

North Branch Area Schools “Person of the Week”

Welcome to our NBAS Person of the Week! Each week, we highlight a member of our incredible team to showcase their unique contributions and share a bit about their journey. This week, we’re shining the spotlight on Allison Brown, an Instructional Coach supporting teachers at North Branch Elementary School.

An instructional coach can be defined as an educational leader who helps teachers strengthen instruction and assessment practices in their classrooms. In this role, Alison builds strong partnerships with teachers, fostering a team environment where everyone feels valued and supported.

Her professionalism, enthusiasm, and passion for education make her an outstanding role model for both teachers and students. Allison is always ready to lend a helping hand, she brings positivity and encouragement to every classroom she visits.

Allison’s Story:



It is truly an honor and a bit surreal to be selected as the NBAS Person of the week. My work in North Branch began 5 years ago, as a Literacy Coach for the Lapeer ISD. During this time, I supported North Branch Elementary just 3 days a week. When a full-time coaching position opened here at North Branch, I knew right away that this is a place I could call “home”.

My passion for education came from my father who taught in Almont for 38 years and coached many different sports. Following in his footsteps, I pursued my degree in Elementary Education with a minor in Mathematics and Language Arts, graduating from Saginaw Valley State University in 2008. I went on to get my Master’s Degree in Teacher Leadership

from the University of Phoenix, along with graduate coursework through the American College of Education.

I began my teaching career at Lapeer Community Schools as a fifth grade teacher, then moved into sixth grade and finally found my calling in Kindergarten. I taught Kindergarten for 14 years before I became a Literacy Coach through the ISD supporting both Imlay City Schools and North Branch. I finally joined North Branch full time in 2022.

Since joining the amazing team here at North Branch as an Instructional Coach, I have met many wonderful people. My coworkers consistently support my endeavors, challenge me to think critically, and ultimately contribute significantly to my professional growth. I have the privilege of collaborating with an incredible team of Instructional Coaches, guided by an

exceptional curriculum director, alongside devoted teachers, paraprofessionals, and administrators.

I love learning, and because of that I have been able to expand my knowledge and skills by being a part of the MAISA coaching network. Through this network I have learned from leading researchers in the education field and have been able to network with over 450 literacy coaches around the state of Michigan.

I reside in Imlay City with my incredible husband Isaac of nearly 27 years. Together we have two boys-Micheal who is 26 years old and married to my wonderful daughter-in-law Samantha. Travis who is 24, and his sweet girlfriend Kylee. We are beyond excited to be welcoming our first grandbaby this summer. Let's just say, he is already spoiled and he hasn't even arrived yet.

During my down time, I enjoy traveling and reading. Last summer, we had a wonderful opportunity to embark on a 37-day cross-country road trip in our RV, where we explored numerous national parks. We even ventured into Canada to Baff and Jasper National Park. Although I prefer reading non-fiction books, I also read many different genres. In the summer you can find me on a beach with a book in my hand.

Educators, the most valuable advice I can offer is this: be lifelong learners. Embrace opportunities to learn alongside your students, glean wisdom from your fellow educators, and seek knowledge from other experts. Remember, your dedication to continuous learning is the very foundation of your growth.

I am deeply grateful and humbled for this incredible nomination. I eagerly anticipate continuing my career here in North Branch, and am very excited to see what the future holds.

Here is what some of her co-workers had to say...

- Allison is an amazing colleague and pillar to the day to day behind the scenes to our district. I met her a few years ago here at NBE. What I've noticed in this small amount of time is her huge heart to puts forth in her job here day after day. She puts 110% in every day, with no questions asked, and no matter what is thrown her way she gets it done. Even on the stressful days her response is always "I do it for the kids"!! She truly is here for the students here at NBE. We love you Pete!
- Everyone has stories about people who affirm them and help them feel successful. I am confident Allison Brown is that person for many students and staff at North Branch Elementary. In a short period of time, Allison has earned the respect and trust of elementary colleagues as a direct result of her early literacy knowledge, leadership, positive attitude and do-whatever-it-takes work ethic to ensure our youngest learners are achieving and teacher colleagues are being supported.

Allison understands her role well and has been instrumental in the significant gains we are experiencing at North Branch Elementary. I think we'd be hard pressed to find a NBE

event she hasn't supported with her presence and helping hand. On any given day you will find her modeling lessons in teachers' classrooms, co-facilitating small groups, meeting with teachers to discuss challenges and successes, making fun t-shirts for staff (just because), organizing staff outings to build culture and so much more. Allison has earned her reputation as a hard working, caring colleague who goes above and beyond. Her exceptional contributions with curriculum, instruction and assessment make her a standout recipient for this honor.

Thank you, Allison, for being such a vital part of our school community. Please join us in celebrating her well-deserved recognition!