

**NORTH BRANCH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 138
NORTH BRANCH AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL, FTLA ROOM #816, 38431
LINCOLN TRL, NORTH BRANCH, MN 55056
SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2026
5:30 PM**

AGENDA

Notice is hereby given that the School Board of North Branch Area Public Schools will hold a School Board Work Session on Thursday, October 22, 2026 at 5:30 PM in the North Branch Area Middle School, FTLA Room #816, 38431 Lincoln Trl, North Branch, MN 55056.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Superintendent's Report 2
- V. Work Session Topics
 - A. Parent and Elder Discussion Circle 8
 - B. Building Goals: Middle School, Norse Area Learning Center and Distance Learning Academy 9
- VI. Adjournment



Superintendent Update October 22, 2026

Safe Routes to School



Success on and off the field



Back by popular demand

Sponsored by North Branch Area Community Education
with the help of the North Branch High School National
Honor Society

All family members of first graders and younger
are welcome!



Friday, October 23rd
6-7:30PM

Cost: We request you bring a box of Mac n

Cheese for the food shelf

Come dressed in your Un-Scary Halloween costumes
for an indoor trick-or-treating experience that will
include games, crafts, and lots of treats!

Make sure you bring a bucket or bag
to collect all of your treats!



North Branch Area Education Center
38705 Grand Ave.
North Branch, MN 55056
651-674-1025



Highly anticipated upcoming event

North Branch Area Community Education
Proudly Presents

\$2 Admission

Arts Fest

Calling All Artists & Crafters!

We are still accepting **VENDORS!**

Saturday, November 21
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

North Branch Area High School

Featuring over 200 crafters!

Booth Spaces Available

10' x 6' booth spaces available	20' x 6' booth spaces available
\$82	\$142

Interested in showcasing and selling your handmade creations?
We'd love to have you join us!

Contact Nicole Farrell
nfarrell@isd138.org

651-674-1023
for more information
or to reserve your space.

SHOP LOCAL



Join Us for a Parent and Elder Discussion Circle



How can we strengthen our
families and community with
cultural teachings a language?

OCTOBER 27TH
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Meal and childcare provided
Drum and Dance to follow Parent Circle

North Branch Area High School,
• **park in south lot and go in Door #38**

Organized by: North Branch Area School Indian Education
Alanna Hansen email: IndianEd@isd138.org or
Teresa Carlson email: teresacarlson@isd138.org



NBAMS Building Goals 2026-2027



School Board Work Session
October 22, 2026

Vision- What we intend to create



Inspire dreams, build integrity and instill hope in our¹⁰ students, our staff, our families and our communities.

Mission- Purpose of our work



Partner with students, families and communities to challenge all students to achieve their **greatest potential** and become informed and engaged citizens.



District Goals

**Superintendent and
School Board Goals**

**Building, Program and
Department Goals**

**Staff and
Student
Goals**



ACADEMIC GOAL: Where are we going?

Throughout the 2026–2027 school year, 80% of all grades at NBAMS will be a C or above. Students not earning a C or better will be provided with intervention strategies to aid their learning.



Group	Total Grades	C or above	
Building	4,033	3,459	85.80%
Grade 6	1,298	1,157	89.10%
Grade 7	1,393	1,208	86.70%
Grade 8	1,342	1,094	81.50%

NBAMS

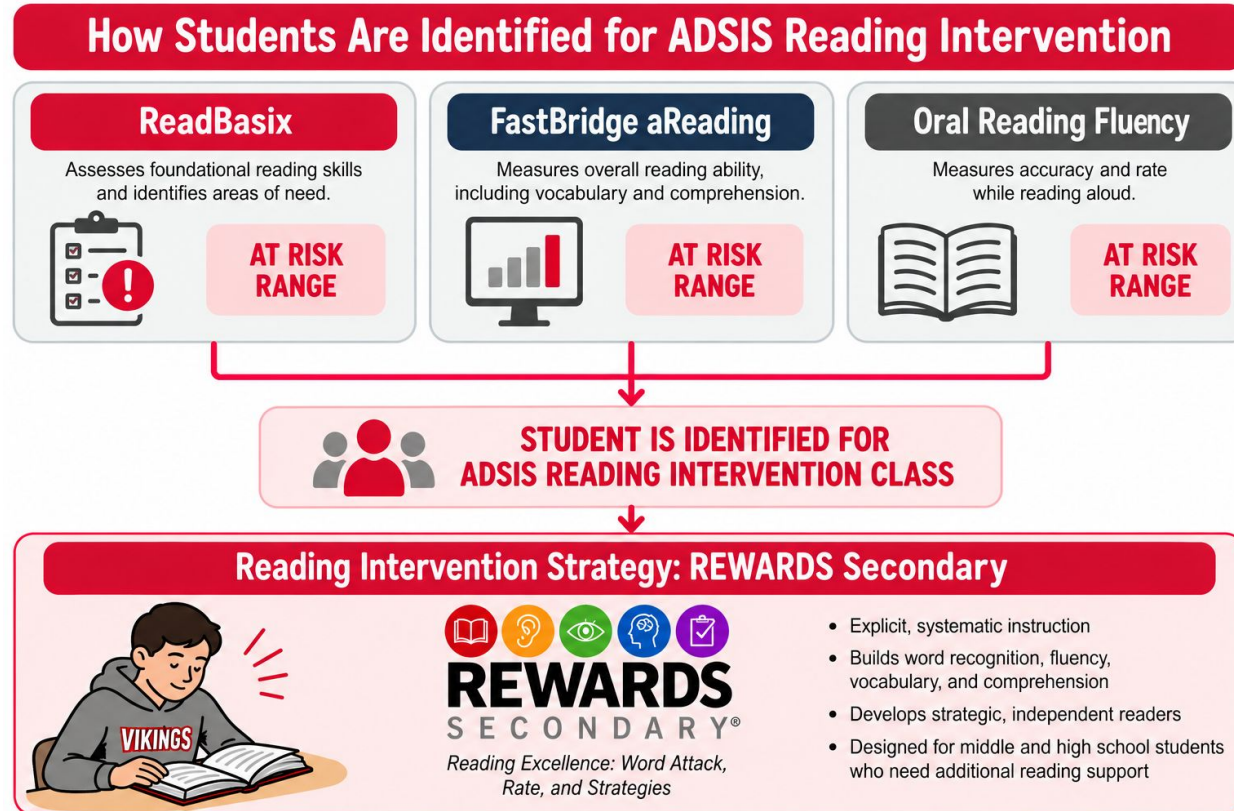


ACADEMIC GOAL: How will we get there?



- Advisory academic intervention: rotating ELA, Social Studies, and Science support, plus daily math support by licensed teachers; based on priority competency results
- ADSIS Reading: Grade 6 (one period); Grades 7 and 8 (two periods); student selection based on Spring aReading + ReadBasix results
- ADSIS Math Grades 6–8 (five periods) students take core math with the same intervention provider; student selection based on aMath + CBM MathAutomaticity
- Building-wide, universal screener review meetings: Fall (10/28), Winter (TBD), Spring (TBD)
- STARS team: meets twice weekly: assigns interventions to students and reviews student progress in interventions
- Book study: Elements of Grading

Academic Goal: Roadmap to Intervention



LIFE SKILLS GOAL: Where are we going?

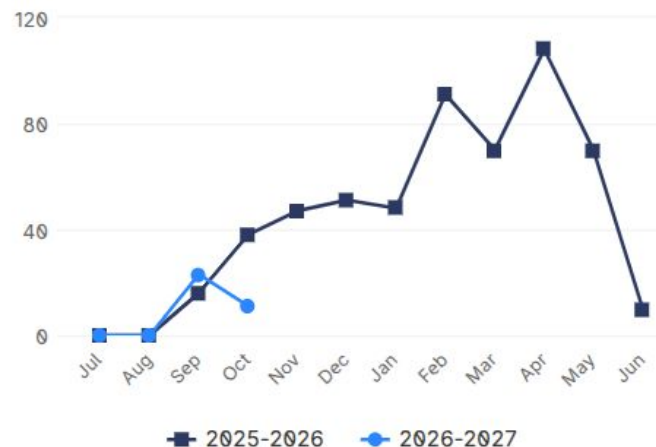
Throughout the 2026-27 school year, 85% of NBAMS students will display respectful, enthusiastic, and determined behaviors (0-2 referrals); and 100% of NBAMS students with three or more referrals will have a personalized intervention to support an increase of desired behaviors.



NBAMS

Incidents ⓘ

Incident Count - This Year vs. Last Year



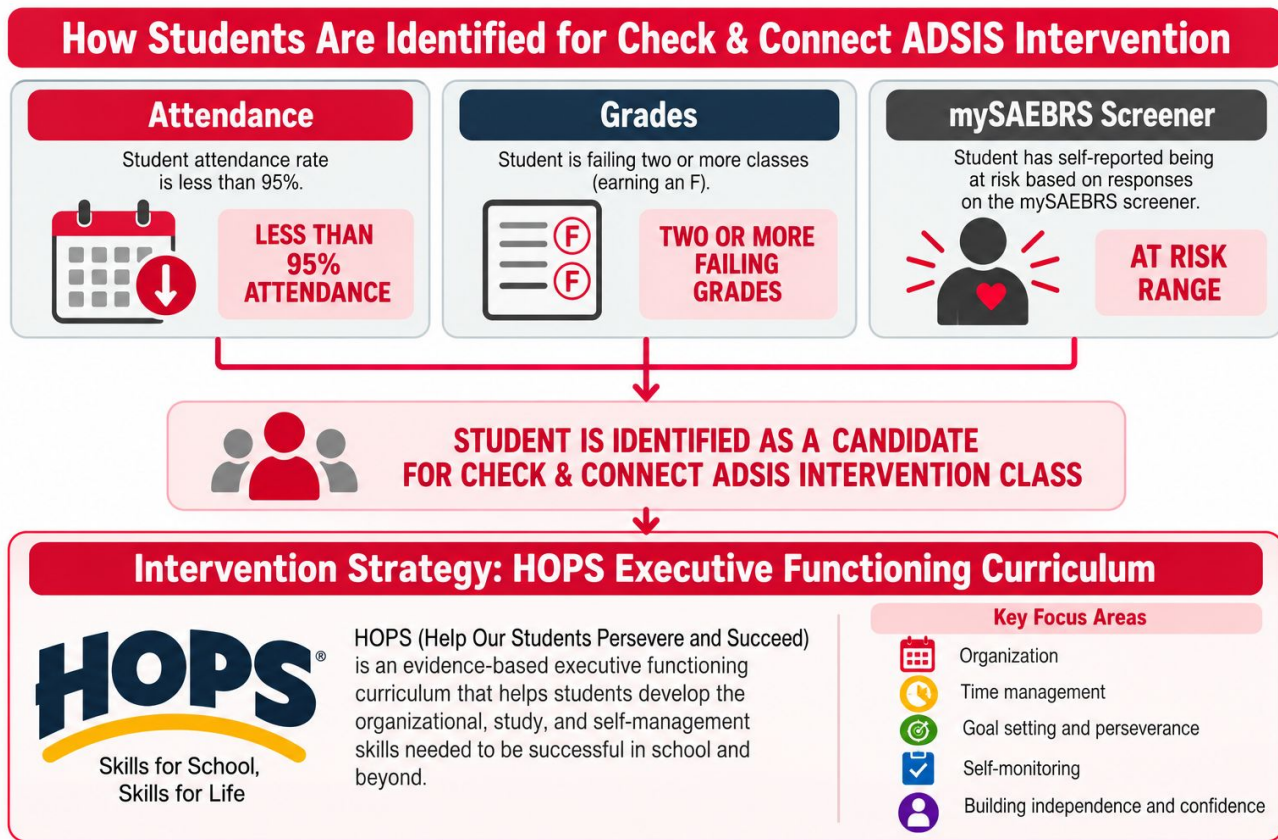
LIFE SKILLS GOAL: How will we get there?



- Dedicated MS Counselor added additional options for Tier 2/Tier 3 interventions
- Explicit RED lessons on expected behavior during the first two weeks of school
- Check n Connect intervention = building executive functioning skills



Life Skills Goal: Roadmap to Intervention



The Why: Building Successful Middle School Learners

Academic Ownership: Students understand their progress, respond to feedback, and take responsibility for improving their learning.

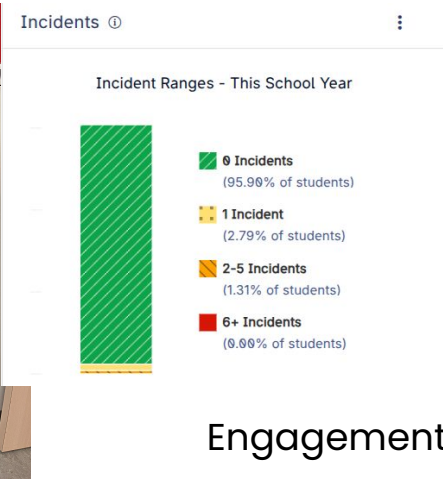
Executive Functioning: Students develop organization, time management, and self-regulation skills necessary for high school success.

Belonging and Connection: Students feel connected to trusted adults, peers, and their school community.

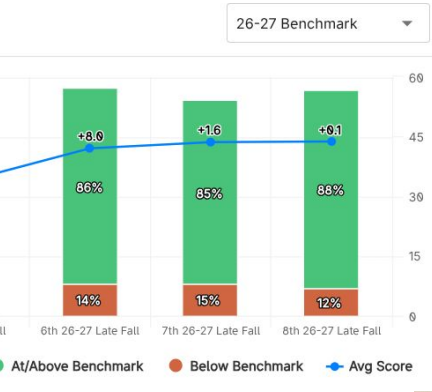
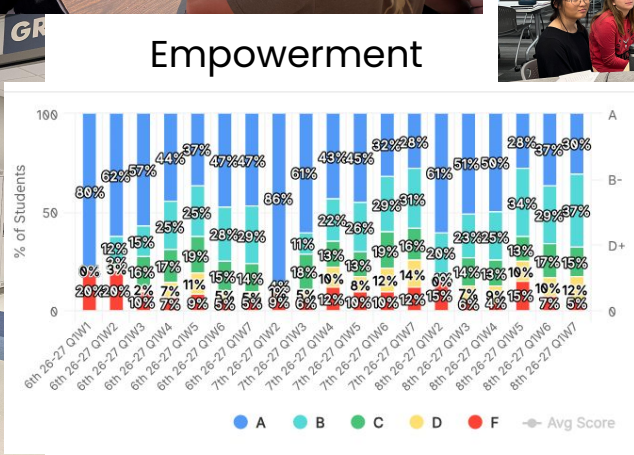
Student Independence: Students develop confidence, self-advocacy, and the ability to navigate academic and social challenges.



North Branch Area Middle School Quick Wins



Sense of Belonging







Norse Area Learning Center

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Spotlight Presentation Oct 2026

Personalizing learning, one student at a time



At Norse, we meet students where they are, help them see what's possible, and support them as they own their journey.

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Every Student Graduates. Every Student Has a Plan.



Building Skills for Life, Work, and Community

Life Skills Goal:

Perseverance.

By Mia Orgon

*They told me I needed to go to school.
But that just made my eyes heavy and my bed comfy.
And then I found a positive place.
With positive people.
Now my eyes are a little less heavy, and my bed is a little less comfy.
Did you hear about the rose that grew from concrete?*

By the end of the school year, at least 70% of Norse ALC students will improve their attendance rate by 5 percentage points from their baseline or maintain attendance at or above 90%.”

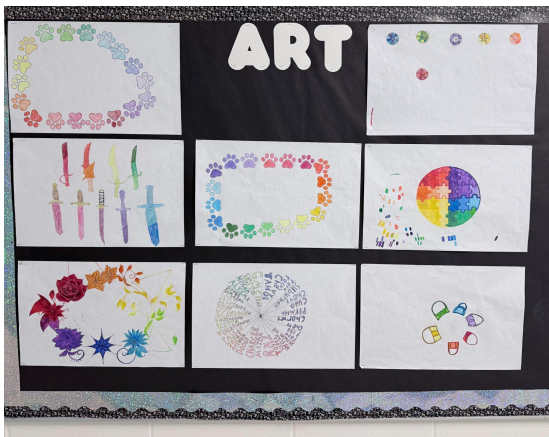


Why this matters

01

Attendance supports progress toward graduation

Regular attendance is associated with stronger academic outcomes and a greater likelihood of graduating.



02

Growth represents meaningful additional learning time.

A 5-percentage-point increase equals approximately nine additional days of school over a 180-day year.

03

Individual monitoring helps us respond sooner.

Tracking each student's progress helps Norse identify barriers, adjust support, and recognize improvement that a schoolwide average could overlook.



Building Core Knowledge, Competencies, and Skills



Academic Goal

By the end of each semester, at least 80% of Norse ALC students will earn the credits identified in their Continual Learning Plan (CLP) for that semester, demonstrating individualized progress toward graduation.

Credit Map and Plan

Green= Completed
Yellow= In progress
Blue= Planned
Pink= CRx on Edmentum

English	9A	9B	10A	10B	11A	11B	12A	12B
Math	Geo A	Geo B	Int. Alg A	Int. Alg B	Alg. 2 A	Alg 2. B		
Science	Physical Science A	Physical Science B	Bio A	Bio B	Physics A	Physics B		
Social Studies	World 1	World 2	Geography	US A	US B	American government	Econ	
PE/Health	PE	Health	Art-Ceramics I	Art-Creative Design				
Viking Seminar	Seminar							
Electives	1-Foundations of Business	2 -Painting I	3-Digital Arts	4-Ceramics II	5-Painting I	6-Art Studio	7-Painting II	8-Beginning Foods & Nutrition
Electives	9-Viking Seminar	10-Int. Algebra MathLab	11-Beginning Welding	12-Creative Foods	13-Personal Enrichment	14-Int. Algebra MathLab	15-Prostart Level I	16-Teaching Assistant

A System of Support

Tier 1: Support for all students

- Individualized CLP credit goals
- Differentiated instruction
- Advisor check-ins
- Guidance Counselor Check ins
- WIN Wednesday support



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Tier 2: Support for some

- Small-group reteaching
- Weekly progress targets
- Family collaboration

Tier 3: Personalized plan for learning

- Individual instruction
- Frequent check-ins
- Adjusted schedule
- Coordinated student support plan

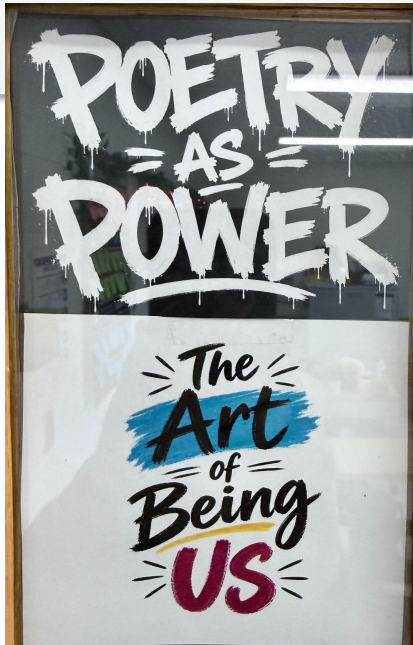


Academic Skills Highlights

01

Hex Structure

Six-week learning cycles create regular checkpoints to review academic progress, celebrate growth, and adjust support toward semester CLP credit goals.



02

Counselor Check-Ins:

Individual meetings connect students' coursework and credit progress to their CLP and graduation plan, identifying needs and next steps.



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03

WIN Wednesdays:

Dedicated time for credit recovery, individual and small-group instruction, and targeted support helps students stay on track with their learning goals.

Creating Opportunities to Explore, Stretch, and Go Further



Early Middle College Partnership:

Through Pine Technical & Community College, Norse students can earn college credits while completing high school, explore career pathways, and build a personalized bridge to education and employment after graduation.



Work-Based Learning and Mentorship

Empowering 11th and 12th-grade students with hands-on Work-Based Learning experience in partnership with dedicated career navigator.



Each Student.
Their Viking Story.
Their Future.



Thank you!

SKOL!

Relationships • Learning • Support • Opportunity • Future

Vikings!



NORTH BRANCH AREA
Distance Learning Academy
Expanding Educational Choice within NBAPS

Spotlight Presentation Fall 2026

Personalizing learning, one student at a time

“The child is the starting-point, the center, and the end. Their development, their growth, is the ideal. It alone furnishes the standard.”

- Dewey, 1902

The purpose of NBAPS Distance Learning Academy is to partner with students and families, including those seeking a homeschool alternative, to provide flexible, personalized learning pathways that foster academic excellence and adapt to the rhythm family life.

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Every Student Graduates. Every Student Has a Plan.



Meet our staff



David Pirrie
English Teacher Grades 6-12
Test Proctor
Online Course Editor



Juanita Worthley
Science Teacher Grades 6-12



Molly Burrow
Math Teacher Grades 6-12



Dana Johnson
Student Data Specialist



Jonny Bodell
Elective Teacher Grades 6-12



Joel Santjer
Social Studies Teacher Grades
6-12



Joe Stauffer
Academic and Guidance
Counselor



Jake Herron
Grades K-5 Teacher



Building Skills for Life, Work, and Community



Life Skills Goal:

*Throughout the school year, 80% of all coursework will be **on pace** for successful course completion; students who have yet to meet this parameter will have a personalized plan for life skill development monitored by teachers, academic and guidance counselor, and principal.*

Why this matters

01

Organization and Time Management

Staying on pace reflects a student's ability to plan ahead, prioritize daily tasks, and manage personal schedules effectively.

02

Accountability and Daily Motivation

Consistent progress shows active engagement, personal discipline, and taking true ownership of one's education.

03

Self Advocacy and Support

Tracking pace empowers students to recognize when they need help early and reach out to teachers and counselors proactively.



Building Core Knowledge, Competencies, and Skills

Academic Goal

By June 2026, 80% of all grades will be a C or higher; students who have yet to meet that parameter will have a personalized plan for academic success monitored by teachers, academic and guidance counselor, and principal.



A System of Support



Tier 1: Support for all students

Consistent, reliable, two-way communication between teachers, principal, students, and families

- Daily Google Meet office hours
- Teacher feedback on formative and summative tasks assessments
- Ability for students to redo and show their learning.

Tier 2: Support for some

Career and College Guidance Counselor Check-ins for students not meeting program goals - implementing strategies to help students

Additional math support from our math tutor - Peter Osterberg

Tier 3: Personalized plan for learning

Weekly collaborative problem solving team meetings to discuss additional supports

- in-person support
- individual face-to-face meetings with students, families and staff to create a personalized plan

Academic Skills Highlights

01

Clear Guidance & High Expectations

Students receive clear learning goals, assignment instructions, and explicit expectations so they know exactly how to succeed and take ownership of their learning.

02

Proactive Intervention & Engagement

Students benefit from regular progress tracking, timely feedback, and proactive outreach, ensuring every learner stays supported, engaged, and on track.

03

Fostering Student Independence

Students learn and practice essential time management, organization, goal setting, and digital responsibility, empowering them to become confident, independent learners.

04

Cultivating Well-Being & Belonging

Students experience strong, caring connections with staff. Through regular check-ins and active listening, every learner feels safe, valued, and supported every day.

05

Strong Family Partnerships

Students thrive through open, honest communication between home and school. Partnering closely with families ensures each learner receives personalized support for unique growth and success.



Creating Opportunities to Explore, Stretch, and Go Further



Flexible Learning Pathways

Offering families an alternative to traditional homeschooling through flexible, personalized education supported by licensed teachers, academic guidance, and connections to district programs and resources.



Homeschool Alternative and Family Choice

Offering families an alternative to traditional homeschooling through flexible, personalized education supported by licensed teachers, academic guidance, and connections to district programs and resources.



Work-Based Learning and Mentorship

Empowering 11th and 12th-grade students with hands-on Work-Based Learning experience in partnership with a career navigator.

Each Student.
Their Viking Story.
Their Future.



Thank you!

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