



Sauganash Elementary School

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Christine Munns, Principal

Sean Kennedy, Assistant Principal

Dear Eighth Grade Parents,

September 4, 2024

“A Day as a Sauganash 8th Grader”

8:00 - 8:10 am - **School arrival and morning announcements. Homeroom.**

8:10 - 9:05 am- **Math (Mrs. French & Ms. Ryan) or ELA/Reading (Mrs. Carroll & Ms. Ryan)**

Math and ELA classes have students grouped homogeneously according to math levels

- **ELA/Reading:** In 8th grade, students will continue to deepen their ability to comprehend and analyze a variety of genres and texts. They will be asked to cite text evidence to support their analyses. They will examine and annotate texts closely using details from the text in order to develop ideas, make inferences, and analyze the relationships between elements within one text and synthesize information across multiple texts. Students will work with vocabulary through word study using morphology and etymology to learn words that have Latin and Greek roots. 8th graders will be encouraged to develop their speaking and communicating through ample opportunities for small group and class discussion/debates. Several units will correspond to Social Studies content and topics.
- **MATH:** In 8th Grade Math, the students will study Algebra 1 extensively. Students will learn how to solve word problems algebraically, solve systems of equations, graph quadratic equations, and interpret the meaning of linear and nonlinear equations. On a daily basis, students will apply their knowledge and sharpen their skills in the areas of Geometry, Probability, and Statistics. Students will work independently in both small and whole groups as they develop their Algebra skills.

9:05-10:00 am- **ELA/ Reading or Math**

Same course of study although students switch between ELA/Reading and Math.

10:00-11:00 am- **Recess/Lunch**

11:00am-12:00pm- **English Language Arts Writing (Ms. Groulx) or Science (Mr. Chepulis)**

Science and Social Studies classes have students grouped heterogeneously in a random fashion.

- **SCIENCE:** Students actively engage in hands-on, inquiry-based science learning where they explore real-world phenomena, collaborate on investigations, and develop the everyday skills that scientists use through problem-solving activities and discussions. Covered topics include Physics, Earth/Space, and Biology. Students will study Contact Forces, Sound Waves, Forces at a Distance, Earth in Space, Genetics, and Biodiversity.
- **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS WRITING:** In ELA/Writing class, students will explore the structures of paragraphs and short essays while building strong grammar and vocabulary skills. They will write poetry, personal narratives, speeches, and letters. ELA/Writing will often integrate materials learned in ELA/Reading, including reading responses during Literature Circles. Additionally, students will practice Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) skills such as emotional regulation, mindfulness, and responsible decision-making.

12:00- 1:00 pm- **Science (Mr. Chepulis) or Civics/Social Science (Mr. Lundak)**

Science and Social Studies classes have students grouped heterogeneously in a random fashion.

- **CIVICS/SOCIAL STUDIES:** In 8th grade Civics/Social Studies students will learn and center on government institutions, have discussions of current and societal issues, service learning, and simulations of democratic processes. The mandated Civics curriculum is the entire first semester. Third quarter we will focus on the mandated unit Reparations Won as well as the civil rights unit The Little Rock Nine. The final quarter will focus on the Holocaust. Integrated into Social Science, students will use the writing process to craft historical fiction, poetry, argumentative essays and other writing pertaining to the historical content.

Same course of study although students switch between ELA/Writing, Science or Civics/Social Science

1:00-2:00 pm - **English Language Arts Writing (Ms. Groulx) or Civics/Social Science (Mr. Lundak)**

Science and Social Studies classes have students grouped heterogeneously in a random fashion.

Same course of study although students switch between ELA/Writing, Science or Civics/Social Science

2:00 - 2:55 pm - **Special Periods- students rotate daily between**

- PE/Health- twice a week (Mr. Zumbahlen)
- Spanish- Once a week (Mr. Schneider)
- Art- Twice a week Quarters 1 and 3 (Ms. Kelly)
- STEM- Twice a week Quarters 2 and 4 (Ms. Askuvich)

2:55 pm - **Dismissal by Specials teachers**