

**North Branford Intermediate School**  
**NBIS News - February, 2018**

- On Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, students from the Seventh grade will participate in a videoconferencing event with the Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Educare, which is located in India. This video-conference is part of the Creative Connections: *ArtLink* Program. Based in Norwalk, Connecticut, Creative Connections, an international cultural education organization, facilitates the *ArtLink* program. This program fosters a cultural exchange between American students and students from international schools. Since 2011, North Branford Intermediate School's seventh grade social studies students have been participating in this program. Our students have partnered with schools in Mexico, Brazil, Russia, Latvia, Sri Lanka, India, Jordan, Senegal, and Uganda.
- Former New Haven Assistant Chief of Police and current NBIS Security Officer Pat Redding spoke to the NBIS staff about building safety and security measures, as well as the responsibility of staff members to always be vigilant and aware of their surroundings; to always ensure the safety of our students.
- Student Council is busy as always, having sponsored and participated in the Winter Door Decorating Contest, created a Public Service Announcement for facial palsy, and running the NBIS Student Store.
- In Health, Sixth grade will be learning about nutrition and making healthy food choices, Seventh grade will be learning about the effects of tobacco, and Eighth grade will be learning about alcohol, focusing on the dangers of drinking, alcohol poisoning, drunk driving, and the effects it takes on our body and mind.
- The semi-final and final rounds of the National Geographic Bee were held at NBIS. It proved to be a challenging competition. In third place was seventh grader, Ben Taylor. Eighth grader, Jacob Danner took second place. Our school champion for the 2018 National Geographic Bee is seventh grader Carmine DeAngelis. We are very proud of all our students for their participation in the National Geographic Bee.
- Future Problem Solvers have worked very hard, and we are proud to say that one NBIS FPS team has qualified for the State Conference in March.
- In Theatre Arts, Sixth grade students are learning the parts of the stage, how to write/read stage direction, and the basics of blocking on stage. Seventh grade Theatre Arts students are working on a scene project where they perform the same written scene twice, altering their body language, expression, tone, and timing to give the scene a new story/meaning each time. Eighth grade Theatre Arts students are working on a storytelling unit where they learn and apply the skills of a good storyteller.
- The NBIS Spotlight Players are in the final preparation stages for The Music Man! The show is coming together beautifully and we are excited to present it to the community on February 23rd and 24th in the North Branford Auditorium. The performers, stage crew, pit band, hair and makeup team (partnering with Paul Mitchell School), and front of house crew are sure to delight. Tickets went on sale to the public on February 5th.
- 2018 is off to a great start for the NBIS Music Department. The band and chorus students have started their music for their upcoming concerts. On January 26th, 120 grade 8 students went on a trip to see "The Greatest Showman."
- A letter went home to all eighth grade students explaining this year's class trip to Boston. A tentative schedule was shared along with fees and due dates.
- The NBIS Math Department met with Megan Peterson to learn about how teachers are teaching and assessing fluency at the K-6 level.
- The Robotics Club has started going to Jerome Harris Elementary School this month to begin a robotics program with the second graders. They have begun constructing their own robots using the VEX IQ robotics. Each Robotics Club member is mentoring three elementary students in the construction and operation of a robot.