



Needham High School

News From the Hill

December 7, 2023



Save the date!

Monday, December 4 - Friday, December 15 - Class of 2026 Food Drive

Monday, December 11 - Class of 2024 "Flocking" fundraiser begins 🦋

Monday, December 11 - Friday, December 22 - Class of 2026 Candycane-gram sale in the main lobby before and after school

Wednesday, December 13 - Last day for Holiday Fund gift card collection

Friday, December 15 - Friends of Music WinterFest fundraiser (7pm at NHS)

Friday, December 22 - Deadline to submit applications for the Peter J. Eloranta Scholarship (4pm)

Monday, December 25 - Monday, January 1 - Winter Recess

PTC Meeting - December 7 at 6:30 (on Zoom)

Tonight's meeting will cover:

1. PTC Presidents' Updates
2. General NHS Updates
3. Interdisciplinary Program (IP) at NHS - overview and video

Link:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://needham-k12-ma-us.zoom.us/j/84950128664?pwd=S3BVRDkwNDIHSFdNY2VDNjZRURUW01QT09>

Interested in Taking a College Class for BOTH College & NHS Credit?

The opportunity is right down the street at Mass Bay!!
If interested, please see or email Ms Plunkett in the Counseling Department
(dana_plunkett@needham.k12.us).

Links for applying and signing up for an information session are accessible below the flyer



Apply Here: [CLICK LINK](#)
Applications due by December 23, 2023

CDEP DUAL ENROLLMENT | 2024

Want to take a FREE college course and receive college and high school credits?

The Massachusetts Commonwealth Dual Enrollment Partnership (CDEP) provides opportunities for Massachusetts high school students to take college-level courses for free and earn credit toward high school completion and their future college degrees.

MassBay Community College is offering FREE college-level courses this spring for juniors and seniors only at our identified partner high schools – Bellingham, Framingham, Hopkinton, Keefe, Natick, and Needham. Classes will be held after school or fully Online from January 22, 2024 – May 19, 2024.

Learn More! | Information sessions will be held remotely on:

Thursday, December 7, 2023 | 7:00 PM

Tuesday, December 12, 2023 | 7:00 PM

Thursday, December 14, 2023 | 4:00 PM

Register for information sessions at: [CLICK LINK](#)

Classes Offered:

Health Careers Exploration | MassBay Framingham Campus | This course will meet in-person on select Thursdays: 1/25, 2/8, 2/29, 3/14, 3/28, 4/11 and 5/2 | 6:00-9:00 PM | The rest of the course is online.

Communication | MassBay Wellesley Campus | Tuesdays & Thursdays 3:30-4:45 PM

Critical Thinking | MassBay Wellesley Campus | Mondays & Wednesdays 3:30-4:45 PM

Nutrition | Fully Online | No scheduled class meetings

Marketing | MassBay Framingham Campus | Mondays & Wednesdays 3:30-5:00 PM

Questions? Contact: Elaine Rosenberg | erosenburg@massbay.edu

MASSBAY.EDU | **START HERE • GO ANYWHERE**

Links from the above flyer:

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Applications due by December 23, 2023

Register for information sessions at: [CLICK LINK](#)



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Scan code to register for an information session

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MASSBAY.EDU | START HERE • GO ANYWHERE

Letter to 2024 Graduates and Families

A message from the NHS Counseling Department for Seniors & their parents/guardians:

We invite you to read the attached letters from the NHS Counselors. Happy Holidays.

[Senior Parents/Guardians Letter](#)

[Senior Letter](#)

NHS Holiday Fund

As in years passed, the Needham community and NHS staff have already begun to show their generous holiday spirit by contributing to the **NHS Holiday fund**. Thus far the community has donated over \$900 in gift cards and the NHS Staff has contributed over \$1200!

There is still time left if you have not yet given. If you are willing and able, please consider contributing to the *NHS Holiday* by dropping off gift cards (MasterCard/Visa, Target, Sudbury Farms, Walgreens) to Danielle Doherty, in the Main Office. Your contribution will be very appreciated. Collection will end on Wednesday, **December 13th**.

The Counseling Department discretely distributes gift cards to students and families who have been identified as those who would benefit from some financial assistance. Your contribution will serve to support one of the over 100 families in need of some holiday cheer this season.

While this season's holidays and family traditions may differ, for many of us, it is nevertheless a fun and celebratory time of the year. Thank you, in advance, for contributing, and brightening the holidays for our Needham families in need.

Best wishes for your own celebration.

Dana Plunkett
Director of Counseling, 7-12

Class of 2024 - "Flocking" Fundraiser

Typically, when the weather turns colder, birds migrate south, but

**watch out Needham -
there is a flock headed this way!**

Beginning December 11th, the NHS Class of 2024 Student Council invites you to "flock" your...

Friends!

Neighbors!

Family members!

People you don't even know!





FLOCKING FUN!

Questions? Email us @:
nhsflocking2024@gmail.com

COMING SOON...

BEGINS 12/11



SCAN HERE FOR DETAILS!

FOR A \$25 DONATION TO THE CLASS OF 2024 YOU CAN SEND A FLOCK OF PLASTIC PINK FLAMINGOS TO ANY YARD IN NEEDHAM!



Lost and Found - Main Office

Are you missing anything?

This is a reminder that the lost and found is located in the main office. Students can come down and take a look in the bins if they're looking for a misplaced item.

Please speak to Ms. Doherty for assistance with lost keys, wallets, AirPods, etc.





-Last Week's Announcements-

In Case You Missed it:

Everything below was featured in last week's newsletter.

NEF Funds 9 Fall Grants, Including One For Needham High!

In its fall grant cycle, Needham Education Foundation (NEF) awarded 9 grants totaling \$30,501 that will benefit students throughout the Needham Public Schools. The grant that will directly impact students at Needham High includes:

- A workshop with Cued@s, an organization that provides embroidered clothing to support mental health, for students in the Connections program at **Needham High School**. Connections is a therapeutic program developed to meet the needs of students with emotional disabilities. The tactile nature of the embroidery serves as a built-in de-escalation technique to help remind the wearer that they are safe, loved, and valued. The workshop will provide students the chance to embroider clothing to donate to a local mental health organization and to embroider a sweatshirt for themselves.

– Awarded to Katherine McMahon, Special Education teacher

To learn more about all of the grant awards and how you can help the NEF support innovative and enriching programs in the Needham schools, please visit nefneedham.org

Peter J. Eloranta Scholarship

The Peter J. Eloranta Scholarship Fund was established to honor the memory of Peter J. Eloranta, a graduate of Needham High School, Class of 1964. Mr. Vaita K. Eloranta bequeathed a sum of money and established a scholarship fund in his son's name. This fund provides support to Needham High School students who wish to pursue additional educational opportunities outside of the high school's regular course offerings.

Please see the [link](#) for details about the Peter J. Eloranta scholarship and the steps to complete the application process.

Deadline for applications is Friday, December 22 at 4 pm.

Thank a Teacher with NEF Gratitude Cards

Show your gratitude for a special teacher, coach, or mentor in your child's life by making a donation in their name to the Needham Education Foundation. When you purchase NEF Gratitude Cards, you let teachers know how much they are appreciated while also providing vital financial support for funding teachers' innovative ideas and professional development opportunities through NEF grants. Needham's students and teachers benefit from your generosity!

Choose from two ways to purchase cards:

1. In Stores: Purchase Gratitude cards in local stores for you or your child to personalize and deliver. Visit Volante Farms, Proud Mary, and the Roche Bros & Sudbury Farms courtesy desks through December 22nd.
2. Online: Order Gratitude Gram e-cards at www.nefneedham.org/support/cards/ and NEF will send your personalized message directly to teachers for you!

All cards are \$10 each. Please visit www.nefneedham.org for more information.

WinterFest Fundraiser

WinterFest, a Needham High School Friends of Music fundraiser in a variety show format, will take place at **7pm on Friday, December 15th** in the Needham High School auditorium.



This celebratory and family friendly event is held in partnership with the NHS Fine and Performing Arts Department and includes performances by jazz band, strings, the four a cappella groups, and a selection of individual and group musical acts.

Please purchase tickets for yourself and the whole family using the following link:

NHS Boys Lacrosse - Holiday Merch Store

Open now through December 10th.

Get your shopping done early!

Visit the link below to view all of the branded items. (Payment and delivery is direct with the merchant).

[Boys Lax Store](#)

NHS Boosters Club - Christmas Tree Sale

The Needham High School Boosters Club is hosting its annual Christmas Tree Sale!

Through the holiday season, **Thursday/Friday 4-7pm** and **Saturday/Sunday 9am-6pm**.

All proceeds benefit NHS Athletics. Thank you to our sponsors at The Village Club.

<https://needhamhighschoolboosters.org/>

Flyers and Reminders

MITCHELL'S BOSTON FAMILY & FRIENDS
TOGETHER WITH NEEDHAM HIGH SCHOOL'S
BLACK STUDENT UNION AND
LATINO HISPANIC STUDENT UNION
PRESENT

Christmas in the City Toy Drive & Volunteer

- Please join BFF, BSU and LHSU in
- donating an unwrapped toy from the list below
 - volunteering on 12/6 for our Wrapping Party
 - volunteering on 12/16 in Boston
 - all three!

DEC. 6 - 12:15 - 2:45 PM
WRAPPING PARTY @ MITCHELL
DEC. 16 - 1:30 - 3:30 PM
@ 316 HUNTINGTON AVE, BOSTON

PLEASE USE LINK BELOW FOR TOY GUIDANCE THEY ARE FROM THE KIDS WISHLISTS, MUST BE COLLECTED BY 12/6 PLEASE SIGN UP FOR THE VOLUNTEER SLOTS USING THE SIGN UP GENIUS BELOW

AMAZON WISHLIST



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CITC PLEASE VISIT
[HTTPS://CHRISTMASINTHECITY.ORG/](https://CHRISTMASINTHECITY.ORG/)



SIGN UP GENIUS



Class of 2026

FOOD DRIVE

Please help us collect non-perishable foods for the Needham Community Council. This food drive serves many families in need within our community.

DROP-OFF LOCATION:

IN YOUR HOMEROOM, A BOX WILL BE LOCATED TO DROP OFF ANY FOODS





DONATE YOUR ELECTRONICS!

DECEMBER 4TH - JANUARY 26TH

We accept all electronics except:

- Laptops/computers/monitors
- Calculators
- Game consuls



Drop your electronics in the bins in the library or main office! The electronics can be in any condition! Donating your old electronics will help preserve Coltan (a harmful material to gorilla habitats).

PTC MEETINGS

SCHEDULE FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR

THURSDAYS
OVER
ZOOM
6:30-7:30PM

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

SENIORS - Cap & Gown Information

Thank you to those of you who have ordered caps and gowns and have filled out the Google Form. If you have not already done so, we ask that you please complete these steps.

[Link](#) to purchase caps and gowns

[Link](#) to fill out Google Form

Needham Community News

Toys for Tots

The Needham Police Department has partnered with Toys for Tots to take in toys for kids across Massachusetts.

There are 3 bins in the lobby of the police department where unwrapped toys can be dropped off!



Police Department address: 99 School St, Needham, MA 02492

Needham Park and Recreation Winter Break Programming – Winter Days

Need childcare or just a fun day out for the kids? Participants will enjoy crafts and classic games like dodgeball, kickball, pickle and much more both indoors and outdoors (weather permitting). December 26- 29, 9:00am-4:00pm. Purchase a day pass for \$60 or the full week (4 days) for \$200.

Registration ends on 12/21

https://needhamprograms.myrec.com/info/activities/program_details.aspx?ProgramID=30254

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