

Middle School NIEWS

~ 2025-2026, Issue 1 ~

Upcoming Events and Information

October 3 8th Grade Career Connections Day (Owens CC) & 7th Grade Iowa Testing Day

October 13 No School for Students - Teacher Professional Day

October 20 Final Picture Day - Retake Opportunity

October 31 End of the First Quarter

November 11 Veterans Day and Veterans Day Assembly

November 13 No School for Students - Parent/Teacher & Student Conferences, All Day

November 18 & 20 Parent/Teacher & Student Conferences

LANGUAGE ARTS

6th Grade:

ELA: Daily vocabulary word with a quiz on Fridays to show correct usage of the words. Daily Grammar with a weekly quiz. NoRedInk will be used for writing and additional grammar skills. We have read aloud along with reading groups throughout the week.

7th Grade:

English: Study for Grammar Quiz each week! Study games are posted on Tuesdays.

Reading: Completed Book talks (300 pages) will start **Oct. 28th**

We will be starting *Freak the Mighty* soon. Check NoRedInk, binders, and Google Classroom for homework.

8th Grade

- English: Learning step-by-step process of essay writing; using No Red Ink for grammar Mon. lesson, practice due Thurs. by 3 PM, quiz on FRI.
- **Reading:** Reading *Hatchet* by Gary Paulson, with novel activities and reading skills work
- Independent Reading: All Reading classes

Book Talks = Oct. 27, book finished, 350 or > pages

MATH

MATH 6:

- Comparing/Ordering Fractions & Decimals
- Multiply & Divide Fractions
- We will have our Chapter 2 Assessment early next week

MATH 7:

- Add, subtract, multiply, & divide positive and negative numbers without a calculator. This is an essential skill to learn for future math classes.
- We will start our 3rd module shortly and finally be able to use our calculators for decimal and fraction operations.

PREALG 8:

- We have been learning about rational and irrational numbers.
- Students have learned some new buttons on their calculators and done a lot of calculations to help us order all kinds of numbers such as square roots and cube roots
- We will be doing more with exponents and scientific notation in the next module.

BOTH 7TH & 8TH GRADE MATH

*Each module has Freckle skills students must complete for homework. These need to be redone until at least an 80% is reached.

* After every quiz students may choose to redo a quiz for a better grade. The goal of this is for them to learn from their mistakes.

Weekly Agendas & Freckle skills can be found on Google Classroom





6th Period "Study Hall" Information



Many students have a **sixth period listed as a "study hall**," but this is not a traditional study hall where students simply work on homework. Instead, we are using this time as a **Lab Skills** class designed to support student growth in purposeful ways. Some students work in small groups with the Math and English teachers to strengthen key skills, while others take part in enrichment opportunities such as sustained silent reading, strategy games that build problem-solving skills, or activities that encourage creativity and teamwork. We also look forward to opportunities like visiting the local Arlington library and engaging in community outreach. Because students already have **academic assist** time during ninth period, which functions as a more traditional study hall, we feel it is more beneficial to use **sixth period for targeted practice and enrichment**. Most middle school students do not need two full class periods of study hall each day, and guided Lab Skills time helps them grow academically, socially, and emotionally.

SCIENCE



6th Grade Science:

Scientific Method lab Beginning study of soil

7th Grade Science:

Exploring the wonders of science through Experimental Design & Measurement Quizzes are scheduled nearly every Friday

8th Grade Science:

Learning how to read and understand
Topographic Maps & Layers of the Earth
Quizzes are scheduled nearly every Friday

7th/8th Grade: Check Google Classroom for schedule, review games, notes, and more! - Great for absences!

SOCIAL STUDIES



History 6:

We have started learning about the development of human societies. That will lead us into learning about early civilizations.

History 7:

We are currently in our Ancient Greece unit. Students are learning about the legacy of the Greeks by investigating their culture.

History 8:

We are currently in our unit over colonial America. Specifically, we are learning about the origin of British-American colonies and their cultures.

Check your child's Google Classroom for weekly updates.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on **November 13, 18, and 20.** Conferences are team-based and student-led, so it is **important that students attend** with their families. Because time is limited, teachers will prioritize students who may benefit most from a conference. If your student is selected, you will be contacted in October. Families who do not receive communication are not required to schedule, but are welcome to sign up through the office **in November**.

Introducing... HOUSE SYSTEM and ARLINGTON EIGH

At Arlington Middle School, we are excited to introduce our new **House System** as a way to build community, encourage positive behavior, and celebrate our school values. On Draft Day, every student was randomly placed into one of four Houses—Spades, Hearts, Clubs, or Diamonds—each representing qualities like hard work, compassion, growth, and courage. Think of it like a mix between the NBA/NFL Draft and the Harry Potter "sorting hat"—only ours is completely random, making it fun and fair for all students! Throughout the year, students will work together with their houses to earn points and recognition for showing the Arlington Eight: **RED PRIDE**, **R**espect, **E**xcel, **D**ignity, **P**ositivity, **R**esponsibility, **I**ntegrity, **D**iscipline, and **E**mpowerment. These guiding principles will be woven into daily life at Arlington, helping our students grow as learners and leaders. We believe the House System will create stronger connections among students and staff while making school spirit and character education come alive!

