



Middle School Student Handbook 2017-2018

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Transformed lives, transform lives!

*“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind,
that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”*

Romans 12:2

A Ministry of Northshore Christian Church

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Introduction

Dear Northshore Families,

We are excited for this school year! The new Cascade Pavilion enables our middle school division to come together for lunches, learning, and community building. We will work together to continue the tradition of excellence based on the experience of our students, teachers, and staff. Our desire is to provide students with an environment where authentic learning takes place through a biblical worldview. This handbook contains information that our students need to navigate various aspects of middle school. We pray everyone will have a wonderful school year as we learn and grow together!

Dr. Benny Fong
Middle School Principal

Welcome to NCA Middle School! We are so glad that you are here, and we treasure this opportunity to partner together to help your son/daughter find great learning success at Northshore Christian Academy. My passion is life-long learning! Under God's guidance and wisdom, my desire is for all students and staff to be continually growing and learning! My role in this process is to oversee student achievement and professional development by centering on what is best for learners and the best practices of education. I look forward to watching our middle school students grow and develop, both academically and in their personal relationships with Jesus Christ. May God watch over us and lead us in our learning journey.

Janet Christy
Student Learning & Professional Development Director

NCA Vision Statement

Transformed lives...transform lives!

"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

Romans 12:2

NCA Mission Statement

Northshore Christian Academy partners with families to provide a superior Christian education developing spiritual, academic, and personal excellence in a Christ-centered environment.

NCA Core Values

- Jesus Christ over all, through all, in all.
- Caring Community: nurturing, relationship-oriented, communication, example, safety
- Gifts Development: character, leadership, servanthood, discipleship
- Pursue Excellence: visionary, innovative, organized, well-planned, thorough, Biblical
- Professional Community: life-long learning, collaborative, inspiring, interdependent
- Church-school Strength: investing in people for eternity, cooperation, mission-focused

NCA Portrait of a Graduate

We desire to plant the seeds that will grow into the following characteristics in our students:

Lover of God

Honor God by showing respect

Participate in prayer and worship

Are disciples of Jesus; called by God, transformed by God, on a mission with God.

Practice the spiritual disciplines of prayer, meditation, Bible reading, and worship.

Biblical examples: Jesus, David, Abraham, Hannah

Bible verses: Deuteronomy 6:5, Matthew 22:37

Image Cultivator

I will...

- See myself and others as being created uniquely.
- Understand that God has created us to share his attributes, developed through practice.
- Possess a mindset of growth and transformation.
- Exhibit a healthy lifestyle as seen in social, emotional, physical, and spiritual areas.
- Demonstrate Godly character traits of compassion, truth, justice, righteous, and grace.

Biblical examples: Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego; Daniel; Nehemiah; Disciples

Bible verses: Genesis 1:27a, Psalm 139:14a

Truth Discerner

Apply biblical principles in the analysis of math, science, history and literature.

Analyze the merits of conflicting claims

Evaluate the quality of information and the point of view in text and media.

Seek the Holy Spirit's guidance through prayer.

Biblical examples: Joshua, Solomon, Josiah, Paul

Bible verses: John 8:31-32, John 14:6

Meaning Seeker

I will use my eyes and ears to listen and observe.

I will use the Bible and truth to make interpretations.

I will make connections beyond the obvious.

I will ask probing questions.

Biblical examples: Ruth, Mary, Hezekiah, Jacob

Bible verse: 2 Timothy 2:15, Psalm 119:66

Effective Communicator

I will speak kindly

I will share the love of Jesus

I will speak the truth

I will present a message with confidence and humility.

I will share the Gospel with boldness, clarity, and gentleness.

Biblical examples: Moses & Aaron; Isaiah; Jeremiah; Minor Prophets

Bible verses: Ephesians 4:29, 1 Peter 3:15

Innovative Designer

- I will be creative
- I will learn to solve problems and ask for help
- I will use critical and creative thinking to problem solve.
- I will value knowledge.

Biblical examples: God (the creator), Noah, Joseph, Elijah

Bible verse: Exodus 31:3, Exodus 35:31

Servant Leader

- I will show love, patience and self-control
- I will consider the needs of others
- I will demonstrate compassion and acceptance
- I will value relationships
- I will value positive change

Biblical examples: Jesus, Esther, Joseph, Jonathon

Bible verse: Matthew 20:25-26, Ephesians 4:2, Colossians 3:12

Tenacious Navigator

- I will always try
- I will take risks
- I will do my best
- I will set goals
- I will respond well to success and failure

Biblical examples: Jonah, Joshua, Gideon, Paul, Abraham, Job

Bible verse: Galatians 6:9, Hebrews 10:36, Hebrews 12:1b-2a

Middle School Staff

6th Grade Teaching Team

Mrs. Charity Maas	F103	6 th grade English/History/Bible
Mrs. Amanda Tormon	F101	6 th grade Math/Bible
Mrs. Karen Jones	F102	6 th grade Science/Bible
Ms. Samara Birkey	F104	6 th grade English/History/Bible

7th Grade Teaching Team

Mr. Andrew Huskamp	E202	7 th grade English/Bible
Mr. Tom Murray	E101	7 th grade Science/Bible
Mr. Marc Marion	E103	7 th grade Math/Bible
Mrs. Pam Watson	E104	7 th grade History/Bible

8th Grade Teaching Team

Mr. Fred Erickson	E203	8 th grade Math/History
Mrs. Liz Ferry	E102	8 th grade Science/Med.Detectives
Ms. Beth Ross	E204	8 th grade English/History
Mr. David McLain	E201	8 th grade History/Discipleship

Support Staff and Specialist Teaching Team

Mrs. Courtney McLain	D104	6 th – 8 th Grade Orchestra
Mr. Roy Herzer	Cascade Conference Room	Pre-AP Physics/Band/Geometry
Mrs. Tara Ingham	Olympic Pavilion Commons	Art
Mrs. Carrie Ann Main	E201	Student Leadership
Ms. Hannah Merisko	Gym	P.E.
Mrs. Kari Carter	Gym	P.E.
Mrs. Raine Sherwood	E228	Video Production/Coding
Mr. Kris Peterson	C228	Computers
Ms. Melissa Poole	F202 / C229	Music/Speech and Debate
Mrs. Lisa Walchenbach	D101	Music
Mr. Eudis Matos	F105	Spanish
Mrs. Jean Hale	Olympic Pavilion Commons	Art
Mrs. Rachel Diede	Olympic Pavilion	Admin Assist./Events/Attendance
Mrs. Heather Shaw	Olympic Pavilion	Middle School Counselor
Mrs. Noel Hardaway	C126	Project Lead the Way
Ms. Debbie Ellis	E201	Reading Lab
Mr. Jon Shaw	Cascade Pavilion	Assistant Principal/Athletic Director

FAQs – The following questions are often raised by parents throughout the year.

Q. How many days will students get to make up work missed due to excused absences?

A. Students are given two days, per each day of an excused absence, to make up late work. There is a maximum of eight days to make up late work for the absence period. See "Late Work", page five, for the long-term excused absence policy.

Q. Will my child be able to order a hot lunch through blueplateseattle.com?

A. Yes. Lunches will be delivered to the Pavilion. Please contact Blue Plate Seattle for ordering information.

Q. Where will I pick up my child when he/she has a medical appointment?

A. After getting your pass from the School Gate Guardian kiosk in the lobby, please report to the front desk and the receptionist will issue you an "exit permission slip". Once you have obtained your "exit permission slip" and you have signed yourself into the visitor log, you will proceed to the Academy office (the Academy Office functions as the main office of the school). If your child is in the Pavilion at the time you wish to pick him/her up, a member of the office staff will inform Mrs. Diede and she will send the student to the Academy Office. Parents will not need to go to the Pavilion to pick up their child.

Q. How does academic probation work?

A. After four weeks have passed in each quarter, RenWeb will be checked by the school registrar. Each Friday, all grades are checked. If a student's grade is below a 70% in *any* subject, *he/she is ineligible for participation the following week, Monday-Sunday*. If the athlete should bring their grade above a 70% during their probation week, he/she will stay on probation for the week. As long as their grade remains above a 70%, they will be permitted to play in games/activities after their probation week. A student on AP is allowed to practice, but will not be dismissed early or travel with their team for a meet requiring early dismissal.

If your child is placed on academic probation, please contact the appropriate teacher to help find ways we can work together to improve his/her academic performance. Parent Web is a valuable tool to help monitor your child's academic progress.

Q. Are there any major changes in the dress code?

A. **No**, but here are a few important reminders:

- Yoga pants may NOT be worn on any day. (not even Free Dress Day)
- No frayed or jeans with holes will be allowed for free dress days.
- Free Dress Day will be on the second Friday of each month.
- Walk-a-thon Shirt Day will be on the fourth Friday of each month. (Must be the 2017 Walk-a-thon shirt)
- The other Fridays will be uniform days.

As always, modesty and good judgment should prevail. Please consult the Uniform/Dress code sheets at the end of this handbook. Parents are responsible for their student meeting the dress code. Please do not rely on school staff to check what you can determine at home. Activity shirts (Jazz, Band, Select Choir, Robogators, NCA Athletics) may be worn on the last school day of the month. Fine Art shirts may be worn on performance days as well. Eighth grade shirts may be worn on Activity Shirt Days and PE days.

Q. May my child wear a non-NCA sweatshirt/jacket in the building?

A. No, this assists in the uniformity of appearance in each class.

Q. Will my child have a locker?

A. Yes. Many are situated in the Pavilion. Others will be located on the north side of the existing building. It is recommended that students purchase and use a combination lock. The combination must be given to the homeroom teacher but shouldn't be given to anyone else.

Q. Will my child have enough time to go to the bathroom and make it to class on time?

A. Yes, students have five minutes between each class and 40 minutes between classes at lunch.

Q. May I volunteer in my child's class like I did in elementary school?

A. In the middle school, we love volunteers but they are generally needed for help with events, not in the classroom. Driving to athletic events, drama, band, mission activities, car pools, chaperones at the fall retreat, preparing Candy Cane Grams, etc., are the way parents can help the most in the middle school. Please check with Mrs. Diede for the most urgent volunteer needs.

Academics

Academic Probation

- Students with one or more “Ds” or “Fs” in one or more classes are placed on Academic Probation and are rendered ineligible for participation in student activities and athletic events until they improve their academic performance in the classes to at least a “C-” level.
- Students are assessed weekly after the first four weeks of each quarter.
- If a student is on academic probation the following people will be notified: Parents and Student
Administration
All middle school faculty
- Students consistently failing to meet academic standards will be placed on an Academic or Behavior Plan and/or Academic Support Status. Consistent, diligent work on the part of the student will be required to maintain enrollment at NCA.

Academic Support

As academic performance is of vital importance to the school community at Northshore Christian Academy, students who receive two or more grades of “D” and/or “F” on the most recent report card will be placed on “Academic Support” status. Students in this program will require an initial conference with their parents and Mrs. Shaw to develop a plan for academic success. Components of this plan will include:

- A weekly meeting between the student and Mrs. Shaw for the following quarter, to implement and monitor homework, classwork, behavioral, social or emotional goals/strategies agreed to within the initial conference, with the primary objective of helping the young person become more successful in his or her studies at NCA.
- Enrollment in Math Lab, Reading Lab or Thrive may be required. Outside tutoring may also be recommended
- A parent meeting with the student, principal and homeroom teacher six weeks into each quarter the student is involved in the Academic Support program will be scheduled to monitor progress towards the goals set forth during the initial conference. Students who are still on Academic Support after two consecutive quarters will be assessed again by the multidisciplinary team. Subsequent academic, behavioral and emotional supports may be added at this time.
- Failure to meet academic standards after two consecutive quarters may lead to a review of the student's enrollment Status.

Conferences - Student Led Conferences

- In November (and if desired, in March), middle school students are required to lead their own conferences explaining their progress, strengths, and challenges to their parents. They share work of which they are proud of and set goals for areas of improvement. The student takes ownership of the conference and opens it up for the teacher and parents to provide feedback and ask questions.
- Parents will schedule conferences online through Google Docs.
- Students complete a self-evaluation prior to each conference.
- Students may practice “mock” conferences or prepare in some way in their homeroom classes to prepare for the official conferences.
- During their official conference in November, students share their self-evaluations and they work on an “Improvement Plan”, addressing their challenges, with their parents’ help.
- During March, additional conferences will be held on an “as needed” basis.
- Parents are always welcome to request a conference with teachers at mutually agreeable times throughout the year

Extra Credit

- Offering extra credit is optional for teachers and is generally not encouraged.
- If offered, extra credit will be offered to the WHOLE class and not just for specific individuals. The intention is not to make up for work not turned in during the quarter, but rather to provide additional enrichment opportunities.

Grading Scale:

<input type="checkbox"/>	93 – 100	A
<input type="checkbox"/>	90 - 92	A-
<input type="checkbox"/>	87 - 89	B+
<input type="checkbox"/>	83 – 86	B
<input type="checkbox"/>	80 – 82	B-
<input type="checkbox"/>	77 – 79	C+
<input type="checkbox"/>	73 – 76	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	70 – 72	C-
<input type="checkbox"/>	67 – 69	D+
<input type="checkbox"/>	63 – 66	D
<input type="checkbox"/>	60 – 62	D-
<input type="checkbox"/>	0 – 59	F

Students may receive an “A+” on assignments or projects. The “plus” is to compliment work that is *above and beyond*.

However, we do not use an “A+” on report cards. The GPA scale goes to a 4.0 which is equivalent to an “A” and nothing higher.

Homework

- Homework varies depending upon the needs of each class.

Honor Roll:

Principal’s List (3.75 GPA)
High Honors (3.50-3.74GPA)
Honors (3.25 GPA)

Students who have earned a place on the respective lists will have their names posted in the hallways at the end of each quarter. Any student with a final grade of a “D-“, “D”, “D+” or “F” in any class, core or elective, will not qualify for honor roll.

Late/Make-Up Work

- Students may use a “Middle School Pass” to submit a late daily work assignment. - See “Middle School Passes”
- Students are given **two days**, per one day of an excused absence, to make up late work and test. There is a maximum of eight days to make up late work for the absence period. Exceptions may be granted at teacher’s discretion.
- No late work is accepted for projects. If a student has an excused absence the day a project is due, it is due the first day back to school, unless additional information necessary for success has been given during the absence. The teacher will make the determination if additional time will be allowed.
- Students with long-term absences due to extreme circumstances (i.e. severe illness / hospitalization) may develop a timeline with the teacher for turning in late work.
- If a student has a late assignment, after using all their passes and make up days for excused absences, the assignment receives zero credit, no more than 50% credit.
- Students are given two days, per excused absence, to make up tests. There is a maximum of eight days to make up late work.
- Students are not given credit for unexcused absences but are expected to complete the work in order to achieve their highest academic potential.
- No late or make-up work will be allowed for students on suspension.

Middle School Passes:

- Students will receive general “Middle School Passes” that may be used as a late work pass, hall pass, or tardy pass.
- Each pass may only be used one time. Passes must be used within seven calendar days of the due date of the assignment.
- If used as a late work pass, it may apply to daily work homework assignments in any core class. The passes may not be used on any term papers, tests, or large, long-term projects.
- Lost or stolen passes will not be replaced.
- Rewards: Students who do not use all of their passes may enter their unused passes in a drawing for prizes at the end of each quarter. The drawing will occur in the homeroom.
- Under no circumstances will any extra passes be distributed.
- Passes will be distributed as follows:

Grade	1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	4 th Quarter
Sixth	4 passes	3 passes	3 passes	2 passes
Seventh	3 passes	2 passes	2 passes	1 pass
Eighth	2 passes	1 passes	0 pass	0 passes

Valedictorian/Salutatorian- These honors are based on the last three years of a student’s GPA as well as additional academic criteria to determine the top two academic students in the graduation class. We will seek to break ties whenever possible.

Attendance

When notifying the middle school of your child’s absence or early release, email Mrs. Diede or her designee at msattendance@northshorechristian.org . She will send notification to all of your child’s teachers and enter this information into RenWeb.

Arrival

Students will report to the Commons room of the Olympic Pavilion between 8:00and 8:20AM. Students may access the Pavilion by way of the crosswalk at the west end of the Pavilion. Right lane will be used for all 6th – 8th grade student drop offs.

Parents who would like to drop off students between 6:30AM and 8:00AM will be charged a \$6 fee for child care.

Dismissal

- At 3:25 PM, all Middle School teachers dismiss students from classes. Students will use the main stairway in the C/D Foyer, right side to walk to the Auditorium. Students will seat in assigned sections of the Auditorium.
- There will be 2 microphones, and walkie-talkies will be provided for teacher communication during dismissal.
- One microphone will be on stage for calling student names from the car line and one microphone in the back by the media booth for calling student names as parents walk in.

Extended Absences:

- Students are encouraged to take no more than five consecutive, excused absences during a school year for family activities.
- Students who are gone for more than five days suffer from a lack of direct instruction and class discussions. As a result, their grades usually suffer.
- Families who wish authorization for absences five or more days should fill out the Request Absences form available at <http://northshorechristianacademy.org/forms> and submit it to Dr. Fong. To make communication more effective, efforts should be made to submit the form two weeks before the expected absence.

Ready, Not Ready System

- Attendance is taken during each class and then recorded on RenWeb.
- With roll call, students respond “Ready” or “Not Ready” based on whether or not they are prepared for class (books, paper, pencils, homework, etc.) and seated by the time the bell rings
- If a student has an unexcused tardy, it is an automatic “Not Ready.”
- This will account for up to 10% of the grade.

Tardy Policy

- Students may use a middle school pass to excuse a tardy.
- Such a pass may be used up to five minutes past the bell. Beyond five minutes the pass may not be used.
- Students must be in their seats with all of the required school supplies for that class by the time the bell rings, or they are counted tardy.
- Teachers will deem whether or not a tardy is excused or unexcused.
- A note from another teacher may excuse a tardy.
- A note from a parent may excuse a tardy, if the cause of the tardy was mechanical failure, unusual traffic difficulties or a medical emergency. Parental excuses for a series of past tardies cannot be accepted.

- Once a student has three unexcused tardies, he/she will serve detention at lunch.
- When a student has accumulated six total unexcused tardies, he/she will be put on a behavioral plan in addition to serving detention at lunch.
- RenWeb will inform the administration after a student has three tardies. This pertains to non-core subject classes as well.
- Parents will also receive an email when the student receives three or more tardies.

Unexcused Absences

- Students are not given grades for work performed during unexcused absences but are expected to complete the work in order to achieve their highest academic potential.
- Work due (or tests administered) during a day of suspension will not receive a grade. Work assigned and collected at the end of class on the day of suspension, will not receive a grade. Work assigned the day of suspension and due in the future may be turned in on the future due date.
- When students are suspended, the day of suspension is considered an unexcused absence.
- Students considering an unexcused absence at a future date may not turn in work early to avoid the grading consequence for the unexcused absence.
- Parents wishing to change an unexcused absence to an excused absence must do so within two days of the absence.

Absences due to school-related activities

- Students who know they will miss class due to school-sponsored activity may turn in assignments the day before the activity or during the day of the activity before they leave campus for the event. They are not given two days to make up missed work under these circumstances.
- It is the responsibility of the student to check in with teachers beforehand.

Discipline

Ephesians 6:4 uses two words to describe God's principles for raising children: Instruction (training, coaching and teaching) and discipline (correction, consequences). These words indicate a need to set goals for the students, teach them the goals and patiently and persistently direct them towards accomplishing them. The goal of discipline is to train students to obey God as they learn to submit to the discipline of parents and school personnel.

The following goals apply to Northshore Christian Academy's philosophy of discipleship and discipline.

- To lead students to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.
- To lead students to totally commit themselves to Christ.
- To build the Word of God into their lives until it is a natural part of who they are.
- To teach students prompt and willing obedience and respect for authority.
- To teach students to value and practice self-discipline.
- To teach students to accept responsibility.
- To teach students to exhibit the fruit of the Spirit in their lives.
- To teach students to develop in Godly character and apply these character qualities to everyday living.

Detention

- Detention is served the entire lunch period from the time the student arrives. If a student must warm up a lunch or go get a hot lunch, their detention time does not begin until he/she arrives at the detention room.
- There is NO talking, reading or homework during detention.
- Dr. Fong will assign writing assignments to all students serving detention. The assignment will need to be turned in through turnitin.com by the end of the detention period. If the assignment is not completed to the satisfaction of Dr. Fong, the student will need to serve detention again to rewrite the assignment.

Suspension

- Students may be suspended for a pattern of misbehavior or for a serious offense. Suspensions may be assigned to be served at home or at school (in-building suspension).
- Suspension periods can vary from one to five days, depending upon the infraction or pattern of infractions.
- Work due on a day when a student has been assigned a suspension must be completed but will not receive credit.
- Tests scheduled for a day a student is suspended may not be made up.

Consequences

NCA wishes to train young people to follow Christ. Our love for our students never falters, but that love does not eliminate consequences for misbehavior. Parents will be notified by a Discipline Referral Form, email or phone call.

Below you will find *samples of consequences* for the violation of school rules and /or guidelines. This list is not intended to be all - inclusive, but is provided as a guide. The school administration reserves the right to modify these consequences as it determines each situation warrants.

The school administration reserves the right to modify these consequences as it determines each situation warrants.

- **Tardiness**
A student will receive a detention for every third tardy in any class.
First Offense: 1 detention
Second Offense: 1 detention and implementation of a Behavior Contract
Third Offense: Parent conference with principal to discuss discipline options
- **Cheating**
First Offense: 1-3 Days detention and loss of credit on the assignment
Second Offense: 2-3 Days detention or 1 day of suspension
Third Offense: 1 Day suspension and parent conference. Implementation of Behavior Contract & enrollment status may be reviewed.
- **Inappropriate Language – Spoken or Written**
This includes swearing or taking the Lord’s name in vain.
First Offense: 1-2 Days of Detention or Suspension, depending upon the severity of the behavior
Second Offense: 3-5 Days of Detention or Suspension. Parent Conference. Behavior Contract may be implemented.
Third Offense: Parent Conference. Behavior Contract will be implemented. Suspension.
- **Threatening Words – Spoken or Written**
Threatening physical harm to someone; including threats, gestures, and verbal abuse.
First Offense: 1-2 days of detention or suspension, depending upon the severity of the behavior as determined by an administrator
Second Offense: 3-5 days of detention or suspension. Parent Conference. Behavior Contract may be implemented.
Third Offense: Parent Conference. Implementation of Behavior Contract
- **Fighting**
One or both parties have contributed to the situation by verbal and/or physical action.
First Offense: 1-3 days in Detention or Suspension
Second Offense: 2-5 days of Detention or Suspension. Parent conference. Behavior Contract may be implemented.
Third Offense: Parent conference. Implementation of Behavior Contract

Intimidation (Bullying)/Harassment: in person or online

Bullying/Intimidation/Harassment has no place at Northshore Christian Academy. Bullying includes the following:

- Physical (touching in angry ways).
- Threats (“Better watch your back”, “I’m gonna hurt you”, “We’re gonna get you”, etc.)
- Harassment (consistently bothering someone).
- Name-calling (“You are stupid.” “You don’t belong here.”)
- Racial slurs.
- Spreading rumors/gossip.
- Extortion (making someone give you something of his/hers).
- Foul language.
- Taunting (making fun of someone; “you don’t have any friends” appearance, intelligence, name, ethnicity)
- Practicing exclusivity in social settings (cliques, bffs which exclude, ostracism, etc.)
- Making insulting remarks about another student’s family members, etc.

First Offense: 1-3 days in detention or suspension
Second Offense: 2-5 days in detention or suspension. Behavior Contract may be implemented. Third Offense: Implementation of Behavior Contract & enrollment status may be reviewed.

Sexual Harassment (physical or verbal): in person or online

First Offense: 1-3 days in detention or suspension
Second Offense: Implementation of Behavior Contract & enrollment status may be reviewed.

Damage to Property: All members of our school family have a right to have their property respected.
Any offense: Students should expect to clean, repair or replace any item they damage. They should also expect to assist the facilities team in extra cleaning of the school.

Unauthorized Use of Personal Electronic Devices: (the severity of the misuse will determine the consequences, which in the most extreme cases could result in suspension or disenrollment)

First Offense: Loss of possession for the day (will be returned only to parent)
Second Offense: Loss of possession for 2-3 days (will be returned only to parent)
Third Offense: Loss of possession for 2-5 days. Mandatory parent Conference. Permission to bring to campus may be denied.

Use or Possession of Non-prescription Drugs, Marijuana, Alcohol, Tobacco, or Vaping products

First Offense: Parent Conference. 1-5 days' suspension or expulsion (depending upon the nature of the substance and the offense).

Second Offense: Implementation of Behavior Contract, enrollment status may be reviewed.

Dress Code

(see pages 18+19)

Events / Programs

- Retreat (*September 22*) – This year's fall retreat will be on **Friday, September 22**. We believe the earlier start date gives us a better platform to address important topics such as friendship, identity in Christ, high school preparation, team building and bullying prevention. We recognize that splitting the two day retreat into two separate days (fall and spring) may cause disappointment to some students. However, we believe starting earlier with a quality program coupled with a strong speaker will have a positive lasting impact on our students for this coming school year. Please stay tuned for more information.
- Auction (*November 4*) – The annual auction is our school's primary fundraiser. Everyone's support is needed to make this event a success. Each class contributes an art project.
- Middle School Concerts *Grades 6-8 performing (Nov./ May etc.)*
- Speech Meet (*December – February*) All students at NCA participate in the Speech Meet. English teachers are given ACSI speech and Scripture selections for their students to select and memorize. Students memorize speeches as homework starting in December. English teachers assess student progress and provide feedback. In January, there will be speech meet run-offs where every student recites his/her speech /scripture and is judged on the performance. Winners advance to the middle school Speech Meet on February 7th.
- Musical – (*March 15-17, 23*) – Each year middle school students perform a fabulous musical. In past years they have performed junior versions of Broadway musicals, such as *The Music Man, The Sound of Music, Annie, Jr., Seussical, Fiddler on the Roof, Alice in Wonderland and Aladdin and Beauty and the Beast*. Auditions will be held in November. Most practices will be after school.
- Math Olympics – Math teachers will be given materials to assess their students in math class seeing which ones qualify for the Math Olympics. Qualifying students will compete against other math qualifiers from various ACSI schools.
- Spring Social (*April 28*) – The student council members plan a special social event in the spring. This event is meant to be just for the students and chaperones. A committee of teachers and parents helps chaperone the event.
- Spring Concert (*May 15 (choir) & 17 (Band and Orchestra)*) our final opportunity of the year to hear the fantastic sights and sounds of our bands, choirs and orchestras.
- Walk-a-thon – (*June 8*) Students march around the school buildings after successfully raising funds for this year's special projects.
- Eighth Grade Commissioning Breakfast (*June 13th*) Words of encouragement from former students and a guest

speaker will follow a continental breakfast provided by NCA. A prayer of dedication and commitment will conclude the event.

- **Graduation (June 12)** – Rehearsal will follow immediately after the Commissioning Breakfast. Eighth grade graduation occurs in the evening in the auditorium. Eighth grade teachers participate in the ceremony.
- **Washington DC Trip** - On even years, we offer a trip to Washington DC during spring break to learn of our nation's Christian heritage. This year Mr. and Mrs. McLain will be organizing and chaperoning the DC trip.

Health and Safety

(Please refer to the Family Handbook for complete details regarding Northshore Christian Academy's health and safety policies. The following are specific to middle school students.)

- Middle school students with diagnosed medical conditions requiring an Emergency Medical Plan such as (but not limited to) asthma, food allergy, or diabetes along with an authorization for medication signed by the student's parents and health care provider will be responsible for the storage and transportation of their medications. The authorization form must indicate that the student is allowed to carry the medication and the student will also sign a contract of responsibility which will be kept in the health room along with a copy in the student's permanent file. Medications should be kept in a locked locker when not being transported to lunch, recess, or PE. All medications will be examined by the school nurse, and paperwork will be distributed to necessary staff.
- If a middle school student will need occasional medication such as pain relievers, antacids, or prescription medications, these will be kept locked in the health room and available to the student when needed. Authorization forms will need to be signed by the student's health care provider as well as the parents. The middle school student needing a medication during school hours will obtain a health pass from a teacher before visiting the health room. In the case of a daily prescribed medication arrangements can be made with the teacher and health room staff.
- First aid supplies will be available in the middle school building for minor injuries. In the case of a more serious injury or illness requiring evaluation by health room staff the middle school student should be sent to the health room with another student or available adult.

General Information

Before School and After School Care

Before school care for middle school students will be in from 6:30-7:00 AM at the Cascade Pavilion Commons. Between 7:00 AM to 7:55 AM, before school care will then take place at the Olympic Pavilion Commons. Students are required to sign in. There is a fee for this supervision.

After school care for students 6th grade and up will be in room D102 (Ms. Birkey) from 3:50-4:30 PM. After 4:30 PM, the students will be supervised within the Cascade Pavilion Commons. The teacher/supervisor will sign them in: they must be signed out by their parent or authorized adult (aged 18 or over). If they are not signed out, families will be charged for the full time.

Lockers

- Students have been assigned lockers and can access them during orientation, the day before school starts. They can check the office for more information.
- Students should provide and use their own combination locks. *They should not share their combinations with others.*
- Students must give their homeroom teacher their lock combinations and sign a Locker Usage Form.
- The office will maintain a record of all locker combinations.
- Students may arrive at their lockers no earlier than 8:15 AM. No student should be at their locker without adult supervision between 7:00AM and 8:20AM.
- Students may use their lockers between classes.
- Students are not to be at their lockers *during* lunch or recess.
- Students may decorate their lockers (on the inside) with appropriate pictures using magnets or blue tape for a single event. NO scotch or masking tape should be used. Special events, such as athletic events or birthdays may be celebrated on the outside but for no more than a week.
- Lockers are left unlocked at the risk of loss. Many people use the campus and the privacy of unlocked lockers cannot be guaranteed.
- NCA is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

Service Hours Policy and Procedures

- Students are required to complete five hours of volunteer service in the community each quarter.

- The service must be outside of regular chores and non-paid
- We prefer students serve others beyond their immediate family members, though there are exceptions. *For example, a student may assist a disabled grandparent with mowing their lawn; or a student may volunteer time at a family business filing papers, cleaning an office, etc.*
- Students will use the “Service Hours Form” posted online and also available in the Pavilion office, and Bible teachers will track student service hours on RenWeb. Supervisors of the activity must sign the form. Emails are allowed too as are other written note forms to certified volunteer hours.
- Service hours need to be turned in three to five days prior to grading day for the quarter or as directed by the student’s Bible or discipleship teacher.
- Students serving more than five hours in a quarter may carry over hours to any subsequent quarter in the school year. This includes summer service/ministries.
- Students who do not complete the five hours of service will receive a half grade deduction in their Bible class; for instance, an A would become an A-.
- Some examples of community service are as follows: volunteer to groom animals at an animal shelter; fold clothes at World Concern; work at a food bank; pick up garbage in the local community; mow a neighbor’s lawn; volunteer time at church or school; etc.
- Students or parents should ask homeroom or discipleship teachers if there is uncertainty about a particular kind of service, to see whether or not it qualifies as service hours.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) and Cell Phones

- BYOD (laptops and Chromebooks but not cell phones): iPads are no longer an option as a device for our BYOD program. Use of these devices are reserved for school work from drop off to pick up. Students will operate them for academic purposes during the school day, but may not use them for entertainment, social media or texting. Device use is always subject to the directions of the staff. *For information regarding the BYOD program, including the program philosophy and help in selecting a device for your child, please visit, www.ncabyod.org.*
- Cell phones: Phones may not be used from the time students are dropped off until they are picked up. (The only exception is immediately after school if students wish to contact their parents regarding after school plans.) Phones must be kept in the student’s locker (or backpacks, when students have not yet been able to go to their lockers before school or after they have been packed up from their lockers before the last hour of the day). In emergency situations during the school day, students may contact their parents (and vice versa) via the landline in the school office. *Parents, please do not expect students to text, email, or call you during the school day.* Phones observed in a student’s possession during the school day will be confiscated and turned in to Dr. Fong.
- Gaming: Video, computer, or online games may not be played at school from drop off until pickup.
- Improper use of personal electronic devices will result in confiscation by a staff member. A parent will need to meet with Dr. Fong to retrieve a student’s improperly used device. (Please see the Discipline section of this Handbook under, *Unauthorized Use of Personal Electronic Devices*)
- Personal electronics are the responsibility of the students. While NCA has not had a problem with theft and/or vandalism in the past, we recommend placing a lock on each locker. The school is not responsible for loss due to theft or damage.
- Sexting between students is subject to school discipline, regardless of the time it occurs. *“Sexting is the act of sending, receiving, or forwarding sexually explicit or suggestive messages, photos, or images via cell phone, computer, or other digital device. The school considers sending, sharing, possessing, or even viewing pictures, text messages, or e-mails that contain a sexual message or image a violation of this policy, a violation that will result in school discipline, up to and including expulsion, and in the notification of local law enforcement. Students are required to immediately report any such activities to a teacher or a school administrator.”* – NCA School Board Policy

24-Hour Rule for Staff Communication

- Every attempt will be made to address a concern submitted by parent email within 1 business day.
- Implicit is the understanding that a staff member is not expected to respond to an email before the 24 hours have expired, or during the weekend if the email was sent on a Friday. The message will often be answered in a much shorter span than this, but the "rule" does not guarantee it. *Please do not submit an email that requires an immediate response.*
- Emails should be concise, addressing one or two subjects at most.
 - Issues that cannot be satisfactorily addressed within two electronic exchanges should be handled over the phone or in person.

Athletics

Sixth graders will play in the Tri-County League, a Christian school league of sixth through eighth graders. Tryouts may be necessary. Our students will compete against sixth, seventh, and eighth graders from other schools.

- Coed Soccer (Sept-Nov) Size of up to 18 players (coach's discretion)
- Boys and Girls Track (Apr-May) with no team limit (coach's discretion)

Seventh and eighth graders will play in the Cascade League of the Washington Interscholastic Athletic Association. Tryouts may be necessary. Our students will compete against seventh and eighth graders from other schools, Christian and public.

- Boys' and Girls' Cross-Country (August -October)
- Girls' Volleyball (August -October), one 7th and one 8th grade team, size of team may be limited
- Girls' Soccer (October-mid December), made up of both 7th and 8th grade girls team, size of team may be limited (max of 18)
- Boys' Basketball (October-mid December), one 7th and one 8th grade team, size of team may be limited
- Girls' Basketball (February-late March), one 7th and one 8th size of team may be limited
- Boys' and Girls' track (April-late May/early June) No team size limit.

All transportation is provided by parents and/or the school shuttle. Teachers will not transport students in their private vehicles. Team parents will help arrange carpools when possible.

Student athletes must have a sports physical in order to be eligible to participate in any NCA sport. The sports physical is valid for two years. The sports physical form is available on the website.

Field and court sports usually have competitions during the week. Fifth and sixth grade track meets are typically held on Saturdays

Athletic Uniform Guidelines

NCA Athletic Uniforms may be worn on Game Days. If games fall on a chapel day students may change after chapel into their game uniforms.

Soccer

- Regular uniform attire, jersey and shorts (no more than three inches above mid-knee)
- NCA Soccer T-shirt, sweatshirt and sweatpants.

Volleyball

- School color warm-up pants and sweatshirt
- NCA Volleyball shirt, not uniform jersey or shorts, sweatpants.

Basketball

- Jersey with white t-shirt underneath, uniform shorts (3" maximum length above mid-knee)
- Shooting shirt with Gator Athletic Department logo, NCA athletic wear sweatpants.

Track

- School color warm-up pants and sweatshirt as well as shorts if they meet the length criteria.
- NCA Track t-shirt, NCA athletic wear including sweatpants, sweatshirts.
- A running jersey may only be worn if a t-shirt is worn underneath

Uniform Dress Code: 2017-2018

MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS: Grades: 6-8

Chapel Uniform: Chapel uniform must be worn on chapel day. May also be worn as an everyday choice.

- Blue or white polo shirt. Optional dress shirt from approved vendors. White solid cami must be worn under chapel shirts.
Optional scarves for 8th grade girls only.
- Optional NCA cardigan, or vest with NCA initials. (Colors: navy blue, forest green or red) (only from Dennis Uniform and Tommy Hilfiger)
- Tan-khaki or navy blue pants (**no shorts**). Pants and shirts should be ironed.
- Skirts are optional and must be purchased from approved vendors: Tommy Hilfiger or Dennis Uniform.

PE Uniform: All PE Uniforms are available for purchase through Orca Enterprises. Visit orcaent.com for available colors and current styles.

- P.E. t-shirt with NCA logo.
- Sweatpants, warm-up pants or athletic shorts*. (All pants/shorts **may have** thin, white vertical stripes on left/right side of pants. No letters or numbers on pants. 1-inch manufacturer's name/emblem OK). (Color: navy blue) (Also available from Land's End).
- Optional sweatshirt with NCA logo.
- Athletic shoes and socks must be worn on PE days.
- Regular everyday uniform attire may also be worn on PE days. Athletic shoes and socks are required.
- Official NCA athletics/activities sweatpants, sweatshirt or t-shirt may be worn on P.E. days only. (NO Yoga Pants)

Everyday Uniform Choices:

- Pants, skirt, capris, or hemmed walking shorts*. (Colors: tan, khaki or navy blue)-Also vendor available
- Solid white collared dress blouse.
- Polo shirt or turtleneck (Colors: red, white or navy blue).
- NCA cardigan/vest with NCA initials (Colors: navy blue, red or forest green) (only from Dennis Uniform and Tommy Hilfiger)
- NCA fleece front zipper vest with NCA logo (only available from Orca).
- PE Sweatshirt with NCA logo (only available from Orca Enterprises).

Dress Up Days: Middle School students have their own dress up days. These do not necessarily coincide with grades K-5.

Free Dress Day: Second Friday of each month. Jeans without holes are permissible. NO YOGA PANTS

Walk-A-Thon Shirt Day: Fourth Friday of each month. WAT shirt must be worn as your top shirt and must be from most recent WAT. Any pants acceptable on free dress days may be worn with a walk-a-thon shirt. No non-NCA attire is allowed to cover WAT. No yoga pants.

Activity shirts: dates are posted on school board.

Additional Guidelines:

Accessories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Body piercing (other than ear lobe) and permanent tattooing are not permitted. • Simple jewelry may be worn. Earrings should be 2 inch or less in size. No extremes. • Light make-up may be worn to school. This includes lipstick.
Hair/Hats Sunglasses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseball caps/hats or sunglasses must not be worn in the building except when entering and exiting. • Hair must be neat and only in natural tones. Hair must not cover the eyes. No unnatural color hair extensions.
Footwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If worn (with skirts), only solid color tights or leggings in NCA colors (red, navy blue, black, white) are allowed. Note: lace the same color as leggings only – at the bottom of the leggings. Skirts must still be approved length. • No flip-flops or slippers. Shoes must be worn at all times. • Birks are allowed. Slides are not allowed.
Free Dress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free dress days: appropriate, modest clothing. No spaghetti straps or tank tops. Shorts, dresses or skirts must meet length criteria. (Applies even if student is wearing leggings/tight pants/tights underneath.) No yoga pants. No frayed or holey jeans.
Outerwear Sweaters, sweatshirts, jackets, vests, NCA spirit wear, coat etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On chapel days, the NCA cardigan or vest with NCA initials may be worn in chapel if needed for warmth. All other outerwear may not be worn in chapel. • Classroom approved outerwear- (may be worn every day of the week in class) P.E. sweatshirts, NCA Sports Wear, NCA fleece vests and NCA cardigan vests/sweaters. Tommy Hilfiger or Dennis Uniform sell coats, sweaters and jackets etc. with the NCA logo that are approved to wear in the classroom. Coats and other Non-NCA outerwear may not be worn in the classroom.
Shirts / Blouses/ Camis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only uniform colored camisole or tank tops may be worn under shirts. White camisole must be worn under white shirts. No tight or short fitting shirts. Vendor purchased dress shirts from Dennis Uniforms or Tommy Hilfiger
Pants/Skirts/ Shorts/etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hems must meet length criteria - even if student is wearing leggings/tights under it. No tight/skinny or immodest skirts, shorts, pants, etc. Skirts are optional. If purchased, they must be NCA approved skirts through Dennis Uniform or Tommy Hilfiger
*Length Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length of skirts/shorts/free dress outfits is as follows: Measuring from the middle of the back of the knee, clothing must not be any shorter than 3 inches above the knee. This is the minimum length allowed. Garments may be longer, if desired. • All uniforms and non-uniform (PE and free dress included) must comply with length/modesty requirements.

NCA MIDDLE SCHOOL UNIFORM COLORS

- **Navy blue** (pants, polo, cardigan/vest, fleece jacket, pullover, windbreaker)
- **Khaki/tan** (pants, walking shorts)
- **Red** (polo, cardigan/vest, sweatshirt)
- **Blue or White** (polo, optional dress shirt)

MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS: Grades 6-8

NCA MIDDLE SCHOOL UNIFORM COLORS

- **Navy blue** (pants, polo, cardigan/vest, fleece jacket, pullover, windbreaker)
- **Khaki/tan** (pants, walking shorts)
- **Red** (polo, cardigan/vest, sweatshirt)
- **Blue or White** (polo, optional dress shirt)

Chapel Uniform: Chapel uniform must be worn on chapel day. May also be worn as an everyday choice.

- Blue or white polo shirt or optional dress shirt from **approved vendors**. T-shirts worn under chapel shirts must be solid white with no logos, pictures or words.
- **Optional ties for 8th grade boys only with the white dress shirt.**
- Tan-khaki or navy blue pants (no shorts). Pants and shirts should be ironed. (also available by vendor)
- **Optional NCA cardigan, or vest with NCA initials (Colors: navy blue, forest green or red) (only from Dennis Uniform and Tommy Hilfiger)**

PE Uniform:

All PE Uniforms are available for purchase through Orca Enterprises. Visit orcaent.com for available colors and styles.

- P.E. t-shirt with NCA logo.
- Sweatpants, warm-up pants or athletic shorts*. (All pants/shorts may have thin, white vertical stripes on left/right side of pants. No letters or numbers on pants. 1-inch manufacturer's name/emblem OK). (Color: navy blue) (Also available from Land's End).
- Optional sweatshirt with NCA logo.
- Athletic shoes and socks must be worn on PE days.
- Regular everyday uniform attire may also be worn on PE days. Athletic shoes and socks are required.
- Official NCA athletics/activities sweatpants, sweatshirt or t-shirt may be worn on P.E. days only.

Everyday Uniform Choices:

- Pants or hemmed walking shorts*. (Colors: Tan, khaki or navy blue).
- Polo shirt (Colors: red, white or navy blue).
- NCA cardigan/vest with NCA initials (Colors: navy blue, red or forest green) **(only from Dennis Uniform and Tommy Hilfiger)**
- NCA fleece front zipper vest with NCA logo (only available from Orca).
- Sweatshirt with NCA logo (only available from Orca Enterprises).

Dress-Up Days: Middle School students have their own dress up days. These do not necessarily coincide with grades K-5.

Free Dress Day: Second Friday of each month. Jeans without holes are permissible.

Walk-A-Thon Shirt Day: Fourth Friday of each month. WAT shirt must be worn as your top shirt and must be from most recent WAT. Any pants acceptable on free dress days may be worn with a walk-a-thon shirt. No non-NCA attire is allowed to cover WAT.

Activity Shirts: dates are posted on school board.

Additional Guidelines:

Accessories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simple jewelry, watch and/or necklace may be worn. • Boys must not wear earrings at school. No body piercing or permanent tattoos are permitted.
Hair/Hats Sunglasses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseball caps/hats and sunglasses must not be worn in the building except when entering/exiting. • Hair must be neat and only in natural tones. Hair must be no longer than the bottom of the collar and above the eyebrows. Hair must not cover the eyes.
Footwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No flip-flops, slippers or slides. Shoes must be worn at all times • Birks are allowed, slides are not.
Free Dress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free dress days: appropriate, modest clothing. No tight or sagging pants/shorts*. No extremes.
OUTERWEAR Sweaters, sweatshirts, jackets, vests, NCA spirit wear, coats etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On chapel days, the NCA cardigan or vest with NCA initials may be worn in chapel if needed for warmth. All other outerwear may not be worn in chapel. - • Classroom approved outerwear- (may be worn every day of the week in class) P.E. sweatshirts, NCA sportswear, NCA fleece vests and NCA cardigan vests/sweaters. Tommy Hilfiger or Dennis Uniform sell coats, sweaters and jackets etc. with the NCA logo that are approved to wear in the classroom. Coats and other NON-NCA outerwear may not be worn in the classroom.
Dress Shirts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dress Shirts are optional. Must be purchased from Tommy Hilfiger or Dennis Uniform
Pants/shorts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No tight or sagging pants/shorts*. No "skinny" pants.
*Length Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Length of shorts:</u> Measuring from the middle of the back of the knee, clothing must not be any shorter than 3 inches above the knee. Garments may be longer if desired. • All uniforms and non-uniform (PE and free dress included) must comply with length/modesty requirements.

Northshore Christian Academy

2017-2018 Middle School Code of Conduct



A Ministry of Northshore Christian Church ~ www.northshorechristianschools.org
 5700 23rd Drive West~ Everett ~ WA ~ 98203
 Phone: (425) 407-1119 Fax: (425) 322-2386

I, _____, (print name) hereby express my desire to be a member of the Middle School at Northshore Christian Academy and agree to the following conditions of enrollment:

- I understand the foundation of our school is Jesus Christ. We are here to learn to be His followers and abide in Him. I agree to willingly participate in required activities such as Bible class, chapel, and Bible memory work and will not openly challenge Christian teaching.
- I will come to each class on time prepared to learn. I will take all of my work seriously and complete assignments on time to the best of my ability.
- I will guard my actions and attitudes to make sure they are of a scriptural standard, which are consistent with the expectations of a disciple of Christ.

I will refrain from the following:

- Encouraging boyfriend/girlfriend relationships between middle schoolers – such relationships are not appropriate at this season of life and distract from learning. This includes any behavior that would suggest an exclusive relationship. *“Treat younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters...”* 1Timothy 5:1 Such relationships tend to damage otherwise healthy relationships.
- Intimidating words, phrases or actions - (including anything that could be considered teasing, taunting, bullying, harassment, ostracism, hazing, swearing or physical aggression)
- Language unbecoming to a Christian - swearing, dirty stories, racial/ethnic slurs or jokes, or using the Lord’s name in vain, etc.
- Acts of dishonesty, such as cheating, lying, forging signatures and stealing
 - Copying someone’s work to submit as one’s own (including classwork, homework or other assignments),
 - Giving or receiving answers or stealing tests, or using a cheat sheet
 - Plagiarizing, i.e., copying other people’s material and not attributing it to them.
 - Changing answers while grading or writing down answers as the teacher gives them.
- Illegal drugs, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, vaping - possession, sale or use.
- Immoral or illegal activities – including *sexting*.*
- Taking pictures or video of students during the instructional day or at a school event without permission from them, their parents and or a staff member. I also agree that I will not use a personal electronic device during instructional hours without permission of a teacher or administrator.
- Posting any image or video of any NCA student on *YouTube*, *Snap Chat*, or any other Internet site without the permission of all of the students involved and of their parents!
- Everything above applies to online behavior, 24/7, including social networking sites such as: *Facebook*, *Snap Chat*, *Twitter*, *Instagram*, *Pinterest*, *Vine*, *Kik*, etc...



- I understand that if I violate any of these spiritual, behavioral or academic requirements, I agree to be disciplined according to school standards. Furthermore, if my conduct continues to be contrary to scriptural instructions or school guidelines, I understand I may be asked to withdraw from Northshore Christian Academy.

Student Signature	Date
Parent Signature	Date

*NCA considers sending, sharing, possessing, or even viewing pictures, text messages, or e-mails that contain a sexual message or image a violation of school policy. A violation will result in school discipline, up to and including expulsion, and may result in the notification of local law enforcement.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES: THRIVE **SCHOOL COUNSELING**

Northshore Christian Academy

Mentoring, coaching, valuing and encouraging all students toward success!

Personal life circumstances, or the transition to a new school or a grade level, can make school overwhelming for some students. Depending on their maturity, skills, and ability, they may find it difficult to immediately meet the expectations of school without guidance and support. School counselors are here to help! We offer strengths-based Christian counseling, mentoring, coaching, and encouragement with the highest level of confidentiality at all times.

A student is usually brought to our attention by parents / caregivers, teachers, or administrators who notice that the student may be struggling academically, socially, or emotionally. As part of the Student Support Services, our goal is to help every child optimize their learning potential at school. We are student advocates. School counselors partner with families and faculty to help all students succeed.

Our services help to:

- ☺ Give students individual mentoring and coaching with personal difficulties. (Life Skills)
- ☺ Partner with parents / caregivers to find strategies and solutions for their struggling student. (Family Support)
- ☺ Provide academic accountability by problem-solving and goal-setting with students. (Academic Support)
- ☺ Coach students with organization and time management (Study Skills)
- ☺ Assist teachers with appropriate accommodations for struggling students. (Teacher Support)
- ☺ Discover how a student is doing at school by gaining “real time” perspective through unobtrusive, prearranged classroom observations (Student Support)
- ☺ Provide opportunities for small group mentoring to build and strengthen friendships. (Social Skills)
- ☺ Support new students adjusting to a school and making new friends. (Transition Support)
- ☺ Transition students to a new grade level, bridge from elementary to middle school, and middle school to high school. (Transition Support)
- ☺ Educate all students about relevant topics such as conflict-resolution, dealing with bullying, personal safety, etc. (Life Skills)
- ☺ Inform students of faith in Christ and Christ-like character (Abiding Support)

Gene Berge | School Counselor, M. Ed (K-4)
gberge@northshorechristian.org
Tel: 425-322-2391

Heather Shaw | School Counselor, M. Ed (5-8)
hshaw@northshorechristian.org
Tel: 425-407-1119 x1700

There is no additional fee for school counseling services.

Student Support and Enrichment Services

Thrive \ˈθrɪv\; to grow or develop successfully; to flourish or succeed

Life is never a perfect straight line. It's more like a roller-coaster with ups and downs, twists and turns. At some point, students and families may struggle and need additional support. We are here to assist - THRIVE is a help desk for life developing spiritual, personal, and academic excellence for every student.

Thrive “Help-Desk” Team Meetings (Multi-Disciplinary Team)

Your classroom Teacher, Principal, Counselor and Student Learning Director form a Multi-Disciplinary Team to partner with families in providing support and enrichment for NCA students. Services may be suggested within the school or from the community as part of the plan to support or enrich student learning.

The Counseling Department

- Gives students individual mentoring and coaching for personal, social, and academic difficulties.
- Partners with families to find strategies and solutions for their struggling student.
- Provides academic accountability by problem-solving and goal-setting with students.
- Provides opportunities for small group mentoring to build and strengthen friendships.
- Supports new students adjusting to a school and making friends.
- Transitions students to a new grade level, bridge from elementary to middle school, and to high school.

The Health Room Team

- Staffed by loving Health Care Providers
- Partners with families and teachers to make sure students are ready to learn by overseeing the vast array of health needs of students during school hours.
- Provides health and safety training for staff.

Speech and Language Therapy (Independent Contractor)

Chrissy Nicolici, MS, CCC-SLP, chrissyslp@gmail.com

- Onsite independent contractor to NCA for students with speech and language supplemental needs.
- Students can receive individualized instruction in: speech production, speech fluency, expressive/receptive language, vocal quality, social language skills, cognitive-communication skills (ex: executive functions, attention, problem solving, sequencing, memory) and swallowing.

Student Support Services: (Fee-Based Tutoring Information)

Janet Christy, jchristy@northshorechristian.org

As part of NCA's Thrive Program, our specialized tutoring program:

- Provides one-on-one remedial or specialized instruction for reading, writing, spelling, or math.
- Provides close accountability and a high level of learning support.
- Establishes specific learning goals for identified areas of growth.
- Uses multi-sensory teaching and learning strategies.
- Supports individual-based accommodations for learning differences.

Our tutors have specialized training and a calling to serve children in their learning journey. For students enrolled in the tutoring program, sessions will be billed for six or ten week increments at \$35 per one-hour lesson and can be included in the tuition statement.

Northshore School of the Arts and Enrichment (Fee-Based)

- Provides a wide variety of enrichment and support after-school classes for NCA students.
- Offers general academic tutoring and homework support by trained educators.
- Offers enrichment classes in science, math, engineering, fine arts, music lessons and language arts.

Elementary and Middle School Support:

Classroom Support- Students may receive extra instructional support within the classroom for reading, writing and math. Support may be through the school's technology tools (IXL math, I-Ready Math, I-Ready Reading) or through small group instruction led by the classroom teacher or educational assistant.

Reading Lab (Middle School)— This course offers direct instruction aimed at mastery of grade level reading expectations. Students build fluency, vocabulary and reading comprehension. The teacher consults with the regular English teacher, providing additional support with classroom concepts.

Math Lab (Middle School)—This course offers direct instruction for regular Math class curriculum supplementing a student’s regular math course. Participants bring specific problems and concepts for help and clarification. They are allowed to work on their math assignments and correct work from cumulative tests. The teacher for Math Lab consults with the regular Math teacher to review concepts presented in the regular class.

Thrive (Middle School)—Students requiring extra help can enroll in the study hall in which the teacher will provide extra assistance for students with their studies. The teacher checks planners, monitors student achievement on RenWeb, implements individual accommodations, assists with homework, and works in conjunction with core teachers regarding areas in which students struggle.

Study Skills Lab (Middle School during the summer)—Sometimes all that is standing in the way of students and success is a lack of understanding of the organizational structures and skills often employed by high-achieving students. Study Skills Lab offers direct instruction in these skills. Skills are modeled; students practice together and individually, and then strive to apply them in their classes and at home. Some study skills include: organization, note-taking, time management, test preparation, test-taking, and reading strategies for studying.

Math Assistant (Grades 3-5)-Third through fifth grade students receive additional time and support as needed with math concepts and skills. A qualified math assistant works with a small group of students to reinforce concepts and skills.

Reading and Math Buddies (Grades 1-2/5th Grade) - Gator Aides Reading/Math Buddies is part of the 5th grade Leadership Program. Fifth grade students volunteer to be a reading or math buddy for a 1st or 2nd grade student. First and second grade students have an opportunity for a little bit of extra practice with reading or math facts. Reading/Math Buddies happens before school on Mondays and Wednesday, 8:00 – 8:30am.

He promises to us in 2 Corinthians 12:9; “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Learning to rely on God and allowing him to help through all our struggles in life will foster a life-long relationship with Jesus.



For more information regarding the Thrive program: <http://www.northshorechristianacademy.org/ThriveProgram>
Northshore Christian Academy
A Ministry of Northshore Christian Church ~ www.northshorechristianschools.org
5700 – 23rd Drive West ~ Everett ~ WA ~ 98203
Phone: (425) 407-1119 Fax: (425) 322-2386

Middle School Bell Schedule

Zero Period 7:45-8:25
1 st Period 8:30-9:20
2 nd Period 9:25-10:15
3 rd Period 10:20-11:10
Lunch 11:15-11:45
4 th Period 11:50-12:40
5 th Period 12:45-1:35
6 th Period 1:40-2:30
7 th Period 2:35-3:25