

# NORSTAR



**Engineering Tomorrow's Innovators**

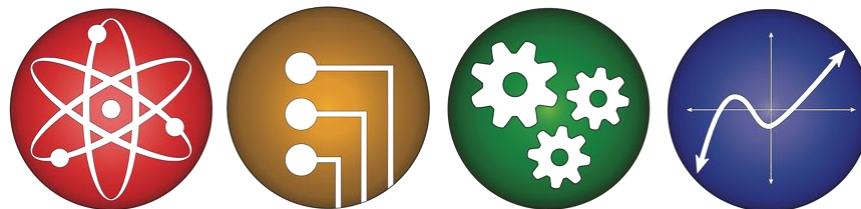


# What is NORSTAR?

NORSTAR is a student-driven, STEM-infused program open to highly motivated students, grades 9-12 in Norfolk Public Schools who have shown high achievement in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math

## NORSTAR Mission

The mission of **Norfolk Science, Technology and Advanced Research**, or NORSTAR, is to develop student leadership in STEM innovation and creative problem-solving by advancing students' 21<sup>st</sup>-century skills in an environment of mutual respect, collaboration, and teamwork.



# When is NORSTAR?

NORSTAR students board a NPS bus at their home schools at 8<sup>th</sup> block and travel to Norfolk Technical Center. NORSTAR operates all of Block 8 **plus** 90 minutes, making NORSTAR a “*twilight block*.” (12:45-3:45 on even days) At the conclusion of each NORSTAR session, students enjoy an evening meal and are then transported home via NPS bus.

Traditional High School Schedule for <i>EVEN</i> Days	NORSTAR
Block 2	Block 1/2
Block 4	Block 3/4
Block 6	Block 5/6
Block 8	<b>NORSTAR</b>
After-School Activity	<b>NORSTAR</b>



# NORSTAR Components



## Goal-Setting

Students analyze their own achievements and interests to set annual goals



## Projects

Students use the engineering design process to plan and execute projects from proposal to completion



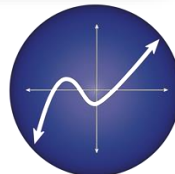
## Presentations

Students present their projects and teach others about STEM topics in schools across Norfolk

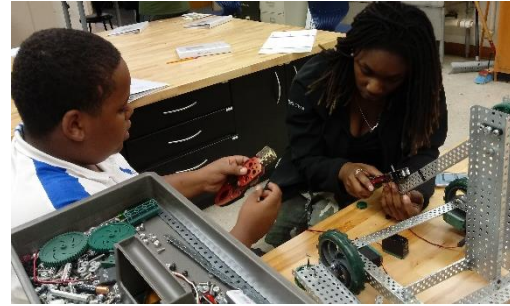


## Competitions

Students enter self-selected competitions to match wits with other tech scholars



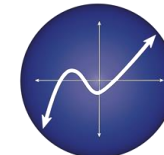
# NORSTAR Student Outcomes



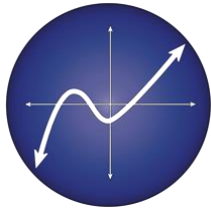
**Increased STEM  
skills toward mastery**

**Real-world  
applications**

**Collaboration with  
peers**



# Apply to NORSTAR



## NORSTAR Candidate Requirements

1. High achievement in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math
2. Currently taking or successfully completed Algebra I
3. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above
4. Enrollment at one of five NPS high schools in September 2021
5. An outstanding attendance and discipline record

## NORSTAR Application Components



1. Student information page
2. Three positive recommendations
3. A current and complete Middle School Profile (available through your school counselor)



Download an application at <https://www.npsk12.com/GEARS>

# Apply to NORSTAR (cont.)



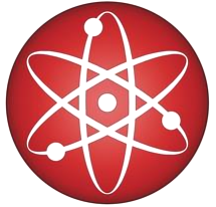
## NORSTAR Application Process

Applications are reviewed, and selected students are notified to schedule an interview with NORSTAR staff. Final decisions are made by April.



Download an application at <https://www.npsk12.com/GEARS>

## The NORSTAR Interview



Interviews will be tentatively held at Norfolk Technical Center. Each interview lasts typically 20-25 minutes. A panel asks candidates to respond to a series of questions about their interests, experiences, and potential contributions to the NORSTAR program.



# Important Dates to Remember

Applications available on the NPS website <i>Download an application at</i> <a href="https://www.npsk12.com/GEARS">https://www.npsk12.com/GEARS</a>	November 5, 2020
NORSTAR Informational Night	January 20, 2021
Application DEADLINE (to your counselor)	January 22, 2021
Invitations for NORSTAR interviews sent	March 5, 2021
NORSTAR Interviews	March 15-26, 2021
Notification Letters mailed to families	April 25, 2021
Parent/Student acceptance notification to NORSTAR	May 3, 2021

