

Good afternoon,

I hope this message finds you well. It is hard to believe there are only seven weeks remaining in the school year. As we celebrate Teacher/Staff appreciation week, I want to take a moment to extend thanks to all of the NCS teachers and staff members who go above and beyond to support our students each and every day. These individuals are the fabric that makes NCS a wonderful place to learn. As you will read further in this update, NCS received some exciting news regarding our regional ranking as a district; this would not be possible without our talented dedicated staff!

While the school year continues to wind down quickly, there is also much to look forward to; below you will find some important dates to place on your calendars:

5/21: NCS Budget Vote

5/27: Naples Memorial Day Parade

5/30: JH/SH Spring Concert & Art Show HS Gymnasium

6/3: Academic Awards Banquet HS Cafeteria

6/4: Elementary Concert & Art Show NES Gym

6/17-6/21: NES Early Dismissal at 1:30 PM

6/19: No School Juneteenth Holiday

6/22: NCS Graduation 11:00 AM HS Front Lawn

As noted above, the **NCS Budget and Board of Education Vote will be held on May 21st, 2024 between 7 AM and 8 PM in the High School Library Media Center**. Budget brochures have been delivered to residents, and our annual budget hearing was held on Wednesday. Should you have any questions about the 24-25 school budget, do not hesitate to reach out.

In March, NCS received two EV buses which were secured through a federal grant last school year. This grant also covered the vast majority of infrastructure work for charging stations. To date, the NYS mandate requiring all bus purchases to be zero emission by 2027 is still in place. Should this mandate be altered, NCS should be on solid ground given we have taken steps to include several EV buses in our fleet. I am pleased to report that to date, both EV buses are performing exceptionally well. Over the next few years, we will continue to purchase diesel buses as part of our regular replacement plan. The state of the NYS EV mandate will determine which direction school districts must go with purchases beyond 2027 and we will keep the community updated on any shifts with the EV mandate.

Congratulations to the NCS Tennis Team; we are proud to share that 7 of our athletes will be participating in the state qualifier tournament. Another outstanding season from both a team and individual perspective. Our baseball and softball teams also continue to compete and have engaged in some exciting games over the past few weeks. We wish all of our spring athletes the best of luck as sectionals approach.

Lastly, I wanted to share with you some news which should be celebrated. Last week, US News and World Report released their 2024 school rankings. Naples CSD was ranked #15 in the entire Rochester NY area. This is a testament to the unwavering support provided by our community, the outstanding staff who support our students, and of course the hard work and dedication shown by our students and their families. While we always seek ways to grow and improve, this report indicates that NCS is doing many things well and for that our community should be incredibly proud. The complete list of rankings can be found via the link below.

<https://www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools/new-york/rankings/rochester-ny-40380>

Have a wonderful weekend and Happy Mother's Day. As always do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Kevin Swartz

NCS Superintendent