



NEEDHAM HIGH SCHOOL

NEWS FROM THE HILL

November 9, 2023



Save the date!

Thursday, November 9 - (*SENIORS*) Deadline for cap and gown purchases, deadline to fill out Google Form for diplomas

Friday, November 10 - No School (*Veterans Day Observed*)

Thursday, November 16 - Band concert 7pm at NHS

Wednesday, November 22 - No School (*Professional Development*)

Thursday and Friday, November 23-24 - No School (*Thanksgiving Recess*)

Wednesday, December 6 - Early Release (*Dismissal at 11am*)

Final Grades Available at 5pm

Term 1 grades will be finalized and shared in PowerSchool today, November 9 at 5pm. If you have any questions about grades or a student's performance, you can reach out directly to the teacher to ask.

New Needham SEPAC Support Group

We invite all Needham parents and caregivers of children/teens in Special Education to come together for a monthly, in-person support group. Our goal is to offer a supportive environment where parents and caregivers can come together to connect, find emotional support, and share experiences. We hope to enhance our sense of community connection and promote parental well being. The group will be facilitated by SEPAC parents Becca Kahane, Clinical Mental Health Counselor and Carrie Galhouse, Psychiatric Mental Health Advanced Practice Registered Nurse.

For more information contact supportgroup@needhamsepac.org

This is an open group. We welcome you to join any or all meetings. We ask all participants to respect confidentiality and to refrain from discussing the content of our meetings outside of this context. Participate in whatever way works for you, share as much or as little as you are comfortable with. Please note this is not a therapeutic group and no formal clinical treatment or recommendations will be given. Meetings will typically be held at the Library, the first Monday of the month. Visit the [support group page](#) for more information.

Letter From the Nurses to 9th Grade Families

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Every year the Needham Public School Nurses begin mandated health screenings. Starting in December 2023, the high school will start SBIRT Screenings and in January 2024, will hold Postural Screenings.

In compliance with legislation that was enacted in March of 2016 entitled, An Act Relative to Substance Use, Treatment, Education and Prevention. Part of this law requires that Massachusetts school districts implement an annual verbal substance use screening tool for two different grade levels, one at the middle school level, and one at the high school level.

This law was ordered to help prevent students from starting to use substances, or intervene with early use. Needham Public Schools will be conducting this interview-based screening known as SBIRT Screening for grade 9 students in December of the 2023 school year. This assessment called SBIRT (Screening Brief Intervention Referral to Treatment) will be using the CRAFFT II Screening Tool which is the most utilized tool for adolescents in Massachusetts. SBIRT focuses on early detection, risk assessment, a brief interview and referral to treatment if needed. Here are the questions asked in the interview that may start a brief conversation [CRAFFT Screening Tool](#) with your student.

Each screening will take approximately 5 minutes and will be conducted confidentially by members of our trained SBIRT team in private one-on-one sessions; the SBIRT team will include school nurses, guidance counselors, and members of the Needham Public Health Department. The SBIRT Screening will take place during the students Study/Seminar block on the screening days. Students who are not using substances will have their healthy choices reinforced by the screener. The screener will provide brief feedback to any student who reports using substances and if needed, will refer students to our counseling staff for follow up with written permission from the student. This screening focuses on education and substance use prevention and will not result in disciplinary action. In addition, the results of the screening will NOT be included in your student's school record.

Also, in January we will hold Postural Screening which is Massachusetts mandated. Postural Screening entails observing the alignment and visual assessment for symmetry and anatomic landmarks. Students should wear a tank top or form fitting t-shirt for the assessment. This screening will take place during a Wellness in class unit, and takes 15 seconds.

As with any school screening, you have a right to opt your child out of SBIRT and/or Postural: if you choose to do so, please notify the Needham High School Nurse with this Google form

<https://forms.gle/HcLJziDgnEj8F3767> by November 17, 2023 Feel free to contact NHS_nurses@needham.k12.ma.us at their email with any questions.

Sincerely,
Lisa, Livia, Denise, and Jackie

Needham High School Nurses

Seniors! Deadline to Order Caps and Gowns

The deadline to make cap and gown purchases and to submit your information for your diploma is **today, November 9.**

Please submit your information needed for both your diploma card and cap and gown using this [Google Form](#).

Scan the QR code or use this [link](#) to order your cap and gown!



Today - Last Date for Senior Photos!

November 9, 2:30-4:30pm - NHS Cafeteria

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
- All portraits for the yearbook must be chosen by **11/30/2023**

Seniors who have signed up for this photo session should meet the photographer in the cafeteria.

Flyers and Reminders

The Fine & Performing Arts Department
invites you to the viewing of our
2023 Fall Art Show



Using ART as a form of communication

- To express ourselves
- To convey ideas
- To connect with others

In this show you will find a range of work by students from all disciplines, exploring the themes of expressions and emotions. As artists, we often use the framework of the human experience in our work in order to convey a sense of connection with ourselves as well as others.

Artists often use their work as a vehicle to demonstrate feelings that may be otherwise challenging to convey. They make choices to communicate emotions through storytelling, symbolism, lighting and compositional choices. In this show, artists express ideas and emote through applications of line weight, mark making, color, form, texture application, sound and various material choices.



Expressions & Emotions
On Display in Gallery 450
through January 2024.

Congratulations!

to the following students who were accepted into the
Massachusetts Music Educators Association (MMEA)
Senior Districts 2023 Music Festival!

CHORUS

Mia Allen*, Kiersten Blume*, Anthony Borrelli*, Jackson Bush, Benjamin Gilman, Cameron Mara, Henry McCue*, Alec Purrington*, Delia Rauch*, Miles Salerno, Amiya Tess*, Nadia Tess*

JAZZ BAND

Seth Feigenbaum*, Ben Kelly*, Liam King*, Zachary Wiesch*

CONCERT BAND

Benjamin Leeman*, Will Roy, Corbin Seidel*, Joshua Van Dam, Zachary Weiskopf

Additional congratulations are also in order for students indicated with a * also recommended to audition for the MMEA All State Festival.

Students will join their peers from across Eastern Massachusetts at Boston Latin School on Friday, Jan. 5th and Saturday, Jan. 6th to rehearse with their ensembles.



The Festival will culminate in a public performance.



Many thanks to Spencer Parrish and Catania Rosario-Bicalho for their work in preparing students and organizing the audition logistics.

Additional thanks to ALL of the various music teachers who have supported these students on their musical journeys.

PTC MEETINGS

SCHEDULE FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR


THURSDAYS
OVER
ZOOM
6:30-7:30PM

November 16th
December 7th
January 11th
February 1st
March 7th
May 2nd



Needham High School Music Department Fall Concerts

ORCHESTRA: THURS. NOV. 2

 **CHORUS: WED. NOV. 8**

BAND: THURS. NOV. 16

All Performances at 7pm
Needham High School Auditorium



Needham Community News

Rethinking Success

Rethinking Success is a newsletter developed by Needham community members, we are a group of parents, educators, health care providers, and community advocates. We were concerned with the 2021 Metrowest Adolescents Health Survey Mental Health data and decided to work together to identify, address, and offer support to families in Needham. We will address all aspects of mental health pertaining to:

- Children through young adults
- Families
- Parenting
- Education

all through the lens of youth mental health.

In Rethinking Success?, we do the research so you don't have to! We'll dive into common beliefs and pull them apart to see if they live up to the promise of student success.

Please read our latest article here: <https://www.spanneedham.org/rethinking-success>



The logo features a dark blue square with a white circular border. Inside the circle, the words "SHOULD WE" are arched at the top and "RETHINK SUCCESS" is arched at the bottom. In the center of the circle, the text "Rethinking Success?" is written in a serif font. Below the circle, the text "Brought to you by" is followed by the SPAN logo (a blue square with white text) and the website address "www.spanneedham.org".



A square QR code is located in the bottom left corner of the yellow background.

www.spanneedham.org/rethinking-success

Standing Bulletins

Attendance Policies & Procedures

Please see this [link](#) to review NHS Attendance Procedures.

NHS Counseling Department

Be sure to keep up with the latest news on the [NHS Counseling Department Newsfeed](#) and mark your calendars for upcoming parent evenings. Students can access the latest scholarship, community service and job opportunities as well as other relevant information. The newsfeed is updated regularly so be sure to make a point of checking this regularly!

After School Snack Program

Delicious and nutritious snacks are available for purchase every day after school.

Where: NHS. Between the A Gym & Weight Room

When: 2:35-3:00. Every day after school

Cost: Prices range from \$.50 to \$3.00

Students can pay by cash or use their school lunch account PIN#.

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.

Lost and Found - Main Office

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.*

Academic Recourses

Math Help Available!

Wednesdays: 9:00am-12:45pm

Come to the Math and Science office Room 205

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

NHS 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!

HOMework CLUB

TUESDAYS 7:30-8 * THURSDAYS 2:35-3:30

@TheNHSLibrary

ACCESS
TO
TEXTBOOKS



HELP
FROM
PEERS



HELP
FROM MS.
ROWSE



QUIET
SPACE
TO WORK

For more information, email: paige_rowse@needham.k12.ma.us



Danielle Doherty

Danielle is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters