



196 Main Street, New Paltz, New York 12561 • Phone: (845)256-4100 • Fax: (845)256-4109 • www.newpaltz.k12.ny.us

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Dr. Mario Fernández  
*Principal*

Dr. Michael Teator  
*Assistant Principal*

September 8, 2020

Dear Families:

On behalf of the staff at New Paltz High School, I want to welcome everyone to the 2020-2021 school year. As we begin the school year with remote learning, I truly believe that we can accomplish most anything if we stick together. We are committed to keeping all stakeholders healthy and safe while we move through this first of a kind experience.

As we move through this process, I will continue to provide updates through School Messenger as information becomes available. I will identify these emails with “NPHS” in the subject line.

We are excited to welcome four new staff members to our school. Valerie Hughes and Fionna McKenna have joined our English Department. Matthew Esposito will be working with Biology and Forensic Science students in our Science Department. John McNally will be working with Global 9 students.

### **First Day of School**

We will begin our school year in a remote setting starting on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. Students will be notified by their teachers via Google Classroom of upcoming asynchronous and synchronous events. For attendance purposes, students should log into their Google Classrooms and fill out a brief Google Form indicating their attendance. **We ask that students check-in on asynchronous days (Tuesday, Thursdays, Fridays) by 2 PM.** If a live meeting is scheduled for Friday, teachers will take attendance during the session. Students attending BOCES will also begin their remote learning on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **Google Classroom**

All students at NPHS will be using Google Classroom as their main remote learning platform. If your student has not received login information or is not able to login in, please complete click on the Remote Learning Technology Support link located in the center of the NPCSD home page.

### **Fully Remote Learning Schedule**

Students are required to attend all scheduled classes with the exception of lunch and study halls. A schedule is provided on the high school website along with the information sent on September 4<sup>th</sup>.

**“New Paltz High School...caring, connecting, and making a difference.”**

*New Paltz Central High School Mission Statement:*

*“To become a community of learners that emphasizes mutual respect and responsibility in which everyone realizes their potential.”*



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### **Accessing Classes Online**

Google Classroom will be the primary communication tool used for assignments, announcements, and class information. After class rosters have been finalized, teachers will begin adding students to their Google Classrooms. Students will receive notifications through their school email account. **Students and their families should be checking their school email accounts, Google Classroom and the school website.**

### **BOCES Career and Technical Education (CTE) Students**

BOCES programming will begin the school year fully remote. Students will be receiving additional information about accessing BOCES programming. On Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, all first year BOCES CTE students will attend BOCES in person for orientation. All other students will remain on remote instruction. On Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, all BOCES students will begin attending the Career and Technical Center in person every Tuesday. Transportation will be made available to students.

### **Free and Reduced Lunch Application**

To apply for meal benefits an application must be completed for the 2020-21 school year; only one application is needed per household. If you need further assistance or have additional questions regarding the application process, please call (845) 256-4050 or visit our district website for the application.

### **Grading**

Assessment is a vital piece of information as students progress through their learning. The district is working on a grading policy. Please contact your student's teacher directly if you wish to receive notifications of assignments and/or your student's progress.

### **Student Workload**

Classroom assignments will be given in accordance with NYS guidelines to meet the instructional goals of the course, with considerations given for individual needs. Modifications will be made for students with IEP and 504 plans as needed. As per NYSED guidance, students in grades 9 - 12 shall receive approximately 180 minutes per week of instructional experiences for each course in which they are enrolled.

### **Social-Emotional Support:**

When school starts on September 8th, **teachers and staff will be focused on building community and relationships in our all of our classes.** Additional information about all social-emotional support is available on our district website at [Student Support Services](#).

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Please make sure that our main office has your updated email address(es) and phone numbers on file. Email and phone contact are our main methods of contact with parents during remote learning. Attached to this message is an updated list of NPHS' administration and support staff contact information. Please reach out to them if there is anything you need.

Should you have any questions, please contact me through the NPHS main office - 845-256-4401 or via email at [mfernandez@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:mfernandez@newpaltz.k12.ny.us).

Sincerely,

Mario Fernandez  
Proud Principal of New Paltz High School

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## HIGH SCHOOL RESOURCE PERSONNEL

Please do not hesitate to be in touch with any of us if we can support you and your family in any way:

Principal: Mario Fernández (845) 256-4100 [mfernandez@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:mfernandez@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)

Assistant Principal: Michael Teator (845) 256-4100 [mteator@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:mteator@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)  
(DASA Coordinator)

Coordinator of Student Support Services: Alexandra MacKinnon, grades 6 - 12,  
(504, Behavioral Support) 845-256-4100 [amackinnon@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:amackinnon@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)

Director of Physical Education, Health and Athletics: Greg Warren (845) 256-4100  
[gwarren@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:gwarren@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)

School Social Worker: Lisa Watkins (845) 256-4161 [lwatkins@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:lwatkins@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)  
(Social/emotional and mental health support as well as links to community resources)

School Psychologist: Mary Kay Fiore (845) 256-4126 [mfiore@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:mfiore@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)  
(psychological testing, anxiety groups, social skills groups, support groups)

School Nurse: Sandy Hekking (845) 256-4110 [shekking@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:shekking@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)  
(Medical/health support)

Director of Technology: Keith Baisley [kbaisley@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:kbaisley@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)  
(Assistance with technology and devices)

Director of Food Service: Joseph Papp [jpapp@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:jpapp@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)  
(Assistance with food issues)

Director of Transportation: Maureen Ryan (845) 256-4070 [mryan@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:mryan@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)  
(Issues related to transportation to and from school)

Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Education: Janety Encarnacion (845) 256-4040  
[jencarnacion@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:jencarnacion@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)

Coordinator of Special Education 6-12: Kathleen Coughlin [kcoughlin@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:kcoughlin@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)  
(Issues related to special education services) (845) 256-4047

**ADDITIONAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AT THE HIGH SCHOOL:**

Counselors: Student Support Services (945) 256-4120, 4121

Jessica Bradley, [jbradley@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:jbradley@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)

Stephanie Popper, [spopper@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:spopper@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)

Ben Shuchat, [bshuchat@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:bshuchat@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)

Speech and Language : Amy Jett [ajett@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:ajett@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)

English Language Learners: Shawn Doyle [sdoyle@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:sdoyle@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)

Hearing Impaired: Justin Finnegan [jfinnegan@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:jfinnegan@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)

Physical Therapy: Ann Gregory [agregory@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:agregory@newpaltz.k12.ny.us)