

Smoke Signal

CLASS
schedule

How To Fill Your Schedule



Are you confused about what classes to take next year, or how to fill your schedule? Here is a list of classes with some explanations in hopes to answer some of the frequent questions that are asked by students.

MATH

One of the hardest challenges people encounter are with what math class to take. It really depends on what grade you are in and what you have already taken. For a senior, you have the choice between **Statistics, Consumer Math, Pre-Calculus**, and **Calculus**. A junior can choose between **Pre-Calc, College Algebra**, and **Algebra 2**. A sophomore can take **Geometry, College Algebra** or **Algebra 2**. Therefore, as a Freshman you get to take **Geometry** or **Algebra**. Some of this can depend on what math class you got put in for eighth grade. Remember to always challenge yourself and take classes that will help you set your future up for success!

ELECTIVES

Even though the core classes are the most important, electives are too. You want to take an elective that benefits you and not one where you can't keep your eyes open. If you plan going into the health field, taking **Anatomy and Physiology** is a great idea, since it is only available every other year. If you want to take technology classes, Mrs. Short and Mrs. Anthony have multiple options like **Robotics, Drones**, and **Web Design**. However, if you like to be creative **Art** is available all four years.

One of our personal favorites is **Publishing** with Mrs. Anthony. Both this year and last year, we have produced the high school and elementary yearbooks. It is interesting to learn all the younger grade's names and go around to take pictures on holidays and events, like Halloween. Another one of our favorites is **News Writing**, aka the class providing this newspaper for you! It's so much fun

to come up with articles, hang out with friends, and put out a really good newspaper for all to enjoy! Additionally, there are various Ag and History electives too. Definitely consider some of these electives when filling out your schedule.

SNEAK PEAKS

We talked to our school's guidance counselor Mr. Fisher to get a sneak peak! He recommends to all students to take the classes that will help them with their preferred future career. A new class next year is an **ACT prep course** to help you prepare and be confident in taking the biggest test in your high school career. Another new class, for those animal lovers, is a **zoology class** taught by Mr. Fryman! Also, Mr. Fisher implies that there will be various music classes to choose from and a few online classes that are focused on a certain topic, like **business**.

CCP

It is a great idea to take any college classes whenever you can, because then you'll have a greater chance of having more credits for college and may even be able to graduate college earlier. Having help from the teachers around you in high school, is a benefit of taking a CCP class at Newton. It is smart to take the help you have now, as an advantage! **CCP Communications, Algebra, Sports Lit.** and **IUE Chemistry** and **English** are available here at the school.

Overall, picking classes for the upcoming school year can be stressful and overwhelming, but just remember you have multiple resources around the school to help you. Mr Fisher, all the teachers, and upperclassmen can give you any guidance to find the classes that fit you!

-The Snacker & Hippie

How Covid Affected The Winter Season

During this winter season there was many restrictions, including: mandatory mask-wearing, social distancing, and limited capacity of spectators at our sporting events. With the fewer numbers of fans being allowed in games, this also took away the typical student section. As players, this took away a lot of the energy that we fed off of during games but in the end we are lucky we were able to have a full season and even make it to tourney time!

Indians Winter 2020 - 2021 Season Ending Records

Boy's Basketball

The boy's ended their season with a good record of 11-12. They improved their record towards the end of the season winning six straight games in a row, and going eight wins out of their last ten games. The boy's picked up the seventh seed in the tournament and played the sixth seed Russia Saturday, February 20th but they sadly lost 67-56.

Girl's Basketball

The girls ended their season with a 5-16 record. Unfortunately, they couldn't turn their record around at the end of the season. They ended up getting the eighth seed and played the third seed, Bradford, on Saturday February 13th. The girl's ended up losing to Bradford 47-35.

Girl's Bowling

The ladies ended their season with a record of 7-5. Their home matches being at Miami Lanes in West Milton, Ohio! The girl's bowled at their sectional tournament on February 11th at Marion Lanes. Avery Hartman Advanced to Districts and ended up placing 20th overall, but wasn't able to advance to State.

Boy's Bowling

The boy's ended their season 6-9. They bowled their sectional tournament on February 10th at Marion Lanes. They were able to advance to Districts where they played at Beaver-Vu Bowling Alley in Beavercreek! They bowled on February 19! Sadly, the boys did not advance and placed 16th.

Swimming

Kendra Kern, Newton's only swimmer, moved onto Districts! Kendra's Sectional swim meet, was held at Trotwood High School on February 7th. Kendra placed 4th in the 100 backstroke, and 3rd in the 100 butterfly! Her District meet was held February 17th at Oxford! She had a great season finishing 20th in the backstroke, and 23rd in the butterfly. Great job Kendra!



A Sneak Peak to FFA Week

A Little History

The FFA, which you may think is *Future Farmers of America*, is actually now *The National FFA Organization*. National FFA Week is a time for FFA members to host activities that raise awareness about the role FFA plays in the development of agriculture's future leaders and the importance of agricultural education.



National FFA Week always runs Saturday to Saturday and encompasses Feb. 22, George Washington's birthday. The first National FFA Center was located on land once part of Washington's Mount Vernon farm. In 1939, the FFA purchased 28.5 acres of land a short distance from the Mount Vernon plantation, and that's where Washington's connection to FFA comes in. The National FFA Board of Directors designated the weeklong tradition, which began in 1948, in recognition of Washington's legacy as an agriculturist and farmer.

A group of young farmers founded FFA in 1928, influencing generations that agriculture is more than planting and harvesting — it involves science, business and more. The organization's mission is to prepare future generations for the challenges of feeding a growing population

The Current Plans

This year we have numerous activities planned to celebrate FFA Week. However, due to weather and our many snow days the celebration of FFA Week will be now held in the Spring.

In the past, some activities included taping a teacher to the wall, throwing pie in a teacher's face, cutting a student's hair into a mullet, and more! We have also done activities like a door decorating contest, and an emblem hunt.



In the Fall, we were unable to hold the normal class challenge which everyone enjoys so there are also more events planned for FFA week! The emblem hunt will be all week and there will be different "contests" throughout the rest of the week. These events will be announced later. Although these activities are pushed back, we will still do our best to have fun celebrating!



3

Strawberry Sales

For years, the Newton FFA Chapter has conducted a



Strawberry Sale. More recently, we have also added cheese to the sale. There has been a goal set every year to sell a certain amount of dollars in the sale. This year, the goal was \$10,000. For the first time ever, we met our goal! We sold \$11,644! Top sellers included Clint Shellenberger, Mattson Petry, Haley Abrams, Harold Oburn, Grant Avey, Bella Hall, and Reese Hess!

Winner's will receive a vest, and the chapter will celebrate later on with a party! The winning Class, 3rd Period, is also going to receive a prize! Also, anyone who participated in the sale will get hot wings for lunch during FFA Week, which will be celebrated in the Spring. All in all, I think we can all agree that this sale was a great success.

-The 9 1/2 Genius





Tips and Advice When Applying for a Job!



High school is a time when many teenagers start to apply for jobs. Although high school is a time for learning, participating in clubs and playing sports, if you are like me (one who doesn't play sports) you may be looking for something to fill the time. That is what motivated me to start looking for a job.

I currently work at Piqua West McDonalds (by the old Kroger) and a factory called Harmony (this is in Piqua as well). When I applied to McDonalds, I used a website called Snag-a-job. After filling out the application, a manager from McDonalds reached out to me to set up a time for a brief interview. Always remember, if you ever go in for an interview to dress in business casual clothes which gives a good first impression! After the interview they called me back to fill out paperwork where I learned it is important to remember two forms of ID (ex. License, Social Security Card, Birth Certificate)! Once I went through an orientation, I started my first training shift. I have now worked there for over a year and a half and am proud of the money I have earned to pay for my car and gas. I also enjoy working with other teenagers to make more friends outside of school.

However, when I got my job at Harmony, a family friend told me about the business and said I should try to apply since they were in need of part-time workers. I got the boss's number from her and called, asking how I could apply. He told me all I had to do was go into a place (Patrick Staffing) in Piqua and fill out a few forms listing my age and availability. I was basically hired on the spot for that job. I worked here for around three months but quickly realized that working late nights was difficult to balance with school.

I have also had previous experience in other jobs even though I no longer work at those places. I worked at Mrs. B's catering during their wedding season (Summer and Fall) in 2019. I found out about the opening from seeing a "Now Hiring" sign in the window. I went in the next day, dressed nicely, asking her how I could apply for the job. She then asked if I would be willing to do an interview right then and there. I am so glad that I said yes because it was a fun experience and we were able to eat the delicious food from the event once everything was cleaned up!

Something I have learned from these experiences is that customer service can help with opportunities outside of a job. It is helpful when talking to those older than you to try to maintain a respectful tone. Any skill learned in the job field can be used in other aspects of life. Lastly, there are many websites that can be used to find out about job opportunities such as Zip Recruiter, Snag-A-Job, and Indeed. It can also be helpful to ask around about job openings, but be sure to keep your options open.

~The Newbie

Make Your Own Holiday

In honor of MLK Day and Presidents Day, I thought it would be an interesting idea to see if presented the opportunity, **what holiday students would create?** We celebrate MLK Day to remember the life and accomplishments of Martin Luther King Jr., one of the most influential civil rights activists in our country's history. We celebrate Presidents Day in order to recognize our founding fathers as well as all the presidents that have served throughout the years of our illustrious country. Even though these aren't necessarily days we always think of when we say the word holiday, it is important to celebrate them to remind people of their significance.

To give a starting point for anyone who's confused, **I chose my holiday to be Kobe Day on February 24th (2/24).** This was around the time of his tragic death, however the date actually represents both the numbers he wore last in the NBA, 24, and the number his daughter, Gianna, consistently wore while growing up, 2. The first person I asked was **Ely Cook**, and he responded with quite a unique idea. His holiday would be a nationwide free ice cream day on May 21st, his birthday, in order to celebrate the oncoming summer. **Maya Diceanu**, went with a simple approach, a nationwide relaxation day on April 17th, for everyone to catch up on sleep and regain any lost motivation for the rest of the year. After asking a couple students I decided to ask **Mrs. Gearhardt** the same question. She came up with a day I'm sure all the students would enjoy as well, a national snow day on February 5th, which also happens to be her birthday. With all of these examples I challenge everyone reading this to answer the question, if you could make a holiday on any day of the year, when would it be and what for?

Congrats to National Honor Society's New Members!

Tori Benedict

Kaylee Deeter

Maya Diceanu

McKenna Downing

Josie Marple

Blake Reish



Jenna Robbins

Tristan Stanhope

Dalton Trucksis

Arianna Vannus

Luke Vannus

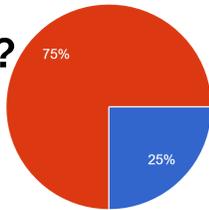
Hailey Whitacre

The Smoke Signal's Student Survey Results

We asked, and you responded! With over **80 responses collected**, the News Crew presents to you the results of the student survey!

Is Chick-Fil-A overrated?

An overwhelming majority
(**75.3%**) claimed that



Chick-Fil-A was not overrated. Now- is Chick-Fil-A better than Cane's? That's a different story.

Did you watch the Super Bowl?

More than expected, about 65% of us watched the Super Bowl this year.

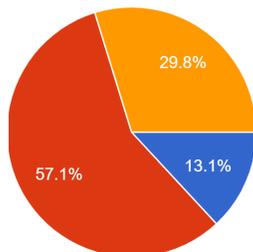


Do you have Tik-Tok?

The same amount of people who watched the Super Bowl has Tik Tok (65%)- Coincidence?

Workforce or College?

These results were very interesting. **57%** of students are looking to attend college after high school. Alternatively, **12%** want to go into the workforce. **30%** are still undecided.



Do you play a spring sport?

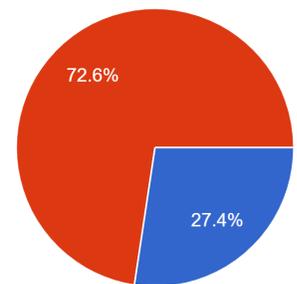
Almost split down the middle, 54% of the surveyees are spring athletes, while 46% are not.

Who's better to watch: Track and Field or Baseball/Softball?

with over 75% of all students in agreement, baseball is the most entertaining Spring sport to watch.

Hothead or Chipotle?

Apparently the latter. Only **28%** of students prefer Hothead over Chipotle.

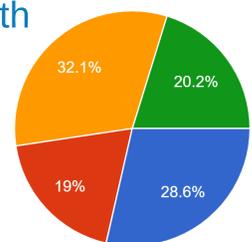


Morning or night showers?

Surprisingly, only 33% of all students take a shower in the morning. Props to you for being able to stay awake during first period.

Favorite Subject?

The results are strange- **History** (31%) and **Math** (29%) are the most popular. **Science** and **English**, on the other hand, only sit at 20% each.



How often are you on your phone?

60% of students replied that they are on their phone on average about five hours a day. The remaining 40% was split down the middle - half on their phone more than five hours, half on their phone less than **two** hours.

DOCUMENTARIES THAT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE

~The Joker

Many people watch movies because we like to be entertained. Documentaries are used for learning factual information however, they can still be entertaining. You can learn so much from even an hour-long documentary, like information about wars, musical achievements, the environment, and so much more. In this article, I have included three documentaries that I have watched and thought they are worth your time as well!

In Mrs. Kenworthy's class, Senior Seminar, we have been watching a great documentary on Netflix called, *The Social Dilemma*. It is about how the increasing use of technology is becoming addictive and how this is having a negative overall impact on our lives. Basically what that means is that our generation, Generation Z (people born between 1996-2015), has always had access to technology and social media, so we are growing up in a world that is different than our parents. This documentary really hits home to me because after watching it, I really woke up and realized that I am addicted to social media.

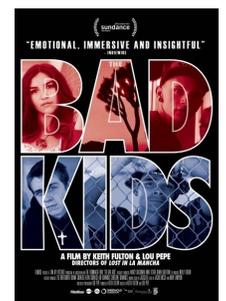


Another amazing documentary is on Hulu and it's called, *I am Greta*. This film is a little under two hours and is about a fifteen year old girl named Greta Thunberg, who wants to bring attention to the importance of climate change. She skips school and sits outside Parliament to show politicians that if they don't care about her future, why should she? Overall, the documentary was about acting to stop climate change before it's too late. Many of the

messages are about big decisions like drilling oil but it's so powerful it will also make you think twice about throwing that next McDonald's cup outside your car window.



The final documentary is called *The Bad Kids*. You can watch it for free on Tubi. This film is about a principal's mission to help out Black Rock Continuation High School. This school is one of California's alternative schools for students at risk of dropping out. Every student here has fallen so far behind in credits that they have no hope of earning a diploma at a traditional high school. This school and principal gives the students encouragement and support that they have not known before. It's very emotional and heartfelt.



I hope you check out one of these films (and enjoy them as much as I did!) and remember that when you watch TV, and choose to watch a documentary you are learning something new! You can always find me walking the hallways of the school to tell me what you thought!



HOT TOPIC: HIGH SCHOOL RELATIONSHIPS

In High School, relationships can be either positive or negative depending on what your intentions are. Maybe you are in it for the long haul, or you are just trying to occupy your time. Well, if you are in it to show off to your friends that you are in a relationship, then maybe you are not fit to be in one at the moment. There are so many positives to just being on your own! You can have all the alone time you want, you can focus on getting better grades, spending more time with your family, and overall save money. You don't need to be in a relationship just because everyone else is. What you need to do is set morals for yourself and abide by those morals and

just focus on yourself in high school because you are not going to get these years back. You will make so many memories with your friends throughout school, and that is what it's all about. It's not about having a boyfriend or a girlfriend. It's about surrounding yourself with close friends that makes you a better person. It's about making unforgettable memories with your friends that you can look back on in the future.

Some people are better when they are dating in high school. Some people meet their significant other in high school and that is perfectly fine. An example of this is Addison Peters parents, Clint and

Heather Peters, who were in fact "High School sweethearts." We asked Heather what it takes to make a good relationship and answered with, "Definitely communication and trust." If you are really wanting to be in a relationship with someone, keep in mind that the only way that these relationships work is because they stay loyal, communicate with one another, learn to trust each other, and always make time for each other in their lives. Overall, relationships in High School can either be tough or actually have a good long term effect, just always remember to focus and take time for yourself.

-THE INDECISIVE ONE &
-THE DRAMA QUEEN

The Establishment of Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day occurs every year on the 14th of February, across the world. A day full of love, flowers, candy, and gifts being exchanged amongst loved ones. As you may be wondering, how did this tradition begin? The year was 496 A.D., the tradition was fabricated from a Roman festival, and this tradition became known as "Valentine's Day." Initially, boys

drew names of girls from a box and sometimes they would go as far as getting married. Eventually, the church wanted to turn this festival into a Christian celebration as well as a way to remember St. Valentine too. St. Valentine was a 3rd-century Roman Saint, Commemorated in Western Christianity. In time, St. Valentine's name

was beginning to be used by people to express their feelings towards the ones they loved most. As many years went by more and more people began to celebrate, leading to over 20 billion dollars being spent by people across the world on Valentine's Day gifts in 2019.



-The
Vaultier



Newton FCCCLA Takes on Distractive Driving

Newton FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) students are raising the awareness that distractions have on driving safely. According to NHTSA, one of every ten fatal crashes in the U.S. involves distraction, resulting in more than 3,000 deaths per year. The statistics show teen drivers are 44% more likely to text while driving. We realize this is true with the student drivers at our school. Newton FCCLA was awarded a \$1000 grant from Families Acting for Community Traffic Safety (FACTS).

The project involved educating our school and community about the dangers of distractive driving. The Newton Officer Team, consisting of Natalee Carlin, Regina Mikalauskas, Luke Vannus, Hannah Beidelman, Jaden Stine and Kelley Armentrout worked together on this project entitled, "Life Is Short....Don't Make It Shorter".

The entire student body of Newton High School was surveyed to determine their knowledge of the problem. Through announcements, stall talks, posters, and a highway billboard, the student body was made aware of the dangers of distractive driving; then, they were challenged to take a pledge to help eliminate distracted driving. Family members also were encouraged to take the pledge.

Newton FCCLA will continue to educate our community by highlighting state driving laws and creating a wide spread concern about distractions that can occur while driving; after all, it's all about saving lives.

