

The **Blazer Beat**

National Trail Local School District



Keeping our
NT family connected.



NT School Board

President

David Harris

Vice President

Mindy Ward

Members

Cindy Lee
Greg McWhinney
Gary Moore



Mission Statement

The mission of **National Trail Local School District** is to provide educational opportunities that encourage individuals to achieve their maximum potential, promote lifelong learning, and develop responsible and productive citizens in an ever-changing global society.

Our Culture Playbook

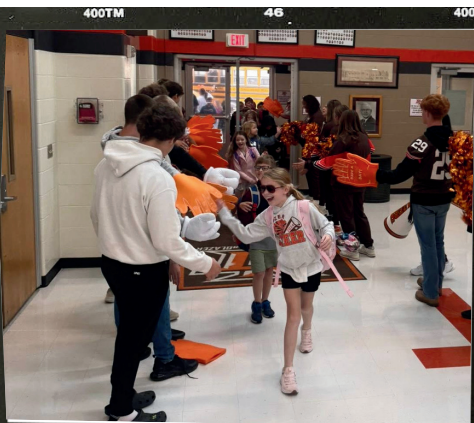
E + *R* = *O*
Event Response Outcome

Blazer Culture Goals

- Common Language Throughout District
- Understand Above the Line/Below the Line
- No BCD (Blame, Complain, Defend)
- Understand the concept of 20 Square Feet

Blazer Culture Expectations

- Use the same language
- Develop behavioral skills to use in your school life and with students
- Share with other staff members



Couch's Corner:

The Superintendent's Message

As we begin this new school year, it's clear that growth is all around us—and growth isn't always easy. This year, we've implemented a new K-5 curriculum, introduced a new diagnostic assessment and individualized intervention pathways for students in grades K-10, and adopted a new data platform to better understand and support student learning. We're also building a multi-tiered system of supports in each building to meet the needs of every student.

To say our team is working hard feels like an understatement. Yet, even in the midst of challenge, our focus remains steadfast—doing what is best for students. I am deeply thankful for our teachers, staff, and students who give their best each day, even when the work feels heavy.

A heartfelt thank you to all of our families who participated in our Summer Reading Challenges, Parents' Week, and Parent-Teacher Conferences; supported your students at home; showed tremendous commitment during the T-Mobile Friday Night 5G Lights competition; and stayed in close communication with our teachers and staff. Our goal is always to work as a team behind your student, and we truly appreciate your efforts.

We are looking forward to all of the events, learning activities, and opportunities that the next few months will bring. Hope to see you at NT!

Jen



"...even in the midst of challenge, our focus remains steadfast—doing what is best for students."

Jennifer Couch
jcouch@nationaltrail.us
Superintendent

Building Principals' Update:

Checking in with NT Elementary, Middle, and High School Leadership



Mrs. Krista Alldred

kalldred@nationaltrail.us

Elementary School Principal

National Trail Elementary has had a fantastic start to the school year! We've settled into our routines and procedures, and students are working hard and showing great progress in the classroom. One of the highlights of the quarter was our Parents' Week, where families joined us to see the wonderful learning taking place each day. We also launched our new ELA curriculum (*Benchmark Advance*), and teachers and students are diving into engaging lessons that strengthen reading and writing skills.

This year, we have started Friday Live announcements. This is where we celebrate classroom successes and award Boone, our school mascot, to the class that earns the most Blazer Bucks. The energy and enthusiasm throughout the building have been contagious, and we're proud of all the growth and teamwork we've seen so far this year!

National Trail Local School District

Veterans Day Program

Tuesday, November 11, 2025 | 9:00 A.M. | High School Gymnasium

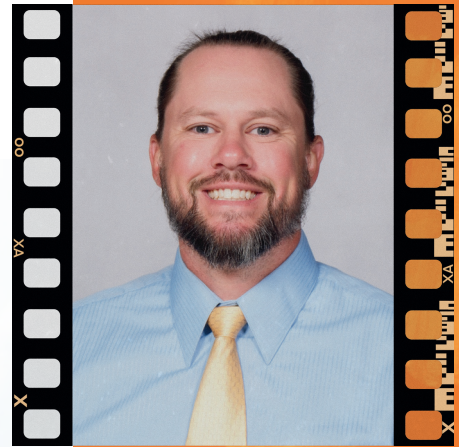
Please join us in honoring our country's veterans at our Veterans Day Program.
Help recognize the brave men and women who have served our nation with courage and pride.

Mr. Chas Boggs

cboggs@nationaltrail.us

Middle School Principal

National Trail Middle School is off to an excellent start to the school year. In the first quarter, we have completed the i-Ready diagnostic, implemented the district culture piece, "Leave Your Mark," implemented our culture piece connection "Walk It, Talk It" cards, and selected Hope Squad, Renaissance Club, and Student Council members. NTMS has awarded those who completed the Summer Reading Challenge with a trip to Eagles Point, where students watched a movie and had gym time. The 8th graders have begun planning and fundraising for the Washington, D.C. Trip. We have had a successful Open House and 5th-grade orientation. We have had a few assemblies relative to getting to know the staff, homecoming, Renaissance, class meetings, and the T-Mobile 5G Friday Nights competition. Middle school students have also been working hard and competing in our school sports programs. Looking into next quarter, NTMS is looking forward to the conclusion of fall sports, the beginning of winter sports, showcase night, our Veterans Day Program, Ice, Ice, Cookie, and a music concert!



Mr. David Herring

dherring@nationaltrail.us

High School Principal

We've had an outstanding start to the year! Quarter 1 was dedicated to strengthening our core, beginning with our staff and administrators building strong relationships and trust with every student. We also clearly defined and reinforced our shared values using our Culture Playbook, which establishes positive expectations for everyone in our hallways. Community pride soared as we rallied together for the T-Mobile Friday Night Lights competition. This strong atmosphere will be celebrated at our Quarter 1 Rally, where we will recognize and celebrate students who went above and beyond, setting a positive example for all. By focusing on connection, clear expectations, and celebrating positive actions, we've set a vibrant and successful tone for the year ahead!



Give a cheer for National Trail for the school we love the best. Whether foes be few or many, we will put them to the test.
We will praise the sons of glory as they march to victory, and hail the name of Blazers as they lead triumphantly! Hey!

“

Finish The Sentence

We asked Blazers to finish the sentence:

“I leave my mark by...”



“...being kind.”

Rodney,
Grade 5

National Trail Local School District

UPCOMING EVENTS

October

10/26 Trunk or Treat
@New Paris Community Park

10/28 MS Showcase Night

November

11/11 Veterans Day Program

11/13 Donuts with Grownups

11/13 Family Reading Night

11/14 New Paris Tree Lighting
@New Paris Community Park

11/24-11/28 Thanksgiving Break

December

12/3 Ice, Ice, Cookie

12/4 ES Holiday Musical

12/4 HS National Honor Society
Induction

12/9 HS Holiday Concert

12/11 MS Holiday Concert

12/13 Santa Breakfast

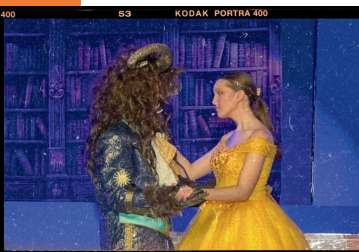
12/22-1/5 Winter Break

January

1/6 Classes Resume

All events are subject to change.

ES = Elementary School
MS = Middle School
HS = High School



BLAZER SPORTS SCHEDULE

Scan the QR code for the current sports schedule or visit ntblazers.org





NATIONAL TRAIL School Foundation

ntschoolfoundation.org

Are you looking for ways to keep making NT great? Consider contributing to the National Trail School Foundation. Donations help the NTSF supply grants, scholarships and program supplementation.

In addition, we work to promote community involvement, enthusiasm and support for the school, through parental, faculty and alumni support in the preservation and enhancement of quality education in the school district.

If you are interested in learning more, please email info@ntschoolfoundation.org



"...doing my own thing."

*James,
Grade 11*



"...by caring for students, promoting wellness, and being a trusted presence others can count on."

*Mrs. Miller,
School Nurse*

Everybody Cut...

Footloose!

Youth Edition

March 6 and 7

Showtime 7:00

National Trail Drama Club proudly presents the smash-hit musical, *Footloose!* Mark your calendar for an event that is sure to make you jump out of your seat and cut *Footloose!*

Staff Spotlight

**We are excited to feature a few of our incredible Blazer Staff!
Read what they had to say when we asked them these questions:**

1. How long have you worked in education/for National Trail?
2. Who was an inspiring teacher/adult in your life?
3. Do you have a funny or favorite memory as a staff member?
4. What does it mean to you to #LEAVEyourMARK?



Joel Flora

Custodian

1. 24 years.
2. My dad. He worked at Trotwood Madison School and took me to work with him. He taught me how to do things and took me to church.
3. The funny story, when Bob Fischer ordered signage for the newly refinished wood under the stage in the gym. Bob asked me to put it up, so I did. Brian Smith didn't know Bob had ordered it and thought I had done it. This is still a joke to this day!
4. To leave your mark means to always be a positive, dependable, and honest person. I want people to know they can trust me.

Joy Yeazel

Physical Education Teacher

1. I started teaching in 1981, stayed at home to raise my kids, and came back in 1989, so 36 years.
2. Kay Guckian, her slogan says it all, "I choose to be happy." I hope to have lived that and passed it on to others.
3. The pure joy when a student does something for the first time. The excitement students show when they squeal, "I got it!" or "Look, I did it!"
4. I want my mark to be that I was enthusiastic and cared about the students. I hope I have encouraged them to be healthy, strong, and happy individuals.

Thank you for all that you do for our students and staff every day!



Thank you, Blazer Nation!

The NTLSD would like to thank our community for the incredible support in your efforts with **T-Mobile's Friday Night 5G Lights** contest.

With more than 100,000 votes, we felt the love and energy from every corner of our district. Together, we've shown what can be achieved when passion meets teamwork.

Every vote, every share, and every word of encouragement made a difference, and we are deeply grateful for your unwavering support!



