

North Schuylkill

District Newsletter

January 2018

2017-2018 Superintendent's Message

Welcome to the second semester! I hope everyone had a great beginning to the 2017-2018 school year.

This year the District theme is "Blue Bamboo" a combination of the *Cross the Line* message by Sam Parker and the book *Water the Bamboo* by Greg Bell.

With everything, there is a line. On one side of the line is a greater chance to make good things happen. On the other side, there's less of a chance. And with each line, you have a choice. Do you want to cross the line? Do you want that better chance at making great things happen?

Water the Bamboo is a metaphor for team and individual success. It's a concept based on the type of bamboo that grows like no other plant in the world. If you water giant timber bamboo in the first year, nothing happens. If you water the second year, nothing happens. If you water the third year, nothing happens. But when you water the bamboo the fourth year, it will rocket up an astonishing 90 feet in only 60 days.

Let's all continue to cross the blue lines and water our bamboo in many areas at North Schuylkill. I encourage everyone to stay connected with the school as we know that your Involvement has a positive impact on student learning and social well-being. Follow us on Facebook [@NorthSchuylkillSD](https://www.facebook.com/NorthSchuylkillSD) and Twitter [@NorthSchuylkill](https://twitter.com/NorthSchuylkill). The contents of this newsletter are designed to provide you with information about the District, yet it may not answer all of your questions. We welcome your questions and your input as members of the Spartan Community. If I can personally be of help, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am available to you at (570) 874 -0466 or by emailing rackell@northschuylkill.net.

Dr. Robert Ackell,
Superintendent of Schools



In This Issue

- Blue Bamboo
- District 2018-2019 Calendar
- District Contact Information
- Kindergarten Registration 2018-2019
- Meet the Spartans
- Movie Night in February
- No Data Delays Next Year
- PBIS
- School Board Members
- Spartan Games
- State Testing Dates and Tips
- State Testing Samples
- What's Next Conference

BLUE BAMBOO



[Twitter.com/NorthSchuylkill](https://twitter.com/NorthSchuylkill)

Spartans



[Facebook.com/NorthSchuylkillSD](https://www.facebook.com/NorthSchuylkillSD)

PBIS - Positive Behavior Implementation System

NSE PBIS and the SPARTY Way

Positive Behavior Implementation System (PBIS) is a research based, data driven, and student centered system. The North Schuylkill Elementary PBIS team attended a state wide conference, received local training through our IU team, and are currently working for state recognition for our system. Our motto is SPARTY: Safe, Participate, Act Respectful, Teamwork and You. Our students need clear behavioral expectations that are taught, reinforced, and consistent across our school system. Our team has been very busy this first year of implementation. There have been lots of reinforcements throughout the year to acknowledge that our students, your children, are doing an exceptional job. PBIS is an ever changing system due to using data collected to change, update, or add new components to help our students. It is vital that our PBIS team pairs with parents, community members, and the students to make positive strides for their futures. An old saying goes that "it takes a village to raise a child". We are the Spartan Nation and we do make a great team!!!!



JSHS PBIS

The Jr/Sr High School Building adopted a new PBIS plan for this school year as well. Our Behavioral plan is a reward system for positive behavior that is exhibited in the classroom, or anywhere on campus. If a staff member sees a student doing something positive, they will give the student a reward ticket. The student will then place the reward ticket into the reward bin located in the main lobby of the high school. At the end of each week, a junior-high student and a high school student are picked for a reward. The staff member who gave them the ticket is also rewarded. The prizes are gift certificates to restaurants, tickets for events, or free tickets for sporting events. We announce each week's winners on the newscast every Friday. It has really promoted a great atmosphere around the building and helped to create a positive culture in the throughout the school.



2018-2019 Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration for the 2018-2019 School Year will take place during the week of: **March 12—16, 2018.**

Starting on **Monday, February 5th**, please call the office at (570) 874-3661 to set up an appointment.

Students must be 5 years old as of **July 1, 2018** to register for Kindergarten.

After you schedule an appointment, a registration packet will be mailed to you.

What You Will Need That Day:

- Completed Registration Packet (please be sure to complete the entire packet before arriving for your appointment)
- Immunization Records (originals or a copy)
- 3 Proofs of Residency
- Your Child's Birth Certificate.

What to Expect Upon Arriving at the Elementary School:

You'll start the registration process in the main office where the secretary will review your registration packet. While you meet with the secretary and the nurse, where you will also discuss medical history, your child will be administered a Kindergarten Entrance Screening. The screening has three sections—academics, motor skills, and speech. After your child has completed the screening, a teacher and speech therapist will review the results of the screening with you.

The PTO's School Store will also be open during Kindergarten Registration for parents/guardians to shop for dress code approved clothing. Members of our PTO will also be available to answer any questions you might have about our school or becoming active in PTO.

Kindergarten Orientation will be held on **Wednesday, August 22nd at 3:00**. Parents/guardians will have the opportunity to get a general overview of the Kindergarten program at North Schuylkill Elementary. The Kindergarten Teachers will explain curriculum, grading, report cards, lunch, what your child will need, snack etc.

While parents/guardians are attending Kindergarten Orientation, incoming Kindergarten Students will be invited to go on a trial bus ride! Some of the Kindergarten Teachers will ride the bus with the students and talk about the bus rules and appropriate bus behavior.

We Look Forward to Meeting You and Your Child!



Spartan Games

Our second annual SPARTAN GAMES will be held on **May 15, 2018**. This track and field meet is designed for students with disabilities who may not have the opportunity to participate in athletic events with their peers. Fourteen school districts participate in the event and the public is invited to cheer on our athletes.

What's Next Conference Penn State Schuylkill Campus Saturday, March 10th 9:00AM-2:30PM

A one-day free conference for parents and students in grades 8 through 12 who want to explore options for the future. Keynote speaker, Lynn Anderson from Southern Regional Education Board, will speak on the benefits of preparing for what's next. Exhibitors from area businesses, organizations, and institutes of post-secondary education will showcase the variety of options for Schuylkill County students. Also, breakout sessions will expand on specific career and college topics for both students and parents.



Brook and Jennifer Spirit Parade in Disney

Meet the Spartans Winter 2017—2018



Boys' Cross Country team—undefeated, and captured the Schuylkill League Division 1 title



Joey surpassed the 1,000 point milestone



Aaron signed to continue his academic and football careers at Syracuse University



The Lady Spartan Basketball team captured the 2017 State College Kiwanis Holiday Tournament championship! The Lady Spartans defeated State College in the opening round, and went on to defeat Bishop Carroll, 53 to 43, in the championship game. Lady Spartan players Averri Jordan and Samantha Shinkus were selected to the All Tournament team! Averri Jordan was also selected as North Schuylkill's MVP for her excellence in academics, leadership, and community service!



North Schuylkill School District Board Directors:

Charles Hepler—President
Roy Green—Vice President
MaryAnn Woodward—Treasurer
Suzanne O'Neill
Thomas Fletcher
Douglas Gressens
Edward Balkiewicz
Janine Simms
Glenn Weist
Brian Urban—Solicitor
Merri Lynn Craig—Secretary

For future School Board meeting dates, please visit our website:

www.northschuylkill.net

Click [Our District](#) and then [Board of Education](#).

District Contact:

570.874.0495

Dr. Robert Ackell, Superintendent
rackell@northschuylkill.net

Merri Lynn Craig, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
mcraig@northschuylkill.net

Robert Amos, Business Manager
ramos@northschuylkill.net

Kimberly Groody, Supervisor of Curriculum & Federal Programs
kgroody@northschuylkill.net

Knute Brayford, Supervisor of Special Education
kbrayford@northschuylkill.net

Ashley Palubinsky, Assistant Supervisor of Special Education & Gifted Coordinator
apalubinsky@northschuylkill.net

Mark Andrewcavage, Coordinator of Computer Services and Technology
marka@northschuylkill.net

James Gross, Athletic Director
jgross@northschuylkill.net

Lonnie Carl, Director of Buildings and Grounds
lcarl@northschuylkill.net



Attention: No Data Delays Next Year

Please review the 2018-2019 District Calendar on our website.

<http://www.northschuylkill.net>

Click: Our District

Click: District Resources

Please take notice that data delays have been removed.

There will only be Teacher Act 80 Days.



NS Free Movie Night
Friday, February, 23, 2018
7:00 PM

NS JSHS Auditorium
Movie: Wonder Woman
Popcorn, Drinks, Cookies