

No Boys Allowed

NBA (No Boys Allowed) is a one-day, Saturday event hosted by high school girls at North Salem High to help open the world of technology to middle school girls. 2007's is the fourth annual NBA. High school students have planned the event, which is partially funded by a grant from Chemeketa Community College, to be a girl-friendly introduction to computers, electronics, robotics and the math and science that comes with problem-solving in those domains. Last year's NBA was funded by the NW Girls Collaborative Project, and another year was funded by the Mid-Willamette Education Consortium. The North Salem School District has a significant percentage of educationally disadvantaged students: immigrants, English Language Learners, students from generational poverty, students whose family members have never attended college, ethnic minorities. At North Salem High School, these students have experienced success in such non-traditional venues as AP Computer Science classes. One part of North Salem's inclusivity is having girls recruit girls, which not only helps recruitees, it also gives the recruiters excellent leadership experience.

Jo Oshiro & Don Kirkwood, March 2007