About

A great journey is a result of great guidance. NorthStar is committed to expanding opportunities for boys to find and follow their own paths to success.

Mission

NorthStar’s mission is to change young men’s lives through programming that supports, challenges, inspires and instills a life rooted in education, self-discipline
and service to the community.

**Vision**

NorthStar’s founding vision is to dramatically increase the proportion of male students in North Omaha who graduate high school on time, positioned to begin post-secondary education or immediately enter the workforce.

By employing a model of high-touch, multi-year extended learning, we focus on accelerating core academic and social-skill competencies of every young man we serve.

**History**

NorthStar’s overarching focus is on preparing North Omaha’s school-aged boys, traditionally beset by significant barriers to academic success, to complete ninth grade on level and graduate high school on time.

NorthStar fosters out-of-school time services for boys starting in elementary school and up through their senior year. By providing structures of support for young men before they experience disengagement from school, NorthStar guides young men throughout the critical transitions into middle school and high school.

Since programming began in 2014, NorthStar has developed a scalable after-school and summer program model centered on rigorous, student-centered academic and social-emotional development to transform the educational and life trajectories of the young men it serves.

- 2014: NorthStar opens its doors to young men in grades 5-8, serving around 100 boys daily.
- 2015: NorthStar introduces competitive lacrosse programming to its
competitive athletics offerings.

- **2016**: In response to identified needs of NorthStar students, the Leaders & Achievers Program is created to support NorthStar students during their high school years.

- **2017**: NorthStar’s retention rates for middle and high school students exceeds the national average for the after-school programs serving students in this same age group; NorthStar dedicates the HDR Leaders & Achievers Classroom for high school students.

- **2018**: NorthStar served over 600 boys in grades 3-12, with on-site daily attendance exceeding 180 students in after-school services and 230 students in Camp NorthStar summer programming.

- **2019**: NorthStar announced an 18,000 sq. ft. facility south expansion as well as a north wing expansion, consisting of a two-story wing of classrooms.

- **2020**: NorthStar will open the new South Expansion for programming.

- **2021**: NorthStar will open the North Expansion for programming. Upon completion of both expansion projects, NorthStar will enroll over 850 students annually, serving 300 students per day after-school and 360 students in Camp NorthStar summer programming.

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**NorthStar Staff**

**ACADEMIC MANAGERS ARE LISTED IN GREEN**

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**Hana Abbott**

**SENIOR ACADEMIC MANAGER (HIGH SCHOOL)**

hana@northstar360.org

phone ext. **213**
Education

- Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction (Doane University)
- Bachelor of Science in Business Teacher Education (Wayne State College)

What do you do at NorthStar?

I oversee the high school program while helping to ensure the vertical and horizontal alignments of all academic programming at NorthStar.

Why are you at NorthStar?

I want to provide opportunities and experiences for young men that they might not have otherwise.

Paris Cross

Program Coordinator
paris@northstar360.org

phone ext. 212

Education

- Bachelor of Science in Sociology (University of Nebraska - Omaha)

What do you do at NorthStar?

As Program Coordinator, I work alongside the Academic Managers at NorthStar to ensure all programming runs smoothly. I also make sure that our young men are provided with transportation and have meals at NorthStar daily.

Why are you at NorthStar?
I am at NorthStar to make a difference in the lives of the boys we serve in the North Omaha community.

Angel Fairchild
operations coordinator
angel@northstar360.org
phone ext. 218

Education
- General Studies Associate in Applied Science (Metropolitan Community College)
- Specialist Diploma: Early Childhood Education (Metropolitan Community College)

What do you do at NorthStar?
In my position, I guide parents and guardians through the process of enrolling their students at NorthStar, including maintaining the student database, answering questions, and keeping all student files up-to-date.

Why are you at NorthStar?
I believe in helping these young men accomplish their potential to the fullest through the educational support they receive here at NorthStar.

Scott Hazelrigg
PRESIDENT, NORTHSTAR FOUNDATION & OMAHA OUTWARD BOUND
scott@northstar360.org
phone ext. 201
Education

- Juris Doctorate (University of Nebraska – Lincoln, College of Law)
- Bachelor of Science in Political Science (Texas Christian University)

What do you do at NorthStar?

In musical terms, I am just the conductor of a very talented orchestra.

Why are you at NorthStar?

The boys of NorthStar are one of Omaha’s greatest assets. Building their capacity to be tomorrow’s workforce and civic leadership, through great relationships with our families and boys, is a daily privilege.

Jordyn Jackson

Academic Manager (Elementary)

jordyn@northstar360.org

phone ext. 209

Education

- Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction (Doane University)
- Bachelor of Arts in Education and Psychology (Doane University)

What do you do at NorthStar?

I coordinate and implement programs for elementary school students, helping our young men reach for the stars.

Why are you at NorthStar?

“Some people see a field full of weeds, I see a field full of wishes.”
welcome center desk coordinator
welcomecenter@northstar360.org

phone ext. 210

[ toggles style=”minimal”][toggle color=”Default” title=”View Bio”]Coming soon![/toggle][/toggles]

Krysta Larson

DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE
krysta@northstar360.org

phone ext. 214

[ toggles style=”minimal”][toggle color=”Default” title=”View Bio”]

Education

- Pursuing Masters in Public Administration (University of Nebraska – Omaha)
- Bachelor of Arts in English & Journalism (Creighton University)

What do you do at NorthStar?

As Development Associate, I provide support in all aspects of development at NorthStar, including fundraising, donor stewardship, event support, and communications.

Why are you at NorthStar?

I’m here because I want to make a difference for those in need, and I want to help NorthStar young men share their stories with the Omaha community.[/toggle][/toggles]

Maria Malnack

director of finance & infrastructure
Education

- Master of Public Administration (University of Nebraska - Omaha)
- Bachelor of Science in Accounting (University of Nebraska - Omaha)
- Bachelor of Science in International Business (St. Cloud State University)

What do you do at NorthStar?

As the Director of Finance and Infrastructure, my primary responsibility is to ensure organizational effectiveness by providing leadership for NorthStar and the Omaha Outward Bound School’s operating functions, including finance, human resources, IT, and facility management.

Why are you at NorthStar?

NorthStar gives me the opportunity to share my skill in an environment that directly impacts young men’s lives; being able to see that impact on a daily basis is extremely rewarding and gratifying.

Mike Mitchell

athletic manager

Education

- Master of Business Administration in Marketing (Grand Canyon University)
- Bachelor of Science in Sports Management (Wayne State College)
What do you do at NorthStar?

I manage everything to do with sports, most notably our soccer, basketball, and lacrosse athletic teams.

Why are you at NorthStar?

I have a passion to help students reach their goals when they otherwise may not know how to achieve them.

Charlie Olsen

director of donor relations

charles@northstar360.org

phone ext. 203

Education

- Master of Arts in Social Theory (Fordham University)
- Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy (St. Mary’s University)

What do you do at NorthStar?

I’m responsible for donor stewardship and resource development for NorthStar and the Omaha Outward Bound School.

Why are you at NorthStar?

I think NorthStar’s work of building education and opportunity for boys in North Omaha is vital; it’s a great source of honor and joy to be of service to the wonderful donors who make this vision a reality.

Lucy Puentes
Program Manager, omaha outward bound school
lucy@outwardboundomaha.org

phone ext. 205

Education

- Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology (University of South Florida)

What do you do at the Omaha Outward Bound School?

I oversee all programming that the Omaha Outward Bound School provides and manage full- and part-time staff.

Why are you at the Omaha Outward Bound School?

I’m passionate about the social and emotional development of our students, and our mission to diversify participation in the outdoors.

Del Rehn
facilities manager
del@northstar360.org

phone ext. 211

Education

- Associate Degree in Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (Midlands Community College)
- Associate of Applied Science in Business Administration (Kaplan University)

What do you do at NorthStar?

I maintain the buildings and grounds at NorthStar, including supervision of student
Why are you at NorthStar?

I grew up in this area and went to school with young men who faced similar challenges to NorthStar students, and I want to continue to build this community.

Rose Roeder

outreach & enrollment coordinator

rose@northstar360.org

phone ext. 208

Education

- Master of Science in Counseling, K-12 (University of Nebraska – Omaha)
- Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education (Creighton University)

What do you do at NorthStar?

I act as NorthStar’s liaison in the community to invite young men to attend NorthStar, including giving facility tours and presenting at area schools, and assist families in the enrollment process.

Why are you at NorthStar?

I truly enjoy my daily contacts with NorthStar families and the boys who walk through our doors!

Andrea Siegel

Volunteer Coordinator

andrea@northstar360.org
402-212-1133

Education

- Bachelor of Business Administration (University of Michigan)

What do you do at NorthStar?

As Volunteer Coordinator I am responsible for connecting those in the community to NorthStar students. This can be through academics, athletics, or specific programs. Visit us at northstar360.org/volunteer if you’re interested in volunteering!

Why are you at NorthStar?

NorthStar gives students the opportunity to grow, make good choices, and be successful. I am enthusiastic about being a part of this movement.

Jim Stevens

director of education

jim@northstar360.org

phone ext. 207

Education

- Master of Science in Educational Administration (University of Nebraska - Omaha)
- Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and Special Education (Augustana University)

What do you do at NorthStar?

As Director of Education, I oversee all educational activities at NorthStar, including evaluating the short- and long-term impacts of academic programming, developing procedures for safe and effective program operations, and providing systems of
support for NorthStar Academic Managers.

**Why are you at NorthStar?**

I’m here to provide more systems of structure to students that improve the pathways they use to become successful adults.

**Jessi Taylor**

executive administrator  
jessi@northstar360.org  
phone ext. 206

**Education**

- Associate of Arts in Psychology (Yavapai Community College)
- Pursuing Bachelor of Multidisciplinary Studies (University of Nebraska - Omaha, 2020)

**What do you do at NorthStar?**

My role is to support the work of the president and help ensure the administrative functions of the organization run efficiently.

**Why are you at NorthStar?**

I am at NorthStar because I believe every student should be given an opportunity to succeed, in the classroom and in life.

**Taylor Wentz**

safety manager, omaha outward bound school  
taylor@outwardboundomaha.org  
phone ext. 205
Teri Williams

Reading Coordinator

teri@northstar360.org

phone ext. 216

Education

- Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education (University of Nebraska – Omaha)
- Master of Science in Curriculum & Instruction (University of Nebraska – Omaha)
- Reading Specialist Degree (University of Nebraska – Omaha)

What do you do at NorthStar?

I facilitate the implementation of reading intervention for boys who need to make gains in reading proficiencies.

Why are you at NorthStar?

I am passionate about literacy and want to contribute to our boys’ success in the
The NorthStar Guild is intended to provide support to the NorthStar Foundation through promoting community and fundraising. The Guild is responsible for operating the NorthStar Clothing Locker and planning the annual Climb Higher Luncheon.

Sarah McGowan
President
guild@northstar360.org

Kristin Lewis
President-Elect

Jen Alloway
Treasurer & VP of Community

Jessica Covi
VP of Technology

Julie Lyons
Recording Secretary

Andrea Siegel
Guild Liaison
andrea@northstar360.org
Becky App
Guild Member

Mary Lou Brasee
Guild Member

Seirra Burt
Guild Member

Brittany Deupree
Guild Member

Chris Fisher
Guild Member

Amber Gard
Guild Member

Desri Gocken
Guild Member

Shelly Grote
Guild Member

Cathy Haney
Guild Member
Catherine Harrington
Guild Member

Abby Johnson
Guild Member

Alissa Johnson
Guild Member

Kelly Kirk
Guild Member

Lisa Korff
Guild Member

Margaret Nelson
Guild Member

Kristen Papenfuss
Guild Member

Amy Parks
Guild Member

Stacey Patterson
Guild Member
Holly Pendley
Guild Member

Allison Raetz
Guild Member

Libby Ruf
Guild Member

Christine Schulte
Guild Member

Cindy Vaccaro
Guild Member

Beth Wilson
Guild Member

Stacy Wilson
Guild Member

Board of Directors

John “Buzz” Garlock
Chair
Ryan Downs
Vice Chair

president and ceo, proxibid inc.

Scott Hazelrigg
President

president, northstar foundation & omaha outward bound school

Susie Buffett
Secretary

chairman, the sherwood foundation

Scott Semrad
TREASURER

partner, urban village development

Anthony Anderson
owner, anthony anderson state farm insurance

Mark Brasee
partner, fraser stryker pc llo

Lili Buffett
community volunteer
Deanne Fairfield
Realtor, NP Dodge Real Estate

Thomas Lee
Principal, Omaha Northwest High School

Betsy Markin
Prairie Ventures

Roy Patterson
Managing Partner, River City Management

Lee Stuart
CEO, NBC Bancshares, LLC

Join our Team.

Want to work at NorthStar? Join our team to make a positive impact in the life of school-aged boys in Omaha.

Learn More
NorthStar’s 33,000 square foot campus is located on 49th and Ames Avenues. The campus includes the Fred C. Buffett Fieldhouse, the Suzanne & Walter Scott Foundation Integrated Technology Room, the HDR Leaders & Achievers classroom, an art room, group classrooms, and more.

NorthStar is also home to the Omaha Outward Bound School, which offers experiential learning opportunities on the Hitchcock Rock Wall, the Hitchcock High Ropes Challenge Course, and the Team Development Course.

In March 2019, NorthStar broke ground on a 3-phase facility expansion, which will bring its total campus to over 70,000 square feet.

Phase 1 includes a High School Wing, which will expand career and college readiness programming for NorthStar high school students, and a South Expansion + Innovation Hub, which will provide dynamic learning spaces and dedicated resources for staging larger group activities, including STEM Robotics competitions, Outward Bound Programs, and student dining.

Phase 2 is a North Expansion for the Grades 3-8 Wing. The new two-story programming space will allow for expanded core academic and life skills-focused after-school and summer programming for elementary and middle school NorthStar students.

Phase 3 will be the installation of all-purpose synthetic turf and new bleachers to expand the longevity and usability of Fritz Field.

Phone

402-614-6360

Email

Info@northstar360.org
Capital Campaign

Since opening our doors, NorthStar has grown in so many ways. Now, we’re doubling down. Our facility is expanding, and the impactful opportunities for NorthStar boys are growing.