



School Profile New Liberty Innovation School

welcome all | challenge yourself | create a positive impact

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Our School ~ Different by Design

New Liberty Innovation School is a small high school within the Salem Public School district. Our school provides students with small class sizes, real-world learning opportunities (inside and outside the classroom) and choice and voice around topics and content of study. In addition to academic opportunities, the New Liberty staff provides students with wrap-around support and coaching, which enables students to fully engage in their learning and make academic and social-emotional progress.

Designed to address the needs of students at high risk of dropping out, New Liberty is intentionally different from a traditional high school. By re-engaging students into a learning experience tailored to their strengths, interests and post high school goals we can re-ignite the desire to learn and finish high school. We focus on the whole student and their social emotional needs through on-site counseling and by explicitly teaching social emotional and executive functioning skills. Finally, we have an employment and post graduate planning specialist who works to ensure that every student has real-world job and/or internship experiences to be exposed to a variety of career pathways, providing students first hand knowledge of the world of work.

Mission

The mission of NLIS is to engage all students in real-life learning about themselves and the world, to empower them to create a positive impact on their communities, and to ensure they have the tools to pursue their goals after graduation.

Academic

competency-based education,
blended and project-based
learning, personalized
pathways to graduation

Student Support

trauma-informed counseling and
social-emotional learning focus

Career & College Readiness

community-based internships and
the creation of individual
post-secondary plans

Portrait of a New Liberty Graduate - Independent learners who are globally engaged

COMMUNICATION

Listening to multiple
perspectives, expressing ideas
clearly in a variety of situations

CRITICAL THINKING

Thinking through and analyzing
relevant, important information
to make decisions and solve
problems.

COLLABORATION

Being able to successfully work with
other people by communicating
effectively to achieve a common goal;
working challenges as they come up.

CREATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING

Finding new and innovative ways to
solve problem, thinking "outside
the box", thinking with flexibility

CULTURAL COMPETENCE

Embracing and honoring diversity,
keeping an open mind, willing to
learn and celebrate differences

SELF AWARENESS

Knowing, understanding
yourself, your emotions and
your impact on others

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NLIS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible to graduate, all students must complete the following portfolio requirements which are equal to the required graduation credits.

To earn credit, you must complete 100% of each competency portfolio at or above the required performance level or growth level. (See charts above)

Competency Area	Required Portfolios	Credits Earned	DISCOVERY PORTFOLIO	ACTION PORTFOLIO	CHALLENGE PORTFOLIO	IMPACT PORTFOLIO
Humanities (HUM)	4	4	Required for Graduation Humanities 1	Required for Graduation Humanities 2	Required for Graduation Humanities 3	Required for Graduation Humanities 4
Math (MATH) Competencies and Concepts	3	3	Required for Graduation Integrated Math 1	Required for Graduation Integrated Math 2	Required for Graduation Entrepreneurship	Required for Graduation Personal Finance
Personal Finance Concepts (PF)	1	1				Required for Graduation Personal Finance
Science (SCI)	3	3	Required for Graduation Principles of Biomedical Science (PLTW)	Required for Graduation Human Body Systems (PLTW)	Required for Graduation Medical Intervention (PLTW) or STEM	
Habits of Success (HOS)	4	4	Required for Graduation Habits of Success 1	Required for Graduation Habits of Success 2	Required for Graduation Habits of Success 3	Required for Graduation Habits of Success 4
Health and Wellness Concepts (PE and HW)	1	2				Required for Graduation Health/PE
Portrait of a Graduate (POG)	4	4	Required for Graduation	Required for Graduation	Required for Graduation	Required for Graduation
Capstone (CAP)	1	1				Required for Graduation Capstone
Wayfinding (WF)	4	4	Required for Graduation Career Exploration / MEFA	Required for Graduation Career Exploration / MEFA / Professional Toolkit	Required for Graduation Career Exploration / Internships / Professional Toolkit	Required for Graduation Career Exploration / Internships / Professional Toolkit
Total Credits		26				

Academic Program at NLIS

Our **Competency Curriculum Framework** is a competency-based framework structured to replace time-based, age-based, and course-based structures with one that focuses on learning, growth, and readiness. Our framework defines the competencies, skills, and experiences students will need to master and/or complete in order to demonstrate readiness, earn credit, and graduate from high school. Competencies are created with a developmental continuum that shows how learning progresses and becomes more complex.

- **Core Content Area Competencies (Humanities, Math and Science):** These competency sets are aligned to national and state standards and focus on the application of knowledge in multiple ways through multiple experiences. Math and Science have specific concept lists (standards) for which students must show proficiency along with the competency and skills.
- **Habits of Success Competencies:** These competencies focus on developing the interpersonal and intrapersonal skills, habits, and behaviors that research suggests are essential to success in learning, self-direction, goal setting and well-being.
- **Portrait of Graduate Competency:** This competency focuses on a set of skills developing their strengths in creative problem solving, critical thinking, communication, collaboration, self awareness and cultural humility - all important skills beyond high school. These skills are transferable in the world of work.
- **Wayfinding Experiences:** These experiences focus on developing and identifying interests and passions, navigating transitions, learning from failure, and building social capital, culminating in a postsecondary plan upon graduation.
- **Health & Wellness:** In addition to physical education, NLIS also requires students to learn about and practice social emotional health concepts and skills for responsible decision-making and healthy relationships. These concepts are aligned with the Massachusetts Comprehensive Health and Physical Education framework.

NLIS GRADING

CHART 1: ALL COMPETENCY PORTFOLIOS: GRADE CONVERSIONS

To meet the graduation requirement for each portfolio, you must complete 100% of your portfolio at or above the required performance level or growth level.

PORTFOLIO STATUS	CREDIT STATUS	GRADE CONVERSION	DISCOVERY PORTFOLIO	ACTION PORTFOLIO	CHALLENGE PORTFOLIO	IMPACT PORTFOLIO
			Performance Level	Performance Level	Performance Level	Performance Level
Portfolio Complete	Credit Earned	A	7.5 or higher	8.5 or higher	9.5 or higher	10.5 or higher
Portfolio Complete	Credit Earned	B	7.0-7.4 Made 2 or more levels of Growth	8.0-8.4 Made 2 or more levels of Growth	9.0-9.4 Made 2 or more levels of Growth	10.0-10.4 Made 2 or more levels of Growth
Portfolio Complete	Credit Earned	C	6.0-6.9 Made 1.3 levels of Growth	7.0-7.9 Made 1.3 levels of Growth	8.0-8.9 Made 1.3 levels of Growth	9.0-9.9 Made 1.3 levels of Growth
Portfolio Complete	Did Not Meet Requirements	DNM (Did Not Meet)	Below 6.0 and Did Not Meet Growth Target	Below 7.0 and Did Not Meet Growth Target	Below 8.0 and Did Not Meet Growth Target	Below 9.0 and Did Not Meet Growth Target
Portfolio Not Complete	Did Not Complete Requirements	NC (Not Complete)	If you have any M ratings in your portfolio at the end of the year or if your Performance Level or Growth is too low, you will remain in this portfolio until you complete all of the requirements. You must complete your portfolios to graduate.			