

NMS AGAINST BULLYING



Report urgent student concerns quickly to school officials



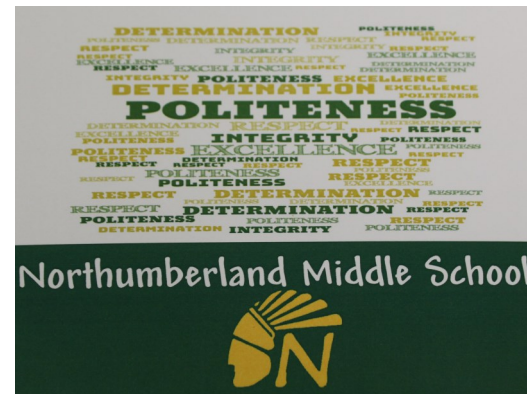
NMS will be taking a better stand against bullying and cyberbullying. We will all respect our peers and the staff at NMS. Our school wants each and every one of the students to remember to be polite to one another, respect teachers, students and other staff members, show integrity, and always show excellence in all the work you do. We would like to remind everyone that they can make a difference in anything, and if they see bullying they should stand up.

Our school has an Anonymously Alert system to combat bullying and negative activity. It empowers students to come forward to help themselves, others, and our school in reducing negative behavior. Students or parents can anonymously submit any suspicious activity, bullying or other student related issues to the school administrators. They need to describe the incident and provide the date, time specific location, victim(s) and person(s) involved. NMS staff will be sure to handle the issue.

NMS P.R.I.D.E.



Together we can achieve more! Throughout the school year, students are taught how to behave according to the five expectations. Acknowledging and reinforcing positive behavior is one of the best ways to change inappropriate behavior and encourage appropriate behavior. You should always show your Northumberland PRIDE. You can earn a PRIDE postcard that is mailed, letting you and your family know that you had demonstrated NMS PRIDE.



Have a GREAT SUMMER BREAK! See You in August...Stay Safe!

Contact us at nms105news@gmail.com

Issue
4
2021

Green and Gold Times

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

NMS 2021 TEACHER OF THE YEAR



P.R.I.D.E.

- Politeness
- Respect
- Integrity
- Determination
- Excellence



Congratulations to Mrs. April Walker for her achievements and recognition as 2021 NMS Teacher of the Year. She stated, "I enjoy every day of working with the students and staff at Northumberland Middle School!" She enjoys teaching English to seventh graders at Northumberland Middle School. Mrs. Walker taught prekindergarten for four years in Richmond County and she never thought she would want to teach middle school; but, she really enjoys teaching here. Mrs. Walker is a Reedville native who still lives there today with her husband and three children. In her free time, she enjoys reading, writing fiction stories, photography, scrapbooking and deltiology or sending/receiving postcards both nationally as well as internationally. We are truly glad to have Mrs. Walker at Northumberland Middle School.



Mr. Letizia Mrs. Walker Dr. Wargo



Mrs. Walker with husband, son, daughters & family



Mr. Simmons Mrs. Walker Mrs. Taylor

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER



"Every child deserves a champion –an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists that they become the best that they can possibly be".

~Rita F. Pierson~



Returning to Normalcy Back To The Classroom

Dear NMS Families,

It feels like the end of the school year arrived so quickly. I hope this message finds your summer off to a great start, and that you get to spend quality time with your families and friends. I thank all of you for the support and patience shown these past 10 months, as we faced an entirely new kind of school year. We had successes and challenges, yet despite it all, we continued the work that has to be done to ensure the safety and educational needs of our students. Thank you to our students for your hard work, flexibility, and dedication to your own learning this school year. Thank you to our parents for your support and kindness towards our school staff. Thank you to our teachers and support staff for all that you did to reach out and help our students be successful.

Please take the opportunity to read a book this summer! I look forward to seeing all of our students next school year, as we work to reopen 5 days a week!

Yours truly,

Patrick H. Simmons
Principal

On March 15, 2021, NMS combined current in-person students in the Gold Group and Green Group so that all current in-person students attend four (4) days per week: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Wednesdays still remain 100% asynchronous for all students. As of April 12, 2021, NMS have 154 in-person students while 118 students are learning virtually.



Fun...Fun...and More Fun!



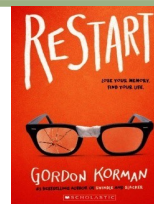


A Day of Fun!

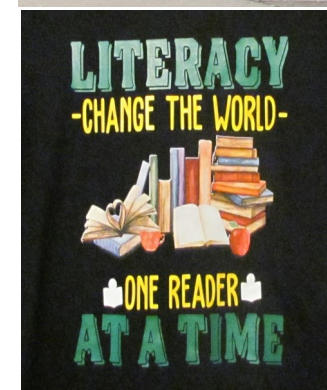
On May 20, 2021, NMS celebrated the last day of this new kind of school year with fun. In celebrating, 8th grade students had activities such as dancing, tie dying t-shirts, and kite flying; 7th grade students activities included playing water pool/slide kickball; and 6th grade students activities included bingo, outdoor lunch and kickball. The students and teachers really enjoyed their last day of this pandemic school year.



On the Road to Literacy



On March 31, 2021, with the invite of Mrs. Stacy Lee the faculty and staff joined the meal delivery program to help deliver meals and hand deliver copies of our One School One Book Reading program selection, "RESTART" by Gordon Korman, to students who are 100% virtual. The in-person students received their novels in English class after Spring Break on Monday, April 12th.



The program was kicked off with NMS Spirit Week. Students and staff read the assigned chapters each night and listened for daily trivia questions for a chance to win a prize (Candy Treats or \$5 Subway Gift Card). The winners on the daily trivia questions were Samuel Brann, Ethan Fitzgerald, Holly Rose, Braeden Cummings, Elijah Jones, Eliza Leo, James Dyke, Marcus Crawley, Savion Taylor, Kelsey Newsome, Octavious Gordon, Arnett Taylor, Kazmin James, Addie Gordon, Dylan Jenkins, Rachel Headley, Mathew Lewis, Michael Wilson and Michelle Wallace.



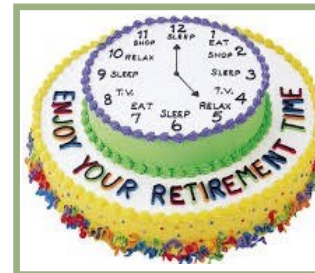
NMS ACADEMICS

FORTY-SEVEN NEW NMS BETA MEMBERS

The Northumberland Middle School held their Virtual 2021 Spring Junior Beta Club Induction Ceremony via Google Meet on April 27, 2021. The purpose of this ceremony was to install into membership 47 new qualified members. Beta Clubs honor students for their academic achievements, prepare them to be leaders of tomorrow and shows the importance of giving back to the community. The new members are Jemarius Barber, Abigail Bates, Lyrac Bea, Braulin Beauchamp, Ally Bidlecomb, Camden Brann, Gabrielle Burnett, Isabelle deRosa Fries, Chase Dodson, Presley Gracik, Waylon Hymes, Victoria Jett, Eliza Leo, Mia Livingston, Caleb McCall, Artie Mink, Landon Shirilla, Luke Sisk, Emma Somers, Caleb timberlake, Levi Walker, Claire Walker, Jeilan Williams-Johnson, Chloe Bustle Kiera Coleman, Gracey Dameron, Morgan Dunn, Isaac Faulkner, Mary Clare Hodges, Chase Hymes, Madison Jones, Emma Kimball, Amiya Lee, Karmin Lucas, Olivia Metsala, Cameron Minor, Zoe Paone, Ann Rice, Cason Rogers, Virginia Swann, JP Withers, Charlie Hapgood, Sanaa Thomas, and Leon Zarraga-Dominquez. In-person Induction Ceremony will be held in the fall provided that the 2021-2022 school opening is under normal operating conditions.

National Board Certified Teacher

Congratulations to Mrs. Stacey Lee for achieving National Board Certification (NBC). NBC is a voluntary, advanced teaching credential that goes beyond state licensure. Mrs. Lee successfully completed the rigorous certification process in the areas of Content Knowledge; Differentiated Instruction; Teaching Practice & Learning Environment; and Effective & Reflective Practitioner. Mrs. Lee teaches 8th grade English at NMS. She received a bachelor's and master's degree in English with an emphasis in education and English Literature from Old Dominion University. She also has a reading specialist endorsement earned from Regent University. She is the English Department Chairperson, Advanced Ed Chairperson, Substitute Teacher/Facilitator, and coordinator for the middle school summer reading and the One School/One Book reading programs. Teaching is her passion and she loves working with young people to not only educate them; but, also inspire them to become productive citizens. She is also writing a self-help book to assist girls on their journey to becoming positive women who contribute to their society. She loves her students and shares, "great work never came from staying in my comfort zone, instead, it came from my willingness to step out on faith and pray I could change the life of a child."



Celebration

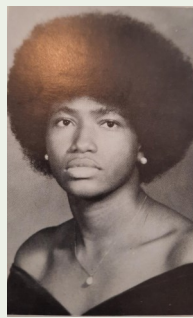


On May 19, 2021, NMS celebrated the retirement of four of our family members for their dedicated service to the education of students. Mrs. Sandra Green has worked for Northumberland County Public School for 38 years, Mr. Michael Stevenson has worked for 37 Years, Mrs. Bernice Stevenson has worked for 35 years, and Mrs. Jill Murray has worked for 26 years. As this chapter of your life ends, may a new and exceptional one begins with full of wonderful surprises. Congratulations on your Retirement.



HAPPY
Retirement!

The Next Chapter



1976

Mrs. Bernice K. Stevenson is retiring after working in the public school system for 35 years. Mrs. Stevenson started at Robertson Elementary School in Suffolk, VA, where she worked 3 years. She worked 27 years at Northumberland Elementary School. She was a car driver for Northumberland County Public School (NUCPS) for 10 years. She also had various jobs through NUCPS such as Regional Special Education teacher, and paraprofessional. Mrs. Stevenson is a native of Suffolk, VA. She graduated from Virginia State University in 1980 with a Bachelor's degree in Sociology. She attended Old Dominion University to receive her license (certification) to teach Special Education in the state of VA. Mrs. Stevenson plans for retirement to rest, travel, and spend a lot of time with her granddaughter, Ziyah Renee. Mrs. Stevenson stated, "I am just going to enjoy life." We want to thank Mrs. Stevenson for her dedicated service to the education of students.



2021



2013

Mrs. Jill Murray is retiring. She has been a mathematics educator for a long time...26 years. In the summer of 2013, she moved to Northumberland County from Lynchburg and she has been enjoying life in the Northern Neck. Mrs. Murray undergraduate degree is from Virginia Tech and she received her Master's degree in Mathematics Education from Western Governor's University. She was our Mathematics Specialist for the division and worked with grades 6 - 12. Mrs. Murray loves to hang out with her pup, exercise, paddle board, kayak, be outdoors, and learn stuff. Mrs. Murray's plan for retirement is to train dogs and she is only a few classes from being a certified dog trainer. We thank Mrs. Murray for her dedicated service.



2021



2015

Mrs. Anita McEntire is resigning after working in the Northumberland County Public School system since December 2015. Mrs. McEntire was one of our 6th grade Math teachers. She is a native of Charlottesville, VA where she attended University of Virginia where she received her Bachelor's degree in math. She taught math at W&L high school in Westmoreland County for 8 years before teaching Geometry at NHS for several years. She and her family are moving to the Martinsville area (about 30 minutes West of Danville). For the past 10 years her husband has been a part-time pastor and full-time stay at home dad who home schools their two boys. Mrs. McEntire stated, "Now, they are switching things up, he will be a full-time pastor and she will be doing the home schooling. They are very excited about the move, getting to see new things and meet new people." We thank Mrs. McEntire for her dedicated service.

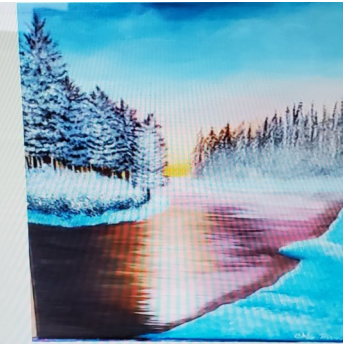


2021

NMS ACADEMICS

JUNIOR BETA VIRTUAL CONVENTION

A few of our Junior Beta Club members competed virtually in this year's State Convention. The students had fun competing in the various events. NMS had several members placed in their competition and have been invited to compete at the national level in Orlando Florida in June. The winners are Chloe Brann (2nd place in Painting), Seriyah Nickens (3rd place in Science), and Madahsyn Thomas (2nd place in Apparel Design). Congratulations and good Luck at the Nationals.



Chloe Brann (Northumberland Middle School)

PAINTING JUNIOR

Champion: Anthony Hernandez (N. B. Clements Junior High School)

Second Place: Chloe Brann (Northumberland Middle School)

Third Place: Brooke Williams (Caroline Middle School)

SCIENCE 8TH GRADE

Champion: James Russo (T. Benton Gayle Middle School)

Second Place: Peyton Ziegenfuss (N. B. Clements Junior High School)

Third Place: Seriyah Nickens (Northumberland Middle School)

APPAREL DESIGN JUNIOR

Champion: N. B. Clements Junior High School

Second Place: Northumberland Middle School

Third Place: Gretna Middle School

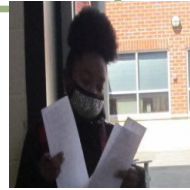
Virginia School Boards Association Spring Regional Art Contest

Each spring the Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) has a Regional Spring Art Contest. The art contest is held to showcase art from the region. Each school division submits an Elementary, Middle, and High School entry. NMS had an 8th grade art student, Itzel Santamaria who received Second Place in the VSBA 2021 Eastern Spring Regional Art Contest. Congratulations to Itzel for her beautiful artwork.

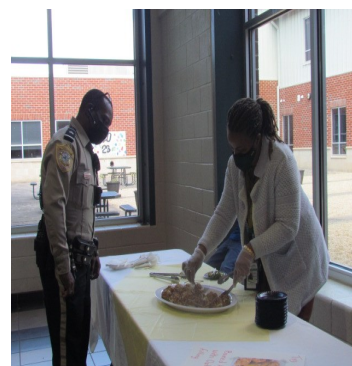


Harvest of the Month

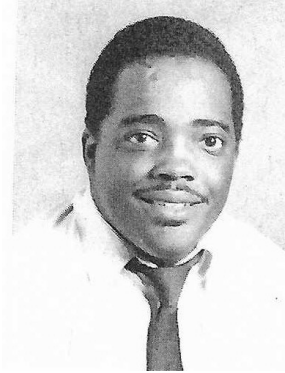
Tastee Testing



On April 22, 2021, in the NMS cafeteria a taste testing of four recipes was offered to a selected group of 50 (middle & high school) students. The taste testing was conducted as part of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Team Nutrition Training Grant project facilitated by the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE). The taste tests provided the students an opportunity to try a variety of potential new menu items featuring Virginia Harvest of the Month fruits and vegetables. The four recipes the students tasted were Green Smoothie, Butternut Mac & Cheese, Kale with Butternut Squash & Rice, and Baked Apple with Oatmeal filling. The students were given a "Taste Test Ballot" for each item they sampled. On the ballot, students rated the Appearance, Taste, and Smell. They were also asked if they would like to see the items on the school menu. The students' feedback was extremely important in helping to determine at the VDOE and USDA level which items should be featured on future school menus. NCPS School Nutrition Team are committed to providing the students with the best school dining experience possible, so they welcomed the students' comments.

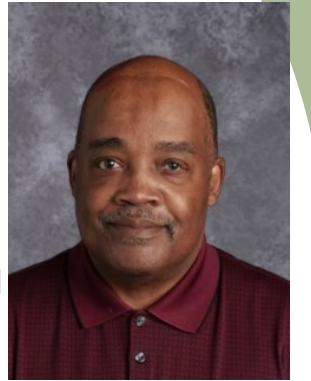


The Next Chapter



1986

Mr. Michael N. Stevenson is retiring after working in the public school system for 37 years. Mr. Stevenson started as a long term substitute teacher at Forest Glen High School and also worked as a K-5 art teacher for 2 years at Robertson and Holland Elementary in Suffolk, VA. He came to Northumberland Middle School in 1986 as the art teacher and has been here ever since. Mr. Stevenson is a native of Suffolk, VA. He graduated from Norfolk State University in 1983 with a Bachelor's degree in Art Education. After moving to Northumberland County he began his career by volunteering as an assistant JV basketball coach. He was soon hired as head JV coach and was on his way



2021

to becoming one of the area's most successful High School mentors, winning 165 games and 6 JV championships in just 12 years. He was named coach of the year 3 times and two 3 district championships, accumulating a 120-63 record that included 28 consecutive victories. In 2001 he became Varsity boys coach and collected 277 victories, the most in Northumberland High School history. He has been named district or regional coach of the year five times. He has amassed countless district, regional titles and 5 state appearances. In his 35 coaching years he has won 562 victories and coached in 819 games. Mr. Stevenson's goal is to give back to the young people so one day they may be of service to someone else. He believes that education is a tool to develop life skills that will make the kids a more caring and giving generation. He is always one to give back to the community, he has been offering "Prime Tyme Developmental Summer Basketball Camp" to local youth for over 25 years. When asked what he plans to do when retired he said, "relax and enjoy myself, participate in church, work with the youth and be on my own schedule." We want to thank Mr. Stevenson for his dedicated service to the education of students.



1989

Mrs. Sandra L. Green is retiring after working in the Northumberland County Public School system for 38 years. She worked for a Job Shop for 6 years. She had various jobs in the school system such as teacher's aide and substitute teacher until the fall of 1989 when she was hired to teach Family and Consumer Science to Middle and High school students. Mrs. Green is a native of Lottsburg, VA. She received a Bachelor's degree in Home Economics Education from Radford University and a Master's in Occupational and Technical Studies from Old Dominion University. Mrs. Green likes to sew and travel. Mrs. Green's plan for retirement is to rest, travel, and take classes on things that interest her such as quilting. We want to thank Mrs. Green for her dedicated service to the education of students.



2021

Teacher Appreciation Week

National Teacher Appreciation Day is a way of honoring teachers and recognizing the lasting contributions they make to our lives. This year will be one for the history books. A year where instruction was virtual, in-person and a mix of both, our teachers' immense work and impact have provided a much needed sense of community and connection. Despite the challenge of COVID-19 pandemic, our educators at NMS worked hard to ensure that every student had the tools they needed to reach their full potential.

The School Board members visited NMS on Wednesday, May 5, 2021 and delivered to each teacher and staff an insulated tote bag. The card on the tote reads "NEVER UNDERESTIMATE A **TEACHER** Who Survived A School Year in A PANDEMIC! Thank you to all of our Teachers and Staff! The Northumberland County School Board."



The week of May 3 - 7, 2021 was Teacher Appreciation Week. To show their gratitude, NMS staff and administration, gave small tokens of appreciation throughout the week.

- Monday - Sip & Chip
- Tuesday - Sweet Treat Tuesday
- Wednesday - Backyard BBQ and Sundae School!
 - Grillmasters Keeve and Johnson demonstrated their skills on the grill—hotdogs, hamburgers, cheeseburgers, and veggie burgers. BBQ, baked bean, potato salad, chips and cookies along with Dairy Queen Sundae. (Sandra Lopez's mother made the delicious potato salad.)
- Thursday - Continental Breakfast
- Friday - Special Recognition Plaque to all the teachers and staff.



Spirit Week

Homecoming

The week of March 8 - 12, 2021 was homecoming week for NUCPS. To show our spirit we participated in the spirit days to show how much we love our school.

- Monday - Crazy Hair and Sock Day
- Tuesday - Favorite Team T-shirt or Jersey
- Thursday - Beach Day (sunglasses, straw hats, sun visors, sandals)
- Friday - Green and Gold Day



One School One Book

The week of April 12 - 16, 2021 was One School One Book spirit week at NMS. We participated in dress up days to show our school spirit; however, "Pajama Day" was the most popular.

- Monday - Crazy Hair, MisMatched socks or shoes, mix patterns/colors..
- Tuesday - Dress as your favorite hero, villain, movie or book character.
- Thursday - Wear clothing or hair styles from the 70s, 80s or 90s.
- Friday - Defender's Slumber Party "pajama Day"



Golf

From the White Tees... To the Green

Our 8th grade Golfers had a wonderful time on the golf course teeing off and getting the golf ball into the hole on the putting green. There were no Middle School Golf team; however, they had the opportunity to play with the Varsity golf team. The NMS members were Tre Booth, Willie Bowles, Cooper Haynie and Amanti Starks.



NMS also has some young Golfers that are a part of the PGA Junior League Golf (PGA JLG) team. The PGA is designed to better socialize the game for boys and girls, ages 13 and under. PGA JLG is a structured leagues that provide a popular, less stressful scramble format as opposed to stroke-play competition. They practice every week and play against other area PGA teams. This is a great way to get kids involved in the game! The NMS members are James Blake, Isaac Faulkner, Waylon Hymes, Luke Sisk and Levi Walker III (Trey).



James Blake



Isaac Faulkner



Waylon Hymes



Luke Sisk



Trey Walker

JV Volleyball



BUMP, SET, SPIKE IT -
THAT'S THE
WAY WE LIKE IT.



The members of the volleyball played with determination and team work. The Lady Indians worked hard as a team in every competition. Great work! Go Lady Indians!! The team members are (Front Row—Left to Right): Coach VanLandingham, Emmalee King, Seriyah Nickens, McKenna Dooley. (Back Row—Left to Right): Sarah Haynie, Nathalie Bidlecomb, Rachel Rice, May Crowther, Ava Wilson, Addie Gordon and Chloe Brann (not pictured is Mikayla Hayden).

