



## **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 continue 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 power words 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 – Students will continue to 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 continue 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. The next unit will be on the Pythagorean Theorem. We will explore the derivation and application of the theorem.
- 308 7th graders - 7th grade math will continue 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 continue 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**

7th and 8th students will now individually, or in groups of no more than three, choose the topic and question that they will pursue in connection with their STEM project. Each week students will work on their project so they will be ready for judging during our Annual STEM Fair in December, 2018.

- 7th grade –Students will start their unit entitled From molecules to organisms: Structures, functions, and processes (Growth and development; Organization for Matter and Energy Flow; Information Processing). They will conduct investigations to provide evidence that living things are made of cells; either one cell or many different numbers and types of cells.
- 8th grade –Students will start their unit on the Structure and properties of Matter and Its Interactions (chemical reactions, nuclear processes). They will develop models to describe the atomic composition of simple molecules and extended structures.

### **Social Studies**

- 7th grade - The students in room 308 will be investigating the interaction between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags and answering the historical question “ How did the English and the Wampanoag move from contact to cooperation to conflict?”
- 8th grade - The students in rooms 307 and 309 will be investigating the different roles people played during the Reconstruction Era in the United States and collaborate within small groups to write a Reconstruction plan.

### **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

### **Reminders**

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

### **Important October Dates**

- October 1- Haines High School Fair
- October 5 - Progress Report
- October 8 - Columbus Day - No School
- October 16 - Walking trip to Chinatown Library, Room 308
- October 19 - Fall pictures