## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

North Colonie Central School District's Commitment to Equitable Educational Access for Children of Asylum Seekers

August 10, 2023 - Latham, NY 12110 - The North Colonie Central School District is dedicated to fostering an inclusive and equitable educational environment for all students. As part of this commitment, the district is taking proactive measures to support the enrollment process for approximately 40 school-aged children whose families are seeking asylum and have recently been placed within our district borders.

Guided by our mission to provide all students with the opportunity and necessary support to thrive academically and socially, NCCSD is prepared to assist these families through the standard registration process in order to ensure that the children have the support they need in order to begin school in September. The registration team includes translators, social workers, school nurses, and administrators who have the expertise and experience to assist families and screen children so appropriate educational placements can be made. "Our focus remains on delivering a high-quality education to every student, including those seeking asylum, and we are committed to supporting their educational journey," said Superintendent Kathleen Skeals.

"At North Colonie, we recognize the inherent value of each student's unique gifts. Our commitment to fostering a learning community that values diversity and embraces individual potential extends to all children as they embark on their educational path."

Rooted in the principles of academic excellence and social growth and development, the North Colonie Mission Statement serves as a beacon guiding the district's efforts to create a cohesive and supportive learning environment. By providing students with relevant and challenging work and a framework of appropriate support, North Colonie strives to cultivate a nurturing atmosphere where all learners can thrive.

Superintendent Skeals will be available for comment tomorrow (Friday, August 11th) at 11:30 am outside the North Colonie District Office at 91 Fiddlers Lane, Latham, NY 12110.

For media inquiries or further information, please contact:

North Colonie Communications Department

Phone: 518-785-8591 x3130

Email: communications@nccsk12.org