



Northern Highlands Regional High School

HILLSIDE AVENUE
ALLENDALE, NEW JERSEY 07401
PHONE (201) 327-8700 Fax (201) 327-2161
www.northernhighlands.org

JOSEPH J. OCCHINO
Principal

MICHAEL T. KOTH
Assistant Principal

ROBERT E. WILLIAMS
Director of Athletics and Activities

THOMAS M. BUONO
Director of Special Services

December 2, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Northern Highlands Special Education Parent Advisory Group is organized to allow parents the opportunity to contribute and provide feedback to the district on issues concerning students with disabilities. Meetings are scheduled by the Director of Special Services and the Child Study Team.

Meetings provide an opportunity for parents to provide input to the district on issues concerning students with disabilities. The Child Study Team also makes presentations to parents on topics of particular interest or coordinates a presentation from a guest speaker. Following the presentations discussion sessions are held.

This year our first meeting could not be held due to scheduling conflicts/school shut down. The second meeting scheduled, will now be held virtually via Zoom on March 31st, 2021 from 9:00 a.m.-10:00a.m. Our presenter will be Dr. Jessica Verdicchio, the new Supervisor of Wellness at Northern Highlands. She will also be joined by the Student Assistant Counselors in the Wellness Department. They will provide an overview of this new department, services provided and resources available to students and families that are most beneficial for students with diagnosed learning disabilities. Dr. Verdicchio has spent the past 16 years at Northern Highlands as a School Social Worker/Case Manager. Meetings are open to any special education parent in the district. Parents of special education students in the district will also be contacted by their case manager prior to each of the meetings as a reminder if they think the topic of the presentation may be particularly beneficial to them. If you are interested in attending a meeting, please contact your case manager or our Special Services Administrative Assistant, Christine Shirey (x-516) to confirm attendance.

We also encourage you to contact your child's case manager at any time with suggestions on topics you would like to see presented at the meetings. Our presentation topics are based on parent feedback from prior meetings. We are always interested in presenting new topics and welcome your input on issues you would like to learn more about.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Buono