

# nps

It's the News People Seek

August 2021



## GET READY FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR!

### HEALTH CLINICS

**NORFOLK DEPARTMENT  
OF PUBLIC HEALTH**  
830 Southampton Avenue  
Norfolk, VA 23510

### IMMUNIZATIONS

*(Preschool and Kindergarten)*

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday,  
& Friday 8:30-11 a.m. & 1-3:30 p.m.  
Tuesday 8:30-11 a.m.

### SCHOOL PHYSICALS

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday  
& Friday 8:30-11 a.m. & 1-3 p.m.

### MILITARY CIRCLE MALL

880 N. Military Hwy.  
*(the old Macy's building)*  
Norfolk, VA 23502

### IMMUNIZATIONS

*(rising 6th and 7th graders)*

Tdap, HPV, Meningococcal, and  
Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines available  
**Walk-ins welcome!**

Tuesdays, August 10, 17, 24, and 31  
2-6 p.m.

Monday, August 30 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

*Please bring your child's immunization  
record (let us know if you need help getting  
one) and insurance card. The vaccines are  
free, but if you have insurance, your pro-  
vider will be billed for the administrative  
fee. Masks required during appointment.*

**Call the Norfolk Department of  
Public Health (757.683.2735)  
to schedule an appointment.**

### Dear NPS Families:

We are so excited about the fast-approaching 2021-2022 academic year! We have been immersed in planning and are eager for our students' return — be that to in-person instruction five days per week or through the Virtual Scholars Academy. No matter which instructional option your family has chosen, mark your calendars for **Wednesday, September 8, the first day of school!**

To help you prepare, we offer this newsletter. Here you will find important information about the upcoming school year as well as some reminders of opportunities available for you and your children. All this information is also at your fingertips on our [website](#), an invaluable resource for all things NPS.

### Plans for the 2021-2022 school year include:

- A continued adherence to the most current health and safety guidance from the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which currently includes mask-wearing, physical distancing, routine sanitization, contact tracing, and other common risk-mitigation measures. This is subject to change as updated guidance is released. Unfortunately, the pandemic is still with us, but rest assured we are laser-focused on student and staff safety.
- A full return to activities for middle and high school athletics. (Do I hear a "Yay!" among our students and their families?)
- The addition of "growth" as an important measure in the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) reading and mathematics assessments in grades 3 - 8 in both the fall and the spring tests. This new measure will assist staff in identifying students' strengths and needs for additional resources.
- The launch of Vector Alert, a tip-reporting service which enables students, staff, and parents to submit safety concerns to the administration via email, text, phone, the website, or an app.

I trust you will find this newsletter helpful as you begin moving into that "return to school" frame of mind. Please know I wish each of you a positive and productive 2021-2022 school year. I have no doubt that our students, parents, and staff will rise to each challenge presented and approach this new school year with confidence and determination. As always, I look forward to working with you to make this the best year possible for our students.

Sincerely,

*Sharon I. Byrdsong*

Dr. Sharon I. Byrdsong  
Superintendent of Schools



## Support for Students and Families

The NPS Department of Student Support Services works to promote positive relationships and provide support for all students and families to enhance student learning and well-being. Dedicated professionals are available to assist students and families and connect them to a variety of resources that support academics, behavior, attendance, and school safety.

### Make sure your child is enrolled!

Summer registration days and hours will continue until September 3; register your child from 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 1 - 3 p.m. Monday – Thursday at his/her school. Starting on September 8, the first day of school, registration will be open during school office hours, Monday-Friday.

### September is Attendance Awareness Month

According to research, regular school attendance plays an important role in a student's achievement and success.

#### Attendance tips for a successful year:

1. **Establish** a regular bedtime and morning routine.
2. **Avoid** appointments and extended trips during school hours.
3. **Keep track** of your child's attendance using ParentVue.
4. **Emphasize** the importance of regular school attendance with your child.
5. **Discuss and address** any anxiety, barriers, or negative feelings your child may have about school.
6. **Communicate** with the school and ask for help if needed.

### Safe and Secure

NPS works to ensure that students learn in a safe and secure environment.

To foster an environment conducive to learning for all students, please refer to the Student Handbook including Standards of Student Conduct that includes:

- Students and their property will be subject to random administrative inspections that may also involve the use of metal detectors.
- Students who leave school grounds without proper authorizations are subject to inspection upon their return to a school campus.

Thank you for partnering with us to keep our students and schools safe.

### Vector Alert

To further safeguard our school community, NPS will launch Vector Alert during the 2021-2022 school year. This tip-reporting service allows students, staff, and parents to submit safety concerns to NPS administration in five different ways:

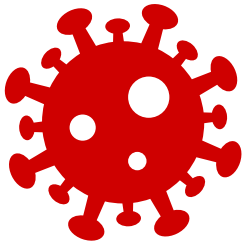
1. **App:** Search for "Vector Alert" in the App Store to download for free
2. **Phone:** 757.255.7461
3. **Text:** Text your tip to 757.255.7461
4. **Email:** [2110@alert1.us](mailto:2110@alert1.us)
5. **Web:** <http://2110.alert1.us>

Students and families can easily report tips on bullying, harassment, drugs, vandalism, threats of violence, or any safety issue through Vector Alert. When you submit a tip, be sure to use the division's identification code: 2110 in your communication. Every tip Vector Alert receives about a safety concern will be immediately logged into the system. The NPS administration will be notified to investigate and take appropriate action. As always, tips may be submitted anonymously.

Working together, using Vector Alert, we can make our division a safer place to work and learn!



ADOBE ©FOTOARTIST



# COVID-19 UPDATES

Unfortunately, as we begin the 2021-2022 school year, the pandemic is still with us, but rest assured we are laser-focused on student and staff safety. Norfolk Public Schools continues to adhere to the most current



health and safety guidance from the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which currently includes mask-wearing, physical distancing, routine sanitization, contact tracing, and other common risk-mitigation measures. This is subject to change as conditions change and updated guidance is released.

NPS is continuing to partner with the Norfolk Department of Public Health to provide vaccination clinics for students 12 years of age and older. Through August, COVID vaccinations are available at Military Circle Mall on Tuesdays from 2 p.m. – 6 p.m. and Thursdays from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. All



NPS Facilities Management and Custodial Services have been busy sanitizing and creating cleaner, more hands-free environments. Preparations for the 2021-2022 school year include:

- **CONTINUING** end-of-day complete facility sanitation practices by the custodial staff; distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE), as needed; and the installation of automated sanitizing devices where warranted.
- **DEVELOPING** (in collaboration with school administrators) schedules for sanitizing restrooms during the school day.
- **UPGRADING HVAC** ventilation systems in those facilities needing an upgrade
- **INSTALLING** self-contained air purifying devices in all large gathering spaces, such as gymnasiums, auditoriums, media centers, etc.; touchless water dispensers division-wide; sensor motion-activated faucets and flushing devices.

COVID-19 approved vaccines (Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson) are being offered. The Pfizer vaccine is available for children aged 12-17. Please note that children aged 12-17 will need to have their parent/guardian present to receive the vaccine. Additional vaccine sites can be found at <https://www.vaccines.gov/>.



## NPS is Continuing to Accept Preschool Applications for the 2021-2022 School Year

As Virginia recovers from COVID 19, quality preschool experiences are more important than ever. Norfolk Public Schools provides a free, full day, five-day a week, high-quality instructional program for preschool aged students. The goal of the NPS pre-kindergarten program is to help prepare all students for success in kindergarten and beyond. Please visit [www.npsk12.com/Page/9991](http://www.npsk12.com/Page/9991) for more information and to download an application.

There are several ways to submit your child's application and supporting documents to NPS; however, email ([preschool@npsk12.com](mailto:preschool@npsk12.com)) is preferred as someone can easily contact you if additional information is needed. Applications can also be mailed to the address on the application or dropped off at your local elementary school. Please contact the Preschool Office via email at [preschool@nps.k12.va.us](mailto:preschool@nps.k12.va.us) or by phone at 757.629.3944 with any questions or concerns. Language translation is available.

Preschool matters because it is the foundation of your child's education!





# Helping Students Reach Their Full Potential

The **Department of Learning Support-Special Education Services** helps to ensure that exceptional students in Norfolk Public Schools are supported and receive the services needed to meet their full potential as independent and thriving members of their school, work, and home communities. Realizing the full potential of our students is a home-school partnership. We want to partner with you!

The Learning Support Team provides:

- Information about specific special education programs and services
- Assistance navigating and better understanding the special education or Section 504 process
- Assistance in working with your child's school to secure appropriate special education services or Section 504 support
- Assistance in ensuring that your child's special education services are being implemented appropriately

Visit [NPS Learning Support](#) for information and additional resources. A list of department contacts for specific special education programs and staff assigned to provide support by school can be found on the webpage under "Find it Fast."

## Norfolk Public Schools Special Education Advisory Committee

Parents are invited to stay informed and get involved! The Norfolk Public Schools Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) is a group of citizen volunteers appointed by the School Board of the City of Norfolk to serve a three-year term. The Regulations Governing Special Education Programs for Children with Disabilities in Virginia requires that the majority of the committee's members are parents of children with disabilities or persons with disabilities, and at least one teacher.

The committee advises NPS of needs involving the education of children with disabilities. The NPS SEAC provides feedback and recommenda-

tions to the School Board of the City of Norfolk on policies, procedures, funding, and other matters impacting children with disabilities.

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month during the regular school year (September-June) at 6 p.m. and are open to the public. Information is communicated each month on the NPS website and social media. Visit [NPS SEAC](#) for up-to-date information on committee members, resources, meeting locations, meeting agendas, and much more.

## rethink Ed

NPS and rethink Ed have partnered to provide parents, guardians, and families with access to rethink Ed's online Social-Emotional and Special Education program. Rethink Ed is committed to a healthy and positive culture of learning for schools, students, and families and supporting students' learning beyond the classroom. The program provides a variety of resources for caregivers to use that support your children's well-being as well as your own. These resources include help with managing behavior and building independence, providing structure and routine, and keeping learning interesting and fun in the home environment.

Learn more about [rethink Ed](#) here.

## Child Find

NPS participates in public awareness activities, screening, and a referral process to identify, locate, and evaluate children, birth to age 21, who reside in the City of Norfolk and are in need of special education services or adaptations and accommodations under Section 504.

Please contact the following if you suspect your child is in need of services:

- **Student currently enrolled in an NPS school:** Contact your child's school of attendance to begin the referral process.
- **Non-enrolled school-age student:** Contact the Department of Learning Support-Special Education Services at (757) 628-3950 or by email at [sped504compliance@nps.k12.va.us](mailto:sped504compliance@nps.k12.va.us).
- **Non-enrolled preschool child (ages 2 to 4 years old):** Contact the Department of Learning Support-Special Education Services Preschool Assessment Team (PAT) at (757) 852-4630 Ext. 3510 or by email at [sped504compliance@nps.k12.va.us](mailto:sped504compliance@nps.k12.va.us).



ADOBE ©GAYSORN



**Is Your Child Registered for Kindergarten?**

Kindergarten sets the foundation for the future. It is a wonderful opportunity for young learners to practice the essential social-emotional, critical, and creative thinking skills that they will use throughout their education. Learn more about the kindergarten registration process and requirements.




**SCHOOL NUTRITION**  
Eat here. Succeed anywhere.



**Delicious and Nutritious... SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAM UPDATES**

September 8, 2021, through June 16, 2022, breakfast and lunch will be available free of charge to all NPS students in each school under the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). No meal program applications are required. Meals for students enrolled in Virtual Scholars Academy may be picked up at select locations, sites, and times to be announced (TBA). Please visit the School Nutrition webpages or follow us on social media at [@SchoolMeals\\_NPS](https://twitter.com/SchoolMeals_NPS).

**Taste of Norfolk Public Schools is returning soon!** Do you have a favorite family recipe with cultural significance that you would be willing to share? If so, please contact Alyssa Hughes, Nutrition Education Specialist, at [ahughes@nps.k12.va.us](mailto:ahughes@nps.k12.va.us).



**Preparing Students for College, Careers, and Life**

Norfolk Public Schools' Career and Technical Education (CTE) program provides students with an array of rigorous and relevant education options and opportunities to support their college, career, and civic readiness journey. Engaging CTE pathways and/or activities are offered at each high school, middle school, elementary school, K-8 setting, Norfolk Technical Center, and auxiliary site. Offerings include: sequenced and robust courses; dual enrollment, hands-on learning labs, career and technical student organizations, state and national competitions, industry credentials/certifications, and work-based learning.

All CTE programs, which are aligned with the National Career Clusters® Model, integrate academic and technical content while providing real-world experiences within the in-person, hybrid, and/or virtual environment. Each vibrant program is based on local, state, and national research that allow us to prepare students for high-skill, in-demand, and higher-wage postsecondary endeavors. Our business, industry, higher education, and community partners are actively engaged and support the success of our students, teachers, and programs.

For more information, visit the Career and Technical Education website or follow us on Twitter@iAmNPSCTE.

**SCHOOL NUTRITION IS HIRING**

**Are you available during the day to help us provide tasty, nutritious meals to students and help them develop lifelong, healthy food habits? Learn more about available positions and on-line applications.**

# here comes the BUS

## Find Your Bus Stop

Norfolk Public Schools uses an online system called e-Link to manage school bus transportation. If registered/enrolled students are eligible for bus transportation, the system enables families to find information regarding their children's zoned schools and bus stops using information on the "[Find Your Bus Stop](#)" page of the NPS website.

Bus stops can change from school year to school year as the NPS Transportation Department works continuously to improve efficiency and service for students. 2021-2022 bus routes will be finalized during the first week of September. Please check the website after September 1 for the most up-to-date information. Please note the bus pick-up and drop-off times are approximate and can vary due to factors outside bus drivers' control, such as traffic and weather. Students are encouraged to arrive at bus stops five minutes before the pick-up time listed.

The Computerized Routing System, VERSATRANS, provides information on transportation eligibility and assignments. All information used in VERSATRANS is downloaded from Synergy; if that information is inaccurate, bus assignment information will be as well.

## Here Comes the Bus App and Website

A GPS bus tracking application now allows families to monitor daily school bus transportation information, including where a specific bus is on its route. The "[Here Comes the Bus](#)" app is available for any family who utilizes district transportation.

The "Here Comes the Bus" app can be downloaded to a smartphone, tablet or personal computer from the App Store or Google Play, depending

on the operating system of the device. The Norfolk Public Schools' Account Code (29096) and the student's ID Number (7 Digit #) are needed to sign up for an account.

The "Here Comes the Bus" app and website include the following features:

- Notifications on any bus number changes
- Notifications alerting families when a bus is approaching the bus stop
- Customizable features for different devices, depending on how parents are viewing the app or website.

*Questions regarding downloading or issues with the "Here Comes the Bus" app should be addressed with Here Comes the Bus at their website or by calling 844-854-9316, Monday thru Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (central time)/ 9 a.m.-6 p.m. (eastern time).*

## TRANSPORTATION FAQs

**Who determines who walks/rides to school?** School Board policy EEABZ states, "Free transportation to and from school shall be made available to elementary school students who live more than approximately one (1) mile from the school to which assigned, to middle and senior high school students who live more than approximately one and one-half (1½) miles from the school to which assigned, and to any student whose walking route to and from school is considered to be hazardous as determined by the superintendent of schools." Any hazardous or unusual concerns will be addressed.

**Who determines where bus stops are located?** Transportation is responsible for designating stops. Policy EEABZ states, "For those students eligible for free transportation, bus stops will be placed no more than approximately three-tenths (.3) mile for elementary students and one-half (.5) mile for secondary students from their home." Generally, bus stops remain the same from year to year, but parents should check for changes at the beginning of each new year. Safety concerns and the location of students are primary factors taken into consideration when adding/deleting stops.

**Will a student be granted bus transportation from an alternate address (location different from home address)?** Starting in the 2021-2022 school year, alternate addresses will only be honored for elementary grade level students, PreK-5th grades.

If a student attends a K-8 school, only *existing* alternate addresses will be honored; that student will be allowed to keep that alternate during their tenure at that 6-8 school. Middle and high school students who currently have an alternate in place will be allowed to keep that alternate during their tenure at their current secondary school. For students currently attending middle school, alternate addresses will no longer be honored once the student is promoted to high school or changes schools or alternate address locations. High school students' alternate addresses are honored through graduation unless they change high schools or alternate address locations.



## NPS IS HIRING BUS DRIVERS

Earn up to \$1,750 in incentives.  
View the [School Bus Driver's Incentive Package](#) and visit [NPS Job Listings](#) to learn more.



## 2021-2022 Before and After Care Programs

Norfolk Public Schools continues to work closely with local government agencies, childcare providers, and various community organizations to provide safe and supportive before and after care programs for our students.

To date, Champions, Boys & Girls Club of Southeast Virginia, Boys and Girls Club of Southside, and YMCA of South Hampton Roads, will be offering before and after care. In addition, NPS will continue to collaborate with the City of Norfolk's Recreation, Parks and Open Space to provide additional opportunities for before and after care in our schools.

**The highlighted schools will be provided transportation to the recreation centers.**

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	BEFORE PROGRAM	PROVIDER	AFTER PROGRAM	PROVIDER
ACADEMY FOR DISCOVERY AT LAKEWOOD (3-8)	YES	YMCA	YES	YMCA
BAYVIEW	NO		YES	NORFOLK RECREATION, PARKS, OPEN SPACE
<b>CALCOTT</b>	NO		YES	NORFOLK RECREATION, PARKS, OPEN SPACE
CAMP ALLEN	YES	CHAMPIONS	YES	CHAMPIONS
CHESTERFIELD	YES	YMCA	YES	YMCA
COLEMAN PLACE	YES	CHAMPIONS	YES	CHAMPIONS
CROSSROADS (PREK-8)	NO		YES	NORFOLK RECREATION, PARKS, OPEN SPACE
EASTON PRESCHOOL	NO		NO	
GHENT (K-8)	YES	YMCA	YES	YMCA
GRANBY	YES	YMCA	YES	YMCA
INGLESIDE	YES	YMCA	YES	YMCA
<b>JACOX</b>	NO		YES	NORFOLK RECREATION, PARKS, OPEN SPACE
JAMES MONROE	YES	YMCA	YES	YMCA 21 <sup>ST</sup> CENTURY LEARNING GRANT
LARCHMONT	YES	YMCA	YES	YMCA
LARRYMORE	YES	YMCA	YES	YMCA
<b>LAKE TAYLOR (K-8)</b>	NO	NO	YES	NORFOLK RECREATION, PARKS, OPEN SPACE
<b>LINDENWOOD</b>	NO		YES	NORFOLK RECREATION, PARKS, OPEN SPACE
LITTLE CREEK	YES	CHAMPIONS	YES	CHAMPIONS
NORVIEW	NO		YES	NORFOLK RECREATION, PARKS, OPEN SPACE
NORVIEW MIDDLE	NO		YES	NORFOLK RECREATION, PARKS, OPEN SPACE
<b>OCEAN VIEW</b>	NO		YES	NORFOLK RECREATION, PARKS,

For more information, visit [NPS Before and After Care Programs](#) and [NPS Child-Care Plan](#).



# learn. play. grow.



continued from page 8

For more information, visit [NPS Before and After Care Programs](#) and [NPS Child-Care Plan](#).

				OPEN SPACE
<b>OCEANAIR</b>	NO		YES	NORFOLK RECREATION, PARKS, OPEN SPACE
<b>P.B. YOUNG (PREK-2)</b>	NO		YES	NORFOLK RECREATION, PARKS, OPEN SPACE
RICHARD BOWLING	YES	CHAMPIONS	YES	CHAMPIONS
RUFFNER ACADEMY	NO		YES	BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF SOUTHEAST VIRGINIA
<b>SEWELLS POINT</b>	NO		YES	NORFOLK RECREATION, PARKS, OPEN SPACE
SHERWOOD FOREST	NO		YES	NORFOLK RECREATION, PARKS, OPEN SPACE
SOUTHSIDE STEM @ CAMPOSTELLA (K-8)	YES	SOUTHSIDE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB	YES	SOUTHSIDE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB 21 <sup>ST</sup> CENTURY GRANT INTERVENTION
ST. HELENA	YES	SOUTHSIDE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB	YES	SOUTHSIDE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
SUBURBAN PARK	YES	YMCA	YES	YMCA 21 <sup>ST</sup> CENTURY LEARNING GRANT
<b>TANNERS CREEK</b>	NO		YES	NORFOLK RECREATION, PARKS, OPEN SPACE
TARRALLTON	NO		YES	NORFOLK RECREATION, PARKS, OPEN SPACE
<b>TIDEWATER PARK (3-5)</b>	NO		YES	NORFOLK RECREATION, PARKS, OPEN SPACE
W. H. TAYLOR	YES	YMCA	YES	YMCA
WILLARD	YES	YMCA	YES	YMCA
WILLOUGHBY	NO		NO	
BERKLEY/CAMPOSTELLA ECC	YES	LEA BCECC	YES	LEA BCECC

# Chromebooks, iPads, and More

The NPS Information Technology (IT) department strives to ensure that all students have their essential technology needs at the beginning of the school year. If your child does not have or was not previously assigned an iPad or a Chromebook during the last school year, please contact your child's school to receive one for the 2021-2022 school year.

For technical assistance, please feel free to use any of these resources to answer your questions and to get help:

## Virtual Learning Support Site

Login to the following websites with  
Username= [npssupport@nps.k12.va.us](mailto:npssupport@nps.k12.va.us)  
Password= [npssupport](#)

### ■ Device Care:

<https://k12nps.sharepoint.com/sites/NPSVirtualLearningSupport/SitePages/Device-Care.aspx>

### ■ Using an NPS Chromebook:

<https://k12nps.sharepoint.com/sites/NPSVirtualLearningSupport/SitePages/Using-Your-Chromebook.aspx>

### Using an NPS iPad:

<https://k12nps.sharepoint.com/sites/NPSVirtualLearningSupport/SitePages/Using-the-iPad.aspx>

**OR**

**Login with your own NPS Student ID and Password here to:**

- Change your NPS Student Password: <https://stupass.nps.k12.va.us/pwm/private/login>

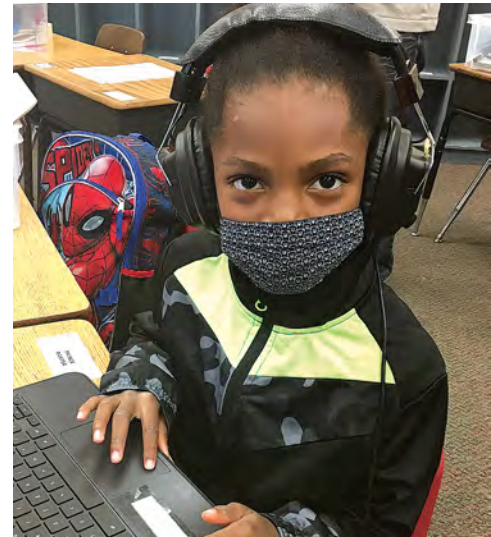
**OR**

**Report a computer problem to our HelpDesk:**

- Contact by Phone: **757-628-3900** (M-F; 7 AM to 4:30 PM); *Call volumes may be high*
- Create a HelpDesk Ticket yourself online: <https://helpdesk.nps.k12.va.us> (login with NPS-assigned Student ID and password)
- Email us: [HelpDesk@nps.k12.va.us](mailto:HelpDesk@nps.k12.va.us)  
Provide as much detail as you can about the problem, including:
  - What the student is trying to do
  - Student's name
  - Student's school
  - Student's ID  
**(NEVER SHARE THE PASSWORD!)**
  - Type of device:  
iPad / Chromebook / MiFi, etc.
  - Any error message(s) received on the device
  - A good phone number to contact you
  - A good time to contact you

**COMING  
SOON!**

A new module is being added to **SYNERGY,** **ONLINE REGISTRATION.** This new module will require the creation of all new parent accounts for ParentVue. Information will be coming soon that will include the link and the process you will need to follow to create your new account. Stay tuned!



# Virtual Scholars Academy



The Virtual Scholars Academy (VSA) is for students in grades 4-12 with full course offerings to include services and accommodations for students with disabilities as determined by the students' Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 team. The application process deadline was June 14.

Students accepted into the program remain enrolled at their zoned school and may participate in all school-sponsored athletics, clubs, and activities, if program requirements are met.

Students will be issued a Chromebook and a mi-fi device (if needed) by Norfolk Public Schools. Please email [VSA@nps.k12.va.us](mailto:VSA@nps.k12.va.us) if your child needs these items.

Visit [Virtual Scholars Academy](https://VirtualScholarsAcademy) for more information.



## Growth SOL Assessments Coming for Grades 3 – 8

There are exciting changes to Virginia's Standards of Learning (SOL) testing, especially for grades 3-8. Legislation was passed (HB2027 and SB1357) for growth SOL assessments to be administered in reading and mathematics in grades 3-8 in the fall and spring. The purpose of the growth assessments in the fall are to help teachers, staff, and administrators identify students' strengths and areas where students need additional support. Look for more information about these exciting changes from your child's school at the beginning of the school year.

## DID YOU KNOW

The Department of Assessment, Research, and Accountability (ARA) supports the division and its stakeholders by providing information and resources related to assessment, data reporting, and research and evaluation activities.

[Learn more.](#)



Dr. Byrdsong, NPS Superintendent, at the Read with MEac celebration.

✓ GET  
**ACTIVE.**  
✓ STAY  
**INVOLVED.**



it takes a  
**VILLAGE**



Norfolk Public Schools values the engagement of our community. We welcome the opportunity to partner with families, businesses, community organizations and agencies, military commands, and faith-based and civic groups to expand support and resources for our students.

Mutually beneficial partnerships that align with schools' goals and identified needs help to support students' learning and well-being by enriching the curriculum, providing additional learning experiences and rewards, broadening networks, and expanding our capacity to meet the needs of students, while improving communication between the schools and the community.

Contact LaEunice Brown ([lbrown405@nps.k12.va.us](mailto:lbrown405@nps.k12.va.us)) to learn more about community partnerships and volunteering in the Norfolk Public Schools.

NPS middle and high school athletics are set for a FULL return to activities for the 2021-2022 school year!

The NPS Office of Athletics is preparing for an exciting year as students, parents, coaches, staff, and fans return to athletic fields and gymnasiums across the district.

There are numerous opportunities for students to get active and stay involved, all of which are endorsed by the Virginia High School League (VHSL). Students can choose from 32 athletic competitions plus scholastic bowl, forensics, theater festival, school publication and academic competitions to gain valuable skills and greatly enhance their educational experience.

To learn more about getting in the game, visit [NPS Athletics](#).



Be sure to check the NPS 2021-2022 Academic Calendar for important dates and holiday observances.

