

Northwood News

August 29, 2022 to September 2, 2022

Dear Highwheeler Community,

What a wonderful first full week back it has been! I want to thank you all for the support you have given our students as they returned to school. I have so enjoyed seeing many of you at pick-up and drop-off, and of course have loved starting to get to know all of your children! They have been doing a wonderful job of demonstrating our ROLL values (**R**espectful, **O**n time and ready, **L**iving responsibly, **L**iving safely) in their classrooms and on the playground.

We've got a full week next week with important and exciting events; please be sure to read below for more specifics! Also, just a few important reminders to help keep our students and their items safe at Northwood:

- Students need to wear closed toe and heel shoes. This will allow them to fully participate in PE and other activities on the playground.
- At drop-off and pick-up, parents should stay behind the yellow lines at the back of the school, and on the parking lot side of the gates in the front of the school. Especially at primary pick-up, we do have upper grade PE classes on the playground, and need to ensure that the playground area is clear of non-Northwood personnel and students.
- Please be sure to label all jackets, water bottles, lunch boxes, etc. so we can help make sure any lost items are returned to students.

Again, thank you all for your support of our Highwheeler community during our first seven days of school! Read on for our upcoming events, and other important information!

Back to School Night

This Thursday, September 1st, is Back to School Night. Back to School Night is an opportunity for teachers to share information about the year with parents/guardians; students should not attend this event.

To accommodate families with more than one student at Northwood, our teachers will be offering two sessions. Teachers will be giving the same presentation at each session; please choose one session to attend. **If your child is in a combination class, please look for information from your teacher about which session your grade level should attend.

Please see below for the schedule for the evening.

5:30-6:00	6th Grade Outdoor Education Presentation (6th Grade Parents Only) in the Music Building (M1 and M2)
6:00-6:30	Session 1
6:35-7:05	Session 2

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday!

Classroom/School Volunteers

Volunteers are back! Teachers will begin to reach out about classroom volunteer opportunities (and the registration process starting next week). In alignment with the California Department of Public Health guidelines for schools, IUSD has recently updated the District's volunteer protocols. Please take a moment to review this information.

- Volunteers must be fully vaccinated or have taken a COVID-19 test with a negative result within the last week.
- In a change from last year, volunteers are not required to upload their vaccination status into our Raptor System.
- Masking is also recommended for all volunteers within the school.

We are excited to have volunteers back on campus. Together, we can support a healthy school environment. Thank you for your partnership!

Family Night Out

Northwood's first Family Night Out will be held at Rubios at the Marketplace on Wednesday, September 7th. Please come join us between 2:00-8:00pm for a good cause with a side of tacos! Use code **"DONATE"** at the checkout if you order online, or present the [flyer](#) for orders placed at the restaurant.

Grade 4-6 Music Parent Night on Monday, August 29th

Our wonderful Upper Grade Music Team will be hosting a Music Parent Night on Monday, August 29th, at Deerfield Elementary School from 6:30-7:30. This event is for parents only, and is an optional opportunity for parents who have questions about our music program. Please [click here](#) for more information.

Parking Lot Safety

Thank you all for your continued support of student safety at drop-off and pick-up. A few reminders:

- Use the sidewalks whenever possible to avoid crossing through the parking lot. If you do need to cross the parking lot, use the crosswalk and wait for the teacher on duty.
- Please pull all the way forward to the red fire lane before dropping off or picking up your student.
- Remain in your vehicle; backpacks and other items should be accessible from the passenger side of the vehicle so students do not need to walk between cars to get items in the trunk.
- Walk bikes on campus.
- Observe all posted parking/traffic signs in the community, and keep driveways clear.

PTA Movie Night

Please join us on Friday, September 9th on the Northwood Field for a movie! More details will follow.

PTA Volunteer Opportunities

PTA is still looking for volunteers to help with several programs. Please [click here](#) for more information.

School Site Council

Northwood is looking for 3 parents to join our School Site Council for the 2022-2023 school year. The School Site Council plays an integral part in the educational program at Northwood Elementary. The School Site Council provides a formal opportunity for parents and community members to work with the school staff for the betterment of the educational program at Northwood and has the responsibility of monitoring the implementation of the school improvement program with the principal, teachers and other school personnel. The School Site Council's central focus is supporting the learning program for all students; the council's role is critical to the successful operation of the school and is mandated by California State law. If you are interested in serving on the School Site Council, please complete the [interest form](#) by Friday, September 9th. Voting will take place online shortly thereafter and the top vote earners will be invited to serve on the School Site Council for a two-year term.

Transportation Resources

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) offers a Youth Ride Free Program, allowing youth ages 6-18 to ride all OC Bus fixed-route services for free. Please [click here](#) for more information, including the request form. You can return the form to Northwood's front office.

Thank you for taking the time to read through this information; we are excited to see you all at Back to School Night on Thursday, September 1st, from 6:00-7:05 p.m.!

Sincerely,

Kelly Duncan

Principal

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Important Dates:

Thursday, September 1st

- **Minimum Day**
 - PK/K Regular Schedule
 - Grades 1-3 Dismissal at 1:15
 - Grades 4-6 Dismissal at 1:40
- **Back to School Night (6-7:05 p.m.)**

Monday, September 5th

- Labor Day Holiday (No School)

Wednesday, September 7th

- Family Night Out at Rubio's (2955 El Camino Real, Tustin CA) from 2-8 p.m.
- Please [click here](#) for more information.

Friday, September 9th

- PTA Movie Night–Details TBA