

NORTHWOOD KNIGHT LIFE

AUGUST 2025

A NORTHWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL PTA PUBLICATION

Principal

Treva Lee 355-7000

Assistant Principal (6th)

Brook Patterson

Admin Assistant (7th)

Ryan Negoski 355-7012

Assistant Principal (8th)

Kendra Walker 355-7063

Counselors

Elizabeth Reed, 6th 355-7020 Christi Dumit, 7th 355-7004 Andrea Luther, 8th 355-7005 TBD, All Grades 355-7017

Mental Health

Counselor

Danielle Pete 355-7058

Attendance Clerk

Cindy Chemell

EDP Director

Rebekah Carnahan 355-7055

Front Office Clerk

Ana Hill 355-7031

Nurse

Sherre Forrester 355-7007

Registrar

Deborah Guion 355-7013

Resource Officer

Penny Aubrey 355-7015

Secretary

Jennifer Mahan 355-7002

Athletic Director

Ryan Negoski 355-7012

Food Services

Judy Frantz 355-7008

Media Specialist

Greta Cleveland 355-7006

Transportation Taylors Bus Center

355-7330

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Greetings, Northwood Family,

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year! I hope this summer has given everyone a chance to recharge, reflect, and prepare for another successful year ahead. Northwood continues to be a place where students, teachers, support staff, and families work together to ensure that each child receives an outstanding educational experience. In just a short time, we will welcome a new class of sixth-grade Knights and begin writing the next chapter in our school's story.

Middle school is a unique and formative time, and our team is dedicated to helping students navigate these important years. We also recognize the importance of preparing our students for the expectations of high school and beyond. That's why our academic programs and school offerings are designed to be rigorous, relevant, and engaging. From athletics and the arts to student clubs and leadership opportunities, there are many ways for students and parents to become involved in the life of our school. I encourage you to take full advantage of these experiences and help us make this another memorable and impactful year.

Our school website remains a key resource for staying up to date on news, celebrations, and upcoming events. You'll also find calendars and teacher webpages to help families stay informed about classwork and academic progress. Be sure to "like" us on Facebook and "follow" us on Instagram to see highlights of our students learning, leading, and growing. Parents are also encouraged to use the District Parent Portal to view grades and attendance. If you need login information, our front office staff will be happy to assist you.

We also invite you to join our amazing PTA, whose tireless support provides many of the extra touches that make Northwood such a special place for students. From school events to teacher support, their efforts are a vital part of our school community, and your participation makes a difference.

As Principal, my highest priority is maintaining a safe and welcoming learning environment for every student, staff member, and visitor. To support this, we will continue implementing the district's I.D. policy, our school dress code, periodic participation with the EVOLV system, and full enforcement of GCS behavior expectations. All visitors must enter through the front office. I also recommend reviewing our school handbook, available on our website under the "Students" tab, to stay informed about school guidelines and expectations.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns you or your child may have throughout the school year. This newsletter includes tentative dates for several PTA events—mark your calendars and join us when you can. I look forward to building on Northwood's tradition of excellence together.

Sincerely, Treva Lee



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6TH GRADE BOOTCAMP

Northwood Middle School will host their 6th grade class at "Boot Camp" on Wednesday, August 6th starting @ 2:00 pm! This is our back-to-school event that will help our 6th graders get prepared for the beginning of the school year.

Students will need to be dropped off by 2:00 pm. They will be given the opportunity to practice opening a locker and learn how to have a successful 6th grade year. At the end of Boot Camp, students will be given their class schedules and an opportunity to meet their teachers.



A Parent Boot Camp will be offered from 3:45-4:45 pm. This will give parents an opportunity to learn about middle school and ways to ensure that your child has a great transition to 6th grade. This parent session is optional.

Parents will then meet up with their students at 4:45pm. Students and parents will have the opportunity to meet teachers, listen to teacher presentations, and walk the student's schedule. This part of the event will last from 5:00-6:00 pm.

Register for Boot Camp by visiting the Northwood website and completing the Google Form found on the home page under the Boot Camp registration link. Contact Elizabeth Reed, 6th Grade School Counselor, if you have any questions: ereed@greenville.k12.sc.us or (864) 355-7020.

MEET THE OPEN TEACHER CHER CHOUSE

Meet the Teacher/Open House is for students and parents to pick up schedules, meet their teachers, learn about their classes, and tour the school.

6TH GRADE

This will take place at Bootcamp on **Wednesday**, **August 6**.

7TH & 8TH GRADE

Thursday, August 7 Last Names A-L, 5:00-6:00pm Last Names M-Z, 6:00-7:00pm

After picking up their schedule in the cafeteria, students and parents are welcome to visit each of their classes at their own pace.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

The general list of recommended school supplies for each grade level is available on the Northwood Middle School website.

At Meet the Teacher, teachers will let students know of any additional items needed for their particular classroom. (6th graders will receive this information at Bootcamp.)

NORTHWOOD WEBSITE

www.greenville.k12.sc.us/northwd/

School supply lists, upcoming club information, Northwood athletics, PE uniform information and MORE will all be available on the Northwood website! Check often for important announcements!

PTA NEWS

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year! We are so excited for another great year and look forward to many exciting events. We are so thankful for the parents and volunteers who help make Northwood such a wonderful school! A brief recap of how PTA was used at NMS this past year:

- Supplied instructional materials for classrooms and awarded \$4,920 in mini-grants for teachers
- Helped with 11 Dress Down Days (A favorite of our NMS students)
- Organized school socials (2 per year) and an 8th Grade Celebration in May
- Donated gift cards for prizes to be given away during staff meetings
- Provided shirts and supplies for 6th grade boot camp student leaders and contributed to pullovers for all staff
- Coordinated Principal's Honor Roll lunches
- · Provided meals for our teachers and staff
- Bought new uniforms for the uniform closet and school supplies for students in need
- · Rewards for all students for Excellent School Report Card rating
- Helped with Field Day supplies
- Provided inflatables, drinks, and snacks for the Schools to Watch Bash

2025-2026 PTA BOARD MEMBERS

President: Lindsey New Vice President: Rita Bilbro Secretary: Megan Epps Treasurer: Dawn Borders

Board Members:

Katie Bennett Johna Lutz Lyndsey Crandall Laura North

Katie Dill Meghan Southerland

Erin Dumit Jennifer State
Sara Fox Sara Street
Tiffany Harker Haylie Tysinger
Lindsey Hudson Sarah Whitmire
Jami Huguet Sarah Beth Wood

Laura Kudey



PTA volunteers helped with our send off for our 8th Grade Knights!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We would love for each and every parent to stay up-todate on the latest activities and be able to volunteer when it is most convenient! There are volunteer opportunities that will fit all types of schedules. We can always use lots of help, so please take a look and sign up for anything that might interest you. Sign up on the Northwood PTA website or use this QR Code.

Sign up to volunteer today!



PTA MEETINGS - ALL WELCOME!

Northwood PTA Meetings are held on **Thursdays** in the Media Center conference room at 9:00am on the following dates:

August 28, 2025

September 25, 2025

October 23, 2025

November 20, 2025

January 22, 2026

February 26, 2026

March 26, 2026

April 23, 2026

Everyone welcome to attend!



Join PTA for \$5!



Want to help show support for Northwood Middle

for just \$5? Join the PTA to help us keep a strong membership and have a successful school year!

Check out our website for more details: www.northwoodmiddleschoolpta.org



At Northwood, we pride ourselves in being an exceptional school! The personal appearance of every student is an important component of establishing a safe environment for optimal learning and respect for one another. The information provided below highlights some of the components of our dress code. **Please review the full dress code policy in the Northwood student agenda/handbook.**

Shirts:

- Tops must be solid white, navy, or black.
- Tops must have collars, buttons, and sleeves.
- Tops may have a small, appropriate logo over the pocket area only.

Pants, shorts, skirts:

- Bottoms must be solid khaki, navy, or black.
- Jeans and bottoms made to look like jeans are not permitted.
- Shorts and skirts must measure fingertip length when standing upright in a relaxed position.

Miscellaneous:

- All clothing must be free from holes, faux holes, patched holes, rips, etc.
- Appropriate shoes, sneakers, or sandals must be worn. Flip-flops, bedroom shoes, slides, or shower-type shoes are not permitted.
- Shoes and socks must not be distracting.
- Lightweight, non-hooded sweatshirts, sweaters, and jackets may be worn in the classroom, provided they are solid colored white, navy, or black and have a regulation shirt underneath them.

Students who come to school inappropriately dressed will be asked to call home to have an appropriate item brought to them. Students will then be instructed to wait in the in-school suspension room until a parent arrives.



ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER CHANGE

It is very important that the school has up-to-date contact information for each student. The school district requires two proofs of address (current utility bill or contract on a house or apartment) for an address change. To have your phone number changed in the computer, please contact our Registrar, Deborah Guion, at dguion@greenville.k12.sc.us or 864-355-7013. You can also update phone numbers on Parent Backpack.



TDAP VACCINE - 7TH GRADERS

South Carolina law requires that students entering the 7th grade receive a dose of Tdap vaccine. Students entering the 7th grade who have not received the vaccine will not be allowed to receive their class schedule or attend school until they have received the vaccine and provided proof to the school nurse. If you are unsure if your child has met this requirement, please contact our school nurse, Ms. Forrester, at (864) 355-7007.



STAY CONNECTED

Want to stay connected and get the latest information? Follow these simple steps to make sure you and your student don't miss out on important announcements.



Follow us on Instagram: northwoodmiddlepta





Follow us on Facebook: northwoodmiddlepta



Subscribe to the weekly newsletter with this QR code



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Visit <u>www.northwoodmiddleschoolpta.org</u> for more info



PARENT BACKPACK

Parent Backpack is an online program where you can view your child's grades, attendance, and discipline incidents. Visit the Parent Backpack portal to log into your existing parent backpack account. Instructions for creating, accessing, or linking to your student's account are available on the Northwood website under Parents/Parent Backpack. New parent accounts must be verified at the Northwood front office by showing a government-issued ID.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 6: 6th Grade Boot Camp

August 7: 7th & 8th Meet the Teacher

August 11: First Day of School **August 22:** Dress Down Day \$2

August 28: PTA Meeting

September 1: Labor Day - Student Holiday

September 12: Dress Down Day \$2

After School Social \$3

September 15-19: Fall Book Fair **September 25:** PTA Meeting

October 10: End 1st Quarter

Student Photo Day

October 13: Student Holiday

October 17: Dress Down Day \$2 October 20: 1st Report Card

October 23: PTA Meeting

November 7: Dress Down Day \$2 **November 10-14:** Christmas Knights

Collection/Penny Sabotage

November 14: Dress Down Day \$2

November 20: PTA Meeting

November 26-28: Thanksgiving Break

Each Sunday during the school year, the calendar is emailed out in our weekly E-blast. Make sure and sign up to receive the newsletter at www.northwoodmiddleschoolpta.org



Northwood Redesignated as a "School to Watch"

In February 2025, Northwood was redesignated as a School to Watch by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform. Our emphasis on strong academics, sensitivity to young adolescents' needs and interests, and commitment to providing all students equal access to a high-quality education resulted in this well-deserved recognition.





U.S. News & World Report Top 50 Ranking

In November 2024, U.S. News & World Report announced their 2025 Middle School rankings by publishing data on more than 80,000 public elementary and middle schools across the country. Schools were ranked at the state and district levels. Out of 591 middle schools in the state of South Carolina, Northwood Middle School holds the #33 SPOT IN THE STATE!





Per Greenville County School District, athletics are open to all 7th and 8th grade students. Northwood Middle offers the following:

- Volleyball (Fall)
- Girls & Boys Basketball (Winter)
- Girls & Boys Soccer (Spring)
- Baseball & Softball (Spring)

7th and 8th grade students interested in other sports may have the opportunity to participate at their feeder high schools.

STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP



No student may be dropped off at school before 7:30 AM, and all students need to be picked up by 4:00 PM after school.

For safety reasons, students should be dropped off and picked up at the front of the school. Do not pull into the parking lot to drop off or pick up students.

PTA REFLECTIONS PROGRAM

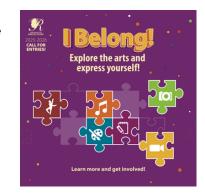
The National PTA's Reflections program provides opportunities for recognition and access to the arts which boost student confidence and success in the arts and in life.

Each year, over 300,000 students in Pre-K through Grade 12 create original works of art in response to a student-selected theme. This 50+ year old program helps them explore their own thoughts, feelings, and ideas, develop artistic literacy, increase confidence and find a love for learning that will help them become more successful in school and in life. The theme for the 2025-2026 program year is *I Belong!*

Students submit their completed works of art in one or all of the available arts categories:

- Dance Choreography
- Film Production
- Literature
- Music Composition
- Photography
- Visual Arts.

More details coming, but start thinking about your entries!



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL



The School Improvement Council (SIC) meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 12pm. SIC serves as the main advisory board to the principal. Any parent can serve. If you are interested, please email Donald Spann at dspann@gracechurchsc.org.



We asked some of our students, "Do you have any advice for a new student at Northwood?"

- Always have a pencil with you.
- The sporting events are really fun to watch.
- > Try out for sports even when you're scared.
- The cafeteria workers are really nice. Say please and thank you to them.
- Make a good impression on your teachers at the beginning of school.
- The socials after school are fun!
- Take care of your Chromebook.
- After I forgot my ID once, I kept it in my bookbag at night so I always had it with me.
- Sym clothes get stinky, take them home to
- > Always turn in your finished work so you have no
- Be sure to visit the library, they have an amazing selection of books.

BECOME A NORTHWOOD PTA SPONSOR



Thank you to our Platinum Sponsors for 2025-2026:



864-877-2929 johnstonorthodontics.com



(864) 718-5893 tuscanheightsapartmenthomes.com



The Northwood PTA is now accepting corporate sponsorships for the 2025-2026 school year.

Would you consider supporting us in this way?

Becoming a sponsor is a great way to get your company's name out to thousands while helping wonderful students and an amazing staff at the same time!

Please email:

northwoodmiddleschoolpta@gmail.com

if you would like to become a sponsor or need more information.

Thank you to our Gold Sponsors for 2025-2026:



Hudson Corners







NORTHWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL *** First Day of School: August 11, 2025 *** School begins at 8:25AM and ends at 3:15PM **Velcome Knights!







Stay connected and get the latest information! Follow these simple steps to make sure you and your student don't miss out on important announcements.



Visit www.northwoodmiddleschoolpta.org for more info



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