



We Believe

NORCROSS HIGH SCHOOL

2016-17



We Believe

Principal's Welcome

Dear Norcross Blue Devils,

I hope you are having a wonderful summer and are looking forward to the 2016-2017 school year. Norcross High School has a tradition of excellence in academics, athletics and the arts. I encourage all of our students to get involved in our school and community. There are also many opportunities for our parents to get involved in organizations such as our PTSA, Foundation for Excellence and numerous booster clubs.

The following pages contain a variety of information about our school and the beginning of the school year. Please take a few minutes to review the information and pay particular attention to the information regarding our "Meet Your Teacher" day on Thursday, August 4.

We look forward to this year's student body continuing our tradition of excellence. Go Blue Devils!

Will Bishop,
Principal



Norcross H.S Directory

NHS Main Office	770.448.3674
Attendance	770.447.2630
Cafeteria	770.447.2634
Check In/Out	770.447.2652
Clinic	770.447.2663
Community School	770.447.2643
Counseling Office	770.447.2648
Parent Center	770.326.8748
Student Records	770.447.2649

We Believe

NHS Counseling Department
Office Phone: 770.447.2648
Office Fax: 770.582.7563

The Counselors at Norcross High School work with students one-on-one, through classroom guidance, and in small groups to support them in reaching their academic goals. Students are assigned to a counselor based on the student's last name.

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2016-2017 Counselor Caseloads

A-B:	Victoria Poole
C-DIA:	Jessica Leddin
DIB-GRE:	Candy McRae
GRF-JON:	Phyllis Gerard
JOO-MA:	Chauntice Buck
MB-ON:	Rick Donahue
OO-ROC:	Cedric Cooks
ROD-THOM:	Anna Pasch
THON-Z:	Joe Culpepper

NHS Mission

The mission of Norcross High School is to engage each student in a higher level of learning, resulting in measured improvement against local, national and world-class standards.

NHS Vision

Norcross High School is committed to excellence in education where a collaborative learning community equips students with the knowledge, skills, and behavior to be successful in a competitive world.

Be There....

Meet Your Teacher/Pick up Schedule

Thursday, August 4, 2016

Prepare... **IMPORTANT**

www.MyPaymentsPlus.com

Starting Saturday, July 23, MPP will be available to review and sign off on IMPORTANT documents for the 2016-17 school year.

MPP also will provide a list of programs that most directly impact your student. Your contributions to these programs will allow teachers to purchase supplemental instructional material in these classrooms.

MPP will allow you to pay for lockers, cafeteria accounts, Yearbook and other dues.

Schedule

Grade 9
Last Names A-J
7:30 am – 8:15 am

Grade 9
Last Names K-Z
8:15 am – 9:15 am

.....

Grade 12
9:15 am – 10:00 am

Grade 11
10:00 am – 10:45 am

Grade 10
10:45 am – 11:30 am

What to do...

- Visit your 1st period class. (class lists will be posted in Commons & Lower Atrium)
- Pick up your schedule in 1st period classroom. Update contact information. Return updated form to 1st period teacher.
- Follow schedule and meet your teachers.
- Locate bus route and bus number in Lower Atrium.
- Visit Commons for information about clubs & organizations, including PTSA & NHS Foundation.
- Shop for spirit wear in School Store.



Connect with us...

NORCROSS CLUSTER APP

Stay connected with the Norcross Cluster by downloading our mobile application. The Norcross Cluster app enables parents, students, alumni, faculty and staff to quickly access who, what, when, and where for any of the cluster schools. Visit your app store and search for Norcross Cluster.

STAY CONNECTED WITH NORCROSS HIGH SCHOOL

norcrosshigh.org

Visit our school website to find general information including; news and events, calendar updates, academics, academic support, athletics, fine arts, student life and community support.

PARENT PORTAL

Use this secure source to view your student's grades, attendance, discipline record and testing. Visit the front office to obtain the form. (ID required)

BLUE DEVIL BULLETIN

The Blue Devil Bulletin is a weekly email blast. It is a great way to stay informed and connected about the latest happenings at Norcross High School. Sign up at norcrosshigh.org



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Follow us @NHSBluedevils



QR Code to our web-site



MY eCLASS

All MYeCLASS resources are available with a single sign-on. Students log into MYeCLASS using their GCPS student number and the password they create at the beginning of the school year. (If a student doesn't remember his or her password or does not have one, he or she should ask the teacher for help.)



We Believe



Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Through our eCLASS initiative, all Gwinnett schools have received a wireless Internet upgrade to support local school BYOD initiatives. Instructional activities can be enhanced when students bring their own personal devices (cell phones, tablets, laptops, eReaders, etc.) to class. GCPS encourages students to take advantage of the school system's BYOD policy, but participation is not required. Ask your child's teacher about use of personal devices in class or go to the school system's website for more about BYOD in GCPS.

Academic Excellence

Criteria for Promotion and Retention

To Be Classified A	Students Must Earn
10th grader	5 Carnegie Units
11th grader	11 Carnegie Units
12th grader	17 Carnegie Units

High School Graduation Requirement

In order to earn a Gwinnett County high school diploma, students must pass Gwinnett's High School Gateway Writing Assessment, and students must earn a minimum of 23 credits (units) in the following areas of study:

Required Area of Study	Credit/Unit
Language Arts	4
Mathematics	4
Science (The 4th science unit may be used to meet both science and an elective requirement.)	4
Social Studies	3
Modern/Classical Language and/or Technical Education and/or Fine Arts	3
Health and Physical Education	1
Electives	4

The International Baccalaureate® (IB) offers high quality programmes of international education to a worldwide community of schools. Norcross High School is one of only two high schools in Gwinnett that offers this rigorous program. There are three ways students can get involved in our IB Programme.



IB Middle Years Programme

The IB Middle Years Programme is offered in partnership with Summerour Middle School and Pinckneyville Middle School. All ninth and tenth grade students who are enrolled in our school are part of the IB MYP. Students in the tenth grade will receive recognition by showing mastery of all IB MYP required elements.

IB Diploma Programme

Full IB Diploma students engage in six IB courses during their junior and senior years. In addition to the course requirements, IB diploma students take the Theory of Knowledge course, the Extended Essay, and the Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS) requirement. At the end of the program, student performance on exams and assessments determines if they earn the IB Diploma.

IB Diploma Course Candidates:

For students who choose not to pursue the full IB Diploma, it is possible to complete some IB courses in areas of their greatest interests and ability.



JA Academy at Norcross High School

Norcross High School is a great place and it is getting even better for this year's 9th graders! Students accepted into the JA Academy won't just learn about math, English, and other subjects... they will apply what they learn in real life.

How does it work?

- Students in the JA Academy will take core academic courses, including the option of Advanced Placement courses, with the added bonus of focusing on the areas of business management, finance, and marketing.
- Academically, students will learn what they need to succeed in college while connecting to business leaders and entrepreneurs, stimulating innovation and critical thinking, and preparing student leaders for a successful future.
- Students will gain real-world experience through visits to community businesses, job shadowing, mentoring, networking with community leaders, tackling business challenges through case studies, and more!

Real-life learning... The JA Academy at Norcross High School is just one more way we are keeping it real for students.



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9th Grade/Route 23

Norcross High School 9th graders are a part of Route 23, a community within Norcross dedicated to providing the structure and support students need in making the transition into high school. Students within this community are supported by two dedicated administrators, one person that supports ninth graders exclusively and a team of counselors. The purpose of the community is for students to make meaningful connections with trained school personnel and to receive essential educational planning support. Through this program we believe that students will make an effective transition into high school in terms of academic performance and through leading the way as positive role models within the overall NHS community. During the year in Route 23, our students will begin the high school process of being well prepared for college and career success and start down the road of achieving the necessary 23 credits to graduate!



Policies & Procedures

DISCIPLINE RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

The primary mission of Norcross High School is to provide students an opportunity to pursue an education in an orderly environment free of distractions and disruptions. Norcross students have the responsibility of conducting themselves in a manner that does not interfere with the learning of others. All students receive a copy of the GCPS Student/Parent Discipline Handbook or have access to the handbook online. The Student Conduct Behavior Code outlines behavior expectations for GCPS students.

CLINIC POLICY

The clinic worker is present in the school to act as a liaison between home and school regarding health concerns. Although we provide this service, clinic workers are not registered nurses; therefore, they cannot diagnose or treat illnesses. Prompt arrival of the parent/legal guardian upon notification of your child's illness is extremely important. Each school year please remember to update your contact information. The numbers you provide will enable us to contact you when necessary. By working together and keeping contagious illnesses contained at home, we can strive to ensure the health and well-being of every student.

DRESS CODE

Norcross High School acknowledges that appropriate and personal attire positively affects student achievement and conduct. The dress code for Norcross High School is designed to reduce the likelihood of distraction or disruption and to maintain an academic focus in the classroom and on campus. Detailed information about the dress code is available in the Student Handbook, which can be found on the school website and through eClass.

PARKING PERMITS

What is Required....

- 1) Student must be in good standing in the following categories: attendance, discipline, academics
- 2) Complete your application and make payment (\$60.00 fee per year) on mypaymentsplus.com
- 3) Provide a copy of your valid driver's license (Atrium Lower Office)
- 4) Provide a copy of your valid insurance card (Atrium Lower Office)

Parking spaces are limited, therefore, permits will be granted on a first-come-first-serve basis.

The parking decal must be affixed to the inside front windshield on the right side.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Regular school attendance is critical to ensuring your child's academic performance and success. Students who are present on a daily basis make higher grades and perform better on standardized tests. Please remember that if your student is going to be absent from school, you need to send a note to the school stating the reason for his or her absence. Excuse notes are to be turned in daily. The State Board of Education has established attendance rules by which a student is considered excused from school:

- (a) Personal illness or attendance in school endangers the health of the student or others.
- (b) A serious illness or death in a student's immediate family necessitating absence from school.
- (c) A court order or an order by a governmental agency.
- (d) Observance of religious holidays necessitating an absence from school.
- (e) Conditions rendering attendance impossible or hazardous to student health or safety.
- (f) A period not to exceed one day is allowed at the discretion of the local unit of administration for registering to vote or voting in a public election.
- (g) Visiting with a parent or legal guardian prior to or during leave from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting as a member of the armed forces of the United States or the National Guard (maximum of five school days per year).

Students who do not attend school for ten (10) consecutive days will be considered withdrawn, unless the parent/guardian notifies the school about the absences within a timely manner.

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Get Involved!

Norcross High School offers a number of after school activities. These activities serve to compliment classroom learning to create an environment that encourages all students to achieve their greatest potential as responsible, productive members of a diverse society.

Clubs & Activities

Academic Team
African-American Leadership Roundtable (AALR)
Animal and Environmental Awareness
Anime Club
Art Club
Band
Best Buddies
Blue Crew
Chamber Choir
Color Guard
Culinary Club
DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America)
Drama Club
Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)
First Robotics
Flood
French Club
French Honors Society
Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)
Future Problem Solvers (FPS)
Gaming & Strategy Club
Georgia Thespian Club
GSA
Gwinnett Student Leadership Team (GSLT)
I am a Difference Maker
IB Club
Interact
JROTC

LaVoz
Math Team
Mock Trial
Mu Alpha Theta
National Art Honor Society
National English Society
National Honor Society
National Society of Black Engineers
National Thespian Society
Norcross Student Leadership Team (NSLT)
Odyssey of the Mind
One Act Play
Random Acts of Kindness Club (RAKS)
Readers Rally
Relay for Life
Science Fair
Senior Beta
Spanish Club
Spanish National Honor Society
Step Team
Student Council
Technology Student Association (TSA)
United Nations
Video Broadcasting Club
Winter Guard
Yearbook

Sports

Baseball
Basketball
Cheerleading
Cross Country
Football
Golf
Lacrosse
Soccer
Softball
Swimming
Tennis
Track
Volleyball
Wrestling



NHS Foundation for Excellence



The mission of the NHS Foundation is to partner with Norcross High School and the community in continual support of Norcross High School as a world-class school.

To accomplish our mission, our work is centered around the following three goals.

- Improve the facilities of Norcross High School.
- Promote equity among all students at Norcross High School.
- Develop and strengthen the academic, artistic, and athletic capabilities of the students in Norcross High School.

Visit www.norcrosshighfoundation.org for more information



The PTSA is a team of parents, family members, teachers, staff, and friends of Norcross High School.

The goal is to enhance the educational experience for Norcross High School students. We believe that being involved in our school's community leads to higher rewards for our children.

Programs supported by PTSA include:

- Teacher Appreciation
- Blue Angel Students of the Month
- Project Graduation
- Pathways to College
- Newsletter
- Stars Tutoring
- Clean & Beautiful
- PTA Reflection
- Lunch & Learn
- College Fair

Visit www.norcrosshspta for more information

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Parent Center/Title 1

The Parent Center is located on the first hallway off the Commons Area (across from the Registrar's Office). The Parent Center is a place where all Norcross High School parents are welcomed. Here, parents can receive Title I information, review Title I documents, parenting resources, and information about ways to become more involved in their child's education. In addition, the Parent Instructional Coordinator (PIC) works closely with Gwinnett County Public Schools, NHS teachers and administrators to promote parent involvement and ways to communicate better with the school. The Parent Center Coordinator and Assistant Principal of Title I work together to plan workshops and meetings throughout the year to continually support our parents.

Parent Center Hours: 7:00 – 3:00pm Monday – Friday
Appointments are available after school hours

Nikki Keyton

Parent Instructional Coordinator

Phone: 770.326.8748

Email: nikki_keyton@gwinnett.k12.ga.us

2016-17 Calendar at a Glance

- Aug 4 Pick-up Schedule/Meet Your Teacher Day
- Aug 8 First Day of School
- Aug 16 9th Grade Parent Night
- Aug 20 NHS vs Walton/Corky Kell Classic Football Game @ the Georgia Dome
- Aug 25 Curriculum Night
- Sep 5 Labor Day (Student/Teacher Holiday)
- Sep 8 Senior Parent Meeting
- Sep 13 & 14 Student Pictures
- Oct 10 Student Holiday
- Oct 15 Homecoming Dance
- Nov 1 College Fair/Financial Aid Presentation, sponsored by PTSA
- Nov 8 Student/Teacher Holiday, Election Day
- Nov 21 - 25 Thanksgiving Break
- Dec 16 Final Exams Begin
- Dec. 19 -21 Early Release for Students
- Dec 22 - Jan 4 Winter Break
- Jan 5 Students Return, 2nd Semester Begins
- Jan 16 Student/Teacher Holiday, MLK Jr. Day
- Feb 10 Student/Teacher Holiday (Weather Make-up Day #1)
- Mar 10 Student/Teacher Holiday (Weather Make-up Day #2)
- Mar 31 Student/Teacher Holiday (Weather Make-up Day #3)
- Apr 3 -7 Spring Break
- Apr 18 Honors Breakfast & Honors Night
- Apr 28 Norcross Foundation for Excellence GALA
- Apr 29 Junior/Senior Prom
- May 19 Final Exams begin
- May 22 - 24 Early Release for Students
- May 24 Last Day of School

• The date for graduation will be announced the middle part of March



Corky Kell Classic Football Game @ the Georgia Dome
Norcross vs Walton
Saturday, August 20th @ 2:45pm
Purchase tickets early on MyPaymentsPlus, cost \$13.00
Tickets at the door will be \$18.00

WE BELIEVE!