

DATES TO REMEMBER



Saturday, Feb 1	Special Olympics Competition, Dordt College
Wednesday, Feb 5	Midterm Grades Due
Monday, Feb 10	NO SCHOOL for Secondary Schools ONLY Middle & High School Conferences, 8:00 am - 8:00 pm
Tuesday, Feb 11	Middle & High School Conferences, 3:05 pm - 5:45 pm
Friday, Feb 14	NO SCHOOL - District Wide
Monday, Feb 17	NWIBA Jazz Festival, LeMars High School



Thursday, Mar 6	Orchestra Concert, 7:00-8:00 pm
Mar 7, 10, 11	3rd Quarter Common Assessments
Tuesday, Mar 11	End of 3rd Quarter 7th & 8th Band Concert, 7:00-8:00 pm
Wednesday, Mar 12	Beginning of 4th Quarter
Thursday, Mar 13	3rd Quarter grades due
Friday, Mar 21	Snow make-up day - School in session
Mar 24 - Apr 4	Iowa Assessments
Thursday, Mar 27	Talent Show, 3:00-5:00 pm, big gym
Friday, Mar 28	Talent Show, 2:00-2:45 pm, big gym

Important Immunization Requirement for Middle School

[News from](#)
[the school nurse](#)
[Julie Thiele](#)



The State of Iowa now requires a **TDAP vaccination** for all students entering 7th grade. Tdap is a booster vaccine for older children, adolescents, and adults. It safely protects against 3 dangerous diseases: tetanus, diphtheria, and whooping cough (also called pertussis).

This requirement will help protect your child and others in school and the community from whooping cough. In 2012, whooping cough was widespread in the United States and in Iowa with approximately 417% more persons with pertussis disease compared to the average of the past 5 years. (Iowa Department of Public Health)

All 7th grade students will need to provide proof of receiving the Tdap vaccination before enrolling for school in August 2014. Many students may have already received this immunization. Please be sure to provide the school with an updated immunization record if your student has already received the immunization or if they receive it during this school year. Records may be faxed to North Middle at 277-5941.

Counselor Connections

Succeeding in Middle School

Study Tips: Along with all of the social, physical and emotional changes in a middle school student's life, there are also changes in their responsibilities in their academic life. Middle school students are expected to know what is due, when it is due and how to learn from textbooks, notes and lectures. Keeping on top of their academic life presents challenges during this time of their life.

Planning Tips: If your student learns how to use a planner, it will greatly benefit their study habits. They write their assignments down and when they are due. Have your students use the websites that list homework and assignment due dates. If you need help navigating the Sioux City Community Website please give me a call at 712-279-6804 or email mendenk@siouxcityschools.com and I can help you.

Attendance: Attending school every day should be a priority in your child's life. Many discussions happen daily in classes that is hard to replicate on worksheets. If they do miss class for illness, they need to ask their teachers for any work that was missed and complete it in a timely fashion.

Ask for Help: If your student needs help with a subject, they should ask for help. Teachers have a team time/or enrichment time aside for extra help. School counselors can also help them find help. Finding a friend or older sibling that understands the subject they are struggling with can help them get over **tough times**.

In Class: To be a good student in middle school, focus on the class discussions, readings, and assignments. Each student trying to do their best, focus and planning their assignments, should succeed in middle school, high school and beyond.

Your partner in education,
Kimberly Mendenhall
6th Grade Counselor



STUDENT FUNDRAISER

The North Middle School fundraiser made a profit of \$9,100.00 this fall! Thank you to all the students, parents, staff and community that supported the fundraiser. 10% of their profit earned has been distributed to the 6th, 7th and 8th grade teams and to the Special Ed department.

The fundraiser profit has been spent on many building projects to support students and staff. Some of the items in recent years are:

1. Kindle Fires for after school reading club
2. New furniture for the reading area in the library
3. Big screen TV for the library
4. TV's in the commons to show announcements
5. Electronic books to be loaded on kindles, Ipods and Ipad
6. Flower pots and flowers for front entrance
7. Family seating area for the front office area
8. Pictures for the waiting area and in the counseling office
9. Team payoff parties for students monthly, quarterly and end of the year
10. Bean bags for teacher classrooms for reading areas
11. Supplies for teachers that volunteer to run clubs after school
12. Marker boards
13. Patriot Camp
14. ITBS snacks
15. 8th grade Celebration



Students were awarded daily during the 2 week fundraiser with All Star Ducks for items sold. Various prizes were also given out during the fundraiser. BINGO games were played on December 6th, during lunches, as a prize for selling at least 8 items. 98 students were eligible to play. We had 2 winners each in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades and a grand prize winner of a Kindle! The 8th grade teams awarded a \$50 gift certificate to a student chosen randomly from all who sold 5 or more items.

What is Your Student Learning?

6TH GRADE ENGLISH



Teachers: **Mrs. LaFerrier**
Mrs. Moseman
Ms. Sturgeon

As we begin our new quarter, we will also begin examining a new form of writing.

Persuasive text and writing will be our focus this quarter, and we will be spending much time reading, examining, discussing, and writing persuasive forms of text. Students will have the opportunity to not only read and analyze persuasive text, but they will also be choosing a topic they are passionate about and develop an argument that supports their opinion.

We are also continuing our spelling curriculum, beginning with Week 8 which explores various forms of compound words. The spelling lists are given on a biweekly basis, and spelling and vocabulary study of the given words are both pieces of our learning.

Because persuasive writing is the focus this 3rd quarter, be sure to encourage your child to share their thoughts and opinions (while presenting facts, examples, and details) about various news stories or other subjects that might offer debate opportunities for them. For example, some topics sixth graders seem to be extremely interested might include:

- Cell phone use in school
- Later curfews
- Healthier food options at school
- Prayer in school
- Professional athlete salaries

These are just a few of the possible topics you as a family could discuss to get your child considering how to support their opinions in a rational and logical way.

6TH GRADE MATH



Teachers: **Mr. Linafelter**
Mrs. Pappadackis
Mrs. Neumann
Mrs. Decker

The 6th grade Math classes have been working on writing and reading different types of graphs. These graphs include: circle graphs, frequency graphs, histograms, line plots, and box and whisker plots. From these graphs, we have learned to find the mean, median, mode and range. For the rest of the quarter we will be learning to multiply and divide fractions.

6TH GRADE DUAL LANGUAGE



Teacher: **Ms. Garcia**

The Dual Language program promotes the learning of both English and Spanish of equal value. Students in the Dual Language program are obtaining life learning academic skills and values that will prepare them for this multicultural world. Students in this program also receive bilingual and bilateral qualities that will present them as outstanding candidates for this fast growing global economy.

In sixth grade, students take Reading and World History in Spanish. In reading, students are determining author's purpose and point of view in a text. They are also continuing to analyze figurative language. In World History we just finished learning about the Roman Empire and are beginning to discover ancient India, its culture, religion, and geography.

Finally, students in the program are not only acquiring a great education in English and Spanish, they are also learning the value of multiculturalism and preparing themselves for this 21st century world.

6TH GRADE SCIENCE



Teachers: **Mr. Rorris**
Ms. Sanford
Mr. Klingensmith

During the third quarter sixth grade students are studying geology. Students will develop an understanding of the world of rock, volcano creation, and earthquakes-plate tectonics.

Reviewing is a basic expectation teachers have of students. Students should be reviewing the vocabulary terms for each lesson as well as reading the lessons in the text as a means of preparation for evaluation. Even though the concept was presented in class this is not enough practice. These concepts as well as the language are new learning. The more times you review/practice the more you retain!

6th GRADE RED TEAM

Mitch Rorris.....Science
 Jamie Ahrendsen Reading
 Tim Foix Social Studies
 Cat MosemanEnglish
 Cheryl Pappadackis.....Math
 Liz Sturgeon Learning Strategist
 Mary Jordt Learning Strategist



6th GRADE BLUE TEAM

Eve Sanford.....Science
 Karen Bestgen.....Reading
 Jennifer LaFerrier.....English
 Brian Linafelter.....Math
 Jane Gustavson.....Social Studies
 Pam Decker Learning Strategist
 Erika Garcia Dual Language

Team News

6th Grade Red Team

The third nine weeks is in full swing. Once again we want to make sure that as parents it is essential that you stay involved with your student. Talk about what is going on in class, view the planner-we expect student to take the planner home every weekend and attain a parent signature. You may also view grades online. **You play a big part in how successful your student becomes.** Thanks for your support! Please check to see that your student has all of the basic supplies-pencils, pens, notebooks.

6th Grade Blue Team

The students on the 6th Grade Blue Team have been off to a great start this quarter. We would like to remind parents to look at their child's planners often. We require our students to fill out their planners each day and have a parent sign it each week. Keep up the great work 6th graders. Students also need to replenish their supplies when necessary. Let's continue working towards achieving Honors and Monthly attendance to participate in our payoff celebrations.



Nondiscrimination Statement

The Sioux City Community School District is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. It is an unfair or discriminatory practice for any educational institution to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, age, disability, socioeconomic status, or veteran status in any program or activity. Inquiries or grievances regarding compliance of Title VI, Title VII and Title IX of the Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Iowa Code sections 216.9 and 19B.11 may be directed to Marilyn Charging, Director of Educational Equity and Student Activities at 627 4th Street, Sioux City, IA 51101, (712) 279-6075.

From the Library...



The new Caldecott (*Locomotive*, illustrated by Brian Floca) and Newbery (*Flora & Ulysses* by Kate DiCamillo) winner books were announced January 27th at the American Library Association's Midwinter meeting. See this site to read about more award winning titles: <http://news.yahoo.com/american-library-association-announces-2014-youth-media-award-140000472.html>

We will not be having a book fair during conferences in February (but feel free to stop in--we will be here!)

We will have our **BOGO** (Buy One Get One Free) Scholastic Fair in April before spring break to coincide with National Library Week and to get books in students' hands for summer reading. There are so many books to be read being published now!

We received a nice thank you from the Boys Club after we took a box of new books we purchased with funds from the *All for Books* program held during our fall book fair. We also dropped off pop tabs to the Ronald McDonald house in December – thanks for your support! **We need your Box-Tops, Tyson Food labels, Hy-Vee receipts and pop tabs!** Labels for Education labels are sent to an elementary school as we collect them.

We do not print individual overdue or fine slips in order to save paper; we do send the list to the TA teachers and send emails to students. Check to see that your students have paid or worked off their fines!

Want your students to read eBooks online for free?! Just go to www.mackinvia.com and login with our NMS AEA login. (This cannot be published online, our students can take a bookmark home with this info, or contact Ms. Sweeney by phone or email sweenes@live.siouxcityschools.com.)

The 6th graders explored Mackin during reading classes in January.

We have researchers still doing their compound or object project in 8th grade, persuasive (pro/con) topics for English, ancient Roman projects in 6th grade Social Studies, and civil rights and now Holocaust in 8th grade Reading.

Hey, exciting news! From March 3-16 HyVee will have "Operation Helpful Smiles." At every check out lane will be a jar for coins. 75% of the money raised will go to the Sioux City Knights & Sioux City Schools Special Olympics. The Bandits also chose SCCSD Special Olympics & Sioux City Knights as their charity of choice for their game March 2nd, so go to the game and support these charities!

Save these for North Middle!

HY-VEE RECEIPTS

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

PULL TABS

TYSON A+

Please save your **Hy-Vee receipts** for the North Middle Library. For this school year, they must be dated **August 15, 2013 – May 1, 2014**. Do NOT send fuel, gas, stamp, money order, Western Union, lottery, Quest, MidAmerican, bottle refunds, or gift card receipts. For every \$100 worth of receipts we collect, we receive one dollar from Hy-Vee. Don't wait until May, because if they reach the limit of giving, no more receipts will be taken next spring. We have collection boxes in the library for **Hy-Vee, BoxTops for Education** (for Mrs. Pedersen's classes) and **pull tabs** for the Ronald McDonald house.



We are now saving **Tyson A+ Support Your School** labels in the library! These may be found on many Tyson products – just cut the label out and drop them off in the library!

Tyson products help give kids and families the protein they need for the busy back-to-school season. And Tyson Project A+™ product labels can turn every purchase into cash for your school. Every label = 24¢!

FUN FACTS

The geographic center of the continental United States is near Lebanon, Kansas.

Florida and North Dakota are two states least likely to experience an earthquake.

At 7,000 feet above sea level, Santa Fe (New Mexico) is the highest capital city in the United States.

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Wellness Tip: Kid-Friendly Veggies & Fruits

DELICIOUS DIPPERS

Kids love to dip their foods. Whip up a quick dip for veggies with yogurt and seasonings such as herbs or garlic. Serve with raw vegetables like broccoli, carrots, or cauliflower. Fruit chunks go great with a yogurt and cinnamon or vanilla dip.

