

North Branford Intermediate School
NBIS News – February, 2019

- The Alan C. Davis Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society inaugurated its first induction class during a ceremony held at NBIS on Monday, February 11, 2019. Congratulations to the 34 students who have achieved this prestigious level of recognition!
- Under the direction of Sharon Monnes, the NBIS Spotlight Players performed *Seussical the Musical* to a sold out audience on Friday February 1st and Saturday, February 2nd. The cast and crew of the production consisted of nearly 100 NBIS students, as well as 17 “Junior Directors” from NBHS.
- The school counselors introduced Naviance, a web-based career and college exploration program, to all sixth grade students during classroom lessons. Eighth grade students were taught lessons about the NBHS Program of Studies. Counseling groups continue to meet.
- TV Club members meet weekly to create videos for the morning announcements. This month they learned about making a "How To" video.
- Robotics Club is continuing to work at Jerome Harrison with both high school and middle school students helping to teach the second graders.
- Eighth grade Science students recently completed a "Chemical Reaction" Gallery Walk. This activity was student created, with students developing posters that showed interesting chemical reactions and that demonstrated the balanced chemical reactions. Students had an opportunity to critique other students' work and make adjustments based on those critiques.
- The NBIS Math Department is using the Illustrative Math resources for grades 6 - 8. Grade level PLC's are collaborating on a frequent basis to unpack the resources and discuss best instructional strategies to improve students' learning of mathematics.
- In Health, sixth grade has been learning about nutrition and making healthy food choices by being educated on vitamins and minerals, portion sizes, how to read nutrition labels, and creating their own healthy meals for a day by following the MyPlate guidelines. Seventh grade has been learning about the effects of tobacco through facts and statistics as well as the dangers and effects of E-cigarettes and Vaping devices by researching the chemicals that are found in devices and the long term effects they can cause to the human body. Eighth grade started their unit on alcohol where they are learning about the dangers and effects of binge drinking, alcohol poisoning, drunk driving, and the effects it takes on our body and mind.
- The first meeting of the Connecticut Library Consortium Shoreline Middle/Intermediate School Librarian Roundtable was held in the NBIS Library on January 29th. Mary Beth Molloy is the chairperson of this new roundtable.
- The Yearbook Committee is continuing to design the pages of the Yearbook and photograph events at NBIS, particularly the Geography Bee, the winter sports teams and is looking forward to photographing the recent musical, *Seussical*!
- January was a busy month for the NBIS Music Department. All students have been busy with work in sight reading and rhythm reading practice. The chorus and band classes have started their music for the spring concert. Sixth grade general music students are finishing up guitar and will be starting piano next week. Piano and guitar students are progressing on their instruments, and are beginning composition units.
- In Art, sixth graders focused on proportion through creating a project of a realistic lizard. Students experimented with different coloring techniques using construction paper crayons on black paper. Seventh graders were introduced to the artist Keith Haring's simplified figures and learned a new type of art, print making, to create their own Keith Haring style artworks. Eighth graders began working with clay on the first day of art! Students created sculptural clay fish by creating a pinch pot technique, then adding different forms like fins and eyes by scoring, slipping and blending.