



# ALUMNI

*Newsletter*

**WINTER 2024**

## **BUILDING A CULTURE OF INTERDEPENDENCE AT NPES**

John Novick, Jr., Head of School

At NPES, we are continuing our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion by embracing the concept of interdependence — a value that fosters dignity, belonging, and collaboration. This November, our faculty and staff engaged in an inspiring workshop with Brian Corley of Single Story, Inc., who challenged us to consider how an independent school can create a community where everyone is needed and valued.

While we recognize we still have much to do, NPES' commitment to its [DEIB](#) work has never been stronger.

For instance:

- 28% of our students now self-identify as students of color (and we now attract students from 17 Chicago zip codes)
- All faculty and full-time staff have completed at least one [SEED seminar](#) (a year-long commitment)
- NPES employees are now actively engaged in DEIB-related work through both [ISACS](#) and [NAIS](#), learning and leading on regional and national levels while representing our small school with a big impact

- NPES faculty have developed and adopted specific DEI Standards, and are now working to integrate them into our curriculum across all grade levels
- As an extension of their social studies curriculum, eighth graders now explore the Civil Rights Movement in person through an annual civil rights tour of Georgia and Alabama
- 1 in 5 teachers at NPES identify as people of color

[Read more](#) about how we're integrating these principles, and more, into our daily work and striving to build a supportive, inclusive environment for all.

## **HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT**

Kim Smith, Director of Learning Services & High School Guidance Counselor

The NPES 8th graders are nearing the end of the high school admissions season. All 23 8th graders participated in the CPS high school admissions test and did very well (74% with scores in the 90th percentile or above). Once again this year, each student is exploring a variety of high schools which include Amundsen, Lincoln Park, Senn, Von Steuben, Payton, Northside, Whitney Young, Jones, Lane Tech, Wolcott, Parker, Latin, St. Ignatius, and DePaul. Keep an eye out for news of where students decide to go to high school. There's a good chance another NPES alumni might be headed to your alma mater!

## **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

NPES is proud to have a vibrant community, with over 160 families, 50 employees, and hundreds of alumni actively involved in the North Center-Ravenswood area. We encourage alumni who own businesses or work for companies to explore opportunities for partnership.

To learn more about becoming a Community Partner, click [here](#).

## **SAVE THE DATE: EXCITING EVENTS COMING IN 2025!**

We're thrilled to announce the **NPES Community Golf Outing**, will take

place in June 2025! This event will be open to Alumni Students, Alumni Parents, Alumni Grandparents, and Current NPES Parents and Grandparents, with all proceeds benefiting the NPES Fund. Start forming your foursomes now — more details will be shared in the new year!

Join us for the **NPES Gala** on March 1, 2025, at Sarabande Chicago, 2726 W. Roscoe St., Chicago. It promises to be a memorable evening celebrating 45 Years of Excellence. Stay tuned for more details!

### **STAY CONNECTED!**

We'd love to hear what you've been up to! Please complete [our online form](#) to share your news with us. Feel free to share this link with your former classmates to help reconnect them with NPES.

### **NPES ALUMNI MAGNETS**

We now have NPES Alumni car magnets. Be sure to stop by the front office to pick up your free magnet or to have one sent to you, please reach out to [Erin Leyden](#), Director of Development & Marketing.

### **NPES WEBSITE**

Our [website](#) is the largest and most effective tool for sharing everything that makes NPES special. We work hard to keep it up to date and recently started adding new articles written by our incredible staff, offering insights into their classrooms and curriculum. Be sure to visit often to see what's new!

We've also included links below to explore our latest Annual Report and *Currents Magazine* — don't miss out!

### **SUPPORT THE NPES FUND: HELP US CONTINUE A CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE**

The NPES Fund continues to be essential to maintaining and enhancing the educational experience for all of our students. The fund directly supports important initiatives like advanced technology, wellness programs, extracurricular activities, and the recruitment of exceptional

faculty and staff. It helps ensure that NPES remains a vibrant, inclusive community where every child can thrive.

As the year comes to a close, please consider making an end-of-year gift to the NPES Fund. Your support helps us continue a culture of excellence at NPES, benefiting both current and future generations of students.

[Donate today](#) to make a lasting impact on the NPES community.

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Thank you for being an important part of the NPES community. As we continue to grow our alumni network, we look forward to staying connected and sharing the lasting impact our small school has on the lives of our students, parents, and faculty.

[FISCAL YEAR 2024 ANNUAL REPORT](#)

[FALL 2024 CURRENTS MAGAZINE](#)

[NPES NEWS & VIEWS](#)

[ALUMNI SPIRITWEAR SHOP](#)

