

# North Hampton School Report Card Academic Year 2009-10

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## Message from the School Board

On behalf of the School Board, Administration and Staff, we welcome all of you to the 9th Annual North Hampton School Report Card. This year, we would like to direct your particular attention to the new Mission, Guiding Beliefs and Vision for North Hampton School that are profiled in a separate article beginning on the front page. These statements are the result of multiple process steps to capture and represent the beliefs and values of all of the constituencies that comprise our North Hampton Community.

*(Continued on page 2)*

### Table of Contents

Message from the School Board .....	1
First Impressions .....	1
Mission, Guiding Beliefs and Vision .....	1
Food Service Program .....	3
School Board Goal .....	3
Last Summer's Facelift .....	4
PE - Then and Now .....	4
Technology Integration .....	5
"ED"ies .....	6
"AYP" Defined .....	7
NECAP Testing .....	7-10
Deep Readers = Deep Thinkers .....	11
We Invite You To Join PAL .....	11
Math Under the Microscope .....	12
A Day in the Life of an Eight Grader ...	13
History of Jolly Jaguar Preschool .....	14
Communication .....	14
Cost Per Pupil Summary .....	15
North Hampton School Directory .....	15

## First Impressions

Each year we collect comments from individuals who have a connection to our school community. The intent is to share with you, the larger North Hampton community, a little more knowledge about our town's school.

This year our comments are considered "first impressions" and come from families that are relatively new to us. These families either moved here from another school, town, or state or their children recently became of school age.

We asked these families the following question:

***As new families to North Hampton School, are there any "first impressions" that you would like to share with the community at large?***

Scattered throughout this document you will "hear" from the new families in town. We share with you their "first impressions" of being part of the North Hampton School Community.

## Mission, Guiding Beliefs and Vision.... Process and Product Accomplished!

North Hampton School places great trust in and effort behind the process of strategic planning. This process permits an organization to envision its future and to develop strategies, goals, and an action plan to achieve that future. The culmination of this process is more than a series of reports to be filed in a binder. It is an active part of all decision making that affects budget, curriculum, facilities planning, technology integration, staffing, program planning, and parent/community involvement. At the center of strategic planning is the creation of three essential documents: statement of Mission, statement of Guiding Beliefs (values) and statement of Vision.

You might remember an insert in last year's School Report Card. It was a questionnaire that solicited your input in identifying what beliefs should guide the work that all of us do in our school. A small task force worked to consolidate and crystallize some key concepts from your input. Then, North Hampton School held daytime and evening forums to discuss the collected statements and determine the underpinnings for the Guiding Beliefs. The task force again worked on the final draft of the Belief statements and wrote the Mission Statement which is a simple statement of our primary function and purpose built on the back of our Guiding Beliefs. These documents went before the School Council and Staff for any minor revisions and, finally, to the School Board for adoption in August of 2009.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## School Board (cont.)

*(Continued from page 1)*

nity. This achievement was a critical goal for both the Board and the School this year. It is our hope that these statements will guide and support the work of all who are involved with our school into the next decade.

We also inform you in this document about a recent survey of our parent community and our school staff, the results of which are in the process of being tabulated. The analysis of these results, together with the Mission, Guiding Beliefs and Vision we have recently completed, will give us direction to improve the education of all of our students.

This document intends to inform you about the performance of our students as measured by the standardized tests required under No Child Left Behind and provide you with other federal and state required information. This document also intends to inform you about those aspects of the school experience that cannot be captured by test statistics. When this year's report is taken in conjunction with the School Report Cards of the last few years, you can see broad and microscopic looks at what makes up the education of our children at NHS.

North Hampton School is rich with academic programming during its regular hours, before and after school. School and Recreation Department extra-curricular activities for children occur after school within the building and on the outside fields. Our facility also hosts many meetings and activities beyond those sponsored by 'the Rec' such as YMCA before and after school child-care, scouting organizations' meetings, North Hampton and Hampton Youth Associations' games, and on occasion, various town board or committee meetings. Your school is literally and figuratively your community center, always buzzing with activity....always ready to welcome you through its doors.

~ The North Hampton School Board

### ***Did you know....***

That the North Hampton School Board meets the 3rd Thursday of every month?

## Mission, Guiding Beliefs and Vision.... (cont.)

This past November, North Hampton School called together interested parties from the student body, faculty, staff, administration, school board and community at large to generate "vision insights which would speak to the preferred state of NHS in the year 2015". These insights were synthesized into a Vision that is brief, clear and easy to understand. Our Vision provides a clear link between the present and the future; it is a mental, emotional, and physical image of what North Hampton School will become. Our Vision, together with the Mission and Guiding Beliefs, establishes a standard for excellence that provides focus and direction, as well as inspiration, for all stakeholders.

The statement of Mission defines an organization's purpose and prime function:

### **Mission**

*Education that empowers individuals to be caring, competent, responsible citizens who value learning as a lifelong process.*

The statement of values – the Guiding Beliefs – represents the core priorities in an organization's culture. These values often provide the necessary impetus for effective planning and serve to motivate and guide all constituencies of the school:

### **Guiding Beliefs**

*We believe our school must be a healthy and safe environment both physically and emotionally for all.*

*We believe we are educating individuals in the areas of academics, arts, civics, and wellness; we will support and challenge each student to achieve his/her highest potential.*

*We believe there is a shared responsibility and necessary collaboration among students, parents, educators, school board and community for advancing the school's Mission, Guiding Beliefs and Vision with a commitment to continuous improvement.*

The statement of Vision combines the "what we do" of the Mission Statement and the "why we do it" of the Guiding Beliefs to produce a 'snapshot' of a preferred future state:

### **Vision**

*The quest for personal excellence through lifelong learning is fostered at North Hampton School.*

*Students are compelled to exemplify curiosity and deep thinking within a safe, healthy and caring community.*

*Each North Hampton Student, with the support of staff, parents and community is encouraged to take responsibility for discovering his/her highest lifelong learning potential within a facility that supports best learning practices.*

*North Hampton students are global learning ambassadors who possess the skills and knowledge to make a positive difference in the world.*

**Mission, Guiding Beliefs and Vision** - These foundational elements will hopefully energize all members of the North Hampton School Community to prioritize actions and to facilitate good decision making for the benefit of its students.

## North Hampton Food Service Program

This year various members of the NHS and SAU staff are conducting a comprehensive review of the food service program at North Hampton School. Data has been compiled for the last five years in the following categories: Staffing – Budget Expenses – Revenues – Participation – Meal Costs – Meal Charge – and National Averages.

The findings from the initial report show the following:

- North Hampton is consistent with industry efficiency benchmarks for meals served vs. labor hours
- Based upon industry benchmarks, North Hampton is below the standard in participation and expenses vs. revenues
- The food service program will continue to run in a deficit mode based on the current method of operation.

In an effort to improve the food service program, the following represent some of the actions that will be taken this year:

- Survey parents and staff regarding the Food Service Program
- Institute a breakfast program beginning March 8, 2010
- Increase communication with the community, i.e. Agriculture Committee, regarding the use of fresh, local produce
- Author an action plan this spring.

This spring, as we complete the gathering and analysis of information, we intend to author a more complete action plan that will ensure that the North Hampton Food Service Program better meets the nutritional needs of the students in an economical manner.



## School Board Goal of Survey Completed!

During the month of January, each family and staff member of North Hampton School had the opportunity to give feedback on a number of issues through a recent survey conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. The North Hampton School Board would like to thank parents, guardians and staff for their participation. There was a 75% response rate to both the parent/guardian and staff surveys. This is an outstanding result which is a direct reflection on the school community's commitment to education and to the North Hampton School.

A similar survey was conducted eight years ago in 2002. It provided valuable insight into how parents and guardians viewed the school. Together the administration and the School Board agreed it was important to again get feedback from parents, guardians and this time from staff. It is paramount for school growth and accountability to have all stakeholders reflect on the current practices at the school. Your thoughts and opinions are valued by the School Board and the administration and will be used to help guide our school as it moves forward to provide the best possible education for the students of North Hampton.

### *Did you know....*

That the SCHOOL VOTING DAY is Tuesday, March 9 and the TOWN VOTING DAY is Tuesday, May 11? Voting on both days will be held in the NHS gym.

## Last Summer's Facelift



Many in the community observed all the scaffolding around the school last summer and we would like to report to you how a recent repair investment will have long lasting results. Over the past years, the exterior brick, block, and windowsills of the school have been cracking and decaying due to sun exposure and age. An infrared company conducted a scan of the exterior building during the spring of 2009 and determined that heat loss and water penetration was occurring due to this deterioration. With these findings, we diligently searched for a qualified masonry company to re-point the mortar, replace damaged brick and block, and remove and re-caulk all windows, joints and the foundation. The project was awarded to P&G Masonry of Portland, ME. After the work was completed, the company sprayed an elastomeric sealant over the entire facility. This sealant will preserve the building for years to come while eliminating heat loss and preventing moisture penetration.



## PE - Then .... and Now!

“When I was in PE in middle school (back in the 60’s), girls were on one side of the gym and boys had class on the other side. The girls had a female PE teacher and the boys had a male PE teacher. Girls had to wear these hideous uniforms - one piece, green, with snaps all the way up the front. The boys had it better; they got to wear t-shirts and shorts as their uniform. The thing I remember the most was standing in line and waiting for my turn to perform whatever skill we were working on. I would try it by myself in front of the whole class and then get back to the end of the line to wait for my turn again. If I was lucky I had 4-5 chances to try to perform the skill. How embarrassing that was, especially if you were not that athletic! Everyone in the class was watching to see if you could actually do something! Usually we had a few units throughout the year: basketball, volleyball, gymnastics, softball and soccer.”

~ Pat Yeaton, NHS PE teacher

Flash forward forty years to 2010. Walk into the NHS gym - you will not see the scene described above. Students are asked to bring a change of clothes from home - usually t-shirts and a pair of shorts. Classes are mixed and girls play with boys on the same teams. Students play small-sided games to ensure that everyone has an equal chance to participate in a given activity. Students are involved in physical activity for the majority of the class period. Everyone is moving and participating all the time.

In elementary school the focus in PE is skill-based movement. We teach 9 units during the year which consist of: kicking and punting; dribbling with the hands; striking with short-handled implements; striking with long-handled implements; volleying, jumping and landing; chasing, fleeing and dodging; creative movement and fitness. At the middle school level we offer: basketball, volleyball, soccer, touch rugby, field hockey, ultimate Frisbee, pickleball, team handball, fitness, outdoor family games, golf, speedball, ping pong, badminton and tennis. This year in conjunction with the North Hampton Recreation Department we are offering 8th grade students the chance to participate in outside of school recreational opportunities during PE class time. This fall we kicked things off with surfing lessons at Jenness Beach and we are hoping to offer skateboarding, kayaking and sailing lessons in the spring. The Recreation Department van and scholarship assistance have enabled us to facilitate these offerings. Our mission is to expose the 8th graders to life-long activities that are right in their backyard. Our hope is that when every student leaves NHS that he/she will have found a physical activity to enjoy for a lifetime.

Has PE changed for the better? We certainly think so! Ask your child what they have been doing in PE class lately or better yet, come to our Bring Your Parents to PE night in the spring and have your child teach you what they do in class!



## Technology Integration : Tools for Learning in a Digital Age

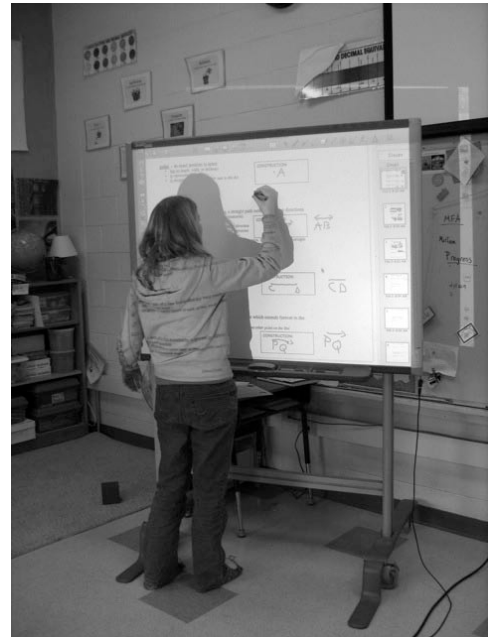
Technology and learning go hand in hand at North Hampton School. Learning is both supported and enhanced by the integration of technology into the curriculum. The mixture of technology and curriculum happens on a daily basis. Both students and teachers are always evaluating the best tools to produce, present, assess, and reflect on learning. As a part of this process, both students and teachers often find many possibilities with tools based in technology. Living in an ever-changing “digital age” it is necessary to continue to learn and use the best tools possible for the job.

The second Tuesday of each month has been set aside at NHS for “Technology Tuesday”. This is an opportunity for teachers to sign up for technology training sessions that take place after school. Topics for these training sessions have included: movie making with iMovie, digital photography editing and organization with iPhoto, creating GarageBand Podcasts (audio recordings enhanced by music), digital portfolio creation in EdCube, QuickTime audio recordings, using document cameras to project and capture student work, and using ProScope microscopes. These training sessions allow staff to learn new information, update their knowledge, and to further embrace the technology tools available at NHS.

Technology integration has been boosted by teacher participation in Technology Tuesday trainings. During one of the most recent “Tech Tuesdays” teachers participated in a “hands-on” training session where they learned how to take digital pictures with the new ProScope microscopes. The integration of these tools into the classrooms was almost immediate. It is amazing to be able to see items microscopically, but now with these new tools, we can also capture what is being seen and use that image to enhance science in the classrooms. The integration of these microscopes as a technology tool was seamless, it naturally fit into the classroom to help support student achievement of curricular goals.

In this digital age, students are using many different technology tools to enhance, support and further their learning on a daily basis. Students log on to the computers at NHS and have an immense digital toolbox at their fingertips. The possibilities are limited only by their creativity and imagination. Looking at just one possibility, students can create presentations to share their learning with the iMovie, PowerPoint or Keynote software. They can edit digital photographs of themselves working and of their work products, including original artwork they have created. Their presentations might also include original music crafted using GarageBand or the student’s voice

recorded into the computer or onto an iPod. Students can record and play back their voice to help them as they are learning Spanish or record their musical instruments as they are learning to play! Integration of technology tools is a natural part of daily life for students and teachers at NHS. Integrating technology into the curriculum will continue to be a critical partnership in this digital age.



### *Did you know....*

Technology staff offered a “Computers for Seniors” class before school in the fall. Attendees were offered the opportunity to explore the latest technology and learn more about email, Word Documents, digital photography and the internet. Classes were tailored to meet the needs of attendees and a lot of fun was had by all! Look for future classes through the North Hampton Recreation Department if you are interested.

## “ED”ies

*This passage is the introductory page of our recent application for the 2010 New Hampshire Excellence in Education Awards. Whether we win the award or not, we are proud of our school and this document. We hope you will find time to read this aggregate description of our school which may be found on our website: [www.sau21.k12.nh.us/nhes/index.php](http://www.sau21.k12.nh.us/nhes/index.php)*

*“I feel like North Hampton laid the perfect foundation for the skills I’m building on by allowing us a feeling of being on our own, but keeping a safety net in place in case there were mistakes (which happened a lot because growing up is always a learning experience). I think elementary school is really important in helping you become the person you are in the present. It’s an experience that molds who you become in high school, in college, and eventually in the world. Without the skills I learned at NHS I don’t think I could be the type of independent learner and thinker I am today.” (Alumnus)*

The story of North Hampton School is one that gets re-written by each student who comes through our doors. No two students are alike and therefore no two educational experiences can be exactly the same. Each child experiences a personalized journey that comes from the dedication of our staff, parents, and community to create an environment and curriculum honoring the experiences, learning styles, and needs of each student. Students have the opportunity to explore all aspects of their learning, define their own parameters for success and find a voice for expressing their achievements.

*“NHS teaches our children to love learning! The school fosters an environment in which they are allowed to learn via methods that they can relate to. This opportunity is extended to each child in each classroom so that they feel successful as students and can coach each other through more difficult lessons. These methods allow them to empathize with each other’s struggles and celebrate each other’s successes.” (Parent)*

The whole child-centered culture at NHS allows children to realize they have something to offer the world and encourages them to realize that one person can make a difference. Our goal is that students leave our school with the knowledge, skills and self-awareness necessary to face future challenges and have a positive impact on their community. Toward this end we strive to create an environment that empowers students to have an active role in every aspect of their education from setting their own goals to self-assessing their progress and performance. Students at all ages engage not only in the learning of curriculum, but also in learning about who they are and where they are going.

At North Hampton School we recognize the importance of standards-based education, and know we will not soon be doing away with the tests that measure mastery of standard knowledge. However, we have decided to

meet those standards by striving for much more. Our efforts are to challenge each individual student to maximize his or her fullest potential academically and personally. We support each student in discovering his or her personal talents and passions. To that end, we encourage each student in becoming an active participant in a democratic society by living it everyday in our classroom and school communities. Together the student, teachers, parents and community members co-construct a dynamic, responsive curriculum that enables students to gain knowledge and apply it in increasingly meaningful ways.

As a result, North Hampton students are encouraged to actively engage in school and community-based service learning projects, participate in the democratic decision-making process of the school, and, be an integral part of designing their own custom learning situations through such activities as integrated, inquiry-based projects.

This journey of self-discovery unfolds each year with a process of ...

*“The education our children receive at North Hampton School is not the same animal it was when we were growing up. It is anything but one-size-fits-all... it is as individual as the child—recognizing and embracing the unique qualities that each child has to offer while at the same time emboldening the student with an enthusiasm for learning as a lifelong quest.” (Parent)*

*“My teachers are able to understand my learning strategies and help me to make my experiences at North Hampton School enjoyable and meaningful.”*

*Please refer to [www.sau21.k12.nh.us/nhes/index.php](http://www.sau21.k12.nh.us/nhes/index.php) to read the complete document.*







# New England Common Assessment Program – NECAP Results for 2009

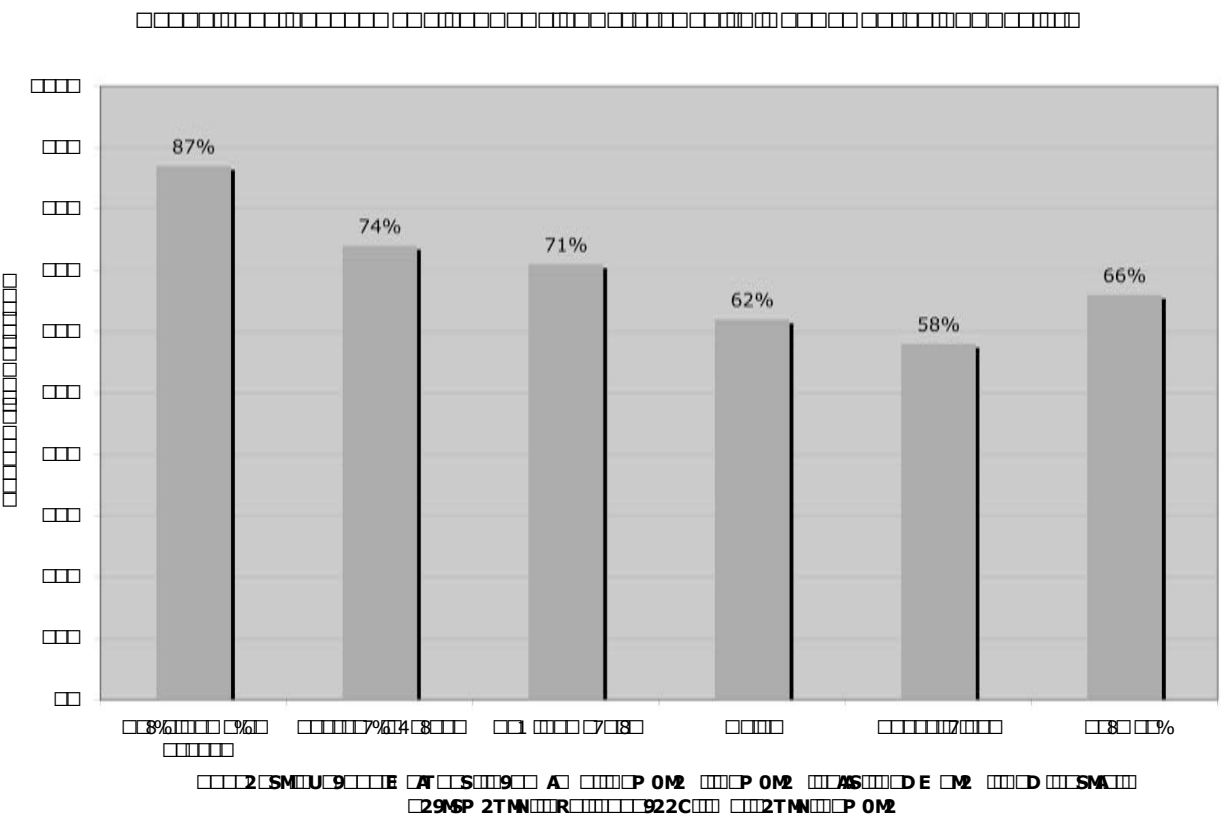
## NECAP MEAN SCORES AND PERCENT PROFICIENT 3 YEAR CUMULATIVE AVERAGES

2005, '06, '07 Mathematics Cumulative Scores				
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4



2006, '07, '08 Mathematics Cumulative Scores				
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4

2007, '08, '09 Mathematics Cumulative Scores				
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4
0	1	2	3	4





## Deep Readers = Deep Thinkers

Two years ago, North Hampton School embarked on a journey to help our students become more critical, discerning readers. Throughout this process, we've realized that we need to aim higher than that—we want our students to be critical, discerning thinkers who act upon their conclusions. In today's world, we are constantly bombarded with information in a variety of forms. We must also multi-task across all spheres of our lives. Being able to understand a deluge of information and manage many things at once is the bare minimum of what students must be prepared to do every day in our society. However, these skills alone do not create a deep understanding of relationships, the arts, the challenges facing our world, and how one person can make a difference.

To address the need for ways to help students be deeper thinkers, we examined the comprehension strategies we teach students to use during reading to achieve deeper meaning. These strategies come to us through years of research and use with proven results. We realized that these same strategies will help students create deeper understandings of every aspect of their lives.

We want students who:

- *Empathize* not just with a character in a book, but also with people they encounter through all forms of media
- *Visualize* not only the action of a book, but also the action in a math problem or a piece of art
- *Question* not only the intentions of an author of an article, but a politician or salesperson or filmmaker
- *Infer* not only the personality traits of a character, but logical reactions in a science experiment, or how their actions affect others
- *Use what they already know* to connect not just with the setting in a story, but to people they meet, or problems they encounter
- *Decide what's important* not only when reading information, but also when hearing directions or feeling overloaded with tasks
- *Synthesize* not only the theme of a book, but ideas from a variety of sources
- And, most importantly, *acknowledge when they aren't understanding* and purposefully employ strategies to create meaning.

At North Hampton School, we are all learners—students and teachers alike. Teachers are afforded many opportunities to explore ways to promote deeper thinking in our students. Each month teachers can participate in “Strategy Sessions” in which teachers examine how they use these strategies in their own lives and share ideas. Also, teachers are observing each other to gather new approaches. We are energized by the changes we see in our students and excited to see where this journey will take all of us.



*Students reading on “Comfy Day”*

## We Invite You to Join PAL

**P**AL (Parents Active in Learning) is the parent organization at North Hampton School. It is PAL's belief that when the community and school educators form a partnership supporting each other's efforts, the entire school community benefits. PAL strives to enhance the academic environment of all children by providing specialty funds for classroom and school projects. Some of the endeavors supported by PAL include: the Geodome project, the organic garden, field trip scholarships for students, visiting authors and artists, and enrichment programs for all grades.

PAL urges all North Hampton community members to join in our efforts. All meetings are held at NHS on the following dates: Feb. 19th, March 19th, April 16th, May 14th and June 11th from 9:30 - 11:00 AM. The community at large is welcome to attend any meeting.

### *First Impressions....*

I have to say we've lived in Texas and Massachusetts and came to North Hampton because of the school and we love it! The staff welcomed us when we came in. They were organized and have all been so supportive. The education is phenomenal, the student to teacher ratio is great, and most importantly, the one-to-one contact with parents and staff has been great. Our first impression was that the small class size was refreshing. The communication from teachers and staff has made the transition easier for us and our son. The curriculum has been more challenging and progressive.

*~ Grade 2 Parent*

### Did you know ...

That over 92% of our teachers and counselors who work with your children have a Master Degree or higher?

By comparison, the state average of teachers with a Master Degree or higher is 50.2%.

*100% OF OUR CORE CLASSES ARE TAUGHT BY HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHERS.*



Phases of the moon - Grade 3

### Teaching Experience At North Hampton School

# Years	% of Staff
1-5	15%
6-10	27%
11-15	8%
16-20	17%
21-25	8%
26-30	19%
31-35	2%
36-40	4%

## Researcher Puts NHS Middle School Mathematics under the Microscope!

Last year, we were fortunate to have a PhD candidate from the University of New Hampshire conduct her action research in our school! Megan Paddock, Ph.D. is now Assistant Professor of Mathematics at Southern New Hampshire University, but last year she was studying us... specifically teacher knowledge and the role of mathematical proof\* in our middle school mathematics program. As part of the Middle School presentation on Mathematics Grades 5-8 to the School Board in October of this year, Megan presented an abstract of her research and an overall commentary on the mathematical experiences of the children in middle school. We share briefly here a few passages from her abstract.

*“There was an extraordinary amount of proof going on in each of the classrooms I observed. Following the recommendation of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM), mathematical proof should be a part of every child’s mathematical education from the earliest grades through high school. The level of proof I observed was impressively age appropriate (grades 5-8).*

*Many in the field of mathematics research believe that mathematics is proof and proof is mathematics. However, educational research has found that in most grade level mathematics courses, proof is almost none existent. NHS is an exception to this research. Proof was a wonderful part of the classes I observed and the teachers’ relationship with proof when relating it to their students’ education was both positive and nurturing.*

*The teachers believed that their students should engage in mathematical proofs, because of their ability to explain and justify mathematical concepts. I found that this belief was fostered through their relationship with the school’s curriculum coordinator, through their work with their colleagues on creating and implementing their own curriculum, and through professional development initiatives.*

*The school’s philosophy related to individual instruction also had a large influence on the teachers’ beliefs about the use of proofs and their ability to implement proof based lessons. The school’s structure and philosophy influenced the teachers’ professional practices and created situations for them to think about proofs and the process of proving. In negotiating their knowledge and beliefs as part of their professional practices, the teachers utilized these opportunities and found meaningful ways to uses proofs in their classrooms.”*

How fortunate we were to have our school be the major site of Megan Paddock’s research!



\* “Proof is a mathematical argument that is a logically connected sequence of assertions for or against a mathematical claim.”

# A Day in the Life of an Eighth Grader – a composite sketch

**7:00 a.m.**

I am awake hours before research says an adolescent should be!

**7:40 a.m.**

...waiting for the bus, juggling my backpack, heavy with all my binders, worried I forgot some piece of homework or the PE clothes I finally took home to wash!

...pulling into school, we thunder off the bus, I greet my friends and we talk about everything that has happened to us in the hours between our phone calls and texts last night...so much to chat about and so little time!!!

...pop my stuff into my locker and off I go to my Unified Arts class – PE, Band, Choir, Art – all give me choices to advance my interests – my talents!

**9:30 a.m.**

...Humanities class (my combo of LA and SS) – what do I need? I have to facilitate today!!! AHH!! Ok...so...I have to keep the conversation flowing and when I share I need to back-up my argument using the readings from last night. Where are those readings?

...Wow! Everyone is really prepared. I can't believe what everyone has to add to the conversation. I hope my comment doesn't sound like it's from left field.

**10:30 a.m.**

...That wasn't so bad. What's next? Math class...Whoa! Parent functions and translations – I love using the Smartboards to help us visualize the graphs. What else do I need? Got my homework, my binder, a pencil...(there are my gym sneakers!)... Oh Yeah...my inquiry project. I love that we are able to pick a topic of interest and apply it to math. I am so thankful that I was able to speak to the music teacher yesterday about this project. It was great to discuss the connection of math and music.

...This is a lot of information. I wonder if anyone else has the same question I have? Maybe I should set it as my goal in my conference tomorrow with my teacher?

What time is this over? I am psyched about the lab in science – extracting DNA!

**11:30 a.m.**

...Why is she crying in the hallway? Oh the drama! I gotta go. Mrs. Boudreau told us not to be late...lots to do – extracting the DNA of a strawberry and examining it with our new proscopes – microscopes that look like mini hairdryers – they can magnify and photograph 3-D objects sending the pictures directly to our laptops! Imagine!

**12:30 p.m.**

...My favorite part of the day – Advisory and lunch. I wonder if she'll share what happened today?... I'm glad someone brought that up. It was bothering me. This is great that we are able to connect with different people in the building and share about issues going on in our grade.

**1:10 p.m.**

...Today I have Service Learning... I look forward to this each week even though my group has a lot to do.

1. call local businesses to see if they received donations for schools in Belize
2. write thank you notes to all the businesses
3. create a flyer for the Friday Folder
4. pack up the school supplies we have collected for Belize
5. call UNH to see when we can drop off the donations

That's enough for today!

**2:30 p.m.**

...wow the end of the day approached quickly...what's for homework? I need to pack my bag quickly...I have a game today! Wohoo!

~ Sketched by students and staff

## *Did you know ...*

That you can see the artwork of our students by visiting the Artist's Studio on the North Hampton website. Type in [www.sau21.k12.nh.us/nhes](http://www.sau21.k12.nh.us/nhes)

Go to the "In the Classroom" section of the website found in the left column. Scroll to the bottom of the teachers list and click on the link to NHS Art Room Website.

We are in the process of building this site...so please check back regularly to see the expansion!



## *Did you know....*

That each year we hold a Memorial Day Assembly? This year, it will be on Friday, May 28th at 8:45 a.m. and the public is invited.



## *First Impressions....*

The level of expertise, the compassion - they are teachers to more than just curriculum, they are teachers to spirit and to the world in general. They teach more than what's on the paper. They educate us as parents to be part of our child's education. They understand what our children need as individuals. In addition to the demand of national and state standards, they quickly assess how to best educate your child. The communication between the parents, teachers, and administration is phenomenal. They took the right approach with us and I'm really grateful. I have chosen NHS over private school for all my children.

*~ Pre-School Parent*

## *First Impressions....*

Most amazingly easy transition of any of my children into a school! From the principal, to the staff, to the teachers, they went out of their way to make it easy for me, but most importantly, for my son. The most telling sign was when my son came home after three weeks of school and said, "I love my school! No, I really love my school!" During the first meeting I had with all the teachers, they sat and told me how they would engage my son and after two and one-half weeks, they knew him well. Their ability to teach each student individually is remarkable and special. They continue to remain engaged and have allowed me to be part of their team of educators.

*~ Middle School Parent*

## History of the Jolly Jaguar Preschool

Have you ever wondered how the Jolly Jaguar Preschool came about? Prior to the Fall of 1998, this program did not exist. Today, it is alive with activity and enthusiastic little ones, all between the ages of three and five, busy with their play, their music and their work stations.

The North Hampton School district is responsible for "Childfind", locating students that may have special needs. At the age of three, if it is determined that a child has an educational disability the district needs to provide services.

Years ago the children attended private preschool programs (at the district's expense) and the special education staff (speech pathologist, occupational therapist) traveled from place to place providing services. It was a challenge to monitor the programming in these private placements and difficult to ensure we were doing what was best for all children.

An application went to the New Hampshire Department of Education in April 1998, requesting the development of a school-based preschool to address the needs of these children and include age appropriate peers from the community. The DOE approved this application with enthusiasm and the program began the following September.

Today, the Jolly Jaguar Preschool provides a safe and nurturing environment that promotes the social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development of preschoolers who are developing typically and those that may have special needs. Each child is viewed as an individual and experiences are designed to be cognitively and developmentally appropriate to ensure that all children are inspired and challenged.

Peek your head in someday, you're guaranteed an enjoyable experience!



## Communication

**W**ondering what is happening at NHS? Want to find out what kinds of learning experiences students are having? There is an abundance of information about learning and events at North Hampton School. By visiting the NHS Website [www.northhamptonschool.org](http://www.northhamptonschool.org), you will be able to access information about what is happening in the classrooms and the NHS community. On the school's homepage you will see a calendar of "Upcoming Events" as well as the "Latest News" articles for the entire school community.

Important information about classrooms, Unified Arts classes and grade levels are posted on the "In the Classroom" section of the website. Some teachers are piloting the use of the application iWeb in order to share what is happening in their classrooms. These sites are similar to an online blog to communicate what is happening both visually (through pictures or video) and in writing to the families in those classrooms. Some classrooms continue to use blogs as a tool to help them reach families to share their learning. Other classrooms post newsletters on the school website for easy access. Teachers often email families to aid in communication. Some newsletters are even emailed directly to families so they are able to access classroom information as soon as it is available. It is truly amazing what these digital tools will allow us to share with the community beyond the walls of the school.

# Cost Per Pupil Summary

The most current cost per pupil statistic available is for the 2007-2008 school year. The 'cost per pupil' represents the sum of expenditures less tuition and transportation costs divided by the Average Daily Membership (ADM). Any food service revenue is deducted from current expenditures before dividing by ADM. Capital and debt service are not current expenditures and are not included.

**2007-2008 Cost Per Pupil by District**

- North Hampton .....\$14,309
- Seacoast Average .....\$15,385
- State Average .....\$11,507

Seacoast Districts included in the Seacoast Average are: Greenland, Hampton, Hampton Falls, Newington, New Castle, Portsmouth, Rye, Seabrook, and South Hampton.

During the five year period between the 2002-03 and 2007-08 school years

- North Hampton cost per pupil has increased by 23%
- The Seacoast average cost per pupil has increased by 35%
- The State average cost per pupil has increased by 32%

During 2002-03, North Hampton School District was spending less per pupil than 33% of the districts in the New Hampshire Seacoast.

During 2007-08, North Hampton School District is spending less per pupil than 66% of the districts in the New Hampshire Seacoast.



***First Impressions....***

The one thing that continues to impress me is that the teachers are invested in my child. They are interested in the academics, as well as the social piece of his education. His success is as important to them as it is to me. The teachers, as well as the support staff, are very accessible, approachable and responsive—I feel very connected to them.

*~ Kindergarten Parent*

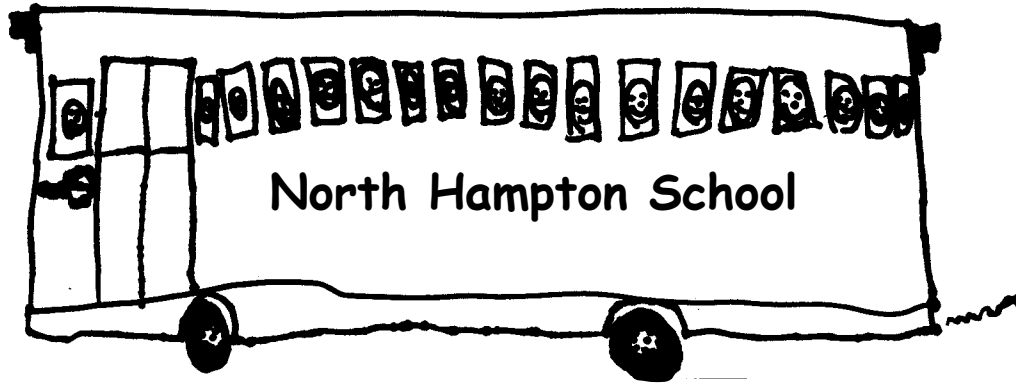
***Did you know....***

Our visiting author this year will be Roland Smith. He will spend a day at NHS on May 20th. His books cover all ages and to learn more about his work and his adventures go to <http://rolandsmith.com>.

## North Hampton School Directory

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
Principal:	Peter Sweet	psweet@sau21.org	(603) 964-5501
Director of Pupil Services:	Karen Frisbie	kfrisbie@sau21.org	(603) 964-7237
Curriculum Coordinator:	Jan Scipione	jscipione@sau21.org	(603) 964-5501
Office Manager:	Patricia Venenga	pvenenga@sau21.org	(603) 964-5501
Guidance:	Debra Vasconcellos	dvasconcellos@sau21.org	(603) 964-5501
School Psychologist:	Stephen Lorei	slorei@sau21.org	(603) 964-5501
Food Service:	Diane Marino	dmarino@sau21.org	(603) 964-5501
Maintenance:	John Gamache	jgamache@sau21.org	(603) 964-5501
School Nurse:	Julie Cyr	jcyr@sau21.org	(603) 964-5501
School Board Chairperson:	David Sarazen		
PAL Co-Chairs:	Victoria Kilroy and Kim Glendon		

# North Hampton School Report Card



North Hampton School  
201 Atlantic Avenue  
North Hampton, NH 03862

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT #182  
PORTSMOUTH, NH

**North Hampton Resident**

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