Upcoming School Events:

Friday, April 24: 2020-21 Contract Pull date by 4PM
Friday, April 24: 27th Annual North Branch Golf Classic-postponed
Sunday, May 3: BandFair XVIII & Cork Raffle - postponed
Tuesday, May 5: Virtual BandFair & #GivingTuesdayNow - all day, online
Tuesday, May 12: 6-7 PM open Board of Trustees meeting via google meet

Today Friday, April 24, 2020 is the contract pull date for the 2020/21 school year. We know that these unprecedented times might change your decision to plan to enroll at NBS in the fall. We are planning and are very hopeful that we will be open for school this coming fall on campus at 221 Mickens Road. Please reach out to Autum Fish, if you would like to inquire about financial assistance for the 2020/21 school year—we are working on additional financial assistance, but do not have firm figures at this time. If you are unsure if you will be able to continue with your contract for the fall, please email northbranch@nbsva.org by 4 today Friday, April 24, 2020 and receive confirmation that the request has been received by NBS.

If you are interested in attending the virtual Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020 from 6-7 pm, please email Autum Fish (northbranch@nbsva.org) to request a link for the meeting. During this 1 hour open session, the Board will be available to hear your concerns and ideas, and to answer questions. The board is currently working to develop schooling options/scenarios for the 2020/21 school year.

Join us on May 5 for a Virtual BandFair and #GivingTuesdayNow. Several musicians in our school community have graciously agreed to share videos with us. We'll have links to those on Facebook and on our website all day. We'll also be joining the national effort to raise funds for nonprofits during a special #GivingTuesdayNow. All funds raised on this day will go to the NBS Founder’s Fund, and will provide needs-based financial assistance and scholarships during the 2020-2021 school year for families impacted economically by the pandemic. Suggested donations for Founder’s Fund: $12 (price of individual BandFair ticket), $36 (price of family BandFair ticket), $100 (cost of a sponsor donation), $250-$1,000 (cost of varying levels of premier sponsorships.)

Right now our plan is to hold both the North Branch Golf Classic and BandFair XVIII in late summer/early fall. In the meantime, please support our sponsors for both of these events if they are open now or when they are able to reopen.


Here are some tasty and fun recipes that the Middle School class has used this past spring in class.

**No-Bake Energy Bites** (they used these to learn all about sphere)
1 c. oatmeal, ½ c. peanut butter, ½ c. honey, 1 c. coconut flakes, ½ c. ground flaxseed, ½ c mini chocolate chips & 1 tsp vanilla
- Mix together in a bowl: peanuts butter, honey & oatmeal
- Add coconut flakes (if you do not like coconut substitute cranberries or raisins)
- Add chocolate chips and ground flaxseed (if not flaxseed in your house, wheat germ will work-or something else dry)
- Add vanilla extract
- Mix it all up and let it chill in the refrigerator for about 30 minutes
- Decide on the diameter of your energy “spheres”, roll into balls and enjoy!!
- Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator-good for about 1 week (but they won’t last that long!!)

1 c. half & half, 1.5 tsp vanilla extract, 1 tbsp sugar, ice, ¼ c salt, Ziploc bags (1 small, 1 large)
- Pour half & half into the small bag
- Add vanilla extract and sugar
Seal the bag firmly & squeeze excess air out
In the larger bag fill about ½ way with ice and your salt
- Add your small bag to the large bag and fill with ice on top.
Seal large bag
Put on winter gloves, start shaking for about 6 minutes (it will get super duper cold)
Take the small bag out of the large bag and rinse with cold water, be sure to rinse around the seal.
Open the small bag after it is rinsed well, stir the ice cream with a spoon and enjoy!!

**Many thanks to…our event sponsors! See their names and links above!**

**Did you know…**
...There is information on our website for finding up-to-date information about COVID-19 and resources available during the pandemic.
...Photos and videos of distance learning are on our social media pages and blog! Our extended community is enjoying seeing all of the things happening during distance learning and home time.
Either tag North Branch School when you post, or please share your photos with Bonnie at giving@nbsva.org.

**Community Opportunities:**
...Anytime your child draws a cheery picture, this would be welcome for our partnership with the Hospice of the Piedmont. Simply scan the picture or snap a photo of it, then email it to Bonnie, giving@nbsva.org Hospice will then be able to print several copies and send to senior citizens in area assisted living facilities and nursing homes. Most of these people are quarantined in their rooms and not allowed to have visitors, so receiving artwork from children will really brighten their day. This will be ongoing through the end of the school year.

Trout release 2020! Maggie and Smith released 133 native brook trout into the Moormans River at Sugar Hollow on March 18th.