



Superintendent Update

February 12, 2026



Vision

What we intend to create

Inspire dreams,

build integrity,

instill hope

*in our 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.



Life-Saving Support for Our Schools

- The Stacy-Lent Fire Department has approved funding to purchase an AED Save Station for North Branch Area Public Schools.
- Donation made in partnership with the Teddy's Heart Foundation.
- This gift strengthens our district's commitment to student and staff safety.

We are grateful for community partners who invest in protecting our Vikings.

Principal Swanson is here to present the grant funds along with Eric Coen from the Stacy-Lent Fire Department and the Dowdle family.



The Heart of the Mission: Teddy's Story



[teddys -heart.org](http://teddys-heart.org)



What is a 'Save Station'?

- All-Weather Facility: Climate-controlled and built for year-round outdoor use.
- Public Access Defibrillator (AED): Simple, guided instructions for anyone to use.
- 24/7 Availability: Unlike indoor AEDs, these are accessible during evening and weekend sports events.



2nd Annual Child Care Champions



Event took place Saturday, Jan. 31 (7am - 3:30 pm) at NBAHS:

- 85 registrations (81 attended)
- 6 hours of Develop Approved Training
- Resources/vendors also in attendance
- Attendees were a mix of home daycares, centers, and area School Age Care programs



Kindergarten Parent Night



The NBAEC hosted Kindergarten Parent Information Night on Tuesday, Feb. 3.

- Roughly 50 families attended
- Families received a tour of the building and had the opportunity to meet teachers
- Finished the evening with milk and cookies



Come learn what we have to offer your kindergartner!
Child care available

INCOMING KINDERGARTEN
PARENT INFORMATION
NIGHT

6-7:30 PM
Tuesday,
Feb 3
38705 Grand Ave
North Branch, MN

Welcome Future
VIKINGS!
Class of 2039





Renewal of Capital Projects Levy Update

The Capital Projects Levy renewal did not pass in the special election.

- The question was placed on the ballot early to preserve time before expiration (end of next year).
Statewide context: ~66% of capital levies passed in 2025.
- Our levy authority remains in place through next year; time remains to plan strategically.

February 19 Work Session Preview:

- Review of turnout and voting data
- Capital funding implications & timeline
- Recommended next steps, including community engagement



Prioritizing Staff Wellness



- Our annual Wellness Day is tomorrow
 - Wide variety of learning, exercise, and fun over three sessions (examples at right).
 - Many thanks to Rachelle Weinand for all the work that went into preparing for this event.

- Caring for Ourselves while Caring for Others (mental illness CEU)
D153
Bethany Cleary
- Online relicensure course - CEU independent study
D110, D112
- Pre-retirement To Do List
D156
George Leistikow
- Read to Write, Write to Read: Leveraging the Literacy Connection (reading CEU)
D102
Beth Hillems • Brigitte Rogers
- Strategies for Effective AI Prompts in Education
D155
Jeremy Mikla
- Suicide Prevention - Basic: Gatekeeper Training, More than Sad: Suicide Prevention for Educators (suicide prevention CEU)
D104
Nic Van Oss
- Walking With Youth: Trauma-Informed Teaching in Schools (mental illness CEU)
D106
Tim Cryer
- Working with Hmong students and families (cultural competency CEU)
D154

Brooke Giese is 2026 Athena winner



- 13 varsity letters in three sports
- 3x All-Conference; 5x Honorable Mention; 8x All-Conference Academic
- Volleyball captain; 2x gymnastics captain
- 2 conference co-championships; 2024 section runner-up (volleyball)
- 2x True Team State qualifier; 13th at State (pole vault)
- Plans to compete in college track and study nursing
- Will be recognized at tomorrow's halftime of the boys basketball game and at the St. Paul Athena Awards



