



December 2020

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Volume 6 - Issue 3

“Inspiring individual learning through innovation.”

## Newark Digitizer

[www.nda.k12.oh.us](http://www.nda.k12.oh.us)

### FROM THE EDITORS

Winter Break is Dec. 21– Jan. 3. We wish students and families a safe and healthy break. Students do not have to do assignments during this time but are encouraged to if they are not at least halfway through their classes.

The Editors,

Laura Moore [lmooore@newarkschools.us](mailto:lmooore@newarkschools.us)

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### TEAM 9

Are you in 9th grade? Are you interested in getting to know your classmates and having some fun? Join Team 9! Please email Kim Taylor for more information.

Kim Taylor: [ktaylor@newarkschools.us](mailto:ktaylor@newarkschools.us)

### SCHOOL OFFICE NEWS

NDA’s cheerful, funny, and all-around-amazing, long-time secretary, Selma Friesel, will be leaving us for good in a few days for retirement. Things just won’t be the same around here without Selma, but we know she is excited to get to spend more time with her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

You will be missed, Selma! Thank you for your service to our school.

## STAFF COLUMN

**This December is a special month for us at NDA because it is the last month that our principal and coordinator of alternative education, John Lutz, will be with us before he retires. John has been our fearless leader for 12 years. He will be greatly missed by our students, families, and staff. Some of our staff members volunteered to write a few words of thanks to John in this column.**

### **Thank you, Mr. Lutz, for...**

always fighting for NDA's students and staff. –Randi Salyers

being supportive and always encouraging.—Kim Taylor

all the support over the past couple of years both in and out of school.—Chad King

being our crusher of cockroaches (metaphorically), beater of Bigfoot, and slayer of sharknados. –Laura Moore

Thank you for giving me a chance at NDA. You always believed in me despite my upbringing that you know all too well about! And yet, you still hired me! I've always said, if it's not NDA, I don't want it! You are the biggest reason for that. Thank you.—Kayleigh Gottschalk

John, I will forever be grateful for the opportunity you gave me to do my dream job. Without your willingness to put me in this position, I would have never been able to fulfill my dream of being a social worker in a school. While I'm sad you are leaving, I also want to wish you the best in your retirement.—Brandi Peach

John, You have been the BEST administrator I have worked with! DON'T GO! Thanks for giving me the opportunity to be a MUSTANG and part of the FANTASTIC staff you assembled. I hope you enjoy what's next. –Paul Barbuto

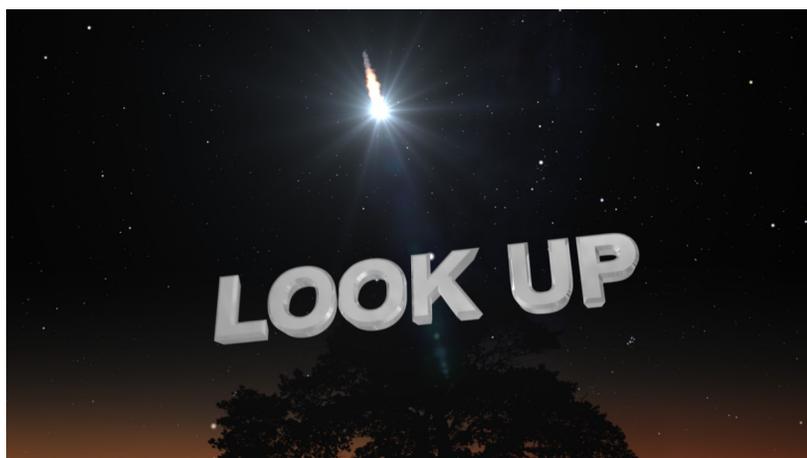
I want to thank John for taking me into the NDA family and consolidating my love for education. Without him and this place I am not certain my love for helping the whole student would have blossomed into what it is today. –Robert Johnson

## STAFF COLUMN

### From the Division of Earth Science Studies/Science Department/NDA/NCS:

"The Geminids meteor shower, usually one of the most spectacular showers of the year, runs from Dec. 4 to Dec. 17 annually. In 2020, the shower will peak before dawn on Monday, Dec. 14. Geminids meteors are often bright, intensely colored, and slower moving than average because they are produced by particles dropped by an asteroid designated 3200 Phaethon. The best time to watch for Geminids will be from full darkness on Sunday until dawn on Monday morning. At about 2 a.m. local time, the sky overhead will be pointed toward the densest part of the debris field, and up to 120 meteors per hour are possible under dark sky conditions. True Geminids will appear to radiate from a position in the sky above the bright stars Castor and Pollux, but the meteors can appear anywhere in the sky. A new moon on the peak night should deliver a terrific shower for 2020." - space.com

"Winter in the Northern Hemisphere will officially commence on Monday, Dec. 21 at 10:02 GMT (or 5:02 a.m. EST and 2:02 a.m. PST). At that time the sun will reach the solstice — its southernmost declination for the year, resulting in the lowest noonday sun, the shortest amount of daylight of the year for the Northern Hemisphere, and the longest amount for the Southern Hemisphere. After the December solstice, the daylight hours will begin to increase for the Northern Hemisphere.(HEY!!!)" - space.com



# Recipe of the Month

## Corn Casserole

By special contributor Ryan Walker (former NDA high school history teacher)

### Ingredients:

14.75 oz. of canned creamed corn

15.25 oz. of canned whole kernel sweet corn, drained

8 oz. Jiffy corn muffin mix

8 oz. sour cream

1 stick of butter, melted

1 cup of cheddar cheese (buy the block and shred yourself so it's creamier)

### Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

Grease a 9x 13 pan

Mix all ingredient except cheese and put in pan

Bake uncovered for 45 minutes

Top with cheese and bake for an additional 10-15 minutes or until golden brown

Let stand for 5 minutes and email Ryan telling him how awesome he is while it's cooling. : )

Serve and enjoy!

# Student Column

## Path is the Music to the School

By Hayden Flores

Music is known through the multiverse. Some say it is the language of love. Others say it soothes the soul. But to me, music is all that is getting me through these times. For me country music wakes me up and gets me ready for the day. Christian music and classical music calm me down. Music can bring you up and excite you, or it can calm you down and sooth you to sleep, but it is all about what the music does for you. It doesn't matter what it does for me or someone else. All that matters is what the music does for you. Everyone is different. It might not be the same for everybody. What does the music do for you?





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For the first time that I can remember, semester 1 of the school year is ending before the holiday break. What does this mean? Believe it or not, we are half way through the 20 – 21 school year. This also means that high school students will have completed the Fall End of Course Exams. It also means that you should be on or around lesson 18 in each of your classes.

The holiday break will be a good time to reflect on what you have accomplished during semester 1 of the 2020 – 2021 school year. Once you have evaluated what you have done, I urge you to look ahead to semester 2. By looking at each of your courses you will know whether you are ahead of pace, right on pace, or have some catching up to do.

Accounts will continue to be open over the holiday break. If you find that you are behind, please set a goal to complete some lessons. We certainly want everyone to earn the credits or complete the grade level in which you are enrolled.

Please remember that we are here to support more than just your academic needs. We have ways that we can help with the many challenges you face. It is our hope that each of you have made a connection with one of our staff. We hope that you feel comfortable enough with at least one staff member to confide in them should you find yourself in a time of need. We welcome the opportunity for us to show our support.

During the holiday season and beyond, be safe on-line and everywhere,

John Lutz

Coordinator of Alternative Education