



Superintendent's Newsletter

November, 2009
Volume 2

Susan M. Gorky, Superintendent
Nancy Spitulnik, Asst. Superintendent



Superintendent's News

Letter from Superintendent Gorky

Dear Parents and Community members:

Northbridge Public Schools and the Northbridge community are truly a family. I love leading the Northbridge Public Schools. I can't believe 7 months have passed. We have done so much work toward our goal of academic excellence. A special thanks to every staff member for your dedication and service to our students. Our focus has been **High Expectations and Active Engagement for All Students and Staff**. Through our doors pass the greatest children and staff. I am very proud to be a member of the Northbridge educational team.

To each of you, happy holidays. I hope you share precious moments with your family and friends that will create life long memories.

Our schools, corridors and classrooms are bursting with energy and excitement as students and staff grow and learn together in a caring, responsive and collaborative school and work environment. Our parent support is outstanding! Families, students and staff are all working together to ensure success for all learners. The Northbridge School Committee has been working diligently to support our schools. They currently work in five subcommittees: Budget subcommittee, Goals subcommittee, Policy subcommittee, Fees & Fields subcommittee and Negotiation subcommittee. Take a look at their link on our website - I'll bet you will be surprised at how much time they volunteer for our students and schools.

The Federal No Child Left Behind Act set one standard for all American students; 100% are to be proficient in math, reading and science by 2014. Personally, I believe in a set of multiple standards so that students at all grade levels have incentives to work hard and improve their academic outcomes. Why do we see a dramatic rise across the Commonwealth in student achievement for grade 10 students versus grade 4 students? I have one answer - high stakes accountability. The students know and their parents know their children can not graduate if they don't pass MCAS. **Parents we need your help!** It really does take a village to raise a child. Successful students have parents who are involved in their child's education. Are you involved in your child's education? Do you expect your child to achieve at a high level? We need to work together to ensure all students score beyond proficient.

I am pleased to report that our schools have ramped up technology in many areas. Technology will be used to engage and challenge students and to support shifting our educational focus to teach differently in the 21st Century. The ultimate goal is to completely embed the use of technology throughout the curriculum with every teacher and student in our classrooms in order to improve teaching and learning. We have SMART Boards in all mathematics

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Upcoming Days Off

Dec. 24 - Jan. 1
December Recess

Jan. 18
Martin Luther King Day

Feb 15 - 19
February Recess



“Together...We Can”

classrooms from grades 4 -12. Next year, given the availability of grants and Stimulus money, we hope to purchase a SMART Board for each science classroom.

We all have hopes and dreams. My dream is that the Northbridge Public Schools will become the highest performing school district in the Blackstone Valley within the next five years. Truthfully, we will need additional financial resources to accomplish that goal. It appears that the FY 11 budget may be level funded for the third consecutive year. If you have any questions, concerns or wish to chat I am always available. Please feel free to contact me at 508-234-8156 or sgorky@nps.org.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Gorky
Superintendent of Schools

District Goals 2009-10

To increase academic achievement with high expectations and active engagement for all students and staff.

To secure a fiscally responsible budget for the 2010-11 academic year that addresses the mission and beliefs of the district.

To improve the social and emotional climate in the district.

To strengthen the district's relationship with the Northbridge community.

To support the consistent review and implementation of school committee policy.

The following are action items that will be clearly articulated in the School Improvement Plans, the District Professional Development Plan, the District Literacy Plan and the District Improvement Plan. The aforementioned action plans will include objectives/goals, responsible parties, budget implications and indicators of success.

Goal 1: Academic Achievement

To seamlessly integrate technology across all classrooms in order to effectively prepare students for the 21st Century.

To improve class size in the content areas and related arts.

To enhance professional development opportunities for all staff.

To improve the high school graduation rate.

To develop a formative and summative assessment system for all students in addition to the MCAS.

To vertically and horizontally align all curriculum areas. The first task force convened will be mathematics.

Goal II: Fiscally Responsible Budget

Site-based zero based budget development.

Communication/transparency to public.

Goal III: Social-Emotional Climate

Implement school/district student interventions based on staff and student input and work to develop responsive classrooms at all levels.

Implement professional learning communities to empower staff and improve the educational climate.

Goal IV: Community Relationships

- Open High School field house for public use.
- Increase outreach to senior citizens, through a senior luncheon.
- Establish a Middle School PTA by fall of 09.
- Effectively utilize Channel 13.
- Communicate and celebrate successes through a variety of media.

Goal V: School Committee Policy

- School Committee will consistently meet with MASC and key stakeholders to update policies.
- Ensure alignment between School Committee Policy and student/staff handbooks.

Northbridge Special Education Parent Advisory Council

The Northbridge Special Education Parent Advisory Council meets on a monthly basis. This organization's role is to advise the district on matters that pertain to the education and safety of students with disabilities and meet regularly with school officials to participate in the planning, development, and evaluation of the school district's special education programs. At the first meeting in September the officers were elected. This year the Special Education Parent Advisory Council has coordinated efforts with surrounding districts to share program offerings. The October meeting provided the Basic Rights Workshop by Elaine Rabbit from the Federation of Children with Special Needs at the Northbridge High School. Parents from Uxbridge and Mendon-Upton attended the yearly presentation. This workshop was videotaped by Northbridge High School students.

On November 12, 2009 the Special Education Parent Advisory Council co-sponsored a presentation with Hopedale at the Hopedale Jr/Sr. High School Media Center in Hopedale. This meeting featured "The Parent Playbook: How to be an Effective Member of the IEP TEAM" presented by Elaine Rabbit. This interactive workshop included strategies to help prepare and organize parents for IEP meetings.

In December the Special Education Parent Advisory Council is scheduled to walk through the schools to observe the current programs in each building. This walk-through is intended to provide an overview of the various programs offered in the Northbridge Public Schools for students with disabilities. On December 10, 2009, the Northbridge Special Education Parent Advisory Council will hold a quarterly business meeting at Balmer School from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Teaching & Learning

By Dr. Spitulnik



Curriculum Mission and Goals:

The mission for curriculum is identical to the mission of the school district: The mission of the Northbridge Public Schools is to prepare our students to become responsible, contributing members of society by providing a challenging, rigorous educational program which will maximize academic achievement, enable intellectual, physical, social, and emotional development in an atmosphere which promotes creative and critical thinking.

The major goal for curriculum aligns with the first district goal adopted by the School Committee: To increase academic achievement with high expectations and active engagement for all students and staff. Curriculum also has an important part in accomplishing the third goal: to improve the social and emotional climate of the district through professional development and data analysis.

Curriculum Initiatives to Improve Academic Achievement:

The goal of the district for this year is **High Expectations and Active Engagement for All Learners**. Staff and administration are working on a number of initiatives to incorporate this goal into our teaching practices and school programs. These initiatives include:

High-quality professional development for all staff

Staff has participated in three full days of professional development focused on our goal of High Expectations and Active Engagement for All Learners. Money from the Stimulus Bill has allowed us to hire experienced trainers from agencies such as Teachers 21 and the Massachusetts Elementary School Principals Association to work with staff on this training. Teachers working in grade-level or subject-specific groups have learned about best practices such as differentiated instruction, high-level questioning, Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning Domains, project-based learning, Professional Learning Communities, and Backwards Design. Subject specific training was provided to paraprofessionals, related arts teachers (art, music, library, physical education/health, and technology), world language teachers, and special education specialists.

Professional development will continue beyond the three full days, with staff working to incorporate best practices into their individual practices and grade or subject level initiatives. All schools and the district leadership are working in Professional Learning Communities to enhance collegial discussions and collaborate on educational goals. Continued coursework will be offered for staff to extend their learning and understanding of professional development initiatives.

We will also be working to develop a District Professional Development Plan that drives the analysis and implementation of a cohesive plan for on-going professional development in the district.

Responsive classroom training

The school district is training 4 administrators and 25 teachers from grades pre-school to 6 in the Responsive Classroom approach to classroom organization, management and learning. Responsive Classroom emphasizes practical strategies that are infused throughout the school day and school year. These strategies incorporate interactive social skills and collaborative problem-solving, student engagement and guided discovery learning, modeling and teaching of expected behaviors, and a positive classroom and school environment that stresses student responsibility and self-discipline.

Funding for this training is coming from DESE grants for Safe Schools and Teacher Quality. As teachers and administrators are trained in Responsive Classroom methods, we will be comparing this approach to our current social competency curriculum, Open Circle, in order to design a comprehensive program that provides a framework for student learning and behavior, and high-quality teacher instruction. We will also be exploring related programs to bring to grades 7-12 to ensure a strong continuum of expectations and skills that build a positive, cohesive school climate focused on learning and respect.

Curriculum alignment

In order to develop cohesive curriculums in major subject areas, we are working on a number of initiatives:

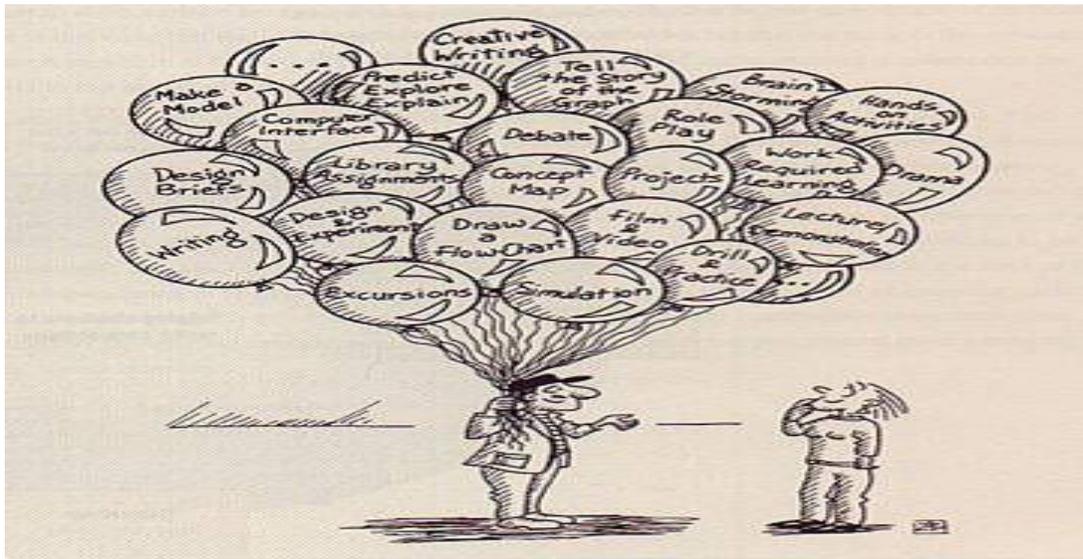
- **Math Task Force:** This task force will look at the Math Scope and Sequence that was developed a few years ago, and align it with the state Curriculum Frameworks and our current math textbooks. The goal is to clarify what and when we're teaching students to better align our instruction with the MCAS.
- **District Literacy Plan:** We will be developing a District Literacy Plan that details our curriculum in the areas of reading, comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, and writing. We will fund part of this effort through a DESE ELA grant that we've received that will support consultation from a literacy specialist for this work.
- **Science/Technology Engineering:** We will be applying for a grant from the Museum of Science to support a group of 5 teachers as they develop a science/technology engineering curriculum that integrates instruction of these standards into our science curriculum from grades 2-12.

Data analysis training

We are training teachers and administrators to utilize data analysis at the district and school levels to analyze scores from district surveys and evaluations, school formal and informal evaluations, and MCAS (school and student scores, Growth Model, Power Standards) to identify strengths, challenges, and curricular and instructional trends in order to strengthen the quality of the district's educational program.

Instructional technology integration

Our PK-12 technology integration specialist is working with staff to incorporate instructional technology in classroom planning and instruction, staff and student communication and collaboration, and data analysis in order to build a high quality educational program that meets the needs of all students. A special focus is on providing support and professional development for grades 4-12 math teachers on the integration of newly purchased Smart Boards into their math instruction.



RACHEL'S Challenge



December 3rd
Rachel's Challenge
Community and School Event
Don't Miss It!

Rachel Scott was the first person to be killed in the Columbine Massacre in 1999. She left a legacy of compassion and caring that has been carried on through Rachel's Challenge. The program travels to high schools seeking to create a positive change in how students treat one another through a presentation and discussion.

"To hear him talk about it and what he went through and what his sister was like; it is just completely unbelievable," said Student Council President Laura Knapik.

The goal of the program is to create a permanent change in the school and students by starting a chain reaction of kindness and compassion.. Along with the school wide presentations, the Friend's of Rachel Training Program will specially instruct a select group of students on how to carry on Rachel's Challenge at the school for years after the initial presentation.

One staff member who lives in another district said she was sitting at home in her pajamas and her son begged her to go to the evening program. She reluctantly did and it proved to be a riveting experience. She said she was so glad she went.

"It's not just a one time thing. It's a continuous act of kindness throughout the year," said Knapik.

The program will take place on December 3rd with presentations throughout the day for students in grades 8-12. It will end with a free public community presentation at 7 PM that night. The student council members encourage parents and members of the community to attend the public presentation.

The NHS Student Council decided to bring the program to the school for the first time after 16 council members saw Rachel's brother Craig speak in March at the 2009 Massachusetts Association of Student Councils Conference.

Careers in Childcare is designed as an exploratory class at Northbridge High School for students to continue their interest in child development. This class begins with a half semester of classroom child development instruction and ends with a half semester of hands on experience in the Northbridge Elementary school classrooms (PreK-1) with teacher supervision. NES have currently placed approximately 20 students in various classrooms and look forward to sharing this experience with them.



Elementary Team Leaders Lead with High Expectations

Team Leaders at Northbridge Elementary School and Balmer Elementary School have met with their grade level teachers and staff 5 to 6 times this school year. Each Team Leader led “team-building” activities and established “norms” to set the stage for effective collaboration throughout the school year. Their initial meetings have been goal-setting meetings to help the teachers remain focused on meaningful activities that are rigorous and relevant.

The agreed-upon goals for the 2009-10 school year are as follows:

- Teachers will utilize the Harcourt Storytown program to improve student achievement in language arts particularly in writing and reading.
- Students who are reading above grade level will continue to make progress in all areas of reading and move beyond proficient. Progress will be measured by the Developmental Reading Assessment and/or Scholastic Reading Inventory. The Storytown Challenge kit, innovative teacher ideas and best practices will be utilized.
- Teachers will create writing prompts and rubrics for beginning and end of year writing samples.
- Teachers will analyze the spring 2009 MCAS math and language arts data to identify strengths and weaknesses in order to improve student achievement on the MCAS tests.
- Teachers will implement Responsive Classroom in order to improve the social and emotional climate within their classrooms and the school building.
- Preschool and kindergarten teachers will participate in the self-study and self-assessment component toward NAEYC Accreditation.
- Using formative and summative assessments, teachers will disaggregate student data to differentiate instruction to improve math skills.

Friends of Music

The Northbridge Schools Music Department has developed a partnership called “Northbridge Friends of Music”, together with our families and interested community members. The main purpose of this group is to help our schools’ performing music groups achieve higher levels of excellence while supplementing our growing financial needs through fundraising events. The funds raised by this organization will be used to help the students obtain needed supplies such as percussion instruments, sound and stage equipment, uniforms, transportation to music events, and other needs that currently exceed the present school music budget. Funds raised by the group would not be used to pay for salaries or stipends. Students’ participation in a school musical performing group is a positive experience that promotes teamwork, cooperation, and discipline that together foster a sense of pride for us all! It is the Music Department’s vision to help provide the students with the best musical experience possible, whether it is performing on stage, marching in a parade or attending a music festival or concert. “Northbridge Friends of Music” will help our students soar!

Look for upcoming meeting dates at nps.org



Truancy and Attendance Annual Notice for Parents and Guardians

There is no doubt that one of the keys to academic achievement is good attendance. Consistent participation in school and school-based activities is important for making a successful transition from youth to adulthood. Student tardiness and truancy are challenges that confront many schools. Excellent attendance is a priority for all students. We want all of our students to be successful and achieve at high levels.

School Attendance

School Attendance Chapter 76: Section 1 of the Massachusetts General Laws states that all children between the ages of six and sixteen must attend school.

Who is a Supervisor of Attendance?

Chapter 76: Section 19 of the Massachusetts General Laws states that each school committee must employ a supervisor of attendance. A supervisor of attendance has the power to apprehend and take to school any child who is truant and is required to investigate all cases where a child in the district fails to attend school. The Northbridge Public Schools has designated the building principals as the supervisors of attendance.

What is a CHINS?

A "CHINS" (Child in Need of Services) petition may be filed in court by a supervisor of attendance if a child between the ages of six and sixteen persistently and willfully fails to attend school or persistently violates lawful and reasonable regulations of his or her school. The Court's authority pursuant to a CHINS petition includes the power to place the child in the custody of the state agency known as the Department of Children and Families.

What is a 51 A?

A 51A is a report of suspected child abuse or neglect that is filed with the Department of children and families. Under Chapter 119, section 51A of the Massachusetts General Laws, a report can be filed on behalf of a child under the age of eighteen for educational neglect if a child is not attending school on a regular basis.

Parental Responsibility

Parents or guardians are legally responsible for ensuring that a child under their control attends school daily. It is a crime for a responsible parent or guardian not to cause such a child to attend school. If a child fails to attend school for seven day sessions or fourteen half day sessions within any six month period, the supervisor of attendance may file a criminal complaint in court against the responsible parent/guardian.

Inducing Absences

It is a crime to induce or attempt to induce a minor to miss school, or unlawfully to employ or to harbor a minor who should be in school.

If you have any questions please, contact a member of our administration or guidance team.



Northbridge Elementary School Seeks NAEYC Accreditation

As a result of this year's reconfiguration of schools, Northbridge Elementary School, consisting of preschool through first grade students, will seek NAEYC accreditation for the preschool and kindergarten programs. The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) has developed ten standards for early childhood programs which can help parents and families make the right choice when they are looking for a child care center, preschool, or kindergarten. These standards include: relationships, curriculum, teaching, assessment of child progress, health, teachers, families, community relationships, physical environment, and leadership and management. More than 400 related criteria are contained within these standards. To earn NAEYC Accreditation, programs must meet all ten standards by successfully performing at least 80 percent of the criteria related to each standard.

Obtaining accreditation is a 2 year process which contains 4 steps: 1) enrollment/self -study, 2) application/self-assessment, 3) candidacy, and 4) meeting/maintaining the standards. Through meaningful collaboration, data collection, and parent/community involvement, seeking accreditation will ensure high quality programming for all students.

Northbridge Elementary School contains 4 preschool and 10 kindergarten classrooms. Teachers are enthusiastic and are diligently working through the self-study and self-assessment process. This procedure includes teamwork and strong communication, the experience provides continual on the job professional development for all involved.

John and Abigail Adams Scholarship



Northbridge High School is proud to announce the Class of 2010 John and Abigail Adams Scholarship recipients. The Adams Scholarship provides a tuition waiver to a Massachusetts State College and University. These students qualified for the Scholarship by having superior Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) scores. Northbridge High School has an impressive forty-three (43) students receiving the Scholarship. These students were awarded the Scholarship notification at a Class of 2010 assembly on November 5th. The recipients will also receive a letter from the Massachusetts Secretary of Education, Mr. Paul Reville.

All students at Northbridge High School strive for high academic achievement supported by a highly qualified and dedicated faculty. NHS will continue its proud tradition of academic excellence in the days and years to come. Congratulations to the class of 2010 John and Abigail Adams Scholarship winners! For additional information please contact Mike Gauthier, Principal (508) 234-6221.

*Toni Ambrogio
Kinga Boratyn
Brianna Bouthillette
Amy Branchaud
Megan Brochu
Julie Broderick
Kelly Buurma
David Cram
Danyelle Doldorian
Lauren Drew
Nicholas Ducey
Katie Duvernay
Lynn Ekberg
Megan Fleming
Samuel Giard
Andrew Guy
Gina Halabi
Mitchell Kelley
Laura Knapik
Kylie Krause
Caitlyn Labonte
David Leon*

*Tyler Lesco
Samantha Matte
Cassandra McGrath
Bryanna Mellen
James Menard
Andrea Monterotti
Michael O'Brien
Katherine Ohman
Eerin Pennell
Thomas Pouliot
Anthony J. Rabaioli
Talan Reckert
Kristin Roche
Genevieve Rymeski
Brendan Shaughnessy
Lisa Stefaniak
Brendan Sweck
James Tabur
Rachel Vera
Jarrett Weaner
Edward Wytenus*

Congratulations



Northbridge Title I Services and Parent Advisory Council

Title I is the largest federally funded education program. It provides resources to eligible school districts based on the number of students qualifying for free and reduced lunch. Title I staff assist schools in providing services that address identified student needs to help all students achieve state learning standards.

In Northbridge, we use Title I funds to support students in reading, writing, and math in grades 1-8 (math support at NES will begin in January). The Title I teachers work with students in the regular classroom and in small groups outside of the classroom to strengthen skills that are difficult for them. The Title I teachers work closely with classroom teachers to make sure they are reinforcing the work that students are doing in their own classroom. Our goals for Title I include:

- Provide students with additional support to achieve proficiency on challenging state and district standards and assessments.
- Help students see how reading, writing, and math are tied to their everyday lives.
- Help students become confident in their ability to achieve in reading, writing, and math.

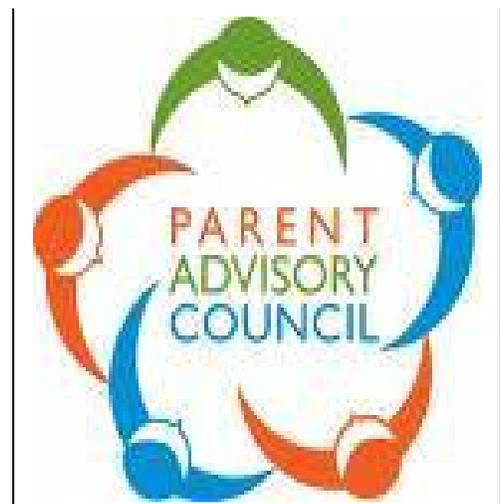
Northbridge recognizes the importance of parent involvement in the education of their child, and encourages parent participation and support. All parents who have children in Title I are invited to serve on the Title I Parent Advisory Council, which meets monthly throughout the year. The Council provides valuable input to assist us in the design and implementation of our programs and activities. The Title I PAC is involved in the following activities:

- Provides feedback on the effectiveness of the Title I program.
- Helps to review Title I forms to make sure they are clear and user-friendly.
- Helps plan events that provide useful information to all parents in the school district on subjects such as understanding MCAS, helping with homework, and understanding your child's learning style.
- Reviews the results of the end-of-the-year parent survey and makes recommendations for program improvement.

The Title I PAC meets from 7:00-8:00 PM in the conference room at the administration building, 87 Linwood Ave. All Title I parents are welcome to attend.

Dates for this year are:

- December 2
- January 13
- February 10
- March 10
- April 14
- May 12



THE FRIENDS OF LASELL FIELD



The Friends of Lasell Field is a group of concerned Northbridge parents, residents and educators who are committed to installing turf at Lasell Field. We feel that turf will significantly improve the playing conditions that exist for our young athletes. Our children have experienced falling, tripping and injuring themselves on the rutted, uneven field surfaces created at Lasell Field by constant overuse.

Lasell Field is truly the center of Northbridge for sporting activities: football, soccer, lacrosse, track & field and field hockey. Children of all ages utilize the field, both from our public schools and town sporting clubs. In many ways, Lasell Field defines how our community is viewed by visiting districts and visiting sport teams. The Town of Northbridge takes great pride in the accomplishments of its young athletes who have consistently won their district championships on Lasell Field regardless of the field's condition.

A turf field is an investment in the community resulting in a more desirable location to purchase or build a home, and will increase property values. The turf field could benefit as much as 50% of the population whose children and grandchildren will have a positive experience during athletic events.

On November 12, 2009 at 6:00 pm, three turf companies made a presentation at the Northbridge High School to the Friends of Lasell Field. If you are interested in joining the Friends of Lasell Field committee call or email Fred Beauregard at 508-234-4808 or fbmbcbjb@charter.net.

If you, a family member or business would like to make a tax deductible contribution please send it to:

Friends of Lasell Field
Northbridge Public Schools
87 Linwood Avenue
Whitinsville, MA 01588

*We very much appreciate your genuine
interest in supporting Northbridge Public
Schools and Northbridge Community athletes*

SMART™



Technology

Math teachers in grades 4-12 have been learning about using SMART Boards in their rooms. It is fun to see the “ah-ha!” moments when teachers discover the potential of having a highly interactive, multimedia classroom. It's great to see the energy and attention level the students have when teachers use SMART Boards. This is a wonderful example of high expectation and active engagement of all students.

It not only takes time to learn how to use the interactive boards, it also takes time to redevelop former lessons to be used with them. Teachers new to SMART Boards collaborate and share their SMART Notebook lessons with each other. It's been great seeing experienced SMART Board users in buildings share lessons and give support to other teachers too.

New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)

Northbridge High School is currently using the newly developed Professional Learning Communities (PLC's) to prepare for our two-year NEASC Progress Report due in October of 2010. Faculty are working diligently under the tutelage of Diane Skarin and Sue Palmer-Howes in Standards Committees. These seven Standards Committees are focusing on one NEASC required area of accreditation and providing documentation of NHS' commitment to excellence and moving forward to challenge our students. The faculty is dedicated to maintaining a high quality education for the students of Northbridge while matching or exceeding the standards of NEASC

School Committee News

Several months ago, the School Committee established several sub-committees to allow for deeper investigation into important issues facing the School Committee. We were finding it difficult to explore issues in the desired depth during our standard School Committee meetings which meet only 2 evenings per month. Currently the School Committee has the following sub committees: Budget, Negotiations, Fee's & Fields, Evaluations, Goals and Policy. These committees typically meet 1 or 2 times per month and periodically report out and make recommendations to the full committee. Although these committees are still fairly new, the establishment of the sub committees has already proven to be very effective. For example, we are moving forward with a zero based budget process this year. This is being driven by the budget sub committee in conjunction with the school administration. This is the first time this process has been used in Northbridge and we are hopeful that the schools' use of this process will be a leading example for all town departments. In addition, the goals sub committee has worked with the full committee and the school administration to establish 5 guiding goals for the school district. We are proud of all the hard work being put in by all the members of the different sub committees and look forward to the future results the committees will produce.

Michael McGrath, Chair

Dr. Karen Kittredge, Co-Chair

Fred Beauregard

Susan Brouwer

Mary Contino

Richard DeLuca

Julie Gawlak

Michael LeBrasseur

Selena Livingston

Fall Athletics Score Big ~ Best Season in Five Years

The fall season has come to a close for all with the exception of football.

Football will be playing on Tuesday, December 1 in the Div. 2A playoff vs. Uxbridge at 5:15. This is the 3rd consecutive year in the playoffs and we are looking for our 9th Superbowl title. (the 4th in this decade)

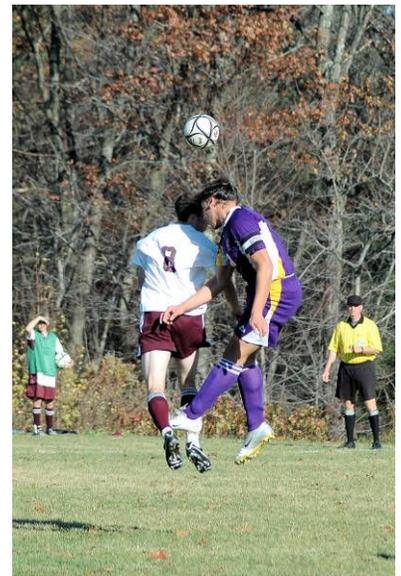
Cross country, boys and girls soccer, golf and field hockey all qualified and represented us well in post-season play.

Cross country-Tommy Hansson and Julie Richer set course records for NHS and Julie qualified for the state meet and finished 69th out of some 280+ runners.

Boys and girls soccer qualified and played well in district play. Girls lost to an impressive Holy Name team in the first round and the boys were defeated in the second round by a strong Groton-Dunstable team.

Golf also qualified, although outmanned, our 5 strong played well.

Field Hockey had one of the best seasons in the history of the sport here. 15-4 final record with SWCL-East Title (a first) and a heart breaking 2-1 loss in 2OT to Quaboag in the second round of the tournament. JR. Haley Young lead the SWCL-East in scoring with 26 goals and 8 assists.



**Stay Informed
Visit nps.org
for school &
district news.**

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Jill Carroll, Principal
John Zywien, Principal
Jill Healy, Principal

Melissa Walker, Business Manager
Cathy Stanton, Director of PPS
Brian L'Heureux, Technology

Important MCAS Note:

If you were unable to attend the MCAS presentation, you may view the PowerPoint presentation is online at NPS.org under Public Meeting Presentations.



Thank you for your continued support with your contributions to the Planet Aid bins. Items donated to Planet Aid are resold and proceeds are used to support education, community development and HIV/AIDS programs in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Each school is paid 2 cents per pound for the clothing and shoes collected. Payments are made to each school on a quarterly basis and are deposited into their student activity accounts.

For Community and School Information:

www.northbridgetimes.com

www.blackstonevalleytribune.com