

Andrew Middle School News

February 5 - 9

Upcoming Events

8th Grade Maquoketa Registration -
February 7 @ Andrew

Andrew Ski Trip - February 15 @ 2:00 PM

Chicken Chores

On duty this week are:

Levi, Adalynne, and Erin

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 Monday

Lunch Menu

Breakfast:

M: Cereal

T: Muffins

W: Biscuits & Gravy

Th: Scrambled Eggs

F: Donuts

Lunch:

M: Turkey Burger

T: Soft Taco

W: Chicken Fried Steak

Th: Egg Omelette

F: Sloppy Joe

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

A Note From...

ANDREW MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dear Middle School Families,

Beginning on Monday, February 5 our ELA classes will begin a unit on the novel, *Wonder*. During this unit, students will use the novel, fiction and nonfiction texts, and other media to explore literary concepts, including point of view, character development, figurative language, setting, plot, mood, and tone. Students will also practice analyzing literature, making predictions, and supporting their thoughts with evidence from the text. On a weekly basis we will be having discussion that explores the themes of bullying, peer pressure and fitting in. At the end of the unit, students will be watching the movie, which is based off of the novel. We will use 7th grade standards as they are grade banded and all Middle School students will be reading *Wonder*.

Standards Addressed:

Essential Standard:

RL.7.6: Analyze how an author develops and contrasts the points of view of different characters or narrators in a text.

RL.7.7: Compare and contrast a written story, drama, or poem to its audio, filmed, staged, or multimedia version, analyzing the effects of techniques unique to each medium (e.g., lighting, sound, color, or camera focus and angles in a film).

RL.7.10 By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, in the grades 6–8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

Other Standards addressed:

RL.7.2: Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text.

RL.7.3: Analyze how particular elements of a story or drama interact (e.g., how setting shapes the characters or plot).

RL.7.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of rhymes and other repetitions of sounds (e.g., alliteration) on a specific verse or stanza of a poem or section of a story or drama.

SL.7.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 7 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

W.7.3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

W.7.4: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

W.7.9 Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

Sincerely,

Andrew Middle School Staff

This Week...

ANDREW MIDDLE SCHOOL

algebra:

This week we are using our knowledge of solving inequalities to work with compound inequalities. We will be recognizing constraints and determining if compound inequalities are using "and" or "or" in their solutions, as well as recognizing them on graphs. 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." Our assignments are done in the textbook which can be found online. (See front of newsletter.)

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." and "Understand subtraction of rational numbers as adding the additive inverse, $p - q = p + (-q)$."

6th & 7th science:

This week in science, we will be learning about nutrition in animals and the process of cellular respiration, including a lab with meal-worms. There will be a written assessment on plant nutrition and photosynthesis on Tuesday. Our standard of focus is: "Develop a model to describe how food is rearranged through chemical reactions forming new molecules that support growth and/or release energy as this matter moves through an organism."

This Week...

ANDREW MIDDLE SCHOOL

8th grade science:

This week in science, we will be working on a futuristic project involving the hypothetical genetic modification of humans for survival in extreme environments, applying what we have learned about cloning and genetics. 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 learn about the push and pull factors that lead to immigration, focusing especially on those factors tied to human rights violations. Our standard of focus is: "Evaluate the push and pull factors involved in human population movement and patterns."

spanish:

In Spanish this week, we are focusing on Spanish grammar involving definite and indefinite articles and how they are used in the Spanish language. Students will have a quiz over these next week. 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 be learning several map skills this week, including the use of online DOT map tools, reading topographic maps, and navigating by cardinal directions. Our standard of focus is: "Utilize and construct geographic representations to explain and analyze regional, environmental, and cultural characteristics."

This Week...

ANDREW MIDDLE SCHOOL

ELA

This week in ELA, all middle school classes will be starting the book study on *Wonder*, combined with lessons with Mrs. Wagner on topics such as bullying and empathy for others. Please see the letter attached at the beginning of the newsletter to view the standards for our *Wonder* book unit.

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 on 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)