



August, 2016 Family Newsletter

Dear NCS Families,

Happy August! There's still time to keep enjoying these sunny days, before we zip into the 2016-2017 school year. NCS has been a buzz of activity preparing for your arrival. I have been fortunate to have Mr. Ruder gracefully guide me, and he will mentor me throughout the school year, as well. His generous spirit continues to reach us, as he busily makes wooden iPad stations for our teachers. These stations will be used to house the new iPads, which will be for all students, K-5. We are very excited for this opportunity!

This year, we welcome two new teachers to our staff. We are excited to have Katy Morkri for our new music teacher. Katy is making a return to NCS after teaching here, about 8 years ago. We also are thrilled to have Cole Melvin for our new art teacher. Cole is a recent graduate from UNI, and has recently moved to Madison. Please help me welcome Katy and Cole to NCS!

Our final NCS Play Date for the summer will be on August 24, 6:00-7:00 pm on the NCS playground. Feel free to join us to connect and make new friends as we get ready for a great school year!

Enjoy these last days and remember to keep reading. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

Sincerely,
Ann Princl



UPCOMING EVENTS

August 16	Online Registration Assistance from 10:00 am - 6:00 pm at Boys and Girls Club, 4619 Jenewein Road, Fitchburg
August 16	Online Registration DEADLINE. Please submit your Transportation Form also by this date.
August 22	Personalized Learning Conferences 9:00 am-3:20 pm
August 23	Personalized Learning Conferences 12:00-7:35 pm
August 24	NCS Summer Play date from 6:00-7:00 pm
Sept. 1	First Day of School (FULL day for all students)
Sept. 7	First day of SWIMMING for Mr. Gundlach's, Mrs. Konop's, and Ms. Austen's classes
Sept. 7	First day of Girls on the Run from 3:00-4:30 pm
Sept. 9	First day of SWIMMING for Mrs. Klawiter's, Mr. Lohr's, and Mrs. Schneider's classes

Sept. 22	NCS Back to School Night, 6:00-7:30 pm
Oct. 11	Picture Day
Oct.27-28	NO SCHOOL
Nov. 15	Picture Retake Day

PLEASE CONTINUE TO REFER TO THE NCS PARENT GOOGLE CALENDAR AND THE NCS WEB PAGE ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE (nccs.verona.k12.wi.us) FOR INFORMATION ON WHEN CLASSES HAVE GYM, LIBRARY, FIELD TRIPS, AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS AND FOR OTHER SPECIAL NCS EVENTS AND MEETINGS.



HAVE YOU COMPLETED YOUR CHILD'S ONLINE REGISTRATION YET? PLEASE DO SO BY AUG. 16TH

You should have received a letter at the beginning of August with online instructions, including a special code to input that is unique to your child. Please go online as soon as possible to register your child AND pay your registration fees prior to Tuesday, August 16th. If you did not receive an online registration letter yet, please contact the NCS office as soon as possible at (608) 845-4905 or stumpt@verona.k12.wi.us so that we can get that information to you.

If you need translation or technology assistance or access to a computer in order to register your child online, the remaining date and location for assistance is:

* August 16th, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm at Boys and Girls Club, 4619 Jenewein Road, Fitchburg

New Century School will NOT be open as a site for online registration.

NEW THIS YEAR: NCS will be using

"E-Funds" for you to pay your registration fees in August. So, right after you complete and submit your child's Online Registration, click on the link to pay your fees online.

The registration fees will remain the same as last year and are as follows:
 *\$60 Classroom Supplies Fee (Optional but most families take advantage of our bulk discounts and this convenient service.)
 *\$15 Technology Fee (This covers technology maintenance, upgrades, and apps purchases.)
 *\$25 Field Trip Fee (covering field trips for the school year)
 *\$4 Planner Fee (Only for students entering 4th and 5th grade) (Scholarships are available based on need. For a scholarship, contact Mrs. Stump in the NCS office.)



IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING CLASSROOM SUPPLIES

For those families who paid or will be paying the \$60 fee to have NCS purchase Classroom Supplies for your child this school year, we will have your child's classroom supplies already in the classroom on the first day of school. However, please remember that you still need to purchase these additional items for your student(s):

- gym shoes with non-marking soles
- art smock (Can be an oversized shirt)
- headphones with ear piece comfortable for your child



PERSONALIZED LEARNING
IT'S ALL ABOUT THE LEARNER
VERONA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

PERSONALIZED LEARNING
CONFERENCES FOR STUDENTS
ENTERING K, 2ND, 3RD & 4TH GRADES.
HAVE YOU SIGNED UP YET?

The Verona Area School District has a focus on Personalized Learning practices. A key component of Personalized Learning is for teachers to have a deep knowledge and understanding of students. Teachers will be proposing to meet with students and families before school begins to get to know students and learn about their families and the students' learning interests and strengths. NCS classroom teachers will make it a priority to offer a meeting with students and their families, primarily students who are entering kindergarten, 2nd grade, 3rd grade, 4th grade, and other students new to NCS.

NCS teachers have set aside Monday, August 22nd, from 9:00 am-3:20 pm and Tuesday, August 23rd, from 12:00-7:35 pm. Teachers will meet with you at the Verona Public Library using a reserved study room. Please allow 20 minutes for each visit. Thanks for taking advantage of this opportunity. This conference is designed for students and families to talk and teachers to listen.

If you have a student entering kindergarten, 2nd grade, 3rd grade, 4th grade, and other students new to NCS, you should have received a Sign-Up Genius in your email inbox on June 9th to enable you to sign up for an August Personalized Learning conference. If you need another link sent to you to sign up, please contact the NCS office at

If you chose to purchase your own school supplies for the school year, you also need to purchase those above items. You can find your Classroom Supplies List on the NCS webpage at the district site nccs.verona.k12.wi.us/ under "Announcements."



TRANSPORTATION FORM:
WHAT SHOULD WE DIRECT YOUR CHILD TO DO AT THE END OF EACH SCHOOL DAY?

You received a Transportation Form email earlier this week on August 9th regarding what your child will be doing after school EACH day of the week. If you have not done so already, please complete and submit that form **as soon as possible**, at the latest August 16, the Online Registration deadline. The teachers and office staff **need** that information to guide your child in what they should be doing at the end of each school day. Are they being picked up? Are they walking home? Are they going home on a bus? Are they going to an after-care facility? If you need to be resent the Transportation Form email, please contact Mrs. Stump in the NCS office at stumpt@verona.k12.wi.us or (608) 845-4905. Thank you!

stumpt@verona.k12.wi.us or (608) 845-4905.

Please bring your child's completed Preconference Reflection Sheet AND Learning Pledge with you to the conference. They were in the envelope you received with your Online Registration paperwork at the beginning of August.



SCHOOLMESSENGER®

HAVE YOU OPTED-IN YET TO SCHOOLMESSENGER?

Verona Area School District is using SchoolMessenger again this year for our family communications system. In the case of a school or weather emergency, you will receive emails, text messages and possible phone calls from our school office and the district. If you "opted-in" already, you do NOT have to do it again this year. Who needs to "opt-in"?

*If you are new to the Verona Area School District this year

*If you are unsure if you did or didn't "opt-in" in the last two years. It is fine to try it again to make sure.

*If you have a new cell phone number

How to you "opt-in"? TEXT Y to 68453

You MUST "opt-in" to receive emergency text messages from our school and district. For a quick summary of this system, including a few ways to ensure you receive the communications most efficiently, please press Ctrl and click on the link below:

http://www.verona.k12.wi.us/links/for_parents/information_about_schoolreach



SCHOOL START & DISMISSAL TIME

This is a reminder that the school day begins at **7:45** am Tuesday through Friday, and **9:25** am on Mondays. That means that all students must be in their classroom and ready to learn at those times. Students who enter after that time will be marked Tardy. Please do your best to have your child(ren) on time each day. This will help both teachers and students to start each day smoothly. We allow the students to enter the building at 7:35am Tuesday through Friday and at 9:15 am on Mondays to enable them have time to get ready for class. So, getting them here at these earlier times is advisable.

School DISMISSAL TIME is 2:35 pm every day.



LATE START ON ALL MONDAYS

New Century School has late start on ALL Mondays during the school year. Please make sure this is noted on your calendar. On Mondays, the first bell rings at **9:15** am and school starts at **9:25** am.



ATTENDANCE LINE

The NCS Attendance Line is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Please make sure that you **CALL the Attendance Line, (608) 845-4903, PRIOR TO THE START OF THE SCHOOL DAY**, if your child is ill, has an early morning appointment, or will be late arriving at school. When a call has not been received, for your child's safety, school staff will need to call you to find out the status of the student. Your call will save us time and we will not have to disturb you when you're caring for a sick child.



SCHOOL BREAKFAST IS FREE AGAIN

At NCS again this year, as well as at other schools in the district, breakfast is FREE to students. So, if you are having a rushed morning getting your child(ren) to school on time, be assured that they will be provided a free breakfast in their classroom when they arrive at school. It helps them get a good start to their day!



WHAT'S FOR SCHOOL BREAKFAST AND SCHOOL LUNCH TODAY?

Our district has a long history of putting our families first when it comes to school

food service. That's why we have online school menus which provide:

- More information about each food, including a photo and description, there's a menu website: <http://verona.nutrislice.com/>
- More convenience through a FREE Smartphone app for iPhone and Android, **School Lunch by Nutrislice.** <http://verona.nutrislice.com/mobile/>

You can still print a PDF of the menu by visiting the menus website above or by asking our school office to send home a paper copy.



FREE/REDUCED LUNCH

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE NOW

Even if you were approved for Free/Reduced lunch last year, you **MUST** reapply each year by completing a Free/Reduced Lunch application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for this school year.

We have paper copies available in the NCS office. You can also get a paper copy by going to the district website at www.verona.k12.wi.us and clicking on District Departments and then Child Nutrition Services and then Forms. Or you can get to the online form by clicking on the following link:

http://www.verona.k12.wi.us/district_departments/child_nutrition_services/forms

You will still have to print the form and turn it in to our NCS office or the Child

Nutrition Office located at Badger Ridge Middle School. If you have questions, please call the district's Child Nutrition Office at (608) 845-4139. Please turn your form in as soon as possible so it can be processed and approved before the start of the school year. Thank you!



BACK TO OUR 5-DAY SPECIALS ROTATION

The elementary schools are returning to their 5-day Specials rotation (Music, Art, Gym, and Library) this school year. We will still post on our NCS Parent Google calendar and on our NCS web page on our district site which days your child's class will have gym, swimming, and library because parents have commented on how helpful that was last year. Please consult the calendar if you need a reminder about when to return library books and when to send swim gear or gym shoes. Music classes will be on Wednesdays and Fridays. Art classes will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Gym classes will be on Wednesdays, Fridays, and every other Monday. Library will be on Mondays for the K/1 classes, Wednesdays for Mr. Gundlach's class, and Thursdays for the 4/5 classes and Mrs. Klawiter's class. We have swimming at the beginning of the school year starting on September 7th. See the following article for swim dates and times.



NCS SWIMMING LESSONS AT THE NATATORIUM START SEPT. 7TH

Swimming lessons for New Century Charter School students in grades K through 5 will begin Wednesday, September 7th (for some NCS classes) and finish on Wednesday, October 26th, 2016. Check the schedule below for your child's class.

All students will be bussed to the Natatorium for swimming lessons and back to NCS after they have finished. The school district provides towels for students. Students are permitted to wear their own swimming suits under the following guidelines:

1. The style must be appropriate for swimming.
2. We ask that parents provide some type of plastic bag to store their child's suit in. (Wet suits will cause locker damage.)
3. Children forgetting to bring their suit and plastic bag on their swimming day will be required to wear a suit provided by the Natatorium on that day.

Swimming caps or a ponytail with an elastic band are required for students with hair that is shoulder length or longer. Students may bring caps from home or purchase them (silicone cap) at the pool for \$2.75. Students who would like to use goggles are encouraged to bring their own because the Natatorium has a very small supply and will not have enough to lend to a large number of students.

Below is the swimming schedule. Please note the day your child's class is swimming so you can help them to be prepared for that day. If you have additional questions about the swimming program, please feel free to contact the NCS office at (608) 845-4905.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!! We have a great need for volunteers to help the K/1 students with transitions before and after their swim time. If you have a child in K/1 and are interested in volunteering, please call Abby Jakowski at (608) 216-6455 or email her at abby.jakowski@gmail.com.

IMPORTANT: GYM SHOES ARE REQUIRED STARTING THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL BECAUSE WE WILL BE DOING PHYS. ED. ON MONDAYS IN THE GYM DURING OUR SWIM UNIT.

SWIM SCHEDULE:

The bus will load about 5 minutes before the printed times and leave NCS at the printed times below:

WEDNESDAYS:

Sept. 7, 14, 21, and 28

Oct. 5, 12, 19, and 26:

Mr. Gundlach's class: 8:00 am

Mrs. Konop's class: 9:00 am

Ms. Austen's class: 10:00 am

FRIDAYS:

Sept. 9, 16, 23, and 30

Oct. 7, 14, and 21:

Mrs. Klawiter's class: 8:00 am

Mr. Lohr's class: 9:00 am

Mrs. Schneider's class: 10:00 am



BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT SEPT. 22

NCS Back-to-School Night on Thursday, Sept. 22, begins at 6:00 pm. Parents will meet in the Sugar Creek Step Room to kick off our evening. Then we will transition to the classrooms. We will be reviewing academic and behavioral expectations in the classroom and how families can support these expectations at home. Teachers will share the same information around 7:00 pm for families who may have other children across different grades. The evening will end around 7:20 pm.

Kindly provide your own supervision of your children this night, as this is a parent-only event. If you need to bring your children, please contact the NCS office and we will help you with supervision arrangements.



PICTURE DAY IS TUESDAY, OCT. 11TH

Picture Day is Tuesday, October 11th.

Brochures with picture packages and prices will go home with your child in their Friday Folders on the Friday prior to Picture Day.

NEW THIS YEAR: You will receive email reminders two weeks, three days and the night prior to Picture Day. There will be a link in the email for you to pay online to purchase pictures if you'd prefer to do that instead of sending in money on Picture Day.

All students will have their individual picture taken, but there is no obligation to purchase the pictures. Even if you do not indicate that you want to purchase a package, your child will still have their picture taken and there will still be a photo proof page sent home several weeks after Picture Day. After you view the proof, you will have the option of purchasing. Remember, *purchase of any school photos is entirely optional.*

If your child misses school on Picture Day on Oct. 11th or if you would like to have your child's picture retaken, we have Picture Retake Day on Tuesday, Nov. 15th.



ADULTS AND STUDENTS: PLEASE WALK BIKES ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

For the safety of all students and families, school rules require all adults and children to get off and walk their bikes on school property. There is no riding of bicycles on school property. Thank you for adhering to this policy so we create a safe place on school grounds.



START AND END OF DAY ROAD SAFETY

It can be a very busy time dropping off and picking up your child(ren) at NCS. Of course, it is the most safe and convenient to park in front of NCS to drop off and pick up children. If you do end up parking across the street, please take the time

to walk to the cross walk where the crossing guard can help you and your child(ren) cross safely. Jaywalking when you park across the street is very unsafe and should be avoided. We have had near accidents in the past due to jaywalking. So, please be safe by making sure you are **only crossing the street at the cross walk with the crossing guard.** Also, if you are pulling out into traffic, make sure there is ample distance for you to do so safely.



AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Similar to last year, we are planning to offer three After-School Programs on Mondays, each 8 weeks long. We expect information and registration forms to go home with students in Friday folders at the beginning of the school year with the first session to begin in late September or early October. So, be on the look-out for this registration information!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED WHEN ALL NCS K-5 STUDENTS RECEIVE IPADS IN SEPTEMBER

Volunteers are needed in the classrooms to help this go smoothly. They will help with tasks such as putting labels on the bricks (chargers), putting cases on the iPads, sliding ½ index cards into cases, and labeling iPad Stations with student names. Look for a Sign-Up Genius in your email inbox soon.



**CHECK OUT THE
ONLINE NCS CALENDAR AND NCS
GOOGLE PARENT CALENDAR!**

A calendar with this year's updated NCS events will soon appear on the NCS web page on the district website, nccs.verona.k12.wi.us under "Upcoming Events."

In addition, you should already have access to our NCS Parent Google Calendar. If you do not have access to it, please contact the NCS office to share it with you.

These two calendars will be updated continually throughout the year with school events. Some of these events will include swim and gym days, library days, Picture Day, Back to School Night, field trips, parent/teacher conferences, days off of school, site council meetings, and so much more! We hope that this will make things easier for you!



**HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT NCS
POLICIES? CHECK OUT THE NCS
FAMILY HANDBOOK ONLINE!**

Do you have questions about attendance, parking, classroom parties, electronic devices at school, teacher conferences, or biking to school? The answers to these questions and so much more are found in the NCS Family Handbook. An updated one can soon be found on the NCS page of the district website. Go to nccs.verona.k12.wi.us and click on the small black circle, "For Parents."



**ONLY ONE NCS SUMMER PLAY DATE
LEFT ON AUGUST 24TH!!
DON'T MISS THE FUN!**

If you are new to NCS or have been here for a while and are looking for some fun time to connect with other NCS parents and students over the summer, we have one more school-wide play date left for you to attend! Come and join us:

Where? NCS Playground

Who? NCS parents, students & siblings

When? Thursday, August 24th

Time? from 6:00-7:00 pm

Why? Meet friends, old and new, and have fun!

(Notice: There will be NO access to school bathrooms or water fountains inside the school during these times.)



**GO ONLINE NOW TO SEE UPCOMING
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

Visit the Community Activities For Families page on our VASD website at: <http://goo.gl/rVmCie> to see great activities happening in our communities for your family year-round or to inquire about posting a new one!



GIRLS ON THE RUN: GRADES 3-5
AGAIN AT NCS IN THE FALL!!

New Century Charter School is excited to continue to partner with Girls on the Run of South Central Wisconsin this fall!

Girls on the Run is a wonderful after-school program for girls in 3rd – 5th grades and will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3-4:30pm for 10 weeks beginning September 7, 2016 and ending with participants running in the Girls on the Run fall 5K in Waunakee on Saturday November 12, 2016. Girls on the Run teaches life skills and self-confidence through an interactive curriculum and physical activity.

Registration opened already, but you can still register your daughter if there is still room in our NCS group at www.girlsontherunscwi.org.

Financial assistance is available to qualifying families. For more information about GOTR, participation fees, scholarship assistance and how to register, call 608-831-GOTR (4687) or visit the website at www.girlsontherunscwi.org.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Jennifer Klawiter at NCS at: klawitej@verona.k12.wi.us