



September 2012 A Message to Our NWCP Family



Dear NWCP Family,

I am excited to open the 2012-2013 school year. This is the NWCP's 7th year since opening so we are still a relatively new school. With our growth, and as we prepare for our biggest 7th grade class yet, we have added new staff to support academics therefore we have many new faces.

As we embark on this new school year we are faced with significant challenges. The NYS English Language Arts and Mathematics scores for our 7th & 8th grades were reported in the local news using District averages. More specifically, NWCP had small gains in 8th grade with a significant drop in 7th grade in both areas. NWCP always steps up to the challenge and it is evident because by the time our students reach 12th grade, they are prepared for college and also by the fact that our 2012 projected graduation rate is approximately 75% which is significantly higher than the District average.

The NWCP staff has been working hard to support growth at our 7th & 8th grades while maintaining high expectations for all students. Prior to receiving the state scores and after reviewing this year's results, the team has already planned activities in four key areas:

Domain 1: Planning & Preparation - lesson & unit planning. Having a consistent approach to planning that is aligned to the Common Core State Standards and serves as a bridge to APPR (teacher/ principal evaluations) is a significant need.

How will this look different for parents and students?

Families will receive course expectations/syllabus from every teacher. Included in this important information will be details about units, grading expectations, methods of communications and key vocabulary for the year.

Domain 2: The Classroom Environment - creating a safe & positive learning environment for ALL students. Our plan includes continuing our implementation of SW-PBS (showing our Panther PRIDE) and also aligning expectations to the CCSS & APPR.

How will this look different for parents and students?

There will be more opportunities to focus on positive behaviors that will be embedded in direct instruction and included in communications home. Families will receive tips in areas of focus that could be extended into the home.

Domain 3: Instruction - develop a school-wide approach to delivering tier-2 vocabulary to ALL students. We will work to provide an intense focus on improving the rigor as it pertains to academic vocabulary.

How will this look different for parents and students?

There will be 3-4 key vocabulary words every week that the entire student body will focus on understanding and using in every class. Parents will be made aware of the terms, so that learning may extend home.

Domain 4: Professional Responsibilities – engage parents as partners. We will kick off a school-wide implementation to improve relationships with all stakeholders.

How will this look different for parents and students?

Communication with families is being considered as a school wide effort, parents will receive more detailed communication from every teacher as well as “Connect Ed” calls.

We have a hard working team and excellent plans to carry us into 2013. We are working hard to make sure our team includes all stakeholders. I believe we have the right people to move our school forward.

Sincerely,

Toyia Wilson
Principal

Important Upcoming Dates

Date	Event	Target Audience	Time
Sat., August 25 th	Senior Breakfast	Class of 2013 and families	10-12:00
Tues., August 28 th	New Student Orientation	New students and families, returning students are welcome	5:30- 7:30
		First varsity football game @ Franklin	
Wed., September 5 th	School Opens	Welcome all NW students	7:50- 8:20 breakfast School 8:30- 2:15
Thurs., September 13 th	Curriculum Night/Open House	All NW students and families	5:30- 7:00
Thurs., October 11 th	Parent/ Teacher Conferences	All NW students and families	5:30- 7:00
Wed., October 17 th	First Marking Period ends	It would be important to join us for the conferences on the 11 th for any last minute feedback.	
Wed., October 17 th	PSAT	All 9-11 th grade students will test, regular day for 7 th & 8 th	8:30- 2:15
Fri., October 26 th tentative	SUNY college visit	Grades 9-12 invited	TBD
Mon., October 29 th	<h1>Report Cards mailed this week</h1>		