

a culture of excellence

Publication of the New Prairie United School Corporation

WINTER 2024-25



Have Questions?

Please visit the district website for more information:
www.npusc.k12.in.us

Or give us a call!

- Prairie View..... (219) 778-9388
- Olive.....(574) 654-7531
- Rolling Prairie.....(219) 778-2018

NPUSC’s Kindergarten Registration and Parent Night will be March 18 at 5 p.m. CST at all three NPUSC elementary schools. At this event, each school will present and provide information on kindergarten readiness, the school, food services, health services and transportation.

What to bring:

- Copy of Child’s Official Birth Certificate
- Child’s Immunization Records
- Parent/Guardian Driver’s License
- Proof of Residency: two documents that include name with physical address, not a P.O. box number. Examples are a utility bill, bank statement and/or insurance statement.

Students need to be 5 years old on or before **August 1, 2025**.



What’s Inside:



- Kindergarten Registration and Parent Night
- New Diploma Requirements
- Marching Cougars Advance to State Finals
- New Prairie Theater Company Puts on a Spooky Fall Show
- New “Let’s Talk” Board Meeting Format
- School Board Updates

MISSION

Our purpose is to Ensure High Levels of Learning for ALL Students



Superintendent's Message

I hope each of you had a restful holiday break and a great start to the new year! As we transition to the second half of the year, I am excited to highlight some of the great things that are happening here at NPUSC. From our marching band going to state to our theater group's fall performances, our arts programming is a place to learn, create, grow and thrive. Beyond that, it is already time to start thinking about registration for the 2025-26 school year as well as take a look at the new diploma requirements rolling out by the State.



I wish each of you a Happy 2025 and trust the second half of this school year will have even more success.

*Dr. Paul White,
Superintendent of New Prairie
United School Corporation*

The NPHS Marching Cougars Advance to State Finals

For the first time in 10 years, the NPHS Marching Band made it to the State Finals! Each fall, the New Prairie Marching Cougars compete in the Scholastic A class against other marching bands in the state and region. On October 5, the Marching Cougars had a successful performance and advanced to the State Finals. State was held on October 19 in Indianapolis where the group performed their show, Aurora. Out of 16 bands, the band placed eighth and had their highest marching band score in school history. Band Director Jared Jaggi shared, "The whole experience was thrilling and exciting. Being a part of a school band is like being a part of a village. It literally took every single person in our band to make this happen. The feeling of knowing that we made it to the top of marching bands in the state and that we did it together as a group will be something we will never forget."

He went on to share what he is proud of:

"I am really proud of the determination and resilience of our students and our obliging parents. Band is a demanding activity. It takes a lot of effort, work and time to pull off what we did. The students have had to put in a lot of time since the summer. They have had to work together and put in some work on their music. The parents also have donated food for trips, helping build and move props, making sure their students are prepared for band and so much more. My staff and I could not do this alone. I am really thankful for them for the support that they provide for their students and myself."

Mr. Jaggi encourages parents to help their students consider joining the performing arts. He has seen that "students become more resilient and are hard-working when they participate in the performing arts." Not only has this been his experience, but according to research from the National Endowment for the Arts, students that are involved in arts learning have more positive academic and civic behaviors during secondary learning and after receiving their high school diploma. Students take away an experience of collaborating with their friends and peers and make great achievements together. Mr. Jaggi concludes, "Speaking for the Fine Arts teachers, we are really excited to have your student in our program."



NEW DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS TO BEGIN WITH THE CLASS OF 2029

The Indiana State Board of Education has approved the final version of the state's new high school diploma standards, setting off a change that will become mandatory for all high schools starting with the class of 2029. This final version includes one base diploma that requires 42 credits to complete and then students could earn three different kinds of seals that would show if a student is ready to enroll in higher education, enter the workforce or enlist in the armed services.

Each seal also includes a "plus" version that involves earning a certain amount of workplace learning hours, earning a certain kind of credential or obtaining a certain score on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB).

New Prairie Middle School and High School counselors will be working with students in the Class of 2029 (current eighth graders) and their parents to explain these new changes and help them understand what courses are available to them and needed to meet their goals upon graduation.

	CURRENT INDIANA CORE40	FUTURE NEW INDIANA DIPLOMA
ENGLISH	8 CREDITS	8 CREDITS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 credits: English 9 1 credit: Communications-focused course 5 additional English credits
MATH	6 CREDITS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 credits: Algebra I 2 credits: Geometry 2 credits: Algebra II 	7 CREDITS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 credits: Algebra I 1 credit: Personal Finance 4 additional math credits
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND ENGINEERING	6 CREDITS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 credits: Biology I 2 credits: Chemistry 1, Physics I, or Integrated Physics 2 credits: Any Core 40 science course 	7 CREDITS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 credits: Biology I 1 credit: Computer Science 2 additional science credits 2 STEM-focused credits
SOCIAL STUDIES	6 CREDITS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 credits: U.S. History 1 credit: U.S. Government 1 credit: Economics 2 credits: World History/Civilization or Geography/History of the World 	5 CREDITS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 credits: U.S. History 1 credit: U.S. Government 2 credits: World Perspectives (Flexible options, including advanced world language or world-focused social studies courses)
PE/HEALTH	3 CREDITS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 credits: Physical Education 1 credit: Health & Wellness 	2 CREDITS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 credit: Physical Education 1 credit: Health & Wellness
DIRECTED ELECTIVES	5 CREDITS <i>Any combination of World Languages, Fine Arts, and/or Career & Technical Education</i>	N/A
PERSONALIZED ELECTIVES	6 CREDITS	12 CREDITS <i>Students are encouraged to utilize the new readiness-seals to align these personalized electives with their unique goals. Personalized electives can include a variety of courses, such as CTE, Performing or Fine Arts, and World Languages.</i>
COLLEGE & CAREERS	N/A	1 CREDIT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 credit: Preparing for College & Careers
TOTAL	40 CREDITS	42 CREDITS

Hoosier high school students have the opportunity to earn approximately 60 credits.

Note: The federally-required alternate diploma for students in special education with a significant cognitive disability is still available.

Step Up Day for the Class of 2029 will be Thursday, February 20, where students will get the opportunity to visit NPHS to tour the building, meet the teachers and visit classrooms to help better inform them on courses they might want to pursue in high school.

On that same evening, NPHS will host Course Selection Night for current eighth grade students and their parents at 5:30 p.m. CST in the auditorium, where counselors will share information on course scheduling, graduation requirements and other vital information to get students enrolled in courses for their freshman year.

BLUEPRINT FOR SUCCESS: READINESS-SEALS

Readiness seals are designed to be permeable, allowing students to update their graduation plan and pivot, if their original interests and goals change. Although seals are optional, students are encouraged to utilize the blueprints below to focus their flexible credits into a connected pathway that aligns with their future goals. Students may earn one or multiple seals. Graduation Pathways requirements will be satisfied through completion of any seal.

ENROLLMENT

EMPLOYMENT

ENLISTMENT & SERVICE

HONORS SEAL

- Complete at least 4 World Language and 6 Social Studies credits
- Complete at least 8 Math credits
 - Algebra I plus Geometry, Algebra II, and Pre-Calculus or any advanced math credits aligned to their course of study
- Complete at least 6 Science credits
 - Biology I plus Chemistry and Physics or any advanced lab science credits aligned to their course of study
- Earn a C or higher in all courses and earn a cumulative B average
- Complete one of the following:
 - Earn 4 credits in AP, IB, or Cambridge courses and take corresponding exams
 - Earn 6 college credits
 - Score a 1250 on the SAT or a 26 on the ACT
- Earn two of the following:
 - At least 3 college credits
 - 2 credits in AP courses and take corresponding exams
 - 2 credits in IB courses and take corresponding exams
 - 2 credits in Cambridge courses and take corresponding exams

HONORS PLUS SEAL

- Earn a credential of value* that may include, for example:
 - Associate degree
 - Technical Certificate
 - Indiana College Core
 - AP Scholar with Distinction
 - Cambridge AICE Diploma or IB Diploma
- Complete at least 75 hours of work-based learning (may include multiple experiences that are paid, unpaid, on-site, or simulated)
- Demonstrate skill development in the following areas: Communication, Collaboration, and Work Ethic

HONORS SEAL, PLUS

- Complete one of the following:
 - A market-driven credential of value* aligned to a specific occupation
 - 3 courses in a Career and Technology Education (CTE) pathway
 - An approved career preparation experience aligned to Indiana's CSA program, or
 - An approved, locally-created pathway
- Complete 150 hours of work-based learning (may include multiple experiences that are paid, unpaid, on-site, or simulated)
- Earn a C or higher in all courses and earn a cumulative B average
- Demonstrate skill development in Communication, Collaboration, and Work Ethic
- Meet attendance goal

*Note: the credential of value levels are currently being determined by business and industry.

in.gov/doi

NEW PRAIRIE THEATER COMPANY PUTS ON A SPOOKY FALL SHOW

"The Addams Family – the High School Edition" was a whole community production! On Nov. 7, 8 and 9, 2024, 40 students in the cast and crew, including a number of students from the middle school, as well as an additional 15 students in the pit ensemble, put on an amazing rendition of the show! Furthermore, several more students from Mr. Artur Sorg's construction class were involved in set construction. NPHS staff included Monique Fredline, director and sponsor of the New Prairie Theater Company; Mr. Everett Forrester, vocal director; Mr. Jared Jaggi, pit ensemble director; Mr. David McGhee, contributing artist; Mr. Keith Hite and Mr. Mark Glassley, set construction.

A special thank you goes to a number of adults in the community who also contributed to the production including set building and fly rigging: Mr. Tom Pietrzak, Mr. Ian Whiteman and recent NPHS graduate Dastun Parker. Many others contributed to the support students needed during Tech Week rehearsals, especially Mrs. Catanzarite, Mrs. Gallik, Mrs. Quirk and others.

Director Monique Rose Fredline commented, "Many of our cast and crew were new to the stage. They quickly discovered

that producing a show takes a lot of time and dedication. We rehearsed for seven full weeks, four days a week with some rehearsals later in the process lasting up to six hours. Students also learned to solve problems and support one another through good communication. Studies have shown that being involved with the arts bolsters academic achievement, develops social-emotional and interpersonal skills, improves focus and more. A win all around!"

Overall, the show was well received and was a fitting cap to the "spooky season."



Well done to the New Prairie Theater Company!

You're Invited

You are invited to attend meetings of the School Board of NPUSC. These meetings are generally conducted at 6 p.m. CST on the fourth Monday of each month in the Superintendent's Office, 5327 N Cougar Rd., New Carlisle, IN, unless otherwise advertised.

School Board

Philip King..... President
 Jason DeMeyer..... Vice President
 Jill Smith..... Secretary
 Rich Gadacz..... Member
 Rich Shail..... Member



Contact Us

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 (219) 778-4435
 Olive Township Elementary (574) 654-7531
 (219) 778-4740
 Prairie View Elementary..... (574) 654-7258
 (219) 778-9388
 Rolling Prairie Elementary..... (219) 778-2018

Our Website

www.npusc.k12.in.us



Visit Our Website for our up to date School Calendar



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2025 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING DATES



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE NEW PRAIRIE UNITED SCHOOL CORPORATION CALENDAR YEAR 2025

Board Approved 12/16/2024

BOARD MEETING DATES	DAY	TIME
January 6, 2025 <i>Board Reorganization/Financial Meeting</i>	Monday	5:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m.
January 27, 2025	Monday	6:00 p.m.
February 24, 2025	Monday <i>Held @ NPHS Auditorium</i>	6:00 p.m.
March 17, 2025	Monday	
March 24, 2025	Monday	6:00 p.m.
April 28, 2025	Monday <i>Held @ NPMS LGI Room</i>	6:00 p.m.
May 19, 2025	Monday <i>**This is the 3rd Monday of the month</i>	6:00 p.m.
June 23, 2025	Monday	6:00 p.m.
July 21, 2025	Monday <i>**This is the 3rd Monday of the month</i>	6:00 p.m.
August 4, 2025	Monday	6:00 p.m.
August 25, 2025 <i>Budget Hearing and Regular Board Meeting</i>	Monday	6:00 p.m.
September 22, 2025 <i>Budget Adoption and Regular Board Meeting</i>	Monday	6:00 p.m.
October 27, 2025	Monday	6:00 p.m.
November 24, 2025	Monday	6:00 p.m.
December 15, 2025	Monday <i>**This is the 3rd Monday of the month</i>	6:00 p.m.
Public Let's Talk Sessions for 2025		
January 14, 2025	Tuesday <i>NPHS Auditorium</i>	6:00 p.m.
September 15, 2025	Monday <i>NPMS LGI Room</i>	6:00 p.m.

All meetings are scheduled for the 4th Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. Central Standard Time except where noted.

Work Sessions may be scheduled throughout the year, but will be advertised according to the Open-Door Law.
 Location of meetings will be held in the NPUSC Board Room, 5327 N Cougar Rd., New Carlisle, IN unless otherwise advertised.

boardmeeting 2025

New "Let's Talk" Board Meeting Format

Starting this year, NPUSC is offering a new "Let's Talk" meeting format. The first of these sessions occurred on Jan. 14, 2025, and the next will be Sept. 15, 2025. These offer a new approach for the school board to receive input from the public. Make sure to come and join the discussion!

Join us online! Board meetings can now be viewed live through the district's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/@NPUSCBoardMeetings

