



WORDS OF WISDOM



30+ Tips from NNHS Parents who have “Been There”

1. Read the **NNHS Parent Guide** available online and learn about academics, attendance, student services and so much more. Find it on the NNHS website, Our School>Information>Parent Guide.
2. Get **DirectorySpot** by paying Home & School “dues” on the registration fee sheet so you can easily contact NNHS staff and other parents by phone and email. You can also find NNHS staff directory on the NNHS website homepage. Read the **Huskie Howler!** This NNHS weekly newsletter has the latest info. Sent via email to your inbox as well as archived on the NNHS website - Resources>Huskie Howler.
3. Review **Daily Announcements** on the DirectorySpot app under “Helpful Links” or on the NNHS website - Activities & Athletics>Activities Homepage>Announcements. The kids often can’t hear the announcements in the morning. Share announcements of interest with your student.
4. Understand **Infinite Campus**. You can check grades on tests and assignments, register for classes and parent/teacher conferences, and receive messages from teachers.
5. **Get involved!** NNHS needs many parent volunteers, and you’ll get to know the building, staff and other parents. Watch the Howler. Sign up on the NNHS website, Get Involved> Home & School to help with Fall Registration, School Store and numerous other activities.
6. Registration days in August are amazingly well-organized. After students register, freshmen **walk their schedules** either with available upperclassmen or with friends. (Bring a book.)
7. Buy a **combination lock** at registration along with PE shirt(s). Any blue or black shorts are fine. Tell your child to always **FULLY** lock their PE locker. Unfortunately, thefts do occur.
8. The **school store** by the NNHS main entrance is open before school and during lunch. Many essentials including school supplies, tissues, stamps, and spirit wear are sold here.
9. Send your student to **Enter with Pride** in August before the first day of school to meet new friends. Suggest they try to figure out with whom they’ll sit at lunch to reduce that stressor.
10. Get to know your child’s new friends and their parents. Don’t be shy about calling or emailing another parent. When your child reports, **“Everyone does it!”** call another parent.
11. Volunteer to **drive carpool** and sit quietly in the front seat and listen. You’ll learn A LOT!
12. NNHS **summer activities**—music, athletics, clubs, and more—can help the transition into North. Although they are big time commitments, they can be do-able. Instant friends!
13. Attend Wednesday morning **Home and School** or Wednesday evening **SFCP Meetings**. You’ll hear principal updates and speakers on many topics such as summer school and testing.
14. Join **Senior Celebration** and/or **Fashion Show** planning committees and ask senior parents questions. Become familiar with general college requirements and the application process, but don’t obsess about it when your child is a freshman.

15. Explore **School Links** and document important information in it for the next 4 years. Visit NNHS website, Student Services, College & Career Center.
16. **Service Hours** earned in summer after 8th grade count! Document day, time, supervisor name, email and phone for National Honor Society, college applications and a service cord at graduation. Choose fun activities! Your student should enter service hours in their School Links account - start before senior year!
17. So many extracurricular activities—how to choose? Attend **Freshman Jamboree** in Spring. Encourage your child to try at least one or two. It's a great way to meet new people.
18. Join clubs, athletics or music programs early to later have **leadership opportunities**, which are as important as service hours for National Honor Society and college applications.
19. Freshmen tend to go to the **Homecoming dance** with groups of friends. It's in September/October, and often plans aren't set until the week of the dance. Set a curfew and know post-dance plans.
20. If you feel your child can manage it, encourage them to take **AP/Honors classes**. If you are not sure, start with one and see how it goes. If they are successful, add more the next year.
21. First semester AP and Honors classes will have **summer break homework**.
22. Encourage your student to ask for help or advice before a small issue becomes a bigger problem. **Student Services** helps students with non-academic issues. **Teachers** help students before/after school and during study halls/lunch. Trained peer tutors are in the **Literacy Center** before school and during lunch periods. **Supervised Open Study (SOS)** is staffed by teachers and is a great resource for students. Check the website for the schedule.
23. **Parking** is a challenge during sporting events, Curriculum Night, other all-school events. NOTE: teacher conferences will probably be on zoom indefinitely. Arrive early, carpool or plan to walk from one of the nearby neighborhoods.
24. To **drop off classroom related items (no lunches or after school items)** for your student to pick up, the front desk must see your ID to drop off items and the student must have their ID for pick-up. After school items have to be dropped off at the athletic entrance.
25. Let your child own responsibility over their actions and results. Be involved, be supportive and most importantly **be patient!** Do little things to make stressful times easier.
26. Give your child plenty of chances to **advocate for him/herself**. Some freshmen are comfortable asking parents or teachers for help; sometimes parents or teachers offer help.
27. Students can get to know their **counselor** during their freshman year by attending counselor open lunches or making appointments in Student Services office (SS1) in the large cafeteria.
28. Don't be afraid to **ask questions** or **offer new ideas!** Principal Posey, teachers, and other parents are willing to listen, answer questions, and support you and your child.
29. There are a lot of resources to get your student to be College ready through the College and Career Center. One of them is the **Parent-to-Parent Networking Night** for Junior students held in the fall. Every parent whose kid is going to college is encouraged to attend this.
30. Expect the unexpected, be flexible and above all, be patient. Enjoy watching your child learn how to navigate issues themselves and find their people, places and passions.
31. Find your Student Alpha Team (Found on Student Services website) for your designated support staff.

Words of Wisdom is brought to you by NNHS School Family Community Partnership (SFCP) and NNHS Home and School. To get involved or learn more about NNHS SFCP, contact Mrs. Posey @sposey@Naperville203.org.

