

## New Vistas High School

*Neighbors'* New Vistas High School was formed to offer students a true alternative option for attaining a high school diploma. New Vistas is here for students who wish to re-enter high school (no matter their age), who need an accelerated pace or extra time for credit completion, and who seek an alternative learning atmosphere.

New Vistas' curriculum is aligned with Indiana State Standards and the Common Core standards. The curriculum provides students the means and supports necessary to earn a Core 40 diploma.



### Communication

Here at New Vistas, we recognize the value of communication at all levels. Parents and students are encouraged to communicate on a regular basis with teachers about a student's academic progress, learning needs, or other issues.

We will communicate with you by sending home a weekly newsletter every Monday.

School information will also be on the school's web site and Facebook page.

Students and parents will also have online access to school information on New Vistas' Power School account.

Students, parents or guardians, and student advocates are ALWAYS encouraged to call, write a note, or email us if you have concerns or questions and we will schedule a time to talk or meet.

### Neighbors' New Vistas High School

Phone: (219) 850-4448

Principal's E-mail: [dknotts03@yahoo.com](mailto:dknotts03@yahoo.com)

Director's E-mail: [rreiner@neoadulted.org](mailto:rreiner@neoadulted.org)

## New Vistas' 2012-2013 School Calendar

### Student Orientation and Registration:

August 28, 29, & 30, 2012

**Fall Term:** September 4 - November 29, 2012

**Winter Term:** December 3, 2012 - March 7, 2013

**Spring Term:** March 11 – June 7, 2013

**Summer Term** (optional): June 13 – July 12, 2013

**Summer Remediation & ECA Preparation** (optional):  
July 29 – August 9, 2013

### New Vistas' Daily Class Schedule

The daily schedule includes an advisory period, four core academic periods, and an optional fifth period for tutoring, career exploration, credit recovery, and service learning. Fridays are half-days except for students who need to attend a make-up lab, serve a detention, or receive tutoring.

#### Monday through Thursday Schedule

8:00 - 8:25	Advisory
8:30 - 9:55	Period 1
10:00 - 11:25	Period 2
11:25 - 12:05	Lunch
12:05 - 1:30	Period 3
1:35 - 3:00	Period 4
3:15 - 4:40	Period 5 (optional)
3:30 - 6:30	Credit Recovery Lab

#### Friday Schedule

8:30 - 9:15	Period 1
9:20 - 10:05	Period 2
10:10 - 10:55	Period 3
11:00 - 11:45	Period 4
11:50 - 12:30	Lunch & Advisory
12:30 - 3:30	Detention, Make-up Lab, Tutoring & Remediation Lab

*Please note- this is a tentative schedule - subject to change*



## New Vistas' Philosophy

New Vistas understands that all students have unique life and educational experiences, needs, and learning styles. Our goal is to know each student well and to use this knowledge to guide, support, and motivate them to succeed.

New Vistas values parental involvement at every level and encourages parents to be an active partner with teachers and the principal in order to give students the most meaningful learning experience possible.

New Vistas has high expectations for all students – academically and behaviorally. We expect all students to take an active leadership role in contributing to the school.

New Vistas expects ALL students to be:

- ❖ Respectful
- ❖ Accountable
- ❖ Hardworking

## Neighbors' Educational Opportunities

Neighbors' Educational Opportunities (NEO) is a locally governed non-for profit organization that provides alternative high school and adult education services to Northwest Indiana high school students and adults. NEO was granted the charter from Ball State University in December 2011 to open New Vistas High School. NEO also provides comprehensive adult education services, such as GED, English language, and ECA and college preparation classes in Portage and runs an official GED testing site.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is a charter school and how does it compare to a traditional public school?**

Charter schools are **free public** schools open to any Indiana student. They are **not** private or parochial schools.

Charter public schools are fully accredited and must meet the same levels of accountability as traditional public schools. They also must follow all state and federal guidelines.

Charter schools were created to provide opportunities for creative and innovative educational choices for students and their parents.

### **Will New Vistas be a better fit for ALL students?**

That is a decision that each student and parent must make based on students' learning style, interests, and academic, social, and emotional needs.

### **What is unique about New Vistas?**

New Vistas will provide students alternative opportunities to reengage in school and to earn their high school diploma, no matter their age, number of credits, or pace of learning. New Vistas will offer:

- ❖ A caring community dedicated to learning
- ❖ A Core 40 curriculum taught by highly qualified and licensed teachers
- ❖ Smaller class sizes
- ❖ Accelerated credit opportunities
- ❖ Dual credit and AP classes
- ❖ Community service, career exploration, and college-bound programs
- ❖ An extended school day and school year
- ❖ Support systems including child care and tutoring and daily advisory periods

### **How does a student enroll in New Vistas High School?**

Enrollment information will be available on our current website [www.neoadulted.org](http://www.neoadulted.org) or by contacting the school at (219) 850-4448.

## Testimonies from Our Students

*I have never had teachers who cared as much about me. They really know me and know how to help.*



*Some of the students are older than me, but I like that. They are more mature. There is less drama. It's interesting to learn from them and from their experiences.*



*Last winter, the teachers took some of us to the Chicago Art Institute.*

*It was my first time in Chicago and on the South Shore train. I really am glad I came to this school.*



*I have been out of school for a while so the classes were a little hard for me, but the school and teachers worked with me and gave me the time and help I needed to pass my classes.*



*Everyone seems to really care for each other. At my old school, there were so many groups - I never felt like I belonged or fit in. Here we all seem to be accepted.*

*I am so glad that this school offered a College-Bound program. I learned so much about colleges and how to apply for financial aid. I just found out that I will be starting college next year! I couldn't have accomplished all I have without this school and the opportunity it has given me!*

# Neighbors' NEW VISTAS HIGH SCHOOL

*Forging promising futures - changing lives*



Neighbors' New Vistas High School is a free public charter high school open to any Indiana student who desires an alternative pathway to earn a high school diploma.

**New Vistas High School**  
5391 Central Avenue  
Portage, Indiana 46368  
(219) 850-4448

Donald Knotts, Principal