



# PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

North Branford High School

Spring, 2010



Dear Parents,

This is the time of year for NBHS students, staff and administrators to reflect on what we have done and anticipate the future. It is a happy and prideful time to celebrate accomplishments, an anxious time to anticipate changes in our lives, and a sad time to face regrets or disappointments. The NBHS community is experiencing all of these feelings, but I am pleased to say, happiness and pride prevail! What brings us happiness and pride? Is it hard work toward a goal? Is it contributing to our community and society for needs greater than our own? Is it living a life with a moral code that demonstrates *Respect...Responsibility...Integrity...Caring...Citizenship*? All of these sources of happiness and pride are part of our school's mission. They are what we aspire to have every graduate strive to experience during their 728 days at NBHS.

Our wonderful students have demonstrated our mission in many ways this year: beginning in the fall with the community round up, in the winter with the *Big Give Challenge* hitting the \$10,000 mark, in the spring with the *Open Your Heart – Feel How We Roll* event, and with our students working on a home with HomeFront and cleaning up the *Hole in the Wall* Camp. We are working towards being a respectful school. Recently, a community member complimented our students' good behavior based on witnessing kindness and respect when he visits us. I am proud that he noticed, and our future will include more work on this. Our staff is working on recognizing and supporting positive behavior in our students and I know parents work hard at this each day. I believe every adult in our students' lives need to teach and model the attributes that will foster a life filled with happiness and pride. Thank you for supporting us in this important work.

We are happy and proud of our soon-to-be graduates. This class has accomplished so much for our school and I know they will continue their good work throughout their promising futures. Enclosed, in this newsletter, is important information about graduation. I am hoping for a beautiful day on June 21<sup>st</sup>! Just in case the weather does not cooperate, we have alternate plans that include the commencement ceremony in the auditorium and a live telecast in the large gymnasium. Although the indoor tickets are limited, I believe it will provide us with a more beautiful and memorable ceremony. I am looking forward to seeing many parents at the upcoming events as we end the 2010-2011 school year.

## EXAM SCHEDULE

<b>Tuesday, June 15</b>	<b>7:45 - 9:45</b>	<b>H Block</b>
	<b>10:00 - 12:00</b>	<b>G Block</b>
<b>Wednesday, June 16</b>	<b>7:45 - 9:45</b>	<b>F Block</b>
	<b>10:00 - 12:00</b>	<b>E Block</b>
<b>Thursday, June 17</b>	<b>7:45 - 9:45</b>	<b>D Block</b>
	<b>10:00 - 12:00</b>	<b>C Block</b>
<b>Friday, June 18</b>	<b>7:45 - 9:45</b>	<b>B Block</b>
	<b>10:00 - 12:00</b>	<b>A Block</b>
<b>Monday, June 21</b>	<b>7:45 - 9:45</b>	<b>Make-Up Exams</b>
	<b>10:00 - 12:00</b>	<b>Make-Up Exams</b>

## News from the Guidance Department

- Juniors are reminded that they should be exploring post-high school opportunities over the summer so they are prepared to begin the application process in the fall.
- There are many educational summer programs available to NBHS students in all grades. Feel free to come to the Guidance Office to see if there are any you may be interested in.
- There are still seats available for students interested in taking a course through Virtual High School next year. You can go online to [www.govhs.org](http://www.govhs.org) to see which classes are available. Please see Mrs. DeTour for more information.
- A reminder that class schedules for 2010 – 2011 will be mailed to students over the summer. No schedules will be available before then. School counselors will be available to meet with students regarding their schedules at the end of August. If you want to make any changes to the classes that you originally selected, you can email those requests to [adetour@northbranfordschools.org](mailto:adetour@northbranfordschools.org) at any time.

## Environmental Science

“It is not easy being green,” sings Kermit the Frog from the children’s television show, Sesame Street. To help students realize how easy it is to be green, the NBHS Science Department offers three levels of Environmental Science (General, College-Prep and AP) to meet the intellectual needs and interests of students. Environmental Science is an interdisciplinary science that incorporates the Earth, Physical and Life Sciences. General level Environmental Science is a one-semester course; the college-prep and AP levels are full year courses. Each level involves students in hands-on inquiry to examine environmental problems from scientific, economic and social aspects. Students enrolled in AP Environmental Science have the opportunity to take the College Board AP Environmental exam offered in May. By successfully scoring on the exam, students may receive college credit in Environmental Science. On the horizon, plans are underway for a school greenhouse in which students may become involved in soil profile studies, organic farming and sustainability.

## Project Graduation News

June 21st is just around the corner! How quickly our children have grown and soon they will be graduating seniors. The Project Graduation committee has been working very hard over the past 8 months to prepare for the all night alcohol free party on the night of graduation. This event will provide a safe and fun environment for our kids to celebrate and enjoy one last time together as a class. Enclosed, in the newsletter, is the **permission notice that will need to be filled out completely and signed by both the parent and the student.** Return this form to the school by the date noted, attention “Project Graduation”. Students will not be able to attend the event if the form is not sent in advance or if class dues are not current. There will be no exceptions. Any questions contact Lisa Waterbury at [wtbry@comcast.net](mailto:wtbry@comcast.net).

**Collage Wall:** Donna McGlynn will be heading up the collage wall for the night of PG. She is asking all parents to send 2 to 3 pictures of your kids (they can be from baby stage to present, birthday parties with friends, sports pictures, groups, previous events at school, etc.). Send hard copies only, no electronic copies. Pictures will not be returned. Send to the high school attention “Project Graduation.” If you have any questions you can contact Donna at [dmcglynn@northbranfordschools.org](mailto:dmcglynn@northbranfordschools.org). The deadline is May 31st.

Thank You Lisa Waterbury and Maria Troiano, Project Graduation Chairs.

## SUMMER READING

As you prepare for summer vacation, please remember to complete the English Department Summer Reading Project. Summer reading is required for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors, but is optional for seniors. Your English teacher will distribute the assignment in class, and you will receive one with your report card. The summer reading list will also be available on the school's web site.



Happy reading!

Bring your family, friends, and coworkers to run or walk Matt's Mission 5k to benefit Matt's Mission Fund. Registration starts at 7:30 AM.

**Matt's Mission 5k**  
**Sunday, May 23, 2010**  
**at 9:30 AM**  
**North Branford High School**

For more information contact:  
Lynn Riordan, (203) 506-7577 or (203) 208-0005  
John Bysiewicz, (203) 481-5933

**Best Buddies Regional Prom**  
**At Rocky Hill High School**  
**May 15, 2010**



## "Hole in the Wall Gang Camp"

On a bright sunny day in May, twenty one students from the Helping Hands Club went on a trip to the northeastern part of Connecticut. The bus went down a dirt road framed by beautiful trees and at the end of the road was the Wild West hideaway. Yes, we arrived at the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp in Ashford, Connecticut. The group freshened up the grounds for the arrival of a group of children diagnosed with cancer, sickle cell anemia, HIV/AIDS, hemophilia or other serious conditions. The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp provides year-round programs and an outstanding summer camp for more than 1,000 seriously ill children. It was a very rewarding day for the Helping Hands students and Mrs. LaCroix, Ms. Hurley, Mr. Palma & Mrs. Travisano.



**Junior Prom at Woodwinds**  
**April 30, 2010**



**ATTENTION JUNIOR PARENTS!!!!!!**

Project Graduation information session for junior parents will be on June 1st at 7pm in the NBHS cafe. If you have any questions, contact Lisa Waterbury at [wtrby@comcast.net](mailto:wtrby@comcast.net) or Maria Troiano at [atroiano@snet.net](mailto:atroiano@snet.net)

**2010 YEARBOOK**

**If you have not ordered a 2010 yearbook yet, there is still time. For \$75.79, you can order and still receive the new yearbook when the book comes out on June 11th. See Mrs. Ward in the library.**

**GRADUATION WILL BE HELD  
ON JUNE 21, 2010 AT 6:30 PM  
RAIN OR SHINE**

**In the event of questionable weather conditions, check our website [northbranfordschools.org](http://northbranfordschools.org). You will also receive an automated voice message to determine the location..... outside on the athletic field or indoors in the auditorium.**

**NORTH BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
P.O.BOX 129  
NORTHFORD, CT 06472**

NON-PROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 51