



Nighthawk News

[HTTP://NEWTOWN.NHS.SCHOOLDESK.NET](http://newtown.nhs.schooldesk.net)



JANUARY 16, 2018

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Winter Break:**
Feb 19-20
- **Spring Conferences:**
March 15
- **NHS Musical:**
March 22-25
- **College Fair:**
March 27

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| PTSA News | 2 |
| Science News | 3 |
| Career Center | 4-7 |
| Important Dates | 8 |

Principal's Message



Happy New Year to everyone! I hope you all enjoyed your holidays. At the beginning of the year 2018, let me say what a privilege it is to work with all of you. I am grateful for your help and your patience. The experience of working with outstanding educators, parents and students is always refreshing and stimulating, and never more so than this year. We look forward to an outstanding 2nd half of the year.

The following are upcoming events and ongoing initiatives that might interest you:

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--|---------|-----------|
| January 11-18 | Mid-Term Exams | | |
| January 19 | Second Semester Begins - G day | | |
| January 24 | PTSA Meeting | 9:30 am | Room B140 |
| January 30 | Early Graduation Ceremony | 4:30pm | NHS |
| February 7 | Incoming 9 th Grade Informational Night | 6:30pm | |
| <i>Snow date: Feb 12</i> | <i>(Current 8th Graders Only)</i> | | |

This year's 9th Grade Informational Night will start with a basic introduction to the 9th grade curriculum in the new auditorium. It will then be followed by a walk-thru where parents and 8th graders will have a chance to learn and hear about our electives. Many teachers will

be present to showcase their programs and answer questions.

This initiative came from many of the conversations and feedback received from parents at the Principal's Breakfast.

I continue to be proud of our Newtown High School students

and dedicated staff. As the year continues, we look forward to celebrating their achievements, their community service, their acts of kindness, and their leadership.

David Roach
Interim Principal

From Your PTSA



Reminder!

NHS PTSA Meeting January 24 at 9:30 am, room BI 40

Please join us during our next General Meeting. There are many exciting things going on and we have a great agenda! Dr. Rodrigue will introduce the proposed 2018-2019 BOE Budget and provide an update on the *Delayed School Start Time* initiative.

Remaining 2018 meeting dates:

| | | |
|---------|--------|--|
| April 4 | 7:00pm | Special Budget General Meeting (<i>tentative</i>) |
| June 6 | 9:30am | General Meeting; Vote for budget and elect new board |

Save the Date for our first annual Nighthawks Challenge March 11



The 1st annual Nighthawks Challenge is an NHS student and faculty competition where teams will go through a series of obstacles testing their physical, mental and creative abilities. The event will be held on Sunday, March 11 from 12:00-2:00 pm at NHS. Proceeds will go to an NHS student body determined cause and to the NHS PTSA Senior College Scholarship Fund and Teacher/Classroom Grant Programs.

Please encourage your NHS students to form a team (4-8 members) and register by February 26 at <https://nighthawks-challenge-team-registration.eventbrite.com>.

This is a spectator event so we encourage NHS and Newtown Public Schools families to attend this event. You can purchase tickets for your family at <https://nighthawks-challenge-event-tickets.eventbrite.com>.

Sponsored by the NHS PTSA and NHS Administration

Seeking Candidates for NHS PTSA 2018-2019 Board Members

Happy New Year!

The NHS PTSA Board is preparing for the candidate application process for open Board positions for the 2018-2019 school year. The Committee is seeking candidates for open PTSA board positions of President, up to 2 Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer. We encourage you to consider volunteering for one of these truly rewarding roles soon as the current Board would like candidates to shadow us in our positions through the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year.

If you would like to be considered for any of these positions, please email ptsaofnhs@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support.

Kat Young

NHS PTSA President

Senior Citizen Spring Musical Event Volunteers Needed!

The PTSA sponsors a senior citizen event annually that includes a dinner and viewing of the spring Musical's dress rehearsal. We will be asking for volunteers to provide food/drink donations as well as to help at the event. The date for this special evening will be Wednesday, March 21. Details will follow at a later date.

Reflections Update

All of this year's entries have been judged and First, Second & Third place winners will be notified next week.

The First Place winning entries will be sent to the CT PTA to be judged at the State level.

Good luck to each of you! All other entries can be picked up at the Main Office.

SAT Bootcamp Coming Soon

The PTSA will be sponsoring an SAT Bootcamp on the weekend of March 10 and March 11, prior to the in-school mandatory SAT test on March 21. Look for details that will come at a later date.

Science Department News

Physics: Conservation of Energy

Students in Mrs. Torrance's physics class designed their own lab in order to demonstrate conservation of mechanical energy. They were allowed to use any equipment available in the room to show the transformation of potential to kinetic, or kinetic to potential energy. Some chose to roll carts down ramps, others dropped objects from a known height, and others decided to let the pendulum swing. What a great way to learn about energy transformations!



Physics: Conservation of Momentum

Physics teacher Dr. Malarly and his students braved the cold a couple of weeks ago to demonstrate two rockets as examples of Conservation of Momentum. One rocket used solid fuel, the other used vinegar and baking soda, but both showed that momentum is conserved and Newton's Third Law of Motion was obeyed!



Welcome New Greenery Teacher Shawn Mullen

New Greenery teacher Shawn Mullen joined us this year, replacing retired NHS veteran George Bachman, and he has started off with a bang!

Whether it's showing students how to treat plants for pests using natural materials, putting groups of students into an assembly line to prepare planters, having plant sales in the NHS Main Lobby three days a week, or inspiring a student to make a planter that looks like a solar system, Mr. Mullen is doing everything he can to help his students learn about growing, presenting, and selling plants!



Chris Canfield
Science Department Chair

Career Center Information

203-426-7679

Peg Ragaini - School to Career Coordinator ragainip@newtown.k12.ct.us
 Kitty Latowicki - College/Career Center Coordinator latowickik@newtown.k12.ct.us

The Career Center is open from 7:30 am-3:00 pm, Monday through Friday. There are eight computers available for student use and a table and chairs for schoolwork and studying. We welcome all students in all grades. If the Career Center is not open due to appointments, college visits, speakers, etc., a sign will be posted on both doors alerting students of the closure. Mrs. Latowicki is available to meet with a student and/or parent/s, before, during and after school. She is available to discuss careers, colleges, technical schools, scholarships, life after high school, etc. Please call or email her to set up an appointment.

COLLEGE AND POST-SECONDARY OPTIONS FAIR

Tuesday, March 27

7:00-8:30pm

Newtown High School Gym



COLLEGE FAIR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Student volunteers are needed for the upcoming College Fair on Tuesday, March 27. Without the assistance of student volunteers, the fair cannot achieve the same success as in previous years. Help is needed! Volunteers are needed for the following time slots:

2:35-3:30 Set Up

4:45-7:00 Meet & Greet

7:00-8:30 Assistance During the Fair

8:30 9:30 Clean Up

Any interested students should stop by the Career Center to sign up to volunteer. Students will receive community service hours for time spent at the Fair.

The Newtown High School College and Post-Secondary Options Fair will take place on Tuesday, March 27 from 7-8:30 pm in the gym. A list of schools and other institutions will be listed on the [NHS Counseling](#) and [Career Center](#) websites as we get closer to the date of the Fair.

Please also check the document library in [Naviance](#) (under *College Planning*) for a document named "Attending College Fairs" which addresses:

- Things to do before the Fair
- What to bring to the Fair
- Things to do at the Fair

Career Cruising



Career Cruising is a career exploration program available to NHS students and families on the web.

The program may be accessed under "Links" on the home page of [Naviance](#), the NHS [Career Center website](#), or by going directly to www.careercruising.com.

The username and password are available in the Career Center or by calling 203.426.7679 or emailing ragainip@newtown.k12.ct.us. Sophomores will be completing the Matchmaker career interest inventory during one of their spring Counselor Workshops.



Career Shadows

This program allows junior and seniors one excused day per semester to spend time in a career field of their interest with a community volunteer. If we do not have a volunteer in a student's particular field of interest, we will attempt to find one. **The deadline to apply for a Career Shadow is March 31.**

Career Center Information

Enrichment Programs

Please take time to check out the Enrichment Programs in [Naviance](#) (located under the *Colleges* tab). These programs are available to high school students, some during the school year, but mostly for summer enrichment.

There are programs available for students with all different types of interests. Many enrichment programs give students the opportunity to have new experiences in subjects they are interested in, as well as opportunities to get involved in areas they are passionate about. There are summer school opportunities as well.

NHS does not promote any program, we just provide the information. There are hundreds of programs listed in Naviance. Students should also check the bulletin board outside the Career Center. Please contact individual programs for detailed information and to ensure all the information in Naviance is

correct. Mrs. Latowicki will keep a folder of all materials received on summer programs.

Examples of Summer Enrichment Programs:

- UConn Natural Resources Conservation Academy
- UConn Explore Engineering E2 Program
- Yale Young Global Scholars Program for Outstanding High School Students
- NYU Tisch School of the Arts
- Parson School of the Arts in NYC
- Assumption College, Worcester, MA- Pre-College Summer Program
- Rutgers University Pre-Engineering Summer Academy, New Brunswick, NJ

Scholarships

Our scholarship list is updated weekly. In the coming weeks and months many of the local scholarships will arrive in the Career Center. Some paper applications for the scholarships are available in the Career Center but most are available online, either in [Naviance](#) or at specific websites. Please check Naviance for the available scholarships. When applying for scholarships, be mindful of deadlines. Do not wait until the last minute to gather the documentation you need to complete a scholarship application, i.e. recommendations, transcripts, report cards and or SAT/ACT scores.

Many of our scholarships are for seniors only. There are a few in the list that are available for underclassmen. A legend is available, in



Naviance, to help differentiate which scholarships are for which grades and which scholarships are new for the week. The legend is printed below. If you have any questions regarding scholarships, contact Mrs. Latowicki.

Legend

- * **NEW Scholarships for the week**
- ◆ **Seniors only apply**
- ▶ **Juniors only apply**
- **Sophomores, Juniors & Seniors Eligible**
- ⚙ **All Grades Eligible**

Scholarship Workshop

For SENIORS Only

January 25

Mrs. Latowicki will be running a scholarship workshop on Thursday, January 25, "C" day, during class 1, which is the long period.

During each of the lunch waves she will discuss available scholarships, the process of applying for scholarships and how to search for scholarships.

You can eat lunch while attending the workshop. Students may not miss class to attend the workshop.

Please see Mrs. Latowicki with any questions regarding the workshop.

Scholarship Tips for Seniors

- Scholarships are for those seniors who are planning on continuing their education at either a 4-year or 2-year college, or technical school.
- Each scholarship is different and reading for details is important. Be mindful of deadlines. There are rarely extensions or excuses accepted if an application is late. You do not have to wait until the due date to submit or mail a scholarship application. Waiting until the due date may be problematic if you are sick, or there is a weather-related event.
- Transcript and report card requests must be made at least 24 hours in advance through Mrs. Latowicki or a School Counseling secretary. Again, do not wait until the last minute to request these documents.
- Senior transcripts are available in [Naviance](#) - from the home page click on *about me* tab, scroll to third box, click on *documents*, then click on *senior documents*. If the transcript needs to be official please bring a copy of your transcript to Mrs. Latowicki or either one of the secretaries in the Counseling Office.
- There are scholarships based on interests, religion, ethnicity, a disability, community service, GPA's, majors, etc.
- Check for scholarships through your parent's and/or grandparent's employers or organizations they are involved with.
- Check the website of the school you plan on attending since many schools offer scholarships which go unanswered since many students are unaware that scholarships are being offered.
- Scholarships may reduce your financial aid. If this causes a problem, a call to the financial aid office, at the school you are attending, explaining your situation, may be helpful.
- Never fill out an application in pencil.
- Most applications may be downloaded from [Naviance](#) unless otherwise noted. Paper applications are available in the Career Center as specified. Some applications are through specific websites, also noted in [Naviance](#).
- Check other scholarship websites listed on your [Naviance](#) home page, i.e. Cappex, Sallie Mae, CollegeWeekLive, Fast Web, Unigo, etc.
- PLEASE remember to write thank you note/s to the local and regional organizations that awarded the scholarship. This is a very important step in the scholarship process.

Local & Regional Scholarships Available Now or Coming Soon for Seniors

- | | |
|--|---|
| 26 Angels Foundation Scholarship | Newtown Cultural Arts Commission Scholarship |
| AFT CT Scholarship | Newtown Federation of Teachers Scholarship |
| Bill Lauf Memorial – journalism or environmental science | NHS Choral Parents Scholarship |
| Bohdan Kolinsky Memorial Scholarship for Sports Print Journalism | NHS Orchestra Scholarship |
| Church Hill Physical Therapy | NHS PTSA Scholarship |
| CT Nurserymen's Scholarship | Newtown Junior Women's Club Scholarship |
| CT Nutmeg PTA Scholarship | Newtown Scholarship Association |
| Delta Kappa Gamma Society | Newtown School Nurses Scholarship |
| Education Connection Scholarship | Newtown VNA Scholarship |
| Ernest Badillo | Newtown Youth Basketball Association Scholarship |
| Fred Davidson Memorial Soccer Scholarship | Newtown Youth Football & Cheerleading Scholarship |
| Frederick A. DeLuca | Newtown Youth Lacrosse Scholarship |
| Glenn Moon Scholarship | Pay it Forward Scholarship |
| Hawley School PTA – Hawley School graduate | Reed School PTA Scholarship |
| Head O' Meadow PTA Scholarship | Robert Glander Memorial Scholarship |
| Horticulture Club of Newtown | Sandy Hook School PTA Scholarship |
| Jean O'Brien Memorial Scholarship | UConn 100 Years of Women Scholarship |
| Kline Family Community Service Scholarship | UNICO |
| Mary Frances Edgett Scholarship | Urgent Care of Connecticut Scholarship |
| Masonicare of Newtown Junior Volunteer Scholarship | USBC Bowling – member, parent or grandparent |
| Meserve Scholarship | Waterbury Credit Union |
| Middle Gate PTA Scholarship | Weller Education Scholarship |
| Newtown Babe Ruth Softball Scholarship | Weller Medical Health Scholarship |
| | Weller Vincent Voccia Vocational Award |
| | Working Women's Forum Scholarship |
| | and more! Check Naviance. |

Career Center Information

Attention Current Sophomores!

Participants Needed For **Senior Experience 21**

We are seeking sophomore students to participate in **Senior Experience 21** during their Junior and Senior year. Students are asked to design their own project over the course of their last two years of high school.

Juniors will earn .25 credits and meet during Advisory times. Juniors will complete a project proposal, identify research resources, and create a timeline. In their Senior year, students will complete their project and present it for .75 credit. Student work is evaluated on a pass/fail basis.

This is a great way to increase scholarship opportunities, learn how to manage your time before you attend college, and to develop a personal stand-out factor for college applications. For more information, please see Mrs. Ragaini in the Career Center or Mrs. Hanna in the English Department.



Junior/Senior Project Class

This spring semester is the last semester the Junior/Senior Project class will be offered. The Junior and Senior Project class provides the motivated and responsible junior or senior learner an opportunity to distinguish themselves by developing a career-oriented relationship with a community professional in the student's area of chosen interest. Participants are expected to be motivated and self-directed.

The program requires that the Junior/Senior Project be an experience unavailable in the traditional classroom. This course counts as a fifth class for seniors and a sixth class for juniors. Please see your School Counselor or Mrs. Ragaini if you are interested in signing up for the spring.

Internships

Junior and senior students work for an employer, usually for one or more semesters, to gain knowledge about a career. Internships occur outside of the school day and may be paid or unpaid.

Applications are being accepted for the 2018-2019 school year. Students interested in medical careers are strongly encouraged to apply for the EdAdvance Regional Healthcare Shadowing Program.

Internships are set up during the school year. Students that complete their internship and required paperwork through the Career Center will have the experience noted on their transcript.

Applications are available in the Career Center or on our [website](#).



Newtown High School
12 Berkshire Rd.
Sandy Hook, CT 06482

Important Links

- NHS Home Page <http://newtown.nhs.schooldesk.net/>
- NHS Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Newtown-High-School/158260014186649>
- NHS PTSA Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/Newtown-High-School-PTSA->
- NHS PTSA: News, Events, Updates & Forms / Google Drive <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B1fMvLvpIZblTTVdIS0hMd3JoZWm>
- Guidance/Naviance <https://connection.naviance.com/newtown>
- PowerSchool Portal <https://ps.newtown.k12.ct.us/public/>
- Athletics www.nighthawkspports.com
- 2017-2018 School Calendar <http://www.newtown.k12.ct.us/Parents/SchoolCalendar2017-2018/tabid/108124/Default.aspx>
- NHS Schedule of Days Calendar <http://nhs.newtown.schooldesk.net/Portals/Newtown/NHS/docs/Nathalie/1718DAYS2.pdf>

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| School Office: | 203-426-7646 |
| Fax: | 203-426-6573 |
| Attendance: | 203-426-7656 |
| Cafeteria: | 203-426-7637 |
| School Counseling Office: | 203-426-7651 |
| NHS Resource Officer: | 203-426-7646, x6124 |
| Nurse: | 203-426-7649 |
| Psychologist: | 203-426-7651 |
| Substance Abuse Counselor: | 203-426-7646, x6125 |

Dates to Remember

- January 11-18 Mid-Term Exams - *Early Dismissal*
- January 19 Second Semester Begins - G day
- January 24 PTSA Meeting - 9:30 am
- January 30 Early Graduates Ceremony
- February 2 2-Hour Delay - *Staff Development*
- February 7 Incoming 9th Grade Informational Night
- February 19-20 Schools Closed - *Winter Break*
- March 14 Early Dismissal - *Staff Development*
- March 15 Parent Teacher Conferences - Early Dismissal
- March 16 Early Dismissal - *Staff Development*
- March 16 Junior Prom @ Amber Room
- March 21 State-wide SAT @ NHS
- March 22-25 NHS Musical
- March 27 NHS College Fair
- March 30 Schools Closed - *Good Friday*