Upcoming School Events:

Tuesday, May 12:
6-7 PM open Board of Trustees meeting via google meet

Monday, May 25:
Memorial Day: NO SCHOOL

Friday, May 29:
Last Day of School

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.

As we begin planning for the end of this school year, we will keep you informed on how we plan to celebrate our graduating 8th graders and also how we plan to distribute yearbooks to students and get any items that might still be at NBS back to families. More on these plans as they unfold (you received an email yesterday about one way to help celebrate our 8th graders.)

Many thanks to our talented musicians, enthusiastic audience, and generous donors as we celebrated Virtual BandFair & #GivingTuesdayNow on Tuesday. The musicians, many of whom are struggling to make ends meet, were beyond generous. Every person or band responded yes without hesitation to my request to use a video for Virtual BandFair. Andy Waldeck was even inspired to write a song especially for Virtual BandFair. You can listen to his song, "I Love North Branch," plus music by Holly Renee Allen, Chamomile & Whiskey, Alice Clair, Creekside Band (Genevieve Dennis '01, Gabrielle Dennis '04, Daniel Dennis '07, & Jacob Allen), Daniel Dennis '07, The Dreaded Blues Lady - Lorie Strother, John Howard, Blake Hunter, The Jen Tal Band, Ruby-Corbyn Ross '00, Bill Staines, https://north-branch-school.org/fundraising/bandfair/

The big news for our families and teachers is that during Virtual BandFair & #GivingTuesdayNow over $10,000 in contributions and pledges were received for the Founder’s Fund which will provide financial assistance and scholarships during the 2020-2021 school year for families facing financial uncertainty and/or instability due to the repercussions of the pandemic. This figure includes the generous $3,500 matching donation. Thank you, wonderful NBS community!

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.


Firefly has announced new, free hotspots in Nelson County to help those working and studying from home. You may access these at RVCC, Faber Fire Department, and CVEC offices in Arrington.
Last week we sent out an email with links for those who might be in need or know someone who is in need for assistance with day-to-day necessities and community support for making sure all families have food on their table during these uncertain times. Below you will find the complete listing from that email:

**Community Resource Hotline** 434-234-4490 (for households in Charlottesville & the counties of Albemarle, Buckingham, FLuvanna, Greene, Louisa, Nelson & Orange.)

**Public School meals for children 18 and under:**

**Nelson County** - Nelson County Public Schools offer bagged breakfasts and lunches on Wednesday only (provisions are a week’s worth of meals) on a first-come, first-serve basis to ANY children residing in the county. Bagged meals are served “grab & go” drive-thru style for children to take home at Nelson Middle School on Wednesdays from 7:30-9:30 AM and 4:00-6:00 PM.

**Augusta County** - Grab and Go meals are available for ANY children residing in Augusta County on Monday, Wednesday, & Friday from 9-11 AM at all Augusta elementary schools and Beverly Manor Middle School. Children will receive two days' worth of meals. For more information: AugustaMealsInfo

**Albemarle County** - If you live in Albemarle County and are experiencing food insecurity, please contact Bonnie - giving@nbsva.org or Autum - northbranch@nbsva.org - for more information about public school meals.

**Waynesboro City** - all area children age 18 and under will be offered breakfast and lunch. Meals will be available for pick up from 9:00 am - 11:00 am on Mondays, Wednesday, and Fridays. Children must be present to collect meals. All children aged 18 and under are eligible for this service. When a child picks up meals, a breakfast and lunch option will be included. Regular meal schedule will take place on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays (including the regularly scheduled Spring Break). When you pick-up on Monday, enough food for Tuesday will be included. When you pick-up on Wednesday, enough food for Thursday will be included. There is a form to complete here with information about schools where meals are available: WaynesboroMealsInfo

**Restaurant Meals:**

**Devils Backbone Give Back Pack:** If you are a family in need of assistance, call Devils Backbone between noon - 6 PM each day to arrange your Give Back Pack family meal for the same day, no questions asked. 434-361-1001.

**Food Banks:**

**Nelson Food Pantry** - There are several distributions planned for May. See their Events calendar here: https://www.nelsoncountypantry.org/

**Blue Ridge Area Food Banks** - Find the closest food bank here: https://www.brafb.org/find-help/pantry-locator/

**Support Cville** - find updated information about meals and financial assistance here: https://www.supportcville.com/en/get-support

**Did you know...**

...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.