

Andrew Middle School News

January 29 - February 2

Upcoming Events

8th Grade Visit to Bellevue - Monday,
January 29 9:30-lunch

Andrew Ski Trip - February 15 @ 2:00 PM

Chicken Chores

On duty this week are:

Jaden, Karlye, Jayven

Students who complete chicken chores
this week, will be bringing home
washed eggs on Friday.

Weekly Reminders

i-Ready Reading - 1 lesson

i-Ready Math - 2 lessons

Missing Work completed by Thursday

Google Classroom

Please check Google Classroom to keep up to
date on weekly assignments. If you need access
please let a teacher know!

Textbooks

The Algebra and Spanish textbooks can be
found at portal.pearsonschool.com

Due This Week

6th/7th Grade - Spanish Quiz Tuesday
8th Grade - Spanish Quiz Wednesday

Lunch Menu

Breakfast:

M: Pumpkin Bread

T: Egg Omelette

W: TBD

Th: TBD

F: Donuts

Lunch:

M: Popcorn Chicken

T: Baked Ham

W: TBD

Th: TBD

F: TBD

A Note From...

ANDREW MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of 8th grade Andrew Students:

We are continuing our transition with our 8th grade class of exploring Bellevue and Maquoketa High Schools. The school counselors from both schools will be coming to Andrew School to register your 8th grade student for classes next year.

Julie Kinrade and Amanda DeWulf, Maquoketa Counselors, will be coming to Andrew on Wednesday, February 7 at 9:30 A.M. During this time, they will be sharing more with students about course selection & extracurricular activities offered. They will then be coming back to Andrew in late February / early March to meet with students individually for approximately 15 minutes at a time to register them for their 9th grade classes. I will share this date as soon as it's decided.

Scott Jess, Bellevue Counselor, will be coming to Andrew on Monday, March 26 at 8:30 to meet with students and get them registered for classes.

We welcome parents to attend this time with your student to learn more about each school and the opportunities they have to offer. Please let me know if you will be attending during either of these times, so that I can make a schedule to best serve everyone.

If you have any questions about this process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wagner

563-672-3221

kim.wagner@andrew.k12.ia.us

This Week...

ANDREW MIDDLE SCHOOL

algebra:

This week we are starting to solve multi-step inequalities using all four operations. There will be a quiz on Thursday. The standards of focus are: "Create equations and inequalities in one variable and use them to solve problems." and "Represent constraints by equations or inequalities, and by systems of equations and/or inequalities, and interpret solutions as viable or nonviable options in a modeling context." Look for assignments on Google classroom or with worksheets.

pre-algebra:

This week we are starting to add integers using multi-colored integer chips. This will help students visualize what happens when we add positive & negative numbers together. There will be a quiz on Friday. The standards of focus is: "Use positive and negative numbers to represent quantities in real-world contexts, explaining the meaning of 0 in each situation."

6th & 7th science:

This week in science, students will learn about the processes of photosynthesis and cellular respiration and the role they play in plants. By the end of the week, we will begin a nutrition unit in which students explore how all living things obtain nutrients. Our standard of focus is: "Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for the role of photosynthesis in the cycling of matter and flow of energy into and out of organisms."

This Week...

ANDREW MIDDLE SCHOOL

8th grade science:

This week in science, students will learn about artificial selection and cloning as they begin a project that explores the possibility of genetically modifying humans. Along the way, we will discuss the ethics of such activities in real life. Our standard of focus is: "Gather and synthesize information about the technologies that have changed the way humans influence the inheritance of desired traits in organisms."

social studies:

This week students will each create an info-graphic describing the process of a particular industry and its effects on human rights. We will begin looking at immigration and what human rights issues cause people to leave their homeland. Our standards of focus are: "Explain and evaluate how economic decisions affect the well-being of individuals, businesses, and society." and "Evaluate the push and pull factors involved in human population movement and patterns."

spanish:

In Spanish this week, we are working on our next chapter and focusing on Spanish grammar involving adjectives. Students will have a quiz over the adjectives and begin working on writing and speaking about describing others using these words. Our standards of focus are: "Understand and interpret written language on a variety of topics." and "Provide and obtain information in the target language."

p.b.l:

We will have our mid-point writing assessment this week. Students will begin learning and applying map-reading skills as they apply to survival. Our standards that we are focusing on are: "Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content." and "Utilize and construct geographic representations to explain and analyze regional, environmental, and cultural characteristics."

This Week...

ANDREW MIDDLE SCHOOL

ELA

This week in ELA, 6th grade is finishing Anne Frank while 8th grade is doing a very small poetry study before we start our whole middle school novel study; Wonder. ELA will be pairing with Mrs. Wagner to give students a support throughout this story and who to handle and deal with the emotional aspects of this novel! We are excited to start this next week!

Just a Note...

FROM ANDREW MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR & BAND

Middle School Choir:

Students involved in the middle school choir are currently undertaking a music history project. 8th graders are able to choose their musical topic. 7th graders are given a range of classical composers to select from. 6th graders are given a range of musical genres or time periods to select from. Between now and the end of the second trimester they will research their topic resulting in an oral presentation complete with an exciting visual presentation with an audio sample of their topics musical style.

This assignment should be able to be completed within regular class time and typically does not require work outside of class time. We are currently starting week 3 of this project where students are gathering facts and beginning to put together their visual presentation. Next week they will be finalizing their project and determining what is missing to fulfill the rubric requirements. In two weeks they should have a finished product and be ready to practice presenting to classmates.

In three weeks they will begin formal presentations during regular choir time where they will be graded based on their rubric. This project fulfills several of the music standards our middle schoolers are rated on.

Junior High Honor Choir:

A small number of our choir students have been selected for the Tri-Rivers Conference Annual Junior High Honor Choir. If they were selected to participate, your 7th or 8th grader in choir was notified and should have shared a blue note with you. The note listed all the details about the event. The concert for this special event is February 26th, 7pm at Marquette in Bellevue. We hope to see you there!

Middle School Band:

Middle School students involved in band are delving into improving their music reading and playing abilities. We are currently working out of a book of chorales to improve our sight reading (playing a melody at first sight) and musical expression. We have a variety of rhythms and scales that are assigned each month that we work on together in band rehearsal. The scales for January are Concert B-flat and Concert E-flat.

We have also begun discussing some of our music for the spring concert. This music is currently quite a challenge musically and rhythmically. Our current work on sight reading, scales, and rhythms should speed up our progress greatly in the coming months.

Band parents should also look for a letter coming home in the mail detailing the 2nd trimester practice incentive information. Several of our students have fallen behind their weekly practice goals during the last month with all of the holidays and winter weather! Look for that letter with specific details on your child's practice goal and where they are at. This letter also has helpful information for making practicing their instrument at home more enjoyable.

Our band students have also expressed an interest in doing another performance during these winter months similar to the Andrew's Got Talent that has been done in the past. I will keep you updated on this as details progress!

Sincerely, Mrs. Arnold

About The Standards

ANDREW MIDDLE SCHOOL

Spanish:

In Spanish, we use the national foreign language standards, so they are general standards for the teaching of all foreign languages and these standards remain the same in all schools. These five standards are known as the 5 C's: Communication, Culture, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities. The standards are not split by individual grade levels, but by teaching bands (elementary, middle, high school). At the middle school level students should be able to be at beginning stage to moderate stage in their Spanish proficiency by the time they enter high school. The standards we are currently focusing on are the standards that look at comparisons between the students' native language and the target language. Students work with these comparisons in their daily work, and use similarities to help them read the target language in context.

Pre-Algebra:

Due to 6th and 7th grade being a combined group of students this year, our shift in standards went from grade-divided standards to utilizing the standards & skills that would prepare students for Algebra studies. 13 out of the 20 standards are related to the 7th grade standards. 4 out of the 20 standards (ratios, statistical questions, long-division, and the operations with decimals), are related to the 6th grade standards that are prerequisite to any pre-algebra or Algebra work and are continuously reviewed throughout each year in middle school. The remaining 3 standards are related to the 8th grade standards that are prerequisite to the high school Algebra course students all take their 8th grade year (analysis of proportional relationships, identifying rational & irrational numbers, & solving one variable equations/inequalities). Together these standards make up the pre-algebra course.

Algebra:

In order to best prepare our students for high school, the shift from 8th grade mathematics to high school Algebra has taken place. The standards used for this class are the Common Core High School Algebra I Standards. The benefit of this, is that many of these standards are also similar to the 8th grade core content standards, just on a heightened, more in-depth level. Thus, by the end of the students' 8th grade year, they will have met the sixth through eighth grade Common Core standards, as well as the high school Algebra I standards, all within their 3 years at Andrew Middle School.

About The Standards

ANDREW MIDDLE SCHOOL

Social Studies:

In social studies we are covering the new 7th grade standards, since all students were taught 8th grade social studies standards last year with mixed-grade groups. Iowa's new social studies standards are grouped by grade according to topics being covered rather than the skills that are learned. Social studies literacy standards are grade-banded for grades 6-8. All students will have been taught the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade social studies standards by the time they finish 8th grade.

Science:

For science, the combined 6th/7th grade class is learning 7th grade science standards and will learn 8th grade standards next year. This year's 6th grade class will actually be learning the 6th grade standards in 8th grade. Once again, the science standards are grouped by grade according to topic, not necessarily skill or ability level, and students will have learned all the standards by the time they finish 8th grade.

ELA:

In ELA, we consider literacy standards that are essential for middle school and are either similar for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade or are grade-banded for literacy. The essential standard is the same for all classes, however, 8th graders are expected to complete the standard more in depth than 7th graders. Likewise, 7th graders should complete the standard with more detail than 6th graders.

PBL:

In PBL, we consider literacy standards that are essential for middle school and are either similar for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade or are grade-banded for literacy in science/social studies. For example, our first project focused on the following reading standard, grade-banded for grades 6-8 in Literacy in Science & Technical Subjects: Compare and contrast the information gained from experiments, simulations, video, or multimedia sources with that gained from reading a text on the same topic. (RST.6-8.9)