treatment and employment in all school district programs and activities. USD #251 has procedures regarding the referral, evaluation, and placement of individuals with disabilities who are eligible for services under federal law. The person responsible for coordinating school compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title 6 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Title 9 of the Education Amendments of 1972 is:

**Mr. Bob Blair, PO Box 527, Americus, Kansas 66835
620-481-2085**

Contact this person if you have questions about equal opportunity and nondiscrimination, or contact the Kansas State Board of Education, 120 SE 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66612 (Telephone 785-296-3202), or Region 7 Office of Civil Rights, 10220 N. Executive Hills Blvd., 8th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64153-1367 (Telephone 816-891-8026).

RACIAL AND DISABILITY HARASSMENT POLICY

The Board of Education is committed to providing a positive and productive learning and working environment, free from discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, or national origin ("racial harassment") or on the basis of disability ("disability harassment") shall not be tolerated in the school district.

Racial harassment is unlawful discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin under Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Kansas Acts Against Discrimination. Disability harassment is unlawful discrimination on the basis of disability under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. All forms of racial or disability harassment are prohibited at school, on school property, and at all school-sponsored activities, programs or events.

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student, employee or third party to so harass any student, employee, or other individual associated with the school. It shall further be a violation for any employee to discourage a student from filing a complaint, or fail to investigate or refer for investigation, any complaint lodged under the provisions of this policy.

Prohibited conduct under this policy includes racially or disability-motivated conduct which:

- Affords a student different treatment, solely on the basis is race, color, national origin, or disability, in a manner which interferes with or limits the ability of the student to participate in or benefit from the services, activities or programs of the school;
- Is sufficiently severe, pervasive or persistent so as to have the purpose or effect of creating a hostile academic environment; or
- Is sufficiently severe, pervasive or persistent to as to have the purpose or effect of interfering with a student's academic performance or ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities or programs of the school.

Racial or disability harassment may result from verbal or physical conduct or written graphic material.

The district encourages all victims of racial or disability harassment and persons with knowledge of such harassment to report the harassment immediately. The district will promptly investigate all complaints of racial or disability harassment and take prompt corrective action to end the harassment.

Any student who believes he or she has been subject to racial or disability harassment, should discuss the alleged harassment with the building principal, another administrator, the guidance counselor, or another certified staff member. Any school employee who receives a complaint of racial or disability harassment from a student shall inform the student of the employee's obligation to report the complaint and any proposed resolution of the complaint to the building principal. If the building principal is the alleged harasser, the complaint shall be reported to the district compliance coordinator. The building principal shall discuss the complaint with the student to determine if it can be resolved. If the matter is not resolved to the satisfaction of the student in this meeting, the student may initiate a formal complaint under the district's discrimination complaint procedure in policy KN.

If discrimination or harassment has occurred, the district will take prompt, remedial action to prevent its reoccurrence.

The school district will follow the procedure outlined in board policy JGECA. For a detailed description of this procedure, please refer to the full 4-page policy as posted on the school website. A summary of this policy is also published in the student handbooks and posted in each district facility.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

The Board of Education is committed to providing a positive and productive learning environment, free from discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment. Discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment will not be tolerated in the school district.

Sexual harassment is unlawful discrimination on the basis of sex under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Kansas Act Against Discrimination. All forms of sexual harassment are prohibited at school, on school property, and at all school-sponsored activities, programs, or events.

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student, employee, or third party to sexually harass any student, employee, or other individual associated with the school. It shall further be a violation for any employee to discourage a student from filing a complaint, or to fail to investigate or refer for investigation, any complaint lodged under the provisions of this policy.

Sexual harassment shall include conduct on the basis of sex involving one or more of the following: (1) A district employee conditioning the provision of aid, benefit, or service of the district on an individual's participation in unwelcomed sexual conduct; (2) unwelcomed conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the district's educational program or activity; or (3) sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking.

Sexual harassment may result from verbal or physical conduct or written or graphic material. Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to: verbal harassment or abuse of a sexual nature; pressure for sexual activity; repeated remarks to a person with sexual or demeaning implication; unwelcome touching; or suggesting or demanding sexual involvement accompanied by implied or explicit threats concerning a student's grades, participating in extracurricular activities, etc.

The district encourages all victims of sexual harassment and persons with knowledge of such harassment to report the harassment immediately. Complaints of sexual harassment will be promptly investigated and resolved. Any person may make a verbal or written report of sex discrimination by any means and at any time.

Superintendent/Title IX Coordinator, 614 Main Street, Americus, KS 66835, blairb@usd251.org, 620-481-2085 has been designated to coordinate compliance with nondiscrimination requirements contained in Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 regarding discrimination on the basis of sex, and the Kansas Act Against Discrimination.

The district takes all reports of sexual harassment seriously and will respond meaningfully to every report of discrimination based on sex, including sexual harassment, of which the district has actual knowledge. Any students who believe that he or she has been subjected to sexual harassment should report the alleged harassment to the building principal, another administrator, the guidance counselor, the Title IX Coordinator, or another licensed staff member. All employees receiving reports of sexual harassment from a student shall notify the Title IX Coordinator.

The school district will follow the investigative procedure outlined in board policy JGEC. For a detailed description of this procedure, please refer to the full 17-page policy as posted on the school website. A summary of this policy is also published in the student handbooks and posted in each district facility.



USD 251 KINDERGARTEN JUMPSTART



USD 251, North Lyon County, is pleased to offer Kindergarten Jumpstart. Kindergarten Jumpstart is open to incoming USD 251 kindergarteners for the 2023-2024 school year.

Kindergarten Jumpstart will focus around early literacy skills. Attention will also include building relationships and setting and reinforcing academic and nonacademic expectations and routines.

Kindergarten Jumpstart will be held August 7-10 from 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at NLC Elementary School.

Please call the District Office at 620-481-2085 to enroll your kindergartner for Kindergarten Jumpstart.

KANSAS SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE 12 IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Immunization requirements and recommendations for the 2022-2023 school year are based on the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations. The current recommended and minimum interval immunization schedules may be found on the CDC webpage. The best disease prevention is achieved by adhering to the recommended schedule. However, if a child falls behind, the catch-up schedule is implemented. To avoid missed opportunities, immunization providers may use a 4-day grace period, in most instances, per age and interval between doses. In such cases, these doses may be counted as valid.

K.S.A. 72 - 6261 - Kansas Statutes Related to School Immunizations Requirements and K.A.R. 28-1-20, published July 18, 2019 in the Kansas Register, defines the immunizations required for school and early childhood program attendance.

- **Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP/Tdap):** Five doses required. Doses should be given at 2 months, 4 months, 6 months, 15-18 months, and 4-6 years (prior to kindergarten entry). The 4th dose may be given as early as 12 months of age, if at least 6 months have elapsed since dose 3. The 5th dose is not necessary if the 4th dose was administered at age 4 years or older. A dose of **Tdap** is required at entry to 7th grade.
- **Hepatitis A (Hep A):** Two doses required. Doses should be given at 12 months with a minimum interval of 6 months between the 1st and 2nd dose.
- **Hepatitis B (Hep B):** Three doses required. Doses should be given at birth, 1-2 months, and 6-18 months. Minimum age for the final dose is 24 weeks.
- **Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR):** Two doses required. Doses should be given at 12-15 months and 4-6 years (prior to kindergarten entry). Minimum age is 12 months and interval between doses may be as short as 28 days.
- **Meningococcal-Serogroup A,C,W,Y (MenACWY):** Two doses required. Doses should be given at entry to 7th grade (11-12 years) and 11th grade (16-18 years). For children 16-18 years, with no previous MenACWY, only one dose is required.
- **Poliomyelitis (IPV/OPV):** Four doses required. Doses should be given at 2 months, 4 months, 6-18 months, and 4-6 years (prior to kindergarten entry). Three doses are acceptable if 3rd dose was given after 4 years of age **and** at least 6 months have elapsed since dose 2.

- **Varicella (Chickenpox):** Two doses are required. Doses should be given at 12-15 months and 4-6 years (prior to kindergarten entry). The 2nd dose may be administered as early as 3 months after the 1st dose, however, a dose administered after a 4-week interval is considered valid. No doses are required when student has history of varicella disease documented by a licensed physician.

Legal alternatives to school vaccination requirements are found in K.S.A. 72-6262.

In addition, to the immunizations required for school entry the following vaccines are recommended to protect students:

- **Human Papillomavirus (HPV):** Two doses *recommended* at 11 years of age or three doses if the series is started after 15 years.
- **Influenza:** Annual vaccination *recommended* for all ages \geq 6 months of age. Number of doses is dependent on age and number of doses given in previous years.

Vaccination efforts by school and public health officials, immunization providers, and parents are key to the success of protecting our children and communities from vaccine preventable diseases. Thank you for your dedication.

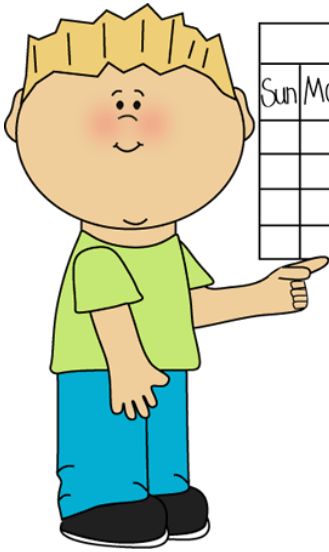
Revision 2/2023

ANNUAL NOTIFICATION

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT

Under the Provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) parents of students and eligible students (those who are 18 or older) are afforded various rights with regard to educational records, which are kept and maintained by USD 251. In accordance with Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) parents of students and eligible students (those who are 18 or older) are afforded various rights with regard to educational records, which are kept and maintained by USD 251. In accordance with FERPA, you are required to be notified of those rights, which include:

1. The right to review and inspect all of your educational records, except those, which are specifically exempted.
2. The right to prevent disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in your educational records to other persons with certain limited exceptions. Disclosure of information from your educational records to other persons will occur only if:
 - a. we have prior written consent for disclosure;
 - b. the information is considered "directory information" and you have not objected to the release of such information; or
 - c. disclosure without consent is permitted by law.
3. The right to request that your educational records be amended if you believe that the records are misleading, inaccurate, or otherwise in violation of your rights. This right includes the right to request a hearing at which you may present evidence to show why the record should be changed if your request for an amendment to records is denied in the first instance.
4. The right to file a complaint with the Family Policy and Regulations Office at the U.S. Department of Education if you believe that USD 251 has failed to comply with FERPA's requirements.
5. The right to obtain a copy of USD 251's policies for complying with FERPA. A copy may be obtained from: USD 251 North Lyon County Board of Education Office, 614 Main, PO Box 527, Americus, Kansas 66835.



Month						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

School calendars are available at the district office and at businesses throughout the district.

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

LOCAL
POSTAL CUSTOMER