

N P H S F R I D A Y M E S S A G E

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR FAMILIES

February 7, 2025



CONTENT

A Message from Principal Simms

Important Dates

Around NPHS

Happy Friday NPHS Families,

We are thrilled to share that today's Know Your Rights forum was a great success! A special thank you to Mr. Castro for being an incredible voice and advocate, as well as a masterful coordinator of such an important event. We also want to express our gratitude to the student leaders of the Hispanic Heritage Club for their dedication and support in making this forum happen. Thank you to all invited speakers and guests: Chief Matthew Sutton from the New Paltz Police Department, Jo Salas from Ulster Immigration Defense Network, Sharai Martinez, New Paltz High School Class of 2020, Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from University of Hartford. Currently at University of Albany in the Master's program of Government Affairs and Advocacy.

A heartfelt thank you to our PTSA for generously providing refreshments for the event, helping to make it even more welcoming for all involved.

We stand committed to our students and their protections, and this event is just one example of that dedication.

Warmly,

Principal Simms



Important Dates

February 7- Report Card Distribution

February 17- Holiday-Presidents Day

February 20- Dodgeball Tournament 6:00 pm

February 25- School Bookings link open for Parent Teacher Conference sign ups

February 27- National Honor Society Induction

Around NPHS

POSITIVE VIBES

NEV WIGHTMAN
SEAN RUSNACK
ESME KEON
ALEN RAGMAC
ALASDAIR YOUNG
ROWAN CALARDO
DOMINICK MESSINA
ANDREW LAI
MEHNAZ AKTHER
ALILYN PAGLIUCA
MATEI JIRKA
LIAM FULLER



ENGLISH

Ms. Hayden's Creative Writing classes celebrated the end of their semester together by creating a class anthology. Each student finalized a piece to be published and then read them aloud on the last day of class. It was a wonderful bonding experience!

Notably, Senior Nina Rogers was recently awarded an Honorable Mention for the 2025 Hudson-to-Housatonic Scholastic Awards for her college essay, "Learning to Love El Sol."



SCIENCE

To celebrate the end of the semester, Students in Forensic Science brought in Forensics themed baked goods! -Mr. Esposito



BUSINESS



In Business class news, 13 students in Entrepreneurship class earned 3 college credits through the SUNY Ulster Collegian Program.

As a reminder, the Collegian Program allows students to earn college credits towards an Associate and/or Bachelor degree. In addition, the discounted tuition provides parents with sizable savings to offset their student's remaining college expenses. -Mr. Bell

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

The New Paltz Science Olympiad team placed 9th place overall in the Mid Hudson Valley Region. We earned a total of 10 medals between both teams. Special shout out to students: Charlie DePaola, Clio Miller, Camille Sahulka, Joe Birnbaum, Mary McIntyre, Lalita Ma, Lukas Kallio, and Andres Galvan for earning their medals. Also thanks to all the teachers and administration for supporting us and lending us materials to compete for the Science Olympiad. Next year we will work harder and try to make it to the State competition! - Mr. Gomez



MUSIC

NPHS Band students participated in Woodwind Day at Mount Academy on Wednesday evening. Hosted by the Mount in collaboration with the musicians of the Woodstock Symphony Orchestra, the students participated in clinics for their instrument and enjoyed dinner and a concert before combining for a finale performance with special guest conductor Mr. Newsome from NPHS.

NPHS student Josh Cotter was selected to try out the lowest instrument in the clarinet family, the BBb Contrabass Clarinet, which plays notes in the tuba range!
-Mr. Newsome



Mount Academy in partnership with the Woodstock Symphony Orchestra

MUSIC

A group of student volunteers from the NPHS Band's Drumline performed at the start of the Harlem Wizards game on Thursday, in support of the Middle School PTA. Way to go, and thank you to:

Jimin Son, Landon Fracasse, Sonia Levy, Mason Shand, Josie Shanley, Ben Lipson, and Joaquin Cohn! -Mr. Newsome



MATHLETES

Our math teams did another terrific job at our recent DUSO math meet. For the first time this year, our B team took 1st place overall with our A team in a solid 2nd place. Congratulations to all our Mathletes! -Ms. Stewart



ATHLETICS

Boys Indoor Track

- Michael Ayala
- Landon Fracasse
- Michael Kosgei
- Sean Marz
- Kian Walsh

Girls Indoor Track

- Ady Laurie
- Mariah Odari
- Rhiana Thomas
- Kammora Wheeler

Boys Nordic Ski

- Sam Hollman

Girls Nordic Ski

- Roxy DeNey-Bhagat

Senior Recognition



EMPIRE STATE WINTER OLYMPICS

Congratulations to Matei Jirka and Elon Rosenthal. They both participated in the Empire State Winter Olympics in Lake Placid this past weekend. Elon raced in the downhill events and Matei raced in a Nordic Skate race Saturday and a Classic race Sunday. He earned a bronze medal in the Classic race. Congratulations, and check out their cool jackets. -Coach Gregory



BASKETBALL

Russell Patterson grabbed an astounding 29 rebounds in this week's 65-35 win against Red Hook. This is the 3rd highest rebounds in a single game in New York State! Way to go Russell!



IMPORTANT INFO

Coaching Vacancies

<https://www.newpaltz.k12.ny.us/Page/46>

Modified Boys Track & Field
Modified Girls Track & Field
Varsity Boys Tennis
Modified Boys Tennis
Modified A Girls Lacrosse
Modified Softball



Please contact Greg Warren, Director of Health, Physical Education, & Athletics:
gwarren@newpaltz.k12.ny.us or 845-256-4151



The NPCSD Foundation for Student Enhancement
is proud to announce:

Student Microgrants!

Info:

Request up to \$200 towards research projects
Spring Application Deadline: February 28, 2025

Eligibility:

New Paltz High School student (9–12 grade)
Requires a teacher supervisor
One application per year per student

Great resource for:

Research-related purchases (equipment, supplies, etc.)
Research-related travel (conference fees, transportation, etc.)
Independent study projects
Senior projects

TO APPLY:

npschoolfoundation.org/studentmicrogrants
Questions? info@npschoolfoundation.org

Yearbook!!!

You can now order your 2025 Yearbook directly on the New Paltz High School Homepage!!
Click the direct link under announcements!

The yearbook website is also updated and active.... You can find it in the "Clubs" tab on the High School Homepage!!
Please check often for submission deadlines and information!!

Thank you!
Ms. McKenna & Ms. Hewitt

PARENT CORNER

There has been a lot of talk around cellphone use in schools. The Screenagers platform offers many resources on the topic. Here is a link with helpful information on the topic:

<https://www.screenagersmovie.com/resources/school-cell-policies>

-Ms. Schneck-Suma

Don't let the magic run out

Once upon a time
@ NPHS

Order your Yearbook
TODAY!!!!!!

bit.ly/NPHS2025YearbookOrderHere

Questions? Contact:
fmckenna@newpaltz.k12.ny.us
thewitt@newpaltz.k12.ny.us