

# NEWS FROM THE HILL

## September 21, 2023

### Save the date!

**Saturday, September 23** -  
Girls soccer car wash at NHS  
9am - 2pm

**Monday, September 25** -  
No school (Yom Kippur)

**Wednesday, September 27** - Student Marathon info meeting

**Thursday, September 28** -  
Open House - Meet your student's teachers!  
6:30-8:30 pm

**Friday, September 29** -  
Senior Field Day

**Saturday, September 30** -  
NHS Boosters Club's Sticker Drive Begins

**Monday, October 2** -  
Reality Fair and Career Fair  
8-11:20am



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				CPT 7:30 - 8:25 (55)
BLOCK 1 8:00-9:20 (80)	BLOCK 1 8:00-9:20 (80)	BLOCK 1 8:00-9:20 (80)	BLOCK 1 8:00-9:20 (80)	BLOCK 1 8:35-9:55 (80)
X-BLOCK 9:25-9:55 (30)	X-BLOCK 9:25-9:55 (30)	Advisory (no movement) 9:25-9:55 (30)	X-BLOCK 9:25-9:55 (30)	
BLOCK 2 10:00-11:20 (80)	BLOCK 2 10:00-11:20 (80)	BLOCK 2 10:00-11:20 (80)	BLOCK 2 10:00-11:20 (80)	BLOCK 2 10:00-11:20 (80)
BLOCK 3 *11:25-12:45 LUNCH (50)	BLOCK 3 *11:25-12:45 LUNCH (50)	BLOCK 3 *11:25-12:45 LUNCH (50)	BLOCK 3 *11:25-12:45 LUNCH (50)	BLOCK 3 *11:25-12:45 LUNCH (50)
BLOCK 4 12:50-1:40 (50)	BLOCK 4 12:50-1:40 (50)	BLOCK 4 12:50-1:40 (50)	BLOCK 4 12:50-1:40 (50)	BLOCK 4 12:50-1:40 (50)
BLOCK 5 1:45-2:35 (50)	BLOCK 5 1:45-2:35 (50)	BLOCK 5 1:45-2:35 (50)	BLOCK 5 1:45-2:35 (50)	BLOCK 5 1:45-2:35 (50)



# Math Help available!

Wednesdays: 9:00am-12:45pm

Starting **Wednesday, September 20:**

Come to the Math and Science office Room 205

Please note: This schedule may vary on occasion during the school year.



**Save the date!**

**NHS GIRLS SOCCER  
CAR WASH**

Sat. September 23rd  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**ONLY  
\$10  
PER CAR!**

@ Needham High School,  
Webster St side

**NOT A RUNNER, YET?  
YOU'LL MAKE THE PERFECT  
ADDITION TO OUR TEAM**

**26.2 OR 13.1**

**TRAIN FOR AND RUN A FULL OR HALF MARATHON IN A  
NON-COMPETITIVE, SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT**

**DREAM★FAR**  
HIGH SCHOOL MARATHON

**ALL STUDENTS -- ALL FITNESS LEVELS -- ALL WELCOME**

**CONTACT**

**MS. WELCH [MERIDITH\\_WELCH@NEEDHAM.K12.MA.US](mailto:MERIDITH_WELCH@NEEDHAM.K12.MA.US)  
KATE KEANE [KAK241@STUDENTS.NEEDHAM.K12.MA.US](mailto:KAK241@STUDENTS.NEEDHAM.K12.MA.US)**

**INFO MEETING: WEDNESDAY, SEPT 27TH  
COUNSELING OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM 503**

# COMING UP: NHS BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023



## NEEDHAM HIGH SCHOOL

### OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

The Needham High School Open House for all Parents and Guardians will be held on **Thursday, September, 28, 2023**, beginning at **6:30 p.m.**

Parents and Guardians will have an opportunity to visit their child's classes. The schedule will follow a Day 1 rotation. It will be helpful for you to have your child's schedule. The template below is provided for your convenience.

TIME	PERIOD	COURSE	TEACHER	ROOM #
6:30-6:45	HOMEROOM			
6:50-7:00	A			
7:05-7:15	B			
7:20-7:30	C			
7:35-7:45	D			
7:50-8:00	E			
8:05-8:15	F			
8:20-8:30	G			

# BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

## MERCH SALE

COME BY STUDENT COUNCIL'S  
BOOTH IN THE MAIN LOBBY!

CASH OR  
CHECK ONLY

HOODIES, PAJAMA PANTS, HATS, AND PHONE WALLETS

# Updated PSAT information 9/21:

## **The PSAT is Coming to Needham High!**

For 11th and 10th graders:

- The PSAT will be offered at Needham High School on Saturday, October 14th. The test starts at 8:00 am, with student entry/check-in from 7:30-8:00am.
- For juniors, the results are used for National Merit (NMSQT) Scholarship eligibility (non-juniors are not considered for NMSQT eligibility).
- Payment and registration through MySchoolBucks.
- Cost \$34
- Registration is open in MySchoolBucks from Sept 5th - October 1st.
- For any issues paying through MySchoolBucks or requests for Fee Waivers, please see Mr. Grannan in the Counseling Office or email [will\\_grannan@needham.k12.ma.us](mailto:will_grannan@needham.k12.ma.us).
- If testing with a Fee Waiver you do not register through MySchoolBucks. Mr Grannan will register you manually after you contact him with the Fee Waiver request.
- The PSAT this year is DIGITAL. Learn more about the NEW Digital PSAT from the College Board @ <https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt/preparing>.
- Students may use personal computers or school issued Chromebooks to take the PSAT. PSAT uses the Bluebook application for the exam. Students with school issued Chromebooks should already see it in their list of applications. To download Bluebook on your own device, go to this [Bluebook link](#). DOWNLOAD AND LOGIN TO THE BLUEBOOK APP NOW. Make sure you can login and navigate the application (can also be used for test prep.)
- To test with accommodations, students must have official approval from the CollegeBoard. You can contact Mr. Grannan if you have any questions regarding CollegeBoard approved accommodations. If approved, the accommodations will be built into the digital administration on test day.

Take care .... Mr Grannan

# *Fall Open House*

The Needham School Committee will hold a Fall Open House on **Sunday, October 1, 2023** from **11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.** at the Harvest Fair on Greene's Field.

The open house is an opportunity for parents and the community to engage in an informal conversation with School Committee members and the Superintendent with concerns, questions and to share relevant information. All are welcome to drop by the School Committee table and meet members of the Committee.

# Reality and Career Fairs for seniors!

Dear Community Members:

On **Monday, October 2nd from 8AM to 11:20 AM** the Needham Rotary Club and Needham High School will sponsor a Reality Fair and Career Fair for our current Seniors. The events will be split into four 45-minute segments. Students will participate in the Reality Fair during one segment, hear from a panel on post secondary options for one segment, and visit presentations of careers for two segments.

We are reaching out to community members to solicit help in running the Career Fair. Community members can participate in the Career Fair by presenting on a field, career, or job of which one has expertise and conducting a Q&A with the students following the presentation. We would be seeking individuals (or groups) to present a minimum of two times (up to 6) based on your availability. **The goal of the Career Fair** is to provide some information and background on a variety of career options for students as they begin to narrow down on a path for college and/or work. We want them to hear about what it is like to work in different careers, the education requirements for each, and what steps they should take to put themselves in the best position to be successful in those fields. We anticipate having 20 or 30 minute time segments for the presentation and Q&A discussion of a career with groups of students no larger than 25. Students will visit 3-4 career options during the fair.

If you are able to volunteer in any capacity, we'd love to have you! We will confirm and connect in advance regarding timing, roles, and responsibilities. **If you are interested in helping us this fall, please complete this [google form](#).**

Sincerely,  
Jimmy Odierna, Dana Plunkett, and John Shea

Here are some important details:

Date: **Monday, October 2, 2023**

Time: 8 AM - 11:20 AM

Place: Needham High School

## **Career Fair Shifts for community members**

2 sessions from 7:50 to 8:45

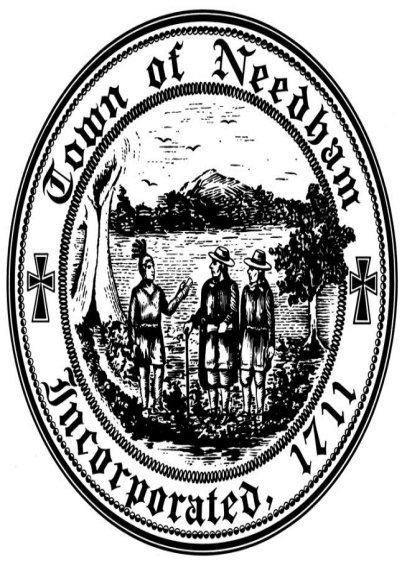
2 sessions from 8:45 to 9:40

2 sessions from 9:40 to 10:35

2 sessions from 10:35 to 11:20



# Needham Internship Opportunity



**TOWN OF NEEDHAM + NEEDHAM HIGH SCHOOL**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT INTERNSHIP**

**APPLY BY OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup>**

**QUESTIONS? EMAIL:**

[stephen\\_plasko@needham.k12.ma.us](mailto:stephen_plasko@needham.k12.ma.us) & [mtucker@needhamma.gov](mailto:mtucker@needhamma.gov)

## WHO

- NHS students with a 3.0 GPA and an interest in learning about government in Needham
- 2-3 students per semester

## WHAT

- Work with a department on priority projects
  - Public Works
  - Town Manager
  - Potential for other departments

## WHEN

- 1-2 days per week
- 2-4 hours per week
- Through winter break
- Option to extend into spring semester

## HOW

- [Click Here](#) or Scan the QR to Apply!



## Department of Counseling update 9/21

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New information is being updated regularly on the NHS Counseling

["News Feed/Current Information"](#) tab.

Students and families should check this regularly. Latest information includes **Pre-ACT and PSAT registration and dates for upcoming parent evenings.**

The Department of Counseling is pleased to share it's [new website](#)!!

Need a [job](#) or [community service](#) ideas? Check out our links to current opportunities. A list of active [scholarship](#) opportunities are also available.

We hope you find this a useful resource!

# SENIOR PORTRAIT UPDATES 9/21:



- There are upcoming sessions available at the school on **9/30, 10/10 and 10/12**
- Students can sign up on the Coffee Pond website using the code **NHS2024**
- Any Senior that wishes to be included in the Class of 2024 yearbook must have their *Senior Portrait* taken by **Coffee Pond**, no exceptions or outside portraits
- Senior Portraits are different than the images taken on school picture day- they are individual sessions that you sign up for; see Mr. Jean's letter for information
- Speak with Ms. Bergeron (Katherine) for financial assistance for the sitting fee
- All portraits for the yearbook must be chosen by **11/30/2023**



**Special Olympics**  
Massachusetts

Congratulations!

On behalf of Special Olympics MA, we are honored to declare Needham High School a '22-'23 Special Olympics Massachusetts Unified Champion School! Needham High School staff and students have demonstrated their commitment and meaningful inclusion through unified sports, inclusive youth leadership and whole school engagements,

The significance of being a Unified Champion School cannot be overstated. This designation showcases Needham High School's dedication to embracing diversity, promoting equity, and empowering students to be change advocates. By providing a platform for students with and without intellectual disabilities to collaborate in sports, education, and community engagement, the Needham High School Community is creating a more accepting world that values every individual's unique contributions.

Thank you again to your dedicated teachers, coaches, athletic director, counselors, advisors, and students who made this possible! We look forward to our continued work with Needham High School to forge new paths towards inclusion at all levels within your school district.

Best,

Patti Doherty

Vice President of Schools and Community Development

Special Olympics Massachusetts



## Needham High School WRITING CENTER



**What we are:** A peer tutoring service. Students can come for help on any writing assignment for any subject.

**Who we are:** Juniors and seniors who are skilled writers, recommended by their English teachers, trained as peer tutors.

**Where we are:** LIBRARY CLASSROOM (new location)

**When we meet:** During X-block on Tuesdays and Thursdays (new time)  
Students must sign up for X-block Writing Center with adaptive scheduler on PowerSchool.

AND after school on Wednesdays (also in Library Classroom)

No appointment necessary for after school Writing Center -- just walk in!

# AN IMPORTANT REMINDER FROM NHS NURSES

## SNAP Parent Portal for Health Services

We ask Needham Families to update your child's medical information each year in the **Alerts and Conditions Tab** and to give permission for Over-The-Counter Medication in the **Medication Tab**. This current information is important for nurses to be able to best care for your child. This update in SNAP is taking the place of the nurse form in PowerSchool.

The SNAP Health Parent Portal is an online platform that gives you direct access to your student's school health record, permissions, and direct communication with nurses.

You can use the SNAP Health Portal to:

- Give permission for your child to have Over-the-counter medications during this school year including Tylenol/Acetaminophen, Motrin/ibuprofen, bacitracin, Caladryl, Cough drops [8 years and up], Hydrocortisone, and Antacid/TUMS. This permission must be given each school year.
- Inform the nurses of medical conditions, alerts, and medication
- Send secure messages directly to the nurses
- Upload a copy of your child's physical exam forms, orders, or documents
- Access Needham Public School medical forms

Parents/Guardians receive an email from SNAP Parent Portal (from: noreply@studentehr.com) with login instructions including a username and password. Once registered, see instructions below.

- **SNAP Health Parent Portal Log in:** Click [www.studentehr.com](http://www.studentehr.com) to log into the SNAP Health Parent Portal.
  - If you forget your password, please click "Forgot Password?" under the password box to reset.
  - **IMPORTANT:** Email notifications sent from the Nursing Department via the SNAP Health Portal will come from the email address [noreply@studentehr.com](mailto:noreply@studentehr.com).

**Another way to access the SNAP Parent Portal:** Log on through your parent PowerSchool Account and choose the SNAP/PSNI button in the upper right corner of your parent PowerSchool Ac

You may navigate through the following sections which are found on the left side of the SNAP dashboard. Instructions for each of the Health Record Left Sided Tabs are as follows:

**Demographics/Contacts Tab:**

- Demographic updates need to be done in the PowerSchool platform

### Alerts and Conditions Tab:

- Check that any listed conditions are correct, if they are not, you can make the changes for nurses to review.
- Please add any current medications that your child is currently taking in the “medications: current” tab.
- Please add any new conditions under the “Parent Reported” tab. **Written documentation from your healthcare provider is required** in order for the nurse to confirm the new health condition.
  - Click "Attach Documentation" and upload documents as a pdf or jpeg.
- Check current health information. If the information is correct, simply press the CONFIRM button at the top of the screen.

### Medications Tab:

- Using the **“Orders” button** in the top right corner, you may attach any prescribed medication doctor order(s) from your child's doctor and any medication parental consent form(s) which are required for the school nurse to give medication to your child.
- Please use the **OTCs button** in the upper right hand corner to confirm which over the counter medication your child may have during this school year. Please click on EACH medication to opt your child in or out.

### Charts:

- If your child requires any monitoring of blood glucose, peak flow, or blood pressure, this is where you will find charts documenting these values.

### Screenings:

- Using the **“Upload Proof of Physical”** tab in the upper right hand corner: Upload physical exam. You can also attach any documentation from a health care provider regarding a screening referral.

### Letters:

- This tab also allows your school nurse to attach forms which you can then read and if applicable, sign and send back to your school nurse.

### Messages:

- This allows you to contact the school nurse at any time during the school year and will alert the school nurse with any messages you send. **You can also attach or upload any other information** that you would like to have in your child's health record when you create a new message.

### Forms:

- You can access Needham Public School forms here: Plans for: Allergy, Asthma, Diabetes, and Seizures, parent permission forms for medication, and Doctor's permission forms.

# WELCOME BACK TEACHERS!

Scan here to download the Caffé Nero app and enter the code below to unlock a voucher valid for 1 free barista handcrafted drink and 1 pastry, on us!

**FALL6RDIR**



Enter your unique code into the promo code field under settings. This will unlock a voucher valid for 1 free barista handcrafted drink and 1 pastry of your choice. Expires 14 days after download. Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. Promotion ends October 1st.



## Calling All NHS Performing Arts and Music Students!



Friends of Music (FOM), the NHS performing arts Booster Club, will hold this year's Student FUNdraiser on **Saturday, October 14th from 11:00 – 2:00pm**

(students will choose a 90 minute shift).

This fun activity is not only a terrific community building opportunity — it raises necessary funds for Performing Arts programming!

### Who should participate:

All students who are in a school-based music or theater class

Students who are on or plan to be on the tech crew for any of this year's shows

Students who have performed or plan to perform in either SAMD, the winter school musical or the school play

Students who are in Symphonic Band, Jazz Ensemble or Chorale

Students who sing in an a Cappella group

*What to expect?* Students will gather by grade to host a fundraising table at one of 4 high traffic areas in Needham. Students will engage passers-by and fundraise for FOM. We will handouts and tools to help them talk about their performing arts experiences.

**Prize!** The participating members of the grade which collects the most money will win a prize! The winning team will be announced at the Winterfest concert in December.

Sign up [HERE](#) today to participate!

**Students:** help us spread the word by talking with your friends and sharing the link above to help to make sure everybody is signed up. Let's get excited!

**Parents:** Please sign up [HERE](#) to volunteer, thank you for your support!

We look forward to your participation in this important FUNdraising event!

**Please contact [Linda Hill](#) with any questions.**



THE ADVOCATE



# 2024 NHS YEARBOOK

**ORDER NOW \$75**

**PLEASE PURCHASE YOUR YEARBOOK DIRECTLY  
THROUGH WALSWORTH AT**

**WWW.YEARBOOKFOREVER.COM**

**BY SEARCHING FOR NEEDHAM HIGH SCHOOL**

**PRE-ORDER YOUR BOOK BY  
JANUARY 31, 2024  
TO GUARANTEE YOUR PURCHASE!**

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT AVAILABLE!**

**PLEASE REACH OUT TO MS. KATE BERGERON  
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS  
KATHERINE\_BERGERON@NEEDHAM.K12.MA.US**





## NHS BOOSTERS CLUB'S STICKER DRIVE 9/30



The Needham High School Boosters Club's Annual Sticker Drive fundraiser begins the weekend of **September 30th**.

NHS student athletes will knock on doors, asking residents for a contribution to help support the school's 75 athletic teams and 10 clubs. In return they will receive a Rockets sticker.

The group also serves the vital role of offsetting family waiver requests, preventing students from losing out on the opportunity to participate in the high school athletics program due to any financial hardships or issues.

Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated and are tax deductible. To donate via PayPal or to get more information about the Boosters, please visit: [www.needhamhighschoolboosters.org](http://www.needhamhighschoolboosters.org)

## 9th Grade Student Council:

### **Important dates for 9th Grade Student Council Elections | Fall 2023**

- **9/12 Before School | 9/12 X: Block | 9/12: After School**  
Mandatory information sessions - must attend one
- **9/20 at 8:59 PM:** [Electronic application](#) (Google Form) due which includes candidate biography and speech.
- **9/22 at 8:59PM:** Video recordings are due via this [Form Submission](#)
- **9/26-9/29:** Campaigning period; Videos and Info Sheets will be sent to students on 4/10.
- **10/2:** First round of elections via Google Forms: Class officers, Class SASC, Class Reps, GBR SAC
- **10/5:** Second round of elections via Google Forms: None this year.
- **10/6:** Applications (**by 8:59 PM**) for School Council, METCO and StuCo Cabinet due via Google Forms. Interviews will be scheduled starting Tuesday, 10/10.

Please check your emails for more detailed information.

**NEEDHAM HIGH SCHOOL**  
**CRAFT & Bake Sale**  
**FAIR** **October 28**  
**9 AM - 3 PM**

Mark your calendars now for the NHS Craft Fair and Bake Sale. Get your Holiday shopping done early! **Saturday Oct. 28, from 9-3pm** at Needham High School.

We will have 100 local vendors selling handmade high-quality items and an amazing bake sale with items baked by community members and donated from local restaurants and bakeries.

Admission is free this year! We kindly ask that you make a donation to the NHS Parent Teacher Council to support our school and the student population.

**Interested in helping with the PTC's biggest fundraiser with a fun group of other parents?**

**Join us as we plan for an exciting and profitable event!**

**Vendor Application & Invoicing Chair** (3-4 hours/month on average)

- Computer work running the back-end systems (JotForm, MailChimp) for the Craft fair to send/receive Vendor applications and invoices
  - Comfort level with running software and exporting Excel files
- Publicity Chair** (1-2 hours/week on average)
- Build and execute social media strategy for Craft Fair
  - Generate, edit, publish and share content regularly (original text, images, video or HTML) that encourages attendance

**Publicity Chair** (1-2 hours/week on average)

- Execute social media and messaging strategy for Craft Fair
- Generate, edit, publish and share content regularly (original text, images, video or HTML) that encourages attendance

For further inquiries, please email: [needhamcraftfair@gmail.com](mailto:needhamcraftfair@gmail.com)

# News From the Hill on the NHS Website



**Needham**  
High School

A Caring Community Striving for Personal Growth and Academic Excellence

[Home](#) [Our School](#) [Academics](#) [Student Services](#) [Athletics](#) [News](#) [Staff Directory](#)

## News From The Hill

Test

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File Name	Size
NFTH September 7, 2023	5.33 MB ...
NFTH August 31, 2023	3.96 MB ...
2022 Archives	6 Item(s) ...

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A reminder that all of the weekly newsletters can now be viewed right on the NHS website under the “News” tab!

# BULLETINS AND OTHER INFO

## REQUEST FOR REDUCTION OF FEES FORM

Please complete [this](#) form, if your family is experiencing financial hardship and you would like to be considered for a reduction of school related fees.

### Follow and Like Us on Social Media

Twitter: @needhamfpa

Insta: @needhamfpa

FB: Needham Fine and Performing Arts Department



## Lost and Found

Students who find lost items can bring them to the lost and found area located in the Main Office. Students who lose items are welcome to come to the Main Office where they can fill out the Lost and Found form. The lost and found bin will be available throughout the school year and items are typically donated before school breaks if they are not claimed.

*Helpful suggestion: Labeling items such as lunch bags or articles of clothing with a student's name can make it easier to locate the owners when belongings are misplaced.*