

Welcome, Parents & Guardians,
to our
2023-24 School Year!



We are the Body of Christ.



Prayer for a New School Year

**Dear Lord, please give our children
a thirst for knowledge, wisdom, and understanding.
May they be ready to learn this year,
at home, school, and church.
Please guide them in knowing that they are
*Called to be Christ to One Another.***

Amen.



Communication

Here is the best way to reach us:

- Please send us emails using our SMS email addresses.
- On weekdays, please allow up to 24 hours for us to respond to you.

Homeroom Teachers-

Mrs. Goerge -	6A: rgoerge@stmatthiasnj.org
Mrs. Vattelana -	6B: dvattelana@stmatthiasnj.org
Mr. Igneri -	7A: clgneri@stmatthiasnj.org
Mrs. Chorazak -	7B: pchorazak@stmatthiasnj.org
Mr. Garlatti -	8A: pgarlatti@stmatthiasnj.org
Mrs. Bellouny -	8B: sbellouny@stmatthiasnj.org



- **Classwork** and **Homework** will be assigned during class periods. Students will be given adequate time to copy the daily assignments.
(Please make sure your child uses the planner provided by SMS to keep track of their schoolwork.)
- **Posting of Assignments:** Homework will be posted on Google Classroom.
- **Submitting Assignments:** Google Classroom will be used to submit most assignments electronically. Math may be a paper copy with student work shown. **ELA, Science, and Social Studies** may require both typed (*electronic*) and handwritten (*paper*) assignments.



- Parents are responsible for accessing **PowerSchool** (online gradebook) to check on completed assignments/grades.
- Homework is assigned as a reinforcement of the concepts taught in class and, additionally, it is an opportunity for parent/child to connect over the lessons learned.

Chromebooks

- In order to complete classwork, students must bring their Chromebook each day.
- Each time a student leaves their Chromebook at home, they will be on the line during recess for five minutes.
- After three days, students will receive an infraction for leaving their Chromebook at home.





Grading



- Grades will be posted on PowerSchool within 2 days of a quiz or test and no more than 5 days for written reports or projects.
- Students will be given a minimum of 3 days notice prior to a quiz or test.
- Students have 3 days to complete a late assignment. *After 3 days late, it will be an automatic 55%.* If a student hands in an assignment after the 3 day period, the “missing” may be removed from PowerSchool, but the “late” and a grade of 55% will stay.
- As a reminder, a student will not be eligible for honor roll if they have one missing and/or three late assignments.
- **Academic Integrity:** Any student caught cheating (including the use of Chat GPT, etc.) or helping someone cheat will receive a 55%.

Grading

Religion	ELA	Math	Science	Social Studies
Tests: 50%	Tests: 35%	Tests: 40%	Tests & Projects: 40%	Tests/Projects: 40%
Quizzes/ Projects: 35%	Quizzes: 20%	Quizzes: 30%	Classwork & Quizzes: 35%	Quizzes: 25%
Classwork: 15%	Classwork: 20%	Classwork: 20%	Labs: 25%	Classwork: 35%
	Projects (including written papers): 25%	Projects: 10%		

Our Expectations

Student/Teacher Contracts of Expected Behaviors in Middle School were distributed to your children. Please sign & return the final page of the form as soon as possible.

At dismissal, parents picking up students by car please go to the back parking lot.

The front of the school is for walkers.



Middle School Student Schedules

Period	8A	8B	7A	7B	6A	6B
1) 8:10-8:50 2) 8:52-9:32	Algebra G ELA 8 Acc	Algebra G ELA 8 Acc	Pre-Algebra G ELA 7 Acc	Pre-Algebra G ELA 7 Acc	SS (A Days) Sci (B Days)	Sci (A Days) SS (B Days)
3) 9:34-10:14	Religion M, Art T, Music W, Tech Th, STEM F	Art M, Tech T, STEM W, Religion Th, Music F	Gym M, Music T, Religion W/Th, Tech F	Tech M, Religion T/W, STEM Th, Gym F	Religion M/F, STEM T, Art W, Gym Th	Religion M/F, Gym T, Tech W, Music Th
4) 10:16-10:56 5) 10:58-11:38	ELA 8G Algebra 8 Acc	ELA 8G Algebra 8 cc	SS (A days) Sci (B days)	Sci (A days) SS(B days)	ELA 6 Acc Math 6 Gen	ELA 6 Acc Math 6 Gen
6) 11:40-12:20	Lunch/Rece ss	Lunch/Rece ss	Lunch/Rece ss	Lunch/Rece ss	Lunch/Rece ss	Lunch/Rece ss
7) 12:22-1:02 8) 1:04-1:44	SS (A days) Sci (B days)	Sci (A days) SS(B days)	Pre-Algebra Acc ELA G	Pre-Algebra Acc ELA G	ELA 6 Gen Math 6 Acc	ELA 6 Gen Math 6 Acc

*World Language/Rosetta Stone is a 25 minute Block once a week on Friday during the Religion Period. If Friday is a half day, choose another day that week to have WL.

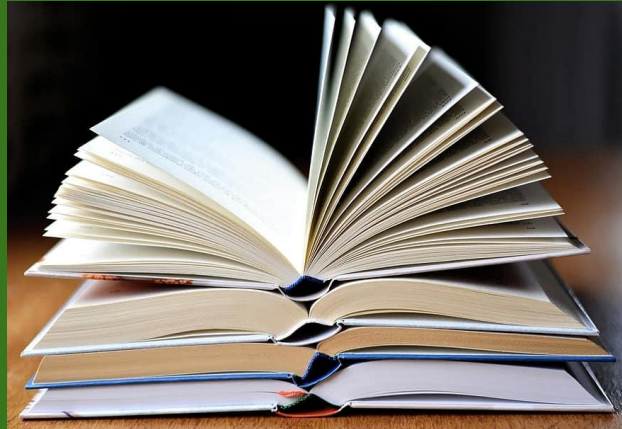
Middle School Specials

<p>8A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday = Gym (9) Tuesday= Art (3) Wednesday= Music (3) Thursday= Technology (3) Friday=STEM (3) 	<p>7A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday = Gym (3) Tuesday= Music (3) Wednesday= Art (9) Thursday= STEM (9) Friday= Technology(3) 	<p>6A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday = Technology(9) Tuesday= STEM (3) Wednesday= Art(3) Thursday= Gym (3) Friday= Music (9)
<p>8B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday = Art (3) Tuesday= Technology(3) Wednesday= STEM (3) Thursday= Gym(9) Friday= Music (3) 	<p>7B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday = Technology (3) Tuesday= Art(9) Wednesday= Music(9) Thursday= STEM(3) Friday= Gym (3) 	<p>6B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday = Art (9) Tuesday= Gym(3) Wednesday= Technology(3) Thursday= Music (3) Friday= STEM (9)

ELA: English Language Arts

Mrs. Bellouny- Grades 6 & 7

Mrs. Goerge- Grades 7 & 8



ELA: English Language Arts

- ★ **Required Textbooks:** *Sadlier's Vocabulary Workshop & Grammar for Writing*
- ★ Students are responsible for maintaining the following materials-
 - Reading Notebook
 - Grammar Notebook
 - ELA Handouts/Writing Folder
- ★ Each day, students should come prepared with their novel, independent reading book, vocabulary workbook, grammar workbook, reading notebook, grammar notebook, and ELA folder.
- ★ Students are expected to complete homework assigned on Google Classroom as well as required **IXL Skills** and **ReadWorks/CommonLit Articles**

ELA: English Language Arts

Reading

- Implementation of Reader's Workshop strategies. Teacher-led instruction followed by group and independent student work and small group instruction.
 - Students will explore a variety of short stories, nonfiction articles, and novels.
 - Students will be responsible for completing assignments related to the readings.
 - At the conclusion of a novel, story or article, there will be a test.
- Students will be required to have an independent book with them each day.
 - Students will complete a monthly book project.
 - Assignment expectations for the project will be given in class.
 - Students must have their monthly book approved by the teacher to ensure it is within an appropriate Lexile range.

ELA: English Language Arts

Writing

- Genres: Narrative, Argumentative, Expository, etc.
 - Students will be provided with a rubric on the first day of a new writing assignment.
 - Students will follow the Writing Process (brainstorming/pre-writing, rough draft writing, revision, editing, final publishing).
 - One multi-page research paper will be written at the end of the school year.

Grammar

- Students will be responsible for maintaining an notebook, which will become a wonderful reference tool as the year progresses.
- Students will also use *Grammar for Writing*
- A quiz will be given at conclusion of each topic.

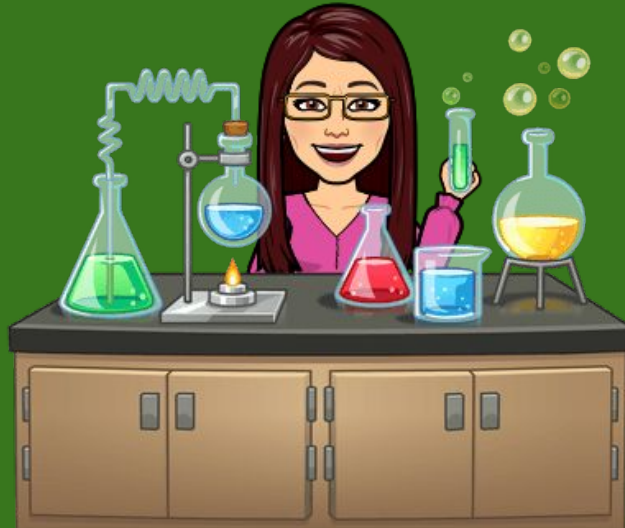
ELA: English Language Arts

Vocabulary

- Students will be given new vocabulary words every two weeks.
 - Vocabulary words will be taken from *Sadlier's Vocabulary Workshop*.
 - Level A= Grade 6
 - Level B= Grade 7
 - Level C= Grade 8
 - Students will be responsible for completing activities from a choice menu.
 - There will be a quiz on vocabulary words every two weeks. Students must be able to recall the definition of the given set of words. Students may also be assessed on proper spelling, part of speech, and synonym/antonym.

Science

Mrs. Vattelana- Grades 6, 7, 8



Science - 6, 7 & 8

Course Overview

6th Grade Science: Exploring Life, Exploring Earth, Understanding Matter, Understanding Energy, STEM Activities

7th Grade Science: Life Structure & Function; Life Changes & Interactions, Energy & Matter, Exploring the Universe; STEM Activities

8th Grade Science: Interactions of Matter, Motion & Energy, Earth & Geological Changes, Exploring Ecology; STEM Activities

Required Text

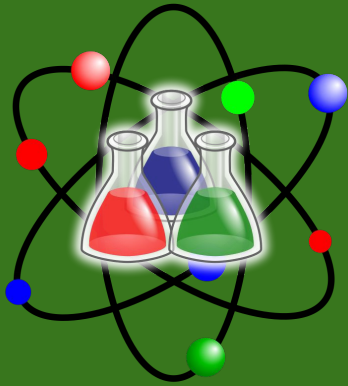
6th Grade Science: *Integrated Science Course 1*, Glencoe

7th Grade Science: *Integrated Science Course 2*, Glencoe

8th Grade Science: *Integrated Science Course 3*, Glencoe

Course Materials:

1, One Subject Composition Notebook, Chromebook, *Please See Middle School Supply List*



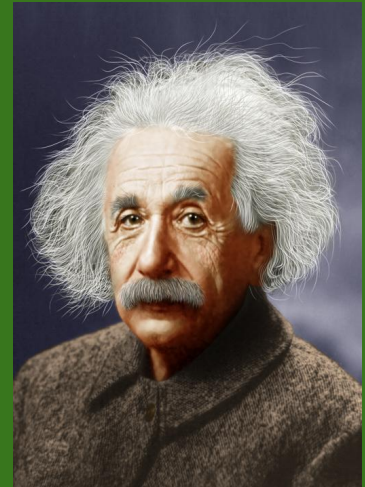
Science - 6, 7 & 8

Middle School Science Fair Project

April 18, 2024

Set Up: 5:10- 5:50
Fair: 6:00- 8:00
Clean up: 8:00- 8:30

Student Packets-
going home soon!



Social Studies

Mr. Igneri - Grades 6, 7, 8



Social Studies - Grades 6, 7 & 8

Mr. Igneri

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Gr. 6: Social Studies - *Required Text:* **World Civilizations** Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Gr. 7: Social Studies - *Required Text:* **United States History: Beginnings to 1914**, Holt McDougal

Gr. 8: Social Studies / Civics *Required Text:* **United States History: Civil War to Present**, Holt McDougal

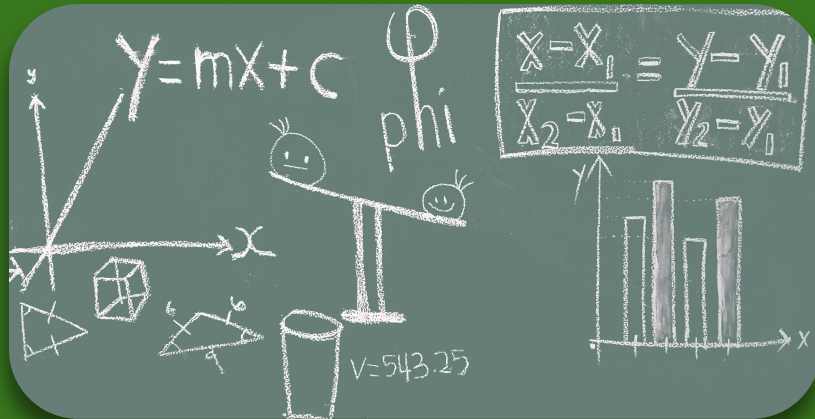
Social studies education provides students with the knowledge, skills, and perspectives needed to become active, informed citizens and contributing members of local, state, national, and global communities in the digital age.

New Jersey social studies students develop an increased depth of understanding of our global society. At the same time, their understanding of the fundamental principles and values of American democracy and citizenship provides the conceptual framework that allows them to make informed decisions about local, national, and international issues and challenges.

Civics Education enables students to learn the ways in which Americans' participation in civic life is essential to sustaining our democratic form of government.

Mathematics

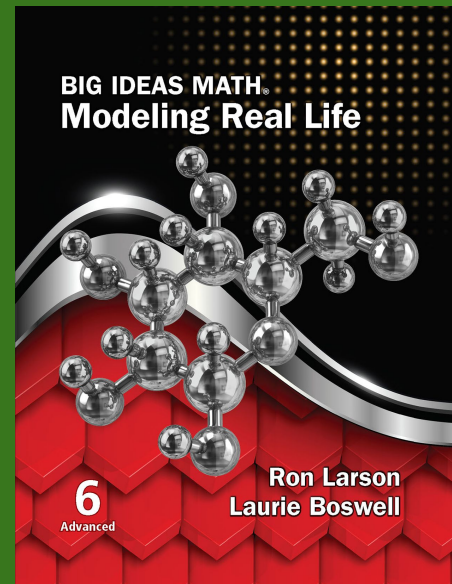
Mrs. Chorazak- Grades 6 & 7
Mr. Garlatti - Grades 7 & 8



Grade 6 Mathematics - Mrs. Chorazak 7B

6 General & 6 Accelerated Math Required Text: Big Ideas Math *Modeling Real Life* 6 Advanced

- **Course Overview:** New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Mathematics Grade 6
 - Number Systems and Operations (Introduction to integers, review of rational numbers-decimals and fractions)
 - Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities
 - Ratios and Proportional Reasoning
 - Geometry
 - Data Collection and Analysis (statistics)
- **Educational Websites** - Extra practice and supplemental materials (IXL, Khan Academy)

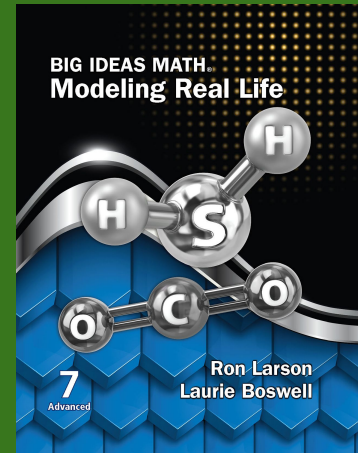


All of the homework assignments are only available in Google Classroom.

7th Grade Math

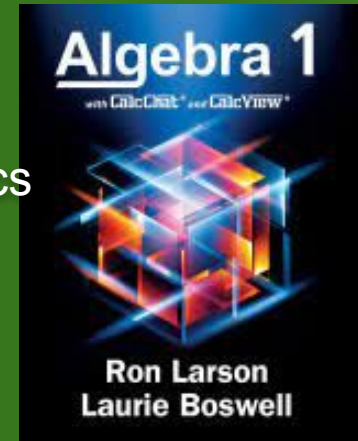
- Review previous materials, particularly material from 6th grade
- Prepare students for Algebra
 - Solving Multi-Step Equations
 - Percent, Percent Change, Ratios
 - Number Theory & Exponents
- Foundational Class

$(x+5)(x+8)$
 $x = -5, -8$
 $3x^2 + 9x - 2 = 0$
 $x = \frac{-9 \pm \sqrt{9^2 - 4 \times 3 \times (-2)}}{2 \times 3}$
 $= \frac{-9 \pm \sqrt{105}}{6}$



8th Grade Math

- Review and refresh students' Pre Algebra knowledge
- Prepare students for High School and College level mathematics
 - Slope, Linear Equations, Graphing on Coordinate Plane
 - Multi-Step and Two Variable Equations
 - Exponent Rules, Quadratics, & Solving Quadratic Equations
- Independent students who are able to find their mistakes and correct them!



Garlatti

Big Ideas Math *Modeling Real Algebra 1*

- Calculators: Scientific or Graphing*
- **Daily Assignments** - Will be assigned with the expectation that it will be done and submitted by the end of the week. This is to encourage planning and time management.
- **Educational Websites** - Extra practice and supplemental materials (Khan Academy, IXL)
- Please email me if you have specific questions about the topics we will cover.

Religion: Homeroom



Required Text:

- 6th Grade: Christ Our Life: God Calls a People. Loyola Press, 2016
- 7th Grade: Christ Our Life: Jesus the Way, the Truth, and the Life
- 8th Grade: Christ Our Life: The Church Then and Now

Additional Resources:

- Theology of the Body
- Good God Choices (character development)

Thank you for joining us today!

May God bless you and your families.

