

# A Warrior Welcome TO NORWALK SCHOOLS



**\* MASKS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL NORWALK  
STUDENTS, STAFF AND VISITORS THIS SCHOOL YEAR.**

**Fall 2020 - Spring 2021 Issue**





# OUR MISSION

*Growing Learners And Leaders*



# LETTER *from the Superintendent*



**D.T. Magee**

Welcome to the Norwalk Community School District where we are focused on creating world class schools for the students, families, and communities we serve! Our district balances high academic expectations and excellent extra and co-curricular activities. The ultimate goal is to address each student's individual learning needs so that our students become future leaders. The communities we serve in NW Warren County are growing and our district is working closely with city and county leaders to facilitate and successfully manage this growth. Learn more about all of the great aspects of NCSD at [www.norwalkschools.org](http://www.norwalkschools.org) and make sure to follow us on Twitter [@NorwalkSchools](https://twitter.com/NorwalkSchools) or [#BeAWarrior](https://twitter.com/BeAWarrior) and like us on Facebook [@norwalkcsd](https://www.facebook.com/norwalkcsd).

D.T. Magee  
Superintendent



## What's Inside

- 03-04** Kindergarten Info & Literacy Support
- 05** K-5 Specials
- 07** Middle School Preparation
- 09** 7th-12th Grade Activities
- 11** Oviatt Elementary Remodle
- 12** NHS Advocates & Counselor Information
- 13** Community Supports & Resources
- 14** Transportation, Student Fees, Nutrition & Weather/Closings Information
- 15** Construction Update
- 16** Norwalk Physical Education and Competition Center

## Norwalk Schools 2020 - 2021

### Oviatt Elementary

Preschool  
713 School Ave  
(515) 981-1005  
[@OviattWarriors](https://twitter.com/OviattWarriors)  
Amy Gage, Principal

### Norwalk MS

6th & 7th Grade  
200 Cherry St.  
(515) 981-0435  
[@warriorsNMS](https://twitter.com/warriorsNMS)  
Beth Ward, Principal

### Orchard Hills Elementary

K - 2nd Grade  
1130 W. North Ave  
[@OrchardHills23](https://twitter.com/OrchardHills23)  
Sheila Taylor, Principal

### Eastview

8th & 9th Grade  
1600 North Ave  
(515) 981-9655  
[@eastview\\_89](https://twitter.com/eastview_89)  
Dr. Jody Ratigan, Principal

### Lakewood Elementary

3rd - 5th Grade  
9210 Happy Hallow Dr.  
(515) 981-1850  
[@LakewoodElem](https://twitter.com/LakewoodElem)  
Jill Anderson, Principal

### Norwalk HS

10th - 12th Grade  
1201 North Ave  
(515) 981-4201  
[@Norwalk\\_HS](https://twitter.com/Norwalk_HS)  
Chris Basinger, Principal



# Oviatt Elementary

Welcome to  
**Oviatt Elementary!**



**Amy Gage**  
Oviatt Elementary  
Principal



**Nichole Benagas**  
Oviatt Elementary  
Assistant Principle



## Best Ways to Support Your Kindergartner's Literacy Development At Home

### Play with Word and Letter Sounds

Perhaps the most important early literacy skill to build in young pre-readers is the ability to recognize, substitute and blend sounds in spoken words. This broad skill, called phonological awareness, includes identifying and manipulating units of oral language – parts such as letters, words and syllables. Children who have phonological awareness are able to identify and make oral rhymes, can clap out the number of syllables in a word, and can recognize words with the same initial sounds like 'money' and 'mother.'

How you can help build phonological awareness at home:

- Help your child think of a number of words that start with the /m/ or /sh/ sound, or other beginning sounds.
- Make up silly sentences with words that begin with the same sound, such as "Nobody was nice to Nancy's neighbor".
- Play simple rhyming or blending games with your child, such as taking turns coming up with words that rhyme (cat – mat) or blending simple words (/d/, /o/, /g/ = dog).

### Read and Discuss Daily with Your Child

Reading aloud at home with your child is a powerful way to support oral language development and early

reading readiness skills. Research has demonstrated that the most effective read-alouds are those where children are actively involved asking and answering questions and making predictions, rather than passively listening. Try asking your kindergartner questions like this when you read together:

#### 1. Talk about the book

Is this a real story or a made up story? How can you tell? What can we learn by looking at the cover of this book? Where is the top of the book? Where is the bottom? Where should I start reading?

#### 2. Talk about the words

Valiant means brave. Can you tell me who was valiant in the story? How many words can you think of that sound the same as "room"?

#### 3. Talk about the story

How are Max and the Wild Thing feeling in this part of the story? How might the webbed feet help the Wild Thing? What do you think will happen next?

#### Helpful Links

[https://iowacore.gov/sites/default/files/kindergarten\\_parent\\_guide\\_1.pdf](https://iowacore.gov/sites/default/files/kindergarten_parent_guide_1.pdf)

<https://iowareadingresearch.org/resources/web>

## K-1st School Supply List

- 12-#2 pencils
- 3-boxes, 24ct CRAYOLA crayons
- 1-two-pocket folder w/fasteners
- 1-pkg EXPO dry erase markers
- 1-CRAYOLA washable markers-10ct
- 2-boxes of Kleenex
- 1-4pack of Play-Doh

- 1-pkg pencil erasers
- 1-Chlorox wipes
- 2-pkg glue sticks
- 1-headphones (child-size)
- A-L (Last Name) 1-box of snack Ziploc baggies
- M-Z (Last Name) 1-box of quart Ziploc baggies
- 1-back pack (no wheels) (standard size to fit a folder)



### Medications

If your child needs to take a prescription during the school day, the medication(s) need to be in the prescription bottle & please fill out a permission slip on the website:

<https://www.norwalkschools.org/district/departments/student-services/nursing/>



# K-5 Specials

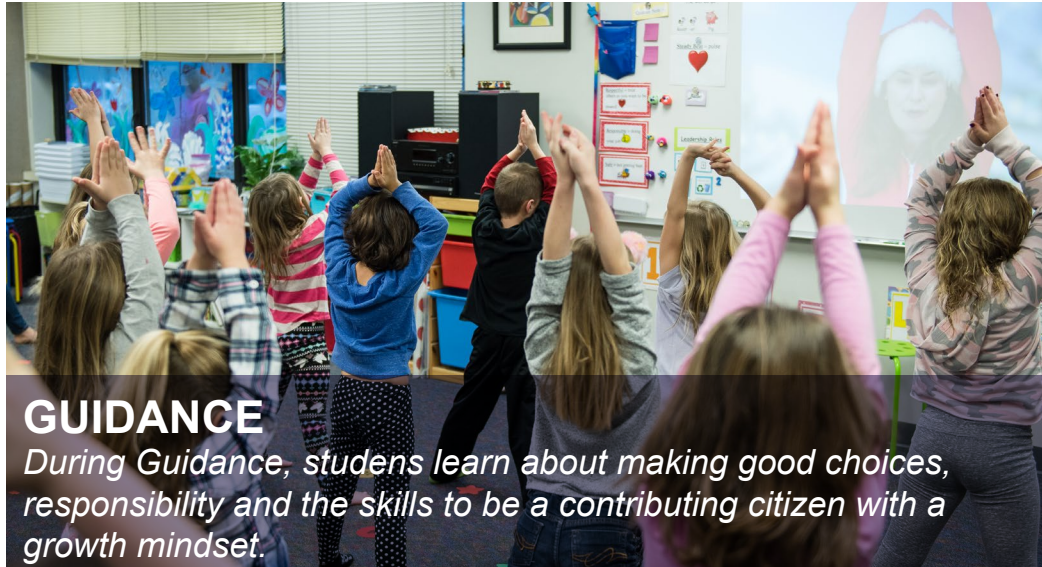
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Norwalk Schools recognizes the importance of introducing special curriculum in addition to the classroom setting.

Students in grades K- 5th rotate through each of these “specials” classes in a 6-day cycle. In instances of a snow day, the scheduled special will shift to the next day.

## CHORUS

Students interested in chorus will sign-up at the beginning of 5th grade and have several performance opportunities including assemblies, nursing homes and occasional sporting events.



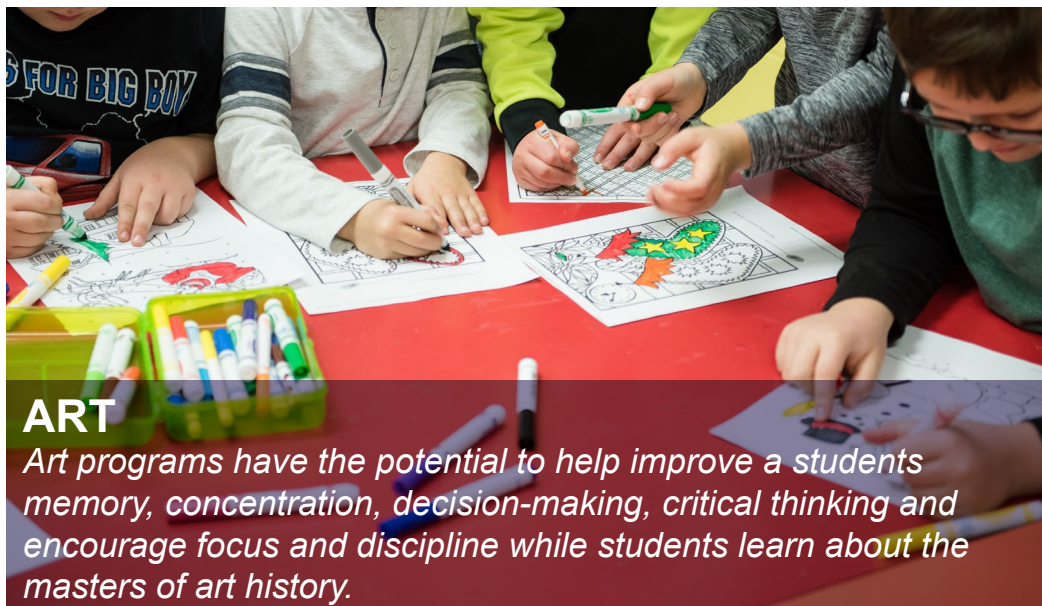
## GUIDANCE

*During Guidance, students learn about making good choices, responsibility and the skills to be a contributing citizen with a growth mindset.*



## PE

*In addition to recess, students learn healthy habits to grow strong bodies, improve fitness and develop motor skills.*



## ART

*Art programs have the potential to help improve a students memory, concentration, decision-making, critical thinking and encourage focus and discipline while students learn about the masters of art history.*



## MUSIC

*Studies prove that music education helps boost test scores while students build confidence and improve listening skills in a performing genre.*



## STEM

*Stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. In this special, students explore building, problem solving and teamwork opportunities.*



## LIBRARY

*Students have the opportunity to check out library books and other educational resources to help futher their learning.*

## BAND

*5th grade students have the opportunity to join band and chorus. At the end of 4th grade, students will get to choose 2-3 instruments to tryout and the teacher will make a recommendation based on physical characteristics and sound produced.*



**70% - 75%** of students opt to take band in addition to their music “special”.





# Preparing for Middle School

Norwalk Middle School-Where students are engaged and empowered to learn- **We ARE Warriors!**

I am honored to begin my eighth year as the Norwalk Middle School Principal in the 19-20 school year. Our students thrive in an environment that promotes Achievement, Respect, Responsibility and Empathy. Our doors are open to all learners!

I have been in education for 26 years with this being my 13th year in Administration. Welcome to Norwalk Middle School!



**Beth Ward**  
Middle School Principal

**April 2020**  
5th grade classes will shadow 6th graders for a morning (transportation provided)

**Throughout The Year**  
5th graders rotate teachers to simulate a middle school schedule.

**August 24th**  
First Day of School

**View District Public Calendar Here**  
[http://bit.ly/19\\_20SchoolCalendar](http://bit.ly/19_20SchoolCalendar)

## Enrollment Requirements & Supply List Information

- Immunization Record (6th + 7th Gr.)
- TDAP + Meningococcal Current (7th Gr. only)
- [http://bit.ly/6\\_7SupplyList19\\_20](http://bit.ly/6_7SupplyList19_20)

## We Are Here For You!



**Rachel Chapman**  
Counselor

(515) 981-0435  
[rchapman@norwalk.k12.ia.us](mailto:rchapman@norwalk.k12.ia.us)

One of my favorite aspects of being a Norwalk Warrior is being part of a school community that truly values student achievement and success! I feel privileged to work as a school counselor at the middle school because I get to witness and assist in the growth of our students in many areas of their lives. Each student has a unique set of traits and talents, and my goal is to help each student realize their potential and worth. I'm looking forward to another great school year as a Warrior!



**Chad Wiedmann**  
Student Advocate

(515) 981-0435  
[cwiedmann@norwalk.k12.ia.us](mailto:cwiedmann@norwalk.k12.ia.us)

Welcome to Norwalk Middle School! We are excited to get the year started! Our mission is to grow student achievement, respect, responsibility and empathy. After spending a number of years at Norwalk High School, I am returning to Norwalk Middle School and looking forward to seeing you become a Warrior!



*"Just finished registering my kiddos for next school year. It's hard to believe we've almost been in our new house a year. This year has far exceeded our expectations and hopes. Norwalk Schools are filled with some really amazing teachers, administrators, and best of all FRIENDS! So very thankful we landed where we did, and thankful for all our new friends that have made it feel like home so quickly!"*  
- Sara Osterloh, Norwalk Parent

*"Norwalk Middle School is a great place, and you have so many activities. I would suggest that you try for leadership. It's very fun, and you do fun activities with your leadership friends. Norwalk is a very safe environment, you will feel at home right away. Norwalk is a great community with a lot of nice and fun people and kids to welcome you."*  
- Camrie N., 7th Grade

*"I have always appreciated my kids' teachers and all they have done to teach my kids. As I watch my kids grow and develop, I see that they did so much more than teaching them numbers and letters. They taught them about being good citizens, leaders, humans. They taught them to be seekers of knowledge and truth. They taught them responsibility, commitment, honor and drive. And most of all they made them feel loved and like they mattered! Five years ago, I stepped into the educational side of PT and I have gained a completely new respect for what teachers have to do each and every day. The rigor and rules they must follow, the hours, the underfunded budgets, and classrooms, the constantly changing legislation. Doing all of this with kids who are maybe hungry, tired, homeless, have mental health or physical disabilities. And missing time with their own kids. Teachers are my heroes and we have been blessed with amazing ones!!"*  
- Melissa Bice, Norwalk Parent





# 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Activities



This photo provided by Photography student, Ellie Sizemore



## 7th & 8th Grade

**Athletics:** *Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Softball, Track & Field, Volleyball, Wrestling*

**Activities & Clubs:** *Band/Choir, Cheerleading, Gaming Club, Garden Club, Girls Who Code, Jazz Band, Leadership, RoboWarriors (Robotics), SADD, Show Choir, Yearbook, Musical*

For a more interactive experience, view this highlight video of our Warriors in action:

<http://bit.ly/PortraitofaLearner>

## 9th - 12th Grade

**Athletics:** *Baseball, Basketball, Cheer, Cross Country, Dance Team, Football, Golf, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Track & Field, Volleyball, Wrestling*

**Activities & Clubs:** *Art Club, Band/Choir, Debate, Drill Team, French Club, Jazz Band, Mock Trial, National Honor Society, Newspaper, Play/Musical/Madrigal, Poetry Club, SADD, Show Choir, Spanish Club, Speech, Student Council, Student Intramural Club, Weight Room, Yearbook, RoboWarriors(Robotics)*



## COVID-19 Updates:

- Due to the impact COVID-19 is having on indoor and outdoor events, all Norwalk athletic and activity tickets must be purchased online for both HS and MS events. A voucher must be shown in order to get into the gym. If you do not have a voucher, you will not be allowed in. If you have an activities pass, you do NOT need a ticket but MUST have a voucher.

High School Admission- \$5  
Middle School Admission- \$5





# OVIATT ELEMENTARY Remodel

Oviatt Elementary has gone through a transformation this past year! The building was fitted with new carpet, furniture in classrooms and major remodels featuring a new east entrance/routunda and new administrative offices. Major remodels also included a new kitchen, a new cafeteria entryway with newly installed washing stations for students and upgraded playground equipment!



New front entrance and routunda.  
Oviatt Elementary offices are located through these doors.

# NHS Advocates & Counseling Office



## Jessica Garrison

[jegarrison@norwalk.k12.ia.us](mailto:jegarrison@norwalk.k12.ia.us)

Every day is different in the Advocates Office for me, making my job a fun and exciting place to come to each morning. I support the Advocates, school counselor, and our students with a variety of things including sending transcripts, processing scholarships, schedule changes, and DMACC registration. Getting to know each student and watching them grow throughout their high school career into an adult getting ready to go off on their own is one of my favorite parts of being in the Advocates Office. We have some great students who are on their way to doing great things in this world.

## Tom Scallon

[tscallon@norwalk.k12.ia.us](mailto:tscallon@norwalk.k12.ia.us)

Over the last 26 years it has been my privilege to serve the students of Norwalk High School. During those years there has certainly been quite a lot of change! Class size has doubled, new construction has become an annual event, and the academic opportunities available to our students have also grown. Furthermore, there are a large number of activities in which our students may participate. Our current students have more opportunity than any other time in Norwalk High School's history. It is an exciting time to Be A Warrior!

## Marla Frantum

[mfrantum@norwalk.k12.ia.us](mailto:mfrantum@norwalk.k12.ia.us)

Without a doubt, working with students about their future plans and building relationships is why I enjoy being a student advocate. As roles and responsibilities have shifted at Norwalk, I have found my area of specialty is working with college courses, AP options, and testing. However, my favorite part of my job is sitting down with one and/or a group of students and hearing what they need and/or are passionate about in life.

## Melissa Smith

[msmith@norwalk.k12.ia.us](mailto:msmith@norwalk.k12.ia.us)

I love being part of the Warrior family! As a school counselor, I support students in many areas of their lives including mental health support and counseling, academic advising, and career/college exploration. My favorite part about my job is building relationships with students and their families. My passion is helping students through the challenges they face and teaching them skills they will use throughout their lives.

## Helpful Links

Senior Year Plus Programs-<http://bit.ly/SeniorPlusPrograms> DMACC Southridge Website--<http://bit.ly/DMACCSouth>

NHS Curriculum Information-<http://bit.ly/CurriculumInfo>

NHS Profile-<http://bit.ly/NHSProfile>





# Community Supports & Resources

## Numbers You Should Know

District Office (515) 981-0676  
 Eastview 8/9 (515) 981-9655  
 High School (515) 981-4201  
 HS Activities Office (515) 981-4204  
 Lakewood Elementary (515) 981-1850  
 Middle School (515) 981-0435  
 Nutrition (515) 981-9876  
 Oviatt Elementary (515) 981-1005  
 Transportation (515) 981-0016

## Norwalk Student Education Foundation

<http://www.norwalkstudentfoundation.org/>

## Athletic Boosters Club

<http://bit.ly/NorwalkAthleticBoosterClub>

## Music Boosters Club

<http://www.norwalkmusicboosters.com/>

## Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

<http://www.norwalkpto.com/>

## Norwalk Food Pantry

Sponsored by the Norwalk Ministerial Assoc.  
 Hosted out of **New Life Lutheran Church**  
 4380 Wakonda Drive, Norwalk, IA  
 (515) 285-5965

## UnityPoint Clinic Family Medicine

801 Colonial Circle, Norwalk, IA  
 (515) 285-3200

## Mercy Clinic Family Medicine

9421 Marketplace Drive, Norwalk, IA  
 (515) 974-0800

## Norwalk Family Dentistry

1101 Chatham Ave.  
 (515) 256-9000

## Dimples Dentistry

2521 Sunset Dr. #2  
 (515) 256-1176

## Indianola YMCA

306 E Scenic Valley Ave, Indianola, IA 50125  
 (515) 777-7746

## Transportation

Let us know your busing needs. There are AM, PM or Roundtrip options available through the on-line registration process. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Carlos or Arlene at the Transportation Department.

**Carlos Guerra**, Director of Transportation  
[cguerra@norwalk.k12.ia.us](mailto:cguerra@norwalk.k12.ia.us)  
**Arlene Kluesner**, Asst. to Director  
[akluesner@norwalk.k12.ia.us](mailto:akluesner@norwalk.k12.ia.us)  
 515-981-0016

## Nutrition

Lunch accounts will be created through the registration process. A username and password will be provided for you. Free and reduced lunches are available through our website's application on the Nutrition Department's page: <https://www.norwalkschools.org/district/departments/nutrition/>

**DeeAnna Serres**, Director of Nutrition  
[dserres@norwalk.k12.ia.us](mailto:dserres@norwalk.k12.ia.us)  
 (515) 981-9876

## Student Fees

Student fees are listed through the online registration process and can be paid online at the time of registration. You can also purchase activity passes for students and additional members for your family.

**REGISTER ONLINE HERE:**  
<http://tinyurl.com/NewFamilyOLR>

Registrar Contact:  
**Becky Anthony**  
[registrar@norwalk.k12.ia.us](mailto:registrar@norwalk.k12.ia.us)  
 (515) 981-0676 ext. 4001

## Weather/Closings Info

School weather delays and closings are posted on [norwalkschools.org](http://norwalkschools.org) and on Norwalk Schools District Facebook and Twitter accounts. Notifications are sent to the email provided in the registration process.

Additional updates are also posted to local channels KCCI and WHOTV.



**REGISTER ONLINE HERE:**  
<http://tinyurl.com/NewFamilyOLR>



# Construction Update

SERVING A GROWING COMMUNITY - Kate Baldwin

The Norwalk School District is growing and continuing to plan and execute facility improvements to meet the needs of increased enrollment, safety-security, technology and educational programs. The District has a 10-year building maintenance plan and a 15-year Facilities Master Plan.

### Oviatt Elementary Renovations

Oviatt Elementary has gone through a transformation this past year! The building was fitted with new carpet, furniture in classrooms and major remodels featuring a new east entrance/routunda and new administrative offices. Major remodels also included a new kitchen, a new cafeteria entryway with newly installed washing stations for students and upgraded playground equipment!

### New Orchard Hills Elementary

To address increased enrollment, the District has built a new elementary school on North Avenue, west of Highway 28. The building is designed to serve 750 students with 30 general educational classrooms, three large-group intervention classrooms, a STEM classroom, a maker space, in addition to specialty classrooms for students with disabilities, library, regulation-size gymnasium, art and music classrooms. The building opened in the fall of 2019 and now houses 2nd and 3rd grade students.

### Norwalk Middle School Renovations

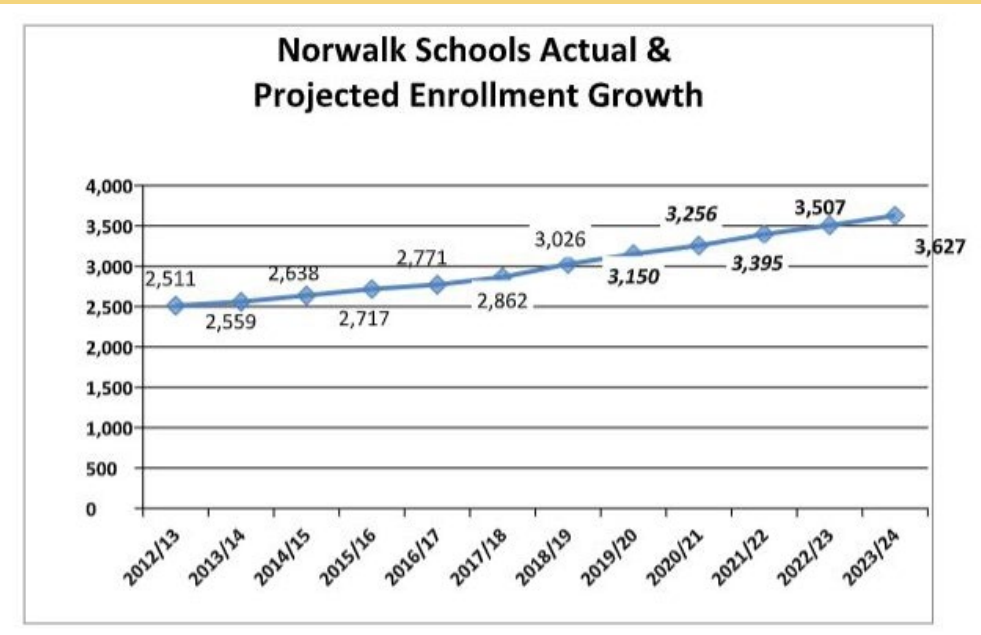
The root of this building was originally constructed in 1972. Since then, the building has received four additions. Current renovations include a career and technical education (CTE) building addition, a new corridor to improve student circulation, renovations of existing classrooms to modernize the areas, and general building improvements for heating and cooling, technology, electrical wiring, ADA and security items.

### Norwalk High School Renovations

The original section of the HS was built in 1961. The building has received nine additions and one major renovation to existing areas. The current renovations include improvements to CTE classrooms, media center, special education classrooms, guidance offices, some classroom reconfiguration and improved corridor circulation. The goal of renovation at our secondary campus is to create CTE classrooms that match current instructional applications in vocational programs, enhance technology to provide students with global connections and create spaces that invite students to learn in flexibly small group environments.

### Norwalk Physical Education & Competition Center (COMING SOON!)

In Spring of 2021, Norwalk CSD will break ground on a new Physical Education & Competition Center featuring an indoor track, a new weight room, wrestling, full basketball court complex, a in-house Warrior shop, additional classrooms and new Athletic and Activities offices. (See image on page 16 for preview)



**Did You Know?**  
The Norwalk School District's current student body encompasses students from 10 different countries who speak over 10 different languages!





**LEARNING FOR A LIFETIME**  
**#BeAWarrior**



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**Norwalk Schools**

380 Wright Road  
Norwalk, Iowa 50211

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