

NORTH FORK LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

WWW.NORTHFORK.K12.OH.US

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NEWSLETTER

Volume 12, Issue 1



Utica Elementary

<i>Kindergarten Orientation</i>	<i>Aug. 19</i>	<i>5:30 PM</i>
<i>Open House</i>	<i>Aug. 19</i>	<i>6:00 PM—7:00 PM</i>

Newton Elementary

<i>Open House</i>	<i>Aug. 19</i>	<i>3:30 PM—4:30 PM</i>
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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)

Schedule Pick-up and Student Pictures

<i>Aug. 13</i>	<i>8:30 AM—3:00 PM</i>	<i>Aug. 15</i>	<i>8:30 AM—4:00 PM</i>
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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
Chris Kamenski, Principal
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 **Food Service**
Mike Maxwell Dawn Nelson
740-892-2006 740-789-1647

Curriculum **Student Services**
Stephanie Kimpel Doug Lunsford
740-892-3237 740-892-2106

District School Nurse
Jennifer Wygle
740-403-6502

EMIS Coordinator/Enrollment
Peg Carpenter
740-892-2014

Maintenance Supervisor
Adam Reynolds

Superintendent's Message 2024

It is hard to believe the start of the 2024-2025 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 is committed to helping make these changes a positive and rewarding experience.

The excitement of the 2024-2025 school year is just beginning. This school year our focus will be on the four pillars, our strategic plan for improvement. One particular update is the addition of 21st-century skills to our goals. Please feel free to look over the updated four pillars on our web page under the “About Us” tab. 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.

Regarding curriculum, we have been working to enhance many areas of our programming to aid all students to be successful in their academics. English and math are an ongoing focus for total district improvement. The reading tutors will be used again this school year for the elementary schools.

The positive behavior support program at all of our buildings will also be continuing. The changes we make are for the betterment of all students academically. This will have everyone looking toward our vision to provide and inspire achievement and accountability that maximizes quality learning to focus our energies on improvement.

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*, 21st-century skills, the science of reading, 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 2024-2025

Aug. 21	**First Day for all elementary students and grades 6 and 9**	Jan. 20	No School - Holiday
Aug. 22	*First Day for grades 7, 8, 10, 11, 12*	Feb. TBA	Evening Conferences
Sept. 02	No School - Holiday	Feb. 14	No School
Oct. 17	End of 1st Grading Period	Feb. 17	No School - Holiday
Oct. 18	No School - Staff PD/Records	Mar. 12	End of 3rd Grading Period
Nov. TBA	Evening Conferences	Mar. 13	No School - Staff PD
Nov. 05	No School - Staff PD	Mar. 14	No School - Records Day
Nov. 15	No School	Mar. 21	Last Day Before Spring Break
Nov. 27	No School	Mar. 31	Return from Spring Break
Nov. 28 - 29	No School - Holiday	Apr. 18	No School
Dec. 19	Last Day Before Winter Break	May 18	Senior Class Graduation
	End of 2nd Grading Period	May 23	Last Day for Students
Dec. 20	No School - Staff PD/Records		End of 4th Grading Period
Jan. 6	Return from Winter Break		



Safer Ohio
School Tip Line

844.723.3764

Report concerns for student safety

North Fork Board of Education 2024 Meeting Schedule

August 19, 2024	Utica Senior High School	6:00 p.m.
September 16, 2024	Newton Elementary School	6:00 p.m.
October 21, 2024	Utica Middle School	6:00 p.m.
November 18, 2024	Utica Elementary School	6:00 p.m.
December 16, 2024	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 www.northfork.k12.oh.us/LunchMenu.aspx or <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 S-EBT program and for school fees to be waived.*****

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

Grades	Breakfast	Lunch
K-5	Free	\$2.60
6-12	Free	\$3.10
Adult	\$2.40	\$4.10

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. Caitlyn West. 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.

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

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 considers 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 OHSA Athletic Parent Meeting
Thursday, August 1, 2024
UHS Gym
6:00 p.m.



REDSKINS TICKET PRICES

VARSITY LEVEL EVENTS

PRESALE- \$7.50 (NO FEES) Available online only! *Sales close 1 hour prior to event start time* https://www.northfork.k12.oh.us/Tickets.aspx	
AT THE GATE	
CASH	\$8.00
CREDIT/DEBIT	\$8.00 + FEES

NON-VARSITY LEVEL EVENTS

Middle School Games Stand Alone Freshman or JV Games	
AT THE GATE	
CASH	\$5.00
CREDIT/DEBIT	\$5.00 + FEES

TICKET PRICES HAVE INCREASED DUE TO AN INCREASE IN OFFICIATING COSTS

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.
(Please bring ID.)

Utica HS 2024 Fall Sports Schedule

VARSITY FOOTBALL

10-Aug	A	Licking Valley (S)	10AM
15-Aug	A	Bexley (S)	7PM
23-Aug	H	Centerburg	7PM
30-Aug	H	Danville	7PM
6-Sep	A	Fredericktown	7PM
13-Sep	A	Ridgewood	7PM
20-Sep	H	Granville (HC)	7PM
27-Sep	A	Lakewood	7PM
4-Oct	A	Newark Catholic	7PM
11-Oct	H	Northridge	7PM
18-Oct	H	Johnstown (SN)	7PM
25-Oct	A	Heath	7PM
YN = YOUTH NIGHT			
HC = HOMECOMING			
SN = SENIOR NIGHT			

JV FOOTBALL

24-Aug	A	Centerburg	10AM
31-Aug	A	Danville	10AM
7-Sep	H	Heath	10AM
14-Sep	H	Ridgewood	10AM
21-Sep	A	Granville	10AM
28-Sep	H	Lakewood	10AM
5-Oct	H	Newark Catholic	10AM
12-Oct	A	Northridge	10AM
19-Oct	A	Johnstown	10AM

HS VOLLEYBALL

			9th / JV / V
7-Aug	A	Quad Scrimmage @ Hilliard Davidson	5:30 (9th / JV / V)
12-Aug	A	Prewet @ Pickerington Central	5:00 (V Only)
12-Aug	A	Hilliard Bradley	5:00 (9th)
13-Aug	A	Quad Scrimmage @ Mount Vernon	5:00 (9th / JV / V)
15-Aug	A	Grandview Heights (S)	5:00 / 6:00 (V / V)
17-Aug	H	Fredericktown	9:00 / 10:00 / 11:00
20-Aug	A	Watkins Memorial	4:45 / 5:30 / 7:00
22-Aug	H	Northridge	4:45 / 5:30 / 7:00
24-Aug	A	Tornado Invitational	10:00 (V only)
24-Aug	A	Hilliard Davidson Tourn. (Freshman)	9:00 (9th Only)
27-Aug	A	Johnstown	4:45 / 5:30 / 7:00
29-Aug	H	Granville	4:45 / 5:30 / 7:00
3-Sep	A	Lakewood	4:45 / 5:30 / 7:00
5-Sep	H	Newark Catholic	4:45 / 5:30 / 7:00
9-Sep	A	Centerburg	4:30 / 5:30 / 6:30
10-Sep	A	Licking Heights	4:45 / 5:30 / 7:00
12-Sep	H	Heath	4:45 / 5:30 / 7:00
17-Sep	A	Northridge	4:45 / 5:30 / 7:00
19-Sep	H	Zanesville	5:30 / 7:00 (JV / V)
24-Sep	H	Johnstown	4:45 / 5:30 / 7:00
26-Sep	H	Lakewood (YN)	4:45 / 5:30 / 7:00
1-Oct	A	Mount Vernon	4:45 / 5:30 / 7:00
3-Oct	A	Newark Catholic	4:45 / 5:30 / 7:00
5-Oct	A	East Knox	10:00 / 11:00 / 12:00
8-Oct	A	Heath	4:45 / 5:30 / 7:00
10-Oct	H	Licking Valley (SN)	4:45 / 5:30 / 7:00

GIRLS GOLF

5-Aug	H	Utica Invitational @ The Links	7:30 AM
8-Aug	A	Watkins @ Cumberland Trail	8:00 AM
14-Aug	A	Newark Catholic @ Mountbuilders CC	2:00 PM
15-Aug	A	Watkins @ Cumberland Trail	8:00 AM
19-Aug	A	Newark Catholic @ Mountbuilders CC	1:00 PM
22-Aug	A	Granville @ Denison Golf Club (V)	4:00 PM
27-Aug	A	Granville @ Denison Golf Club	4:00 PM
28-Aug	A	Centerburg @ Wyandot Golf Course	4:00 PM
31-Aug	A	Fredericktown @ Vernon View	2:30 PM
3-Sep	A	Granville @ Denison Golf Club	12:00 PM
12-Sep	A	Pleasant HS @ Marion Country Club	4:00 PM
16-Sep	H	Licking Valley @ The Links	4:00 PM

BOYS GOLF

1-Aug	H	Utica Invitational @ The Links	8:00 AM
5-Aug	A	Newark Catholic @ Mountbuilders CC	9:00 AM
7-Aug	A	Licking Valley @ Virtues	8:00 AM
12-Aug	A	Heath @ Mastodon Golf Club (JV)	8:30 AM
14-Aug	A	Northridge @ The Links (V)	4:30 PM
15-Aug	A	Granville @ Denison Golf Club	2:00 PM
27-Aug	H	Licking Valley @ The Links (V & JV)	4:00 PM
31-Aug	A	Bexley @ Westchester Golf Club	1:00 PM
3-Sep	H	Licking Valley @ The Links (V & JV)	4:00 PM
12-Sep	H	Newark @ The Links	4:00 PM
18-Sep	A	Newark @ The Trout Club	4:00 PM
19-Sep	A	Licking Valley @ Virtues	4:00 PM

Freshman

26-Aug	A	Ridgewood	5:30PM
3-Sep	A	Crooksville	6:00PM
9-Sep	H	Heath	5:30PM
23-Sep	A	Granville	5:00PM

Cross Country HS/MS

19-Aug	A	Licking Valley Invite	5PM
27-Aug	H	The Hux @ Camp Ohio	5PM
7-Sep	A	Seneca East	5PM
14-Sep	A	Galion @ Amman's Reservoir	9AM
21-Sep	A	Heath Invite @ Gellar Park	9AM
24-Sep	A	Fredericktown Invite	4:30 PM
28-Sep	A	Woodridge (HS Only)	8:30 AM
2-Oct	A	Backwoods Fest	5:30 PM

****This Schedule is subject to change****

****Revised Date: 7/31/2024**



Utica MS 2024 Fall Sports Schedule

FOOTBALL 7TH GRADE

13-Aug	A	Licking Valley (s)	5:00 PM
20-Aug	A	Lakewood	5:30 PM
27-Aug	H	Granville	5:30 PM
10-Sep	H	Licking Heights	5:30 PM
17-Sep	H	Northridge	5:30 PM
24-Sep	A	Zanesville	5:30 PM
1-Oct	H	Johnstown	5:30 PM
8-Oct	A	Heath	5:30 PM

FOOTBALL 8TH GRADE

13-Aug	A	Licking Valley (s)	6:00 PM
20-Aug	A	Lakewood	7:00 PM
27-Aug	H	Granville	7:00 PM
3-Sep	A	Newark Catholic	6:00 PM
10-Sep	H	Licking Heights	7:00 PM
17-Sep	H	Northridge	7:00 PM
24-Sep	A	Zanesville	7:00 PM
1-Oct	H	Johnstown	7:00 PM
8-Oct	A	Heath	7:00 PM

VOLLEYBALL 7TH GRADE

14-Aug	A	Larson	5:00 PM
17-Aug	A	Northridge	9:00/10:00
19-Aug	A	Licking Heights	5:30 PM
22-Aug	A	Heath	5:30 PM
26-Aug	H	Zanesville	5:30 PM
28-Aug	H	Newark Catholic	5:30 PM
4-Sep	H	Lakewood	5:30 PM
7-Sep	A	Johnstown	9:00/10:00
9-Sep	A	Mount Vernon	5:30 PM
11-Sep	H	Heath	5:30 PM
16-Sep	H	Licking Valley	5:30 PM
18-Sep	A	Newark Catholic	5:30 PM
23-Sep	A	Watkins Memorial	5:30 PM
25-Sep	A	Lakewood	5:30 PM
30-Sep	H	Granville	5:30 PM

VOLLEYBALL 8TH GRADE

14-Aug	A	Larson (S)	6:00 PM
17-Aug	A	Johnstown	9:00/10:00 AM
19-Aug	A	Licking Heights	6:45 PM
22-Aug	A	Heath	6:45 PM
26-Aug	H	Zanesville	6:45 PM
28-Aug	H	Newark Catholic	6:45 PM
4-Sep	H	Lakewood	6:45 PM
7-Sep	A	Northridge	9:00/10:00 AM
9-Sep	A	Mount Vernon	6:45 PM
11-Sep	H	Heath	6:45 PM
16-Sep	H	Licking Valley	6:45 PM
18-Sep	A	Newark Catholic	6:45 PM
23-Sep	A	Watkins Memorial	6:45 PM
25-Sep	A	Lakewood	6:45 PM
30-Sep	H	Granville	6:45 PM



****This schedule is subject to change****
****Revised Date: 7/31/2024****