



# Northstar Christian Academy

(a ministry of First Bible Baptist Church)

**Connect \* Serve \* Excel**

A Bible-Based Christ-Centered  
Education

Student & Parent  
Handbook  
2016-2017

## Northstar Christian Academy

“The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failure, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company... a church... a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice everyday regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past... we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% of how I react to it. And so it is with you... we are in charge of our Attitudes.”

~ Chuck Swindoll ~



# Alma Mater



We raise our voices high in singing  
Praises to the Red and White  
Giving honor all to Jesus  
Our Savior and our Might  
Northstar mighty Northstar  
May her flag forever fly  
Hearts forever faithful to her name  
She will ever draw us nigh

## MISSION STATEMENT

“Building long-lasting, life-changing moments and memories in a rigorous academic environment, where students are respected, loved and appreciated.”

**The Mission of Northstar Christian Academy is to:**

- glorify God.
- establish the scriptures as the final, absolute authority.
- provide a distinctly Christian environment for the student body.
- teach traditional course offerings from a biblical worldview
- promote excellence in the realm of the spiritual, academic, social and physical components of life.
- encourage the student body to be conformed to the image of Christ, holy, self-disciplined and responsible.
- prepare disciples of Jesus Christ for Christian service, encouraging the student(s) to seek God’s purpose for them in this life.

Northstar Christian Academy  
 332 Spencerport Road  
 Rochester, New York 14606  
 585-429-5530

A Ministry of First Bible Baptist Church

Lead Pastor/President .....Mr. Kevin Pestke  
 Head of School.....Mr. Chris Boshnack  
 Head of High School .....Mr. Rob Johnson  
 Head of Grade School.....Miss Kiersten Roberts  
 Chief Information Officer.....Miss Beth Richardson  
 Director of Athletics/Campus Pastor.....Mr. JJ Garwood

Daily Time Schedule

WARNING BELL 7:45  
 Homeroom 7:50 - 7:57  
 1<sup>st</sup> period 8:00 - 8:41  
 2<sup>nd</sup> period 8:44 - 9:25  
 3<sup>rd</sup> period 9:28 - 10:18  
 4<sup>th</sup> period 10:23 - 11:04  
 5<sup>th</sup> period 11:07 - 11:48  
 6<sup>th</sup> period 11:51 - 12:27  
 7<sup>th</sup> period 12:31 - 1:07  
 8<sup>th</sup> period 1:11 - 1:52  
 9<sup>th</sup> period 1:55 - 2:37

Chapel Day Schedule

WARNING BELL 7:45  
 Homeroom 7:50 - 7:57  
 1<sup>st</sup> period 8:00 - 8:36  
 2<sup>nd</sup> period 8:39 - 9:15  
 3<sup>rd</sup> period 9:18 - 9:54  
 4<sup>th</sup> period 9:57 - 10:33  
 5<sup>th</sup> period 10:36 - 11:12  
 8<sup>th</sup> period 11:15 - 11:51  
 6<sup>th</sup> period 11:54 - 12:30  
 7<sup>th</sup> period 12:34 - 1:10  
 Chapel 1:13 - 2:05  
 9<sup>th</sup> period 2:05 - 2:37

School Colors: Red, Black and White  
 School Logo: Knight  
 School Yearbook: Aurora

Northstar Christian Academy does not discriminate on  
 the basis of race, color, nationality,  
 or ethnic origin in any policies.

*Fund Raising Opportunities*

There are a few opportunities throughout the school year to help NCA improve and enhance programs for the betterment of the Academy. We use the proceeds of these 3 major fund raisers to accomplish much.

**Save Around Books**

This very successful fund raiser begins the last week of August and continues through the first two weeks of September.

**Dinner Auction**

This is a fund raiser loaded with great items available for bidding through our silent auction and our lively and upbeat live auction. This is a terrific opportunity to invite friends and relatives out for a delicious dinner and an enjoyable evening!

**NCA 5K**

A terrific way to stay fit. The race starts and finishes at NCA. This is an annual Spring event. A great way to raise funds to benefit students and programs at NCA.

**Thank you for your help and support!**

## Student Exchange Visitor Program

### 4 Benefits for International Students at U.S. High Schools

- An introduction to American life and culture before college can help.

~By Katy Hopkins, US News

The chance to interact with American teens in high school can help international students before they enter college.

Are you considering sending your child to the United States for high school? For an international student who's ready to handle the transition, it can be a way to help ensure they're academically and socially prepared before entering a U.S. college, some experts say.

The 4 benefits are:

1. English language training
2. Pre-college navigation
3. College readiness
4. Social acculturation

Northstar currently is partnering with PSE, Ivy Academia Group, Educatius, Ameriwal, Cambridge International, YC Global and a variety of other agencies that work with F1 and J1 students.

Host family opportunities available - Contact the main office for details.

### COUNTRIES

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	NIGERIA
BELARUS	NORWAY
BRAZIL	PHILIPPINES
CHINA	PORTUGAL
COLUMBIA	PUERTO RICO
DENMARK	SOUTH KOREA
ECUADOR	SPAIN
FRANCE	TAIWAN
GERMANY	THAILAND
HAITI	TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
HONG KONG	UKRAINE
ITALY	VENEZUELA
JAMAICA	VIETNAM
KENYA	ZAMBIA
NEPAL	

## Table of Contents by Topic

Academic Calendar .....	10
Academic Information .....	25
Additional Activities .....	23
Admissions .....	10
American Christian Honor Society .....	28
Athletic & Extra-Curricular Eligibility .....	24
Attendance Policy .....	13
Biblical Philosophy .....	9
Detention.....	20
Discipline.....	20
Dress Code.....	21
Electronic Device Policy .....	21
Emergency Closing Information .....	12
Fundraising .....	45
General Studies Diploma.....	43
Graduation Requirements .....	30
High School Courses .....	31
Illness During the School Day.....	15
Instructional Support .....	30
High School Tardiness Policy.....	16
Lost and Found .....	20
Miscellaneous Rules .....	19
Mission Statement .....	3
Online Courses.....	36
Pastor Kevin Pestke's Message.....	6
Physical Examinations.....	18
Plagiarism Policy.....	27
Reporting to Parents .....	26
School Hours.....	10
School Purpose.....	8
Student Absenteeism .....	13
Student Driving.....	12
Student Exchange Visitor Program.....	44
Suspensions and Expulsions .....	20
Then and Now .....	7
Transportation .....	11
Volunteers at NCA .....	19
Weighting System .....	30

## Location of NCA

Northstar Christian Academy is located in the former Warren Harding School at 332 Spencerport Road in Gates between Howard Road and Long Pond Road, approximately nine miles from 990 Manitou Road, the main complex of First Bible Baptist Church.

## Pastor Pestke's Message

Northstar Christian Academy is an important ministry component of First Bible Baptist Church and exists under the church's auspices and authority. Our church exists to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, and we do so by loving our neighbors as ourselves (Matt 22:39), yielding to the authority of God's word (2 Timothy 3:16-17), seeking the Lord Jesus Christ and His will as the primary purpose in daily life (Matt 6:33), and living righteously in this world without conforming to it (Rom 12:2; Titus 2:12). The school must be integrated into the heart and soul of the church.

Training children is the responsibility of parents, not the work of the Christian school or church. I believe when the school supports a Christian worldview and the church emphasizes the truth and authority of the Scriptures, parents have the ideal platform to bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We want to uphold the highest academic standards given the resources and facilities the Lord has provided and to prepare our children for the opportunities and challenges life inevitably presents each student. Academics, arts, athletics, and extracurricular activities must be accomplished with balance, accountability, and discipline. It is never our goal to produce high quality athletes or academic geniuses void of self-discipline, morality, and biblical integrity. We diligently strive to offer an environment in which every student understands, embraces, and shares the Christian faith and worldview.

Excellence will continue as long as school, church, and family work together for the sake of training disciples of Jesus Christ. NCA is an extension of the home with our success directly proportional to parental investment of time and effort.

**Veterinary Science: The Care of Animals:** Examine some of the common diseases and treatments for domestic animals. Through veterinary medicine and science, the prevention and treatment of diseases and health issues is studied and applied.

\*\*Online courses could have content that is contrary to a Biblical World View

## General Studies Diploma

The General Studies Diploma is a special program for students unable to meet the regular program criteria.

We at Northstar Christian Academy are interested in the total child and are committed to high standards of excellence. Academic and extracurricular activities are important, but spiritual and moral teaching is even more imperative in the development of Christian character in young people.

We have found many students to be learning along the spiritual and moral teaching in the development of Christian character with ease. However, they are having a difficult struggle with the academics. The teacher and administration will review each student's academic achievement and all his test results to see how he may achieve greater progress academically in relationship to his/her learning ability. Parental consent will be required before the program is put into effect.

The criteria for grading students designated as General Studies are:

1. All assigned homework completed and turned in on time.
2. Satisfactory classroom participation and conduct.
3. Examinations and quizzes will be taken by the student.

If an exam is failed the student will make corrections and/or find answers to any unanswered questions. 1/2 credit will then be awarded for these corrections and the grade will be changed accordingly. For example: Exam Score: 45 missed 55 points, 1/2 of 55; approximately 28. After corrections: 45 + 28 = 73 Maximum limit grade may be raised to is 75.

4. If all the above is done and a student still does not achieve a passing grade his grade will be raised to a D.

ment and life for their child. Parenting roles and responsibilities; nurturing and protective environments for children; positive parenting strategies and effective communication in parent/child relationships are some of the topics covered in this course.

**Restaurant Management:** Will prepare you for a steady career, whether you plan to buy a fast food franchise, operate a casual sit-down restaurant, or oversee a fine-dining establishment.

**Social Media: Our Connected World:** In this course, you'll learn the ins and outs of social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Google+, and more. You'll also discover other types of social media you may not have been aware of and how to use them for your benefit—personally, academically and professionally.

**Social Problems I: A World in Crisis:** Learn about the challenges facing societies and the relationships between societies, governments, and individuals in these areas. Each unit will focus on a particular area of social concern, and examine possible solutions at both a structural and individual level.

**Social Problems II: Crisis, Conflict, and Challenges:** This course continues to examine the social problems that affect individuals and societies in the world today. Each unit focuses on a particular social problem, including racial discrimination, drug abuse, the loss of community, and urban sprawl, and discusses possible solutions at both individual and structural levels.

**Sociology I: The Study of Human Relationships:** In this increasingly connected world, students will examine problems in our society, watch exciting global videos, and learn how human relationships can influence the life of the student.

**Sociology II: Your Social Life:** The development of a sociological imagination will enable students to examine how society shapes human actions and beliefs, and how such actions and beliefs in turn shape society, by watching exciting videos that explore the sociological world.

**Sports and Entertainment Marketing:** In this course, you'll have the opportunity to explore basic marketing principles and delve deeper into the multi-billion dollar sports and entertainment marketing industry. You'll learn about how professional athletes, sports teams, and well known entertainers are marketed as commodities and how some of them become billionaires as a result.

**Theater, Cinema, & Film Production:** This course will introduce students to the basics of film and theater productions, basics of lighting, sound, wardrobe, and camerawork for both film and theater settings. The course also explores the history of film and theater and students will analyze and critique three influential American films: Casablanca, Singin' in the Rain, and The Wizard of Oz.

Partner with us this year to provide our children the best possible learning experience. Let's seek to serve and to strive in united consecration for the sake of pleasing God and training our children to be useful members of our local churches, families, and communities.

Our Lord Jesus Christ richly bless you.



Pastor Kevin Pestke

## The Christian Way

Northstar Christian Academy is flourishing because parents want quality academic and spiritual education for their children and are willing to finance this education accordingly.

In the Psalms we are told to instruct our children in the law of the Lord, that they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments. Let us work together for our children's sake at Northstar Christian Academy.

*I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.* (Psalm 32:8)

## Then and Now

Northstar Christian Academy was first in session in 1972. Simple in nature, it used a packet system relying on individual study. After three years, the school switched to a traditional curriculum. These materials and goals are being constantly updated to meet the needs of children in learning the basics, coupled with Christ and Bible-centered content.

Initially our school was housed at First Bible Baptist Church, but because of such phenomenal growth, it was moved to its new location at 332 Spencerport Road. We purchased our present facility in 1981.

Northstar is a Pre-K–12 Christian school consisting of approximately 450 students and 75 staff members.

## School Purpose

NORTHSTAR CHRISTIAN ACADEMY IS . . .

### **A School Where Christian Character is Emphasized.**

Our goal is to instill and develop Christ like qualities in the lives of our students so that they will grow up *“In the nurture and admonition of the Lord”* and *“be conformed to the image of His Son.”*

### **A School Where Bible Truth is Taught.**

Bible study is of fundamental importance and is required of all students. The Bible is God’s chart for your child to steer by, to keep him from going to the bottom of the sea, to show him where the harbor is, and how to reach it without running on rocks and sandbars. If we abide by the principles of the Bible, our children, as well as our country, will go on prospering. The Scriptures teach us the best way of living, the noblest way of suffering, and the most dignified way of dying.

### **A School Where Morality is Stressed.**

*“Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.”* (I Timothy 4:12)

One has only to look around to see immorality prevalent on every hand. It is a joy to see Christian young people take a stand for our Lord Jesus Christ and live by the standards He has set down. We believe in constantly upholding the highest virtues.

### **A School Where Self-discipline is Expected.**

We strongly believe that self-discipline is mandatory for the welfare of the home, church, school, and world in which we live. No man ever became great doing as he pleased. If little men do as they please, they become—little nobodies. Great men and women submit themselves to the laws governing the realm of their greatness.

to gather information, organize ideas, format stories for different forms of news media, and edit their stories for publication, examine the historical development of journalism and the role of journalism in society.

**Middle School Photography: Drawing with Light:** This course introduces students to the basics of photography, including camera functions and photo composition. Learn what it takes to create a good photograph and how to improve photographs of animals, people, and vacations and use photo editing software.

**Music Appreciation: The Enjoyment of Listening:** Students learn about an aesthetic and historical perspective of music, covering a variety of styles and developments from the Middle Ages through the Twenty-First Century, and acquire listening skills, making future music experiences more informed and satisfying.

**Nutrition and Wellness:** This course prepares you for a healthy life and provides you with the essential skills you need to plan and make healthy and delicious meals for you, your family, and your friends. You’ll learn how to budget for your meals, shop for groceries, and fit cooking into a busy schedule of school, work, and other responsibilities.

**Peer Counseling:** Learn the role of a peer counselor, observation, listening, and emphatic communication skills that counselors need, and basic training in conflict resolution, and group leadership.

**Personal & Family Finance:** This course introduces students to basic financial habits such as setting financial goals, budgeting, and creating financial plans. Students will learn more about topics such as taxation, financial institutions, credit, identity theft and personal finance.

**Philosophy: The Big Picture:** Read about exciting and influential philosophers of the Western world and learn where many of the fundamental ideas of the Western civilization came from. At the end, you’ll have a better understanding of yourself and the world around you, from atoms to outer space and everything in between.

**Principles of Public Service: to Serve and Protect:** Explore some of the most common career paths in public service. Working for the public also comes with a very specific set of expectations since protecting society is such an important mission.

**Public Speaking:** Students will learn not just the theory, but also the practice of effective public speaking, including how to analyze the speeches of others, build a strong argument, and speak with confidence and flair. By the end of this course, students will know exactly what makes a truly successful speech and will be able to put that knowledge to practical use.

**Real World Parenting:** Learn what to prepare for, what to expect, and what vital steps a parent can take to create the best environ-



ment, marketing, and the challenges of managing international organizations will all be explored in this course.

**Introduction to Culinary Arts:** Learn about food culture, food history, food safety, and current food trends. You'll also learn about the food service industry and try your hand at preparing some culinary delights. This course will help you hone your cooking skills and give you the opportunity to explore careers in this exciting industry.

**Introduction to Forestry and Natural Resources:** Explore topics such as environmental policy, land use, water resources, and wildlife management. Learn more about forestry related careers and important issues facing forestry professionals today.

**Introduction of Manufacturing: Product Design and Innovations:** Learn the various career opportunities in the manufacturing industry including those for engineers, technicians, and supervisors. As a culminating project, you'll plan your own manufacturing process for a new product or invention!

**Introduction to Military Careers:** Learn about the four branches of the military (and the Coast Guard) and about all the different types of jobs you might pursue in each branch. From aviation to medicine, law enforcement to dentistry, the military can be an outstanding place to pursue your dreams.

**Introduction to Renewable Technologies:** Learn about the cutting-edge field of renewable energy and the exciting new technologies that are making it possible. You'll explore new ways of generating energy and storing that energy, from biofuels to high-capacity batteries and smart electrical grids.

**Law & Order: Introduction to Legal Studies:** This course focuses on the creation and application of laws in various areas of society. By understanding the workings of our court system, as well as how laws are carried out, we become more informed and responsible citizens in our communities and of our nation.

**Journalism: Investigating the Truth:** Learn about the history of journalism, how to succeed in the world of social media news, and how to turn your writing, photography, and people skills into an exciting and rewarding career.

**Lord of the Rings: An Exploration of the Films & Their Literary Influences:** In this course, you will study the movie versions of J.R.R. Tolkien's novel and learn about the process of converting literature to film. You will explore fantasy literature as a genre and critique the three Lord of the Rings films.

**Middle School Career Exploration:** In this course, students will explore career options in many different fields including business, health science, public administration, the arts, and information technology.

**Middle School Journalism:** In this course, students will learn how

### **A School Where High Academic Achievement is Honored.**

We believe school is a place to learn. *"A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels."* (Proverbs 1:5) Students who do not take their schooling seriously may be asked to leave.

### **A School Where Patriotism Counts.**

Love of God and of country were primary concerns of our Pilgrim fathers in the education of their children. A young child is just beginning to have feelings of loyalty and pride and these will grow best in an atmosphere of love and security, in aroused interests, in broadened fields of knowledge, in chances to work with others, and through good examples of everyday living. Students are taught authority and the responsibilities they owe to their community, state, and nation.

## ***Biblical Philosophy***

With the word of God (the Authorized King James Version of 1611) as the final authority, NCA is committed to assisting the two institutions ordained by God, the home and the local church, in fulfilling their responsibility to the youth of today. The primacy of the home and family is basic to the philosophy of NCA. Our commitment is to help God-fearing parents in their appointed task of raising and training their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord. We therefore established NCA as a ministry of First Bible Baptist Church to serve those parents that can subscribe to these biblical principles in their entirety.

NCA is interested in the total child and is committed to high standards of excellence. Academic and co- or extracurricular activities are important, but spiritual and moral teaching is even more imperative in the development of Christian character in young people.

Hebrews 13:7 reads as follows: *"Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation."* Because of this verse, we, as staff, parents, and students, voluntarily submit ourselves to be under the authority of NCA in all applicable

areas. Realizing an individual's attitudes and actions are ultimately accountable to God, we understand that each individual is solely responsible to judge himself based on the standards and extra- or co-curricular activities that are important.

Romans 14:12 reads, "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." It is important at all times that we do not bring reproach to the testimony and ministry of First Bible Baptist Church and NCA.

It is at times necessary to establish standards to insure orderliness and to protect the campus atmosphere and make it conducive to spiritual and academic development and function. While these standards may not be directly stated in the Bible, the principles we promote are so stated. We therefore must insist that parents and students together support these standards and adhere to them. Ecclesiastes 12:13 says, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."

## Admissions

Admission to Northstar Christian Academy is by application: We are looking for young people who are moral, interested in working hard, who desire a good education, and who are open to the teaching of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Qualifying tests may be necessary to aid in placement and admission decisions. Basic information is obtained from application forms which must be filled out entirely and returned with requested information to the school office. An interview with parents and prospective students is necessary.

## Academic Calendar

Northstar follows the same academic calendar as the Gates-Chili School District. The school year runs approximately from Labor Day through the third week in June.

## Daily School Hours

Northstar Christian Academy's school day is from 7:45 a.m. to 2:37 p.m. Students involved with extracurricular activities may have to remain until 5:00 p.m. or later. No child may remain after school unless arrangements have been made in advance between parents and a school staff member.

you need to get in the door of this exciting field.

**Forensic Science I: Secrets of the Dead:** This course focuses on some of the techniques and practices used by forensic scientists during a crime scene investigation (CSI). Follow evidence trails until the CSI goes to trial, and examine how various elements of the crime scene are analyzed and processed.

**Forensic Science II: More Secrets of the Dead:** Examine some of the basic scientific principles and knowledge that guides forensic laboratory processes, such as those testing DNA, toxicology, and material analysis. Techniques such as microscopy, chromatography, odontology, entomology, mineralogy, and spectroscopy will be examined.

**Health Science: The Whole Individual:** Students are introduced to health sciences, including toxicology, clinical medicine, and biotechnology. The course presents information and terminology for the health sciences, the importance of the identification and treatment of diseases, and examines the contributions of different health science areas.

**Health Science II: Patient Care & Medical Services:** Health Science II is designed to further the student's understanding of the health care workplace, including patient and caregiver interactions and how various members of the health care team work together to create an ethical, functional and compassionate environment for patients.

**History of the Holocaust:** An in depth study of the holocaust where students gain an understanding of prejudice and indifference, the potential for government-supported terror, and they will get glimpses of kindness and humanity in the worst of times.

**Hospitality and Tourism: Traveling the Globe:** This course will introduce students to the hospitality and tourism industry, including hotel and restaurant management, cruise ships, spas, resorts, theme parks, and other areas. Student will learn about key hospitality issues, the development and management of tourist locations, event planning, marketing, future trends in the field, and environmental issues related to leisure and travel.

**Human Geography: Our Global Identity:** Students will discover how ideas spread and cultures form, and learn how beliefs and architecture are part of a larger culture complex. In addition to introducing students to the field of Human Geography, this course will teach students how to analyze humans and their environments.

**Introduction to Agriscience:** Examine the relationship between agriculture and natural resources and the environment, health, politics, and world trade.

**International Business: Global Commerce in the 21st Century:** Business structures, global entrepreneurship, business manage-

**Concepts of Engineering and Technology:** Explore innovative and cutting-edge projects that are changing the world we live in and examine the design and prototype development process. Concepts of Engineering and Technology will also help you understand the emerging issues in this exciting career field.

**Cosmetology:** Explore career options in the field of cosmetology, learn about the common equipment and technologies used by cosmetologists, and examine the skills and characteristics that make someone a good cosmetologist. Also learn more about some of the common techniques used in caring for hair, nails, and skin in salons, spas, and other cosmetology related businesses.

**Creative Writing:** Gain a solid grounding in the writing process, from finding inspiration to building a basic story to using complicated literary techniques and creating prose poetry. By the end of this course, students will learn how to discover their creative thoughts and turn those ideas into fully realized pieces of creative writing.

**Criminology: Inside the Criminal Mind:** Explore the field of criminology or the study of crime looking at possible explanations for crime from psychological, biological, and sociological standpoints, exploring the various types of crime and their consequences for society, and investigate how crime and criminals are handled by the criminal justice system.

**Digital Photography I: Creating Images with Impact!** Learn the basics of photography, including building an understanding of aperture, shutter speed, lighting, and composition, and the history of the camera. Students will use the basic to build a portfolio of images, capturing people, landscapes, close-up, and action photographs.

**Digital Photography II: Discovering Your Creative Potential:** Examine various aspects of professional photography, including the ethics of the profession, and examine some of the areas that professional photographers may choose to specialize in, such as wedding photography and product photography. Learn about some of the most respected professional photographers and how to properly critique photographs.

**Early Childhood Education:** In the course, students learn how to create fun and educational environments for children; how to keep the environment safe for children; and how to encourage the health and well-being of infants, toddlers, and school-aged children.

**Entrepreneurship I:** Explore creating a business plan, financing a business, and pricing products and services. Learn more about the regulations that apply to businesses, marketing products and services, and the legal and ethical guidelines that govern businesses.

**Fashion and Interior Design:** Learn the basics of color and design then test your skills through hands-on projects, and develop the essential communication skills needed for success. By the end of the course, you'll be well on your way to developing the portfolio

## Transportation

### **(The school day begins when your child boards the bus)**

If your student qualifies for a ride beyond the walking distances, you will be notified by the transportation department of your school district. Your transportation department will generally notify you of your pick up time and location during late August. Transportation is critical for private schools, and you must be registered for a ride very early in the spring of the year preceding the one in which you wish to have the transportation provided.

Your student is expected to be on time at the bus stop. This means getting there at least five minutes before the bus is due, always going to the correct stop, and riding only the bus to which he has been assigned. He will respect other persons' property and stay off lawns and gardens. He will stay safely out of the road while the bus arrives. Students will be courteous, will look out for younger children, and will not crowd or push.

When he gets on the bus, he will go immediately to a seat and sit down with his belongings on his lap. He will bring nothing dangerous into the bus. Toys, sticks, stones, and snowballs are not permitted. He will not throw things around the bus, open his lunchbox, or eat snacks. If he has any litter, he will throw it in the basket by the door when he leaves the bus.

No one will leave his seat until the bus is stopped. If a student must cross the road to board or leave the bus, he must always cross at least ten feet in front of it so that he can see the driver and the driver can see him. Students will cross the road only when the driver has signaled to them that the way is clear. They will walk and not run.

Nothing should be brought on the bus which cannot be held with one hand or one arm. The other hand should be free to grasp the handrail or the back of the seat. If numerous items are needed, they should be in a plastic or canvas tote bag. This is also handy for storing hats and mittens during the day, carrying shoes, books, notebooks, and for bringing home papers and projects. A good rule to follow is: If it won't fit in the tote bag, don't bring it to school.

In an effort to clarify any misconceptions concerning the size of musical instruments that may be carried on buses, the following information is provided: According to the Department of Transportation ruling (Section 721.35): Baggage and express baggage, freight, or other property shall not be carried so as to interfere with passenger seating space, safety, or comfort. Placement of instruments, such as trombones, cellos, violins, and other long-cased instruments should be against the outer wall of the bus, upright on the floor (not blocking emergency windows), with student's knees or hands controlling movement of the instrument. The student's space, safety, and comfort should not be infringed upon. Smaller instruments should be placed on the student's lap so that he can control their movement.

Instruments not acceptable on a bus include the following: Baritone Horn, Tuba, String, Bass, Baritone, Saxophone, Timpani, Base Drum, Large Tenor Drum, Music Stands, Risers. Other inappropriate items for transportation are: glass objects, pets, guns, knives, or any sharp instrument, large objects, aerosol cans, skis and ski poles.

It must be understood that the driver is in complete charge. The rider must listen to and obey his direction. The driver is to be treated with the same respect shown teachers, principals, and parents. With the necessary cooperation, everyone will have a safe and enjoyable ride to and from school and on any special trips. **(The school day begins when your child boards the bus.)**

## Student Driving

When a student chooses to drive to school, he/she must fill out a driving Request Application. These applications may be obtained from the High School Principal. Those granted permissions always obey all driving regulations and drive with caution.

## Emergency Closing

In the event that school is closed, RenWeb emails and text alerts will be sent. TV stations (8, 10, 13) will also be notified.

Occasionally, winter storms have closed us down during the middle of the day. If this should occur, NCA will send a schoolwide email, text alert and notify the TV stations. It also might be a good idea to have an emergency plan in place for home as well.

memorable ads and commercials that we know today. Discover career opportunities in the field to help you decide if a job in this exciting, fast paced industry is in your future.

**Agriscience I:** Learn about the development and maintenance of agriculture, animal systems, natural resources, and other food sources. Examine the relationship between agriculture and the environment, health, politics, and world trade.

**Agriscience II:** Find new ways to better produce and manage plants, from the field to the garden. Learn more about horticulture and plant science trends from creating hybrid species to growing edible plants in unlikely places.

**Anthropology I:** Explore the evolution of humankind through time, and how we have changed from a biologically and culturally weak species to one that has the ability to cause catastrophic change. Exciting online video journeys to different areas of the world will be presented.

**Anthropology II:** This course continues the study of global cultures and the ways that humans have made sense of their world, life, and death, along with the evolution of cultures and their art. Apply the concepts and insights learned from the study of anthropology to several cultures found in the world today.

**Archaeology: Detectives of the Past:** Learn how archaeological research is conducted and interpreted, as well as how artifacts are located and preserved. Study the relationship of material items to culture and what we can learn about past societies from these items.

**Art in World Cultures:** Learn about some of the greatest artists while also creating art of your own, including digital art. Explore the basic principles and elements of art, learn how to critique art, and examine some of the traditional art of the Americas, Africa, and Oceania and Western Art.

**Astronomy: Exploring the Universe:** This course will introduce students to the study of astronomy, including its history and development, basic scientific laws of motion and gravity, the concepts of modern astronomy, and the methods used by astronomers to learn more about the universe. Additional topics include the solar system, the Milky Way and other galaxies, and the sun and stars.

**Biotechnology: Unlocking Nature's Secrets:** In today's world, biotechnology helps us grow food, fight diseases, and create alternative fuels. In this course, students will explore the science behind biotechnology and how this science is being used to solve medical and environmental problems.

**Careers in Criminal Justice:** In this course, students will explore different areas of the criminal justice system, including the trial process, the juvenile justice system, and the correctional system.

conomic systems, and social structures — provide areas of historical inquiry for investigation throughout the course. AP World History encompasses the history of the five major geographical regions of the globe: Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Oceania, with special focus on historical developments and processes that cross multiple regions.

**Economics**—Less than half of high school seniors qualify as financially literate, and more than 7 million borrowers are in default on student loans for college. Students are facing tremendous financial challenges without the basic knowledge needed to thrive in today's economy. Foundations in Personal Finance: High School Edition will change the financial future of your students and set them on a path to win with money, allowing you to change the way your students look at money forever. They will be empowered, equipped and entertained while building confidence in their own financial decision-making. ([www.daveramsey.com/school/foundations](http://www.daveramsey.com/school/foundations))

**Global Studies I** — Survey course of the ancient world up to the French Revolution

**Global Studies II** — Survey course of the world from the French Revolution to the present day.

**Government** — The ultimate purpose of any Christian course of study is to produce students who are conformed to Christ's image and possess a Christian worldview. American Government is a survey of American government and is intended to give the high-school student a solid foundation of knowledge about how our governments and political processes work. (Bob Jones University Press)

**US History** - This is a survey course which covers the history of our country that God created. We begin with the explorers and cover all the way through to the 21st century and all of its challenges. Throughout the course, we will see how God has been involved in the events of the country and has blessed it.

### Technology

**Introduction to Computer Science** — In this course the student will use the programming language JavaScript and a web-based curriculum to learn the basic concepts essential for understanding and writing computer code. Subjects include: coding functions, logic controls, graphics, animation, and data structures.

## Online Courses

**Advertising and Sales Promotion:** Learn how marketing campaigns, ads, and commercials are conceived and brought to life. Learn about some of the creative men and women who produce

## Student Absenteeism

When your child is absent from school, please call the school office to report the absence before 8 a.m. (pg.14). This practice is precautionary, and insures that both the school and the home are in communication about the health and whereabouts of the child. Written excuses for an absence are a must when the child returns to school. Main office will call home.

A student missing eighteen (18) days of school in any year, will, with their parents, have to attend a meeting with the Administration for the express purpose of determining the status of passing or failing the year of study in question. We recognize there are extenuating circumstances due to poor health, and this will be taken into consideration when final decisions are determined.

## Attendance Policy

Faithful school attendance is critical to a successful school experience. While some elements of a missed classroom experience can be made up, certain other facets can never be reproduced or repeated. Prompt attendance also develops proper habits for later employment, as well as establishes an attitude towards the importance of school. The attendance policy at Northstar Christian Academy is strictly adhered to and enforced. Your understanding and cooperation in this area will be greatly appreciated.

Northstar Christian Academy recognizes the following as valid excused absences:

1. Illness
2. Death in family
3. Medical / Dental appointment
4. Quarantine
5. Impassable roads
6. Religious observance
7. Court appearance
8. Educational day
9. Shadowing
10. College visits - 3 days per year  
must be pre-approved by the college counselor

This list is congruent with the New York State Education Department's list of legal excuses.

### EXCUSED ABSENCES

For the protection of our students when a student is absent from school the *PARENT* must call the school no later than 8:00 a.m. so that the school may know where the student is. On the day when the student returns to school a note will be submitted to the homeroom teacher or the main office stating the reason for the absence. Please note the reason stated in the note is what excuses the student. Therefore, notes saying just please excuse a student are not acceptable. Although the parent has the right to keep a student home from school, the school also has the right not to excuse requests that do not fall within the excused absences.

1. **Medical Appointments** - Whenever possible, medical appointments should be scheduled outside of school time. If a student must be excused during the school day, a note from the parents stating the date, time and type of the appointment must be submitted. Students will show the note to their classroom teacher and then give it to the receptionist when signing out in the office.
2. **Homework Request for Absence** - If a student will be out of school more than three days, a parent may check the Northstar website or call the office before 9:00 a.m. and request homework. Assignments will be assembled after the parent calls and may be picked up in the main office between 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. If the parents cannot pick up material during that hour special arrangements can be made with the receptionist.
3. **Make-Up Work** - Any student absent from class is expected to make up all work missed. It is the responsibility of the student to see their teachers to obtain the work and help, if needed. **HIGH SCHOOL: After 9 absences in a semester, students may lose their opportunity to make up work.**

### UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

An unexcused absence is an absence that the school does not consider valid or where the school's attendance policy has not been followed.

### PARTIAL DAY ABSENCES

1. Class periods missed will be counted individually for purpose of attendance.
2. In order to participate in an athletic event (practice or game) or any other extra-curricular activity a student **must be in school by the end of first period.** Any exception must be cleared through the athletic director (Athletics) or the principal (Extra-curricular activities).
3. Students must secure parental permission in writing and bring the note to the main office when leaving school early.
4. Students must sign in and out with a reason for late arrival and early departure. Students who sign out during the school day with an excuse not listed under Attendance Policy (pg. 15) may not participate in athletics or extra-curricular activities unless cleared through the athletic director (Athletics) or the principal (Extra-curricular activities).

**Biology** — First recorded task assigned by God to man is a scientific one. God tells man to subdue the earth and have dominion over it (Genesis 1:28). Knowledge of biology will help man fulfill this task.

**Chemistry** — The physical world is made up of substances which operate under God's ordained laws. Chemistry is the study of these substances and the changes they undergo.

**Earth Science** — Units of study include: meteorology, geology, astronomy, oceanography, mineralogy, etc.

**Environmental Science** - focuses on the diversity of life in the nature world and how humans study and interact with that world.

**Physics** — Dynamics, kinematics, optics, nuclear, electronic, quantum, electrical, new theories, etc.

### Social Science

**Advanced Placement Art History** - explores the diversity of artistic traditions of cultures from prehistory to the present. Students learn and apply the skills of visual, contextual and comparative analysis to engage with a variety of art forms. This class fosters an in-depth and holistic understanding of the history of art with a global, cultural perspective.

**Advanced Placement Psychology** - This course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice.

**Psychology** – see above

### Social Studies

**Advanced Placement U.S. History**— This course focuses on the development of historical thinking skills (chronological reasoning, comparing and contextualizing, crafting historical arguments using historical evidence, and interpreting and synthesizing historical narrative) and an understanding of content learning objectives organized around seven themes, such as identity, peopling, and America in the world.

**Advanced Placement European History**— This course focuses on cultural, economic, political, and social developments. These focus areas provide context for understanding the development of contemporary institutions, the role of continuity and change in present-day society and politics, and the evolution of current forms of artistic expression and intellectual discourse.

**Advanced Placement World History**— This course focuses on developing students' abilities to think conceptually about world history from approximately 8000 BCE to the present and apply historical thinking skills as they learn about the past. Five themes of equal importance — focusing on the environment, cultures, state-building, eco-

identities, and their equations. Modeling of real-world mathematical problems are highlighted. Honors Algebra 2 completes the necessary preparation for future Precalculus and/or Physics studies.

**Integrated Math** – A reinvestigation of high school mathematics with focus on fluency and application in preparation for college mathematics assessments and courses. Consumer mathematics is also studied covering basic math skills used in everyday situations—paying taxes, buying food, banking and investing, and managing a household.

**AP Statistics** – A College Board statistics course emphasizing practical application; studies descriptive data with graphical and numerical techniques, binomial and normal probability distributions, estimation and sampling, hypothesis testing, and linear regression models. Includes using statistical software.

**Dual Credit Pre-Calculus** – A study of the real number system, equations and systems of equations, inequalities, and functions; integrates the use of functions in mathematical modeling. Studies include linear, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions and their inverses. Matrices, topics in analytic geometry, and an introduction to polar coordinates are included.

**AP Calculus AB / Dual Credit Calculus 1** – Studies functions of a single variable with regard to limits and continuity, derivatives and integrals of algebraic, trigonometric, exponential, and logarithmic functions, and their application. Concludes with a study of the definite integral and the fundamental theorem of calculus. Calculus 2 is introduced via integration techniques and the study of series and sequences.

**AP Calculus BC / Dual Credit Calculus 2** – Examines applications of the definite integral, analysis of the natural logarithmic, exponential, trigonometric, and hyperbolic functions; introduction to differential equations, techniques of integration, L'Hopital's Rule and indeterminate forms, improper integrals, polar coordinates and infinite series.

### Non-Academic Electives

**Art** – Survey course in the mixed media. Drawing, painting and pottery.

**Band** – Development of basic skills in instrument knowledge.

**Choir** – Combines the development of fundamentals of music. Preparedness for competition.

**Physical Education** – In this course students will work on teamwork, communication, and fitness throughout the year. Students will have the basic knowledge of lifetime fitness at the end of this course.

**Teacher's Aide** – Perform a variety of tasks to assist the classroom teacher.

**Yearbook** - This course is designed for creative and highly motivated individuals who wish to create and design the school yearbook.

### Science

\*\* NOTE: Reasons such as “late” and/or “Appointment” are not acceptable.\*\*

### ILLNESS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

Students who become ill during the school day must report to the nurse's office when the nurse is on campus or the main office when the nurse is not present. Students are not to call home and ask to be picked up. If it is deemed necessary for the student to go home, the nurse or the receptionist will call the parent. Once the parent has been notified the student will be sent to collect their belongings and then wait in the appropriate office for parents to arrive. The student must sign out in the main office before leaving.

### COLLEGE DAYS

Parents may legally excuse their student to attend a college day. The school will only excuse students under the following conditions:

1. The visit is an all-day formal program for prospective students. Confirmation is required. Notify the college counselor of the intent to visit a specific college.
2. The parent must accompany the student on the visit.
3. The normal limit for college days is three per year.

### VISITORS

Permission to bring a visitor must be obtained from the principal prior to the day of the visit.

### TRUANCY

A student is truant if their parents/guardians expect at the time they leave home that they will be in school/class, but they do not attend or they are absent from school without an acceptable reason. This applies also if a student leaves school property during the school day without a proper excuse from home signed by a parent/guardian and approved by the administration.

Student skip days will not be tolerated. Students who choose to participate with or without parental permission will be subject to school discipline.

### AFTER SCHOOL SUPERVISION

There is no after-school supervision for students except for those in school sponsored activities. NCA is unable to assume responsibility for students who are not in school activities. No student is to stay at school after 3:00 p.m. unless they are involved in a school sponsored event.

## *NCA High School* *Policy on Tardiness to School*

The school day begins at 7:50 with homeroom. A student is considered tardy if they fail to enter and be seated in their homeroom at the sounding of the homeroom bell at 7:50 a.m. A warning bell is sounded at 7:45 to signal the students need to move to homeroom.

It is an essential life lesson for students to understand the importance of punctuality. The homeroom serves important functions for the start of every school day. We say the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and then to the Christian Flag. It is also a time for public prayer over the PA system to give the day to glorifying the Lord. Lastly, school-wide announcements are made that affect the student body.

It is understandable that a student might have extenuating circumstances OCCASIONALLY that would cause him/her to come late to school. However, when this occurs regularly, whether 1 minute or 1 hour late, it signifies a lack of respect for the rules and operation of the school.

Therefore, as a result of the significance of the homeroom period and the importance of respecting the rules, the following consequences (PER 5-WEEK PERIOD) will be invoked for tardiness:

- *After the fourth offense of tardiness to school without a legal excuse (pg.13), said student will be placed in lunch detention and parent will be notified.*
- *Upon the fifth and continuing offenses said student will be placed in lunch detention and \*After School Detention (2:45-3:30 p.m.) and an administrative meeting may be scheduled with parent and student.*
- *Consequences for missing lunch detention or after school detention will be \*Saturday Work Detention*

**NOTE:** At the conclusion of the 5-week period, tardies will be cleared for the start of the next 5-week period. Winter driving conditions will be considered only when attendance is not taken until second period.

**\*There will be a \$10.00 fee for those attending After School Detention and a \$25.00 charge for those attending Saturday Work Detention.**

**English 10** — Composition, essay, short stories, world literature.

**English 11** — Expository writing, creative writing, and American literature.

**English 12** — Creative writing, compositions, and British literature.

### **Health**

**Health** — (1/2 year) An investigation into God's world, regarding the spiritual, mental, and physical health of man.

### **Languages**

**American Sign Language** — Provides students with a strong foundational understanding of the language, through the study of vocabulary and key grammatical structures. Students will develop important strategies for communicating with Deaf individuals and learn about the rich Deaf culture that exists right here in Rochester. This is very much a hands-on approach to learning language.

**Chinese** — This curriculum is designed to develop the students' communicative competence in the Mandarin Chinese language, to enable the students to better understand the Chinese culture and to expand their awareness of language and language learning. The curriculum prepares students to demonstrate their level of Chinese proficiency across the three communicative modes (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) and the five goal areas (communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities).

**Rosetta Stone** - 30 Languages available for study, Kindergarten - 12th grade. Rosetta Stone offers a complete immersion (engaging) environment which will help the student build confidence with the chosen language of study. The material is carefully sequenced so the student is always presented with the right level of challenge — easy enough that they can grasp the meaning of new words and concepts but just hard enough so that they are always engaged.

### **Math**

**Algebra 1** — The study of mathematical symbols and the rules for manipulating these symbols in equivalence, inequality, proportionality, and functional relationships. Polynomials and coordinate geometry are investigated. Modeling of real-world mathematical problems are practiced throughout.

**Geometry** - In His creation, God has used geometry extensively. Topics include area, volume, geometry of the circle, analytic geometry, congruence/similarity involving triangles and quadrilaterals, and logical proofs.

**Algebra 2** — An expansion on the topics of Algebra 1. A study of real and imaginary number systems and operations within them, solutions of polynomial equations in one or more variables, and basic properties of functions and graphs. Linear, quadratic, radical, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions and their solutions are investigated. Conic sections are introduced.

**Honors Algebra 2** — Algebra 2 with a more in-depth study of polynomial relationships, conic sections, periodic functions, trigonometric



**LEGO EV3 Robotics, Innovation Engineering (Course Pre-requisite - EV3 Navigation Engineering):** Working in teams of two, students will build and program smart robots to perform innovative tasks such as sorting colors, manipulating objects, etc. In addition, students will learn more about gear systems and programming different Motors and Sensors using Loops, Switches, Multiple Switches, Data Wires, Variables, Logic, Case Structures, My Blocks (Sub-Routines), and more!

**Dual Credit Introduction To Optical Technology** – This class explores the fundamental properties of light and introduces the student to the field of technical optics, from simple lens systems to the rapidly expanding field of photonics. Topics include general observations of how light behaves and how that behavior is used in modern technology. This class is offered in conjunction with Monroe Community College for college credit.

**SAT Preparation Course** – This course discusses strategies and thought processes to improve math scores. Many sample problems are covered for all three standardized tests (PSAT, SAT, ACT Prep).

**Women’s Studies** – An in-depth study of women in history. This can pertain to fictional characters, as well. We will read some challenging pieces of literature. This is an English class and students will be required to do many of the same tasks as other English courses.

#### Bible

**Bible** - Follows the church Bible curriculum, taught by preachers from the church. Emphasis on practical Christian living from various books of the Bible: Biblical Prophecy, Pre-Marital Counseling, I & II Corinthians, etc.

#### English

**Advanced Placement Literature and Composition** - This course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work’s structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.

**Advanced Placement Language & Composition** - This course aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which requires students to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays that proceed through several stages or drafts. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Throughout the course, students develop a personal style by making appropriate grammatical choices. Additionally, students read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction texts, including graphic images as forms of text, from many disciplines and historical periods.

**English 9** – Basic mechanics of English, selections from thematic literature.

## NCA High School Policy on Tardiness to Class

Punctuality is an important life characteristic. Tardiness can be a severe problem if left uncorrected. It is our duty to help our young people realize the value of punctuality. The following policy is in effect in the junior/senior high school to assist the students in becoming punctual.

Students have three minutes of “passing time” between class periods. This is sufficient time for students to stop at lockers, get a drink or even use the restroom prior to their next class. This is the norm in schools significantly larger than ours, public and private.

Therefore, when the bell rings to start the class period, students are required to be in their assigned classrooms. On occasion students are held up at their previous class and the holding teacher provides a “late pass” to their next class. That is an excused tardy and there is no penalty when that occurs. However, if a student who does NOT have an “excused pass,” fails to make it to class before the final bell, the student will be marked as tardy.

In the course of EACH 5-WEEK PERIOD, a student may receive up to FIVE “unexcused late passes.” On the SIXTH offense the following discipline plan will be invoked:

SIXTH OFFENSE: Lunch detention AND parent will be notified.

SEVENTH OFFENSE: Lunch detention AND \*after school detention AND parent will be notified.

EIGHTH OFFENSE: Lunch detention AND \*after school detention AND parent will be notified.

AFTER THE EIGHTH OFFENSE AN ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING MAY BE SCHEDULED WITH PARENT AND STUDENT:

**NOTE:** Consequences for missing lunch detention or after school detention will be \*Saturday work detention.

**NOTE:** At the conclusion of the 5-week period, tardies will be cleared for the start of the next 5-week period.

**\*There will be a \$10.00 charge for After School Detention  
and a \$25.00 charge for those attending Saturday Work Detention**

## *Physical Examinations*

All students in grades K, 2nd, 4th, 7th, and 10th are required to have a physical examination. In addition, any students new to the Northstar Christian Academy at any grade level must have a physical examination. It is recommended that this examination be done by the family physician, as he/she is most familiar with the health needs of your child.

Depending on grade level, students may also be screened at school for height, weight, hearing, vision and curvature of the spine.

If you have concerns regarding your child's health please contact the school nurse so that together, we can provide a healthy learning environment for your child.

### DISPENSING OF MEDICINES

School nurses are prohibited by state law from dispensing medication to school children without specific written authorization from parents and the family doctor. This applies to prescription drugs and to over-the-counter items such as cough drops, eye drops, aspirin, and antihistamines.

In order for medication to be dispensed to a child during the hours he is in school, the following requirements must be met in each specific case of treatment:

1. From the family physician, a written request will be received indicating the frequency and dosage of the prescribed medication.
2. Received from the parent will be a written request to administer the medication specified by the doctor.
3. Direct personal delivery of the medication in the original labeled container to the school nurse will be made by the parent. Please do not send the medication to school with the student.
4. The described procedures do not carry over from one school year to the next. They must be updated with the start of the new year.
5. When your child stops taking a medicine or at the end of the school year, please pick up unused medication. School staff will dispose of any medication not picked up.

## *High School Courses*

### Academic Electives

**Advanced Placement Art History** - explores the diversity of artistic traditions of cultures from prehistory to the present. Students learn and apply the skills of visual, contextual and comparative analysis to engage with a variety of art forms. This class fosters an in-depth and holistic understanding of the history of art with a global, cultural perspective.

**Advanced Placement Chinese Language and Culture** - This curriculum is designed to develop the students' communicative competence in the Mandarin Chinese language, to enable the students to better understand the Chinese culture and to expand their awareness of language and language learning.

**Critical Thinking** - explores the idea of worldview while asking big questions like "Is there a God?" "What is the nature of Truth?" "What is the origin of life?" "What does it mean to be a human?" "What is morally good and evil?". These questions are explored through various perspectives, but ultimately through the Christian view.

**Film** - This course will be a humanities course emphasizing critical thinking and interpretation, drama, civics, psychology, students' own creativity development, and awareness of classic film literature. The content will include essential films presented in a chronological, historical approach, such as silent films, Citizen Kane, progressing into more modern works such as those students will choose from their recent viewing, etc.

**Filmmaking I:** The art and craft of film is taught through a balance of classroom instruction, hands-on workshops, and active participation (in rotating roles) as film production crew members, actors, and directors. Concepts covered include: script writing, developing shot-lists, (mobile and stationary) camera and lighting techniques, sound, video-editing, as well as, documentary and cinematic style production covering the creative and technical demands of telling a story with moving and still images, animation techniques, and so on.

**Filmmaking II (Course Prerequisite - Filmmaking I):** Students continue developing their skills in filmmaking with applying more advanced camera and digital-editing techniques along with, green screening and creating more complex productions, such as: college application or missions video resumes, entering student film contests, building video portfolios, and so on.

**LEGO EV3 Robotics, Navigation Engineering:** Working in teams of two, students will build and program smart robots, including navigation and manipulation, using the different Sensors and Motors. Students will learn the importance of the Engineering/Iterative Design Process with problem-solving for the specific mission challenges posed throughout the course. In addition, students will also learn about basics of gear systems as well as effective chassis and attachment design concepts, how to test the functionality of their robots, etc.

## Instructional Support

Teachers are willing to spend extra time with students who are experiencing difficulty with one or more of their academic subjects. The times are worked out with you, the parent. Please ask.

## Weighting System

Once again we at Northstar Christian Academy are interested in the child as a whole and are committed to high standards of excellence. Academic achievement can be defined at different levels of progress. With this program our rationale is to provide students who take more difficult courses the opportunity to rank higher than those students who take less difficult courses.

*Weighted courses: Physics, Calculus, Pre-Calculus, Advanced Placement in World History, United States History, European History, Advanced Placement English courses, AP Psychology, Statistics, Optics 110 and Advanced Placement in Art History.*

## Graduation Requirements

We require a third year of math and science, four years of Bible and half a year of computer. These requirements are beyond those set forth by the Board of Regents. An approved high school four-year course of study shall include the following units of work or their equivalent:

COLLEGE PREPARATORY	MINIMUM REQUIRED
Bible	4 credits
English	4 credits
Social Studies	4 credits
Science	3 credits
Math	3 credits
Health	1/2 credit
Physical Education	2 credits (1/2 credit per year)
Foreign Language/ASL	2 credits
Computer	1/2 credit
Electives	<u>6 or more</u>
	29 TOTAL CREDITS

## IMMUNIZATION COMPLIANCE

New York State requires that Immunization and Health Records be on file for all school children. No child will be admitted to school in September unless all immunizations are complete. We encourage you to submit a record of your child's immunizations signed by their physician prior to the first day of school.

## SPORTS PHYSICALS

A sports physical will be required of all sports participants in grades 7-12 prior to attending any practices. The physical must be done within one year of the start of practice for the sport the student is participating in. The physical may be done by your family physician or may be obtained free of charge if taken when offered by the Gates-Chili School District. Students are also required to complete a medical recertification form prior to the first practice of each sport. The required forms may be obtained from the school office.

## Volunteers at NCA

We need you! Volunteers are always needed and welcome in many areas of our school's program. If you have some time you would be willing to donate, please contact the school office. We'll put you to work.

## Miscellaneous Rules

1. Once the school day begins **NO STUDENT** will be permitted to leave the school building or grounds without a written note from their parent (guardian) and signing out in the office. The school day begins when your child boards the bus.
2. Students are not to leave the building during the lunch period unless with their parent or for a class outing.
3. Students will help to keep the school clean by cleaning up after themselves. This includes lockers, cafeteria, classrooms and hallways.
4. Rules to remember for Chapel:
  - A. Always bring Bible
  - B. Show courtesy to all speakers
  - C. Sit with class

## Lost and Found

A “Lost and Found” is maintained by the school custodian. “Found” items are kept for one month. They are displayed in the cafeteria. Unclaimed goods are given to the Salvation Army. Label your student’s clothes!

## Discipline

Self-discipline is our goal. However, your child must be taught and shown what is acceptable behavior according to the Bible. This must occur at home as well as at school. When a child’s actions adversely affect others, it is time for us to take action that will change the negative behavior into positive growth.

In most cases your child’s teacher will handle minor infractions within the classroom setting. The administration will assist the teacher if the situation warrants. If the disciplinary action demands your support and knowledge, you will be notified accordingly.

## Lunch Detention

After 5 lunch detentions within a 5 week grading period, students will be assigned both lunch detention and \*After School Detention (2:45 - 3:30 p.m.).

Consequences for missing lunch detention or after school detention will be \*Saturday Work Detention

**\*There will be a \$10.00 fee for those attending After School Detention and a \$25.00 charge for those attending Saturday Work Detention.**

## Suspensions

In the case of severe misconduct, students may be suspended for up to five days and/or expelled. Students who have been in some type of suspension for all or part of a school day are ineligible for after school athletic and/or extra-curricular activities. If a student is allowed to re-enter, a probation period may be necessary. An expelled student may be allowed to re-enter at a later date. Some examples of such misconduct include: cheating, repeated misconduct on school buses, open defiance of teacher authority, alcohol, drugs, sexual misconduct, bringing a weapon to school and disgracing the ministry. This list is not inclusive.

Outside the actual classroom, students are still expected to maintain the highest standards of self-control and conduct themselves in a way which would glorify Christ.

### **Christian Service**

He/she will need to complete the ACHS application displaying his/her Christian service, community service, extra curricular activities, leadership activities and salvation testimonial.

The ACHS application will then be reviewed by an established council to determine membership. The council is made up of an ACHS advisor(s), administration and teachers.

Any member who falls below the established standards of the Association of Christian Schools, or categories on the American Christian Honor Society Rubric during their 1 year membership shall be promptly informed by the school administrator or ACHS advisor. A letter to the parents/guardian will also go home to inform them of the situation. For example; if the member falls below a 90 average or has been spoken to about character, leadership, school policies, attendance or preparation for class, the administration and/or advisors reserve the right to give them a probationary period that they deem appropriate for improvement. Also, administration and/or advisors reserve the right to dismiss members from the society based on the standards set by the Association of Christian Schools and Northstar Christian Academy with the necessary information.

Members are also expected to carry the highest standard of Character when it comes to social media. A member must maintain the utmost discretion on social media. Each member’s conduct on social media reflects on the member, the ACHS and Northstar Christian Academy. Therefore a member’s social media should be taken very seriously in regards to what pictures are posted, language that is used and comments that are made. Again, administration and/or advisors reserve the right to dismiss members from the society based on the standards set by the Association of Christian Schools and Northstar Christian Academy for inappropriate use of social media.

Members will:

- ◆ receive a certificate of membership for every year he/she is on the American Christian Honor Society.
- ◆ Seniors will have their name placed on a plaque that will be displayed in the school lobby.
- ◆ Seniors will receive an honor gold sash for the graduation ceremony

### **PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES**

Since one of the basic purposes of the American Christian Honor Society shall be to stimulate Christian service, the local chapter shall need to be service oriented. Some projects or school service functions may be reserved for honor society members only.

Members are expected to fulfill community service requirements. Students may have the opportunity to be involved in various volunteer activities. A few of the organizations that benefit from the support of the ACHS are: Operation Christmas Child, Kids N Cans for Christ, Pennies For Patients, Boys and Girls Clubs of Rochester and The American Cancer Society.

## American Christian Honor Society

To be eligible for membership, a student must be enrolled in the school for three quarters. Candidates eligible for membership to the American Christian Honor Society must be in grades 10-12 and must have a minimum scholastic average of 90%. All students who maintain a scholastic average of 90% or greater will be considered for membership.

A student who was elected to active membership of the American Christian Honor Society in another school and has transferred to this school shall be eligible for full membership in this chapter. They must provide a letter from an administrator from their former school to indicate they were a member in good standing. A transfer member shall be required to maintain the standards of this chapter.

Selection shall be based upon:

### **Christian Character and Christian Leadership**

Once an academically potential member qualifies teachers evaluate eligible members.

A score of 23.5 out of 25 from the teacher rubric assessing character, leadership, attendance, school policies and preparation allows him/her to move to the next step of the ACHS process.

### **American Christian Honor Society Rubric 2016-2017**

**Student's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Score** \_\_\_\_\_ / 25

**Directions:** Circle the score that best describes the information that is provided in each section of the application. Then, add the scores and write in an overall score above. Students with a score of 23.5 or higher will receive an application to the ACHS. Rate each category from 1 to 5, 5 being the best rank for the student. We want the "best" student examples for the honor society. Please do not add your name or comments to this rubric, your scoring will remain anonymous. If you have any questions pertaining to this rubric please see ACHS advisor or administration.

<b>Character</b> Great attitude toward teachers and peers. Upholds principles of morality and ethics, is cooperative, demonstrates high standards of honesty and reliability, avoids cheating, avoids copying and plagiarism, shows courtesy and concern, shows desirable personality qualities, respects others and maintains a godly lifestyle in and out of school.	5	4	3	2	1
<b>Leadership</b> Student leaders are those that are resourceful, well organized, good problem solvers, idea-contributors, reliable and dependable, and a person that exemplifies and inspires positive attitudes and behaviors in and out of school.	5	4	3	2	1
<b>Attendance</b> Student is present and on time (except for late busses or medical excuses).	5	4	3	2	1
<b>School Policies</b> Follows school policies such as dress code, appropriate use of social media, cell phones, electronics, hair, jewelry, language, etc.	5	4	3	2	1
<b>Preparation</b> Comes prepared to class with text books, homework, writing utensils, etc.	5	4	3	2	1

## Personal Music & Cell Phone Policy

Cell phones are to be turned off while in the classroom during the school day. Students are permitted to use their cell phone in the classroom at the teacher's discretion. If a student uses a cell phone without permission, including having it ring from an incoming call with the power on, the cell phone will be confiscated immediately.

### **Parents will be notified and penalties assessed as follows:**

**1st Offense:** Device will be kept by the administration until the end of the day.

**2nd Offense:** Device will be kept by the administration until the end of the day and student will be assigned lunch detention.

**3rd Offense:** Device will be turned in to the office at the beginning of each day and can be picked up when leaving school.

**NOTE:** At the conclusion of the 5-week period, infractions will be cleared for the start of the next 5-week period.

## Dress Code at NCA

Our dress code is designed to provide uniformity and simplicity, which should enable students to focus on academics. Therefore, Northstar Christian Academy has made it mandatory for all students to order NCA logo embroidered polo shirts, fleece pullovers/vests and sweaters through the academy.

Failure to comply with the Northstar dress code will result in disciplinary action until the standard is met to the satisfaction of school authorities. It should also be noted that the administration reserves the right to ask students to remove inappropriate articles of clothing and/or change any questionable physical appearances such as hairstyles, jewelry, tattoos, etc. Naturally, the administration reserves the right to deem what is inappropriate.

If a student chooses to wear an item they have already been told not to, the student will serve lunch detention and that item may be taken by the administration. The student may have to pay a fee for its return.

On special occasions when uniform dress is not required guidelines will be given out for students to follow.

Also note, no jewelry may be worn during P.E. classes or athletics..

## Girls K-12

(The administration reserves the right to deem what is inappropriate)

*"In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, . . ."*

(I Timothy 2:9).

### Northstar Polo Shirts (long & short sleeve)

Colors: Red, Black, \*White

*\*If short sleeved white is worn, a plain (i.e. no writing or graphics) short sleeved t-shirt must be worn under it. (No tank tops are allowed)*

*\*If a long sleeved undershirt is worn it must be red, black or white*

Loose-fitting

### Skirts/Jumpers

Colors: Navy, Black, Khaki, Gray, Denim (no fringes or fading)

Plain: no pictures, writing or embroidery

Knee length or longer

### Pants

Casual/Traditional

Colors: Navy, Black, Khaki, Gray

### Northstar Sweaters (pullovers & button down), Sweatshirts, Fleece

#### Pullovers, Vests & Jackets

Colors: Red, Black, White

Loose-fitting

Sweatshirts and jackets purchased through and identified with Northstar Christian Academy and its organizations (Athletics, PTSA, etc.) are permissible to wear over the uniform polo.

### Footwear

Shoes with backs (safety issue)

K-6—socks and leggings

7-12—socks, leggings and nylons

### Hair

All students are cautioned against extremes in hair styles & must be of natural color.

### Cosmetics (7-12 only)

### Tattoos

Not to be visible

## Boys K-12

(The administration reserves the right to deem what is inappropriate)

### Northstar Polo Shirt (long & short sleeves)

Colors: Red, Black, White

*\*If a long sleeved undershirt is worn it must be red, black or white*

## Plagiarism Policy

Students are expected to adhere to the following guidelines concerning plagiarism. Failure to do so may result in a "zero" for the work turned in and possible suspension.

According to Plagiarism.org, many people think of plagiarism as copying another's work, or borrowing someone else's original ideas. But terms like "copying" and "borrowing" can disguise the seriousness of the offense: Here are some other things to consider regarding plagiarism:

- Words must be placed inside double quotes and provide a full reference showing where the information came from when using exact words from a sentence or a paragraph from an article in an assignment.
- A full reference showing where the information came from must be provided when putting the ideas from an article into a student's own words.
- When images are placed in a paper, even if it is just for decoration, where they came from must be acknowledged.
- An original article must be cited even if it has been translated.
- Common plagiarism and cheating policies state, "Plagiarism may take the form of similar work submitted by students who may have worked together."
- If a work is in the public domain, it means that it is not subject to legal copyright restrictions. This means that permission is not needed to use it, nor does money have to be paid to use it, but it still needs to be cited to avoid plagiarism.
- Accidental or negligent plagiarism is still plagiarism. A student must copy down all sources correctly and completely and store them ready for citing and use in the bibliography.
- "Common Knowledge" does not need to be cited.  
Maxine Hairston and John Ruszkiewicz define common knowledge as, "...[the] facts, dates, events, information and concepts that belong generally to an educated public. No individual owns the facts about history, physics, social behavior, geography, current events, popular culture and so on."  
Source: **The Scott, Foresman Handbook for Writers** by Maxine Hairston, John J. Ruszkiewicz. 3rd ed. New York, NY: HarperCollins College Publishers, c1993. p. 614.

PSAT’s are recommended for students in grades eight and nine and required for tenth and eleventh grade.

Juniors and seniors obtain registration information from Mrs. Pitcher for ACT and College Board SAT.

## Reporting to Parents

Students in grades 7-12 will receive a five-week report to inform parents as to how they are performing. Every ten (10) weeks a report card will be given out to students in grades 1-12 detailing academic progress as well as social attitudes and work habits. Kindergarten will receive reports 2nd, 3rd and 4th quarters.

Written communications and emails are also important. A note to the teacher or parent delivered by the student with a response requested, such as a signature or written reaction, makes it easier to keep a record of correspondence.

K-6 conferences are scheduled in the autumn with parents; additional conferences are held as needed. A conference may be called by either the teacher or the parent.

### REPORT CARD DATES 2016-2017

Term	Grades Close	Report Cards to Students	Two Week Period Ends
5 weeks	October 11, 2016	October 13, 2016	October 27, 2016
1st quarter	November 15, 2016	November 17, 2016	December 1, 2016
15 weeks	December 20, 2016	December 22, 2016	January 5, 2017
2nd quarter	January 31, 2017	February 2, 2017	February 16, 2017
25 weeks	March 7, 2017	March 9, 2017	March 23, 2017
3rd quarter	April 11, 2017	April 13, 2017	April 27, 2017
4th quarter	June 13, 2017	June 15, 2017 (K-6)	

The grading system used at Northstar is as follows:

GPA—HONORS

A = 95—100	A- = 92—94	B+ = 90—91
B = 87—89	B- = 85—86	C+ = 82—84
C = 78—81	C- = 75—77	D+ = 74
D = 70—73	F = below 70	

95- 100 or 3.71 - 4.0 = High Honor Roll

92- 94 or 3.31 - 3.70 = Honor Roll

90- 91 or 3.01 - 3.3 = Merit

### Pants

Casual/Traditional

Colors: Navy, Black, Khaki , Gray

### Northstar Sweaters (pullovers & button down), Sweatshirts

#### Fleece Pullovers, Vests & Jackets

Colors: Red, Black, White

Sweatshirts and jackets purchased through and identified with Northstar Christian Academy and its organizations (Athletics, PTSA, etc.) are permissible to wear over the uniform polo.

### Footwear

Casual or dress shoes

Socks must be worn

### Hair

Properly groomed and neat in appearance

All one natural color

*All students are cautioned against extremes in hair styles & colors*

No Facial Hair

### Jewelry

No earrings or other exposed jewelry on neck and/or head.

### Tattoos

Not to be visible

## Additional Activities

The Academy offers a wide variety of extra and co-curricular activities with special emphasis on music, athletics, and expressive arts.

Each year our aspiring actors and actresses put on one major production. Many field trips are taken in conjunction with topics being studied both at the elementary and high school levels.

Northstar has a MasterMinds Team which participates in inter-scholastic competition of the intellect that challenges students in all aspects of their knowledge including current events.

Students can also get involved in an Environmental Science Club, Chess Club, Student Council and more.

Athletics play an important role in developing mind, physique, and discipline. We encourage all our students to participate in at least one sport per year.

Northstar belongs to the NYSPHSAA of New York and abides fully by its rules and regulations. We play both public and private schools in interscholastic contests. We offer:

**Varsity & Junior Varsity**

Soccer	Bowling
Basketball	Volleyball
Baseball	Ice Hockey
Softball	Cross Country
Football	Indoor/Outdoor Track and Field
Golf	Tennis
Crew	Badminton

\*Teams will be formed if enough students are interested

Our sports program provides many hours of entertainment during the school year. Come join us for an exciting time! Get involved!

NOTE: Modified sports are provided through combining Northstar Christian and Greece Christian. Students in grades seven and eight may be given the opportunity to be a part of our varsity and junior varsity athletic program through the NYSPHSAA selective classification program. Please contact Mr. JJ Garwood or Mr. Rob Johnson @ 429-5530 for more information.

## *Athletic and Extra-Curricular Eligibility*

Students must achieve in the classroom and exhibit proper behavior in order to be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics for Northstar teams (varsity and junior varsity), interscholastic MasterMinds, and the school play. This eligibility is defined as follows:

**Academic Standing**

Students receive official grades every 5 weeks. The grades that appear on each report card determine the students’ academic standing. Students must not have a failing grade in ANY subject to remain eligible for sports, MasterMinds and drama. That means every grade on the official report card must be at **70 OR ABOVE**.

If a student receives a grade below 70 on a report card, that student is automatically ineligible from the date that report cards are handed out. Said student will be ineligible to play in any games for a period of **two weeks**. Said student may practice and travel to games, but will not be in uniform or allowed to play. For drama, said student may rehearse, but not perform if grades have not been satisfied.

At the end of the two-week period, the teacher(s) must sign the re-instatement form to allow the student to return to the team for games. It is the responsibility of the student to bring the form to the teachers to get signed: no signed form, no participation in games. The signed re-instatement form is to be given back to Mr. JJ Garwood, Director of Athletics.

If a failing grade persists in that class after the two-week period, the said student will be out until he/she has a passing grade.

Let us emphasize that it is the student’s responsibility to be aware of where their grades stand as the report card period closes. Students will be unable to compete in games or scrimmages immediately upon the release of grades. Do not let your coach and your teammates down. There are no exceptions.

**REPORT CARD DATES 2016-2017**

<u>Term</u>	<u>Grades Close</u>	<u>Report Cards to Students</u>	<u>Two Week Period Ends</u>
5 weeks	October 11, 2016	October 13, 2016	October 27, 2016
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2nd quarter	January 31, 2017	February 2, 2017	February 16, 2017
25 weeks	March 7, 2017	March 9, 2017	March 23, 2017
3rd quarter	April 11, 2017	April 13, 2017	April 27, 2017
4th quarter	June 13, 2017	June 15, 2017 (K-6)	

## *Academic Information*

**LEARNING STANDARDS**

It is a privilege, not a right, to attend Northstar Christian Academy. Respect and cooperation are expected. Assignments should be completed on time each day. If a student is absent from school, incomplete work should be made up according to the guidelines found under “Make-Up Work” on page 14. Other student responsibilities are as follows: keeping a neat and orderly notebook, treating books, desks, and school materials with a high regard, keeping minds and eyes upon the teachers during instruction. Talking out without permission is both crude and rude and, of course, will not be tolerated. REMEMBER: A student’s primary work is school.

**TESTING**

Students in grades 7-12 shall be given unit, mid-term, and final exams. Grades will be averaged together for ten-week reports. Mid-terms and final exams count one-fifth in calculating the preceding semester grade.

The IOWA assessments will be given in the Spring for all grades K–8. Math and Reading tests may be given to determine grade placement.

New York State ELA tests will be given to fourth, sixth and eighth grade students. Others tests given are: