

North Branford High School
September 2017 BOE Brief

- Freshmen Orientation took place on August 23rd at NBHS. Mr. Gwudz and Mrs. Lee included a parent orientation presentation this year while students completed other activities during the morning. Following an introduction and video presentation, upperclassmen provided a panel discussion focusing upon successful transition tips. Upperclassmen then led group discussions, distributed class schedules, and provided guided tours on the campus of NBHS. Incoming ninth graders were introduced to the NBHS PBIS acronym 'Full CIRCLE' with activities focusing upon Citizenship, Integrity, Responsibility, Consideration, Leadership, and Empathy. Prior to the day, upperclassmen participated in workshops facilitated by Ms. Balg to prepare for this event. Mr. Augur provided a hot dog cookout at the close of the program for students and parents.
- School photos for all students took place on 9/6, 7. Parents were provided materials for additional orders and photos will be used for school IDs also. Steady Photography, the official photographer for NBHS, was on hand and will return later in the year for all club and activity group photos. They are also on hand for all school events throughout the year.
- Chef Ed Slubowski Field Day was held on Friday September 8th. NBHS moved the event to the fall as a means to have a unifying event at the onset of the year. In addition, the spring time & end of the school year tends to have several events and celebrations with a very busy calendar to close out the year prior to graduation. Positive feedback has been shared by staff and students regarding this recent change. Steady Photography took photos of each grade prior to lunch with students attending classes for an abbreviated period during the morning.
- The NBHS College Planning Night was held on Wednesday September 12th for seniors and their parents. Under the direction of Mrs. Detour, Director of Guidance, the Guidance Department provided an overview of the various steps of planning process including applying to colleges, visiting campuses, and an overview of the individual meetings that will occur during the senior year with our guidance staff, parents and their teens.
- NBHS Curriculum Night/Open House took place on September 14th with parents following their child's class schedule. Staff provided an overview to their courses and the academic requirements associated with the class. Mrs. Eligio and Mrs. Folz were stationed in the NBHS Library to assist parents when accessing their children's schedules via powerschool.
- All classroom teachers continue with professional development as NBHS transitions to the Google classroom platform. In lieu of teacher websites, staff will be using the 'announcement' feature within google classroom on regular basis to provide parents with a brief overview of their course including the current unit/focus, upcoming direction, and reminders regarding upcoming due dates and assessments. A uniform format has been drafted with input from the NBHS Leadership Team and certified staff who are also certified trainers for the platform. This initiative will be tied to the parent and student feedback portion of the teacher evaluation program.
- Each Friday, Advisory (rather than homeroom) meets grades 9-12 with targeted dates set for the year for Advisory agendas based upon the needs of each grade. Advisory dates with no set agenda will include the NBHS TBird News produced by the TV Production classes, club meetings, and assemblies hosted by the NBHS SADD and GSA Organizations.