

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 Sherri Bonner, a Special Education teacher at North Branch Elementary School.

We are proud to recognize the remarkable dedication and compassion of Sherri Bonner. Her unwavering commitment to her students, her patience, and her ability to see and nurture the unique strengths in every child inspire all who have the privilege to work alongside her.

Sherri’s work changes lives—not just through education, but through the boundless care, hope, and encouragement she gives every day.

Thank you, Sherri, for being a true champion for your students and a pillar of our school community.

Sherri’s Story:



I am so genuinely surprised to be nominated as a NBAS Person of the Week. What an honor! This job can often feel overwhelming or unappreciated, so to be nominated by a colleague who truly “gets it” is a great affirmation.

I began my career in 1992 as a teacher for the Hearing-Impaired in East Lansing. I was born with a hearing impairment and cherished the opportunity to work with students in that field. After having children, I took a few years to stay home, and we moved to North Branch where many of my husband's family lived. During that time, I experienced a significant change in my hearing and I was terrified that I would never be able to return to teaching.

Thankfully, I was implanted with bilateral cochlear implants and found my way back to teaching in North Branch in 2007. Here I am, 18 years later... looking forward to retirement but still trying to make as big of an impact as possible while I’m still here.

Without a doubt, the best part about North Branch is the people. From the colleagues who have become lasting friends to the students who feel like family, I have met the most amazing people here. Every single day, I encounter people who lift me up, push me forward, guide me, stand beside me, and inspire me. The team of second-grade teachers that I am so blessed to share students with are some of the most talented and dedicated people around. The paraprofessionals who spend their days implementing some of my crazy plans are fearless, resilient, and compassionate. The students, who some days leave me feeling exhausted or

overwhelmed, also continue to teach me when I least expect it. They are the best people to be surrounded by every single day, and they are the reason I would do it all over again.

If I were to give one piece of advice to those who are just starting in the field, it would be to be flexible, adaptable, and willing to learn from your experiences and those of your colleagues. Education is an ever-changing field, and sometimes feels like a roller coaster! Jump on, enjoy the ride, and sometimes you just have to throw your hands up and laugh!

Thank you to whoever nominated me for this honor... you have truly touched my heart!

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

- Sherri deserves to be picked for person of the week because she puts her entire heart and soul into her work, she has a heart of gold and is a pleasure to work with. Sherris students thrive as a result of her encouragement and understanding of their individual needs. I have a double perspective on how great she is because my daughter was a student of hers a few years ago. I have personally learned so much from her special education knowledge, as a special education paraprofessional she makes me feel valued and a part of the team. Sherri is an inspiration and North Branch Elementary is a better place because of her!
- Sherri's unwavering dedication to the children she works with is truly inspiring. She consistently goes above and beyond to ensure her students feel supported, valued, and encouraged to grow. Whether it's lending a hand to fellow teachers or stepping in to help wherever needed, her positive presence makes a lasting impact on everyone around her. We are truly lucky to have her as a teacher at NBE!
- Sherri is one of the most dedicated teachers I know. She continuously goes above and beyond to service and support all of her students. She makes a difference in their lives every single day. Countless hours and strategic planning is a norm for her in order to meet the needs of individual children. Sherri is also a constant support for the teachers she works with. There is no issue or situation that Sherri doesn't have good solid advice for. She is a rock for her colleagues, especially for her teammates. This district is extremely lucky to have Sherri in its corner. She has proven over and over again that she is definitely "ALL IN".

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