



# NMS NEWS

Mrs. Sylvia Murray, Principal  
Mr. Troy Sauer Assistant Principal

Fall 2015

## Dates to Remember:

### November

11/4 -End of 1st marking period  
11/17-PTO meeting 7:00PM  
11/24 Parent/Teacher conference-no school for students  
11/25-11/30- Thanksgiving Break

### December

12/4 Winter Ball-Middle School Café 7-9 PM  
12/8 -MS Band Concert 7:00 PM  
12/15- Orchestra/Chorus Concert 7:00 PM  
12/23 11:00 Dismissal  
12/24-1/1/15 Christmas Break

### January

1/4-1/8 No Van at Middle School  
1/15 No school  
1/18 Teacher In-Service- No school for students  
1/22 End of 2nd marking period  
1/26-PTO meeting 7:00PM



Hello Northern Middle School Parents and Guardians

This school year seems to be moving by us at a rapid rate. The end of the first marking period has officially come upon us and we're now heading strong into the holiday seasons. Hopefully everyone will be able to make it out for parent/teacher conferences the week of November 3rd. Constant communication between parents and teachers is critical for student success.

With fall sports now over, it's time to start thinking ahead to our winter sports teams. The middle school is looking forward to successful basketball and wrestling seasons this year. Access to the schedules for both these sports will be available through the athletic department link on the District's main web site once they are finalized. Other events coming up in the near future include the Middle School orchestra and choral concert being held on Tuesday, December 15th at 7:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium and the Middle School band concert being held on Tuesday, December 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Please come out to show your support for the talented students we have in our music program.

As a reminder, parents will need to enter the parking lot near the entrance to the school and circle around the parking lot to line up when picking up their child after school. This makes for a more efficient pick up process and keeps all of our students safe. We ask that all parents use the drop off circle in the morning, curb-side. We realize that traffic may get congested but the safety of our children must be first and foremost.

The middle school is still participating in the Giant Rewards Program. We encourage families to sign up for this program. This is an easy way for you to support the school without doing individual fundraising. One percent of your total purchases can be donated back to the school. You are able to designate up to two schools, so if you have already designated your card for one school it's not too late. Just go to [www.GiantAplus.com](http://www.GiantAplus.com) and use the school code 21032. Designating your card will not affect your gas rewards points in any way.

Once again our "PAWS" program has been introduced to our students this year. This program rewards students for positive behaviors seen throughout the day. Each teacher is given two paws to hand out to random students who show positive behaviors. These paws then go into a fish bowl to be randomly picked for great prizes. There are signs displayed all over the school describing the types of behaviors we expect from our students at Northern.

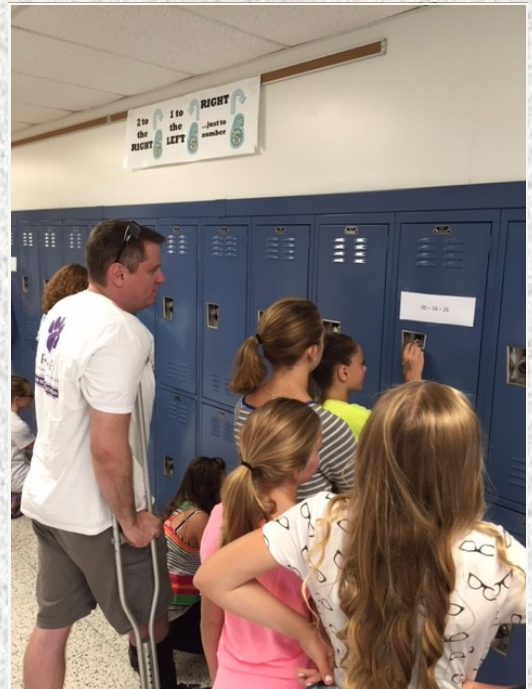
Finally, November is the month to celebrate American Education. We as Americans are fortunate to have a system where all children have the privilege of receiving a free education. With the school and parents working together for students to be successful, their education will become a valuable asset for them to reach their highest potential.

Mrs. Sylvia Murray  
Principal

Mr. Troy Sauer  
Assistant Principal

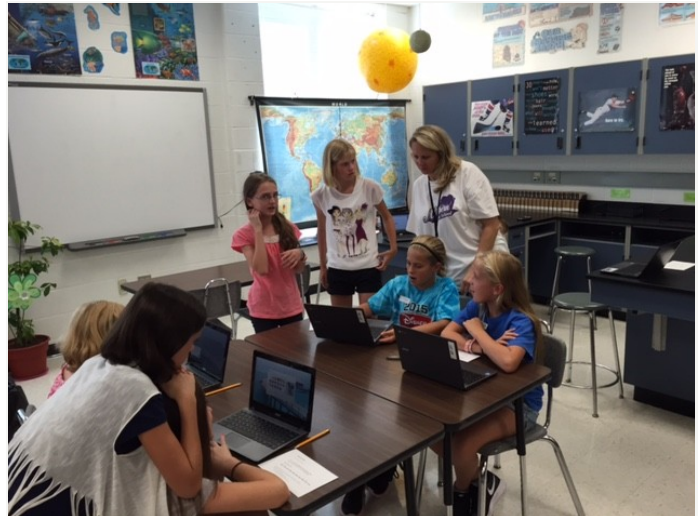
# 6TH GRADE TRANSITION PROGRAM

On August 19, incoming 6th graders participated in a transition program for Northern Middle School. As part of the program, students rotated through stations including team building, art project, locker practice, Chromebook training, and a carnival. They also ate dinner in the cafeteria and learned about all the activities that they can participate in while being a student at the middle school. At the end of the program, 6th graders met their parents and provided them with a tour of the building. This event would not have been possible without the generosity of the South Mountain Elementary PTO, Northern Middle School PTO, Polar Bear Foundation, student-leaders, and teacher volunteers.

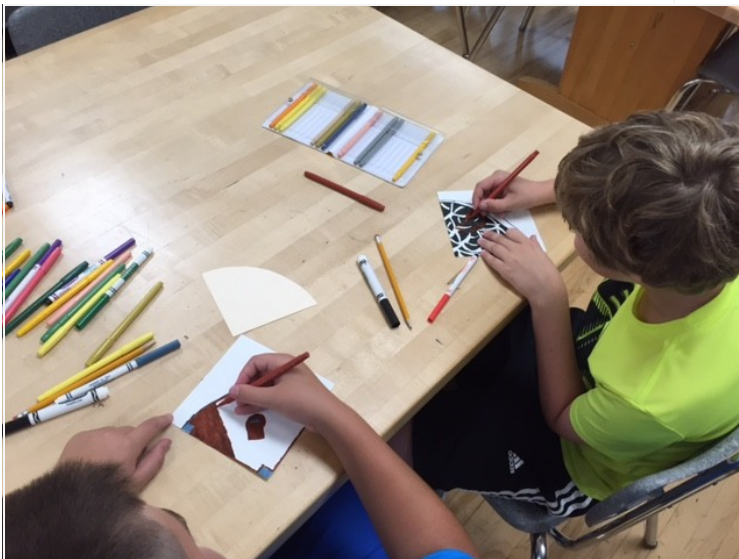




# 6th grade rocks



## 6th Grade Transition



# Getting ready for 6th grade!

# 6th Grade Happenings<sup>T</sup>

The 6th grade students are off to a great start this year. The students are settled into the middle school routine and working hard.

The students recently went through an interview process as a part of the Junior Achievement BizTown curriculum. They are training for their jobs and the unit will culminate with the students running the city of BizTown for a day. The 6 Purple team's trip to JA BizTown was October 27<sup>th</sup>, and the 6 White team's trip was October 28<sup>th</sup>.

Math students have been learning about representing numbers in different forms and performing our operations with the different types of numbers.

Science students saved Fred and launched into their space unit. The stars aligned and they were lucky enough to have had a lunar eclipse during the unit.

English students have been learning about writing effectively. They spent a day eating apples and visiting with "Olive" the goat to learn about writing using their senses. They are wrapping up their 6 Traits of Writing Unit.

6th grade readers have been living off the land and honing their survival skills while reading Gary Paulsen's novel Hatchet. Brian's adventure in the wilderness will soon come to an end. Will he survive?

In looking ahead, conference times for the second week of November will soon be posted. If you are concerned about your student's transition to the middle school, please sign-up for a conference with your student's team and discuss your concerns.



# 6th Grade Snapshots

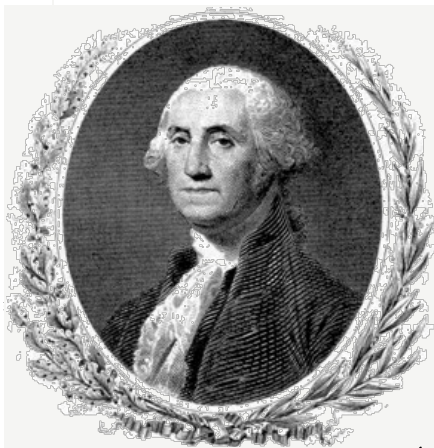


Learning with Olive!



## 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES

...started the year by discussing how Americans developed the American identity. Various topics included the social classes in colonial America, how our representative government came to be, and this guy from Virginia who is said to have started the French and Indian War. We have utilized out chromebooks in our classrooms and have altered our This or That project to include more technology. Next unit we head to Boston to see what Sam and John Adams are up-set about.



## 7th Grade Math

Northern Middle School 7th grade math students spent class time outside focusing on the 'order of operations'. The activity was set up as a team relay, with help from Assistant Principal, Troy Sauer. As a team, the students were to gather all the parts of an equation and put it together in the proper order as quickly as they could – following the 'order of operations' to get the correct answer.

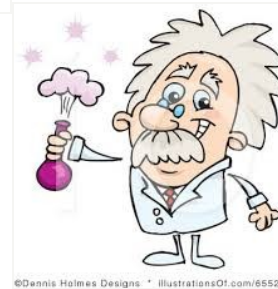
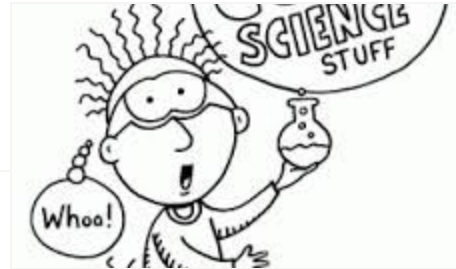




# More 7th Grade News

## Science

In 7th Grade Science, we are in the middle of exploring the smallest unit of all living things: cells. Using microscopes, power-points, and even dramatic representations of mitosis; the students will learn how cells work together to make up every living



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## English

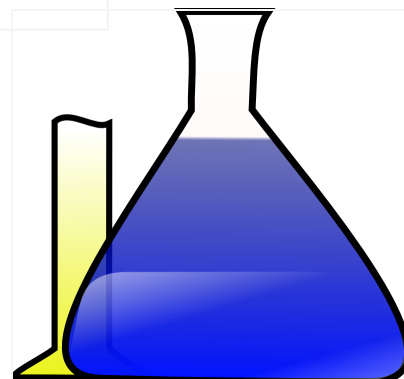
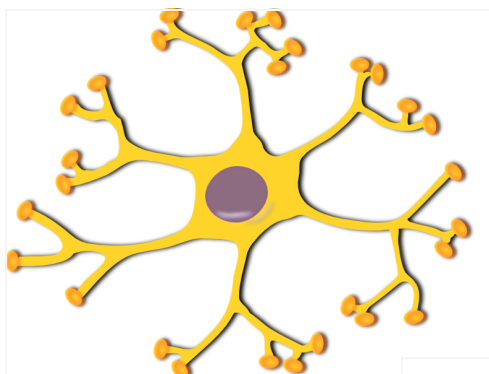
After weeks of intensive sentence combining work, we began our first literary selection of the year-- Rudyard Kipling's "Rikki-tikki-tavi." Delighted by this captivating tale of India's most famous bushy-tailed hero, we are researching animals like the mongoose, tailorbird, krait, muskrat, and king cobra. With Animal Fact Sheets complete, we will create our own animal brochures. Attractive and informative, these brochures will even impress printing professionals like small business owner Thad Eisenhower of TGE Advertising. Setting our brochures and aside, we'll be back for some punctuation review and student-led conferencing (7 White) and persuasive writing (7 Purple) in late October. During conferences, students will be showcasing their first marking period work. Just wait until you see those animal brochures!

## 8th Grade Science Class

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade science classes are off to a great start as students get used to working in the laboratory. The year began with the idea that everything in the Universe is either matter or energy. We are examining the properties of matter through hands on activities. Our first project was to grow alum crystals, which we then compared to the amorphous solid "Gluep."

After working to understand the structure of two types of solids, we moved on to liquid behaviors. Studying liquid viscosity, cohesion, adhesion and density kept us busy for quite a while, and students have a comprehensive knowledge of how liquids and solids differ. Pascal's Law helped guide us as we built hydraulic arms in the lab, and students had a high success rate for getting their arms to grasp and lift Styrofoam spheres.

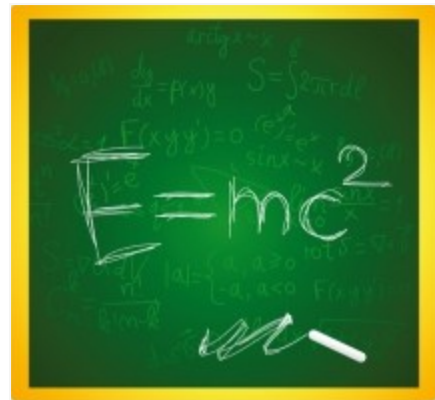
Next up, we move to the laws that govern the behavior of gases. Students will explore Boyle's Law, Charles' Law, and Bernoulli's Principle to examine the properties of the air around us. There are many interesting activities for students to participate in, and we are only getting started!





## 8th Grade Math News

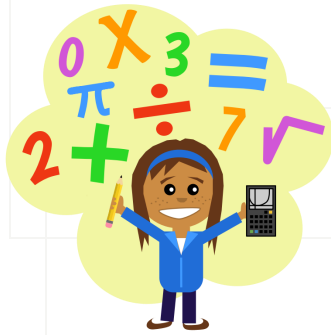
The 8<sup>th</sup> grade math classes have been off to a great start for the year. Most of the classes have been working through solving equations. Both Mr. Tolan (white team) and Mr. Neiderer (purple team) have the pleasure of working with a student teacher this fall. Miss Edelman is a teacher candidate from Messiah College who is working with Mr. Neiderer in a co-teaching style classroom. She will be working with Mr. Neiderer through December as part of her student teaching. Mr. Bee is a student teacher from Shippensburg University who is working with Mr. Tolan. Both Miss Edelman and Mr. Bee are excited to be here and eager to work with the students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade.



**Math is fun!**

## 8th Grade Reading classes

Our students have been transformed into agents in our Reading Agency, "Northern York County Investigative Services." Students will work toward earning a detective badge while studying different strategies to identify, understand and use context clues. Our classroom has included Blended Learning stations of "Private Investigators," "Street Team Agents," and "Briefing Room Agents." We've labeled crime scenes with unfamiliar words and evidence. We've assigned private investigations to students with special expertise in a certain area of study. The goal for this unit is to accommodate the needs and interests of every student, while having an engaging and fun lesson.



## MATH-A-THON

Throughout the months of October and November, the students throughout the middle school will have the opportunity to participate in the Math-A-Thon to help raise money for St. Jude's Research Hospital. Students receive donations from sponsors and complete a Math-A-Thon booklet. This is great way for students to give back to the community. If you have any questions, please contact 8 purple team math teacher, Mr. Neiderer.

(aneiderer@ncysd.k12.pa.us)





## NMS Creative Studies

### Health Class-

Kohl's Cares has awarded Geisinger's Janet Weis Children's Hospital grant monies to provide educational presentations at no cost, encouraging good health practices to all school age students. Community educators and nurses from Geisinger have developed programs on health-related topics such as nutrition, drug prevention, and daily healthy living.

Nurses from Geisinger presented information and engaged all NMS health classes on October 14, 2015 in an interactive lesson by demonstrating the effects of eating large quantities of salt, sugar, and fat, limiting caffeine, and including physical activity in their daily living. Students measured their BMI, played Wiis Just Dance, and Wii Fit!



# NMS Guidance Department Information

The Middle School Counselors are excited about the new happenings through the department. Getting program information out to parents at Back-To-School Night, informing and involving staff on the career activities planned for students, and looking for parents who are interested in volunteering to talk to our students about their jobs. The School Counselors are always excited to work with students in the academic, personal/social, and career areas.





## NMS BAND NEWS

On Saturday October 10<sup>th</sup> over 100 members of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade bands performed as part of the Northern Lights band competition, held at Bostie field. The bands played the Star-Spangled banner, followed by 'So Proudly We Hail', a patriotic march.



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Band President Greg Valdez, receiving a trophy on behalf of the middle school bands.

The following week, members of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade band marched in the 100<sup>th</sup> annual Farmer's Fair children's parade!





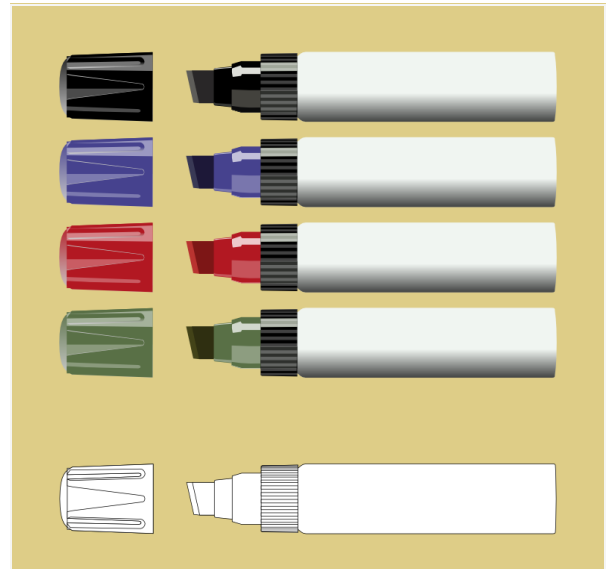
## Recycle your Old, Dried Markers

Since last school year, Northern has collected over 500 markers! The markers are sent to a facility where they will be converted into clean fuel. This fuel can be used to power vehicles, heat homes, cook meals and more! Our box of markers will make about 2 gallons of fuel, and we are well on our way of making more! The great piece of this project is there is no cost to us here at the District. Crayola even pays for the shipping!

**Please keep the markers coming!** They can be dry erase, highlighters and ANY BRAND of markers. Check with your child's Art Teacher or building Secretary for a collection box or feel free to drop them off at the Middle School.

Thank you for helping to Recycle!

Melanie Carroll  
Art Teacher  
Northern Middle School



# October Awards

## 6P-Student of the Month

Karlzy Thomas

Josh Cook

## 6W-Student of the Month

Ellie Stiffler

Kolby Ritter

## 7P-Student of the Month

Emma Rosenstiel

Ryan Allen

## 7 W-Student of the Month

Haydn Paxton

Connor Zody

## 8P-Student of the Month

Elise Walker

Logan Staub

## 8W-Student of the Month

Meredith Engle

Jackson Siegel





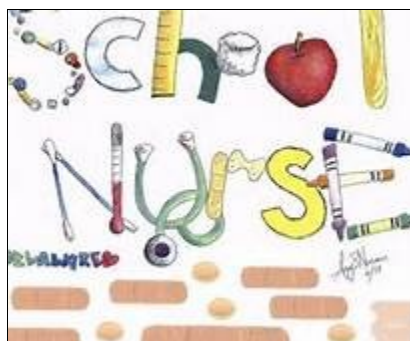
## **Nurse Notes: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Please Note Immunization Requirements Effective This School Year—See The Department of Health Flier Below**

The Body Mass Index (BMI) for Age percentile will be calculated for all middle school students as part of the mandatory screening program implemented by the state. By the end of the first marking period, NMS students will have had their BMI's calculated and the information sent home in the first report card with a letter of explanation. If, at any time, you have questions regarding your child's growth, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Parents of all **6th grade** students are reminded that Pennsylvania state law mandates that a physical examination be completed during the 2015-2016 school year. Please complete all private exams and return them to the nurse before January 1, 2016. Physical forms may be obtained by accessing the Middle School web page and going to the health services link. There have been some additions to the mandates regarding immunizations required for starting seventh grade next year. Please refer to the vaccination flier below from the Department of Health.

In November/early December, scoliosis screening will take place for all 7<sup>th</sup> graders during physical education class or in the nurse's office. A letter about scoliosis will be going home about two weeks prior to the checks taking place. Sixth graders usually have this check completed as part of their physical exam and therefore generally do not need to have it repeated at school. However, if a sixth grade student does not have a physical exam completed, a scoliosis check will be done by the school nurse later in the school year.

**7th grade** students are reminded that they need to have a dental examination in order to comply with state mandates. Please have your dentist sign the form and return it to the school nurse by January 1, 2016. This form may be accessed by going to the Middle School web page and clicking on the health services link. In the first report card, you will receive a copy of the request for the dentist report, along with information about the Mobile Dentist. The Mobile Dentist will be coming to the Middle School on February 29, 2016 and may be used to meet the 7<sup>th</sup> grade dental exam mandate.





# ATTENTION PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

## DON'T WAIT! VACCINATE NOW!

FOR ATTENDANCE IN ALL GRADES children need the following:



- 4 doses of tetanus\*  
(1 dose on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday)
- 4 doses of diphtheria\*  
(1 dose on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday)
- 3 doses of polio
- 2 doses of measles\*\*
- 2 doses of mumps\*\*
- 1 dose of rubella (German measles)\*\*
- 3 doses of hepatitis B
- 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine or history of disease

*\*Usually given as DTP or DTaP or DT or Td*

*\*\*Usually given as MMR*

### Children ATTENDING 7<sup>th</sup> grade need the following:

- 1 dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap)[if 5 years has elapsed since last tetanus immunization]
- 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV)

**These requirements allow exemptions for medical reasons, religious beliefs, and philosophical/strong moral, ethical conviction beliefs.** If your child is exempt from immunizations, he/she may be removed from school during an out-break.

Pennsylvania's school immunization requirements can be found in 28 PA.CODE CH.23 (School Immunization)

**Contact your health care provider or 1-877 PA HEALTH**

## 24-Hour Fever-Free Guidelines



If your child has been running a fever of 100 degrees or over, he/she should not attend school. Health care professionals recommend that your child be fever-free for at least 24-hours (**without the use of medications like Tylenol or Advil**) before returning to school. If your child has had antibiotics administered, the student must have received a minimum of 24 hours" worth of antibiotics and be fever-free before returning to school.

Please notify the school when your child is home ill. Absences should be reported to the *Absentee Verification Program* by calling 432-8691 and accessing your child" s school extension as follows:



High School: X 5552

Middle School: X 5553

Dillsburg Elem: X 5554

Northern Elem: X 5555

Wellsville Elem: X 5556

South Mt. Elem: X 5557



# Constitution Week

During the week of September 14<sup>th</sup> Northern Middle School celebrated Constitution Week. Each day the students heard a Constitution Fun Fact on the announcements and were asked a Constitution trivia question. On Thursday the entire school dressed in red, white and blue to celebrate the actual birthday of our Constitution. Mr. Elliott's homeroom won the contest to see how many students dressed up that day. When the week was concluded thirteen students had answered all five trivia questions correctly and will be awarded a pizza party next week. Congratulations to all the students who participated in this celebrating the birth of our nation.









# SPIRIT WEEK

Lazy Day



# Spirit Week

TWIN DAY





# Twin Day Continued!



# Spirit Week

## Back to the Future





# SPIRIT WEEK

## Throwback Thursday

