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# Norsemen Pride

January 2021 | Issue 25

THE NEWSLETTER FOR NORTH MUSKEGON SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Mrs. Corbin Makes Music With NM Third Graders

Mrs. Corbin's music classes look a little different this year, but our students keep making music, in person and virtually! Thank you to Mrs. Corbin for your flexibility, creativity, and care for our kids!



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# A Message From Our Superintendent!



#### **Hello Norse Nation!**

As I write this on 12-3-2020, I find myself thinking about what things will look like in early January when this edition of the Norsemen Pride is delivered to our incredible school community... Most importantly, I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday break! I hope all made time to safely be with loved ones. While I am sure it was different than in

years past, we all still needed to embrace the opportunity to enjoy, relax, regroup, and find some peace in our world.

As we move closer to our Second Semester, here is my wish for our district as we approach Second Semester:

- that we will continue to make decisions based on our Norse School Community's Physical Safety, Mental Wellbeing, and Student Academic Advancement
- that our parents understand just how much we appreciate all of their efforts in supporting their child(ren) and us - we know this has been an extremely difficult balancing act for families
- that we are able to expand our programming to our students
- that we are able to work toward more normalcy in our school setting
- that our students continue to engage with their incredible teachers no matter the learning environment used
- that our students can attend school with their peers
- that our community and world as a whole embraces grace
- that 2021 is way better than 2020
- that we continue to work together as NORSE NATION for the betterment of our students, staff, families, and full school community

This has been a trying year for all of us... I ask all of us to stay positive, continue to look out for each other, and work together for the advancement of our students. We are going to make the remainder of this school year AMAZING! Thank you Norse Family!

Take care!

Dr. Babcock, Superintendent







### Second Grade Students Meet Our Community Helpers!

Second Graders are learning from our Community Helpers!

Our Second Grade students went on a walking field trip to the Walker Library,
City Hall, and the Fire Station. Special thanks to the North Muskegon Fire
Department, Fire Chief Cole, and the Walker Community Library for your help!





### **FUNDRACER** 2020

This was our 9th year running FUNdRacer, and we have raised over \$100,000 in the past 9 years for NM Elementary/ PTO! Thanks to our community and friends, this year's FUNdRacer was a huge success, in spite of the unusual circumstances of 2020! We appreciate your continued support of NM PTO and North Muskegon Elementary! Your contributions support teachers, staff, students, and the North Muskegon community. Go Norse!

> **Total Raised: \$21,222** Top Class: Mrs. Pek - \$1955.00 Top Student: Annabelle Huls - \$1260.00

#### Superstars (raised \$200 or more):

Huls, Annabelle Brock, Lily Sanders, Carder Gillard, Claire Wagner, Jonas Chase, Payten Smith, Jourden Stamper, Bram Senkow, Genevieve Gallegos, Bentley Senkow, Lowen Lang, Thomas Hume, Lyla Boroff, Emery Szatkowski, Rilynn Kaupa, Aspyn Richardson, Carter Balulis, Morgan Ogren, Genevieve Potts, Ella Silvis, Owen Reid. Drake

Rimedio, Gianna

MacKay, Mady

Silvis, Merritt Silvis, Keaton James, Arin Simerick, Marian Budzinskiy, Roman Simerick, Alice Potts, Evia James, Avery Weaver, Sophia Strouf, Greta James, Jayden Fricke, Piper Packard, Cylie Falkowski, Rylee Sutton, Hazel Sutton, Tommy Cook, Simon Cook, Eliza Peterson, Charlotte Peterson, Graham

Peterson, William

Peterson, Penelope

Dalm, Allison



### 1st Grade Bat Cave!

By Mrs. VanderWall

After a week of learning about bats we celebrated by having a bat day! We turned the classroom into a cave and had a full day of bat activities.

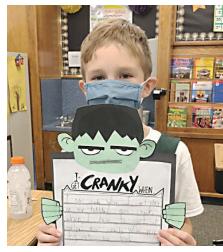




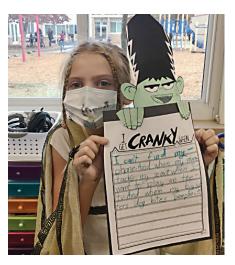
## HALLOWEEN

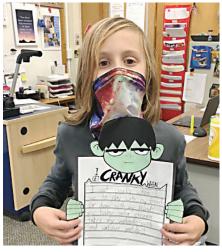
#### with Ms. Cutler's Third Grade!



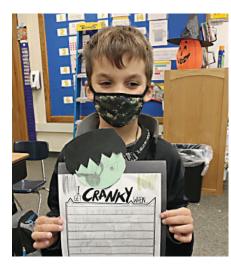


Ms. Cutler's Third Grade students decorated their paper face masks for Halloween! Some of them were very creative and coordinated the mask with their costume. Other students opted for a more cozy pajama day. We also did some "Crankenstine" writing on what makes us cranky!



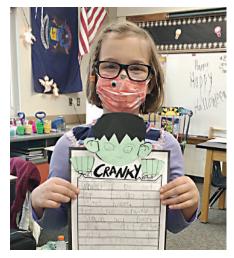


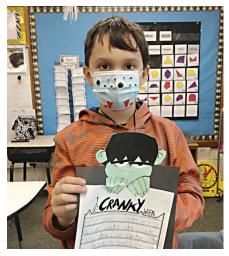


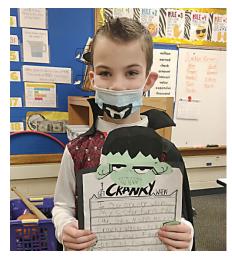


















# The Norse Education Foundation supports our NM Community!

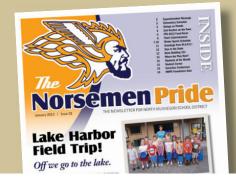
Ms. Sarah Knuth, a Language Arts teacher in the Middle/High School, was one of the Fall 2019 grant recipients for "Bard to Go: Tossing on the Ocean."

Thank you to the Norse Education Foundation for awarding \$250 to pay for "Bard to Go: Tossing on the Ocean," a production of Pigeon Creek Shakespeare Company with Grand Valley State University Theater students during Grand Valley's Shakespeare Festival. The performance on North Muskegon High School's stage for high school students on Friday, November 1, 2019 gave 9th-12th grade students a wonderful experiential learning opportunity as they saw college students perform the unique Shakespearean drama. It was described by Producer Katherine Mayberry as follows:

This production is designed to tour to schools and present students with a 50-minute long performance of scenes from Shakespeare. This year's production uses scenes from The Tempest, Twelfth Night, Pericles, The Winter's Tale, and The Merchant of Venice to tell a new story in which Ariel, the magical spirit from The Tempest, must put things right when characters from many plays are separated in a storm and shipwreck. The script weaves together a theme of storms, ships, and ocean travel that appears in many of Shakespeare's plays.

Experiential learning is memorable and impactful, especially when performers remain on stage after a performance to introduce themselves and answer students' questions about their involvement with Shakespearean drama. This experience showed students that Shakespeare's plays are loved by young people, they are entertaining to watch, and they have universal themes that are applicable in our world today. Thank you to the Norse Education Foundation for your support!

#### www.orshalrdproductions.com/norsemen\_pride



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## HAPPY HALLOWEEN

### from North Muskegon Elementary!



Celebrating Halloween in Mrs. Atchison's Kindergarten Class!





Halloween with Mrs. VanderWall's First Grade!





Happy Halloween from our Second Grade "COVID Cowgirls," Mrs. Ronda Pek, Mrs. Amanda Charles, and Mrs. Jan Schumacher!



2nd grader Madeline Ashley, Mrs. Pek's class



Celebrating in their Red, White, and Blue!
Mr. Cody Liverance, Mr. Ken Byard,
Mr. Mike Schanhals



#### 8

# North Muskegon Norsemen 20/21 Winter Sports Schedule

#### FRESHMEN BOYS BASKETBALL

Jan 8	Fremont	4:00
Jan 12	Tri Unity	4:00
Jan 14	@ Kent City	4:00
Jan 19	@ Oakridge	4:00
Jan 22	@ WMC	4:00
Feb 4	@ Fremont	4:00
Feb 5	@ Whitehall	4:00
Feb 9	@ Holland Black River	5:30

#### **BOYS JV/VARSITY BASKETBALL**

Jan 5	Ravenna	5:30
Jan 8	@ Montague	5:30
Jan 12	Tri-Unity	5:30
Jan 14	@ Hart	6:00
Jan 19	@ Oakridge	6:00
Jan 22	@ Mason CC	6:00
Jan 26	Orchard View	5:30
Feb 2	@ Shelby	6:00
Feb 5	@ Whitehall	5:30
Feb 11	@ Ravenna	5:30
Feb 16	Montague	5:30
Feb 19	Hart	5:30
Feb 23	Potters House	5:30
Feb 26	Oakridge	5:30
March 2	Mason CC	5:30

#### **GIRLS JV/VARSITY BASKETBALL**

Jan 5	@ Muskegon Heights	5:30
Jan 7	@ Hart	6:00
Jan 12	@Oakridge	6:00
Jan 15	Mason CC	5:30
Jan 19	Holland Black River	5:30
Jan 26	@Shelby	6:00
Jan 29	@Whitehall	5:30
Feb 2	@Hesperia	5:30
Feb 4	@Ravenna	5:30
Feb 9	Montague	5:30

Feb 12	Hart	5:30
Feb 15	White Cloud	5:30
Feb 18	Oakridge	5:30
Feb 23	@ MasonCC	5:30

#### **VARSITY SWIMMING - BOYS**

•		
Jan. 14	@ Manistee HS	6:00
Jan. 19	Holland Public Schools	6:30
Jan. 26	@ Zeeland West HS	6:30
Feb. 02	@ Holland Christian HS - Aquatic Center	6:30
Feb. 06	@ Ottawa Hills Invitational	TBA
Feb. 10	Spring Lake HS	6:30
Feb. 16	@ Hamilton Comm. Schools	6:30
Feb. 26	@ OK Conference Prelims / Zeeland West HS	5:00
Feb. 27	@ OK Conference Finals / Zeeland West HS	12:00

\*Please note that all dates and times are subject to change or cancellation \*



"What I enjoy the most about being a Career Tech Center student is getting real-life experience in a career that interests me. I also enjoy how all of my classmates help each other out."

-Kyara Chaney, CTC Hospitality & Food Management student

CONTACT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR TO ENROLL.



muskegonctc.org 200 Harvey Street | 231.767.3613

# Happy Homecoming 2020! Go Norse!

#### 2020 Homecoming Court

#### Seniors:

Georgette Kersman Emma Houseman Kennedy Hoppa Emily Gale Charlie Branch
Robbie Eckheart
Colin Schotts
Brennan Pannucci

#### Juniors:

Adrian Martinez & Nick Dana

#### Sophomores:

Anna Toebe & Elijah Rudicil

#### Freshmen:

Ella Mallon & Ben Meyers



Pictured: Homecoming Queen Emma Houseman and Homecoming King Charlie Branch



# Norse Education FOUNDATION

The future is hard to predict. But one thing we do know is that we will need resources to fuel our mission in the years to come. That's why we've created the Norse Education Foundation endowment fund at the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. The Norse Education Foundation (NEF) was established to enrich the educational experiences of NMPS students by funding excellence in teaching and learning beyond what is provided through operating funds.

Our fund is professionally invested for the long-term, and each year, 4% of the average fund balance is available to us to support our ongoing needs. Since Fall of 2012 over \$45,000 in grants has been awarded. The Foundation handles all administrative details and investment responsibilities for our fund, freeing us to concentrate on our mission.

You can make an important investment in the Norse Education Foundation that costs you nothing during your lifetime!

By making the Norse Education Foundation's endowment fund at the Community Foundation for Muskegon County the beneficiary of a life insurance policy or retirement plan, you can be assured that your gift will receive expert stewardship and help us meet our mission well into the future.

Using a beneficiary designation form available through your plan administrator, you can specify the entire account or simply a percentage of it. By directing the benefit to "the Norse Education Foundation's endowment fund at the Community Foundation for Muskegon County, a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization," you are making a lasting gift that does not require that you make changes to your will and trust documents. It's easy and free!

We hope you will consider playing a part in our future. To learn more, please contact Kristie Hall at 231-719-4107 or khall@nmps.net or Heidi Sytsema at the Community Foundation at 231-332-4107 or heidi@muskegonfoundation.org.

# NORSE UNITED 2020 VERSION

Senior Mentors- Dre Brown, Kyara Chaney, Will Gallo, Greta Goszkowicz, Alicia Hall, Hope Johnson, Georgette Kersman, Megan Kraley, Brennen McManus, Sarah Muzzy, Brennan Pannucci.

**Junior Mentors- Jasmine Duncan, Gabby Gaston** 

Mentoring during a pandemic while hybrid and/or virtual certainly has its challenges! However the mission of our HS mentor club remains: pay it forward to the next generation of Norsemen. Our high school leaders mentor students in grades K-8. We ended the 2019-2020 year with Project Pen Pal. This initiative was to strengthen our written skills while still connecting with our littles in a safe and meaningful way.

As we embarked on our 8th year mentoring, this year our club decided to remain intact from 2019-2020 and mentor our "littles" using Google Meet or Project Connect. Although certainly NOT ideal, this has given a new spin to our communication skills as mentors, talking less and listening more. The power of being present with someone and having that be the primary mission has surfaced more than ever before.

In January, when this article will be published, we will celebrate National Mentoring Month.

Normally during this time we challenge others outside of our club to seek out where they can mentor or share resources on how to find a mentor. Here is a helpful link to the national site as well as embedded links to local organizations. https://www.mentoring.org/campaigns/national-mentoring-month/

Our club believes everyone needs someone, especially during a time when isolation is our new norm.



adapted from The Eyes That ARE UPON YOU ~author unknown

"There are little eyes upon you, and they're watching night and day;

There are little ears that quickly take in, every word you say.

There are little hands all eager to do, anything you do;

And a little boy or girl who's dreaming of the day

they'll be like you."

For more information, contact club supervisor, Tina Gallo, School Counselor at tgallo@nmps.net



Pictured: Preston Ashley

#### Mrs. Pek's **Second Graders Are**



#### Happy Veterans' Day from Mrs. Benson's Kindergarten Class!





## Finding Kindness

with Mrs. VanderWall's First Grade!



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# Mindfulness for North Muskegon Kids and Community

SEL MARAGEMENT

SEL MARAGEMENT

SEL MEDITORISE

BECOME

MALACIMINE

MELATIONSHIP

MALE

CONSCRIPTION

MALE

MA

"Emotions drive learning, decision-making, creativity, relationships and health.

Mastering the skills of emotional intelligence paves the way for greater well-being, better relationships and overall effectiveness ....for students from kindergarten through high school and for the adults who surround them, including educators and parents."

SELFAWARENESS MANAGEMENT

BOCAL
AND
ENOTIONAL
LEARNING
REPROCESS
AND
ANAINE

RELETIONSHIP
SKILLS

PROCESS MANAGEMENT

ANAINESS

ANAINE

~ Marc Brackett, director of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence (excerpts from Mindful Kindful YOUniversity)

By Lisa Cobb, LMSW School Social Worker/ Behavior Specialist/Certified Mindfulness Instructor

Wouldn't it be nice if there was a way to teach kids how to hone their focus to pay better attention? Or how about to be aware of their own feelings and to calm themselves down? Wouldn't it be great to teach them to find the balance in their lives (and ours)?

Our kids are more stressed than ever and they need all of our help. We have to teach them tools to cope with their challenging lives. Prolonged and/or intense stress takes a toll on a child (and adult) causing anxiety, depression, acting out, physical illness, and learning issues. These are great reasons to mitigate stress early by using a variety of forms of mindfulness.

Mindfulness is a bit of a buzzword in society today. Most people have heard of it, but many are confused about what mindfulness really means. It's common to think it's only about meditation, but in reality it simply means focusing your awareness on the present moment; calmly noticing your emotions and physical sensations without judgment as you are doing whatever you happen to be doing.

Emotional intelligence is the ability to understand and manage your emotions, and to understand and respond effectively to the emotions of others. These are internal and interpersonal skills that can be acquired and improved with practice.

In traditional educational settings, or for many of us growing up, emotional intelligence life skills are/were not formally taught, yet these are the essential skills to handle life's pressures, stresses, and challenges which arise throughout the day and across the years, regardless of age or background. Fortunately, we don't need to be a neuroscientist to teach students about the brain or about the impact of stress, anxiety, and fear on brain function. We can teach kids emotional intelligence/mindfulness practices at school and at home.

It is important for parents and teachers to consciously infuse mindfulness into each day and/or evening. When we do, we will see changes in ourselves and in our children. Hence, building resilience all around.

Here are some mindfulness activities for home:

- Sit together and slowly have a snack
- Talk about the snack and its characteristics; your favorite flavor, its texture, its temperature. Really noticing what you're eating helps you be in the moment instead of worrying about anything else. To be playful, make funny faces to show your opinion of a food, or come up with creative ideas for weird meals.
- Do a puzzle together.
- Go for a walk and talk about the trees, birds, bugs, or grass.

- Read a story or poem together. Talk about the book and what you both thought about the story and characters.
- Ask your child about the weather inside their hearts—sunny, cloudy, bright, rainy, or stormy. Be curious about their day and its highs and lows.
- Write your Imagine stories together (go to www. theimagineproject.org).
- Play a game, anything from peek-a-boo and hide-and-go-seek to card games or board games.
- Cook together.
- Chase bubbles.
- Look at the clouds and find formations in them.
- Pick a country on the world map and research it.
- Draw, color, and create together.
- Tell a story at bedtime, real or fictional.
- Using a chime or singing bowl at bedtime, listen to the sound together until the sound is completely gone, ring it again if you'd like.

North Muskegon School uses the researched based resource of CASEL (the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning) to teach children and adults how to acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to:

- understand and manage emotions,
- set and achieve positive goals,
- feel and show empathy for others,
- establish and maintain positive relationships,
- and make responsible decisions.

### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

## ON A SUCCESSFUL SEASON TO OUR NMHS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM!

# Special applause to Gabriella Wingard, who competed at State!

Cross Country Participants: Carolyn Bennett, Bradley Lowe, Parker Maciejewski, Jude Meldrum Roy, Ben Skujins and Gabriella Wingard











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### \* North Muskegon High School Class of 2020





Breanne Nicole Adamczak \*\*\*+ Alvssa Rae Archer \*\*\*+ Nickolas Scott Baerman \*+ Jennie Anne Beck Cody Michael Cisneros Madison Lee Clarke \*\*\* Rebecca Kaylee Cottrell \*+ Kyler Brockway Dana \*+ Jackson Bradley Davis Jack Thomas Dobb Jaala Rene Duncan \* Jordon Cole Durow Chandler Paige Falkowski \*\*\*+ **Braeden Scott Fleming** Joseph Alberts Flynn \*+ Brett Mikalary Galdeen

**Delaney Marie Gannon** Mason Michael Gregg **Thayer Samuel Harris** John Maris Hayhurst \*\*\*+ Elizabeth Marie Hedges Jake Daniel Hoffer \*\*+ Brody Derek Hoffman \*\*\* Arin Louise Hogan \*+ Elliot James Hozer Madelyn Kay Jandt Emme Lee Jensen \*\*\*+ Natalie Moore Johnson \*\*\*+ Camryn Joy Klint \*+ Andrew John Koman \*\*\*+# Kameron Michael Kreigh Kelsey Veronica LeMieux \*\*\*+ Isabella Jane Santiago Lindsay \*\*\*+ Chloe Morgan-Parrish Lisinski \*+ Margaret Louise Lorenz \*\*\*+ Dexter Hammond Lynn Benjamin Nolan Mallon \*+ Jezica Lin Matrone-Jones Elysia Jae Maurer Cami Jo Maynard \*\*\*+ Claire Frances McCall \*\*\*+ Piper Alice Meldrum-Roy \*\*\*+ Nicholas Robert Meyering Brenden Joseph Moat \*+ Sophia Rae Mueller \*\*\*+ Jalyn Renae Mulder Namratha Moses Nelapudi \*\*\*+ Ansley Shannon Oliphant \*+

Cameron Austin Packard Sydney Kate Peterson \*\*\*+ Kaitlyn Pfhistner +# Lindsey Belle Piper \*\*\*+ Katherine Collette Pitcher \*\*+ Gwenna Ariana Pitts \*\*+ Kerah Rae Plichta Dennis K. Porter III Asa John Poulin \*+ Noel Anthony Rahrig Avery Bruno Ramirez Brianna Michelle Ramsey \*+ Logan James Richards Trey Mitchell Rose # **Hunter Johnathon Routley** Caleb Andrew Rypstra \*\*\*+ Eric Charles Rypstra \*\*\*+ Paul Thomas Schanhals \*\*\*+ Trevor Joseph Schultz Justin Wayne Sima \* Devin Andrew Smith \*\*\*+ Stephan Claudel Smith Samantha Marie Sroka Carina Ann Steketee Noah Michael Stewart \*\*+ Anna Marissa Sullivan \*\*+ Joseph Alan Tarrant \*\*+ David Allen Towner Jack William Vander Woude \* Eli James Walsh \*+ Alexa Jade Wolffis \*+ Chloe Justyne Wolffis + Bryce Alexander Wright Rutha Madison Wright \*+# **Hudson Allen Yaussy** Evan Fredrick Zubryd \* -Exchange Students: Erik VanOdijk

\*\*\*Summa Cum Laude (4.0 - 3.895GPA)

<sup>+</sup>National Honor Society



<sup>\*\*</sup> Magna Cum Laude (3.894 - 3.745GPA)

<sup>\*</sup>Cum Laude (3.744 - 3.495GPA)

#### North Muskegon Grad Night Committee would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for contributing to our Senior Grad Night Celebration for the Class of 2020!

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Bent Pine Golf Club

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BLT

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Family Video

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Kendra Richards

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Muskegon Northside Lions

Charities, Inc.

North Shore Chiropractic Center

Northway Lane

Papa John's Pizza

Pat Clifford

Planet 3 Fitness

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Remax West

Russ Nagel

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Scribs Pizza

Sky Zone

Sports Hair Clips

Subway

Susan Burmeister

Taco Bell

The Allen Family

The Gym

The McCall Family

The Rake Family

The Roundhouse

The Skuijns Family

The Slimko Family Wesco Store # 18

SALLUES
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Mission Statement: committed to equipping students with the tools they need for academic, personal and social achievement.



Congratulations to our NM Women's Golf Team, who progressed to State this year!

Pictured: Coach Jay Prasad, Riley McEvoy, Greta Goszkowicz, Georgette Kersman, Kennedy Hoppa, Gabriella Gaston and Onna Heikkila

Go Norse!

#### **SUPPORT THE NORSEMEN PRIDE!**

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