



NORTH EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT

50 EAST DIVISION STREET • NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428
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Dr. Michele Spurgeon Hartzell, Superintendent
Mr. Brian Emick, Assist. To the Superintendent

Mr. Jeffrey Fox, Business Manager
Mrs. Shelley Allen, Administrative Assistant

March 25, 2024

Hello Grape Pickers!

This is a reminder that Spring Break is Friday, March 29th through Monday, April 8th. School will resume on Tuesday, April 9th. Friday, March 29th and Monday, April 8th are asynchronous days for Seniors. Seniors must log in to their Google Slides to complete their draft Senior Portfolio presentations.

Report cards will be mailed home for students in grades kindergarten through five on Thursday, March 28th. Middle and high school report cards will be available Thursday, March 28th by 5:00 p.m. on the Sapphire portal.

North East schools and offices will be closed during Spring Break and there will be no practices or events on campus after 10:00 a.m. on the day of the eclipse (April 8th). A special thank you to PennState Behrend, Gannon, PennWest, and Mercyhurst for providing solar eclipse glasses for all North East students and staff.

Finally, the administration presented a plan to the Board of Directors to reconfigure the K-2 and 3-5 schools to one K-5 school. Please review the reconfiguration PowerPoint prior to completing a brief optional survey which can be found on our district website at www.nesd1.org, select the gold K-5 reconfiguration tab. Again, if you have any questions on the reconfiguration plan, please call the district office prior to completing the survey. You must be a North East resident to complete the survey.

We hope you have a relaxing spring break with your family and, as always, please contact your building administrator or the district office with any questions.

Respectfully,

Dr. Michele S. Hartzell, Superintendent

Cc: Mr. Brian Emick, Assistant to the Superintendent
Board of School Directors

Attach: Building Bridges PowerPoint

"The Mission of the North East School District is to Nurture and Empower lifelong learning and responsible citizenship"

"The Vision of the North East School District is to be an exemplary educational community by developing knowledge and skills to positively influence a changing world"



Building Bridges

Reconfiguration Plan For Earle C. Davis Primary
and
North East Intermediate Elementary

Dr. Michele S. Hartzell • Mr. Brian Emick • March 21, 2024

OVERVIEW OF RECONFIGURATION

★ Target Objectives

- Create One Cohesive K-5 Learning Environment by Merging Earle C. Davis and North East Intermediate Schools with a K-5 Principal and Assistant Principal Model
- Foster and Enhance K-5 Collaborative Practices
- Optimize Resources
- Cultivation of a K-5 School-Wide Culture for Learning



ADMINISTRATIVE RESTRUCTURING

- ★ Implementation of a K-5 Principal and K-5 Assistant Principal Model
- ★ Appointment of a K-5 Principal
- ★ Selection of a K-5 Assistant Principal
- ★ Roles and responsibilities of newly formed administrative team will mirror the Middle School and High School Model



BENEFITS OF RECONFIGURATION

- ★ One master schedule K-5
- ★ K-2 and 3-5 schools already share all Specials | Support Services

• ART	• LIBRARY
• MUSIC	• PHYSICAL EDUCATION
• SCHOOL COUNSELOR	• SCHOOL NURSE
• STEAM [Library K-2 Innovation Lab 3-5]	• STUDENT & FAMILY RELATIONS SPECIALIST

- ★ Current Shared Spaces: Cafeteria, Gymnasium, Pool, Library, Playground Areas



BENEFITS OF RECONFIGURATION

- ★ Increased opportunities for vertical collaboration amongst staff and students across the K-5 grade span
- ★ Enhanced material and resource sharing to promote and encourage a richer and more cohesive learning environment
- ★ Although we have the philosophy of a K-12 school district, this plan would open channels of communication to facilitate a school-wide approach to teaming, data meetings, curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices at the K-5 grade levels



BENEFITS OF RECONFIGURATION

- ★ All K-5 staff would be accountable for academic achievement in alignment with state accountability measures
- ★ Faculty and staff professional development will be examined to better promote vertical team planning K-5
- ★ A combined SAP (Student Assistance Program) team would span K-5 to collectively address the needs of students
- ★ School-wide cultivation of a student-based culture for learning
- ★ **CONSISTENCY**



CONSIDERATIONS

- ★ Communication to ensure that any changes in school processes are shared with parents, community members, and school visitors
- ★ Review of morning arrival and afternoon dismissal procedures
- ★ Evaluate office space for Principal and Assistant Principal
- ★ Consider Administrative Assistant roles and responsibilities
 - Building Secretary, Attendance, Federal Programs, Finances & Budgeting, Substitute Coverage, Student Activities, etc.
- ★ Title I Programming



ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- ★ Recommendation will be to rename the building to North East Elementary School
- ★ Recommendation will be to consider renaming the Elementary Library | Earle C. Davis to honor the past.
- ★ Review additional spaces for Itinerant Support Services, including but not limited to: special education, outpatient counseling, NE speech, IU speech, physical therapy, occupational therapy, hearing, and school psychologists
- ★ Reconfiguration plan coincides with the BOD approved feasibility study for the elementary center renovations



TIMELINE

- ★ March 22, 2024 → Advertise Anticipated Assistant Principal for the Elementary Center.
- ★ March 22, 2024 → Post draft plan on the NESD website with link for public comments and questions.
- ★ April 18, 2024 → NESD Board of Directors approval of the reconfiguration plan.
- ★ May, 2024 → Reconfiguration opens in the Future Ready Comprehensive Planning Portal. NESD plan will be submitted to PDE for approval.
- ★ Summer, 2024 → Administrative Retreat | Develop final administrative and building level processes.



QUESTIONS?

NORTH EAST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Reconfiguration Proposal

Dr. Michele S. Hartzell • Mr. Brian Emick