

North Branch
Board of Education
6600 Brush Street
PO Box 3620
North Branch, MI 48461



AUGUST 2008

SCHOOL TALK

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MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS VISIT MICHIGAN HALL OF JUSTICE LEARNING CENTER

On Friday, May 9, 2008, a group of middle school students took a field trip to the Michigan Hall of Justice in Lansing, Michigan. The purpose of the trip was to enhance the students' knowledge with the workings of the justice system in Michigan. Students who attended this trip were those who were unable to attend the annual 8th grade Washington, D.C. trip.

The trip started with a stop at Michigan State University. College classes were not in session which made our way around the campus that much easier. Students were able to see Spartan Stadium, tour various instructional buildings, and walk through the Botanical Gardens. Also, a trip to MSU would not be complete without a visit to "Sparty". It stands ten feet-six inches, and is mounted on a brick-and-concrete base five feet-four inches high. The statue weighs three tons and is one of the largest free standing ceramic figures in the world. We then found a nice area to have a picnic, which was prepared by North Branch Area Schools.

At the Michigan Hall of Justice the students were engaged in many, hands-on activities. They were able to test their knowledge with various laws, one of which was the right to search student lockers. Students also learned about the Michigan Supreme Court, the organization of the state's court system, and various employment/career opportunities associated with the law.

The trip could not have been possible without the efforts of Judge Michael Higgins and the Lapeer County Bar Association. Judge Higgins approached Mr. Sherman, middle school principal, about this opportunity to visit the Learning Center for those students not attending the 8th grade Washington, D.C. trip. All expenses were paid by the Lapeer County Bar Association. The middle school would like thank Judge Michael Higgins and the Lapeer County Bar Association for this wonderful opportunity.



QUESTIONS or COMMENTS? NEED HELP SOLVING A PROBLEM?

You are encouraged to contact any of the following individuals to assist you in answering your school-related questions, or to assist you in resolving problems. We are always open to your suggestions and ideas for improving North Branch Area Schools. Please feel free to clip this list of phone numbers and save it in the front of your telephone book for future reference.

Al Piwinski, *Superintendent* 810-688-3570
Adair Aumock, *Director of Curriculum & Technology* 810-688-3570
Cheryl Bruff, *Director of Finance & Business* 810-688-3570
Matt Hess, *Director of Operations & Transportation* 810-688-3660
Leann Gwinn, *FABS Child Care* 810-688-4634
Stacy Moyer, *Director of Food Services* 810-688-2226
Louis Dominick, *Maintenance/Custodial Supervisor* 810-688-4625

HIGH SCHOOL

Mark Hiltunen, *Principal* 810-688-3001
Shelly Cranick, *Asst. Principal* 810-688-3001
Jim Fish, *Asst. Principal/Athletic Director* 810-688-2518
Richard Stevens, *Counselor* 810-688-3564
Susan Strump, *Counselor* 810-688-3564
Georgette Aguilar, *Alt. Education* 810-688-3001

MIDDLE SCHOOL

John Sherman, *Principal* 810-688-4431
Sue Shoemaker, *Counselor* 810-688-4431

RUTH FOX ELEMENTARY

Ann Wood, *Principal* 810-688-3284
Tammy Siegler, *Counselor* 810-688-3284

NORTH BRANCH ELEMENTARY

Merry Hosner, *Principal* 810-688-3041
Wendy Spivy, *Principal* 810-688-3041
Brenda Jefferey, *Counselor* 810-688-3041

NORTH BRANCH AREA SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

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District Website: www.nbbroncos.net

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

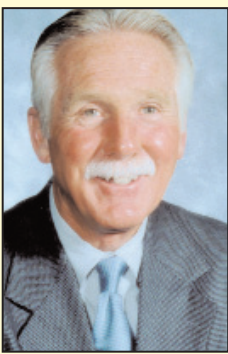
September 2, 2008

a full day for students (grades 1st – 12th)

2008-2009 Building Schedules

High School & Middle School (grades 7 – 12) – 7:35 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.
Ruth Fox Elementary (grades 5 – 6) – 8:40 a.m. – 3:50 p.m.
North Branch Elementary (grades K– 4) – 8:45 a.m. – 4:05 p.m.
AM Kindergarten 8:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
PM Kindergarten – 12:50 p.m. – 4:05 p.m.

Superintendent’s Corner



I am truly looking forward to the opening of the 2008-09 school year. As we plan for opening of this school year we have many challenges that we must deal with as North Branch Area Schools prepares for the future.

First of which is the new construction and renovation of all of our school facilities. Anyone who has built a new home or completed a renovation project knows how challenging it can be. We do expect to open school after Labor Day on Tuesday, September 2nd. At this time Ruth Fox and North Branch Middle School are on schedule to open though not completely finished. Some contractors will still need to work evenings or weekends after school opens.

The new elementary school will not be finished prior to opening day and K-4 students will remain at the present North Branch Elementary with an expected move in date of November 1, 2008.

Following the move of the K-4 students into their new school we will begin the remodeling of Jefferson and the construction of the new transportation building with the expected completion to be in the spring of 2009.

Our second challenge is one that every household is experiencing, that is doing more with less. Michigan’s unemployment rate is the highest it has been since 1992. Not being able to find work is causing a strain on many families with many leaving the state to find work elsewhere. When families leave we lose funding resulting in a loss of revenue. We will continue to look at ways to save money while doing our very best to provide the best education we can for our students. We are proud of the achievement of our students and are committed to the mission of educating all children; this is our number one priority.

Our third challenge is critical for the success of our high school students. The new Michigan Merit Curriculum will present new challenges for high students requiring all students to master the same academic content. The class of 2011 or our present 10th grade students are now responsible for a core curriculum of four credits of mathematics, including Algebra I and Algebra II, four credits of English/Language Arts, three credits of science, and three credits of social studies. These core classes are the key to providing the knowledge and skills that are required for their future success. When we talk about Michigan’s unemployment, we are really talking about our manufacturing economy. This past year 80,000 new jobs were created in Michigan, all requiring the skills and knowledge that the new Michigan Merit Curriculum is intended to prepare students for.

Our job as educators and parents is to make certain that our students are successful. They must be here every day and be ready to learn the critical skills that will prepare them for their future. I know that the staff of North Branch Area Schools will continue to do everything in their power to ensure that our students are successful.

We share in the future of all North Branch students.

Transportation News

Matthew Hess, Director of Operations and Transportation

As we head into the new school year our transportation system is ready to go for your students.

We will be using the postcard system for delivering information about bus stops and routes again for 08-09. High School Students should get their information at orientation days and all other student information will be mailed shortly before the start of school. If you have moved or have changes, please call us as soon as possible so that we can accommodate your changes into the system.

Without a doubt the increase in fuel prices has affected us all. Diesel fuel costs for our fleet have risen significantly and we must be prepared to make positive changes to our routes. We want to maintain safe routes and safety for your students; however we need to make sure that we are proactively looking for solutions that will keep more effective dollars in the classrooms for your students. The two most significant changes are:

We will be using more group bus stops, and making less turn around stops. Some students may see increased distances to travel to get to their bus stops.

Fifth and Sixth grade students who live in the Village of North Branch will now walk to the Ruth Fox building.

Remember that Fourth grade students will be in the same buildings as our K through Third grades as well on the same bell schedule. As we transition to the new facility this fall we will be sure to communicate any time changes (if needed) with everyone through the schools newsletters.

We have openings for substitute bus drivers, custodians and other support service areas. Please see the district administrative office for applications and information.

Welcome “Back To School”.

NORTH BRANCH AREA SCHOOLS MISSION STATEMENT

North Branch Area Schools...a learning community dedicated to excellence.

BELIEFS

- Children come first
- Each child can learn
- Collaboration among parents, children, staff, and the community is essential to school success
- Learning is a life-long experience
- A safe and caring environment is essential to quality learning
- High expectations lead to an individual’s highest achievement
- In creating educational opportunities to meet individual needs
- Successful schools continually evaluate and adapt to changing needs
- The responsibility for our children’s overall success rests with the entire community

NEW TEACHERS



My name is Sue Strump.

After raising my three children, I decided it was time to go to college. I received my Associate in Arts degree from Mott Community College and Bachelor of Arts degree in Family Life Education from Spring Arbor University. During this time, I also worked full-time as secretary for Lapeer Community High School. The life and career experiences I’ve had assisted me in deciding my true career pathway. In 2006, I earned my Master of Arts in Counseling degree from Spring Arbor University. After graduating from SAU, I obtained my first counselor position. For the past two years, I was counselor at Atlantis High School in Genesee County (Bendle/Carman-Ainsworth).

This summer, my husband and I have been busy gardening and landscaping our home in Lapeer. I love growing our own vegetables and herbs. When I am not working out in the yard, I enjoy reading, trying new recipes and making wreaths for craft shows. This winter, my goal is to learn how to cross country ski. I tried one time last year, but could not figure out how to get back up when I fell!

I am very excited about returning to Lapeer County and joining the NBAS team as counselor at North Branch High School! As an Imlay City High School graduate, I appreciate the small hometown environment that North Branch offers. I am also very appreciative of the warm welcome that I have received from everyone.

My name is Kathy Bailey.

I am a proud North Branch graduate and am very excited to have the opportunity to teach in a community that I have grown up in. After high school, I attended the University of Michigan-Flint and graduated with a B.A. specializing in Early Childhood Education. Since then I have been the Program Director and Preschool Teacher at Butterscotch Castle Childcare and Learning Center here in North Branch. I really enjoy children as well as teaching and feel honored to give something back to this community. I look forward to teaching 3rd grade and becoming part of this districts wonderful teaching team.



Hello, my name is Johnathan Bechtel.

I am one of the new math teachers here at North Branch High School. I graduated from North Branch High School in 2003 and went on to earn my Bachelor of Science degree from Eastern Michigan University. I majored in mathematics and minored in physical education. I enjoy sports, music, the outdoors, and spending time with my family. It is my desire to help all the students I teach to have the benefit of a great education and a quality experience while attending North Branch High School.

Hello! My name is Kim Brandt.

I am happy to introduce myself as the new Begin-a-garten and Elementary Art Teacher. I will be dividing my time between two classrooms and I am excited to be able to pursue two of my passions within this teaching position.

I began my career at North Branch twelve years ago as the lead teacher at FABS and have spent the last ten years teaching the Little Learners Preschool Program. I currently hold a Masters Degree in Education with a specialization in Early Childhood. I also have an extensive background in art.

I have been married to Brian for nearly fourteen years. We have three children, all of whom attend North Branch Schools. Our twins, Seth and Emma, are entering sixth grade and Olivia is entering second grade. They keep us very busy participating in various athletics and other extra-curricular activities.



North Branch is a wonderful community; I am very excited about the changes our school district is undergoing and I feel privileged to have the opportunity to work and raise my children here. I am looking forward to the upcoming school year and many more to come.



Hello! My name is Rene DeRyckere.

I am extremely excited to join the North Branch High School staff and look forward to getting to know the students, staff and the community. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to teach English and share my love of learning with my students.

Currently, I live in Oxford with my husband Dan and my daughters Dana, who is ten, and Danielle, who is eight. We have lived in Oxford almost eleven years and love being part of a small community. I grew up in Troy and actually met my husband in the fourth grade.

After graduating from high school, I earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Resource Development from Oakland University. I was lucky enough to begin my career as a Training Specialist with the Troy School District. While I was there I had the opportunity to work with 14-21 year olds and teach them employability skills. I also co-taught a Career Connections class at the alternative high school on site. If you need help with a resume, cover letter or want to practice interviewing skills please stop by and see me! I would love to help anyway I can. Afterwards, I was an Admissions Representative with Davenport University for four years. Not only would I meet with potential students in my office, but I would also go out and speak to area high school students and deliver presentations on employability skills and college/vocational programs right in their classrooms.

I decided to return to school in 2005 to fulfill my dream and become a teacher. I was accepted into the Master of Arts in Teaching and Secondary Certification program at Oakland University where I am proud to say I received a 4.0 in all of my classes. I am certified to teach both English and Sociology. I did my student teaching at Oxford High School in 2007 and also completed two long term substitute teaching assignments there. I even helped start a euchre club for students to enjoy after school. While I was there I taught Freshman Language Arts, American Literature and English Literature.

During my free time I enjoy spending time with my family and friends camping, snowmobiling and traveling. I also bowl, golf (or try to), play cards, go to concerts and love to read. Once again, I am so grateful to have the opportunity to become part of such a great school district. Go Broncos!

Wayne Haney Takes Archaeology Course

In June and July, Wayne Haney took part in an archaeological field school at Thomas Jefferson’s Poplar Forest vacation retreat site in Forest, Virginia. When most people hear Jefferson and archaeology, they naturally think of his formal home at Monticello. This is partly because Jefferson himself wanted his retreat at Poplar Forest to be away from public view. Before traveling to Poplar Forest, Jefferson would tell people at Monticello simply that he was going south to his retreat. Jefferson’s home at Poplar Forest was far from rustic however. It was an artfully designed home for a member of America’s ruling elite and was also home to upwards to 100 enslaved people who managed thousands of acres of plantation crops. As an archaeological site, Poplar Forest is a rich resource today because it is less well known and has only been formally studied by archaeologists for the past 20 years.



The archaeology course allowed students like Wayne to learn about east coast life in the early United States and also to study and experience how archaeologists practice their particular craft. The course included daily lectures by archaeologists employed at Poplar Forest and by other visiting professors from Virginia and Tennessee, experience digging 5 by 5 foot squared called “units” in search of artifacts, and time in the archaeology lab cleaning, labeling, and cataloguing finds. The class also took field trips to Monticello, Williamsburg, and Jamestown to experience how archaeology is done outside of Poplar Forest. It was a fantastic experience which Wayne hopes will enrich the lessons he brings to his own students at North Branch High.

More information on Poplar Forest and the summer 2008 field school experience is available at <http://www.poplarforest.org/ArchFieldSchool/arch2008fieldschool.html>.

Senior Pictures - Class of 2009

Reminder to seniors that a head shot for the yearbook and class composite picture are due Thursday, February 5, 2009. Requirements for the yearbook are:

ABSOLUTE DEADLINE OF Thursday, February 5, 2009 with TWO photos (one for yearbook, one for composite)
 Overall size: 1 1/2" wide by 2" long
 Head Size: 1 1/4" (chin to top of head)
 Medium: JPEG preferred (300 dpi or greater) or Color Glossy
 Composition: No props, hands, canes, hats, purses, gestures, etc.
 Plain Background: subdued blues grays, etc.
 Questions may be referred to Ms. Stover-Lange, 810-688-3001 x 2156 or rstoverlange@nbbronzcos.net.

PHOTOS NOT SUBMITTED IN THE ABOVE FORMAT WILL BE ASSESSED \$20 TO BE INCLUDED IN 2009 YEARBOOK. (Payable to NBHS Yearbook)

Please take these requirements to your photographer (these are standard for most yearbooks, so your photographer will most likely be familiar with them.)

High School Student Council News

All NBHS Alumni are cordially invited to the Alumni Tent during the first half of the Homecoming Football game to sign in and receive recognition and refreshments. It is a chance to meet and greet other alumni under the big tent which has been graciously donated by North Branch Rent-All, along with donations of cider, paper products and doughnuts from Bryan’s Market and the North Branch Bakery in the past. Student Council thanks these local merchants for their continued support. The Alumni Tent is located on the north east side of Krepps Field.



Homecoming 2008

North Branch High School Student Council reminds students and parents that Homecoming 2008 is the week of September 29. Spirit days are scheduled for September 29-October 3 with the parade set for 2 p.m., Friday, October 3. Homecoming Dance is 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., Saturday, October 4, 2008. Please contact Ms. Stover-Lange @ rstoverlange@nbbronzcos.net or by calling 810.688.3001 x 2154 if interested in chaperoning. The paperwork process for parent volunteers can take a few weeks to clear, so please call quickly.



Make A Difference Day 2008

North Branch high school students will be raking leaves in honor of Make A Difference Day. Many students use this day to give back to their community. All high school students are invited to join in the fun as well as parents and younger siblings (with their parents). The date is either Saturday, October 25 or Saturday, November 1, depending on when the leaves have mostly fallen. Posters will be put up around town when a date has been determined.

We are desperately in need of tarps because we can no longer bag the leaves according to village regulations. Please consider donating a tarp, any size and in usable condition, to Student Council, Rm. 115 at the high school.

Consider joining us at 8 a.m in Memorial Park at the edge of town to start raking. We are usually finished by noon.

If you are elderly or physically unable or have no relatives to rake your leaves and reside in the city of North Branch, submission of yards to be raked may be made to Ms. Stover-Lange, at 810-688-3001 x 2154 or by e-mailing rstoverlange@nbbronzcos.net. Please leave the NAME, ADDRESS and PHONE of a downtown elderly person so that they may be put on the schedule.

Collegiate Breakfast

NBHS graduates from the years 2005-2008 attending college or the military are cordially invited to the Annual Collegiate Breakfast, at 7 a.m., Friday, December 19, 2008 to share their college, university or military experience with current juniors and seniors. Please RSVP to 810-688-3001 x 2154 with your name, year graduated and school/military branch attending so that we may plan for the proper amount of seats and food.

Early Bird Yearbook Sales for 2009 BRONCONIAN
Get the Early Bird Special by ordering your yearbook at the High School Registration Days

Seniors – Tuesday, August 19
 Juniors – Wednesday, August 20
 Sophomores – Thursday, August 21
 Freshmen- Friday, August 22

or during lunches September 18 & 19 in the high school cafeteria. Cost is \$45 and \$5 additional for an engraved name plate. Checks or cash accepted. You may use your credit card on-line at www.nbhs.yearbooksales.com for an additional processing fee. Please make checks payable to North Branch High School Yearbook. Questions can be referred to Ms. Stover-Lange 810.688.3001 x 2156 or by e-mail rstoverlange@nbbronzcos.net. For your convenience, please use the order form below.

Student's First Name: _____

Student's Last Name: _____

Grade: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone _____

E-Mail: _____

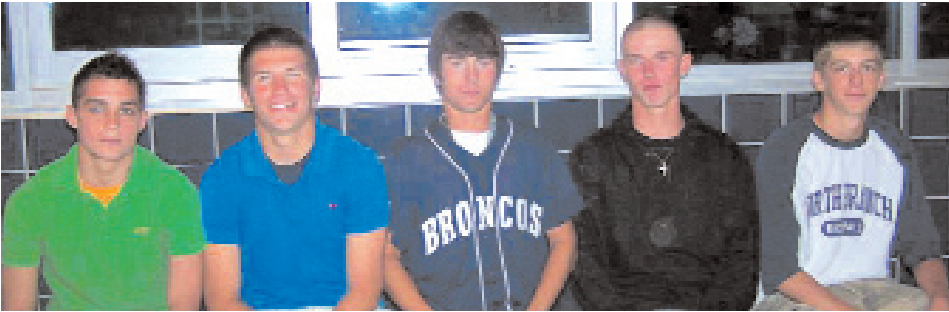


Item	Price	Payment Type
Early Bird Special (Offer Ends 12/31/2008)	\$45.00	☐ Cash
Name Plate* (\$5.00)	☐	☐ Check
* If you selected Name Plate, Please see enter what you want on the Name Plate		Check #:
Total	\$ _____	

North Branch Broncos Sports News

The 2007-2008 athletic year saw three North Branch teams win TVC East Division Championships. In the fall, the volleyball team won its 4th consecutive TVC East Title and has not lost a league match since the 2003-2004 season going 28-0 over the past four years. The volleyball team also won its third consecutive District Title and finished the season ranked #1 in Class A and 72-2 overall. In addition, the team received Academic All-State recognition with an overall team grade point average of 3.5692. In the spring, the varsity softball team won its second TVC East Division Title in three years with a fine 12-2 record and finished with an excellent 28-11 record on the season. The varsity boys' golf team won its first ever TVC East Division Title defeating Frankenmuth in the last jamboree of the season by 7 shots. Also, Steve Sippell was

selected as the TVC East Division Coach of the Year. Finally, the girls' soccer team received a team academic award for having a collective grade point average of 3.49. Individually, in Cross Country Meghan Petiprin qualified for the State Cross Country Meet and where she placed 91st out of 247 runners. In football, Zach Hueter was selected first team all-state by the Detroit Free Press, Detroit News, and the Associated Press. Zach also signed a full-ride athletic scholarship to play football at Michigan State University. In volleyball, Olivia Kohler was selected first team all-state, Jessica Curtis second team all-state, and Taylor Miner received honorable mention all-state recognition. Jessica Curtis signed an athletic scholarship to play volleyball at Aquinas College. In boys' bowling, James Clemens qualified for the state tournament where he finished in 42nd place. James is the first male bowler to ever qualify for the state tournament in bowling. In girls' soccer, Colleen Cross will be playing for Defiance College next fall. Tonya Calkins received honorable mention all-state recognition in softball. In boys' track, Camerin Friske qualified for the State Meet and finished in 9th place in the high jump. Dalton Bates participated in the State Meet in the high jump and finished with a 10th place finish. Linsay Bartle (high jump) and Elisabeth Morquecho (pole vault) also qual-



2008 ALL CONFERENCE BASEBALL
L-R: **Lane Bonner**, 1st Team Infield; **Deane Baker**, Honorable Mention; **Mike Brooks**, Honorable Mention; **Dennis Nafiz**, Honorable Mention; **Dan Jacobson**, Honorable Mention
Not Pictured: Will Orr, Bowanable Mention; Paul Husted, Bowanable Mention



2008 ALL CONFERENCE BOYS' TRACK
L-R: **Cameron Friske**, 1st Team Long Jump, State Qualifier Long Jump, Honorable Mention 1600M Relay; **Wayne Gilbert**, Honorable Mention 100M Dash and Long Jump; **Zeo Hoeter**, 2nd Team Shot Put and 2nd Team 400M Relay; **Dalton Bates**, 1st Team Pole Vault and State Qualifier Pole Vault, 1st Team 300M Hurdles and State Qualifier 300M Hurdles; **Doug Griffin**, Honorable Mention 400M Run, Honorable Mention 1600M Relay.
Not Pictured: Brian Currell and Ronnie Jones, Honorable Mention 1600M Relay

VARSITY GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL			
DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME
Aug. 16	Scrimmage @ Spring Arbor	AWAY	9:00
Aug. 21	Scrimmage @ I w Churchill	AWAY	9:00
Aug. 23	NB TOURN @ MI ELITE	AWAY	9:00
Aug. 26	EAST KENTWOOD	AWAY	3:30
Aug. 28	FRANKENMUTH INV.	AWAY	8:30
Sep. 06	GROSSE POINTE SOUTH	AWAY	TBD
Sep. 10	NOUVELLE/FLAND/NEW LOTI HROD	HOME	5:00
Sep. 13	FLUSHING INVITE	AWAY	TBD
Sep. 17	MILLINGTON	AWAY	6:00
Sep. 24	CARD	HOME	8:00
Sep. 27	PORTAGE NORTH IERN INV.	AWAY	8:00
Oct. 01	BIRCH RUN	AWAY	8:00
Oct. 11	EAST KENTWOOD INV	AWAY	8:30
Oct. 15	FRANKENMUTH	HOME	6:00
Oct. 18	ANN ARBOR TOURN.	AWAY	8:30
Oct. 22	GARBER	HOME	6:00
Oct. 29	BRIDGEPORT	AWAY	6:00
Oct. 30	MARIAN (scrimmage)	HOME	7:00
Nov. 01	TVC TOURNAMENT	AWAY	TBD
Nov. 08 thru Nov. 8 DISTRICTS			

JV GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL				
DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME	
Aug. 22	NB TOURN @ MI ELITE	AWAY	TBD	
Sep. 06	GOODRICH INVITE	AWAY	TBD	
Sep. 10	at NEW LOTI HROD WFLAND	AWAY	5:00	
Sep. 13	DAVISON TOURN.	AWAY	TBD	
Sep. 17	MILLINGTON	AWAY	6:00	
Sep. 20	OXFORD INVITE	AWAY	9:00	
Sep. 24	CARD	HOME	6:00	
Sep. 27	IMLAY CITY INVITE	AWAY	8:00	
Oct. 01	BIRCH RUN	AWAY	6:00	
Oct. 08	LAKEVILLE	HOME	8:00	
Oct. 11	FRANKENMUTH INV.	AWAY	9:00	
Oct. 15	FRANKENMUTH	HOME	8:00	
Oct. 18	NORTH BRANCH INV.	HOME	8:30	
Oct. 22	GARBER	HOME	6:00	
Oct. 28	OXFORD QUAD	AWAY	5:30	
Oct. 29	BRIDGEPORT	AWAY	6:00	

FRESHMAN GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL				
DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME	
Aug. 22	NB TOURN @ MI ELITE	AWAY	TBD	
Aug. 27	BAY CITY WESTERN	AWAY	8:00	
Sep. 06	FRANKENMUTH INVITE	AWAY	TBD	
Sep. 10	at NOUVEL w/FLAND	AWAY	5:00	
Sep. 17	MILLINGTON	AWAY	6:00	
Sep. 20	DAVISON TOURN.	AWAY	TBD	
Sep. 24	CARD	HOME	6:00	
Sep. 27	MICHIGAN ELITE TOURN	AWAY	TBD	
Oct. 01	BIRCH RUN	AWAY	6:00	
Oct. 08	LAKEVILLE	HOME	8:00	
Oct. 15	FRANKENMUTH	HOME	8:00	
Oct. 18	NORTH BRANCH INV.	HOME	8:30	
Oct. 22	GARBER	HOME	6:00	
Oct. 28	OXFORD QUAD	AWAY	5:30	
Oct. 29	BRIDGEPORT	AWAY	6:00	

VARSITY FOOTBALL				
DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME	
Aug. 21	Scrimmage @ Alma College	AWAY	5:00	
Aug. 28	IMLAY CITY	AWAY	7:00	
Sep. 05	FRANKENMUTH	AWAY	7:00	
Sep. 12	BIRCH RUN (Thank Night)	HOME	7:00	
Sep. 18	GARBER (Light's out)	HOME	7:00	
Sep. 26	CARD	AWAY	7:00	
Oct. 03	OGE MAW HEIGHTS			
	Homecoming	HOME	7:00	
Oct. 10	BRIDGEPORT	AWAY	7:00	
Oct. 17	MILLINGTON	AWAY	7:00	
Oct. 24	YALE (Band Night)	HOME	7:00	

J.V. FOOTBALL				
DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME	
Aug. 21	Scrimmage @ Alma HS	AWAY	4:00	
Aug. 27	IMLAY CITY	HOME	6:30	
Sep. 04	FRANKENMUTH	HOME	6:30	
Sep. 11	BIRCH RUN	AWAY	6:30	
Sep. 18	GARBER	AWAY	6:30	
Sep. 25	CARD	HOME	6:30	
Oct. 02	OGE MAW HEIGHTS	AWAY	6:30	
Oct. 09	BRIDGEPORT	HOME	6:30	
Oct. 16	MILLINGTON	HOME	6:30	
Oct. 23	YALE	AWAY	6:30	

FRESHMAN FOOTBALL				
DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME	
Aug. 21	Scrimmage @ ALMA HS	AWAY	4:00	
Aug. 27	IMLAY CITY	HOME	4:30	
Sep. 04	FRANKENMUTH	HOME	4:30	
Sep. 11	BIRCH RUN	AWAY	4:30	
Sep. 18	GARBER	AWAY	4:30	
Sep. 25	CARD	HOME	4:30	
Oct. 02	OGE MAW HEIGHTS	AWAY	4:30	
Oct. 09	BRIDGEPORT	HOME	4:30	
Oct. 16	MILLINGTON	HOME	4:30	
Oct. 23	YALE	AWAY	4:30	

8TH GRADE FOOTBALL				
DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME	
Sep. 08	SCRIMMAGE DATE	TBD	TBD	
Sep. 18	CARROLLTON	HOME	5:00	
Sep. 23	FRANKENMUTH	AWAY	5:00	
Sep. 30	GARBER	HOME	5:30	
Oct. 04	BIRCH RUN	AWAY	5:00	
Oct. 21	MILLINGTON	AWAY	5:00	
Oct. 28	CARD	HOME	5:00	

VARSITY BOYS' SOCCER			
DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME
Aug. 19	LAPOR EAST	HOME	4:30
Aug. 21	CARD	AWAY	4:30
Aug. 25	FRANKENMUTH	HOME	4:30
Aug. 27	LAKEVILLE	HOME	4:30
Sep. 03	MILLINGTON	HOME	4:30
Sep. 06	BAD AXE INVITE	AWAY	9:00
Sep. 08	BIRCH RUN	HOME	4:30
Sep. 10	VALLEY LUTHERAN	AWAY	4:30
Sep. 11	IMLAY CITY	AWAY	4:30
Sep. 15	GARBER	HOME	4:30
Sep. 18	CARD	HOME	4:30
Sep. 22	FRANKENMUTH	AWAY	4:30
Sep. 24	MOUMI	AWAY	4:30
Sep. 25	OXFORD	AWAY	8:30
Sep. 29	MILLINGTON	AWAY	4:30
Oct. 01	BIRCH RUN	AWAY	4:30
Oct. 06	VALLEY LUTHERAN	HOME	4:30
Oct. 08	GARBER	AWAY	4:30
Oct. 13 thru Oct. 18 DISTRICTS		TBD	TBD

J.V. BOYS' SOCCER				
DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME	
Aug. 19	LAPOR EAST	HOME	6:00	
Aug. 21	CARD	AWAY	6:00	
Aug. 25	FRANKENMUTH	HOME	6:00	
Aug. 27	LAKEVILLE	HOME	6:00	
Sep. 03	FREELAND	HOME	6:00	
Sep. 10	VALLEY LUTHERAN	AWAY	4:30	
Sep. 11	IMLAY CITY	AWAY	6:00	
Sep. 13	CORUNNA	AWAY	9:00	
Sep. 18	CARD	HOME	6:00	
Sep. 22	FRANKENMUTH	AWAY	6:00	
Sep. 24	FREELAND	AWAY	6:00	
Sep. 25	OXFORD	AWAY	5:00	
Oct. 06	VALLEY LUTHERAN	HOME	6:00	

ified for the State Meet but did not place. Finally, Olivia Kohler qualified for the State Meet and in two events finishing fourth in the 300 Hurdles and seventh in the 100 Hurdles. Olivia has now earned all-state recognition in five track events and was named all-state in volleyball for two years. It has been a very busy summer at the high school as the vast majority of the teams and athletes have been working hard to prepare for the 2008-2009 year. Many of our athletes have participated in strength training, camps, and scrimmages. The football team has participated in several 7-7 scrimmages and been involved in team camp activities. The boys' and girls' soccer teams held camps and participated in scrimmages during the summer. The girls' basketball team hosted several scrimmages with various schools and hosted a camp at North Branch. The boys' basketball team went to Central Michigan University for a team camp, played in a summer league, and hosted a skills camp. The wrestling and cheerleading teams went away to camps. The volleyball program hosted a camp and participated in two summer tournaments. Of course, many of our baseball and softball players were playing on traveling teams throughout the summer. The coaches and athletes are very excited for what could be an outstanding athletic year at North Branch as the Broncos will be in contention for several league titles.

FOOTBALL: The 2007 season finished with the Broncos going 3-6 overall after two consecutive winning seasons. Coach Steve Verburg will enter his first season as the varsity coach after spending the past four seasons at Howell High School including the past two years as the Defensive Coordinator as Howell won the Kensington

8TH GRADE GIRLS' BASKETBALL				
DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME	
Sep. 11	CARD	AWAY	4:30	
Sep. 15	BRIDGEPORT "A" Teams	HOME	5:30	
Sep. 17	FRANKENMUTH	HOME	4:30	
Sep. 22	CRAMER	AWAY	4:30	
Sep. 24	MILLINGTON	AWAY	4:30	
Sep. 29	BIRCH RUN	HOME	4:30	
Oct. 06	CARD BRIDGEPORT "A" Teams	AWAY	5:30	
Oct. 13	FRANKENMUTH	AWAY	4:30	
Oct. 15	CRAMER	HOME	4:30	
Oct. 20	MILLINGTON	HOME	5:00	
Oct. 21	BIRCH RUN	AWAY	4:30	

7TH GRADE GIRLS' BASKETBALL				
DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME	
Sep. 11	CARD BRIDGEPORT "A" Teams	HOME	4:30	
Sep. 15	FRANKENMUTH	AWAY	4:30	
Sep. 17	CRAMER	HOME	4:30	
Sep. 22	MILLINGTON	HOME	6:00	
Sep. 24	BIRCH RUN	AWAY	4:30	
Oct. 06	CARD BRIDGEPORT "A" Teams	AWAY	4:30	
Oct. 13	FRANKENMUTH	HOME	4:30	
Oct. 15	CRAMER	AWAY	4:30	
Oct. 20	MILLINGTON	AWAY	4:30	
Oct. 21	BIRCH RUN	HOME	4:30	





2008 ALUMNI FOOTBALL TEAM

The 2008 North Branch vs. Imlay City Alumni Football game hosted by North Branch High School on July 26 raised over \$8000.00 for the North Branch High School Football program. This year's team was coached by Jim Bona, Ray Hayes, Tredd Venter, and organized by Daniel Deschewsky. Thanks to Everyone involved for your support of North Branch Athletics.

• The eighth annual North Branch Booster Club Scramble will be held at Washakie Golf Course on Saturday, September 27 with a shot-gun start at 9:00 a.m. Entry fee is \$240.00 per foursome and includes 18 holes of golf, a continental breakfast, food at the turn, a meal after play, and cash prizes. We have room for 36 teams. Contact the golf course, a booster officer, North Branch Golf Coach Steve Sippell, or Athletic Director Jim Fish in the athletic office to sign your team up to play.



2008 ALL CONFERENCE GIRLS' SOCCER

Front Row L-R: Christina Skilton, Honorable Mention; Katie Owens, 2nd Team; Lauren Brooks, Honorable Mention.

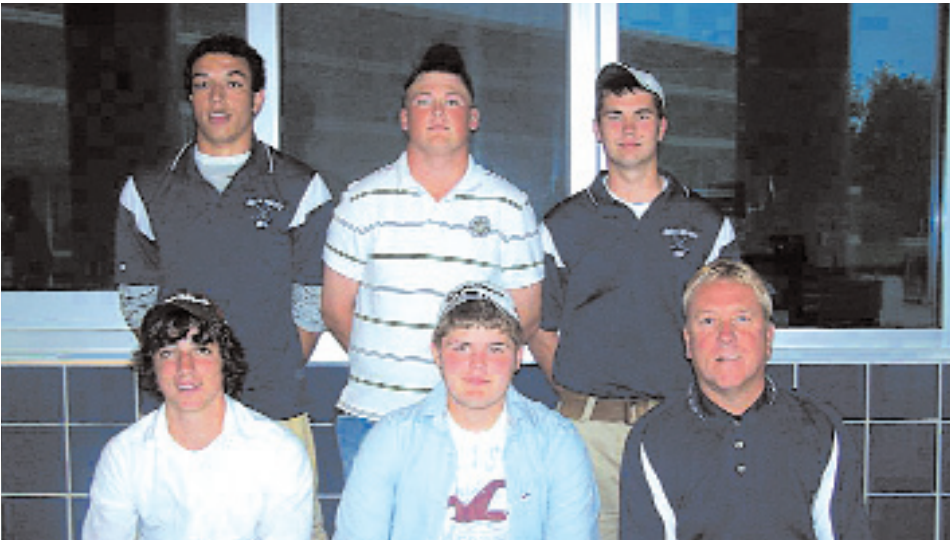
Valley League Championship last year. The Broncos will be returning 16 letter winners from last year's team and outstanding talent from a 7-2 JV team and 6-2-1 freshman team. The season opener will be on Thursday, August 28 at Imlay City with kickoff at 7:00 p.m. The Broncos will play its first home game on Friday, September 12 vs. Birch Run with the Light's Out game the next Friday, September 19 vs. Garber. The annual homecoming game will be on Friday, October 3 vs. Ogemaw Heights. The Broncos will close out the regular season at home on Friday, October 24 vs. Yale. Season passes for all home football games will be on sale in the athletic office during regular school hours and at all home football games.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY: Coach Jason Castle returns to lead the boys' and girls' cross country teams. The girls' team will have 8 returning letter winners and will be in the thick of the conference race. The boys' team returns only 1 runner and needs more athletes to come out and compete. North Branch will host the Lapeer Press County Meet on Thursday, September 18 with races beginning at 4:00 p.m.

CHEERLEADING: Krystal Gyomory moves up from the JV squad to take over the varsity team this year. Coach Gyomory will have an experienced squad with 9 girls competing who earned letters from last year. The team had an outstanding camp at Central Michigan and is extremely important in creating a spirited atmosphere at our athletic events.

BOYS' SOCCER: Josh Spencer returns for his fifth season as the varsity coach. Last year's team finished with a 7-2-3 conference record earning the team a second place tie in the TVC East Division. The squad could return 16 players with varsity experience and is hopeful of taking the next step and winning the TVC East Division Title. Catch the action early as the team will play 7 of its first 11 contests at home with 6 of its last 7 games on the road. Highlights on the schedule include the home opener on August 19 vs. Lapeer East, an August 25 game vs. rival Frankenmuth, and a very important home game on October 6 vs. Valley Lutheran.

VOLLEYBALL: The Lady Broncos will have 12 players returning from last year's 72-2 team that was ranked #1 for most of the season. The team also won its 4th consecutive TVC East Division Championship and made it to the Regional Finals of the State Tournament. North Branch also finished as the 49th ranked team in the country as Century Club ranks the top 100 teams in the United States. With so many returning players, the goals include winning a fifth consecutive TVC East Division Championship and getting back to the Final Four in the State. Highlights on the schedule include playing the top three league contending teams at home in Caro, Garber, and Frankenmuth. Also, the team will travel to face state power East Kentwood twice and will play in the top tournament in the state at Portage Northern High School on September 27.



2008 ALL CONFERENCE GOLF

Front Row L-R: Andy Popilinski, 1st Team; Dillon Montgomery, 1st Team; Coach Steve Sippell
Back Row L-R: Mike Karih, 2nd Team; Zach Mitchell, 2nd Team; Russ Armitz, 2nd Team
Not Pictured: Adam Beckwith, Honorable Mention

NOTES OF INTEREST:

• The first booster meeting of the year will be held on Monday, August 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the high school media center. Everyone is welcome to attend the meetings. The booster club is interested in all ideas and welcomes input from everyone. The following individuals were elected to office for the 2008-2009 school year:

Chuck Jacobson: President
Dan Husted: Vice President
Lorrellei Natke: Secretary
Tom Orr: Treasurer
Please contact any of the elected officers or the athletic office if you have any questions about athletic booster activities. The sole purpose of the booster club is to support the North Branch athletic programs. Membership forms are included in this school talk and may be mailed to: North Branch Athletic Office, 6598 Brush Street, North Branch, MI 48461. All businesses or individuals that join the booster club will be recognized in our fall and winter athletic programs.

• The fifth annual Community Pep Rally will be held on Monday, August 25 at the football field beginning at 7:00 p.m. We will be introducing all fall sport teams and coaches. All teams will be holding a parent meeting immediately after the festivities at the stadium. In addition, the marching band will be recognized and will be performing throughout the evening. The booster club will open up the concession stand for those wishing to purchase cold drinks. Please come out to support our student-athletes and band members.
• The booster club has provided plaques for individuals who have been given all-state recognition at any time in the history of North Branch athletics. We need the help of the community. If you know of an individual who was all-state in any sport, please contact Jim Fish at 688-2518. We need some type of documentation such as a newspaper clipping or an all-state certificate. Some of the plaques have been put up outside the gymnasium, but we need help in order to properly recognize those individuals who excelled athletically at North Branch.

Ticket Information:

Ticket prices will remain the same for the 2008-2009 school year. An individual ticket to all North Branch varsity contests will be \$5.00 for adults and \$4.00 for students. Freshman/JV football games will be \$4.00 and includes admission to both games. Freshman only contests will be \$3.00 with all Middle School games priced at \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for students. The best way to see your favorite North Branch team at a significant savings is by purchasing season passes for individuals or families. Again, passes may be purchased during school hours in the athletic office or at all home games.

Football: **Individual Pass for \$25.00** includes admission to 4 varsity games, 5 fr/jv games, and 3 middle school games (savings of \$24.00 on single ticket purchases)
Family Pass for \$75.00 is a savings of \$115.00 for a family of four)

Basketball: **Individual Pass for \$35.00** includes admission to all boys' and girls' Varsity, JV, Freshman, and Middle School games. Passes are good for both boys' and girls' events even if they are played on separate nights. (Savings of over a \$100)
Family Pass for \$75.00 is a significant savings for a family of four)

Volleyball and Wrestling: **Individual Pass for \$20.00** includes admission to all volleyball and wrestling games. The **Family Pass for \$40.00** includes admission to all volleyball and wrestling games.

ALL SPORTS PASS: Individual (\$60.00).....a huge savings!
Family (\$125.00).....a major savings for any family
Purchasing the All Sports Pass includes admission to all home events for all sports with the exception of MHSAA Tournaments. Rates for the All Sports Pass have not increased in six years. This pass is a terrific bargain even if you attend less than half of the home events. The Family All Sports Pass covers parents and all children still in school. Graduated family members will have to purchase their own passes. Our teams will be highly competitive and very entertaining this year. High school sports are still the best bargain for quality and exciting family evenings. If you need more information or have questions or concerns, please contact the Athletic Office at 688-2518 during normal school hours. Please make plans to get involved and support our student-athletes as they continue to strive for excellence both academically and athletically.

CROSS COUNTRY			
DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME
Aug 21	CROS LEX INVITE	AWAY	9:00
Aug 27	AKRON-FAIRCROVE INV	AWAY	10:00
Sep. 03	BROWN CITY INVITE	AWAY	4:30
Sep. 09	TVC JAM #1 @		
Sep. 09	CARO	AWAY	4:30
Sep. 16	COUNTY MEET	HOME	4:00
Sep. 20	AKRON-FAIRCROVE INV	AWAY	10:00
Sep. 23	TVC JAM #2 @		
Sep. 23	GARBER	AWAY	4:30
Sep. 24	MAINTIFF	AWAY	4:00
Sep. 27	HARBOR BEACH	AWAY	10:00
Oct. 04	CASS CITY INVITE	AWAY	9:00
Oct. 07	TVC JAM #3 @ NB		
Oct. 11	REESE INVITE	AWAY	11:00
Oct. 14	TVC MEET @ ST. CHARLES		
Oct. 14	THUMB CHAMPS @		
Oct. 18	CARO	AWAY	11:00
Oct. 24 or 25	REGIONALS	TOO	TOO
Nov. 01	STATE FINALS	AWAY	11:00
MIDDLE SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY			
DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME
Sep 15	NORTH BRANCH INV	HOME	4:30
Sep. 20	AKRON-FAIRCROVE INV AWAY		11:00
Sep. 27	HARBOR BEACH	AWAY	11:00
Oct. 04	CASS CITY INV.	AWAY	10:00
Oct. 08	BROWN CITY INV	AWAY	4:00
Oct. 11	REESE INVITE	AWAY	10:00
Oct. 18	THUMB CHAMPS @ CARO	AWAY	12:45

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

The North Branch Marching Broncos' Summer Marching Camp

The traditional week of marching band camp began July 28th at 7:00 AM sharp in the high school band room. All the vets from the previous year and the rookies (freshmen and transfer students new to the program) met with the anticipation of learning new things, meeting with friends, and making new friends.

Each day began at 7:30 AM on the marching field with stretches, calisthenics, and basic marching technique practice. After lunch, which was around noon, they had music rehearsals and sectionals. The days ended at 3:30 PM, and uniform fittings lasted until 5:30 PM. Traditional band camp week is one of the hottest of the summer, but not this year. The temperatures were in the mid 80's all week.

This year's show features the music of very popular rock bands of the 70's: "Highway Star" as recorded by Deep Purple, "Walk This Way" as recorded by Aerosmith, and "Come Sail Away" as recorded by Styx.

Friday's 3:30 PM Parent Show brought the week to a close!

The 2008 Marching Broncos
Color Guard



Drum Major



Section Leader



Low Brass



French Horn



Saxophone



Trumpet



Drum Line



Flute



Clarinet



Have you ever wondered if there is a place in our community where your teen can go and hang out with friends, where the environment is safe for them? Where there are caring adults to make sure that your teen is safe? The Summit is a community teen center that has been in operation since January of 2002.

Our mission is to give the teens of our community a safe place that they can go and have fun. In the last six years, we have seen over 2,500 different students come through our doors. It is a place where a teen can come, hang out with friends, get involved with the nights planned theme, play pool, air hockey, video games, listen to music and all the other things that teens like to do. And there is **no admission fee**. We make sure that everything is teen friendly, our music, video games and movies are previewed first by the staff. When a teen checks in, they are there for the night until they are picked up. Once they leave they are not allowed back inside. This makes sure that they are where they are supposed to be.

Wendy McKnight has been the director since March of 2002. She works closely with North Branch Schools, and has received a Distinguished Service Award from the Board of Education. She is there every night the center is open and cares about the teens of this community. She has a very dedicated staff of adults that also care about the teens. Parents are welcome to come into the center any time and see what we are all about. The Summit is always looking for caring adults to join its staff.

The center operates every other Friday night during the school year. From 3pm to 7pm the center is open for 7th and 8th graders and with a note from home, they can ride the Summit bus from school. From 8pm to midnight the center is open for 9th to 12th graders. Each night there is a planned theme such as "Fear Factor", "Battle of the Bands: Rock Band Style", "Are you Smarter than a 5th grader", and many more have been done. We have a café with many items that teens love and all at a very low cost.

So come on and check us out this year as we work hard to provide the teens with a fun, safe environment to hang out in.

Our fall dates are:

September 12th & 26th
November 7th & 21st

October 10th & 24th
December 5th & 19th

SCHOOL CLOSING INFO

For the most detailed information, tune in to the following radio and television stations.

WMPC 1230 AM
WQUS 103.1
WCRZ 107.9

WNEM (Channel 5)
WJRT (Channel 12)
WDIV (Channel 4)

Other radio and television stations may pick up the announcements through the Michigan State Police Lien Network.
Or visit: www.cancellations.com

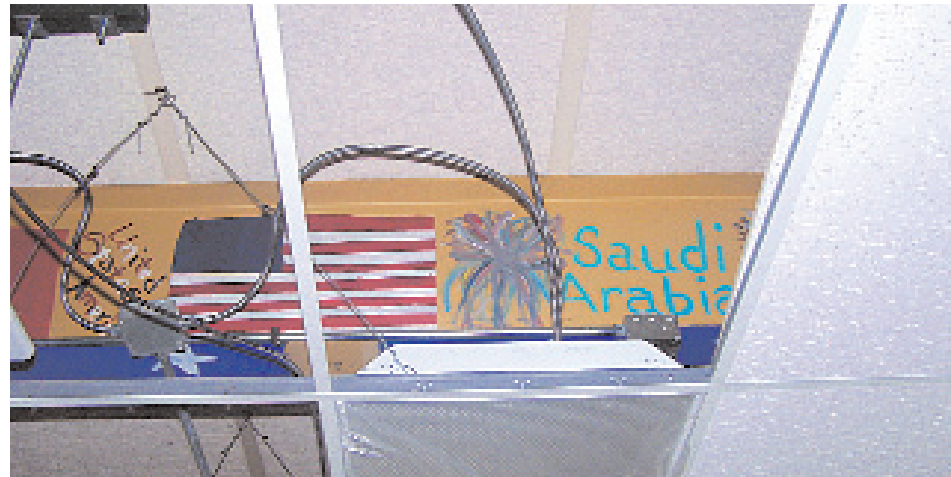
- The decision to cancel the regular school day program is usually made about 5:30 am/no later than 6:00 a.m. **if possible**. Only in unusually severe weather conditions is a decision made the night before.
- Occasionally school is dismissed early because of weather or afternoon kindergarten classes may be cancelled. These announcements will be made on the same stations indicated above.
- It is very important that all parents talk with their children about the procedure to be followed in the event of early release. The school must be notified in advance of any special arrangements or transportation.
- Planning in advance reduces stress and anxiety for your children and saves many last minute phone calls to the school.
- In the event of a tornado or severe thunderstorm watches/warnings it may be necessary to extend the school day rather than send children home in threatening weather.
- Generally, decisions or information about athletic events and other extracurricular activities on days when school is cancelled will be made after 10:30 a.m.
- Elementary students are returned to the school if the bus driver determines they cannot be left at home.
- Parents and students are also asked to avoid calling the bus garage on snowy mornings to inquire about school closings.
- **Decisions about school cancellation or early dismissal are made in the best interest of student safety.**

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS



CONSTRUCTION AT MIDDLE SCHOOL BRINGS VARIOUS DISCOVERIES

During construction this summer at the middle school builders encountered many hidden items and messages left by previous classes and old designs. Students painted support beams hidden by drop ceilings that were installed fifteen years ago. Workers discovered these paintings/drawings as they were installing the new electrical system. Also, as the old cafeteria was being demolished they discovered old, multi-colored panels hidden within the brick wall that separated the cafeteria from the hallway. If you have any information related to these two wonderful discoveries please contact John Sherman, middle school principal, at 688-4431. We would like to take any information and include it with our archives about the transition of this building from a high school to a middle school.



Access to Student Directory Information

Under the General Provisions (Section 9528) of the Federal *No Child Left Behind Act*, student directory information (names, addresses, and telephone listing) must be made available to military recruiters in every branch of the U.S. Military and institutions of higher education, upon their formal request. In order to receive funding under *No Child Left Behind*, districts must comply with this request. Failure to comply in a timely manner could lead to the withholding of Federal funds.

A secondary school student or the parent of the student may request that the student's name, address and telephone listing, not be released without prior written parental consent, and the local educational agency shall comply with this request. If you would like to exercise this option, please contact the High School Office in writing.

Parents can also find more information regarding *No Child Left Behind* by going to the following website:
<http://.ed.gov/parents/academic/involve/nclbguide/parentsguide.html>

A.H.E.R.A. Notification

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) requires that schools be inspected for asbestos at least once every three years. The inspection must identify, catalog, and provide directions for maintaining asbestos found in any school buildings. The inspection reports are on file in the principal's office each building. Mr. Lou Dominick, the Facility Supervisor is the designated person responsible for maintaining these records and insuring that any necessary maintenance is properly completed. All of the school district's maintenance and custodial staff have received the required training in understanding and handling issues relating to asbestos containing materials. Questions concerning North Branch Area School's asbestos management plan should be directed to Mr. Lou Dominick at (810) 688-4625.

RUTH FOX NEWS

"GO GREEN" Theme is Selected by Ruth Fox Elementary

Each year, the staff at Ruth Fox Elementary selects a theme for the year. This year our theme will be "Go Green!" The national news has certainly been focusing on this topic and it provides interesting discussion topics and projects for students. The topic also gives students more of a global perspective and begins to encourage them to think beyond themselves and their immediate community. The topic fits in well with many of the curricular units that students currently work on and will provide new ideas for learning!

Ruth Fox Elementary to Host Open House

Due to the construction, Ruth Fox Elementary students will have to wait until September for the annual Open House. Open House/Meet the Teacher Night has generally been before school started in order to give students and parents an opportunity to meet their teachers, learn the expectations, visit their classrooms, and look at the objectives for the coming year. This year, Open House/Meet the Teacher Night has been scheduled for September 18th from 6:30 – 7:30pm. Students will receive packets of information and locker combinations for their teachers on the first day of school. Student may also purchase their planners/binder tabs directly from teachers as well for \$5.00. We hope to see you at Open House!!!

RFE Teachers: Enhancing Language Arts Professional Practice

Learning never stops for teachers! Over the summer, Kevin Withey (6th grade teacher) gained certification through the National Writing Project by attending the Saginaw Bay Writing Project's 2008 Summer Institute. Certification requires a four week intensive process, where teachers strengthen their knowledge of writing through inquiry, demonstrations, professional reading, discussions, literature response groups, writing response groups and most importantly, by writing themselves. The National Writing Projects of Michigan are university-school partnerships. The sites develop regional leadership and research-based practices in reading, writing, and thinking, pre-k-college. As a result of this process, Kevin has a community of writers to correspond with, as well as a vast list of resources and ideas to share with students and colleagues at Ruth Fox Elementary. Kevin joins several other teachers at Ruth Fox Elementary who have been previously certified including Amber White, Anne Sherrieb and Theresa Rae! Congratulations!

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

North Branch Elementary OPEN HOUSE

All students and families are welcome!

Start the new school year by visiting your classroom and meeting your new teacher!

6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, August 27, 2008

North Branch Elementary Parent and Teacher Club

We are looking for parents who want to contribute to making North Branch Elementary a fun learning place for our children. You can participate as often as you like or as little as an hour or two. We sponsored many events during last school year: School Fair/ Art Fair, Mother/Daughter Night, Science Night, Father/Son Night. We have one or two fundraisers which help us support these activities. If you are interested in being part of the North Branch Elementary Parent and Teacher Club stop by our information table at the Open House, look for our September meeting date and time in the weekly newsletter, or call the office at 688-3041.

Little Learners Preschool

You still have time to register your four year old for a preschool experience filled with fun and learning.

There are openings in the two day and three day classes.

Call the North Branch Elementary office to save a spot for your child, 688-3041.

North Branch Elementary

September 2, 2008

First day of school for 1st to 4th Grade
8:45 a.m. to 4:05 p.m.

September 3, 2008

First day of school for
Begin-A-Garten, Kindergarten,
Early Childhood Preschool (Miss Patti)
A.M. 8:45 to 12:00
P.M. 1:50 to 4:05



North Branch Area Schools Cafeteria News...

Our food service department and Chartwells welcome your child back to the 2008-2009 school year. Chartwells has mapped out an approach to a wellness partnership, called Balanced Choices, our signature comprehensive approach to the health and well-being of students. This program assists students in making the most nutritious meal, snack, beverage and vending choices.

We take serving our student customers very seriously. Breakfast is offered daily in all schools. The results are in...children who eat breakfast perform better in school. Research shows that children who eat a healthy breakfast show increased attention at school, visit the nurse less often, and have lower rates of tardiness and absenteeism.

Please fill out one Family Meal Application per household and return it as soon as possible. Students must have a new application on file within the first 30 days of the current school year. Thank you for your participation in North Branch Area Schools

2008-2009 Meal Prices			
Elementary:	Breakfast \$1.35	Lunch \$2.00	
Secondary:	Breakfast \$1.50	Lunch \$2.35	
Sandwich Central	\$3.00	Adult \$3.50	
	Milk: \$.50		

breakfast and lunch program. Please contact Stacy Moyer, Director of Dining Services at 810-688-2226, with any questions or concerns.

Did you know?

Parents of students attending North Branch Area Schools can enjoy the convenience of sending in meal money on a weekly or monthly basis. You may send in a check or cash to prepay for meals. Here is how the system works:

1. Send a check payable to North Branch Area Schools or cash in an envelope. Include the name(s) and grade(s) of the student(s) for whom the meal is being paid. This payment and information may be sent to the building your student attends.
 2. The money will be immediately deposited in your student’s meal account.
 3. As your student(s) check out of the food service line, their purchase will be automatically debited from their account balance.
 4. When the amount of your account gets low, your student(s) will be notified. You may then send in additional funds.
 5. Any balance on your account at the conclusion of a school year will either be refunded to you by check or the balance may be carried forward to the next school year, or transferred to another child’s account.
- Give our prepaid meal program a try. It’s secure and convenient.

North Branch Area Schools policy for free and reduced price school meals for children unable to pay the full price for meals served under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program. The following household size and income criteria will be used for determining eligibility:

Scale for Free Meals or Free Milk

TOTAL FAMILY SIZE	Annual	Monthly	Twice per month	Every two weeks	Weekly
1	\$13,620	\$1,127	\$664	\$620	\$260
2	\$18,200	\$1,517	\$759	\$700	\$350
3	\$22,880	\$1,907	\$964	\$880	\$440
4	\$27,560	\$2,297	\$1,149	\$1,080	\$530
5	\$32,240	\$2,687	\$1,344	\$1,240	\$620
6	\$36,920	\$3,077	\$1,539	\$1,420	\$710
7	\$41,600	\$3,467	\$1,734	\$1,600	\$800
8	\$46,280	\$3,857	\$1,929	\$1,780	\$890
	\$4,680*	\$390*	\$195*	\$180*	\$90*

* For each additional household member add this amount:

Children from households whose income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free milk.

Application forms are being sent to all homes with a letter to parents or guardians. To apply for free and reduced price school meals, households should fill out the form and return it to the school. Additional copies of the application form are available at the principal’s office in each school. Households should answer all questions on the form.

NON FOOD STAMP HOUSE-HOLDS: An application which does not contain all of the following information

cannot be processed by the school: (1) the total income by source for each household member (such as wages, child support, etc.); (2) names of all household members; (3) social security number of the adult household member who signs the application; and (4) the signature of a household member.

FOOD STAMP/FIP/FDPIR HOUSE-HOLDS: If you currently receive Food Stamps, Family Independence Program (FIP), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservation (FDPIR) benefits for your child, you only have to list your child’s name and Food Stamp or FIP/FDPIR case number and sign the application.

Scale for Reduced Price Meals

Annual	Monthly	Twice per month	Every two weeks	Weekly
\$18,240	\$1,604	\$802	\$740	\$370
\$25,900	\$2,159	\$1,080	\$997	\$499
\$32,660	\$2,714	\$1,367	\$1,263	\$627
\$39,220	\$3,289	\$1,635	\$1,509	\$755
\$46,880	\$3,824	\$1,912	\$1,766	\$883
\$52,540	\$4,379	\$2,190	\$2,021	\$1,011
\$59,200	\$4,934	\$2,467	\$2,277	\$1,139
\$65,860	\$5,489	\$2,745	\$2,534	\$1,267
\$6,660*	\$555*	\$278*	\$257*	\$129*

The information provided by the household is confidential and will be used only for the purpose of determining eligibility, verifying data, or qualifying children for other federal and state programs, as authorized by the United States Department of Agriculture. The school or other officials may verify applications at any time during the school year.

Households may apply for benefits at any time during the school year. If a household is not currently eligible but has a decrease in household income, an increase in household size, or if a house-

hold member becomes unemployed, the household should fill out an application at that time.

In most cases, FOSTER CHILDREN are eligible for these benefits regardless of the household’s income. If a household has foster children living with them and they wish to apply for free or reduced price meals for them, the household should contact the school for more information. Under the provisions of the policy, a designated administrator will review applications and determine eligibility.

Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling of the official may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. The household also has the right to a fair hearing. This can be done by calling or writing the superintendent of the respective district. Each school and the central office have a complete policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

REAPPLY: You may apply for meal benefits at any time during the school year. If you lose your job, if your income decreases, if your family size increases or if you begin receiving Food Stamps or FIP/FDPIR, fill out an application at that time.

“In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”

You will be informed of application approval or denial.

Annual Pesticide Notification

As part of the North Branch Area School District’s pest management program, pesticides are occasionally applied. You have the right to be informed prior to any pesticide application made to the school grounds and building. In certain emergencies, pesticides may be applied without prior notice, but you will be provided notice following any such application if you need prior notification, please complete the information below and submit to:

Lou Dominick, Facility Supervisor, North Branch Area Schools, 6600 Brush St., P.O. Box 3620, North Branch 48461. (810) 688-4625

Pesticide prior notification request should include:
Parent/Guardian Name
Student’s Name
Home Address
Telephone Numbers (Daytime & Evening)
School Building or Site
Please indicate whether prior notification is requested for treatment inside the building, on outside grounds or both
Please sign and date the request
Requests must be filed annually

Required Childhood Immunizations for Michigan School Settings

Entry Requirements for All Public & Non-Public Schools		
Age → Vaccine**↓	4 years through 6 years	7 years through 18 years
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis	4 doses DTP or DTaP, one dose must be ≥ 4 yrs	4 doses D and T OR 3 doses Td if #1 given ≥ 7 yrs of age. Must have 1 dose within last 10 years
Polio	4 doses, if dose 3 administered ≥ 4 years, only 3 doses required	3 doses
Measles,* Mumps,* Rubella*	2 doses ≥ 12 mo.	2 doses ≥ 12 mo.
Hepatitis B*	3 doses	3 doses
Varicella* (Chickenpox)	1 dose if given ≥ 12 months of age and prior to 13 th birthday OR 2 doses if initiated ≥ 13 th birthday OR current lab immunity OR reliable history of disease	

* Current laboratory evidence of immunity is acceptable instead of immunization with antigen.

For more information, please refer to www.michigan.gov/immunize

**All doses of vaccines must be given with appropriate spacing between doses and at appropriate ages to be considered valid.