



NEXTECH NEWS

THE NEXTECH HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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A Winter Wonderland

Here we are, the final trimester of the year! This has been one of the strangest years weather-wise that I have ever been a part of, and we are not finished yet! Up to this point, we have had 9 snow days for the year, six more days that we had called off from the year before. As I had mentioned previously we applied for a waiver from the state superintendent for three days to be waived, and I am glad to say that they were approved. There also is currently discussion to have another 4 days waived through a similar process for the dates that were listed as "State Emergency Days". I would

expect that when that process is completed we would be just fine in regards to having our calendar meet the requirements by the state, and we should not need to extend our school year. I will make an official announcement closer to Spring Break. Keep in mind that students ultimately control their destiny in our program, and if they choose to they can always work ahead and close classes earlier than the official end of the year, just be sure to keep mentor teachers aware of student plans. Keep reading for more updates during this trimester, and stay warm for the next few weeks!

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Parent Conferences for the Third Trimester will be held on Monday, March 25th from 8am-7pm. These are set up by your student's mentor teacher and you will receive a link via email to sign up for a conference time.

Our goal is to have 100% of our families attend conferences, whether it is in person, over the phone, or through email. We believe your student is most successful when we are all a part of your child's education. Please email, call, or come by on Monday.



State testing is coming up the week we return from Spring Break. The testing schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, April 9 - SAT - 11th grade; PSAT 9 - 9th grade

Wednesday, April 10 - WorkKeys - 11th grade; PSAT 10 - 10th grade

Thursday, April 11 - M-STEP - 11th grade

Students do not attend school on days they are not scheduled for testing

They are expected to be working on assignments on days they are off campus

If your student does not attend on their respective testing day, they will have to make it up. Due to the importance of these tests participation is mandatory for all enrolled NexTech students as per the school board and the handbook.

Can you please talk about the importance of everyone showing up, and doing your best, for testing? THANK YOU!

COUNSELING CORNER



Graduation Information

Graduation is **May 22, 2019** at **6:30pm**. The commencement ceremony will be held at St. Cecilia Music Center, located in downtown Grand Rapids. Families can order a cap & gown through www.jostens.com. The cost for a basic package is \$50 plus shipping. The **deadline** to order is **March 25**. If purchasing a cap & gown is a financial hardship, please contact Kristin Kuczera or Dan McMinn.

There is a **MANDATORY** graduation practice on **May 22**, from **9:30-10:30am**. If your student does not show up to practice, they are **NOT** allowed to participate. More detailed information will be sent to families as we get closer to the event.

Free Money for College

If your student is TIP-eligible for the 2019-20 school year, there is still time to apply! Parents of TIP-eligible students received an email from Ms. Kuczera in mid-February so please check your email if you have any questions about this.



Seniors!

if you have been accepted to college, please share a copy of your acceptance letter and/or scholarship awards with Ms. Kuczera.

If you can send in a Senior Picture for use in Graduation, along with a baby picture (or something similar) as soon as possible that would be great!



KentCareer
TechCenter

KCTC is still accepting program visits but only for the next couple weeks. If your student is considering a program at KCTC, please have them talk to Ms. Kuczera. Attending KCTC is a great way to earn high school credit, job skills, and potential college credit.

It's a Spring Thing

PROM FUNDRAISER NIGHT

Join us for a fun-filled night for the whole family! We are hoping to celebrate Spring, and finally getting rid of the snow with a few different Spring themed activities.

Date: Friday, March 22nd

Time: 6:30pm-8pm

Location: NexTech High School

Cost: \$20 per Canvas Painter/ Basket
Other items for younger participants as well



(Samples of baskets for class)

Refreshments will be provided and you get to take home what you've created. Canvas painters will be lead through the process by our guest instructor, Amy Knuver. Basket making will be led by Kathy McMinn from "The Basket Sampler" in Milford, MI. Please make sure to sign up prior as spaces in each class is limited.



Be on the look-out for the flyer coming home in about a week

Shadow Days

Throughout the third trimester, we schedule shadow days for students that are interested in exploring the NexTech program. If you know of friends and family that would like to explore for a few hours please let the front office know. We generally schedule these for two-hour sessions in which students can sit in on classes, and live the experience of a student. This is a great way to test out the school prior to making a full-time commitment.

Kid's Food Basket



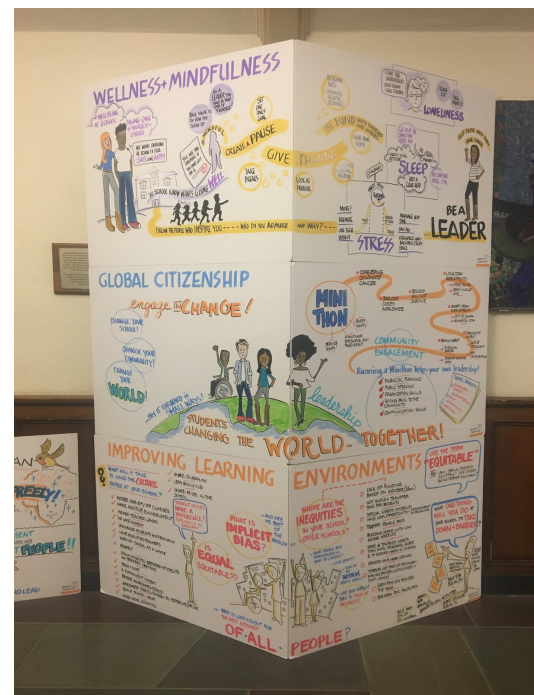
Students have now had the opportunity to support our community by helping out on multiple occasions at the Kid's Food Basket in Grand Rapids. This is a great opportunity to support each other, and we have heard great feedback from the students that have participated. *Thank you to PTO parent Robin Kay for helping to set up these trips!*

WESTSIDE OUTSIDE

Westside Outside is coming up on April 13. This event is organized by the Westside Collaborative in addition to several other Westside businesses and organizations. We are hoping to promote this as a school-wide event, inviting all students and their families to participate. The event focuses on cleaning up parks and neighborhoods on the Westside. Food, beverages, music, and games will take place at the conclusion of the event.

NHS VISITS U OF M

Our National Honor Society was able to head to Ann Arbor to participate in the NHS State Summit. This is the third year they have put on this type of event, and they travel to different states empowering the leaders of tomorrow. Students and staff had the opportunity to participate in conversation, work in break out groups, and listen to dynamic speakers to engage on real-world issues impacting students and schools. This was a great opportunity for all of those involved to participate with schools from across the state and gain awareness on numerous topics.



VALENTINE'S DANCE

Students participated in our first informal dance this past Valentines week. Even with the snow and poor weather, they got the place decorated and had a blast! Here are just a few pictures from the night.



PROM INFORMATION

Under the Stars
 May 11, 7pm-10pm
 @ The Bluff
 2035 28th St SE

Prom this year will be held at the Bluff Banquet Hall in Grand Rapids. Tickets for the event are only \$25, with a \$10 deposit due by March 22nd. The deposit is our way of making sure there is enough interest in the event for planning purposes. More information will be coming out closer to the date, but we wanted to get it on the calendar early!

