

# NORTH FORK LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

WWW.NORTHFORK.K12.OH.US

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## NEWSLETTER

Volume 11, Issue 1



### Utica Elementary

Kindergarten Orientation	Aug. 14	5:30 PM
Open House	Aug. 14	6:00 PM—7:00 PM

### Newton Elementary

Open House	Aug. 15	3:00 PM—4:00 PM
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*Find your classroom and drop off your school supplies!*

### Utica Middle School and Utica High School

**\*\*Back-to-School forms must be submitted and approved before picking up student schedules.\*\*** [North Fork Local Schools \(esvportal.com\)](http://NorthForkLocalSchools.esvportal.com)

#### Schedule Pick-up and Student Pictures

Aug. 4	8:00 AM—4:00 PM	Aug. 7	8:00 AM—3:00 PM
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*iPads will be distributed the first week of school. Forms must be submitted and approved before students receive their iPad.*

**Please check the building webpages for updates.**

[Utica Elementary \(northfork.k12.oh.us\)](http://UticaElementary.northfork.k12.oh.us)

[Newton Elementary \(northfork.k12.oh.us\)](http://NewtonElementary.northfork.k12.oh.us)

[Middle School \(northfork.k12.oh.us\)](http://MiddleSchool.northfork.k12.oh.us)

[Utica High School \(northfork.k12.oh.us\)](http://UticaHighSchool.northfork.k12.oh.us)

Newton Elementary  
740-745-5982  
Michele Gorius, Principal  
Shelbi Bixler, Secretary

Utica Elementary  
740-892-2551  
Brett Ballinger, Principal  
Tracy Poole, Secretary

Utica Middle School  
740-892-2691

Elizabeth Edinger, Dean of Students  
Kara Firman, Secretary

Utica High School  
740-892-2855  
Anthony Ashbrook, Principal  
Lisa Ritzer, Asst. Principal  
Brian Radabaugh, A.D.  
Debi Beaver, Secretary  
Ashley Reynolds, Secretary  
Missie Woodard, Secretary

#### District Services

Transportation Mike Maxwell 740-892-2006	Food Service Dawn Nelson 740-789-1647
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Curriculum Stephanie Kimpel 740-892-3237	Student Services Doug Lunsford 740-892-2106
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District School Nurse  
Jennifer Wygle  
740-403-6502

EMIS Coordinator/Enrollment  
Peg Carpenter  
740-892-2014

Maintenance Supervisor  
Adam Reynolds

## *Superintendent's Message 2023*

It is hard to believe the start of the 2023- 2024 school year is just right around the corner! We are eager to welcome you back to school and encourage you to help us make the school year a successful time for our students.

The beginning of school always brings a variety of emotions — excitement, anticipation, and yes, a little bit of nerves for students, teachers, parents, staff, and administrators alike. The start of a new school year is always full of introductions and reconnections with old friends — all while learning to navigate new class schedules, new teachers, and in some cases, new schools. Our staff of highly qualified professional educators and support personnel are committed to helping make these changes a positive and rewarding experience.

The excitement of the 2023-24 school year is just beginning. This school year we will be updating the discipline procedures. Information about the changes will be on the website and at each building; please feel free to look over how discipline will be handled. We are continuing the process of ensuring a safe environment; please remember that schools must maintain a high-security level. Anyone wishing to visit the buildings must go through a single door. These are the main doors to each of our buildings.

With the curriculum, we have been working to enhance many areas of our programming to aid all students to be successful in their academics. The reading tutors will be ongoing this school year for the elementary schools. The positive behavior support program at all of our buildings will also be continuing. Those changes begin with everyone looking toward our vision to provide and inspire achievement and accountability that maximizes quality learning to

focus our energies on improvement.

Our primary goal this school year will be to enhance our reading and math programs to raise the bar for staff and students. We must exceed expectations and work to get all students proficient in both of these areas of our curriculum. We continue to work on the Science of Reading throughout the grade levels for our reading goal. In math, we are focusing on addressing specific areas of standards that are demonstrated as weaknesses.

With the many tasks and challenges that face administrators, teachers, parents, and students every day, we believe the best way to continually improve is to focus our initiatives. By directing our energies on programs that can make substantial change, we will provide our community of learners an opportunity for life-long success. Those initiatives include programs for The Leader in Me, Next Generation Learning, Foundations reading and writing, and Career and College Pathways.

We look forward to educating the children of the North Fork Local School District and thank you sincerely for all of the support and positive comments you have given us throughout the years. I encourage everyone to set new goals, think big, and embrace new connections and experiences.

Enjoy these last days of summer, and best wishes for a positive, productive, and rewarding school year.

*Scott Hartley, Superintendent*



**PLEASE NOTE:**  
Video surveillance and/or electronic monitoring systems are in use in *all* buildings and transportation vehicles.

## STUDENT CALENDAR 2023-2024

Aug. 16	<b>First Day for Students</b>	Jan. 2	Return from Winter Break
Sept. 04	No School - Holiday	Jan. 15	No School - Holiday
Sept. 20	No School - Staff PD	Jan. 16	No School - Staff PD
Oct. 18	End of 1st Grading Period	Feb. TBA	Evening Conferences
Oct. 19	No School - Staff PD	Feb. 16	No School
Oct. 20	No School - Records Day	Feb. 19	No School - Holiday
Nov. TBA	Evening Conferences	Feb. 20	No School - Staff PD
Nov. 07	No School - Staff PD	Mar. 6	End of 3rd Grading Period
Nov. 17	No School	Mar. 7	No School - Staff PD
Nov. 22	No School	Mar. 8	No School - Records Day
Nov. 23 - 24	No School - Holiday	Mar. 22	Last Day Before Spring Break
Nov. 27	No School - Staff PD	Apr. 1	Return from Spring Break
Dec. 14	Last Day Before Winter Break	May 19	Senior Class Graduation
	End of 2nd Grading Period	May 22	Last Day for Students
Dec. 15	No School - Records Day		End of 4th Grading Period



# Safer Ohio

School Tip Line

**844.723.3764**

Report concerns for student safety

### North Fork Board of Education 2023 Meeting Schedule

August 21, 2023	Utica Senior High School	6:00 p.m.
September 18, 2023	Newton Elementary School	6:00 p.m.
October 16, 2023	Utica Middle School	6:00 p.m.
November 20, 2023	Utica Elementary School	6:00 p.m.
December 11, 2023	Newton Elementary School	6:00 p.m.

## Transportation News

If your child will be riding a bus this year, you will be contacted by the bus driver before the first day of school. Please continue to check the North Fork website at <http://www.northfork.k12.oh.us/Transportation.aspx> and also check your email for further transportation updates and instructions.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Coordinator of District Services

Mike Maxwell

740-892-2006



North Fork Bus Garage - 740-892-2871



### ~FOOD SERVICE INFORMATION~

**FREE /REDUCED LUNCH APPLICATIONS** are available online at <https://payschoolscentral.com> and in the offices of **each building.**

***\*\* You must complete the application in order to determine if you qualify to receive funds through the P-EBT program and for school fees to be waived.\*\****

**Thousands more Ohio students will be eligible for free school meals this year due to a new, \$8.4 million allotment in the recently signed state budget.**

***Ohio students who apply and qualify for reduced-price meals, based on family income, will now receive the food at no cost to them.***

**BREAKFAST** is **FREE** for all students!  
Students are encouraged to eat breakfast.

**LUNCH MENUS** will be available on the North Fork website and in the school offices.



Please follow the **PaySchools Central** link, <https://payschoolscentral.com>

to pay:

- ⇒ school fees
- ⇒ pay-to-participate fees
- ⇒ activity fees
- ⇒ add money to your child's lunch account

When registering, you will need your **student's ID number**. This can be found on the report card or in ProgressBook.

## NORTH FORK LOCAL SCHOOLS TITLE I PROGRAM

*Mission Statement: Our mission is to help every student achieve a year's worth of reading growth by collaborating with classroom teachers and parents.*

**What is Title I?** Title I is a federally funded program designed to give extra help to students who are at risk for meeting the state and national standards in the areas of reading and language arts. Funding for the program is determined by the percentage of students who qualify for free or reduced lunches in each elementary building as well as information collected from the United States Census Bureau. Students do not have to qualify for free or reduced lunch to be included in the Title I Program.

### **How do we select students?**

All students from Utica and Newton Elementary schools are eligible for service because of our "Schoolwide" status. Title I teachers work with students either during reading time, intervention time, or writing time. Students are not

pulled out for Title I groups during their art, music, or physical education classes.



### **How do we serve students?**

Students receive instruction in small groups based on their specific needs to help them become better readers and writers. These groups tend to change throughout the school year as students progress at their own pace.

**Who teaches Title I?** At North Fork Local, we have six highly-qualified teachers. Newton Elementary teachers: Ms. Shanna Justice, Mrs. Mary Schraer, and Ms. Ronda Stevens. Utica Elementary teachers: Mrs. Cara Morrison, Miss Karen Shomaker, and Ms. Susan Wallace.

### **How do we involve parents?**

At North Fork Local Schools, we welcome parent involvement in our Title I programs. If you would like to contribute to the development of our annual parent involvement policy, please contact **Michele Gorius**, Newton Elementary Principal, at 740-745-5982, or **Brett Ballinger**, Utica Elementary Principal, at 740-892-2551.

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Each year, all school districts in the state conduct an intensive awareness campaign in accordance with the **INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**. At this time we are trying to identify children with disabilities who live within the boundaries of our school district, birth through age 21, who may be in need of special education services.

Students who have disabilities may have one of the following conditions: autism, deafness, blindness, hearing impairment, mental retardation, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairments, serious emotional disturbance, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, and/or visual impairment.

Your public school offers evaluation for all children with suspected disabilities, birth through age twenty-one, and education for all children with disabilities, ages three through twenty-one. If you know a child who is suspected of having a disability, please contact your local school building and someone from the district will contact the parent and attempt to inform them of their rights.

Questions? Please contact Doug Lunsford at 740-892-2106 or [ddlunsford@northfork.k12.oh.us](mailto:ddlunsford@northfork.k12.oh.us).



# One Call Now



when messages matter



Once again we will be using the One Call Now messaging system for parent notification of school delays, cancellations and other information. From the North Fork homepage just follow the link under the parents tab to update your information.

The opt-in process to receive TEXT MESSAGES is easy! Simply text ALERT to 22300. You will need to repeat this process for any wireless number you wish to receive messages. For text messages, message and data rates may apply, depending on the data plan you have with your cell carrier. PLEASE BE AWARE THAT IF YOU OPT-IN TO RECEIVE TEXT MESSAGES, YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE A PHONE CALL ON THAT WIRELESS NUMBER, ONLY A TEXT MESSAGE.

## CLOSE?? DELAY?? What should we do?

When bad weather affects the area, we make the decision to open/close schools, or modify the school day schedule based upon a careful analysis of all relevant factors.

Some of these factors are:

- \* Information on road conditions from transportation staff and local law enforcement. Careful consideration is given to the most dangerous roads in the district; they can be treacherous, even if your street looks clear.
- \* Amount of accumulated snow and/or ice
- \* Is precipitation expected to continue throughout the day?
- \* Temperature and wind chill
- \* Building conditions such as whether there is electricity and heat
- \* What other districts are doing

**REMINDER**



## Immunization Requirements

The State of Ohio changed the immunization requirements for **seventh** and **twelfth** grade students effective a few years ago. Please contact your child's pediatrician or your local health department as soon as possible, as proof of these immunizations is required for school attendance, and an updated immunization record needs to be on file with the school nurse. To request a waiver, please contact the building secretary or school nurse, Jennifer Wygle. [jwygle@northfork.k12.oh.us](mailto:jwygle@northfork.k12.oh.us)

**7th grade:** Tdap vaccine (to protect from Tetanus, Diphtheria & Pertussis) and Meningococcal vaccine (to protect from Meningitis)

**12th grade:** Meningococcal vaccine (to protect from Meningitis)

If a student received a Meningitis vaccine before the age of 16 years, a second dose is required for school attendance in 12th grade. If a student received the first dose of the Meningitis vaccine at the age of 16 years or older, only one dose is required for school attendance in 12th grade.

Please forward any updated immunization records to our **school nurse, Jennifer Wygle, RN BSN, within 14 days after the start of school.**

# ATTENDANCE GUIDE

Attendance is calculated using hours instead of days.

Time missed due to a student being late to school or leaving early also counts toward absence hours.



Attendance officer files a

complaint in juvenile court against student and/or parent if the student does not improve attendance or make satisfactory progress on the attendance plan.

**Legal Intervention**  
Tier 3

## CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM

is when a student misses **10% of the school year (17 days)**

*with or without a legitimate excuse (not including medical excuses)*

## HABITUAL TRUANCY

is when a student misses

**30 consecutive hours (approx. 5 days)**

**or 42 hours in a school month (approx. 7 days)**

**72 hours in a school year (approx. 12 days)**

*without a legitimate excuse (not including medical excuses)*

## EXCESSIVE ABSENCE

is when a student misses

**38 hours in a month (approx. 5 days)**

**or 65 hours in a school year (approx. 10 days)**

*with or without a legitimate excuse (not including medical excuses)*

### Legitimate Excuses for Missing School:

1. Personal illness
2. Illness in the family necessitating the presence of the child
3. Quarantine of the home
4. Death in the family
5. Work at home due to the absence/incapacity of guardian
6. Observance of a religious holiday
7. Medical or dental
8. Medically necessary leave (ordered by a doctor)
9. Emergency or set of circumstances the Superintendent consults as a good and sufficient cause for absence.

To be excused, the student must provide the office a written note from their parent or a medical professional within 3 days stating the date and reason for the student's absence.

*Student referred to the*

### Absence Intervention Team

Parents, staff, and the attendance officer meet to address issues causing the absences and create a plan to improve attendance.

**CAUTION**

District staff will address absences in an effort to prevent reaching habitual truancy.

**Early Intervention**

Tier 1



**GOOD ATTENDANCE!**



## **REDSKIN ATHLETICS** **Important Information**

**Mandatory OHSAA Athletic Parent Meeting**  
**Wednesday, August 2, 2023**  
**UHS Gym**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**~ Online Fall Sports Pass ~**  
**[Tickets \(northfork.k12.oh.us\)](http://northfork.k12.oh.us)**

**Any resident of the North Fork Local School District  
who is 60 years old or older may stop in the UHS  
office to pick up a  
**FREE PASS**  
for admittance to all home events.**



# Utica HS 2023 Fall Sports Schedule

## VARSITY FOOTBALL

5-Aug	Licking Valley (S)	H	10AM
10-Aug	Bexley (S)	H	7PM
18-Aug	Centerburg	A	7PM
25-Aug	Loudonville	H	7PM
1-Sep	Fredericktown	H	7PM
8-Sep	Licking Heights	A	7PM
15-Sep	Indian Creek	A	7PM
22-Sep	Newark Catholic (HC)	H	7PM
29-Sep	Heath (YN)	H	7PM
6-Oct	Johnstown	A	7PM
13-Oct	Northridge	A	7PM
20-Oct	Lakewood (SN)	H	7PM
YN = YOUTH NIGHT			
HC = HOMECOMING			
SN = SENIOR NIGHT			

## JV FOOTBALL

19-Aug	Centerburg	H	10AM
26-Aug	Loudonville	A	10AM
2-Sep	Lakewood	A	10AM
9-Sep	Licking Heights	H	10AM
23-Sep	Newark Catholic	A	10AM
30-Sep	Heath	A	10AM
7-Oct	Johnstown	H	10AM
14-Oct	Northridge	H	10AM

## Freshman

28-Aug	Ridgewood	H	5:30 pm
2-Sep	Zanesville	A	12pm
11-Sep	Licking Heights	H	5pm
18-Sep	Licking Valley	A	5pm
2-Oct	Heath	H	5:30pm
9-Oct	Johnstown	H	7pm
19-Oct	Buckeye Valley	A	5:30 PM

## HS VOLLEYBALL

9th/JV / V

3-Aug	A	Marysville (S)	5pm (9th/JV/V)
5-Aug	A	Quad@New Lexington (S)	10am (9th/JV/V)
8-Aug	A	Hilliard Davidson (S)	5pm (9th/JV/V)
8-Aug	A	Grove City (S)	5pm (9th only)
14-Aug	A	Mount Vernon (S)	4pm (9th/JV/V)
19-Aug	A	Fredericktown	9:00/10:00/11:30
21-Aug	H	East Knox	--/6pm/7pm
22-Aug	A	Zanesville	4:45/5:30/7:00
24-Aug	H	Heath	4:45/5:30/7:00
26-Aug	A	Tornado Invite	11:00 AM
29-Aug	A	Johnstown	4:45/5:30/7:00
5-Sep	H	Lakewood	4:45/5:30/7:00
7-Sep	A	Newark Catholic	4:45/5:30/7:00
12-Sep	A	Licking Valley	4:45/5:30/7:00
14-Sep	H	Northridge	4:45/5:30/7:00
16-Sep	A	Danville	9:00/10:00/11:00
19-Sep	A	Heath	4:45/5:30/7:00
21-Sep	H	Watkins Memorial	4:45/5:30/7:00
26-Sep	H	Johnstown	4:45/5:30/7:00
28-Sep	A	Lakewood	4:45/5:30/7:00
30-Sep	H	Granville Christian Acad.	10am (V only)
3-Oct	A	Granville HS	4:45/5:30/7:00
5-Oct	H	Newark Catholic	4:45/5:30/7:00
10-Oct	A	Northridge	4:45/5:30/7:00
12-Oct	H	Licking Heights	4:45/5:30/7:00

## Cross Country

21-Aug	A	Licking Valley Invitational	5:00 PM
26-Aug	A	2023 Run the Du @ Bryn Du Mansion	9:00 AM
29-Aug	H	The Hux @ Camp Ohio	5:30 PM
9-Sep	A	Seneca East	9:00 AM
16-Sep	A	Galion XC Festival @ Ammans Reservoir	9:00 AM
23-Sep	A	Heath Invitational	9:00 AM
26-Sep	A	Fredericktown Invitational	4:30 PM
4-Oct	A	Backwoods	5:30 PM
7-Oct	A	Johnstown Invite	9:00 AM
14-Oct	A	LCL @ Watkins	10:00 AM
21-Oct		Districts	TBA
21-Oct		Middle School State	TBA
28-Oct		Regionals	TBA
4-Nov		State	TBA

## GIRLS GOLF

9-Aug	H	Utica Invitational	9:00 AM
11-Aug	A	Watkins @ Cumberland Trail	8:00 AM
14-Aug	A	LCL #1 @ Cumberland Trail	9:00 AM
21-Aug	A	LCL #2 @ Moundbuilders	1:00 PM
24-Aug	H	Quad @ The Links	3:30 PM
26-Aug	A	Fredericktown @ Vernon View	8:00 AM
29-Aug	A	Granville @ Denison Golf Club	4:00 PM
5-Sep	H	JV match vs Granville@Links	3:20 PM
6-Sep	A	LCL #3 @ Denison	12:00 PM
12-Sep	H	LCL #4 @ The Links (SN)	11:00 AM
13-Sep	A	Licking Valley @ Virtues	4:30 PM
18-Sep	A	Lakewood @ Harbor Hills	4:00 PM
21-Sep	A	Fredericktown @ Vernon View	4:00 PM
25-Sep		Sectionals @ TBD	8:00 AM
2-Oct		Districts @ TBD	8:00 AM

## BOYS GOLF

4-Aug	A	Johnstown @ Clover Valley	9:00 AM
9-Aug	A	LCL #1 @ Virtues Golf Club	8:30 AM
10-Aug	H	Utica Invite @ The Links	8:00 AM
14-Aug	A	LCL #2 @ The Links	8:30 AM
15-Aug	A	Licking Valley Invite @ Virtues	8:00 AM
17-Aug	H	Licking Heights @ The Links	4:00 PM
21-Aug	A	Newark HS @ Trout Club	3:30 PM
28-Aug	A	LCL #3 @ Zanesville	12:00 PM
31-Aug	H	Newark HS @ The Links	4:00 PM
5-Sep	A	Licking Valley @ Virtues	4:30 PM
6-Sep	H	Licking Valley @ The Links	4:00 PM
14-Sep	H	Watkins @ The Links	4:00 PM
18-Sep	A	Watkins @ Cumberland Trail	4:00 PM
19-Sep	A	LCL #4 @ Denison	12:00 PM
25-Sep		Sectionals this week (TBD)	TBA

## Utica MS 2023 Fall Sports Schedule

### FOOTBALL 7TH GRADE

22-Aug	H	Newark Catholic	5:30 PM
29-Aug	A	Watkins Memorial	5:30 PM
5-Sep	H	Heath	5:30 PM
12-Sep	A	Licking Valley	5:30 PM
19-Sep	A	Johnstown	5:30 PM
26-Sep	H	Granville	5:30 PM
10-Oct	H	Lakewood	5:30 PM

### FOOTBALL 8TH GRADE

9-Aug	H	Eastland Prep Acad.	5:30 PM
22-Aug	H	Newark Catholic	7:00 PM
29-Aug	A	Watkins Memorial	7:00 PM
5-Sep	H	Heath	7:00 PM
12-Sep	A	Licking Valley	7:00 PM
19-Sep	A	Johnstown	7:00 PM
26-Sep	H	Granville	7:00 PM
3-Oct	A	Northridge	5:30 PM
10-Oct	H	Lakewood	7:00 PM

### VOLLEYBALL 7TH GRADE

16-Aug	A	Centerburg	5:00 PM
19-Aug	A	Tri @ Johnstown	10:00 AM
21-Aug	H	Licking Heights	5:30 PM
24-Aug	H	Heath	5:30 PM
28-Aug	A	Zanesville	5:30 PM
30-Aug	A	Newark Catholic	5:30 PM
6-Sep	A	Lakewood	5:30 PM
9-Sep	H	Tri vs Johnstown/Northridge	9:00 AM
13-Sep	A	Heath	5:30 PM
18-Sep	A	Licking Valley	5:30 PM
20-Sep	H	Newark Catholic	5:30 PM
25-Sep	H	Watkins Memorial	5:30 PM
27-Sep	H	Lakewood	5:30 PM
2-Oct	A	Granville	5:30 PM

### VOLLEYBALL 8TH GRADE

16-Aug	A	Centerburg	6:00 PM
19-Aug	H	Tri vs Northridge/Johnstown	9:00 AM
21-Aug	H	Licking Heights	6:45 PM
24-Aug	H	Heath	6:45 PM
28-Aug	A	Zanesville	6:45 PM
30-Aug	A	Newark Catholic	6:45 PM
6-Sep	A	Lakewood	6:45 PM
9-Sep	A	Tri @ Northridge	10:00 AM
13-Sep	A	Heath	6:45 PM
18-Sep	A	Licking Valley	6:45 PM
20-Sep	H	Newark Catholic	6:45 PM
25-Sep	H	Watkins	6:45 PM
27-Sep	H	Lakewood	6:45 PM
2-Oct	A	Granville	6:45 PM

