

North Bethesda Middle School
8th Grade Team Weekly Parent Update



8th Grade Parent Update #23- March 12th , 2020

Wed 3/18	District Orchestra Festival
Thur 3/19	District Band Festival
Fri 3/27	Early Release Day Last day of Quarter 3
Tues 3/31 & Wed 4/1	MISA Science Testing for 8th grade students (modified testing schedule)
Mon 4/6-Mon 4/13	Spring Break - No school for Students or Teachers
Wed 4/15	Reports Cards Distributed
Tues 4/28	Primary Day- No school for Students or Teachers
Fri 5/8	Music in the Parks- Busch Gardens Trip

SPECIAL UPDATES

Attention all NB 8th Grade Families! The NB PTSA has organized a dine-out at Ledo's Pizza @ Westlake Mall on Wednesday April 1st from 5-9p.m. Mention you

are a North Bethesda family and a portion of the night's proceeds will go to fund end of the year 8th grade festivities! Come out and enjoy!

On Thursday, June 12th, the NBMS 8th grade will hold their End-of Year Assembly (Time TBD). The assembly will be a time to recognize the hard work that students have contributed to their educational success and a culminating celebration of their time here at North Bethesda before they move on to the next phase of their educational journey. Students will receive awards such as *The Presidential Achievement Award*, *SSL Awards*, as well as awards determined by members of the 8th grade team of teachers, and two lucky, hard-working students, will earn the grade's highest honor, *The Phoenix Award*. Parents of award-winning students will be contacted and encouraged to attend; however there is limited space with our ever-growing student population, so the assembly is primarily for students, as a grade level to celebrate their successes together.

8th grade parents- please check out this link so that you can know what end of year activities are coming for the 8th graders, contribute money if you are able, and volunteer your time if you are free!

<https://sites.google.com/a/nbms-pts.org/nbms-pts/8th-grade-activities>

ACADEMIC UPDATES

English Department

Advanced English 8- Mr. Green, Mr. Earenfight, Ms. Cho

This week: This week students were introduced to our next unit, focused on the novel *Animal Farm*. We began our study with a broad overview of historical events related to and surrounding the Russian Revolution through the Cold War. We finished the week by taking part one of the quarter 3 progress check. Part 2 will be on Monday.

Next week: After part 2 of the progress check on Monday, students will receive their copy of the text and begin reading. We will begin by analyzing chapter 1 and becoming familiar with all of the major players in the text. Students will also be receiving a special lesson from the counseling department through English classes on Friday.

ESOL- Ms. Francis

This Week: Students completed the county assessment this week. Students also began a new unit that focuses on making tests of character. They will explore an assortment of fiction and nonfiction texts.

Next Week Students will engage in a close reading and discussions.

Read 180- Ms. Carmichael Collins

This week students paused from the text to review the content-area vocabulary and focused on specific skills from the Workshop. Students continued to work hard daily on the computer software reading activities.

Next week students will complete a concept map about conformity. They will discuss what causes people to go along with the crowd, despite the costs. The next reading homework log is due on Monday, March 16, 2020.

Math Department

Geometry- Mr. Manon and Mr. Roberts

This week: We will branch off to studying ellipses. We will look at how they intersect a double conic shape and how they are graphed in a coordinate plane. Students will also write equations of ellipses and compare them to the equations of circles to see similarities and differences.

Next week: We will have our progress check for the third quarter and then move on to the hyperbola cross sections of the double conics.

Algebra- Mr. Manon, Ms. Needham, Mr. Roberts, Ms. Reckendorf, Ms. Watkins

This week: We practiced converting from one form of a quadratic to another. Friday will be a review day for the Progress Check.

Next week: On Monday and Tuesday we will take the two parts of the Progress Check. The Progress Check is worth 10% of the quarter grade and is not retakeable. For the rest of the week we will learn how to factor when “a” is not 1.

Math 8- Ms. Watkins, Ms. Tamulevich

This week: Math 8 students finished their study of the volume of cylinders, cones and spheres. They took the county progress check on March 6th. Students have begun Unit 6 which covers Associations in Data. They are currently looking at scatter plots and learning about fitting lines to data. They will also learn to make predictions using data and deciding whether data in a scatter plot has a negative or positive association. Please continue to encourage your student to complete their homework so they are well prepared as we move forward with new concepts.

Next week:

PE/ARTS Department

Physical Education- Mr. Tsironis, Ms. Reuter, Mr. Smiddy, Mr. Bucci, Ms. Litzner, Ms. Beaton, Mr. Puhl

This week: students will be completing their current units and choosing their choice unit to finish the quarter.

Next week: students will be participating in their choice units.

8th Grade Orchestra- Mrs. Hepburn Lun

This week: 8th Grade Band and Orchestra students are working hard on District Band and Orchestra Festival repertoire. A detailed letter and permission form went home last week and is due Friday, March 13th. Please check with your music student to make sure that it is signed and returned. We would love to have parents in the audience on our festival days.

March 18 – District Orchestra Festival at Bethesda Chevy Chase High School – Performance
Time 2:20

March 19 – District Band Festival at Kennedy High School – Performance Time – 12:30

At home you should be hearing orchestra students practice "*Beethoven's Lullaby*" "*Rustic Dance*" and "*Free Flight*." Band students are rehearsing "*Pathfinders March*" "*Portrait of a Clown*" and "*Childhood Hymn*." If you are interested in chaperoning our annual "Music in the Parks ~ Busch Gardens" Trip on Friday, May 8th please contact me via email. (You will need to complete fingerprinting and a background check.)

Next week: Band and Orchestra students will continue to work on technical exercises out of their method book and rehearse for upcoming festivals. Please work with your band or orchestra student to develop a consistent practice schedule. A little practice each day is more beneficial than a lot of practice before a test. Have a great weekend.

Chorus- Mr. Mcfeaters

This week: In chorus this week, students were assessed on section "C" of Dies Irae. We worked on sight singing melodies in two parts in the key of G. We also started to incorporate 16th notes into our rhythm reading exercises.

Next week: we will continue to rehearse "Dies Irae," "Adoramus Te," and "Gloria", focusing on dynamics and diction.

Art- Ms. Partlow, Ms. Zhang

Health 8- Ms. Litzner, Mr. Puhl

This week: in health 8 we began the family life unit. Students discussed the legal consequences of sexting and defined consent. We also analyzed influences in regards to sexual decision making. The class looked into aspects of a healthy relationship and the benefits of remaining abstinent as a teen.

Next week: we will analyze different types on contraception. Students will compare the different contraceptive methods available.

Science Department

IESS 8- Ms. Aaron, Ms. Nicolas, Ms. Gopal

This week: Students learned about kinetic and potential energy this week. They completed several computer simulations in order to analyze the transformation of energy and identify the peak points of kinetic and potential energy.

Next week: Students will start building their rockets on Monday. Students that want to use materials different from typical school supplies (construction paper, glue, string) need to bring in their materials.

Social Studies Department

Adv. U.S History- Mr. Kling

This week: We reviewed and evaluated the changes brought about by westward expansion, political expansion, and economic expansion in the US during the first half of the 1800s. Students are writing a multi-paragraph essay to answer the question: **To what extent did different population groups have equal economic, social, and political rights by 1860?** Students will analyze primary sources to compare the rights of one group (Native Americans, African Americans, Women, Immigrants, Mexican Americans) compared to the rights of white males in the year 1860. **The essay will be due by end of class Friday, 3/13 or Monday, 3/16.**

Next week: We will begin looking at the differences between North and South and the events and issues of the 1840s and 1850s leading up to the Civil War which centered around slavery. Students will be playing an online game "Mission US: Flight to Freedom" in which they play the role of a slave trying to escape to freedom. They will learn about the life of a slave and the challenges they faced in trying to escape and maintain their freedom in the North. Students will be learning about major events such as the Compromise of 1850, Fugitive Slave Act, Uncle Tom's Cabin, Kansas-Nebraska Act, Bleeding Kansas, the Dred Scott case, Lincoln-Douglas Debates, John Brown's raid at Harpers Ferry, and the Election of 1860.

Adv. U.S History- Mrs. Kelley

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Adv. U.S History- Ms. Grace

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Tom's Cabin, Kansas-Nebraska Act, Bleeding Kansas, the Dred Scott case, Lincoln-Douglas Debates, John Brown's raid at Harpers Ferry, and the Election of 1860.

Technology Education Department

Tech Ed- Mr. Tin

This week:

Next week:

T.V Studio- Ms. Paul-Phillips

This week: The students are on their way editing their first film: The Door Scene. Students learned how to create a power point slide show for the credits and introduction using animation and transitions. Students are welcome to get additional assistance at lunch and SOARR.

Next week: Students will finish their final edits on The Door Scene. The 2nd film to be edited is the Snapchat video. Students should have ample footage for this project. Students will complete editing that project. For both projects, students have rubrics in their possession.

World Languages Department

Spanish

Ms. Dalmases (Spanish 1)

This week: students created refrigerators with Spanish foods, described them orally, interpreted information that their peers presented, and summarized the information they gathered about them. Also, students interpreted an authentic reading about breakfast foods through an integrated performance assessment (IPA) interpretive task. Then, they presented information about meal plan suggestions for an IPA speaking presentational task on 3/13/20.

Next week students will receive and complete a unit test study guide on Monday, March 16th. They will take the summative unit test on Wednesday, March 18th. They will learn about

currencies in Spanish-speaking countries and authentic menu items to prepare for a food truck assignment the following week.

Ms. Ranaweera (Spanish 1)

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Ms. Dalmases (Spanish 2)

This week: Students focused on the second half of their vocabulary list (body parts and medical treatments for injuries) while continuing to use the preterite and the imperfect. They also had a vocabulary quiz on the body parts. Four new irregular verbs that are irregular in the preterite were introduced: traer, decir, venir and poner.

Next week: Students will have two quizzes. The first is on the irregular preterite conjugations they've been learning, and the second is on the last part of their vocabulary.

Ms. Puleo (Spanish 2)

This week: Students focused on the second half of their vocabulary list (body parts and medical treatments for injuries) while continuing to use the preterite and the imperfect. They also had a vocabulary quiz on the body parts. Four new irregular verbs that are irregular in the preterite were introduced: traer, decir, venir and poner.

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Ms. Markos (Spanish 3)

This week: we continued with our 6th unit about the future by learning how to use the future tense. Students were able to create fortunes for their classmates and then they were able to review the subjunctive to react to the future predictions they received. At the end of the week, students were showed the opening clip of a Spanish period drama so that they could make predictions about how the lives of the 2 main characters would turn out.

Next week: student's Gran Hotel timelines are due on Monday and then we will work on our March Madness bracket challenge project which will also use the future tense. As always, please continue to check MyMCPS Classroom daily for information about homework assignments as well as other important class announcements.

French

Ms. Bonatesta (French 1)

This week: This week in French 1AB, students took a test on seasons, months and weather on Monday. We then introduced new vocabulary related to pastimes and activities that we do in our free time during which seasons and depending on the different weather conditions. We also introduced our new irregular verb: faire. We practiced both the vocabulary and the verb through speaking and writing activities.

Next week: students will take a test on the vocabulary and on the verb faire on Monday. Next, we will transition to the second part of the vocabulary and introduce our fourth irregular verb: aller. The date of other upcoming assessments will be posted on MyMCPS classroom.

Ms. Bonatesta (French 2)

This week: This week in French 2, we took a test on the first half of the unit's vocabulary. We then introduced reflexive verbs in the present and practiced these verbs in the context of this unit through speaking and writing activities in which we described our routine and that of others.

Next week: students will take a test on reflexive verbs in the present and on describing routines. We will also learn a new adjective, TOUT, and incorporate it in the unit's context. Next, we will transition to the second part of the vocabulary and build on the vocabulary that we already learned to extend our descriptions to those of afternoon and evening routines. The date of other upcoming assessments will be posted on MyMCPS classroom.

Ms. Myers (Honors French 3)

This week: the students reviewed direct and indirect object pronouns. We also reviewed vocabulary and the subjunctive before wrapping up the unit. There was a summative assessment on Thursday, March 12th. We also began the next unit, "L'écologie". In this unit, the students will communicate about natural phenomena, environmental issues and solutions. They will describe and express opinions on natural resources and current ecological problems.

Next week: The students will work with vocabulary pertaining to natural phenomena and will practice giving caution to someone in case of a natural disaster.

SSL UPDATES