



## Newcastle Elementary & Charter School 2021-22

### HEROES OF THE CASTLE

*All for One and One for All!*

**Week of 1/3/2022**

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### News:

**New Enrichment Classes Sign-Ups - Just added, Dance & Creative Movement for students in grades K-1!** Classes are filling up fast and some start next week! We are pleased to announce some new and some returning enrichment opportunities for our students! See the flyer [HERE](#) for details. Please note that each class respectfully asks for a donation. Donations allow us to provide these incredible opportunities and to expand the existing programs. Thank you in advance for your interest and support.

**Performing Arts Enrichment Opportunity!** In conjunction with *McLaughlin Studios of Music, Dance, and Theater Arts*, we are exploring the possibility of offering interested students the experience of working with the McLaughlin staff and parent volunteers to perform **Shrek Jr.** It includes 8 weeks of rehearsals Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 2:30 - 5:00 pm for up to 30 students in grades 4-8. Click [HERE](#) for an overview of the program. **Mrs. Giove is holding a brief VIRTUAL informational meeting on Wednesday, January 5th at 5 pm. Please use [THIS LINK](#) to join the meeting if your student would be interested in participating.**

**Free Online Reading Resource -** From December 1st through January 31st, any California student has free access to thousands of digital books to match their reading level and interest as part of Renaissance's Gift of Literacy. Click [HERE](#) to see the letter from Tony Thurmond on how to take advantage of this opportunity.

**PUHSD Open Enrollment - 2022-23 OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD FOR PLACER UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT (PUHSD)** Open Enrollment/Intradistrict applications for Placer Union High School District are being accepted between January 4th and January 31st, 2022. The District's Open Enrollment/Intradistrict Transfer policy may allow students to attend a school outside their normal area of attendance provided there is space available and the deadline is met. TO APPLY: The parent/guardian of the pupil must complete and submit the application, along with the most recent copies of grades, attendance, and notice of any behavior issues to their school of residence and request an appointment with the principal. The completed form MUST be turned into the District Office no later than January 31, 2022, by 3:59 pm. NO EXCEPTIONS. Applications can be found on our [website](#). Parents can contact Placer Union High School District Office at 530-886-4454 or email [transfers@puhsd.k12.ca.us](mailto:transfers@puhsd.k12.ca.us) for more information regarding Open Enrollment/Intradistrict Transfers.

**January 2022**

<b>Monday, 1/3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>NO SCHOOL</b> - Teacher Professional Development Day</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday, 1/4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>School Resumes TODAY</b></li> <li>• Girls Volleyball Game @ Newcastle 8th 3:15/7th 4:15</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, 1/5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theater Club VIRTUAL Information Meeting 5:00 pm Meeting link: <a href="https://meet.google.com/grd-huww-ndx?hs=122&amp;authuser=0">https://meet.google.com/grd-huww-ndx?hs=122&amp;authuser=0</a></li> </ul>
<b>Thursday, 1/6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Girls Volleyball Game @ Loomis 8th 3:15/7th 4:15</li> <li>• Chess Club CANCELLED (will resume for in-person play on Feb 3)</li> </ul>
<b>Friday, 1/7</b>	

**Our Stellar Knight Winners this week are:**

**Logan K. Grace D. Gemma F. Jackson P. Ben R. Zoey W. Zoey V. Dylan F. Aubrey B. Melinda P. Hudson B. Sadi C. Vaughn C. Caleb C. Kristen K. Rene T. Tim S. Lumina B. Jonah B. Brooklyn P. Logan W. Issac B. Payton J. Taylor D.**

**December's Character Trait of the Month: Be Accepting**  
**We apologize for the delay however not all names were provided.**  
**Winners will be announced next week.**

**Congratulations to Mrs. Percival's Kindergarten Class for receiving Nutty the Knight as the class that demonstrated outstanding ACCEPTANCE!**

**Upcoming Events:**

- 1/12 - NESD Board Meeting 7 pm
- 1/13 - School Site Council 3 pm
- 1/17 - Holiday - NO SCHOOL
- 1/20 - Safety Drill
- 1/27 - SOTM Assembly TK-3
- 2/7 - iReady Diagnostics Begin
- 2/9 - NESD Board Meeting 7 pm
- 2/18 - Safety Drill
- 2/17 - SOTM Assembly TK-3

2/21-25 - February Break - NO SCHOOL

3/4 - End of Tri 2

3/4 - Trimester Awards Assembly 4-8

## Ongoing:

### [2021-2022 Student Schedule](#)

**Yearbook Information** - [HERE](#) Yearbooks are \$30 through April 30, 2022. *There will be limited quantities available for purchase at an increased price during the last week of school.* Please visit [ybpay.com](http://ybpay.com) to order and enter our school's yearbook ID code: 14526722.

**7th & 8th Grade Girls Volleyball Schedule-** [Here](#)

**Visitor and Volunteer Updated Guidelines** [HERE!](#)

**Mid Placer Little League** - Click [HERE](#) for registration information.

**Spanish & PE Grading Rubrics Grades 6-8** - [HERE](#)

**COVID Safety** - We must continue to be diligent about the health and safety of our students and staff. **It is imperative that students DO NOT come to school if any of the following are true:**

**Exhibiting COVID symptoms**

**Exposure to a positive COVID-19 person**

**Exposure to a person waiting for test results**

**Symptoms include:** Fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea

**Per CDPH guidance, all persons regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear masks while indoors. This includes all school visitors. Masks are not required outside.** Here is a CDC resource on how to properly wear, remove, and clean masks: [CDC Guide to Masks](#)

**COVID Resources** - Please know that we are working hard to understand the ever-changing guidelines while keeping student and staff safety at the forefront of our decision-making and communications. [HERE](#) is a resource from Placer County that may be helpful.

**COVID Testing for On-Campus Symptomatic Students** - The District has partnered with the California Department of Public Health to offer free COVID-19 testing for students exhibiting COVID-like symptoms. ***This optional, free program would allow parents to opt-in to have their student tested for COVID-19 at school. ONLY students that have prior opt-in registration, are symptomatic, and are on campus at the time will be tested.*** The rapid test may allow students who test negative to return to class without quarantine, though normal sickness policies still apply (e.g. vomiting, fever, etc.). A positive test would provide important safety information for the family and would help prevent outbreaks at school. Student test results are kept confidential. The parent/guardian will receive an email with the test results about 30 minutes after the test is completed.

No student will be tested without consent and registration by their parent/guardian. Families who wish to participate only need to register one time for each child. Once a student is registered, they remain approved in the software. Parents may log in and rescind authorization at any time.

**To get started, please register for testing by clicking this link and select "Student Registration"** <https://my.primary.health/l/newcastle-elementary>. All questions included in registration are required for California State public health reporting. Please note this program is free for all participants. If you need assistance with registration or have questions about the CA Rapid Antigen Testing Program, you can contact a

call center representative Monday - Friday, 8 am - 5 pm PST at 650-275-5419. Testing is not required but highly encouraged. Thank you for helping us stay safe, prevent outbreaks, and keep kids in school!

**Absence Reporting:** If a student is absent from school, the reason for the absence must be reported on the day of the absence. *When reporting an absence please provide the following information: student's name, date of the absence, the reason for the absence, and the relationship of the person reporting the absence.*

**There are three (3) ways to report an absence to the school:**

1. Call the office attendance line at (916) 663-3307 then press 3 and leave a message after the beep.
2. Email the school office staff.
3. Submit using our website [Absence Reporting Tool](#).

*If verification of a student's absence due to illness has not occurred within three (3) school days, the unverified absence will be recorded as unexcused. Per state education code, after three days, an unexcused absence cannot be changed. If a student is absent for 3 or more consecutive days a doctor's note is required. Students with excessive tardiness, absences and/or habitual truancy may be referred to SARB. The following are the only legal excuses that will be accepted by the office for absences and tardies as outlined in Education Code 48205: 1) Personal illness; 2) Quarantine under the direction of the county or city health officer; 3) Medical, dental, optometric or chiropractic appointments, court appearance; 4) Attendance at funeral services; or 5) Participation in religious exercises or to receive moral and religious instruction in accordance with district policy. *Family trips/vacations are unexcused absences unless an Independent Study contract is granted. Please contact your child's teacher or the school office at least five school days in advance of a trip, regarding Independent Study.**

**Aeries Parent Portal Information - There are still some families that have not updated their contact information, completed the Data Confirmation process, or have questions about using the portal.**

Please click here for the [link to the Parent Portal Login page](#). Once you have logged in successfully, please see the attached information with [guidance for navigating the Parent Portal](#).

**Enrichment -** If you are interested in volunteering to provide after-school or lunchtime enrichment activities for our students, please contact Mrs. Giove at [cqgiove@newcastle.k12.ca.us](mailto:cqgiove@newcastle.k12.ca.us). Music, theatre, or any other ideas are welcome and will be considered!

**PTC News -** Sign up today to be an event volunteer or join our PTC board. Turn in the PTC membership form to the office or sign up online at <https://www.ptcnewcastle.org/signup>.

**Campus Traffic - Please follow the Car Pick Up Guidelines below:**

- **Do not arrive before 1:30 on Mondays and 2:30 T-F into the school parking lot.** This will allow the TK/K families with no other children to enter the upper parking lot by the flagpole, pick up their child(ren), and exit before the regular dismissal time.
- **ONLY TK/K parents with no other students may arrive early on campus.** TK and Kindergarten parents who do NOT have upper-grade students (grades 1-5) should arrive AT 2:10 and depart BEFORE 2:30. Again, do not arrive early and park in the pick-up line as you also back up traffic.
- Families with TK/K students AND upper-grade students (grades 1-5) should pick up ALL of their children in the lower circle at 2:30 or after (1:30 on Mondays).
- Our neighbors are respectfully asking that you do not block their driveways for extended periods of time so that they can also get in and out.
- For the safety of all of our families, please do NOT make illegal u-turns, park in undesignated areas, and go the wrong way on the streets.
- Lower Campus - PCOE has asked us to put out a reminder for parents to please NOT drive or park on the lawn areas (lower campus road and oof the side of the parking lot) while waiting during pickup.
- Upper Campus - Parents please DO NOT drop off students in the Placer County Office of Education Medical Therapy Unit (MTU) parking lot by the TK/1st classrooms. This is NOT a designated drop-off area for students as these parking spots are for the employees/patrons of the PCOE MTU.
- Again, please DO NOT ARRIVE EARLY for pick-up as it causes unnecessary traffic backup

**Social Media** - Follow us for the latest updates [Newcastle Website](#)



**IMPORTANT RESOURCES:**

[Student/Parent Handbook](#).

**Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Resources for Parents:** [BERKELEY PARENT SUPPORT DURING COVID](#)

**Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) for Families:** [Supporting Families with PBIS](#)

**GO KNIGHTS!**