



Office: 444-3400

Report Absences/Dismissals: 444-3404

Homework Requests: 444-3404

Website: [northridge.danville118.org](http://northridge.danville118.org)

*North Ridge Middle School is  
a collaborative school community focused  
on ensuring success for all learners.*

## September 2017

### Dates to Remember

Wednesday, September 13 – Early Dismissal 2:45pm

Saturday, September 16 – Show Choir Nashville Fundraiser 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Beef House

Wednesday, September 20 – Progress Reports go home

Friday, September 22 – All School Fundraiser Kick-off 9:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Wednesday, September 27 – Early Dismissal 2:45pm

Friday, October 6 – No school for students – Staff Institute

Monday, October 9 – No school for students – Columbus Day

### Welcome back to the 2017-2018 school year!

The students and staff are excited to be back and we have had a positive start. We hope to build on the excitement and offer students a positive learning experience.

We are committed to improvement and making North Ridge Middle School even more successful.

Our goals are:

1. To establish positive relationships with students and parents.
2. Academically challenge students to perform at their fullest potential.
3. Make learning fun and enjoyable.
4. Create a positive learning environment
5. Provide students with an atmosphere that supports college and career readiness

As parents, your support is an important element in building a strong learning environment. We welcome you to be a part of the learning experience. Remember, this is your school and we welcome your involvement.

**Eliza Brooks, Principal**  
**Robin Fluno, Assistant Principal**

## North Ridge Middle School Grading Policy 2017-2018

For each unit the teachers will have a select number of teaching targets that are to be the focus of the unit and the guiding principles for the class. These targets are aligned with the local curriculum and national directives (NGSS, Common Core).

### Grading

Grades will be given in all classes and will have the following breakdown:

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	50-59

**Each student will earn a letter grade for the course, targets, and sub-targets.**

**Course Grade:** Overall grade for the course which is calculated by averaging the target grades

**Target Grade:** Categories within a course. Each target will have a grade which is calculated by averaging sub-target grades

**Sub-target Grade:** Specific skills taught and assessed in the course. Sub-targets are calculated using a "weighted average."

When computing grades we will look at the pattern of achievement and rely more on the most recent scores, not just compute the simple average of all the scores. This means giving more weight to the more recent scores to determine a summative grade. *Grades from standards/targets will be averaged to determine the overall grade for a subject.*

### Re-take Policy

Because the purpose of grades is to reflect student progress or performance on a content target, the

goal is that all students will meet or approach meeting the grade level targets. Due to this students will be given the chance to retake all assessments based on the following criteria:

1. All missing assignments pertinent to the quiz, test, project and/or assessment being retaken **MUST** be completed prior to earning a retake.
2. An additional practice assignment or task may be required prior to earning a retake.
3. Corrections to the first quiz, test, and/or assessment may be made prior to earning a retake.
4. The student may be required to attend a remediation session with the teacher in order to earn a retake.
5. The most recent retake grade **WILL** replace the previous grade (better or worse).
6. No extra credit will be offered.

### Eligibility

Students must be passing all subjects with 60% or higher in order to be considered eligible for extra-curricular activities. Eligibility runs Sunday through Saturday.

### North Ridge Middle School Transitions to Teacher Ease for Standards-Based Grading

During this past summer, North Ridge Middle School revamped the grading system and is now using new software to report and manage grades. The new system is called Teacher Ease and allows more options for our Standards-Based Grading system compared to Skyward. In the past you have been able to log into Skyward from our district webpage in order to check on your child's grades and attendance. Starting this year, student grades will be viewable through Teacher Ease while attendance will still be tracked in Skyward. We know that this is an extra hassle, but we believe that change will be worth it. In the near future, you will be assigned a new log-in that gives you access to Teacher Ease. Within Teacher Ease you will be allowed to see up-to-date assignments, view grades for each subject, email teachers directly, and view classroom announcements. More information will be coming

soon regarding how to access your Teacher Ease account for parents.

**School attendance is important. Please make sure your child is at school, on time each day. Being present for direct instruction increases each student's chances for success. Please attempt to schedule appointments before or after school whenever possible. If it is necessary for your child to be absent due to illness or injury, please call the Attendance Office at (217)444-3404.**

#### **Danville Public Schools Presents:**

"Nutrition and Cooking" at the Fair Oaks Community Room on September 12th from 1pm-2pm, for all District 118 families! There will be giveaways! Please call the Educational Support at 444-1092 to make your reservation!

Other locations and dates include:

September 26th- Green Meadows  
October 24- Danville Public library

"This project is sponsored and funded by Deferral Title 1 funds."

#### **Camp Healing Heart**

Children respond to death in different ways. They have so little life experience that moving through the grief process can be extremely difficult and have lifelong consequences. Camp Healing Heart provides a safe and caring environment for children who have experienced the death of a loved one or friend. Here, campers express their grief, emotion, fear and concerns and learn coping skills that will continue to help them through adulthood.

Camp Healing Heart is a great day camp for North Ridge Middle School students who have experienced the death of a loved one. It is free for any child age 5-17 and takes place on October 21, 2017 in Monticello, IL. For more information please call (800) 239-3620 or visit [carle.org/hospice](http://carle.org/hospice), or contact one of our school counselors or social workers at North Ridge Middle School.

#### **P.E.**

Physical education is starting the year off with Fitnessgram assessments. Students will learn how to perform the assessments correctly prior to the actual test. They will participate in an aerobic capacity assessment called the Pacer Test, two strength assessments (push-up and curl-up tests), along with the sit-and-reach flexibility assessment. Students will then be able to compare their scores to the national healthy fitness guidelines and analyze their results. Our goal as a department is to improve these assessment scores by the end of the school year and promote lifelong physical activity.

#### **Show Choir**

The North Ridge Show Choirs are set to compete at Show Choir Nationals at the Grand Old Opry in Nashville, TN in March, 2018. Fundraising efforts to help finance the trip for over 80 talented musicians is kicking off with "A Night At The Opry".

"A Night At The Opry" is a dinner theatre event featuring the music of Hank Williams, Johnny Cash and Patsy Cline with Logan Kirby, Kena Clark, and friends. The event will be held on Saturday, September 16, 2017 at the Beef House Banquet Center. Doors will open at 7:00 EST. Dinner will be served from 7:00 -8:15 PM EST. Dinner menu includes BBQ, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad, Rolls, Dessert and Tea or Lemonade. The concert will begin at 8:30 PM EST.

Logan Kirby, a graduate of Westville High School, has been playing the guitar since age 7 and has been singing since the same time. He is a local country music singer and impersonator. His biggest influences include Hank Williams, Elvis Presley and Johnny Cash. Local audiences will recognize him from his appearance as Johnny Cash in the Million Dollar Quartet at the Beef House Dinner Theatre in Summer 2016.

Kena Clark has appeared 5 times as Patsy Cline in the musical Always, Patsy Cline, twice with sold out runs at the Beef House Dinner Theatre! She performs from the heart just the way Patsy did. Kena recently appeared at the BHDT as Sister Mary in DISASTER!

Tickets are \$30 general admission. \$45 tickets for reserved VIP tickets front row of tables are also available. VIP seats are limited.

Tickets available from Jennifer Woodrow at North Ridge Middle School after Tuesday August 29th. 217-444-3476.

### **Choir**

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade choirs are working on repertoire for their first concerts. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade will perform on Monday, October 2 at 7:00 PM in the NR Cafetorium. They are scheduled to perform songs including: Sanctus and 4 Chords. The concert will also feature auditioned soloists from the choirs. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade will perform on the NR Veteran's Concert on Monday, Nov 6 at 7 PM in the NR Cafetorium. All NR concerts are free of charge.

### **Softball**

North Ridge Lady Runners softball team kicked off the year with an excellent season! The girls went into regional placing with a record of 10-1. Since then, they have lost a couple more but are headed to regionals with plans to win and move on! It has truly been a great season.

### **7<sup>th</sup>**

Currently 7<sup>th</sup> grade math is working on ratios and proportions. When shopping, ask your child to compute the unit prices to determine which brand or size is the best buy. Students should also be practicing their basic multiplication to assist in mastery in this standard. Math students should be bringing homework home regularly. It would be helpful if parents would check for this and review skills. Students should be taking daily supplies including books, agendas, pencils, and paper to class. Please, make sure your child has the necessary supplies to be successful. Thank you to the families who supplied tissues, disinfectant wipes, and hand sanitizer for our classrooms. If you have not sent yours in yet, it is not too late! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call or e-mail your child's math teacher.

Mrs. Bergeron 444-3450  
Mrs. Daulton 444-3451  
Ms. Ferguson 444-3410  
Miss Holderbaugh 444-3438  
Ms. Sigler 444-3457  
Ms. Taylor 444-3448

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA**

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade English language arts Teachers would like to welcome all the students back to school. We are off to a great start for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter as we begin reviewing story elements, citing textual evidence and making inferences in the many short stories that we will be reading. Your student will have an AR goal every quarter this year, so be looking for those AR books at home and make sure your child is reading. If you have any concerns or questions, please give us a call at any time and we will do whatever we can to make your child's 8<sup>th</sup> grade year a big success.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Pre-Algebra classes are beginning the first unit on Real Numbers. As students begin to work with real numbers they will learn to classify, compare, and sequence all real

numbers. Students will receive some class time to complete homework with a teacher's help; however, students will regularly have leftover homework to complete at home. Please help your student find a quiet location to complete homework and if they begin to struggle contact his or her math teacher as soon as possible for extra help.

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra classes will begin unit 1 on Functions. Students in Algebra will move at a fast pace through the high school curriculum. It is important that students attend school each day and regularly ask questions in class. Good notetaking and organizational skills will be a huge focus this year. Throughout the year we will be covering a variety of topics and at the end of the school year the students will take a placement exam to determine what class they will take at the high school Freshman year.

### **The North Ridge Cross Country team hits its mid-season stride!**

The North Ridge Cross Country team has been training hard since the beginning of August and the results are starting to show. With a strong performance at the Sabre Classic, the first meet of the year, the team was very excited to follow it up at their home Invitational. The team did not disappoint. Individual honors were captured by Moise York, Kyra Dudley, and Allison Thompson, who all placed in the top twenty in their respective races. After our home Invitational, the team put up some fast times at the Champaign Edison Invitational. Moise York once again had the top finish for the boys. Fellow eighth graders Michael Compton, Nathan Hance-Miller, Leighton Arnett, and Ethan Biggs have also been putting up times at these courses that rank among some of their personal bests. The rest of the boy's team is rounded out by seventh graders, Elijah Huckelberry, Doyle Royalty, and Adam Zwawi, who have been pushing themselves to improve every day. Allison Thompson has been leading the way for the girls. Her ninth place finish at the Chrisman Cow Chip Classic was top for the ladies. Fellow eighth grade

runners Natalie Porter, and team captain Kyra Dudley have also had consistent finishes that are steadily getting faster. Seventh grader Elizabeth Biggs is also working very hard to improve her finishing time. A veteran from last year, Rebecca Feuerborn, is acting as team manager and head cheerleader until she can get back on the course and add her talents to the team. With the middle of the season upon us, the team is training for the biggest race of the year, the Parkside Invitational. This meet has close to fifty teams, and over one thousand runners in it. No matter the competition, the Ridge Runners are ready. With the hopes of a strong finish at Parkside, the Ridge Runners then have their eyes set for the Sectional meet. Until that time, we plan to keep putting in the miles and doing our best to represent The Ridge.

### **Builders Club**

The North Ridge Middle School Builders Club is sponsored by the Golden Kiwanis Club of Danville. The advisors this year are Mrs. Delzell and Mrs. Leemon. The purpose of this club is to serve the community and the school by sponsoring and participating in various types of service projects. Some of these projects include: assisting with Kiwanis Pancake Day, school recycling, ringing bells for the Salvation Army, collecting General Mills Box Tops to raise money for the school library, and various other student organized projects. We support Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF, Pennies for Patients, and we collect pop tabs for Ronald McDonald Charities. We are especially proud of our annual support of Your Family Resource Connection of Danville. We hold an annual Read-and-Rock-a-thon in memory of Reagan Williams. This cause helps support victims of domestic violence. The money we have raised has purchased rocking chairs, rocking horses, a television and a VCR/DVD player. We have also donated to Reagan's Rescue, and some of this money is used for scholarships for area high school seniors.

\*Please collect General Mills Box Tops and send them to school in a baggie or envelope with your child's name on it. For every 10 box tops turned in, the Builders Club will place their name in for a drawing that will be held at the end of the

school year. A list of products is included in this newsletter. Please also save and send in your pop tabs.

\*\*This year the North Ridge Builders Club will once again be honoring our veterans who are laid to rest at our Danville National Cemetery by participating in Wreaths Across America. Please consider helping the Builders Club by donating \$15.00 for one wreath...\$30 for two and so on. Last year we participated at the last minute and were able to use \$150 of Builders Club funds to sponsor 10 wreaths. We would like our club to sponsor at least 100 wreaths this December. We will need to raise \$1500 to accomplish this! Please contact us at North Ridge if you are interested in sponsoring a wreath or two.....or more. If you have a love one buried at our National Cemetery, we will personally place the wreath on their grave. We will need their full name. If you do not have a loved one buried there, please still consider a donation. Checks can be made out to North Ridge Builders Club and can be mailed to Kathy Delzell, North Ridge Middle School, 1619 N. Jackson, Danville, IL 61832. You may also send a check to school with your child. Thank you so much for helping us honor our veterans who have sacrificed so much!! We also provide support to our local veterans by making and sending cards on Veteran's Day and Valentine's Day.



**Eliza Brooks, Principal**  
**Robin Fluno, Assistant Principal**

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