

**POSITIVE POINTS**  
**BOARD MEETING – DEC 19, 2018**

**High School**

1. We continue to work on our LINKS initiatives and foster growth in the area of technology use and integration. In addition, we implemented structured study halls to assist our students in achieving success.
2. Forty-eight 11th graders recently took the PSAT and outscored both state and national scores. On average, NHS students outscored students at the state level by 15 points and nationally they achieved 24 points higher in each of the areas designated on the exam (total, reading and writing, math). Congratulations to these students!
3. We have currently recognized over 240 students for demonstrating respect, generosity and courage. Congratulations to all and know that we appreciate your contribution to the climate and culture of NHS!
4. Sophomores recently visited BOCES to explore their options for CTE programming for next year. Thank you to Andrea Kramarczyk for organizing this event!
5. Over the course of the last two weeks, we have been encouraging students to volunteer and give back to our community. To date, approximately 200 students have participated by being part of one of these many events: NHS blood drive, ringing the bell for the Salvation Army, helping with Toys for Tots, donating to the annual clothing drive, singing throughout our community, hosting a parents night out at the YMCA, helping out at Winter Wonderland, Christmas card project and volunteering at the Soul Kitchen monthly dinner.
6. Mrs. Locke's AP Chem class created a Chemis-TREE that is on display at the Rexford Street museum. Thank you for taking time to design and display this tree and be active members of our Norwich Community.
7. Mrs. Dorsey and Ms. McCormack's classes worked on a Christmas card campaign for a medically fragile student. In total 50 plus cards will be sent to him showing him there is still good in the world and that people.
8. LPP has been hard at work over the course of the last month! They worked with 4H to This "lotions and potions", which turned out to be homemade bath bombs and hand lotion! Middle School students visited Sun Printing right here in Norwich. The Liberty Club group spent time filling out "get to know you" sheets, and focusing time on self-reflection. They also spent a day focused on leadership skills and teamwork. We have placed a big emphasis on getting to know one another and creating relationships that will last up until the day they graduate high school. A cooperative LPP afternoon was recently held with staff members, high school students, and middle school participants as they hosted a movie and awards night. LPP high school students have been using their leadership skills to help out advocates, and make sure middle school students had role models to count on. Peer leaders were "pinned" for their 1/2 year dedication in volunteering their time to keep our program running efficiently. Congratulations to Andru Donnelly, Mya Kossman, Isabella Pucci and Shailynne Reynolds for their service.
9. Thank you to our Madrigal Choir for their fantastic contribution to Hospice's Light Up a Life evening Sing Out and Celebrate and for travelling to Golden Age apartments. We truly appreciate your beautiful gift of music and your willingness to share it with our community!
10. Kayla Farrell, our All-State Musician, traveled to Rochester to represent NHS.
11. Thank you to marching band for participating in the Parade of Lights in downtown Norwich.
12. Congratulations to the staff and students of the NHS musical department on a wonderful winter concert!
13. Congratulations to the [Norwich City School District #football](#) players who earned All-Star honors from the Section 4 Football Conference this season.
14. Our Section 4 Division II All-Stars are Drew Walsh, Eric Conant, Shane Lawrence, Zach Mills, Thomas Parrella, J.T. Vinal and Scott Manwarren
15. The 4 X 4 relay team of Eric Conant, David Berger, Gabe Gawronski and Nic Barber recently took first place at an indoor track meet.
16. Our robotics team held a craft fair as a fundraiser and it was a tremendous success!

**Middle School**

1. Go to [korverphotography.com/december](http://korverphotography.com/december) to see photos from the NMS Annual Semi Formal Dance.
2. Ms. Jutting, Ms. Rehn, Ms. Carpenter and Mrs. Rogers (from [Perry Browne Intermediate School](#)) took students in grades 5-9 to Maine-Endwell to audition for Broome County All-County Orchestras/Band. Students prepare excerpts of music that are more difficult than the music they play in school ensembles and have 5 minutes to show judges they are capable of playing in the All-County orchestra. We are proud of them and their dedication! 7-9 Orchestra: Jonathan Ryan, violin; Madison Vaughn, violin; Josiah Tyler, violin; Nathan Franklin, violin; Natalee Franklin, violin; Kai-Li Richardson, violin; Rhianna Philbrick, viola; Michael Zheng, viola; Caiden Lewis, viola; Sarah Davis, viola; Emily Nichols, viola; Tony DeRensis, cello; Tenleigh Beech, cello; Caden Stone, bass. 5-6 Orchestra: Jacob Potter, violin; Laci Zieno, viola; Timmy Guzewich, viola; Cally Richardson, cello; Maya Adoff, cello; Lara Tefft, bass; Heather Young, bass. 7-9 Band: Emma Brooks, flute; Madisyn Ryan, clarinet; Anthony Pomares, saxophone; Elspeth Hunter, saxophone.

3. The Norwich Middle School Select Choir, along with accompanist Tom Kennedy, performed Holiday Carols for the CMH Auxiliary Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 1, at the Norwich VFW.
4. Norwich Middle School sixth-graders in Cheryl Welch's Social Studies class have been connecting with classrooms in other countries this year through Mystery Skype sessions at the NMS Library. Welch and Library Media Specialist Lorry Chwazik have teamed up to bring this opportunity to our kids, who try to figure out where in the world students on the other side of the screen are located by asking yes-or-no questions.

### **Perry Browne**

1. Our Perry Browne Intermediate School students lined the halls on November 7 to honor local military veterans with an in-school parade! Thank you, veterans, for serving and protecting our country!
2. Our Leadership Club's Group 1 leaders have been very busy during the holiday season. So far, they've: Raised \$268 to send to UNICEF, packed 75 food bags for families in need, as part of our Backpack Program, decorated the Perry Browne Intermediate School Christmas tree, visited Walmart to snowflake shop for families in need of new clothing. Great job everyone!
3. Liberty Club has been working on some serious leadership and teamwork skills. Disguised as a fast paced, pressure-filled minute-to-win-it game, our 27 participants gained some valuable knowledge about themselves and what it means to be a part of a team dynamic.
4. Perry Browne students were recognized for their hard work and leadership traits at last weekend's Binghamton Devils hockey game!
5. 20 teachers participated in a peer observation day where they were afforded the opportunity to see their peers in action and provide one another with feedback to improve instruction.
6. Last Weekend Ms. Jutting, Ms. Rehn, Ms. Carpenter and Mrs. Rogers (from Perry Browne Intermediate School) took students in grades 5-9 to Maine-Endwell to audition for Broome County All-County Orchestras/Band. The following Perry Browne participated: 5-6 Orchestra: Jacob Potter, violin; Laci Zieno, viola; Timmy Guzewich, viola; Cally Richardson, cello; Maya Adoff, cello; Lara Tefft, bass; Heather Young, bass. We are proud of them and their dedication!
7. On 12/7/18, PTCT held another successful Winter Wonderland event at Gibson to support their community building initiatives, such as the backpack program.

### **Gibson**

1. 139 families were sent home with extra food through the PTCT Backpack Program in November.
2. 12 Thanksgiving baskets were donated from Gibson
3. Kindergarten is celebrating Christmas Around the World and we collaborated on this social studies theme this year. We all made baskets to share for our chosen countries and will switch the baskets beginning after Thanksgiving break and ending before Christmas break. Students will get to experience traditions for the holidays and Christmas from watching videos, reading books, viewing maps/globes/pictures and making crafts to provide examples for how children/families celebrate Christmas! We are featuring Mexico, Sweden, Holland, America, and many more!
4. In Mrs. Lund's Class we will be featuring a Gingerbread House making day where each child invites in a family member to help us with this fun holiday event.
5. 20 NCSD staff will have completed the 3-day TCIS Training by Dec 17.
6. Kindergarten will be finished with the alphabet by the end of December – we are all readers in kindergarten and learning a lot! We are ahead of the game with our skills modules and the students are amazed at how much they can read now!
7. Successes seen from the reading team, for example:
8. I have a student in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade that has struggled with reading and been in AIS since Kindergarten. She has been receiving AIS tier 2 and tier 3 services this year. The combination of CKI work and guided reading has paid off! She started this year at a level D (end of Kindergarten benchmark). In November, she remained at the same level. She has been tested this week and today read a level I (almost the end of 1<sup>st</sup> grade level, J is the end of 1<sup>st</sup> grade benchmark)! I will be testing her on a level J soon. All of a sudden, everything is starting to click and it is exciting to watch her face light up and to hear her say to wants to read another story!
9. Second graders celebrated Pioneer Day by playing games that pioneer children might have played-marbles, charades, checkers, I spy.