



NATHANIEL H. WIXON SCHOOL

901 Route 134
South Dennis, MA 02660
(508) 398-7695
FAX: (508) 398-7608
ATTENDANCE: (508) 385-2448

FOLLOW US:

School District Web Site: <http://www.dy-regional.k12.ma.us/>
Wixon Web Site: <https://www.dy-regional.k12.ma.us/nathaniel-h-wixon-school>

Twitter: Twitter@wixonschool

Instagram: instagram@wixonschool

PTO Facebook page: @WIXONPTO (all caps)

WIXON ADMINISTRATION:

Tim Blake, Principal
Michelle A. Goode, Assistant Principal
Dr. Cheryl Greeson, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Debra Griecci - Principal's Secretary
- Data Secretary
Xochitt Antar-Garcia - Receptionist

NATHANIEL H. WIXON SCHOOL'S MISSION STATEMENT

The Nathaniel H. Wixon School community embraces the development of successful students. Our students will have a strong foundation in academic skill development, individual strength to enable ongoing inclusion in co-curricular activities, and strong inner character. These attributes will lead to enhanced self confidence and foster broad participation and continued achievement in middle and secondary school. Our Intermediate foundation firmly begins our students' journey down the "path of educational success."

TRIMESTERS, REPORT CARDS, CONFERENCES

Term 1-September 1, 2021 to December 3, 2021

Term 2-December 6, 2021 to March 18, 2022

Term 3-March 21, 2022 to last day of school

Report cards will be issued 3 times per year. These are vital to student success in school. Please assist your child by signing the report card and returning it within one week of issue. Report cards are important indicators of student progress, and this sharing of information is crucial to home and school communication.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Conference times are scheduled with your child's classroom teacher through various means. Conference dates for the 2021-2022 school year are Tuesday, October 19th and Thursday the 21th; Tuesday, March 8th and Thursday the 10th.

STUDENT SCHOOL HOURS

8:20 AM Buses arrive

8:20 AM Students permitted in the building

8:30 AM Attendance is taken

2:45 PM Parent pick-up and buses depart

Students are not permitted in the building before 8:20 AM from either the bus port or parent drop off. Students participating in the breakfast program should report to the cafeteria right from bus or parent drop off. Students who are not in the building at 8:30 will be considered tardy.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

If your child is ill and will not be attending school please call our **attendance line at (508) 385-2448**. An attempt will be made to call an absent student's home each day to verify illness if we have not received a call. In compliance with Massachusetts School Law, a student who has been absent must present a signed note to his/her homeroom teacher explaining the absence. Students are encouraged to call a friend to get work missed due to one or two days of absence. If an absence extends into three or more days, parents/guardians may request assignments by calling the school receptionist. This work may not be available until the close of school the next day. Parents will be notified in writing if their child is absent 8 or more times per year. Excessive absences may result in a request for a medical letter for verification. Consistent truancy or unexcused absences may lead to Juvenile Court intervention according to the Massachusetts School Law. A student who is tardy to school after 11:00 AM or is dismissed from school before 11:00 AM is considered, for record keeping purposes, to be absent. A note excusing the tardiness or request dismissal will be accepted for this type of absence. A student considered absent will not be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities on the day of the absence.

SCHOOL SERVICES

We have a **school psychologist**, **school social worker** and **school nurse** in the building on a daily basis. These school specialists work in conjunction with the administrators, teachers, children, parents/guardians, and private or public agencies to assist children in adjusting to school and society.

The registered nurse provides screening on every student each school year that includes vision, hearing, height, weight and posture. Individual health records are updated and reviewed to keep immunizations current. When a student is ill or injured, he/she should report to the clinic for evaluation. In cases when dismissal is advisable, parents are responsible for transportation. Medications are not to be taken at school unless ordered by a physician. In such cases, the nurse will hold and administer the medication. This includes aspirin and non-aspirin products.

The school **breakfast** program is available each morning to any student beginning at 8:20 AM. Students are welcome to arrive at school by 8:20 and go directly to the cafeteria. Breakfast and lunch is free for every student .

VISITORS

All visitors to Wixon must report to the office where they will sign in and be issued a visitor's pass.

MESSAGES

Parents/guardians and students should work out their plans for the entire day before the child leaves for school. In **emergencies**, the office staff can get a message to a student but unfortunately the office staff does not have time to perform this service on a regular basis.

VALUABLES

Wixon is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged articles. We discourage students from bringing valuables or large amounts of money to school.

CELL PHONES

The school does not encourage cell phone use. We understand they are a necessity for some students. As a result, students will be allowed to bring them to school with the expectation that they will be turned off and stored in a backpack and not used at any time during the school day. If one should in any way disrupt the learning of any instructional activity, the phone will be confiscated and held until a parent can pick it up. The district is not responsible for any lost or stolen cell phones.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

Each student will be issued an acceptable use agreement that must be read and signed by both the student and parent/guardian. Failure to abide by the policy of the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District may result in the loss of technology privileges. Any student who damages a school assigned iPad or iPad cover will be responsible for damage costs or replacement. An iPad user fee has been introduced this year and that comes with a cost of \$40 per student per year, and \$20 for students on the free and reduced lunch program.

DRESS CODE

Students are asked to dress in a manner which promotes a proper academic atmosphere. In addition, midriffs, no underwear showing, and no transparent shirts will be allowed. Local and state laws prohibit bare feet and spiked or studded clothing. Clothing promoting illegal substances or with inappropriate messages, is not to be worn. Pants will be worn at the natural waistline and clothing will be worn at an acceptable length.

BUS/BUS PASSES

All students will have a permanent bus stop located close to their residence. Students will only be dropped off at their authorized stop, unless a note is received from home. To obtain a bus pass to get off the bus at an alternate stop, bring a dated, written note signed by a parent or guardian, requesting permission to take another bus or to get off at a stop other than your own. This note is to be brought to the front office at the beginning of the school day. The same is true for students taking the daycare buses. Notes need to be provided to make any change in the student's daycare/bus schedule.

GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL TRIPS OR ACTIVITIES

Students will be responsible for maintaining good behavior in order to attend school sponsored trips and functions. Students are taught field trip expectations explicitly by the teachers. Trip attire will be determined by the event and proper attire will be expected.

SMOKING

CHAPTER 71, SECTION 37h - Tobacco Free Policy

The Education Reform Act of 1993 prohibits the use of any tobacco products within the school buildings, the school facility, on the school grounds or on school buses by any individual, including school personnel.

CHAPTER 71, SECTIONS 37H & 37H1/2

As applied to cases involving the following offences when they occur on school premises, at a school sponsored or school related event:

1. possession of a dangerous weapon
2. possession of a controlled substance as defined in Chapter 94 C of the General Laws
3. assaults upon a principal, assistant principal, teacher, teacher's aide or other educational staff
4. circumstances in which a student has been charged with or convicted of a felony

CHAPTER 71, SECTION 37H – Controlled Substances, Dangerous Weapons and Assaults on Educational Personnel

- a. Any student who is found on school premises or at school sponsored or school-related events, including athletic games, in possession of a dangerous weapon, including, but not limited to, a gun or a knife; or a controlled substance as defined in chapter ninety-four C, including, but not limited to, marijuana, cocaine, and heroin, may be subject to expulsion from the school or school district by the principal.
- b. Any student who assaults a principal, assistant principal, teacher, teacher's aide or other educational staff on school premises or at school-sponsored or school-related events, including athletic games, may be subject to expulsion from the school or district by the principal.
- c. Any student who is charged with a violation of either paragraph (a) or (b) shall be notified in writing of an opportunity for a hearing; provided, however, that the student may have representation, along with the opportunity to present evidence and witnesses at said hearing before the principal.

Chapter 71, Section 37H1/2- Felony Complaints and Felony Convictions:

1. Upon the issuance of a criminal complaint charging a student with a felony or upon the issuance of a felony delinquency complaint against a student, the principal or headmaster of a school in which the student is enrolled may suspend such student for a period of time determined appropriate by said principal or headmaster if said principal or headmaster determines that the student's continued presence in school would have a substantial detrimental effect on the general welfare of the school.

FIRE DRILLS & EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Fire drills are held periodically throughout the school year. Fire drill instructions are clearly posted in each classroom. Students should familiarize themselves with this information and closely follow the directions from the classroom teacher. In the event that the students and staff at Wixon are exposed to a threatening situation, an emergency procedure has been established. As part of our commitment to this safety, all exit doors to our building will be locked.

HARASSMENT

HARASSMENT IS ILLEGAL

As used in this policy "harassment" means abusive or harassing conduct (including speech) sufficiently severe and persuasive to create a hostile learning environment for any student, and may include insulting and fighting words (such as slurs on another person's character, family, race, religion, sex, ethnic origin, physical appearance, sexual preference, gender identity, intellectual ability or (disability) and rude or discourteous speech inconsistent with the habit and manners of civil discourse.

Any violation of this policy should be brought to the attention of the building principal as soon as possible so that an investigation may be conducted and appropriate corrective action taken.

Any student found to have violated this policy will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, including warnings, reprimands, suspension or discharge or exclusion, subject to applicable procedural requirements.

The Dennis – Yarmouth Regional School District is committed to equal educational opportunities for all students without regard to race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, age, disability or gender identity.

Bullying on any Social Network that is brought to the attention of the Administration will be investigated in conjunction with the Yarmouth and Dennis Police Resource Officers located at MMS.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT

As required by federal and state law, the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District does not discriminate in its educational programs or activities or in its admissions or employment policies on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, age, disability or gender identity. Among the laws prohibiting discrimination in education are the following:

- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
- Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- Titles I and II of the American with Disabilities Act of 1990; and
- Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 76, Section 5

Inquiries regarding compliance with Titles I and II; of Titles VI, VII IX; M.G.L., Chapter 76, Section 5 and Section 504 may be directed to:

Director of Special Services

Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District

296 Station Ave., South Yarmouth, MA 02664

(508) 398-7624

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT D-Y FACILITIES

AHERA Management Plan

Every three years the school district is required to update its Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) asbestos management plan. The purpose of this plan is to summarize previous abatement response actions, summarize findings and ACBM classification and recommend response actions. A copy of this plan is available at each school and online.

<http://www.dy-regional.k12.ma.us/district/facilities/pages/ahera-management-plan>

Fire Safety for Schools

A school is one of the most important resources in a community. School fires destroy costly bricks and mortar, and also the heart of a community. Fire prevention laws can be found in M.G.L. Chapter 148. Most fire prevention regulations affecting schools can be found in 527 Code of Massachusetts Regulations (CMR) 1.00. The Department of Fire Services' website has these and many helpful Office the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) *Advisories*. Visit **www.mass.gov/dfs** and look for *DFS Advisories* under *News & Events* and under *Fire Prevention*.

<http://www.dy-regional.k12.ma.us/district/facilities/pages/fire-safety-for-schools>

Lead & Copper Water Testing

The district began systemic testing of lead and copper fixtures with a representative sample in each school building, in compliance with regulations from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

<http://www.dy-regional.k12.ma.us/district/facilities/pages/lead-and-copper-program>

Integrated Pest Management

School Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is the implementation by schools and daycare centers of a practice for reducing pests that de-emphasizes the use of pesticides as the principal control strategy. While pests are undesirable, they are only the indicators of a greater problem; IPM manages pests by focusing on these greater problems.

<http://www.dy-regional.k12.ma.us/district/facilities/pages/pest-management>

Safety & Hazardous Waste

Please read the below information about proper handling of mercury spills (from thermometers or other items) and broken fluorescent light bulbs.

<http://www.dy-regional.k12.ma.us/district/facilities/pages/safety-and-hazardous-waste-information>

BEHAVIOR AT THE WIXON SCHOOL

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

This is our proactive approach to establishing the behavioral supports and social culture needed for all students in our school to achieve social, emotional and academic success. Attention is focused on creating and sustaining primary (school-wide), secondary (classroom), and tertiary (individual) systems of support that improve student behavior. Here at N.H.W.S., core behavioral expectations were created by the school's PBIS Committee and disseminated to all staff members. Staff members then teach the student body these core expectations by means of classroom lessons and school assemblies.

WIXON'S CORE VALUES

It's The Dolphin Way: Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful, Be Kind

These core values are posted in all school settings and routinely reviewed to ensure a safe, productive learning environment at Wixon. Within the first week of school, students are taught what our Dolphin Way expectations are in all school settings. (arrival/dismissal, hallway, bathroom, classroom, recess, cafeteria, bus and ipad use) There are also lesson plans for field trips and for the auditorium. These lesson plans explicitly teach the students what our common, school wide expectations are so that all students are getting the same message. Students are also acknowledged by staff for demonstrating the Dolphin Way.

