



Middle School News

Haines School ~ 247 W. 23rd Place ~ 773-534-9200

ELA - Ms. Sicora (307), Dr. Ferrer (308), Ms. Suen (309)

Science - Dr. Ferrer

Social Studies - Ms. Sicora

Math/Algebra - Ms. Suen

Special Education - Ms. Berman

"Families are a valuable asset to a child's education."

Free 60/MTSS

- Students will focus on skills and targets identified through the spring administration of NWEA and class assessments through online applications, small group and independent practice, and teacher led groups.

Advisory

- 8th graders will be focusing on beginning their research of high schools and the high school application process.
- 7th graders will focus on developing and practicing their participation, collaboration, and communication skills using tools i.e. Discussion Sentence Starters, Discussion Partners (Compass, Microscope, Clock, Cell phone), and Small group/Whole class Participation/Collaboration Rubric.

English Language Arts

- **307 & 309 8th graders** - The students will begin a short story unit in which students will focus on the elements of short stories. As they work in groups to read and discuss to develop stronger reading comprehension skills. In addition, students will be working on vocabulary that utilizes the root/affix of the week as well as grammar skills using No Red Ink. Finally in terms of nonfiction, students will be working on leveled texts in NEWSELA and ThinkCERCA, which also develops their argumentative writing skills. This year's vocabulary focus will be on power words that are helpful to know for standardized testing.
- **308 7th graders** - In preparation for novel studies, students will learn and follow a literacy structure that teaches independence. This structure will give them the skills needed to create a lifetime love of reading and writing by building their stamina. Students will also be exposed to engaging adaptive local/global news articles through NEWSELA. The adaptive writing app, NoRedInk, will help them learn grammar, usage, mechanics and style. Through ThinkCERCA's framework, students will learn to develop evidence-based argument in response to a claim or debatable question.

Math

- **307 8th graders** - 8th graders will begin reviewing linear equations in terms of the table, graph, and equation form. Students will be able read tables and graphs in order to come up with equations that match the situation. In addition, students will be able use linear equations to solve real world word problems.
- **308 7th graders** - 7th grade math will be working on a geometry unit, Shapes and Designs. In this unit, they will be looking at patterns of polygons such as interior and exterior angles. This will build background knowledge for the following unit where we will study similar figures, both reduced and enlarged.
- **309 Algebra** - The students in algebra will begin to explore patterns to create expressions and equations. Through understanding the basic rules of arithmetic, students will apply rules in order to solve equations.

Science

Students will present their STEM-related summer news articles. Individually or collaboratively, they will also explore which units would provide them with: a) questions about natural phenomena that they might want to investigate through experimentation, b) problems that they can generate design solutions for, in preparation for their December Middle School Science Fair/Engineering Design project, or a topic or issue that they would like to research about.

● **7th grade units**

1. From molecules to organisms: Structures, functions, and processes (Growth and development; Organization for Matter and Energy Flow; Information Processing)
2. Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics (Interdependent Relationships; Cycle of Matter and Energy Transfer; Dynamics, Functioning, and Resilience; Biodiversity and Humans)
3. Heredity/Genetics: Inheritance and Variation of Traits
4. Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity (Evidence of Common Ancestry and Diversity; Natural Selection; Adaptation)

● **8th grade units**

1. Structure and properties of Matter and Its Interactions (chemical reactions, nuclear processes)
2. Motion and Stability: Forces and interactions
3. Energy (conservation, transfer, relation with forces, in chemical processes, in everyday life)
4. Waves (properties, electromagnetic radiation) and their applications in technologies for information transfer

Social Studies

- **7th grade** - The students in room 308 will be working of the skills of sourcing, corroboration, and differentiating between primary and secondary sources as they learn about Jamestown and early colonial life in America.
- **8th grade** - The students in rooms 307 and 309 will be working on the skills of sourcing, corroboration, and differentiating between primary and secondary sources as they learn about the Reconstruction Era in the United States.

Room 205

Math: Working on using all operations on whole numbers and decimals, understanding place value, and understanding and solving word problems.

Reading: Reading a selection of stories from around the world, focusing on story elements and responding to literature with well crafted responses. Building basic grammar skills and constructing paragraphs with a main idea and details.

Social Science: Study ancient civilizations. We will begin a study of ancient Egypt

Science: Understand what are hazardous materials, where we find them in the home and outside, and how to dispose of properly

Grading Scale and Percentages for the 2018-19 School Year

<u>Haines Grading Scale</u>	<u>ELA</u>	<u>Writing</u>
A 90-100	Assessments 40%	Assessments/Final Draft
B 80-89	Projects 20%	Projects 40%
C 70-79	Classroom Work 20%	Classroom Work 20%
D 60-69	Participation 15%	Free60 Projects/Intervention/

F 0-59	Homework 5%	Enrichment 20% Participation 15% Homework 5%
<u>Math</u>	<u>Social Studies</u>	<u>Science</u>
Assessments 35%	Assessments 40%	Assessment 40%
Math Reflection 20%	Class Assignments 20%	Class Assignments 20%
POTW 15%	Participation/Reflection 15%	Projects 20%
Notes 10%	Homework 5 %	Lab/Class Participation 15%
Participation 15%	Projects 20%	Homework 5%
Homework 5%		

Reminders

- Please read each night to build reading stamina.
- Please fill out the volunteer application at <http://cps.edu/FACE/Pages/VolunteerPrograms.aspx>

Important September Dates

- September 17 - Meet the Teachers Night