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Coffee with Molly

2026: A NEW YEAR OF NEW OPPORTUNITIES!

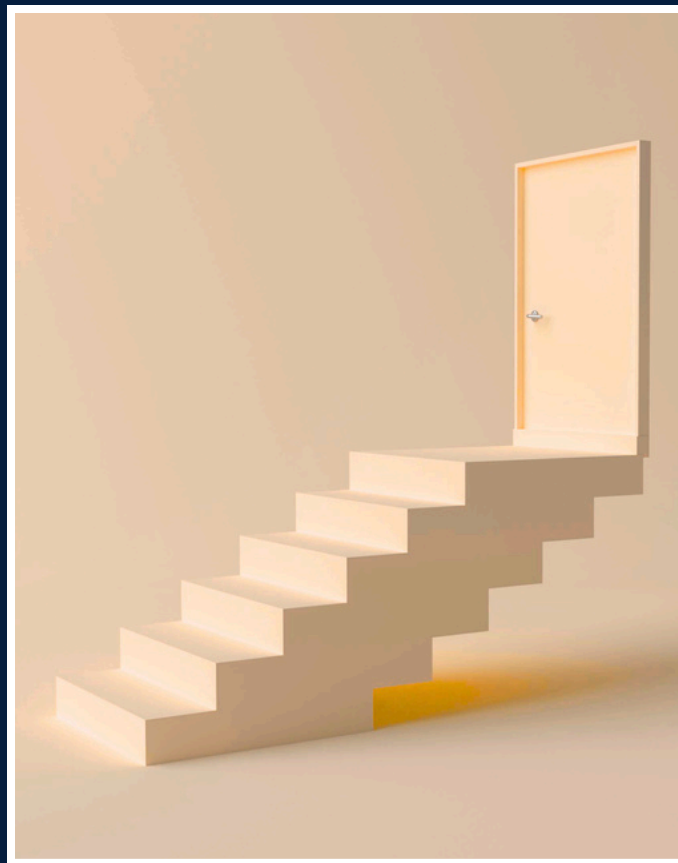
Happy 2026! The leadership and professional staff of NAPT and the Foundation sincerely hope your time spent with family and friends was both restorative and enjoyable. We truly appreciate your membership and active participation!

Returning to school after the winter break has always been a bittersweet experience for me. I cherish the time off, and Christmas remains one of my favorite holidays! However, my time away is often anything but relaxing, filled with family obligations and responsibilities. Being home with my kids during their break is a true blessing! In fact, sometimes returning to work feels easier than managing all those family commitments!

The first day and week back after a major holiday can be quite challenging! Our 2026 kicks off with a bang, not a slow start. Besides our regular home-to-school routes, we face special needs transportation challenges, a driver shortage, and tight budgets. January also brings a flurry of extracurricular events, unpredictable weather, and additional demands on our time and resources! We hardly have a moment to grab our coffee or tea before the workday accelerates.

January 2026 marks an exciting period for NAPT and the Foundation! We have welcomed new leadership to our boards, established new bylaws, and created fresh committees and assignments, all while gearing up for the launch of Driven Together in the middle of the month! This year, alongside our usual PDS and ACTS26, we are introducing six new programs and an impressive calendar of events.

Like you, we are already kicking off the year on a high note!



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As we approach the beginning of a new fiscal and calendar year in 2026, it's important to acknowledge the challenges that lie ahead. This isn't just a hunch; it's a reality! Alongside new variants of COVID, we're also facing significant outbreaks of influenza and other illnesses. Many staff members and students may be navigating difficult health situations. Additionally, while every family has its own struggles, the holiday season can often bring emotional challenges, financial pressures, and complex family dynamics that aren't always picture-perfect. Returning to work means different things for everyone, and it's essential that we approach each other with kindness, courtesy, empathy, professionalism, and compassion.

January 2026 marks a mid-school year reset for me. It's time to update calendars, materials, and schedules, as well as tidy up the office in preparation for the months ahead. I truly appreciate this clean slate and the chance to regroup and refresh my perspective. It's also a valuable opportunity to think, pause, and reflect.

So, welcome back! A dedicated team is relying on your leadership, support, and guidance. The children you serve greatly benefit from your efforts and actions. Your presence makes our district safer, stronger, and even better. Here's to making 2026 an incredible year for us all!

