

NPHS



BOBCAT PRIDE

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FEBRUARY 2023

VOLUME 4
ISSUE 2

ADMINISTRATION

Shannon Fusco,
Principal

Linda Copeland,
APC

Dr. Agnes Pelopida,
APA & Seniors

Luke Behringer,
AP, 9th-11th grade A-D

Courtney Appolloni,
AP, 9th-11th grade E-K

Stephanie Parziale,
AP, 9th-11th grade L-Q

Ron Corso,
AP, 9th-11th grade R-Z

MISSION STATEMENT:

North Port High School will inspire tomorrow's leaders by providing rigorous instruction, maintaining a safe and respectful environment and developing socially responsible individuals in their community and beyond.

SCHOOL WEBSITE:

<http://northporthighschool.net>

**NORTH PORT WORKS,
NORTH PORT WINS!**

SCHOOLWIDE ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

from Assistant Principal Agnes Pelopida

All students are expected to be in class, every period, bell to bell. Punctuality has a huge positive impact on your learning, and your future employer will expect it. To avoid lunch detention consequences and earn HERO points from teachers, students should be sure to arrive in class on time each and every class period!

Students will receive:

- 1 lunch detention for 5 tardies
- 2 lunch detentions for 10 tardies
- 1 day of ISR for 15 tardies

Lunch Detention passes will be distributed to second period teachers on Mondays, and those teachers will distribute the passes during second period on Tuesdays. Students should serve lunch detention on the same day that they receive the Lunch Detention pass

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION FOR SENIORS [CLASS OF 2023]

from Sheilah Thomas, Senior Class Advisor

- Cap and Gown Ordering: Go to www.jostens.com or find the QR code and presentation on the Class of 2023 Blackboard page. The price is now at \$82. Order ASAP! You must have a Cap & Gown to participate in graduation. Cap & Gown is NOT included in NPHS Senior Bundles which were purchased in August. This is a separate purchase.
- Senior Ads in the Yearbook: The deadline has been extended through January 24. Order online at www.yearbookforever.com.
- Yearbooks: Buy at www.yearbookforever.com. Preorders are accepted until April 30 for pickup at Senior BBQ, but you can save \$5 until January 24 with the coupon code "PRIDE".
- Grad Bash forms must be turned in to Mrs. Thomas or Mr. Thomas by Friday, January 27th, whether you purchased a ticket with your Senior Bundle or separately. Stay tuned to the Senior Class Blackboard page for updates about Grad Bash.
- The complete AICE Testing schedule and other AICE information may be found at NorthPortAICE.com/testing

SENIOR CALENDAR OF EVENTS: SAVE THE DATE! [CLASS OF 2023]

from Sheilah Thomas, Senior Class Advisor

March 28: ACT NCR. The Non-College-Reportable ACT can be used to meet graduation requirements for some seniors. Ask your Math teacher or Counselor for details.

March 31: Grad Bash at Universal Studios. Grad Bash ticket was included in large senior bundles but eligibility requirements must still be met and paperwork completed.

April 3: AICE Banquet. See Dr. Little, Mrs. Lakeman, Mrs. McKay, or Mrs. Kayser for information. Tickets will be on sale soon through the school store.

April 28: Academic Signing Day at 2:45pm in the Cafeteria. For an invitation to Academic Signing Day, make sure to share scholarship, acceptances, and offers with Mrs. Kisha Sims at the Counselors' offices.

May 4: Senior Awards at 7pm in the PAC. Make sure to share scholarship, acceptances, and offers with Mrs. Kisha Sims at the Counselors' offices.

May 10: Senior BBQ from 5pm-7pm. This event is MANDATORY for all seniors to pick up Cap & Gown. You do not have to attend the entire 2 hours but you should be certain to request off work to attend.

May 19: Graduation Practice for all students in the Class of 2023 participating in the graduation ceremony. The time has not been set but this event generally begins at 8:00am at NPHS.

May 20: Graduation for the Class of 2023 will be held on Saturday, May 20 at the Preserve, the NPHS Football Field. Ceremony begins at 9:00am, graduates will arrive at 7:30am and gates will open at 8:15am.

STAY INFORMED

Daily video announcements may be viewed from anywhere by accessing the student news site at <http://nphsbobcats.net>. Bobcat News content is produced by Journalism students.

For official school news, follow @northporthighscs on Facebook & Instagram.

For athletics, follow @nophonation and use the #nophonation hashtag on Twitter.



LAST CALL FOR YEARBOOK ADVERTISING!

from Elysia Lord, Yearbook Advisor

NPHS yearbook has limited space remaining for advertisers. Support our student-run journalism program and advertise your business with a full color ad that will last for years to come! Advertising orders may be placed online at www.yearbookforever.com, or contact Ms. Lord, yearbook advisor, at elysia.lord@sarasotacountyschools.net. Submit your order or state your intention to advertise no later than January 24. Limited space is available. Advertising space may also be purchased to honor a graduate in the Class of 2023! Order today!

Yearbook preorders may also be placed at www.yearbookforever.com. Use the coupon code PRIDE to save \$5 through January 24 only.

FOR THE LOVE OF THE ARTS! COMING FEBRUARY 11, 2023

from Michelle Slay, VPA Coordinator

The North Port High School VPA Department is hosting "For the Love of the Arts!" A festival on February 11, 2023.

- **8am:** 5k Color Fun Run
- **10am-3pm:** Community Festival with Art Vendors, Performances, and Food Trucks
- **5pm:** Gala Performance, Dinner, and Silent Auction

Community Sponsors are invited to sponsor the color run, bounce house, stage, or other amenities.

Food Trucks are wanted to sell food during the festival.

Art Vendors are invited to rent a table for the festival.

Community Sponsors are invited to donate items for the Silent Auction. Gala sponsorships of \$200 or more include 2 Gala tickets upon request.

Contact VPA Coordinator Michelle Slay (michelle.slay@sarasotacountyschools.net) or Heather Lakeman (heather.lakeman@sarasotacountyschools.net) for sponsorship materials.

Calling all Students! Sign up for the Color Blaze 5k Run! Student Cost is \$20 and is open until January 31st. Participants will get a Love of the Arts T-shirt, colorful sunglasses, and a Race Medallion. Participants can walk or run to complete the Race. However, we will have a special prize for the first person to cross the finish line! To Register please go to <https://northportvpa.org> Go to the Events tab and scroll down to find Event Registrations. Payments can be made online by credit or debit.

Checks made out to NPHS or Cash payments can be turned into Mrs. Lakeman located in the Media Center during the following times:

- All 3 lunches and before school from 7:15-7:25AM or after school from 2:15-2:30PM



**Friday, March 3rd
6pm-10pm**

Event Location
Hampton Inn & Suites
5664 Tuscola Blvd
North Port, FL 34287 US

Event Description

Enjoy a night of gaming, music, raffles, 50/50, food and drinks! Games available will be Blackjack, Poker, Craps & Roulette. Each ticket includes two complimentary beer or wine drinks, appetizers and 2,000 game chips. Proceeds to benefit all Student-Athletes at North Port High School.

There are a limited amount of tickets for this event. Must be at least 21 years of age to attend.

Thanks to our Sponsors:

Use QR Code to Purchase Tickets!

Presented By:



Ticket Price
\$60.00 per person
(plus processing fee)

Join the NPHS Athletic Booster Club for Casino Night, Friday, March 3rd at the Hampton Inn & Suites of North Port. Tickets are limited, so purchase yours today! Must be 21 years or older to attend. All proceeds benefit NPHS Student Athletes.



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For the Love of the Arts Festival, presented by NPHS VPA, February 11, 2023.
Vendors and Sponsors are wanted for this spectacular arts-focused all-day event.
Find all of the information on the VPA website at NorthPortVPA.org.



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February 2023
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Sarasota County
District Schools
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Sarasota, FL 34231

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2022
2023

FOR THE LOVE OF THE ARTS FESTIVAL

FUNDS RAISED WILL BENEFIT ALL NORTH PORT HIGH
VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAMS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023

6400 West Price Blvd; North Port, FL 34291

Contact: Michelle Slay or Heather Lakeman if you would like
to become a sponsor for this full day of events.

michelle.slay@sarasotacountyschools.net

heather.lakeman@sarasotacountyschools.net

941-423-8558

Our event will begin with a morning color run from 8AM-
10AM, followed by a full day of art vendors, live community
performances, and Food Trucks 10AM-3PM.

The day will end with a wonderful Gala Event featuring a
silent auction, dinner and live performances by our VPA
Students.

All Registrations and ticketing information can be found at
northportvpa.org

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EXCELLENT RATING FOR THESPIANS AT DISTRICT 9 ONE ACT FESTIVAL

from Dena Henderson,
Theatre Director

Congratulations to the cast and crew of the District One Act which was adjudicated at the District 9 Thespian One Act Festival! They received an overall score of Excellent! Two of the students got special awards: freshman Grayden Riffle for being the All Star Cast Member, and junior Emma Cooley for Stage Management (Only 4 of those awards were given out)!

The complete list of students recognized includes:

Charles Page
Samara Naeger
Jake Kearney
Grayden Riffle
Julia Fritz
Ava Odom
Aden Lillevold
Gabiella Battiatia
Makailah Hayward
Jezebel Chavarria
Isabelle Rannals
Isabella Valentino
Angelina Pacovsky
Sami Knight
Jovan Djurich
Michelle Zabalo
Hannah Gore
Emma Cooley
Grace Padalik
Isabella Bernal
Mackenzie Rollins
Brynna Rufh
Madilyn Hayes
Emilee McKelvy
Rachel Bullock
Morgan Rand
Kylie Staub
Evan Higgins
Bailey Poe

UPCOMING TESTING

from Chris Knight, NPHS Testing Coordinator

The following state tests are on the upcoming school calendar. As the dates approach, affected students can ask any teacher for details about their testing times and locations.

- PM2 FAST ELA Gr. 10: Monday, January 23 – Wednesday, January 25
- FSA ELA Retake: Wednesday, March 1 – Friday, March 3
- FSA EOC Alg Retake: Monday, March 6 & Tuesday, March 7



BLOOD DONATION SAVES LIVES AND YOU CAN DONATE BLOOD AT SCHOOL!

Blood facts contributed by Nurse Angela Clarke

Honor cord information contributed by HOSA Advisor and Health Science teacher Greta Backstrom

Did you know that North Port High School hosts blood drives throughout the year, right on our campus? Our next blood drive is on February 13th. Are you interested in donating blood? Here are some fun facts about saving lives with blood donations:

- You can save up to three lives by donating blood.
- You can burn up to 650 calories per pint of blood donation.
- Donating at least once a year could reduce your risk of a heart attack by 88%.
- When you donate blood, your body replaces the blood volume within 48 hours of donation, and all the red blood cells you lose during donation are completely replaced within four to eight weeks. This process of replenishment can help your body stay healthy and work more efficiently and productively.
- Donating MAY help lower the risk of cancer by maintaining healthy levels of iron in the body.
- Blood drives hosted by companies, schools, places of worship, and civic organizations supply roughly half of all blood donations across the US.
- Giving blood will not decrease your strength.
- After donating blood, you replace the fluid in hours and the red blood cells within four weeks. It takes eight weeks to restore the iron lost after donating.

Here are some more fun facts about blood!

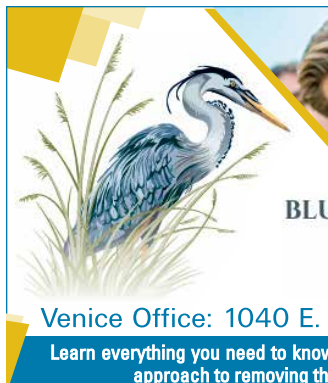
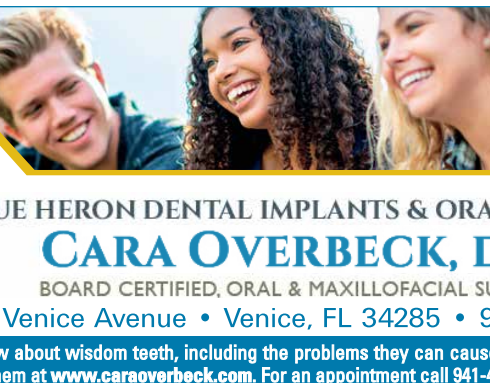
- There is about .2 mg of gold in your bloodstream.
- In an average lifetime the human heart pumps 1.5 million barrels of blood (that's enough to fill 200 train tank cars).
- Your blood accounts for 8% of your body weight.
- Your body has over 100,000 miles of blood vessels. which if laid end to end, would stretch 2 and a half times around the Earth.
- There are 150 billion red blood cells in one ounce of blood.
- All blood isn't red. Crabs have blue blood while earthworms and leeches have green blood.
- O+ is the most common blood type & O- donors are often called "Universal Donors".
- 45% of donors are type "O".
- Most donated red blood cells can be stored for 42 days.
- Whole blood can be donated every 56 days.

The requirements for seniors to receive a donor cord are as follows:

- Donate three times during their senior year
- Volunteer for 30 hrs during their senior year

Suncoast Blood Bank tracks the donations and volunteer hours.



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YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELORS



ALL SENIORS

Jennica Thomas (Seniors Last Names A-L)	Jennica.Thomas@sarasotacountyschools.net https://jennicathomas.youcanbook.me	
Lee Thomas (Seniors Last Names M-Z)	Department Chair Lee.Thomas@sarasotacountyschools.net https://leethomas.youcanbook.me	



GRADES 9-11 STUDENTS

Drew Grissell (Last Names A-D)	Drew.Grissell@sarasotacountyschools.net https://drewgrissell.youcanbook.me	
Shannon McDougall (Last Names E-K)	Shannon.McDougall@sarasotacountyschools.net https://shannonmcdougall128.youcanbook.me	
Brittany McKeith (Last Names L-Q)	Brittany.McKeith@sarasotacountyschools.net https://brittanymckeith.youcanbook.me	
Jessica Rutherford (Last Names R-Z)	Jessica.Rutherford@sarasotacountyschools.net https://jessicarutherford.youcanbook.me	

GRADES 9-11 AICE DIPLOMA STUDENTS

Christine McKay (Last Names A-L AICE)	Christine.McKay@sarasotacountyschools.net https://christinemckay.youcanbook.me AICE	
Adria Kayser (Last Names M-Z AICE)	Adria.Kayser@sarasotacountyschools.net https://adriakayser.youcanbook.me/ AICE	

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER APPOINTMENTS

Becky Halbert (College, Scholarships, Community Service)	Becky.Halbert@sarasotacountyschools.net https://becky-collegecoordinator.youcanbook.me	
Ryan Coulson (Career Advisor)	Ryan.Coulson@sarasotacountyschools.net https://ryancoulson-schoolteacher.youcanbook.me/	

2022 2023

Students may make a non-emergency appointment with their school counselor at any time using the QR code, email address, or website link provided here. Please be sure to request an appointment with the correct counselor based on your program and last name and note that some counselor assignments may have changed since you last made an appointment! If there is an emergency, ask the nearest NPHS Staff Member to assist you.

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ANNUAL SPIN NIGHT INTRODUCES RISING FRESHMEN TO THE NPHS CAMPUS

from Adria Kayser, AICE Counselor

North Port High's annual Student and Parent Information Night (SPIN) is upcoming on Thursday, February 2 from 6-8 PM. This event is to welcome incoming 9th graders and their families to NPHS for the following school year. This is one of the biggest events that our school hosts and it has always been a big success thanks to everyone involved! This event has been extended to allow more times for presentations, performances, and displaying tables. If your student is a member of a club or sports team, they will be able to participate in this SPIN night.

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SCHOOL CALENDAR UPDATES DUE TO HURRICANE IAN

Quarter 3 ends on Friday, March 10, with all schools closed from March 13 to 17 for Spring Break. The school calendar was changed due to Hurricane Ian, and Monday, March 20 is now a regular school day. Final Exams for Underclassmen will occur during the week of May 22, with Friday, May 26 as the last day of school.



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SCHOOL STAFF-SUPERVISED TUTORING

from Stephanie Parziale, Assistant Principal

Each Monday through Thursday, locations on campus are available for study sessions. The Media Center is supervised by NPHS staff each afternoon (M-Th) from 2:30-4:00 for study groups and independent work. Laptop and desktop computers are available if you need access to Blackboard, Progress Learning, or other online work.

Additionally, the CTE and Math departments offer regular tutoring opportunities for students needing extra support in those classes. Check out the details in the flyer or ask any CTE or Math teacher for more information. Many teachers will offer extra credit for attending!

Finally, Mrs. Stringer and Mrs. Deal host SAT/ACT tutoring for upperclassmen still needing to boost those test scores for graduation or college admission. Join the Remind or see either teacher for more information about these great sessions.

Students who are struggling academically can request a tutor or study buddy through their counselor. Students will be paired up with a peer volunteer who has been successful in the course. The tutor can do so much more than traditional tutoring – they can also help with study strategies, organization, and encouragement in addition to explaining complex material.

TUTORING SCHEDULE

Math Lab
2:30-3:30

Monday/Thursday

- ★ In the Media Center
- ★ Up to Algebra 2

Wednesday

- ★ In 4-211 and 4-212
- ★ Up to Pre-Calculus

ACT/ISAT
2:30-3:30

Thursday

- ★ English w/Mrs. Deal in 8-205
- ★ Math w/Mrs. Stringer in 5-216

Join Remind: Text @3f86bd to 81010
Or see Mrs. Stringer or Mrs. Deal for more information

CTE
2:30-3:30

Monday

- ★ Adobe & Open Lab in 1-213 on 12/12, 1/9, 1/30, 2/13, 3/27, 4/10, 4/24, 5/8

- ★ Adobe, ServSafe, & Early Childhood in 5-202B on 12/19, 1/23, 2/13, 3/6, 4/3, 4/17, 5/1, 5/15

Study Groups
2:30-4:00

Monday-Thursday

- ★ In the Media Center
- ★ Work on assignments, study with friends, and get homework help.



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NJROTC STUDENTS LEAD AND LEARN

from Cadet Lauren Wolfe (Class of 2024)

Our school's NJROTC program offers a variety of opportunities for students. The goal of JROTC is to motivate young people to become better citizens; NJROTC also teaches students the Navy's three core values - Honor, Courage, and Commitment. An average week in NJROTC consists of learning academics and physical training. On an academic day, cadets will learn maritime history, leadership and followership, the structure of the U.S. government, or history of JROTC and the United States. On physical fitness days, cadets will do a multitude of workouts and run. Additionally, we wear a uniform once a week. Our Senior Naval Science Instructor (SNSI), Lieutenant Commander Barnes USN Ret., says, "If you can't wear a uniform once a week, how are you going to wear one every day after high school?"

The course offers extracurricular activities as well. We have seven different teams that practice after school. Mondays are for the Marksmanship team, where we learn how to shoot air rifles and all about firearm safety, and Color Guard team where we learn manual of arms and how to present the colors. Tuesday is for the Drone Team where we learn how to control drones with precision, and Athletics Team that has more intensive physical training than in class. Wednesday is for Academics Team, where we extend general understanding of military knowledge, and Cyber Patriot Team where we learn how to assess vulnerabilities in computers. Thursday is only for Orienteering, since it is the team with the largest population

this year. In orienteering, we learn how to use a compass and read maps to navigate through complex courses. Friday has no practice since it's before the weekend.

JROTC is a "cadet-run program", meaning we do everything from coordinate all our events, make sure cadets paperwork is updated, and keep inventory of all our supplies. We've successfully coordinated and attended many events this year, including Academics, Marksmanship, and Cyber Patriot competitions. The first competition we attended this year was an Academic Brain Brawl at Boca Raton High School, and we placed 2nd out of 16 teams. The following weekend we attended another Brain Brawl at Gaither High School, and we placed 8th out of 32 teams. We've been very active and successful this year.

NJROTC is the best program to prepare students for life after high school. Cadets are put in awkward situations that make them come out of their shells. They are given positions where they will have to act as a leader. We have a book just for seniors, that tells them what they will need to do if they are going into the work force, military, or furthering their education. Additionally, JROTC focuses highly on building a team. Everyone in the classroom becomes friends by the end of the first quarter, having a good bond in the unit is essential. Our NSI and SNSI, along with our Commanding Officer Cadet Lieutenant Commander Alexa Cortes (Class of 2023), Executive Officer Cadet Lieutenant Junior Grade Danny Gonzalez (Class of 2023), and Operations Officer Cadet Ensign Jordan Wager (Class of 2024), all work hard to ensure success in their cadets.

Our Color Guard Team; Cadet Chief Petty Officer Alicia Stewart (Class of 2024) on Right Rifle, Commanding Officer Cadet Lieutenant Commander Alexa Cortes (Class of 2023) leading with the American flag, Cadet Petty Officer First Class Austin Nottingham (Class of 2024) on Navy flag, and Cadet Ensign Jordan Wager (Class of 2024) on Left Rifle.



Our Commanding Officer, Cadet Lieutenant Commander Alexa Cortes (Class of 2023), and Executive Officer, Cadet Lieutenant Junior Grade Danny Gonzalez (Class of 2023), at NJROTC Annual Military Inspection, December 7, 2022.




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A HUGE THANK YOU!

Congratulations Retirees!

On Thursday December 21, NPHS staff met to celebrate two of our staff members who retired. Thank you for your years of service and best wishes in retirement! Donna Bajusz, shown with Cara Welfer, worked hard to support Mrs. Welfer and her students academically and emotionally. Fran Baker (center), listens as her department chair, Coach Rob Rowe, speaks about how she has helped so many students.

**THANK
YOU**

