

NORTHLAND CHRISTIAN Connection

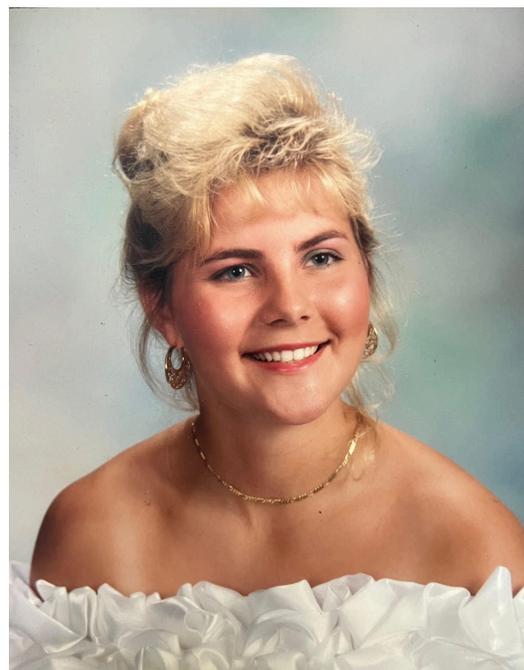
One Faith, One Family, One Legacy

Click the Links for a Complete List of Upcoming Events

[Events Calendar](#)

[Academic Calendar](#)

**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT - Vashon (Salisbury) Borich-Leach
(Class of 1992)**





Vashon (Salisbury) Borich-Leach will always be remembered, at Northland, for her smile, her spirit, and her involvement in many different activities. Topping that list, however, she will be remembered as one of Coach Lemm's favorite athletes. Her work ethic and heart for competition made her a valued and treasured member of every team on which she competed. In 2026, Vashon added a new way to be remembered within the Northland community. Vashon is the mind behind and owner of Tuff Momma Salt Craft. Tuff Momma Salt Craft provided the specialty salts at our most recent Black and Gold gala. Not only were the salts wonderfully flavored, but the packaging was on-point for this event. We are so grateful for Vashon's contribution and support of Northland Christian School.

Vashon graduated from Northland in 1992 and enrolled at Texas Tech University where she received her BFA in Design Communication in 1996. Following her graduation, she moved to Iowa where she married, earned a black belt in karate, and had two sons (Ty and Jack). Vashon considers her husband, Ron (whom she met at a karate workshop), to be the "best husband ever." Vashon's oldest son, Ty, is currently a junior at Missouri State University where he is studying Broadcast Media. Her youngest son, Jack, is a junior in high school and plans to attend the University of Missouri. Vashon's husband, Ron, is a retired dentist and a master instructor at their dojo, Branson Karate & Tai Chi [Branson Karate & Tai Chi](#). Vashon and her family live happily on acreage in West Branson, MO with a variety of furry and feathered pets.

While living in Iowa, Vashon worked in the publishing industry. Her career began as a graphic designer on the editorial side. Later, she became a pioneer in moving newspapers to digital web sites as well as creating digital advertising packages. Vashon was a senior project manager and sales trainer for digital media at the corporate level. She traveled the USA to 50+ properties nationwide where she trained sales and technical teams to build and monetize news web sites. In 2000, Vashon received the "Successful Woman under 30" award for the state of Iowa.

In 2010, Vashon moved to Branson, Missouri, where she opened a karate dojo and became a part-time instructor. She retired from publishing in 2013 and became a full-time karate instructor and digital marketing consultant. In 2019, Vashon and her sons created [TUFF Momma Salt Craft](#). They are currently featured in 10 retail markets and 5 states. In 2020, Vashon designed a pair of Italian leather boots to fund domestic violence shelters. The boots went viral and were featured in Vanity Fair magazine. This, in part, led to her being nominated for the Remarkable Woman of the Ozarks award.

Vashon is a fascinating individual who has overcome a multitude of challenges in her lifetime. Through each challenge she developed a vision for her future and worked hard to ensure this vision was possible. Vashon is a testimony to the idea

that faith and perseverance can lead to a life well led. Northland Christian School is thankful for you, Vashon.

NORTHLAND COMMUNITY RECAP

Boot Scootin' Black & Gold Gala Recap

What an unforgettable evening celebrating Northland Christian School!

Thank you to our incredible parents, friends, families, sponsors, and underwriters who supported this year's Boot Scootin' Black & Gold Gala. Because of your generosity—through donations, sponsorships, underwriting, and enthusiastic participation—we were able to raise vital funds that directly support our students and teachers.

From our exciting Cyber Auction, lively Raffles, and always-popular Jewelry Pull, to our energetic Live and Big Board Auctions, the night was filled with fun, fellowship, and meaningful impact.

A special thank you to our keynote speaker, Dr. Tim Westbrook of York University, for his inspiring message, and to our seniors Makena Elswick and Jackson Leard for sharing heartfelt testimonies about their Northland journey. We were also honored as the Foundation Board presented Bright Teacher Grants to Mrs. Erica Maw and Mrs. Amy Owens, recognizing their dedication and innovation in the classroom.

It was truly a wonderful evening celebrating all that makes NCS special—our mission, our community, and our bright future.

Click this link for pictures from the event: <https://ncsphotos.smugmug.com/2025-2026-All-School/Gala-2026>

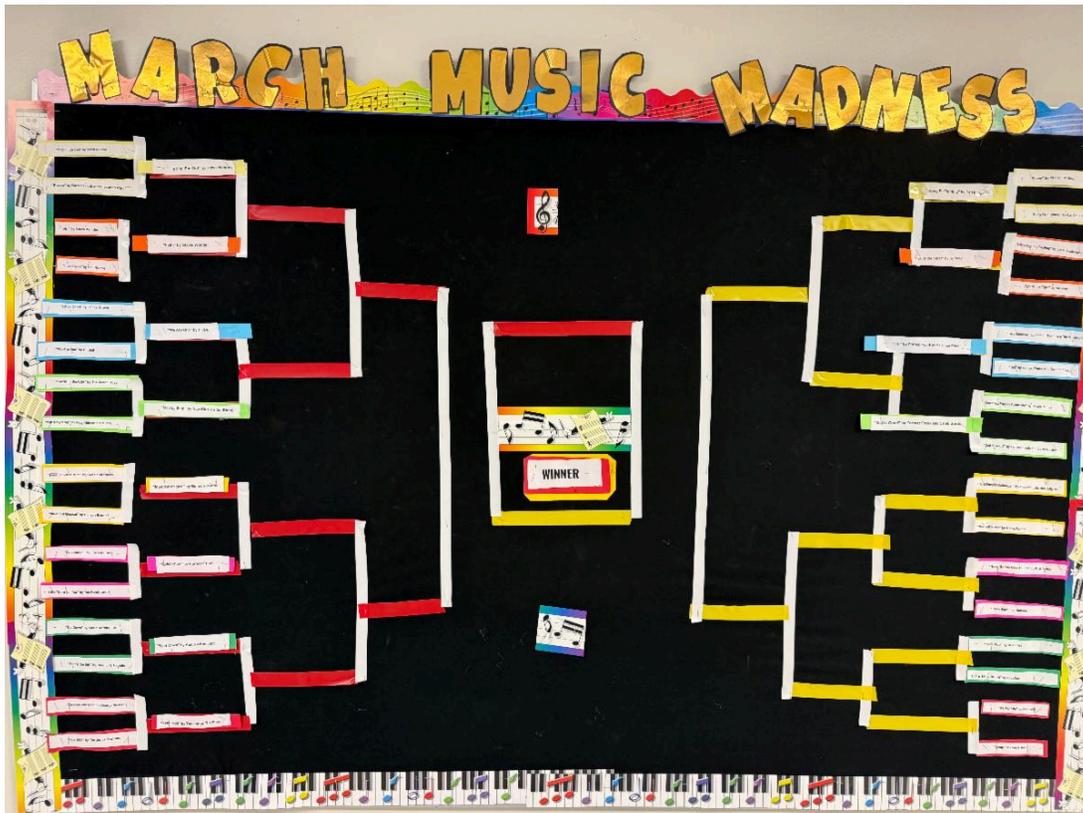
Thank you for helping us make it a night to remember!





Mrs. Nelson's March Madness

It's March Music Madness time! The elementary music classroom is already abuzz with these fun songs! Each teacher, support staff, and admin chose a song from the theme. This year's theme is "Let's Hear it for the Boys"--any song by a male artist or band. The students listen to the songs battling against each other and vote for the one they like better. Discussion about the song includes the melody, lyrics, beat, instrumentation, etc and how those elements come together to make a good song. The students do not know which teacher chose which song! Battles continue until we have a final winner at the end of March! This teacher receives the March Music Madness trophy and a gift card!



Elementary Fine Arts Praise and Worship Chapel

On February 19, the Elementary held a special Fine Arts Praise and Worship Chapel which featured several old hymns and the stories behind them. We were even blessed by the "Teacher Choir" singing "It Is Well" and "Tell Me the Story of Jesus". 4th and 5th grade Orchestra played two hymns--"Holy Holy Holy" and "Praise to the Lord" and Honor Choir led 3 hymns "Oh How I Love Jesus" "Come Thou Fount" and "Amazing Grace/Pachelbel's Canon". It was a wonderful morning of worship!



Elementary Choir News

In January several 4th and 5th grade students submitted auditions for the Texas Choral Directors Association All State Elementary Choir. Northland is proud to announce that Emme Bekker was chosen as an all state choir member! Students from all over Texas in both public and private school audition for only 150 spots! We are proud to have Emme representing us in July in San Antonio at the TCDA Conference. This is Emme's second year in a row being selected!



2nd Grade "Goldilocks and the 3 bears"

In February, second grade performed the musical "Goldilocks and the 3 bears" for PreK, Kinder, Leap, and First Grade. The younger students loved the musical and were very

proud of the older students (several of them are siblings!)



Elementary Praise and Worship Team

In January, the Elementary Praise and Worship Team was opened to 4th grade. We have 9 new members on our team! They led worship at chapel in January, for the Fine Arts Praise Chapel in February, and will lead worship at the all school Easter chapel on April 1. Welcome 4th graders!



Donuts with Dad

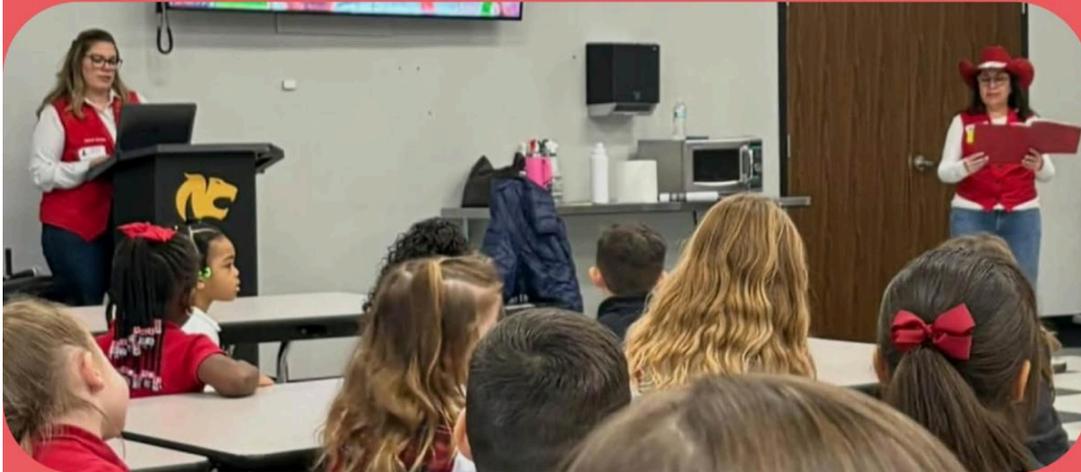
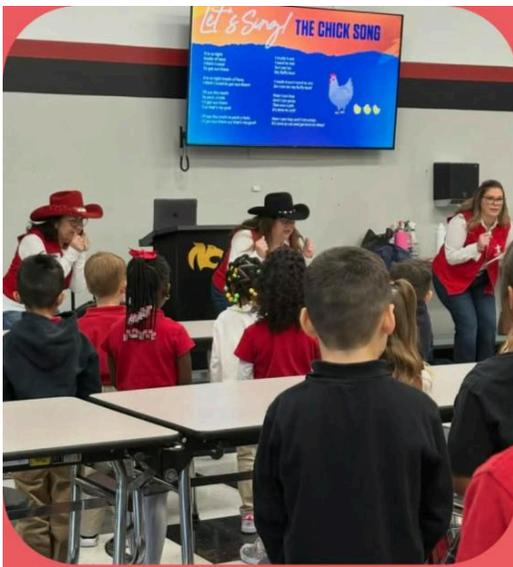
In the first week of February, we loved being able to host our annual Donuts with Dad and Special Guests! It was a well attended event, and such a delight to see

families connecting. We offer gratitude and a shout out to all of our volunteers who made the event possible!



HLSR Visit

PK, K, LEAP Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo Agriculture Presentation: PreK and Kinder had an informative and engaging visit from the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Agricultural Committee at the beginning of February! They learned about chicks, mutton busting, and farm life!



2nd Grade Field Trip

When Valentine's day approached, mid-February, our 2nd graders took a field trip to Paradise Springs Retirement Village to spend time with the residents and share some special Valentines with them! They had a wonderful time and the joy and love it brought was evident in the faces of residents and students alike!



Grandparents Day

What a pleasure it is to host this traditional day, spent honoring our Cougars' grandparents and the special people in their lives. Our morning was filled with breakfast; musical appearances from our Elem. Praise and Worship Team, Orchestra, and Honor Choir. Followed by a talk from Mrs. Maw and our guest speaker, Mr. Congdon. Finally, students and their guests were able to tour classrooms and enjoy special activities with their Cougar Cubs! We are so grateful for our Secondary students and staff volunteers for their help in organizing this special day!





NCS PE Show

Wrapping up February, we celebrated our 42nd annual PE Show which featured PreK-5th Grade in their specialty PE accomplishments!

We are impressed by and thankful for all the hard work and dedication to excellence shown by all our Cougars and our talented PE Coaches, Coach Patti Abt and Coach Justin Jones. We give a shoutout of thanks to our dedicated staff in their assistance in all the moving parts that have gone into the planning and execution of this huge work of art! We also express our deep gratitude to all of our staff and parent volunteers in the set up and decoration of the Show! What a fantastic display of comradery and familyhood; WE ARE NORTHLAND!





Science Night

Leading into February, our Science Night experience brought to light all the marvelous and creative ways God makes and provides differing weather events! Students and parents alike enjoyed observing and participating in experiments and exhibit displays.





SECONDARY

Sock Babies in AP Psychology

AP Psychology students cared for their sock baby for one week, applying what they learned in our Developmental Psychology unit. Sock babies played with age-appropriate toys, went to chapel and a pep rally, and met many great teachers.





Jurnei's first car ride 🥰

STUCO Serves at Donuts with Dad

High School STUCO was called on to help serve at the Donuts with Dad event held for our Elementary students and their families. These students did a fantastic job serving breakfast with a smile and showing the heart of Jesus to all that attended. What a great day it was to be a Cougar!



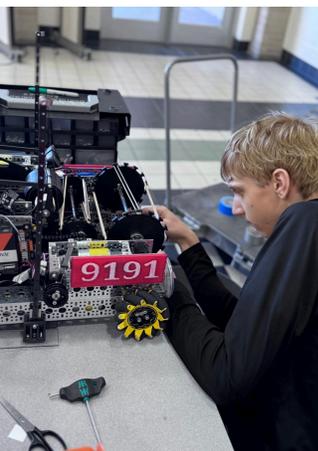
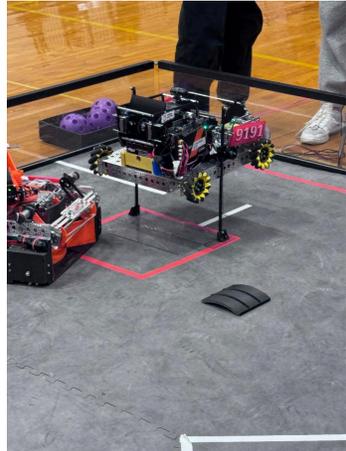
Robotics Competes at the Regional Challenge

Dr. Twymon shared an update on our Robotics Team's performance at Saturday's regional challenge. While the final outcome was not what we hoped for, our students represented NCS with determination, teamwork, and strong character. We advanced to the quarterfinals out of 33 teams and accomplished something no other team achieved. Our team was the only one to successfully complete a working hydraulic lift. In addition,

Ben and Alex were selected as semifinalists for the Dean's List Award. The official announcement will be made later this month.

This competition also presented moments of adversity. Our students were exposed to situations that tested their patience, fairness, and resolve. Those moments were used as teaching opportunities by Dr. Twymon to reinforce that we speak up for what is right while remaining grounded in our core values. The team was reminded that integrity matters more than trophies and that God must lead our actions in victory and in disappointment. Dr. Twymon is so proud of how our young men conducted themselves. They showed fight, discipline, and faith under pressure. This experience strengthened them as competitors and as leaders.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and our program. Their growth goes far beyond robotics, and this weekend was another step in shaping them into young men of character.



Northland Christian Drumline

The Northland Christian Drumline and Bucket Brigade "Sound of Spirit" is reaching out to High School, Middle School, and Elementary school students who would like to become members of this special group of students. No prior experience is necessary, only a desire to share your energy and school spirit at football games, basketball games, pep rallies, and special school events. Please contact Brother Patrick at bcallahan@northlandchristian.org





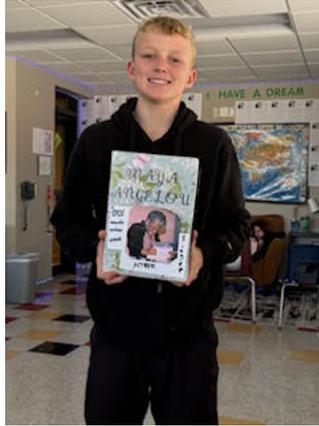
Orchestra Attends TPSMEA

Congratulations to our 20 orchestra members who earned a spot into TPSMEA North Region and Honor Orchestra. These students prepared 2 pieces and sent in a recorded audition. In high school, all of our musicians made Top 12. Violins: **Sasha Simon, Abi Chacon Arevalo, Danielle Danso, Allie Shaffer, Grace McCathran, and Bronson Boll**. In middle school, our TPSMEA members are Violins: **Izzy Calle, Caleb Beatty, Julie Nguyen, Bella Shaffer, Natalie Gutierrez, Cailey Owens, and Keira Pauls**. Our Violas were all Top 12: **Warren Burhan, Aiden Shives, Alex Barrios, Sophia Jones, Barrett Laprarie**, Cello: **Sammy Duke** and Bass: **Cadence Laprarie**. In the Top 3 of their section, **Warren Burhan (1st), Aiden Shives (3rd) and Cadence Laprarie (3rd)**. Out of all North Region, Northland had more Middle School students than any other participating school. They performed amazing concerts with very challenging repertoire. Congratulations Region orchestra members!



Black History in Mrs. Bazunu's Class

Mrs. Bazunu's 6th, 8th, and 9th grade history and social studies classes spent time this month researching key figures during Black History Month. They then created projects that were judged by different Northland faculty and staff. Simon of Cyrene came in 1st place with Harriett Tubman coming in 2nd.



9th grade World Geography

These are photos of 9th grade World Geography, learning about Mesopotamia and the importance of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, past and present. Students are using sand and rocks to create a simulation showing the unpredictability of the rivers in ancient and modern times.

The last photos are of students using Play Doh to learn how to write in ancient cuneiform which developed in Mesopotamia.



TPSMEA Choir Competition

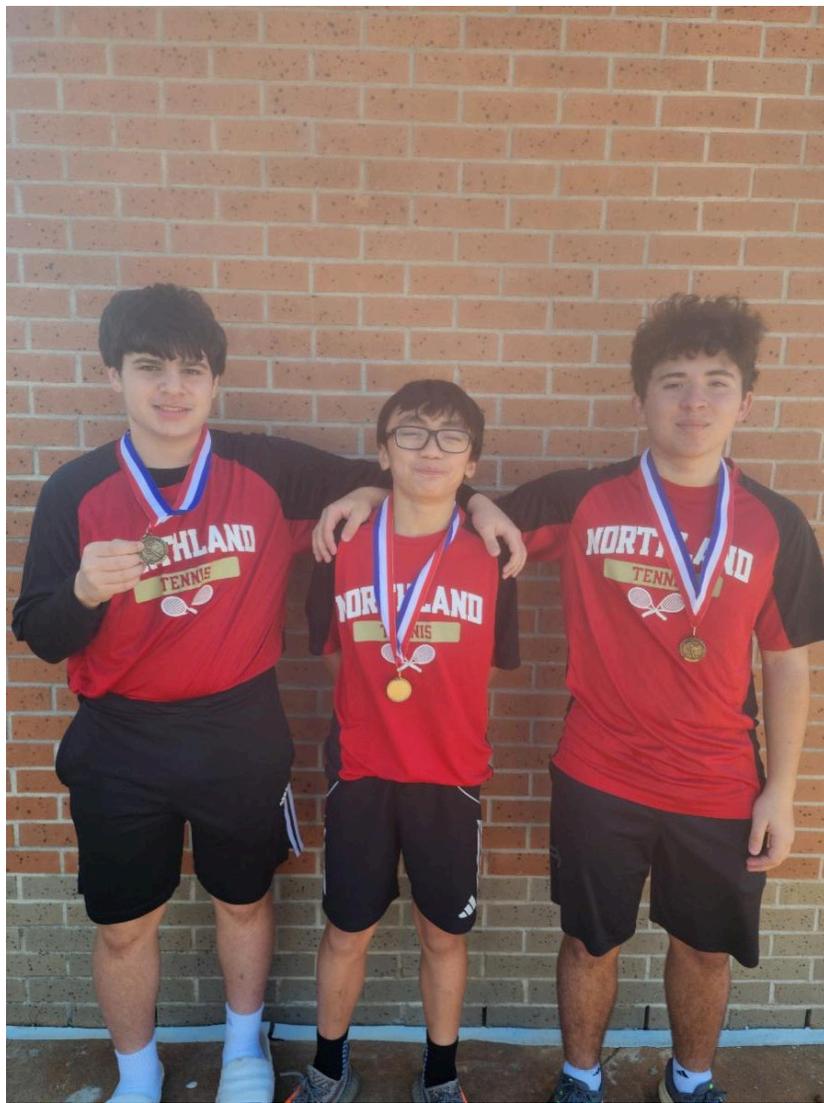
Our secondary choir teacher, Mrs. Bowles, along with many of our secondary choir students attended the TPSMEA choir competition this month. All of the Northland ensembles, and many of our solos, received a rating of 1! A special recognition goes to Addison White and Matthew Forbes who, with their solos, both qualified for the state competition in April. In total, Northland choir members returned to campus with 76 medals earned. Way to sing, Northland Choir!



ATHLETICS

Cougar Tennis

The Northland Middle School Tennis team started their season off on a high note! Ben Bryant placed 1st in his division at the Northshore High School tournament. Paul Nguyen and Jonny Jabori placed 1st in their doubles' division. All three of these Cougars made it through the day without dropping a single set! Way to go, Cougars!



Cougar Soccer Repeats as District/Area Champions

The Cougar Men's Varsity Soccer team wrapped up an exceptional season with a heartbreaking 1-0 loss to the British International School in overtime. This team excelled through the regular season and finished as repeat District and Area Champions. There is no doubt that the strong group of returning players is ready to make a deep run into the playoffs next season. It was a fantastic season for Cougar soccer!



Senior Night Soccer Snapshots

Our Varsity soccer teams celebrated Senior Night by recognizing their favorite scriptures, favorite soccer memory, and plans for the future. The seniors were escorted by family and their contributions to each team will be sorely missed! The Northland community wishes each of these seniors well!





Track Time

Our middle school and high school track teams are off to a great start! Our Varsity track team is small but mighty. They have competed in two meets with Sasha, Grant, and Faith all bringing home medals. Our middle school track team is also off and running. Our relay teams have had a couple of strong 2nd place finishes while Lincoln is dominating the distance events. Gwen and Barrett have each placed first in the shot put and triple jump, respectively. We're looking forward to a strong and successful season from these Cougars!



March Lunch Menu

MARCH 2026 ELEMENTARY NCS

DAILY GRAB & GO INCLUDES FRESH VEGETABLE AND SMALL FRUIT CUP

Sunbutter & Jelly on Wheat
Ham Sandwich on Wheat
Turkey Sandwich on Wheat

OTHER DAILY OPTIONS:
BAKED POTATO BAR, SALADS,
VEGETABLE ENTREE
GLUTEN SENSITIVE MEALS
NEW TO THE MENU:
2 VEGETABLE OPTIONS DAILY
FISH AVAILABLE ON FRIDAYS

2	Steak Fingers w/ Gravy on the side Mac & Cheese Glazed Carrots or Vegan Stuffed Peppers	3	All Beef Hot Dog or Baked Chicken Baked Fries Sautéed Spinach Apple Slices	4	Bacon Pasta Bar Grilled Chicken, Alfredo Sauce, Spinach, Penne Pasta, Antipasto Sausage and Mushrooms (on the side), Garlic bread, Broccoli	5	Potato, Egg & Cheese or Bacon, Egg & Cheese Tacos, Roasted Potatoes Or Chicken & Sausage Gumbo, Jasmine Rice, & Cornbread	6	Grilled or Fried Chicken Sandwich Tater Tots Oranges or Pulled Pork Sliders
9		10		11		12		13	
16	Grilled or Crispy Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes Lemon Green Beans Fresh Fruit	17	Mini Corn Dogs Stir Fry Vegetables Fresh Fruit or Orange Chicken Lo Mein Noodles Stir Fry Vegetables	18	Pasta Bar Nut Free Pesto or Marinara Sauce, Grilled Chicken or Italian Sausage, Broccoli Honey Sage Bread	19	Pancakes (Chocolate Chip or Plain) Bacon, Eggs Cinnamon Apple Oatmeal	20	Pepperoni or Cheese Piza Cucumber Salad Jello Premium Meal \$8.00 Fish Tacos
23	Hamburger or Cheeseburger Baked Fries Fresh Fruit	24	Ground Beef Tacos Jasmine Rice Roasted Sweet Potatoes Fresh Fruit	25	Mac & Cheese Bar Grilled Chicken or Saucn Carrots, Fresh Fruit Garlic Bread	26	Waffles (Blueberry or Plain) Chicken Sausage, Eggs, & Fresh Fruit	27	Cheese or Chicken Enchiladas Spanish Rice Refried Beans Premium Meal \$8.00 Grilled Salmon
30	Boneless Wings w/ Dipping Sauce BBQ Baked Beans Vegetable Medley	31	Grilled Cheese House Chips Celery Sticks Fresh Fruit	1	Spaghetti & Meatballs Marinara Sauce, Cauliflower Focaccia Bread	2	French Toast Sticks Bacon, Eggs Green Beans Fresh Fruit	3	No School

MARCH 2026

SECONDARY NCS

DAILY GRAB & GO

Monday Chicken Tenders
Tuesday Steak Fajita Bowl
Wednesday Grilled or Crispy Chicken Sandwich
Thursday Burger Day
Friday Chicken Wings

OTHER DAILY OPTIONS:
BAKED POTATO BAR, VEGETABLE ENTREE, SALADS & GLUTEN SENSITIVE MEALS
NEW TO THE MENU:
2 VEGETABLE OPTIONS DAILY
FISH AVAILABLE ON FRIDAYS

2 Steak Fingers w/ Gravy on the side Mac & Cheese Glazed Carrots or Vegan Stuffed Peppers	3 Baked Chicken Yellow Rice Sautéed Spinach Herb Dinner Roll	4 Bavou Pasta Bar Grilled Chicken, Alfredo Sauce, Spinach Penne Pasta, Arrozillo Sausage and Mushrooms (on the side), Garlic bread, Broccoli	5 All Beef Mini Corndogs or Chicken & Sausage Gumbo, Jasmine Rice, Cornbread	6 Grilled or Fried Chicken Sandwich Tater Tots Oranges or Pulled Pork Sliders
9 	10 	11 	12 	13 
16 Grilled or Crispy Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes Lemon Green Beans Fresh Fruit	17 Orange Chicken Lo Mein Noodles Stir Fry Vegetables	18 Pasta Bar Nut Free Pesto or Marinara Sauce, Grilled Chicken or Italian Sausage, Broccoli Honey Sage Bread	19 Chicken Quesadillas w/ YCC sauce Elote Corn Salad Fresh Fruit	20 Pepperoni or Cheese Pizza Cucumber Salad Jello Premium Meal \$8.00 Fish Tacos
23 Meatball Subs Baked Fries Fresh Fruit or Homemade Chili w/ Cornbread	24 Crispy Ground Beef Tacos (Toppings on the side) Roasted Sweet Potatoes Fresh Fruit	25 Mac & Cheese Bar Hot Honey Chicken or Bacon Carrots, Fresh Fruit Garlic Bread	26 Breakfast For Lunch Chicken & Waffles Fresh Fruit	27 Cheese or Chicken Enchiladas Spanish Rice Refried Beans Premium Meal \$8.00 Grilled Salmon
30 Boneless Wings w/ Dipping Sauce BBQ Baked Beans Vegetable Medley	31 Grilled Cheese House Chips Celery Sticks Fresh Fruit	1 Spaghetti & Meatballs Marinara Sauce, Cauliflower Focaccia Bread	2 Jerk Chicken Rice & Peas Green Beans	3 No School

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