



# Nordia Knightlines

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 2

OCTOBER 2010

## Superintendent

J. Wayne Blankenship

330-467-0586

## Treasurer

Kevin Staller

330-467-0589

## Assistant Superintendent

Joe Clark

330-467-0587

## Director of Business

Tom Hartman

330-908-6207

## Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Irene Beville

330-908-6209

## Director of Pupil Services

Margo Gibson-Costello

330-908-6220

## Director of Technology

Doug Jones

330-908-6212

## Public Information Officer

Patti Koslo

330-468-1134

## Principal

Casey Wright

330-908-6012

## Associate Principal

Kevin Tanner

330-468-4602

## Associate Principal

David Broman

330-468-4601

## Guidance Department

330-468-4603

## Athletic Director

Rob Eckenrode

330-908-6000

## Attendance Number

330-908-6160

## Make a Difference Day Lives Up to Its Name

The Nordonia Hills City School District participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Make a Difference Day on October 23, 2010, at Nordonia High School.

Make a Difference Day is a national day of volunteering and performing community service. With the support of Nordonia students, staff, National Honor Society, Student Council, Leadership, Teen Institute PTSA, Boy Scouts, the Emergency Assistance Center and parent volunteers the day was successful.

We presented donations of non-perishable food items to the Emergency Assistance Center, and we will also forward a donation of funds raised from a Bake Sale and Chinese Raffle to the Center at a later time. We will send a total of 26 care packages to military personnel serving overseas, along with 20 care packages to soldiers serving stateside.

Many people in this community have benefited from the day's events. All those who participated should be commended for their efforts.

## Lancer Band Continues Successful Season

On Saturday, November 6, 2010, the Lancer Band will travel to Dublin, Ohio to compete in the State Marching Band Finals. The finest marching bands in the state of Ohio are invited to the contest. Our students were asked to participate after earning superior ratings at regional events. If you can travel south to greater Columbus to enjoy a great day of music, we'd love to see you there!

Throughout the year, the band conducts fundraisers to offset the costs of uniforms, equipment, and travel. This month, we've got two great opportunities to support the band -- and to treat yourselves!

First is our annual Florida Citrus sale. As the days turn cooler, bring a little taste of Florida Sunshine to your door with fruit direct from Indian River Growers. Online ordering is available at [www.fruitorder.com](http://www.fruitorder.com). Use the ordering ID number 133216. You can also contact Brian Hedman at 330-468-6931 or [nordoniabandaides@hotmail.com](mailto:nordoniabandaides@hotmail.com).

Second, we have pies! We're partnering with Rushwood Elementary for a Market Day pie sale. Just in time for the holidays, you can order these delicious, wonderful, tasty, and easy pies. You can keep them in your freezer until you need them and won't mess up your kitchen putting them together. Order now for delivery on November 11, 2011. See any band member to place your order or contact Shelly Brookover at 330-468-0323.

We have had a great marching season, and we hope to see you at other band events throughout the year. In the next issue, we'll feature news about our other bands: concert, wind ensemble, jazz ensemble, and pep band.

On behalf of the entire band, thank you for your support!

## English Department Updates

The English Department has been continuing to develop and analyze our common assessments. Each core course has a curriculum map in place. Each core course is continually evaluating these maps based on our data collection and analysis. We have begun to develop new curriculum maps for our elective courses as well.

The department has also started the process to finalize our Summer Reading program for the 2011-2012 school year. After analyzing our data from student responses, assessments, and classroom discussions, each core course has evaluated the appropriate titles and assessments.

The English teachers continue to work with our Reading Intervention Specialist, Kim Hauge, to implement appropriate reading strategies for our 'typical' students and our below grade level students.

## Nordonia Hills Goes Green

---

### **New Procedure for Distribution of Flyers from Outside Organizations**

We continue to evaluate and implement procedures that support the on-going district-wide initiative to “Go Green.” New this school year, parents and students can find information about programs, events, clubs, and activities by clicking on the “Community Events” link, located on the home page. You can also get to it by clicking on the “Parents and Students” drop down link at the top of the page, then clicking on “District News.” The “Events and Activities” link is the top link.

If you have information that your organization would like listed on the Web site, please forward your flyer in a PDF format to [Koslo@nordoniaschools.org](mailto:Koslo@nordoniaschools.org). Please include the official name of the organization, address, and contact phone number. Flyer submissions must be requested at least five days before approval is needed or granted and posting can occur.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel to e-mail or call Patti Koslo at 330-468-1134 or [patti.koslo@nordoniaschools.org](mailto:patti.koslo@nordoniaschools.org).

### **What Other Green-friendly Processes Are in Place?**

You may be wondering where all the District newsletters went. The answer is we are not printing as many newsletters as we did in the past. You may be asking why. The answer is simple: To reduce costs and to become a more green-friendly school district.

So how will the school community find out what is happening in the schools?

We encourage you to use the Nordonia Hills City School District Web site. Each school building is posting building newsletters on their individual pages, and new information is continuously being posted on the site. Sign up to receive news from the schools by clicking on “E-communications Sign Up” link on the home page at [nordoniaschools.org](http://nordoniaschools.org).

---

---

## Delayed Start Information

---

The Nordonia Hills City School is continuously evaluating all aspects of the school organization, striving for continued excellence, and being prudent and fiscally responsible. For the 2010-11 school year the decision was made to establish four planned delayed start days on November 12, 2010, February 22, 2011, March 21, 2011, and May 19, 2011.

On these late start days school will start exactly two hours later—teachers and staff will use this time for professional development.

Your child’s transportation will be altered on these delayed start days. You should expect your child’s bus will run two hours behind the regularly scheduled pick up time. For example, if your child is normally picked up at 8:00 a.m., under the two-hour delayed start your child’s bus pick up time will be 10:00 a.m. No changes will be made to lunch periods; all lunches will be served at their regular times.

If you have any questions or concerns on these late start days, please check with your student's building principal or contact the Board of Education at 330-467-0580.

---

---

## Physical Education Classes Challenging Students

---

Nordonia High School’s physical education classes started out the first couple months of school with the wonderful opportunity of using the new outdoor facility. PE classes competed in a flag football unit and also enjoyed “Track Thursdays,” where students were required to complete one mile on the track at their own pace. They were then given a choice of various activities, including football, soccer, frisbee, and walking the track.

Once the weather changed, PE classes moved indoors to participate in various games such as matball, basketball, fast football, eclipse baseball, colony ball, and mat ball.

PE students recently finished a volleyball unit, which culminated in a double-elimination tournament where a championship team was named for every class. Currently, freshmen are participating in floor hockey and sophomores are participating in badminton. After a couple weeks, they will switch activities.

PE classes who work hard and participate with a positive attitude throughout the week are rewarded with their favorite activity of Point Break on Fridays, which is a great way to end the week.

## Parent Mentor Program Ready to Help

---

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) funds Ohio Parent Mentor projects through grants.

A Parent Mentor is the parent of a child with a disability employed to help school districts and families by providing training, support, and information services. Kitty Boylan is the parent mentor for the Nordonia School District. You can reach the parent mentor office by phone at 330-908-6219 or email at [parent.mentors@nordoniaschools.org](mailto:parent.mentors@nordoniaschools.org).

Some services provided by the parent mentor include guiding parents through the special education process including rights and responsibilities, listening and providing support to families and staff, providing information and resources, attending IEP and other meetings when requested and conducting information sessions and workshops. Parents of typical students are welcome to contact the parent mentor office with questions or concerns.

The parent mentor project also provides a resource library for parents and staff. There is a collection of books in each building office that are waiting to be borrowed. For a complete book list, contact the parent mentor office or visit the parent mentor page on the district Web site under "Pupil Services."

---

## PTSA Updates

---

### Staff Member of the Month

Have you cast your vote for N.H.S. Staff Member of the Month? Anyone can vote--parents, teachers, students, N.H.S. employees--and it just takes a minute. Each month, one N.H.S. staff member will win a VIP oil change and car wash, courtesy of Spitzer Chevrolet. This person's car will be picked up from the high school at the beginning of the school day and will be returned at the end of the day sparkly clean and with a fresh oil change. Isn't that awesome? But we need your vote! It just takes a minute...visit the PTSA Web site (there's a link on the high school homepage) to cast your vote!

### PTSA Meetings

The winner of the Spitzer VIP Package was chosen at the PTSA meeting on Wednesday, November 3. Everyone is welcome! If you can not be there but have something you would like the PTSA to consider, address, or discuss, contact Mark Kotnik, PTSA president at [mekotnik@yahoo.com](mailto:mekotnik@yahoo.com).

### N.H.S. Juried Fine Art Show Coming November 20, 2010

Artists from the high school and the surrounding community are invited to participate in the PTSA's Juried Fine Art Show. If you make it, you can sell it! There are a limited number of tables available on a first-come, first-serve basis, so get your registration forms in today. Questions? Contact Melanie Smith at [melaniesmith@roadrunner.com](mailto:melaniesmith@roadrunner.com) or at 330-571-2874. Download the registration form from the PTSA's Web site (there's a link on the high school's home page) or by visiting: <http://teacherweb.com/OH/NordoniaHighSchool/PTA/CALL-FOR-ARTISTS.pdf>

### Membership

It is not too late to become a member of the PTSA! Your \$5 membership supports PTSA programs both here at the high school, in the state of Ohio, and nationwide. Becoming a member will help you stay in touch and informed. It just takes a minute, but it is a big way you can help support our kids! Membership forms are available on our Web site, or by contacting Melanie Smith at [melaniesmith@roadrunner.com](mailto:melaniesmith@roadrunner.com) or at 330-571-2874.

Thank you!

The Nordonia High School PTSA

---

## EZPay Up and Running

---

We are pleased to announce you can now pay for your student's school fees, fines and sports participation fees online using a new system called EZPay. The link is: <http://www.spseipaynordonia.com/>.

This is a free service that enables you to pay fees for all of your students at the same time using your credit or debit card instead of writing multiple checks for students attending different schools in the district. This new payment system cannot be used for prepayments to your student's meal account. Continue to use the "myschoolaccount" Web site for lunch payments.

## School Fees

---

Fee payments were accepted beginning in August 2010. Fees may be paid in one of the following methods:

- EZ Pay through the Nordonía High School Web page link: [www.spsezpay.com](http://www.spsezpay.com)
- Mail to the building
- Drop off at building

*Students who are approved for free lunches as defined by Federal guidelines will have all fees waived. Students who are approved for reduced lunches as defined by Federal guidelines will pay 50% of the fee charges.*

Student Fees Waiver Forms are available in building main offices and on the NHS Web site under “Forms.” Waivers will be approved for the following:

- Qualification of free lunch program (attach letter from Food Services).
- Welfare case load number (must show proof).
- AFDC number (must show proof).
- Income verification meeting government guidelines (must show proof).

If paying by check(s), make payable to: Nordonía Hills City Schools. Please include one check per student.



Nordonía Recycling bags are available in the Main Office. The sale of the large totes helps to defray the cost of shipping Military Care Packages, a Make a Difference Day Project. For more information, call 330-908-6036. Each costs \$3.00.

## Senior Class News

---

We are one quarter through this senior year. Your encouragement of your sons and daughters to keep on task as they complete the many things seniors need to do is so important. Be sure that you are checking Progress Book and helping them stay on task academically. We include important information in the senior newsletter that is distributed monthly to all seniors; there is important information that you may like to see. It is also posted on our guidance Web site.

College applications are coming in very fast now. Remember to allow seven days for us to process your applications. Parent “Brag Sheets” and Student Self-Assessments are very helpful to me when I am writing recommendations. Thanks so much to all of you who have completed those. It is a favorite part of my day when I take a look through your eyes at how your sons and daughters have changed during the four years of high school. This is an amazing group of seniors. They are really quite accomplished in many ways both inside and outside of Nordonía High School. You can be truly proud.

Included in this newsletter is a copy of the Military Opt-Out form. If you do not want your personal contact information to be included on lists that are given to military branches, please complete this form and return it to the Guidance Office as soon as possible.

If I can be of help, please call me.

Maryellen Feeman  
Counselor, Class of 2011

**MILITARY RELEASE OPT-OUT FORM**

**Release of name, address and telephone number (GRADES 11 OR 12 ONLY)**

Nordonia High School

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade 11 or 12 **(please circle grade)**

As a student, you have the right to request that your private information is not released to military recruiters and others. Complete this OPT-Out Form and return to the guidance office.

\_\_\_\_\_ I request that this student’s name, address, and telephone number **not be released** to the Armed Forces, Military Recruiters, or Military Schools.

Signature of Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

OR

\_\_\_\_\_ I am 18 years old and request my own name, address, telephone number and school records **not be released** to the Armed Forces, Military Recruiters, or Military Schools.

Signature of Student \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Federal public law 107-110, section 9528 of the ESEA, “No Child Left Behind Act” requires school districts to release student names, addresses and phone numbers to military recruiters upon their request. Students are then called at home by recruiters. The law also requires the school district to notify you of your right to Opt-Out from this by requesting the school district not release your information to military recruiters. The completion of this form serves as your request to withhold your private information.**

Requests for addresses are for students in grades 11 and 12 .