



NEXTECH NEWS

THE NEXTECH HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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IN THIS ISSUE

SCIENCE
MODIFICATIONS

COUNSELING
NOTES

NEW PROGRAMS

IMPORTANT
DATES

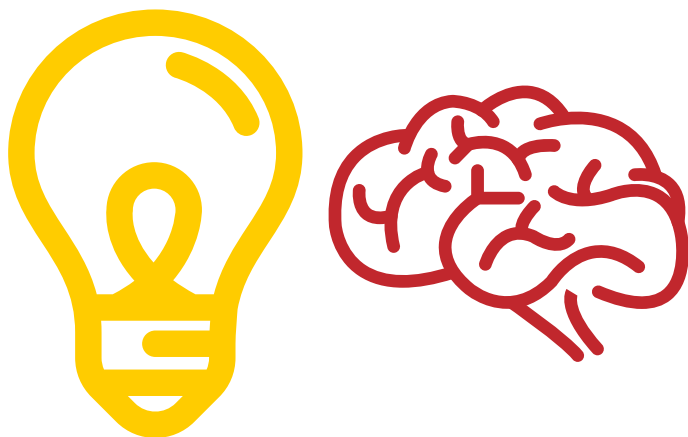
Welcome to the 2018-19 school year! We are very excited that you have chosen NexTech High School for your education. Our program is continuing to evolve with our students every year, and we look forward to working with you and your family to reach new heights this year.

Each month we will send home this newsletter filled with a look back at the previous month, and a look at what is coming next. This month we hope you get a feel for what programs are going to take place this year, and start to get a better understanding of what it means to be a part of the NexTech family.

If there are any questions please don't hesitate to contact the school at 616-458-4992. Best of luck in the coming school year!



SCIENCE CLASSROOM



English mathematician Isaac Newton once said, "No great discovery was ever made without a bold guess."

New school year, new Science gear! Pictured is just some of the equipment with which our new Science classroom is outfitted.



Lab in Science class is much more than learning skills performed in a professional laboratory. These in-class opportunities allow students to see concepts manifested through engaging activities and experiments. In these moments, students create an experience off which they can build new knowledge and simultaneously develop thinking skills that they can carry with them in all areas of life.

COUNSELOR CORNER



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Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year students and families! I'm so excited to work with all of you this year to achieve all of your personal and academic goals. Every so often, I get asked the question: "What does a school counselor do?" Well, the short answer is , a lot! But mainly, my focus is to help our students academically, personally, and to prepare them for college and the workforce. Shared here is the mission of the counseling office here at NexTech.

Our mission: The goal of the NexTech Grand Rapids counseling department is to provide a comprehensive counseling program for our students and is designed to help all students develop and enhance their academic, social, career, and personal strengths in order to become responsible and productive citizens in a global and ever-changing society.

Upcoming Events

September 5: 9th Grade
Parent Night @ 6pm

September 13: GRCC
Admissions Counselor will
visit NexTech

September 18: Financial Aid
& FAFSA Information night @
6pm





BUZZ

Students will have the opportunity to get acquainted with our new learning platform through our on-boarding the first week of school. It is essential that they understand the system as they will be working through this for all of their courses this year. Students will have access to grade books, planners for due dates, and content 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We are very excited to have this blended option available.

*Parents will also be able to interact with the system, through a parent portal account. On **September 5** from 5-7 we will be having a Curriculum Night in order for parents to learn how to operate the system, along with some best practices for working at NexTech. Please set this date on the calendar, and we hope to see you there!*

OK2SAY

OK2SAY is a student safety program which allows students to confidentially report tips on potential harm or criminal activities directed at school students, school employees, and schools. It uses a comprehensive communication system to facilitate tip sharing among students, parents, school personnel, community mental health service programs, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, and law enforcement officials about harmful behaviors that threaten to disrupt the learning environment.

Students can access this program through a downloadable app, web address, text, or phone. NexTech is partnering with OK2SAy in order to help support students in different ways. We will be having a kick off program Aug 29th for students to learn more.

ATTENDANCE

Our program is designed for flexibility, but that means that in order to stay fully engaged students must be here on their scheduled days. Every student is assigned into either an AM/PM session, and is expected to attend every class period. Students need to work ahead and inform their mentor, along with the school administration when there are situations that may lead to outside absences from campuses.

Please call 616-458-4992 in order to reach our attendance line for daily absences. Kent county defines a chronic truant student as one that has more than 10 absences in a school year. As we look to engage with families more, please keep this in mind, and push the power of punctuality and attendance.

Grand Rapids Mini Maker Faire®

We try to get out in the community to represent the school for a number of different causes, and the first one to start the school year is held at the Grand Rapids Public Museum. We will have a table at the Mini-Maker Faire this year, and in doing so hope to represent some of the items that brought you and your family to our program. The Maker Faire is a great place to get to explore some of the newer trends in technology, along with some niche ones as well. In the past there has been 3d printing, new tech toys, woodworking, electric bikes, and tons of other things. We would encourage you to come out and get some ideas for things your students may want to explore building through this year. The Maker faire runs from 10-5 on both Saturday and Sunday August 18th and 19th.



Another fun event we like to support is the Grand Rapids Comic-Con. We often see a lot of our students exploring the halls of the Devos Place during the weekend. If you have never gotten out to see the costumes, art work, or just the overall experience, we recommend you make the time. There is an ever-changing lineup of celebrities, along with vehicles or other movie memorabilia. In the past we have also looked for students to come and support our booth, either for service hours, or just for a free admission into the event! If you think you would like to help out for this please let us know. The dates for Comic-Con are Nov 9-11.



IMPORTANT DATES

Trimester 1

First Day of School
Aug 21, 2018

No School
Aug 24, 2018

Labor Day Break-No
School
Aug 31/ Sept 3, 2018

Curriculum Night
Sept 5, 2018

Parent Conferences
Oct 1, 2018

End of Trimester 1
Nov 9, 2018

Trimester 2

Semester 2 Starts
Nov 12

Staff Development-
Student WAH Days
Nov 19/ 20, 2018

Thanksgiving Break-
No School
Nov 21/ 22/ 23, 2018

Winter Break
Dec 22, 2018-Jan 7,
2019

Parent Conferences
Jan 14, 2019

No School for
Staff/Students/
End of Trimester 2
Feb 22, 2019

Trimester 3

Parent Conferences
Mar 25, 2019

Spring Break-No
School
March 29-Apr 5, 2019

State Testing Week
Apr 9- 11, 2019

Memorial Day-No
School
May 27, 2019

Last Student Day
May 31, 2019



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