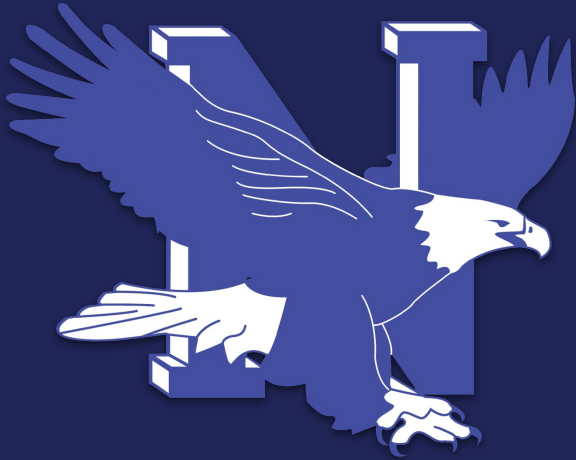




1.

# Visioning for Student Learning!



NAZARETH AREA SCHOOL  
DISTRICT

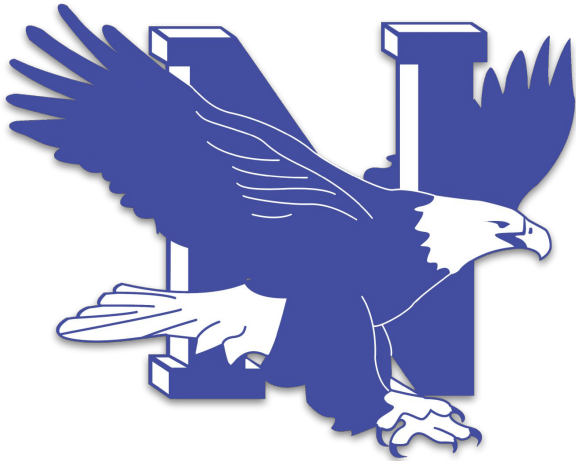
May 12, 2025



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# Introductions

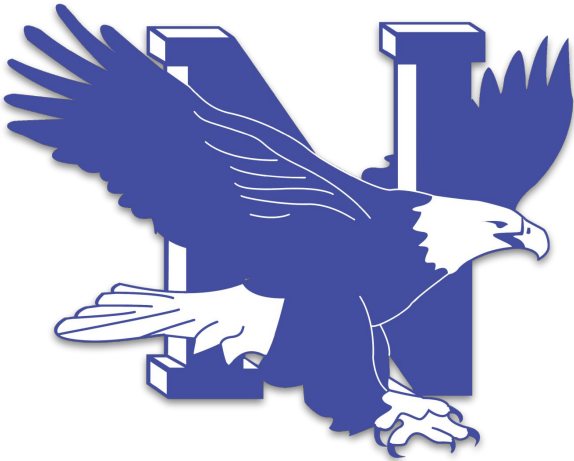
- Dr. Isabel Resende, Superintendent of Schools
- Dr. Stuart Whiteleather, Chief Operating Officer
- Mr. Rusty Amato, Chief Personnel Officer
- Ms. Pam Vlasaty, Director of Pupil Services
- Mr. AJ Kise, Director of Special & Alternative Education
- Mr. Alan Davis, Director of Secondary Teaching & Learning
- Ms. Noelle Kondikoff, Director of Elementary Teaching & Learning
- Ms. Melissa Whitman, Director of Digital Technology & Innovation
- Ms. Krista Eyer, Supervisor of Special Education



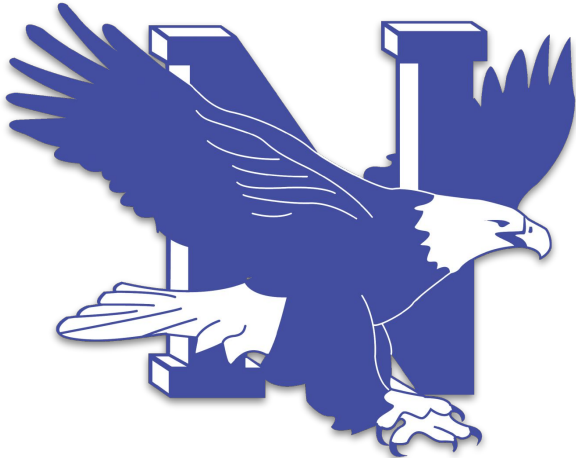
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# Agenda

- Overview
  - Elementary Education (K-6)
  - Secondary Education (7-12)
  - Special Education
  - Educational Technology/STEAM
  - Pupil Services



**Butz**  
Elementary School

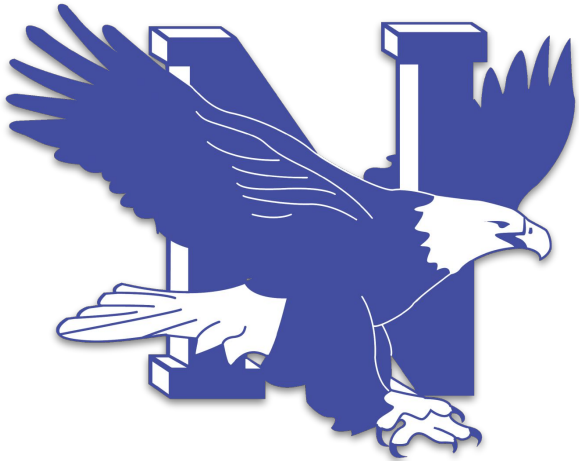
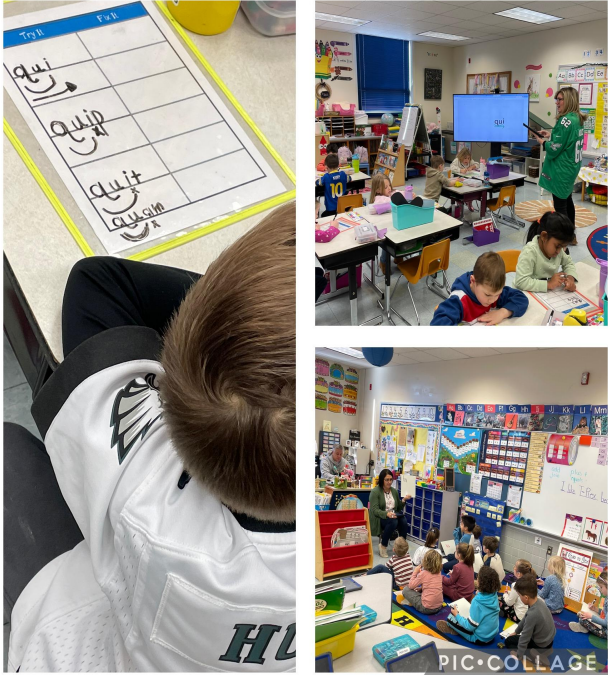


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# Elementary Education (K-6)

- Lower Nazareth Elementary School, Kenneth N Butz Jr., Elementary School, & Shafer Elementary School
    - Students in kindergarten through fourth grade
    - Approximately **565-610** students in each school
    - Approximately **50** professional staff in each building
    - Self-contained classrooms
  - Nazareth Area Intermediate School
    - Students in grades 5 and 6
    - Approximately **750** students
    - Approximately **50** professional staff
    - One teacher for English Language Arts & Social Studies; One teacher for Math & Science
  - Our K-6 elementary school program focuses on foundational skills in literacy, math, science, and social studies with experiences to introduce music, art, and physical education
-





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# Elementary Education (K-6)

## English Language Arts

- Implementing Structured Literacy (K-6) ~ systematic and explicit instruction in all components of literacy
  - Foundational Skills ~ phonics, phonemic awareness, decoding, spelling
  - Higher-Level Skills ~ reading comprehension, writing
- Focus on foundational skills (phonics, decoding, spelling) in kindergarten, first, and second grades
  - Reading Horizons program implementation 2024-2025
- Pre-Implementation of Structured Literacy in kindergarten through grade 6
  - Curriculum Revision and Pre-Implementation in 2024-2025 & 2025-2026
  - Benchmark Advance Program
  - Full implementation in 2026-2027

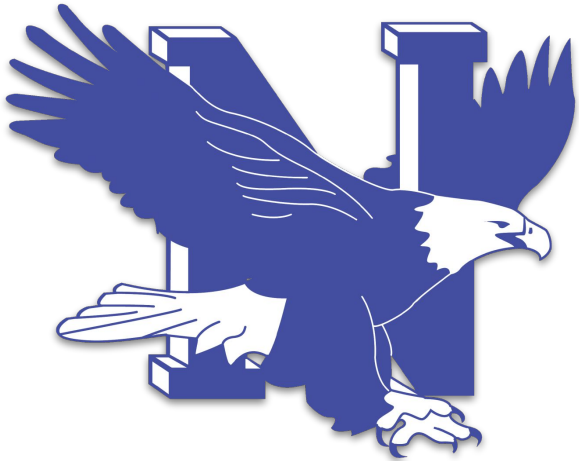


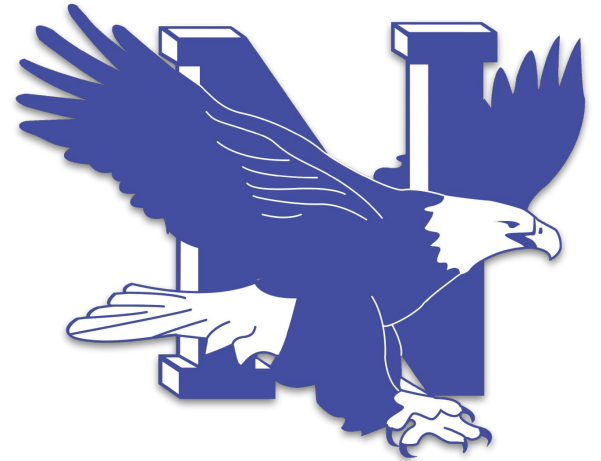
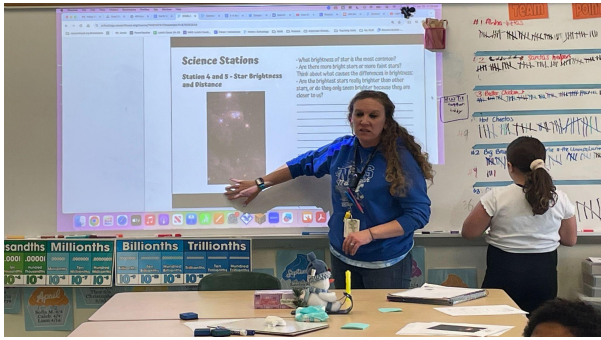
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# Elementary Education (K-6)

## Math

- Curriculum revision and Reveal Math program adoption in 2022-2023
- Focus on building conceptual understanding and problem solving
- Skill-based units with opportunities for spiral review and long-term maintenance of skills
- Reflex Math for fact practice
- First in Math for additional skill practice
- Math 24 Club and Competition





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# Elementary Education (K-6)

## Science

- Revising and aligning curriculum to the new PA Science, Technology & Engineering, Environmental Literacy, & Sustainability (STEELS) Standards
- Integrated with English Language Arts in grades K-2
- Inquiry and Phenomenon-Based units in grades 3-6 that incorporate hands on discovery and literacy activities



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# Elementary Education (K-6)

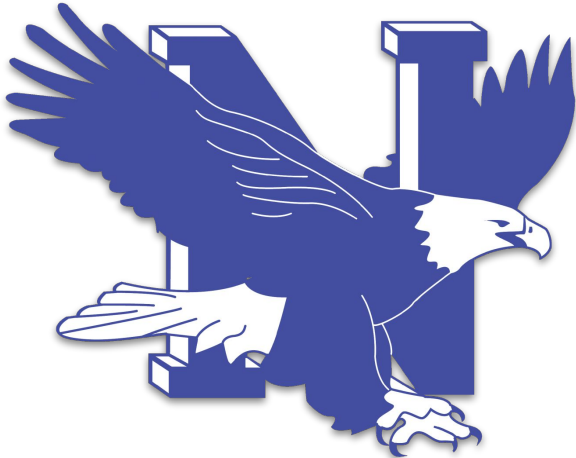
## Social Studies

- Social studies curriculum focuses on civics and government, economics, geography, and history at each grade level

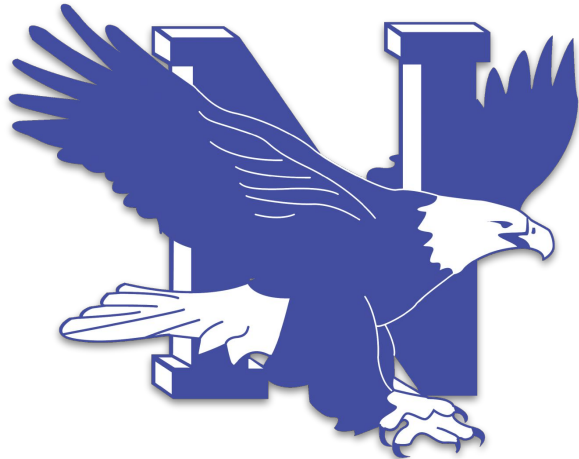


## Related Arts

- General and Instrumental Music
  - Chorus, orchestra, and instrumental music concerts (Grades 4-6)
- Art
  - Art Clubs and Shows
- Library
- Physical Education



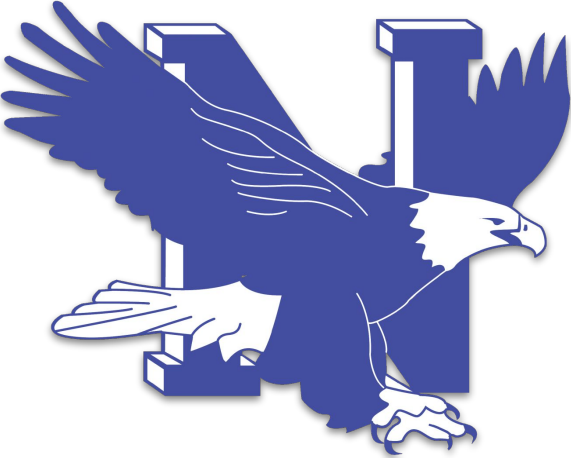




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# Secondary Education

- ★ Our Secondary Education Program includes **12** academic departments at both the Middle and High Schools
- ★ **50** teachers and **33** different courses at the Middle School
- ★ **89** teachers and **185** different courses at the High School
- ★ In total there are **139** teachers and **218** different courses at the secondary level
- ★ Our secondary program focuses on providing students with a variety of educational opportunities to meet both student interests & needs as they prepare for life after high school and wherever that may take them!



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# Secondary Education

★ Some recent updates and highlights at the secondary level include:

- **Family & Consumer Science**

- Sports Nutrition - Now Nutrition & Wellness
- Applied Foods (25-26)

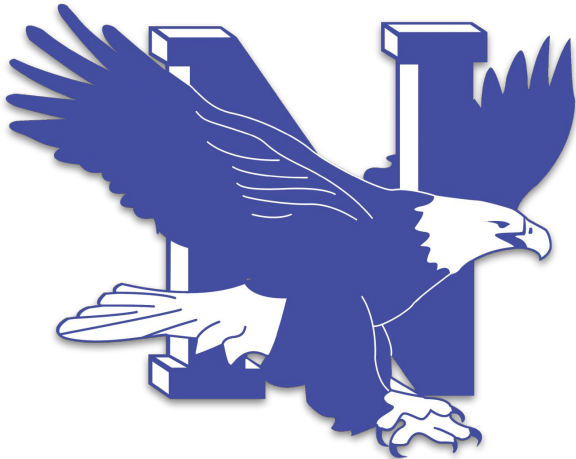
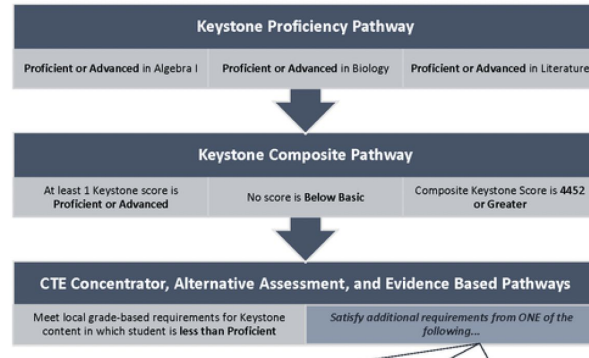
- **World Language**

- American Sign Language (24-25)
- Honor Society (25-26)
- GAPP (25-26)



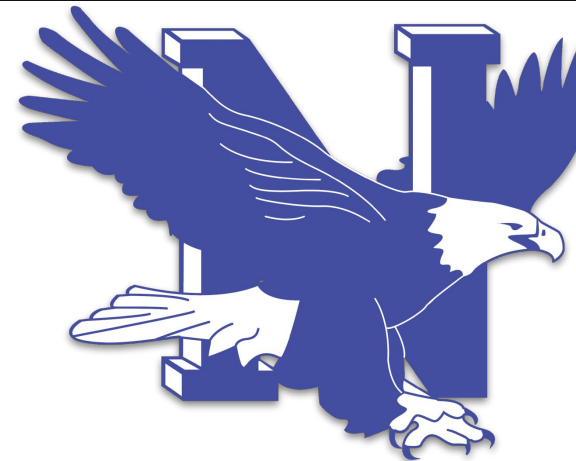
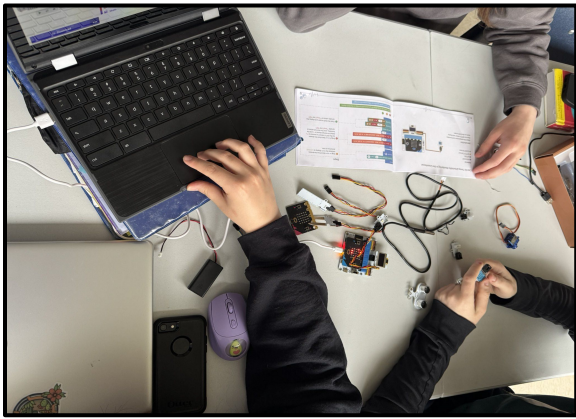


Act 158 Pathway Graphic



# Secondary Education

- ★ Some recent updates and highlights at the secondary level include:
  - **English Language Arts**
    - AVID / 7th Grade ELA at MS (24-25)
      - New resources/novels at MS (24-25)
    - College & Career Pathways at HS (24-25 & 25-26)
    - Junior / Senior English changes (26-27)



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# Secondary Education

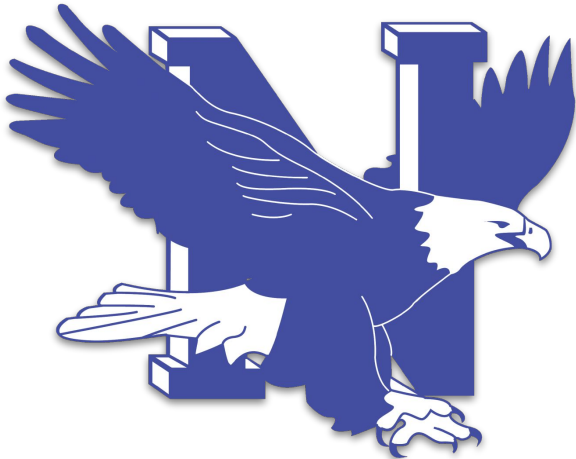
- ★ Some recent updates and highlights at the secondary level include:
  - **Business Education**
    - Intro to Coding – Coding I & II (24-25)
    - Financial Literacy / Personal Finance (26-27)
    - University of Iowa Marketing & Entrepreneurship (25-26)
    - Smartfutures (25-26)



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# Secondary Education

- ★ Some recent updates and highlights at the secondary level include:
  - **Business Education**
    - Diversified Occupations / Internships (25-26)





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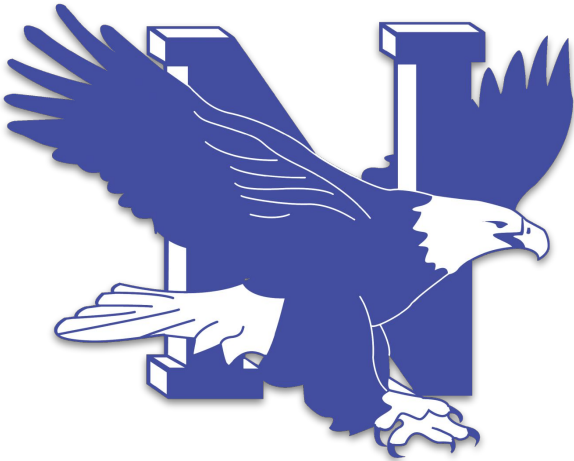
# Secondary Education



★ Some recent updates and highlights at the secondary level include:

- **Math**

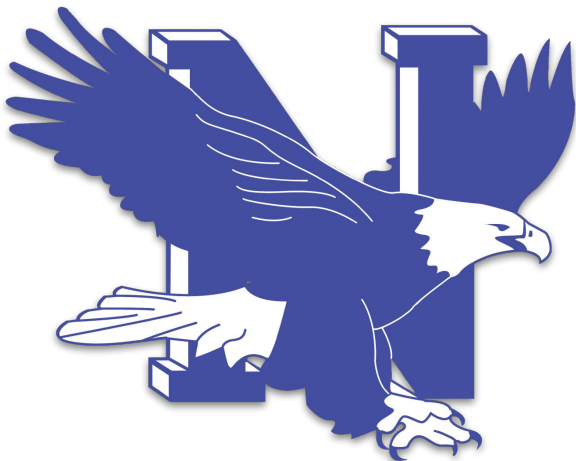
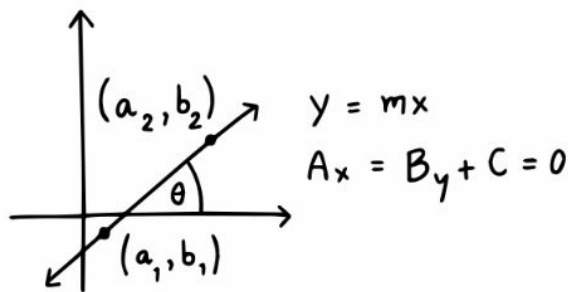
- 7th grade Reveal Math\* (24-25)
- 8th grade Reveal Math\* (25-26)
- Algebra I (HS & MS) Reveal Math\* (24-25)
  - ALEKS\* (25-26)





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# Secondary Education

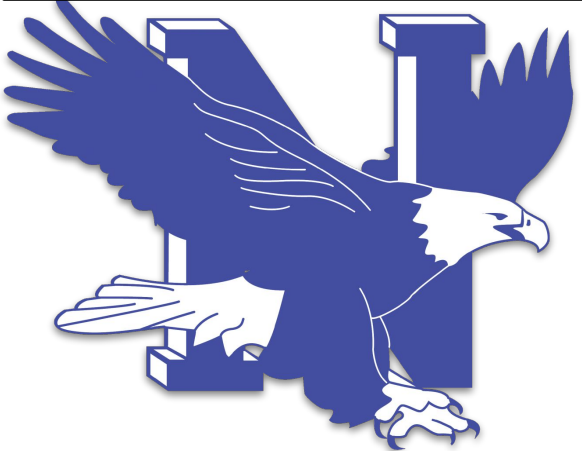


★ Some recent updates and highlights at the secondary level include:

- **Math**

- AP Pre-Calculus (24-25)
- Essentials of Algebra (26-27)
  - Get More Math (24-25)
- Placement rubrics (24-25)
- Algebra II Review (25-26)
- High School Credits (25-26)





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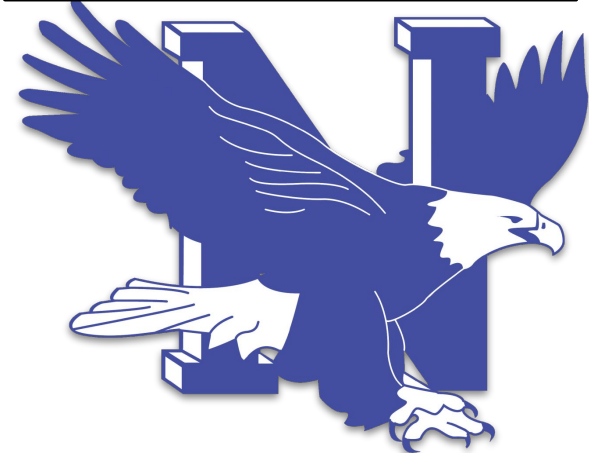
# Secondary Education

★ Some recent updates and highlights at the secondary level include:

- **Science**

- Phenomenon-based instruction (23-24)
- STEELS Standards (25-26)
- Integrated Science (25-26)
- Biology (25-26)
- Honors Anatomy & Physiology II (25-26)
- St. Luke's Lab (23-24) for AP Biology / Anatomy & Physiology classes

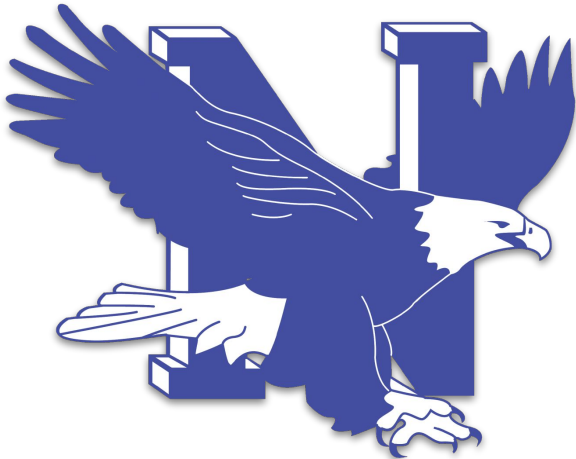




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# Secondary Education

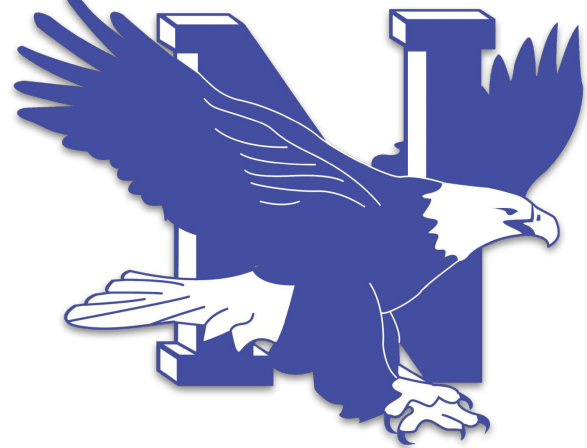
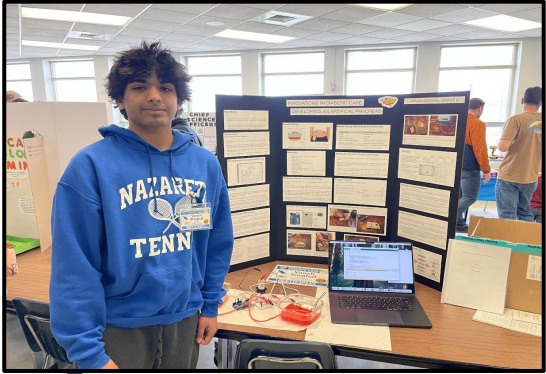
- ★ Some recent updates and highlights at the secondary level include:
  - **Social Studies**
    - American Government & Economics resources (24-25)
    - American History I & II resources (24-25)
    - 7th Grade (26-27)



---

# Secondary Education

- ★ Students continue to excel and achieve tremendous success in the areas of **Art, Music, & Performing Arts**
  - Art show & numerous individual student awards / recognitions each year
  - District, Region, State & Eastern U.S. representation at various music festivals each year
  - NAMM Award
  - Excellent fall and spring theatre productions at the secondary level each year - [Freddy Awards](#)



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# Secondary Education

- ★ Some additional program updates include:
- Kutztown University Early Entry Program (25-26)
  - High School Final Exams (26-27)
  - Blue Eagle Aspiring Educators (23-24)
  - Chief Science Officers (23-24)
  - Artificial Intelligence - New Policy 815.1 for 25-26 SY
  - Apptegy / School Communication



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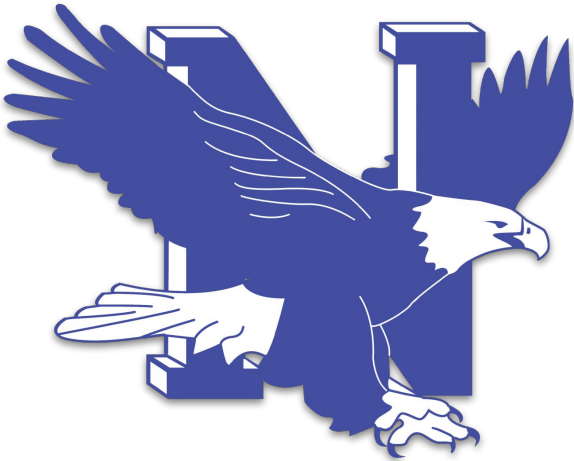
# Special Education



*Partnering with Families +  
Data Informed Decisions =  
Student Success!*

The vision of the Nazareth Area School District Special Education Department is to develop each individual student with an exceptionality to attain the knowledge, skills and social/emotional attitudes to become a confident, independent self-advocate who is a contributing and productive citizen in our evolving, demanding and culturally diverse society through a collaborative partnership, family and community support, meaningful access to a rigorous curriculum, timely and effective interventions, data-driven decision making, local, state and federal resources and setting high expectations, and high supports.

*Partnering with Families + Data Informed Decisions = Student Success!*



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# Special Education Department

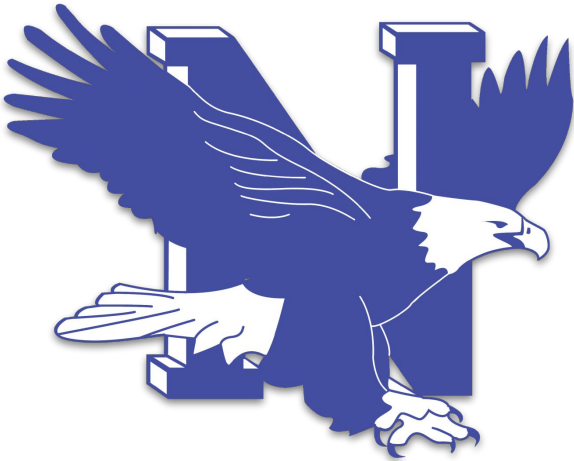
1 Director of Special & Alternative Education

1 Supervisor of Special Education

1 Board Certified Behavior Analyst

1 Administrative Assistant

Elementary	Intermediate	Middle	High
3 Learning Support Teachers per building	6 Learning Support Teachers	7 Learning Support Teachers	12 Learning Support Teachers
1 Emotional Support Teacher	1 Emotional Support Teacher	2 Emotional Support Teachers	1 Emotional Support Teacher
1 Enhanced Learning Support Teacher	1 Speech and Language Therapist	1 Life Skills Teacher	2 Life Skills Teachers
3 Speech and Language Therapist		.5 Speech and Language Therapist	.5 Speech and Language Therapist

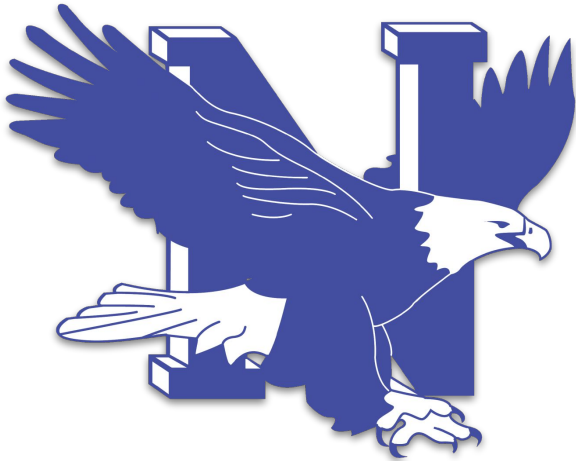
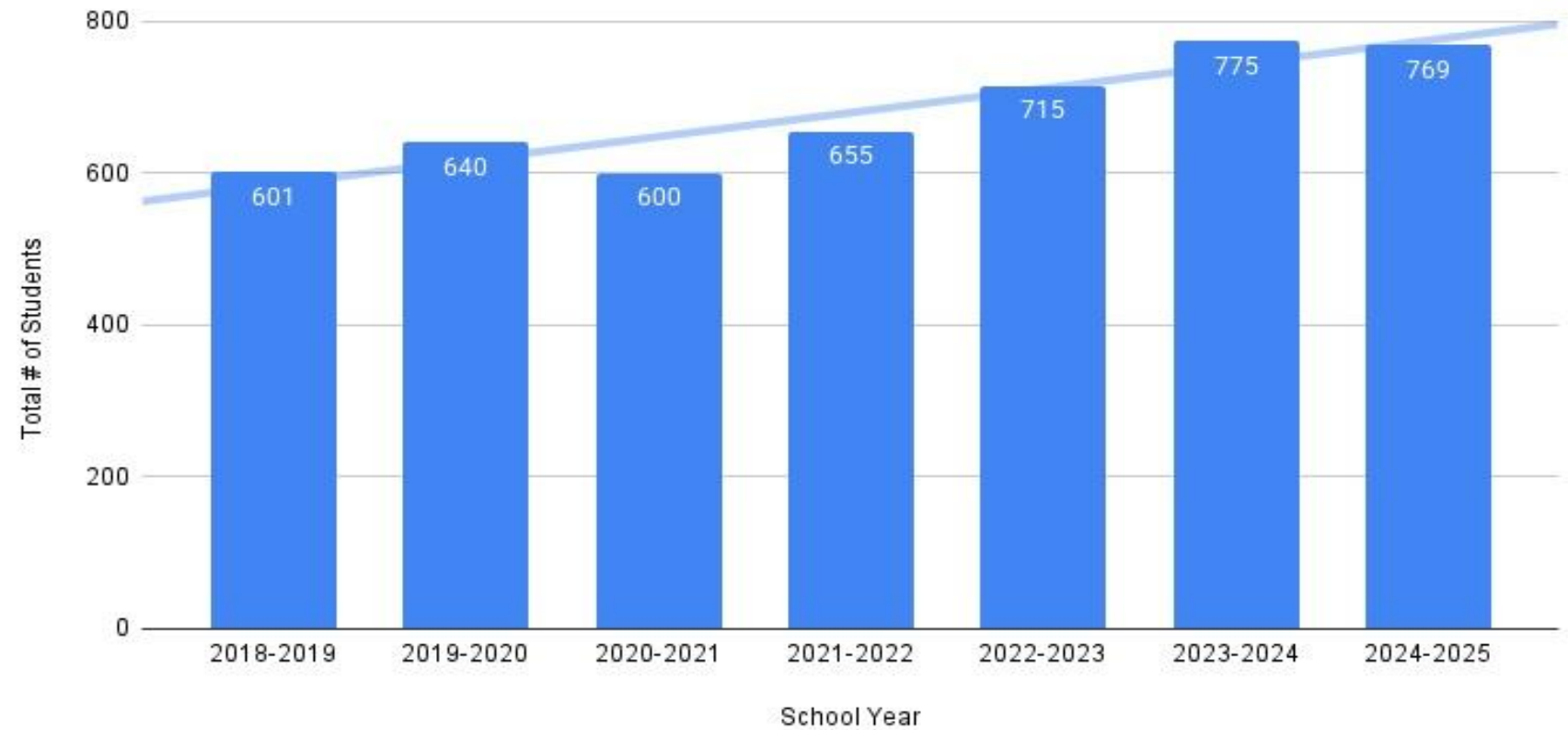


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# Special Education Historical Departmental Growth

Nazareth Area School District Historical Special Education Enrollment

*Source: December 1 Child Count*



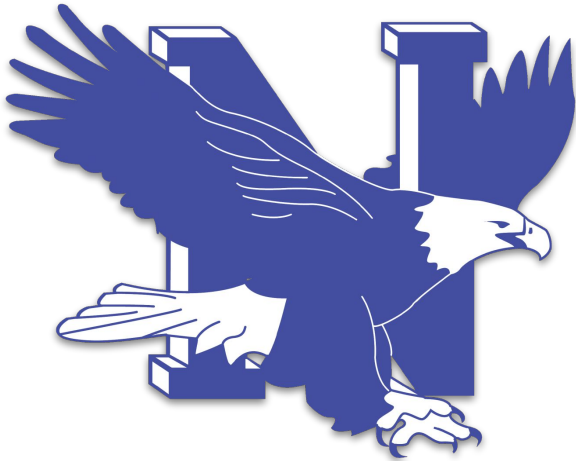


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# Special Education Historical Departmental Growth

In alignment with departmental expansion and the emerging needs of the student population, the following programs have been introduced:

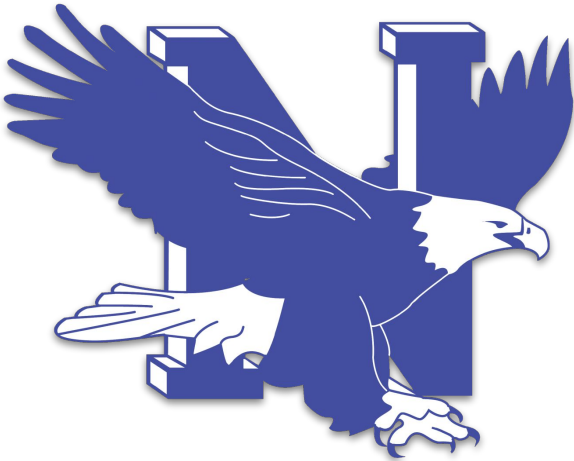
- Emotional Support Classrooms K-8
- Enhanced Learning Support K-4
- Life-Skills Support 7-12+
- [Learning Independent Functional Transition Skills \(LIFTS\) Apartment](#)



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## Special Education Family Engagement Series

- Opportunity to partner with our Families of Students with disabilities within the Nazareth Area School District and provide opportunities for training and information sharing to address the special knowledge, skills and abilities needed to service the unique needs of children with disabilities.
- Assist Families to Prepare for Individualized Education Plan (IEP) Meetings.
- Communication, collaboration and partnership with IEP Team Members.



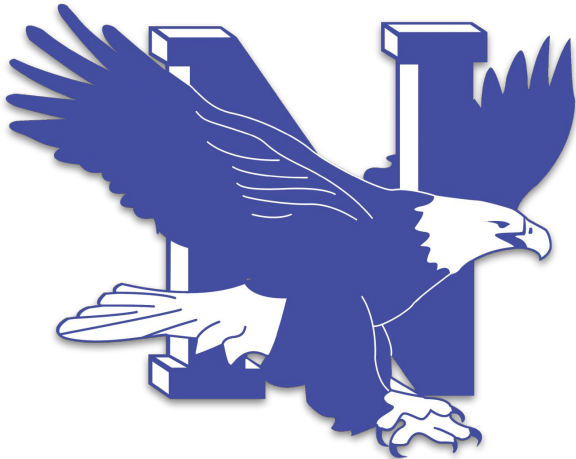


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# Special Olympics



The Nazareth Area School District proudly hosted its first [Special Olympics Track and Field Event](#) on Friday, April 25th welcoming [341 athletes.](#)

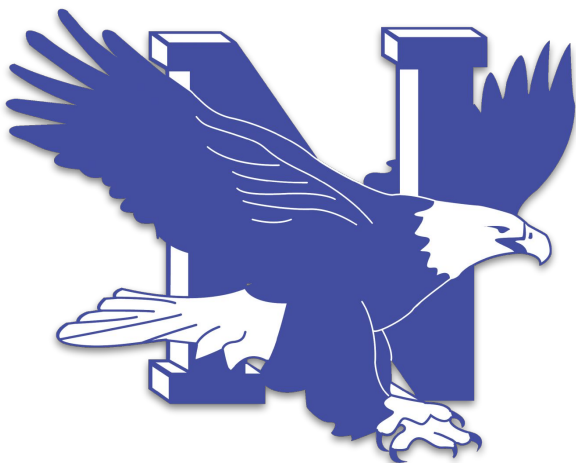




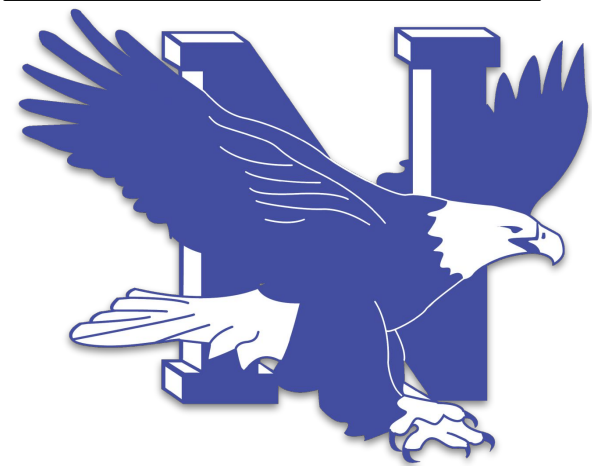
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# Educational Technology/STEAM

*Student learning through Educational Technology and STEAM in the NASD is to empower students to use technology in innovative and authentic ways—solving problems, thinking critically, creating solutions, and engaging in meaningful, hands-on learning activities that are both fun and relevant and extend learning beyond the classroom.*







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# K-12 STEAM/Technology Curriculum

## K-6 Curriculum-

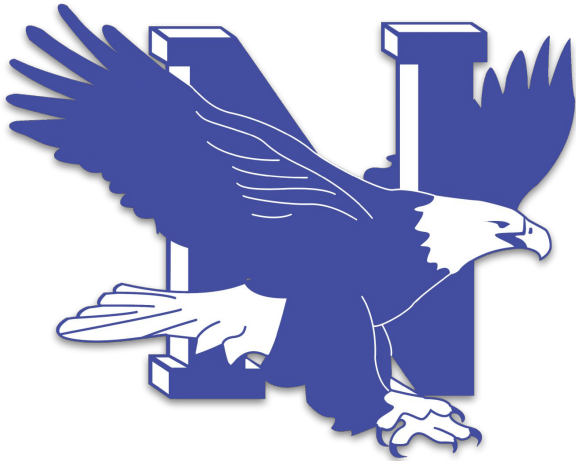
- Thematic Units- *\*New for 2025-2026 SY*
  - ABC- Kindergarten, Fairy Tales for 1 & 2, Various themes Mysteries, Amusement Parks etc for 3-6
  - Incorporate Science/SS concepts
  - T & E (Tech & Engineering) from STEELS
- Coding, Robotics, Animation, Google Tools, Digital Citizenship, Careers, AR/VR(5 & 6)

## Grades 7 & 8 Curriculum-

- Careers
- Graphics
- Robotics
- Digital Design- *\*New for 2024-2025 SY*
- Design Thinking (Tech Ed)

## 9-12 Curriculum-

- Coding- Intro. to Coding, Coding I & II
- Freshmen & Junior Sem- Integrated Technology- SmartFutures
- Robotics



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# K-12 STEAM/Tech Events

**Elementary-** [Family STEAM Nights](#)  
ReMake Learning Event

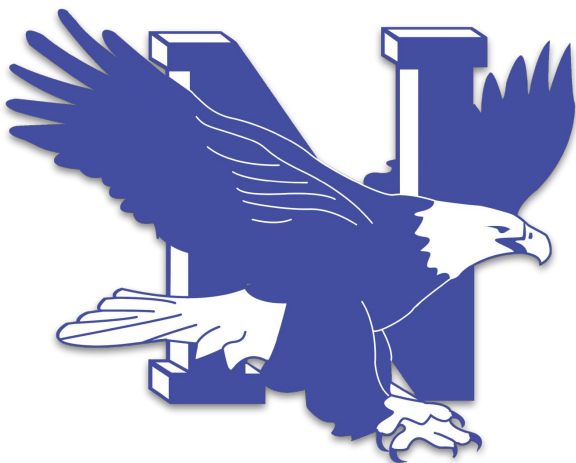
**NAIS-** STEM Winter Open House

**NAMS-** STEAM Rotations/ STEAM Day

**Grades 4-12-** NASD Engineering the Future Day



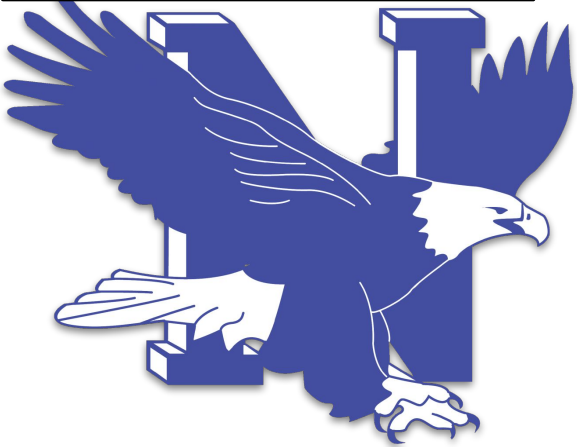




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# K-12 STEAM/Technology Activities

- **Elementary- STEAM Clubs**
- **NAIS**
  - Coding Club
  - Graphic Design Club
  - Broadcast Bunch
  - Girls in STEM
  - Technology, Math and Innovation/STEM Club
  - eSports
- **NAMS**
  - CSO- Chief Science Officers
  - JTL- Junior Tech Leaders
- **NAMS-**
  - MADCOM- PA Media & Design Competition
  - eSports
- **NAHS-**
  - Coding Club
  - CSO- Chief Science Officers
  - eSports
  - Eagle Vision
  - Media Partners
  - Code Jam



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# NASD Technology & More

## **Technology Coaches-** working with staff K-12

- Children's books
- History Videos
- Drone Math
- Robot Storytelling
- HS Eagle Vision- LIVE!

## **Professional Development Opportunities**

- 55 Online/In-Person Learning Opportunities
- Tech Tip Tuesdays
- Fab Fridays
- AI Christmas Tech Tools
- Online Book Studies

## **Social Media/School Communication**

- Recognizing and posting school activities
- Updating Schoology and School Calendars

## **AI Learning Committee**

- Training for Sts/Staff

## **Emerging Technologies**

- Virtual Reality
- Robotics
- Immersive Rooms

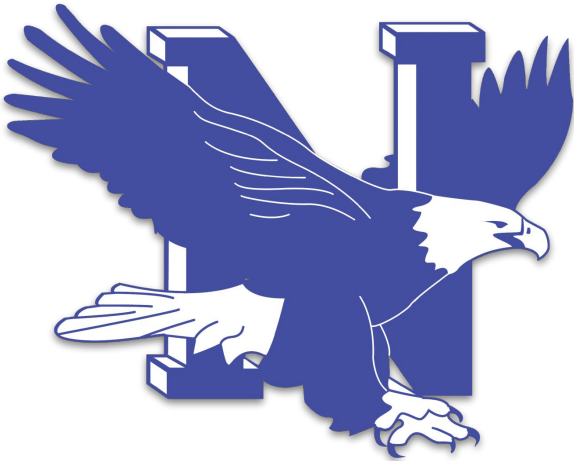
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# Pupil Services

## *The Whole Child*

### 2022-2025 Comprehensive Plan Goal

Ensure that the intellectual, emotional, physical, and social needs of students are coordinated to support their learning as measured by an increase in positive student perception on surveys of the school experience, classroom observational practices of the classroom environment and discipline referrals data and absenteeism.

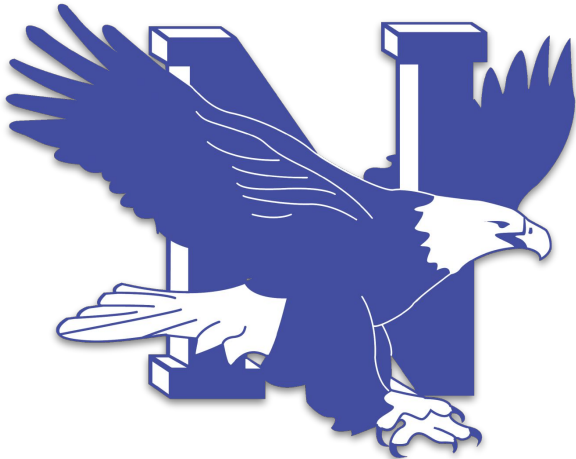


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# Pupil Services

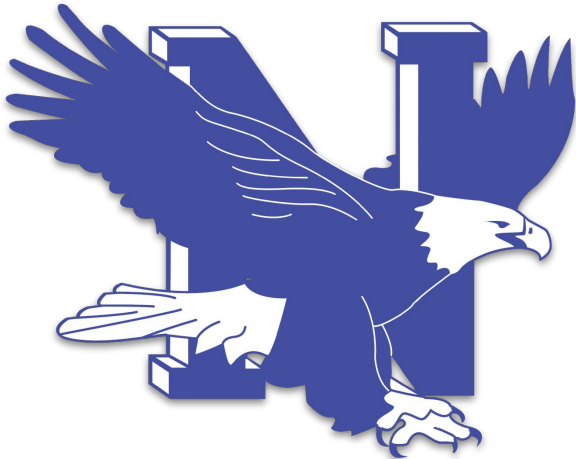
## Multi Tiered System of Support-MTSS

The NASD considers this guidance and recognizes the overarching frameworks and initiatives available in schools and communities, as well as the barriers that may exist for families in accessing community support. NASD's Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) incorporates tiered school-based behavioral health services within the MTSS framework of cross-disciplinary teams.





Behavioral Health  
Attendance  
Drugs & Alcohol  
Nicotine/Tobacco  
Threat/Risk Assessment  
Bullying  
Community Resources



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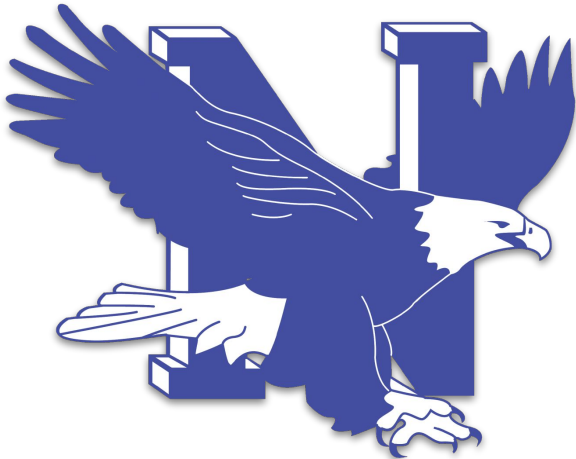
## NASD MTSS - Child Study/SAP

The NASD MTSS framework places value on the following:

- Recognize that families serve as the primary support system
- Establish partnerships with families and community resources
- Implement tiered supports
- Support aftercare plans
- Deliver staff trainings and parent trainings
- Minimize the loss of instructional time

### Referral Sources:

Parent/guardian  
Teacher  
Administrator  
School Counselor  
Family medical provider



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## School-based Behavioral Health at a Glance

### **Behavioral Health Screener:**

(Partnership with Center for Humanistic Change CHC) *Parental consent required*

### **Comprehensive Behavioral Health Screener (including Substance Abuse)**

(Partnership with Mid-Atlantic Rehabilitation Services (MARS) *Parental consent required*

### **Behavioral Health: School-Based Intervention-Tier 2 *Parental consent required***

Biweekly individual or group intervention sessions with Licensed Social Worker

### **Behavioral Health: School-Based Intervention-Tier 3 *Parental consent required***

#### **Outpatient School-Based Behavioral Health**

(Partnership with St. Luke's University Health Network)

Weekly (including summer) individual or group intervention sessions with St. Luke's Therapist for students with higher level of need

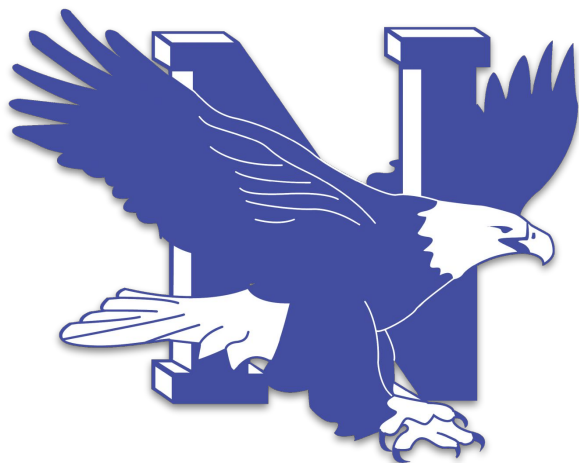


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# Questions and Answers

*General themes of questions received regarding visioning for student learning:*

- What is the district doing to improve student academic achievement?
- How does the district decide on the format for curricular resources (e.g. paper textbook, digital format or both)?
- What is the district administration's approach to Artificial Intelligence?



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# Thank you!

