



the student handbook

Northwest High

2023-2024



Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for Behavior (MTSS-B) is being implemented in all Omaha Public Schools and Programs.

The Omaha Public Schools (OPS) implements Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for Behavior (MTSS-B) to promote student use of positive behavior. Through this framework, OPS has committed to providing staff with tools and resources to positively engage students and families through implementation of school-wide positive behavior interventions. These practices are designed to support safe and encouraging learning environments.

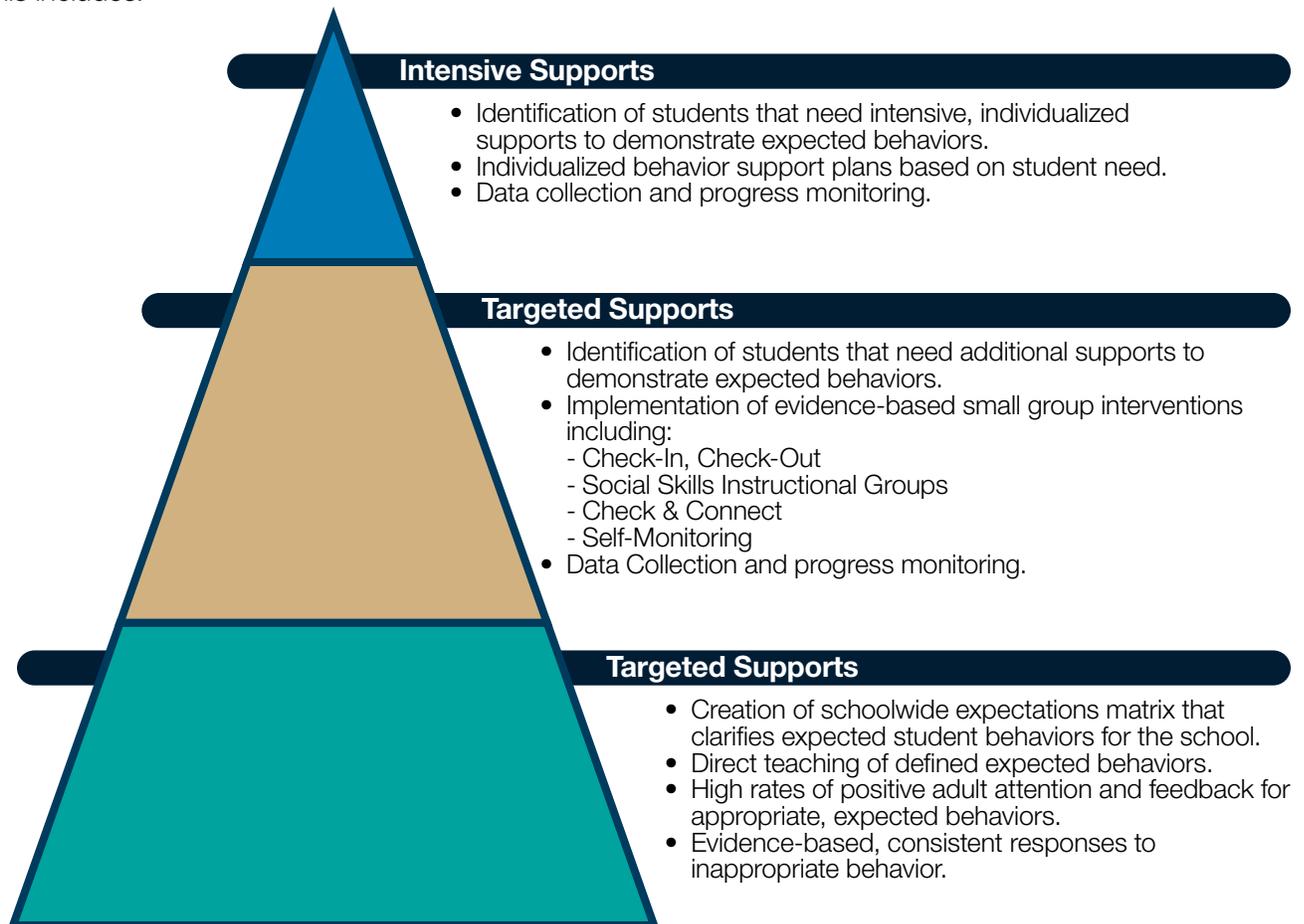
We believe that we cannot “make” students learn or behave. But we can create environments to increase the likelihood of positive behaviors occurring.

MTSS-B is a research-based, highly effective behavioral framework that is designed for teaching and reinforcing students’ social, emotional, and academic learning skills in order to sustain academic achievement and support the social, emotional, and behavioral well-being of students. Consistent implementation of MTSS-B leads to:

- Improved school climate;
- Reductions in major disciplinary infractions;
- Improved academic achievement;
- Improved concentration, positive social behavior, and emotional regulation.

OPS is committed to supporting students through behavior interventions and alternatives to exclusionary practices that require removal from the educational setting where the safety of the student and/or others is not of immediate concern.

MTSS-B utilizes consistent practices that have tiers of increasingly intensive supports, and in our schools, this includes:



Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

In addition to MTSS-B, Omaha Public Schools continues to support Social Emotional Learning (SEL) development through curriculum, strategies, and resources. SEL is defined by the Collaborative of Academic Social Emotional Learning (CASEL) as the process through which all young people and adults acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to develop healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions.

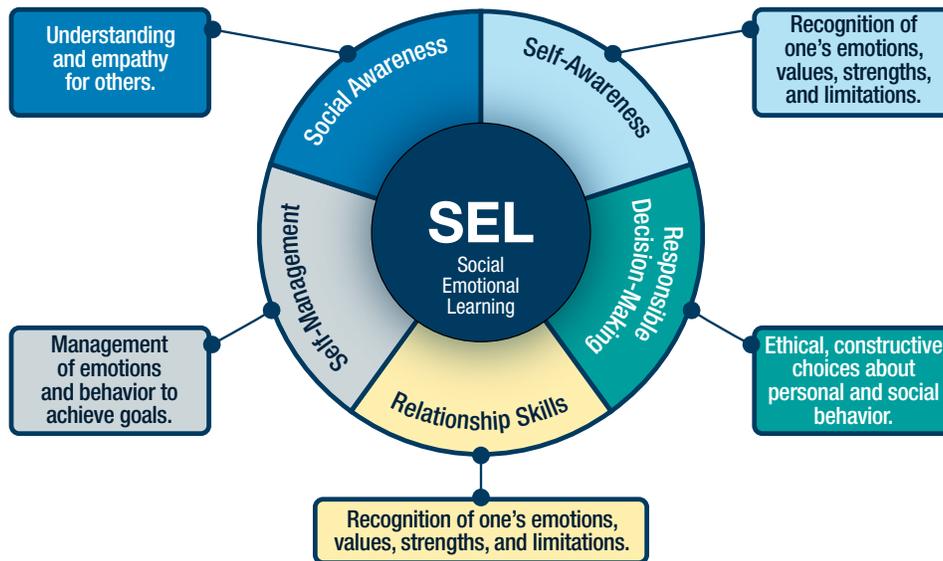
Within the Omaha Public Schools, our goal is to focus on CASEL's five SEL competencies:

- Self-Awareness
- Self-Management
- Social Awareness
- Relationship Skills
- Responsible Decision-Making

SEL promotes knowledge, skills, and attitudes that support lifelong success and advance educational equity and excellence.

How do MTSS-B and SEL Align in all Omaha Public Schools and Programs?

MTSS-B and SEL are frameworks that work together to provide an ethic of care for students and promote success in students' academics, behavior, attendance, and overall well-being. Combined they create positive learning environments where students and staff are equipped with resources and skills for successful school communities.



If you would like more information about how MTSS-B and SEL are implemented in your school, contact the building principal.

Huskies *We Care*



Northwest High

8204 Crown Point Avenue / Omaha, Nebraska 68134-1999
531-299-2740 / www.ops.org/northwest

Northwest High Mission Statement

The mission of Northwest High, a Community of Learners, is to provide educational opportunities which enable all students to achieve and lead in academic success.

Northwest High Vision Statement

The vision of Northwest High School, a Community of Learners,
is to prepare students for the 21st Century.

We believe: In the value of each individual; In encouraging students to develop to their fullest potential;
In developing life-long learners and responsible citizens; In fostering leadership abilities;
In providing a positive learning environment.

Northwest High Students are: ***Students of Excellence***



Mission Statement

Omaha Public Schools prepares all students to
excel in college, career, and life.

Vision Statement

Every student. Every day. Prepared for success.

Omaha Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including pregnancy), marital status, sexual orientation, disability, age, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, citizenship status, veteran status, political affiliation or economic status in its programs, activities and employment and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following individual has been designated to accept allegations regarding non-discrimination policies: Superintendent of Schools, 3215 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68131 (531-299-9822). The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of Equity and Diversity, 3215 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68131 (531-299-0307).

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Administrators

Principal	
Kimberly N. Jackson, Ed.D.....	531-299-2750
Assistant Principal/Data Processor	
Panyoua N. Yang, Ed.D.....	531-299-2748
Assistant Principal/Athletic Director	
Andrew Webb.....	531-299-2746
Assistant Principal/Activities Director, Senior Discipline	
Kristopher Kahlandt.....	531-299-2755

Deans of Students

Bridget Doyle – Juniors	531-299-2740
Tyrie L. Fant, Ph.D. – Sophomores	531-299-9103
Keli Reid – Freshmen	531-299-2740

Curriculum Specialists

Career and Technical Education, Science, Social Studies, Pathways/Programs: 911 Dispatch, Criminal Justice, Energy Systems, EMT/Fire Science, Forensic Science, Natural Resource Science & Management, Public Health, Pre-Law	
Teresa Bender	531-299-8819
English/Language Arts, Freshman Seminar, Performing Arts, Visual Arts, World Language, Pathways/Programs: Audio Video Productions, Freshman Academy, MAP Coordinator, Teaching as a Profession	
Olivia Bishop	531-299-5911
Advanced Academics, Pathways/Programs: Advanced Placement, Early College, Dual Enrollment	
Michele Rivera.....	531-299-5952
Career and Technical Education (Business), English Learners, Human Growth & Development, JROTC, Mathematics, Physical Education, Pathways/Programs: Advanced Placement, Assistant ACT Coordinator, Cybersecurity	
Zachary Simon.....	531-299-9070

Counselors

Director – 10th Grade Intervention, Energy Systems & Technology, Natural Resource Science & Management, Seniors: O P Q S Y Z	
Jennifer Rotherham.....	531-299-9686
Records – 9th Grade: Mackenzie River, Seniors: F G I J R	
Don Ferree, Ed.D.....	531-299-9665
9th Grade: Alaskan Malamute, 911, EMT, Fire, Cyber Security, Seniors: K T U V W X	
Julie Betterton	531-299-4153
9th Grade: Siberian, Forensic Science, Teaching, Seniors: C D H L N	
Kathryn McQueen-Eichmann,.....	531-299-2740
Create Your Own Pathway, Criminal Justice, Pre-Law, 11th Grade: Select Students, 12th Grade: Select Students	
Minnie Weller	531-299-4788
Audio Video Production, Public Health, Seniors: A B E M	
School Counselor	531-299-2740

Department Head

Special Education	
Jill Lewis	531-299-4096

Instructional Facilitators

Jay Opperman – Title I	531-299-4132
Stacia Weaver – Freshman Academy	531-299-4040

Student Support Services

Danielle Coyne, Social Worker	531-299-9440
Ryan Brown, Community Counselor.....	531-299-2756
Stacy Ruffalo, School Psychologist.....	531-299-7775

Interpreters

Ester Paw	Karen.....	531-299-7526
Mayra Rios	Spanish	531-299-9472

Attendance

Press 2 for the attendance office.....	531-299-2740
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Northwest High Academics

Bell Schedule

Block A1/B1	7:40 – 9:10 a.m.....	90 min
Advisement	9:10 – 9:35 a.m.	25 min
Block A2/B2	9:40 – 11:10 a.m.	90 min
Block A3/B3	11:15 – 1:30 p.m.	135 min
Lunch 1	11:15 – 11:45 a.m.....	30 min
Lunch 2	11:50 – 12:20 p.m.....	30 min
Lunch 3	12:25 – 12:55 p.m.....	30 min
Lunch 4	1:00 – 1:30 p.m.	30 min
Block A4/B4.....	1:35 – 3:05 p.m.	90 min

Honor Roll

If you have a 3.5 grade point average (GPA) or higher and no failing grades, you will achieve honor roll. Students must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 credits to be considered for this academic honor.

Academic Letter

The Academic Letter, a prestigious award for academic excellence is awarded yearly at Northwest High. Lettering is based on cumulative grade point average. Sophomore, junior, and senior students are eligible for the Academic Letter. Eligibility will be determined at the end of the second, fourth, and sixth semesters. To be eligible for an Academic Letter, a sophomore or junior must have a cumulative class rank in the top five percent of their class, and a senior must rank at the top ten percent of their class.

The emblem, or letter, for academic excellence displays a lamp of learning and the word “Academics” embossed on a red and blue “NW.” A blue bar placed on the letter signifies a second letter has been earned, and a gold bar signifies the third, and final, letter has been earned.

National Honor Society

Membership in the National Honor Society is both an honor and a responsibility bestowed upon a student. Selection of students for membership is the responsibility of the Faculty Scholarship Committee. Students selected for the membership must have at least an accumulative GPA of 3.50 and demonstrate outstanding qualities in citizenship, character, leadership and service. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities. New students are inducted at the Northwest Chapter Induction Ceremony. Please visit with the sponsor for more details.

Transcripts

Transcript request forms should be requested, completed, and turned in to the Registrar. Processing take five days minimum. Official transcripts are needed by institutions of higher education and/or scholarship committees. Official transcripts are sent electronically or stamped with the official school seal. Transcripts that are mailed are sent in a sealed envelope. If the seal is broken, it becomes an unofficial transcript. “Unofficial Transcripts” are stamped as such and are not generally accepted in educational institutions or scholarship committees.

Missing/Late Coursework and Redo/Revisions

- Students may be allowed redos and revisions of coursework for full credit during that unit of study based upon the teacher’s professional judgment and evidence collected throughout the unit. Scores for student work after retaking, revising, or redoing work will not be averaged with the first attempt at coursework or assessment, but will replace the original student’s score.
- Work not turned in at all will be recorded in Infinite Campus (district grade book) as an M for missing which calculates to a score of zero.

- Students are expected to complete coursework on time. Late coursework may be accepted for full credit until the end of the unit based on teacher's professional judgment and evidence collected throughout the unit.
- Accepted late work will not result in a reduction, and the M (missing) will be replaced with the score earned by the student. The teacher or school may make exceptions depending upon student circumstances such as prolonged absences due to illness.
- For more information, please see the 2022 Secondary Grading Brochure.

Northwest High Counseling

Course Guide

The Husky Course Guide is given to each student at the time of registration. This Guide includes graduation requirements, programs of study, and a description of each of the courses offered at Northwest. It is simply one tool to assist you in selecting an appropriate path of study for your future.

School Counseling Resource Center

Students utilize the School Counseling Resource Center for educational, career, and social/emotional support. Students can also receive assistance with college planning. The center is located on the first floor, and students can scan the QR Code to make an appointment.

Scheduling Changes/Requests for Dropping

Students register in the spring for the following year. A student will have the opportunity to select courses with the assistance of their counselor.

Course registration changes for the following year will be made with administrative consultation. Course changes are only permitted under the following conditions:

1. If a credit was recovered during Next Level Learning (summer school).
2. If the student needs an additional course to meet graduation requirements.
3. If a conflict in the schedule cannot be adjusted without dropping or changing a course.
4. If a student has a study hall and would prefer to have a class.
5. If a student has an empty or blank schedule.
6. If a student has their own transportation and is requesting class release.

Northwest High Affairs

Guidelines for Appropriate Attire at School

School is a place for serious work and study. Certain types of fashion and dress are not appropriate for school. All students are expected to dress appropriately. What is considered appropriate dress for school is at the discretion of Northwest High School administration. Students who dress inappropriately will be asked to change or may be sent home to change clothes.

Staff must be able to identify students without inhibitors of clothing/apparel. Clothing must not distract or disrupt the learning atmosphere within the school. Clothing that advertises and/or displays graphics of alcohol, drugs, or sexual content are prohibited.

1. Underwear should not be visible.
2. Sunglasses or gloves are not to be worn in school.
3. No blankets are allowed to be carried or worn around school.

Computers/Electronic Devices

Students who use software to "break through" the filter could receive a disciplinary action

Electronic devices checked out to the students are property of the school, and need to be treated as they would a textbook or library book. All students are responsible for the device, cable, and charger throughout the school year.

Cell Phone/Electronic Device Usage

The use of cell phones or electronic devices at Northwest High School shall be for educational purposes only. In the Classroom:

1. The teacher asks the student to put their cell phone away.
2. If the student does not comply, then the student will be asked to secure their phone through a school-provided means for the remainder of the class.
3. If they refuse to do #2, they will be asked to bring their cell phone to the administrator for the rest of the day.
4. If a student refuses to give their cell phone/electronic device to their administrator, a parent/guardian will be called to either pick up the device and/or the student.

Transportation

If you are riding school or privately-owned buses you are expected to conform to all school regulations while on the bus. Students riding buses for any school-related purpose should consider the time as an extension of the school day. Violation of these policies may result in the loss of bus privileges and/or other disciplinary action.

Students who are eligible to ride the bus may take the late activity bus and should sign up using the QR Code found in the cafeteria or hallway before 2:00 p.m. Students who are not with an organized activity and not on the late bus list will not be allowed to ride the late activity bus.

Questions concerning district-provided transportation should be referred to 531-299-0140. Information pertaining to schedules and regulations will be provided by the OPS Transportation Office. All other questions should be directed to Mr. Kristopher Kahlandt, the Activities Administrator at 531-299-2755.

Before and After School Procedures

The building will open at 7:00 a.m. with school starting at 7:40 a.m. Parents/Guardians must drop students off in the west parking lot. This is the side where the football stadium is located. The east lot is reserved for buses and staff parking.

At the end of the day, it is expected that the halls be cleared by 3:15 p.m. Parents/Guardians/Rides must pick up students in the west parking lot. West parking lot traffic will go north only. The east lot is reserved for buses only, and traffic will go south.

If you are in co-curricular activities, you should go directly to those activities. You need to be with a teacher/coach/club sponsor by 3:15 p.m. each day. If you are in the hallways without a pass after 3:15 p.m. you will be escorted out of the building. If you leave the building, you will not be allowed reentry. Refusal to leave will result in consequences.

Leaving During the School Day

You are not allowed to leave the school building during the school day unless an administrator or the nurse grants permission. Students who are granted permission must present their pass at the attendance window and sign out. You must also sign in when you return.

If you have an appointment during the school day a phone call or a note from your parent/guardian should include your name, the date and time to be excused, and a reason for being excused, a telephone number where your parent/guardian can be reached, and a parent/guardian signature is required. Take your note to the attendance office prior to the start of the school day. The office will call you down to sign out at the appropriate time and you must sign out before leaving the building.

Visitors to the Building

Parents/Guardians are always welcome at Northwest High School and are encouraged to visit at any time. It is advisable, however, to schedule conferences with administrators and teachers in advance.

In order to provide a safe, secure environment only the South doors will be open. All visitors are required to check in at the main office when they arrive to obtain an Omaha Public Schools Visitor Pass.

Former students may visit only after 3:15 p.m. Northwest High School does not permit friends or school-aged relatives of current students to visit during the school day.

Attendance

High school students have the primary responsibility to be at school on time, every day, and to report on time to their assigned location. Your success is dependent upon regular attendance. If you are absent you will need to make up all of the work you missed in a timely fashion.

If you are absent for more than three days and would like assignments, please have your parents/guardians contact your counselor. Please allow 1-2 days to assemble the assignments.

Students who are absent more than ten times from a class for any reason will be in failing status (see “10-day Absence Practice” in the buff pages for more specific information). It is the student’s responsibility to obtain and inquire about missing assignments upon their return to school. If attendance becomes a concern, a representative from the District will be in contact with you and your parents/guardians.

Your parents/guardians are requested to call the school attendance office regarding all school absences at 531-299-2740, press 2 for the attendance office. If parents/guardians are unable to call, you are required to bring a note from your parents/guardians to the attendance office, stating the reason for the absence.

Truancy is missing a class or any portion of the day without a phone call or letter from a parent/guardian excusing the absence. Disciplinary action will be taken for students who are truant from school.

Tardies

Students are expected to be in class on time; however, we do understand that things happen that may delay students and cause them to be tardy. Students will be given five grace tardies up to five minutes per class per quarter. At three tardies, a teacher will communicate and work with the student. At the fourth tardy, a phone call will be made to notify parents/guardians. At the fifth tardy, the student will be referred to their Dean/Administrator through the Student Information Pass (SIP) process.

After the fifth tardy and up to the 9th, they will be assigned a lunch detention each time. After the 10th tardy, the student will be assigned an after-school detention, and a parent/guardian meeting will be required to determine additional interventions.

Students who are later than 5 minutes will be sent to get a hall sweep pass and assigned an immediate lunch detention.

Students with excessive tardies who fail to go to class will be deemed insubordinate and will be sent home for refusal to cooperate with school administrative staff.

Books and Supplies

You are responsible for all books and supplies issued to you. Fines will be assessed for damaged or lost materials.

Cafeteria Guidelines

- All food/drink is to be consumed in the cafeteria.
- You have the option to bring your lunch from home. However, federal regulations prohibits outside food deliveries for lunch.
- Students buying lunch cannot sell or give food away.
- Cutting in lunch line is not permitted, nor is saving a place in line.
- Food or drink is not to be taken out of your eating area. Lunches must be consumed in the cafeteria.
- You are to remain seated; do not wander around the eating area.
- Trays and utensils must be returned to the proper area.
- Food is not to be thrown.
- Eating areas need to be clean and ready for the next group.
- Use of another student’s identification number is not permitted.
- **Northwest does not have an “OPEN CAMPUS.”** Students may not leave the campus or designated area.
- In order to leave the cafeteria, you must have a pass.

Restrooms on the west side are open for your use during lunch. When students have finished eating, they must remain in the cafeteria.

Hall Lockers

Lockers will only be assigned to athletes and others based on requests. If assigned, students must keep their combination confidential. The lockers are safe and secure only if the door is completely closed, and the dial has been spun or cleared.

Your responsibilities include the following:

1. Use only the locker assigned. You are not to change lockers after assignments have been made.
2. Care for the locker properly and keep it neat and clean.
3. Do not write on the locker or affix stickers on the locker.
4. You must leave coats and headgear in your locker.
5. Bring only essential items to school. The school is not responsible for property left in the lockers nor does it accept the responsibility for items lost or taken.
6. If you have problems with your locker, report the problem to any staff member.

Lockers are the property of the school and are in the building only for the use of the students. Northwest High School reserves the right to inspect a student locker if the administration considers the search necessary to maintain the integrity of the school environment and to protect other students.

Student Identification/Activity Cards

You will be issued a photo identification card. You are expected to carry this card and show it upon request. The card can be used for school identification.

You will also have the opportunity to purchase an **activity card** for \$35. The activity card will allow you to attend any Northwest High School sports events for free or at a reduced price. Any student participating in extra-curricular activities will be required to have an activity card. Members of the NSAA / NCA Activities must have an activity card to participate. Cards are not transferable, and refunds will not be made. A student abusing the use of this card may lose its privileges. Lost cards should be reported to the main office; a new card will be issued for a replacement fee.

School Nurse

The nurse's office is for medical purposes only. There is no food and drink unless required for medical purposes.

A school nurse is assigned to Northwest High School on a full-time basis. If you are ill, you should plan to stay home. If you become ill during the day, you may ask your teacher for a pass to see the nurse. If you are too ill to stay in school, a parent/guardian will be notified to pick you up. You must sign out in the attendance office before leaving the building.

If there is a reasonable excuse for you to miss a Physical Education class, then a written parent excuse must be presented to the nurse before school in order to be excused. The nurse will call your parents/guardians to verify the note.

The school nurse can refer a student to the Health and Wellness Center (HWC) with parent permission.

Medication Policy

1. A licensed physician must prescribe all medication.
2. Written permission must be given, to the nurse, from the physician and parent to administer medication in school.
3. Prescription bottles must be labeled with the name of the drug, dosage, and the patient's name.
4. All medication is to be brought to the nurse's office before the start of the school day.

Charles Drew Health Center (Health and Wellness Center (HWC))

What can the HWC do for my child?

The HWC will be available at your child's school or a nearby school during the school year. The HWC will be staffed and operated by OneWorld Community Health Centers or Charles Drew Community Health Center and will provide on-site medical services. The HWC will be able to diagnose and treat many

common conditions, such as sore throats, headaches, ear infections and minor wounds, scrapes and burns as well as provide care such as immunizations, school and sport physicals, preventive care and screenings.

The HWC will not replace your child's regular health care provider, but rather they can supplement the services he/she provides. Help will be provided in find a primary health care provider outside of the HWC if your child(ren) does not currently have one. The HWC will NOT be able to provide emergency services.

Who can use the HWC?

The HWCs are able to provide health services to: All OPS Students; minor siblings of all OPS students (birth through 18 years); early childhood populations from Head Start, Educare, and ECS Network of Excellence.

What my payment options when using the HWC?

If you have Medicaid, Kids Connection or private health insurance, the HWC will provide services, collect required co-pays and send bills to your insurance carrier. If you child is not eligible for Medicaid or private insurance, a sliding fee scale will be used to cover expenses. If using the sliding fee scale, during your first visit please provide pay stubs for one month. Additionally, if you currently do not have health insurance coverage, the HWC staff will work with your family to help enroll your child(ren) into Kids Connection or Medicaid if eligible. Absolutely no child will be turned away due to a family's inability to pay.

How do I get my child(ren) enrolled into the HWC?

In order for your child(ren) to be seen in the health center, a signed parent consent form and your child's health history must ordinarily be on file in the HWC. You can obtain parent consent and health history forms through your child's school, school nurse, or download forms from www.ops.org/sbhc. Once parent consent and health history forms are completed and signed, please return them to the school nurse's office.

How do I make an appointment for my child?

If you wish to use the HWC, please contact the HWC nearest to your home or child's school to schedule an appointment. For your child(ren)'s first visit, you will be asked to provide:

- Health history
- HWC Enrollment form if not already on file
- Insurance/Medicaid card if eligible
- Pay stubs for one month if using the sliding fee scale

Should your child get ill during the school day, your school nurse will contact you and coordinate care with the HWC staff. The phone number for the Northwest High School HWC is 402-916-5964.

Library Information

- The library at Northwest High School exists to help students and faculty by providing every possible service to augment class assignments and individual learning projects.
- **Hours:** 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- **Loan Period:** Two weeks (Books may be renewed if they have not been requested by someone else). Over-night-reserve books are due in the library media center before school the following morning.
- **Fines:** Fines are not charged, but lost or damaged material must be paid for or replaced.
- **Materials:** When checking out materials, students must input their student identification number at the circulation desk.
- **Request:** You may reserve a book which is already checked out. You will be notified when the book becomes available. It must be picked up that same day, or it will be returned to the shelves.

You may report directly to the library with a pass from a classroom teacher, counselor, or administrator. You must sign in using the QR Code and present the pass at the desk prior to the tardy bell ringing.

Student Unpaid Obligations

Students are required to assume the financial responsibility for their actions. This may include, but not necessarily be limited to obligations for: (a) the loss or damage to school owned supplies and/or equipment; (b) resulting from lost or damaged library books; and (c) obligations occurred prior to enrolling at Northwest.

Those students who fail to meet their obligations outlined above or others as indicated in the student handbook will be subject to the following restriction until such time as the financial obligations are met:

1. The student and his/her parents or legal guardians shall not receive an official transcript.
2. The student, upon becoming eligible for graduation, will not receive a diploma and will not participate in the commencement exercises.

Student Vehicles

All students who drive to school and use the school parking lot MUST register their vehicle(s), secure a parking permit, at a cost of \$20 per year. A completed registration form must be placed on file in the office. Parking permits must be displayed in the front windshield on the rearview mirror. Only those cars with a valid parking permit will be allowed to park in the designated areas on the school property. Drivers of illegally parked vehicles, vehicles parked on school grounds without a valid parking permit, or student vehicles improperly parked will be ticketed and towed at the owner's expense.

Student Vehicles – Illegal Parking/Improper Parking (being parked on campus without proper parking permit)

1st offense – ticket (\$5.00)

2nd offense – ticket (\$10.00)

3rd offense – ticket (\$15.00)

4th offense – Car may be towed at owner's expense (up to \$125.00 per tow)

Students are to enter or exit by the west (Crown Point) or Wenninghoff entrances and will park in the WEST parking lot. They will park only between the lines indicating parking stalls. There is only one access road to the student parking area necessitating two-way traffic; therefore, parking will not be allowed on the access road or along the east curb.

The maximum speed limit anywhere on school property is 10 MPH Careless or reckless drivers will not be permitted to drive on school property. Students are reminded to DRIVE SAFELY. Students are not to loiter in the in the parking area before or after school.

Current state law prevents the Omaha Police Department from making an investigation of an accident on private property. The only exceptions are: 1) hit and run, and 2) a personal injury. The police should be called in these two cases. If you do have an accident on school property you should exchange the following information with the other driver: name, address, telephone number, and insurance company, license registration number, make, model and year of car. You should also get the name of any witnesses to the accident and discuss it with your School Staff.

SCHOOLS DO NOT PROVIDE INSURANCE ON STUDENT VEHICLES OR PERSONAL PROPERTY. PARKING ON CAMPUS IS AT YOUR OWN RISK!

Bicycles ridden to school by students will be parked in the bicycle racks on the west side of the building. Any bicycle ridden to school must be chained and locked during the school day.

Northwest High Athletics

Athletics/Activities Programs

Students taking an active part in athletics/activities programs are often more successful in all phases of school and get more out of their education. You are encouraged to participate in a variety of activities. Organizations are open to anyone who is interested in participating. All Northwest High School activities are considered to an extension of the school day, regardless of the locations; therefore, regular school policies should dictate your behavior.

Northwest High School students who participate in athletics or other activities are expected to follow all rules of the Nebraska School Activities Association, and any additional rules as outlined by individual coaches or sponsors.

As a participant in the athletics/activities programs at Northwest, you will be expected to conduct yourself in a manner which reflects positively upon you, your team, and Northwest High School. Major expectations in this regard include (but are not limited to):

- Act in such a way as to maintain a **positive image** at school and in the community;
- Act as a **role model** for peers and younger students
- Demonstrate a sense of **integrity, honesty, teamwork, fair play,** and **sportsmanship.**
- You are expected to perform to the best of your capabilities in your classes. **Academics and the pursuit of a quality education must come first.**
- As a participant, **your behavior and attitude are expected to be a “cut above”** that of the general student population. This includes show respect for yourself, your peers and your teachers and coaches.
- You are responsible for maintaining all equipment and uniforms that are entrusted to your use. Student-athletes should not wear uniforms issued by Northwest High School outside of contests, except if so authorized by the coach or sponsor.
- In order to **be eligible**, you must earn a minimum of four credits from the preceding semester. (For the graduating class of 2019 and 2020, please refer to “Omaha Public Schools Academic Eligibility for High School Students Who Participate in Any Sanctioned Activities Sponsored by the NSAA,” Section V Implementation Practices.) Of that four, no more than two may be applied from summer school. If you moved (changed addresses) or transferred schools within 90 days, you may not be eligible for varsity competition. Contact your coach or sponsor immediately if there is any question in this regard. Penalty could include future ineligibility and/or your team’s forfeiture of games.
- Upon the first official practice day of your sport, you are no longer eligible to participate on any other team or activity outside of Northwest in the sport in which you are participating at Northwest.
- In order to participate in any day’s activities, **you must arrive at school no later than 9:30 a.m.,** except with written permission from a physician or dentist. This rule applies to all practices, meetings and competitions throughout the course of the entire day.
- OPS behavior rules apply to participants’ **year-round**, not just in season. Refer to the Buff Pages of this handbook.

These expectations apply to all students at Northwest High School. Individual coaches or sponsors may impose additional expectations and/or consequences. Failure to comply with these expectations will result in a suspension from athletics/activities for a period up to 15 activity days (beginning immediately). Extremely serious behavior or behavior in violation of more than one of the above guidelines may result in an additional suspension period, including possible dismissal from the team. Multiple violations within a school year may place students under special athletic/activity probation, the terms of which will be administered by the athletic or activities director. Suspended students have an opportunity for appeal. Procedures for such an appeal are outlined in the Buff Pages of this handbook.

Student-athletes should refer to the Northwest Program Planning Handbook for information relative to preparing for college athletic scholarships. This guide contains information that future scholarship recipients need to know early in high school. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL YOUR SENIOR YEAR TO BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH THESE GUIDELINES!** Contact your counselor or coach if you have questions or concerns.

Competitive Athletics

Northwest High School is a member of the Nebraska School Activities Association and the Metropolitan High School Activities Association.

The interscholastic athletic program consists of twenty sports, including teams for both boys and girls. There are three athletic seasons divided as follows:

- **FALL SPORTS SEASON:** Boys Cross Country, Boys Tennis, Football, Girls Cross Country, Girls Golf, Girls Softball, Girls Volleyball
- **WINTER SPORTS SEASON:** Boys Basketball, Boys Swimming, Girls Basketball, Girls Swimming, Wrestling, Unified Bowling
- **SPRING SPORTS SEASON:** Boys Baseball, Boys Golf, Boys Soccer, Boys Track and Field, Girls Soccer, Girls Track and Field, Girls Soccer, Girls Tennis

Athletic Check Out Procedures

Candidates for interscholastic athletic teams must complete the Omaha Public Schools Participation Form, pass a current physical examination (dated after May 1, 2019), clear any obligations, and purchase an Activity Card. These requirements must be met before candidates are granted permission to check out equipment or are allowed to participate in school-sponsored practice sessions. Coaches and main office personnel have check out information.

Combined District and School Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Omaha Public Schools intends to follow the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy guidelines in accordance with federal law, Section 1116(a -f) ESSA, (Every Student Succeeds Act) of 2015.

In General

The written District parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly with, updated periodically and distributed to parents and family members of participating children and the local community in an understandable and uniform format. This policy agreed on by such parents describes the means for carrying out the requirements as listed below.

- Parents and family members of all students are welcomed and encouraged to become involved with their child's school and education; this includes parents and family members that have limited English proficiency, limited literacy, are economically disadvantaged, have disabilities, racial or ethnic minority background or are migratory children. Information related to school and parent programs, meetings, school reports and other activities are sent to the parents of participating children in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
 - Back to School Night
 - School Open House
 - Title I Annual Parent Meeting
 - Curriculum Night
 - Parent-Teacher Conferences
 - Reading Night
 - Math Night
 - STEAM/STEM Night
 - Family Game Night
 - PTA/PTO – meetings & activities
- Parents are involved in the planning, review, evaluation and improvement of the Title I program, Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the School-Parent Compact at an annual parent meeting scheduled at a convenient time. This would include the planning and implementation of effective parent and family involvement activities.
- Conduct, with meaningful parent and family involvement, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Use the evaluation findings to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

- Opportunities are provided for parents and family members to participate in decisions related to the education of their child/children. The school and local educational agency shall provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities
 - Climate Survey
 - Title I Annual parent meeting
 - Committee meetings
 - Development of the School Improvement Plan
 - Student Assistance Teams
- Parents of participating children will be provided timely information about programs under this part, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards. The school will provide assistance, opportunities, and/or materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement in a format, and when feasible, in a language the parents and family members can understand
 - The student handbook
 - Curriculum Night
 - Parent-Teacher Conferences
 - Standardized Tests results
 - Progress reports & report card
- Educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, with the assistance of parents in the value and utility of contributions of parents, how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners.
- Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State and local programs, including preschool programs that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.
 - Summer Reading Program
 - College and Career Academies and Pathways Night with The Empowerment Network
 - Saturday Parent Workshops hosted at Monroe Middle

Parent Right To Know Clause

At the beginning of the school year, any District that accepts Title I, Part A funding must notify parents that they can request information regarding their child's teacher and his/her qualifications, including certification and endorsements. Parents can also request information about paraprofessionals working with their children.

Omaha Public Schools 2023-2024 Calendar



Next Level Learning – June 6–July 14

Please check with your child(ren)'s school regarding dates of specific school related activities.

Elementary – 8:50 a.m. to 4:05 p.m.

Middle School – 7:40 a.m. to 3:05 p.m.

High School – 7:40 a.m. to 3:05 p.m.

Juneteenth - No School For Next Level Learning Students - June 19

Independence Day - No School For Next Level Learning Students - July 3-5

Note: At Kennedy, Lewis & Clark, Wakonda, Wilson, and Alternative Programs – Check with the school regarding start & end of school day times.

STAGGERED SCHOOL START - indicated by asterisk*

- **August *15** – Elementary Self-Contained Start Day
- **August *16** – Elementary Student Start Day
- **August *16** – Entry Level Middle and Senior High Student Start Day
- **August *17** – All Other Middle and Senior High Student Start Day
- **August *22** – Early Childhood Special Education Start Day
- **August *23** – Early Childhood Classes Start

Labor Day- No School For All Students September 4

No School For All Students September 15

No School For All Students September 22

First Quarter Ends – October 6

Second Quarter Begins – October 9

SENIOR HIGH CONFERENCES ARE THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 9TH

No School For Senior High Students – October 12 & 13

MIDDLE SCHOOL CONFERENCES ARE THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 16TH

No School for Middle School Students – October 19 & 20

ELEMENTARY CONFERENCES ARE THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 23RD

No School For Elementary Students – October 26 & 27

No School For All Students November 1

Thanksgiving Recess - No School For All Students November 20-24

Second Quarter Ends – December 21

No School For All Students December 22

Winter Recess - No School For All Students December 25-January 4

No School For All Students January 5

Third Quarter Begins – January 8

Martin Luther King Day - No School For All Students January 15

No School For All Students February 2

Presidents' Day - No School For All Students February 19

MIDDLE SCHOOL CONFERENCES ARE THE WEEK OF MARCH 4TH

No School for Middle School Students – March 7 & 8

Third Quarter Ends – March 8

Spring Recess - No School For All Students March 11-15

Fourth Quarter Begins – March 18

SENIOR HIGH CONFERENCES ARE THE WEEK OF MARCH 18TH

No School For Senior High Students – March 21 & 22

ELEMENTARY CONFERENCES ARE THE WEEK OF MARCH 25TH

No School For Elementary Students – March 28 & 29

No School For All Students April 12

No School For All Students April 15

Last student day - Fourth Quarter Ends May 22

Memorial Day. May 27

June 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

December 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

July 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

January 2024

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August 2023

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12	13	14	*15	*16	*17	18
19	20	*21	*22	*23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2024

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

September 2023

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

March 2024

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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

October 2023

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

November 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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