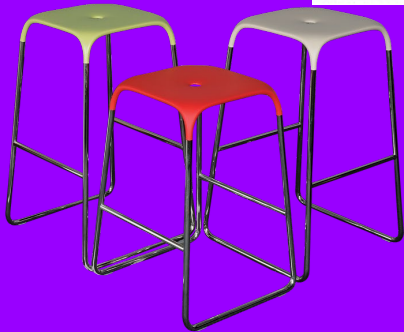


# WELCOME TO 8th Grade



# TEACHER EMAILS:

MR. NEUWIRTH--ANEUWIRTH@BLOOMFIELD.ORG

MRS. SLOAN--JBLAZIS@BLOOMFIELD.ORG

MS. KUCINSKI--LKUCINSKI@BLOOMFIELD.ORG

MR. SUGG--SSUGG@BLOOMFIELD.ORG

MR. WATTERS--HWATTERS@BLOOMFIELD.ORG

MR. PHOU--MPHOU@BLOOMFIELD.ORG

MRS. VIGIER--KVIGIER@BLOOMFIELD.ORG

MR. BIRKHOLZ--KBIRKHOLZ@BLOOMFIELD.ORG

# ADMINISTRATION VIDEO



# UNIFIED ARTS VIDEO

## UNIFIED ARTS



MEET THE TEACHERS!



**Mr.  
Scott  
Sugg**



- **Teacher of American History**
- **35th year teaching**
- **Married for 29 years to Michelle**
- **1 daughter, Sabrina, senior at U of M**
- **1 dog - Captain**
- **Love coaching football, golfing, and reading**
- **Football coach (7th and 8th grade - 18 years coaching HS varsity football)**
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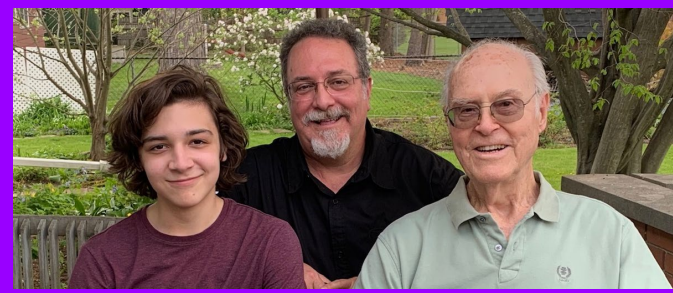
# MR. ALAN NEUWIRTH

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- Loves theater, running, reading, sports, old video games, music
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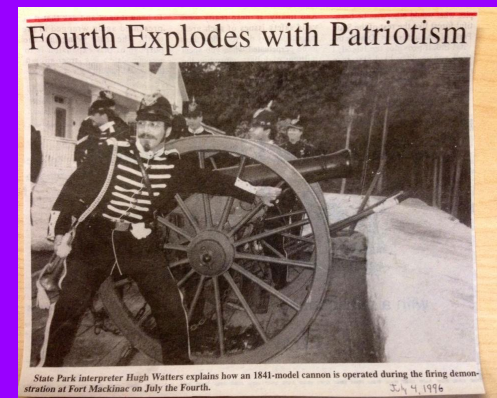


# MR. HUGH WATTERS



I'm the third Hugh in my family.

- Married to Jane (Southfield Art teacher).
- Have 2 kiddos: an MSU Sophomore (Hugh IV) and a Junior at U of M Art School (Abby).
- All the classroom critters are back: Ten species!
- Member of St. Andrew's Society. Learning bagpipes!
- Play trumpet, bodhran, and Irish whistle/flute.
- Science teacher for 25 years (3 in St. Louis, 22 at BHMS).
- Enjoys a good puzzle or mystery...







# MR. MICHAEL PHOU

> Math 8 and Algebra Teacher  
(have taught ELA too)

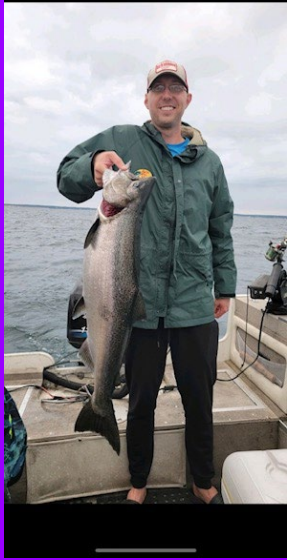
> 8th Year at BHMS, 15th year  
teaching MS

> Lives with wife, Elisabeth  
(Librarian), daughter, Ella  
(Conant-4th Grade), and Mae, the  
doodle

> Hobbies/Interests: Basketball,  
NFL, poetry, soccer, tennis,  
collecting sports cards & vinyl  
records

> 4th generation teacher





# MR. KEVIN BIRKHOLZ

> Algebra and Pre AP Geometry with Stats Teacher (have taught science too)

> 13th year teaching

> Wife Mary Davis teaches at BHHS

> Owner of school therapy dog, Douglas

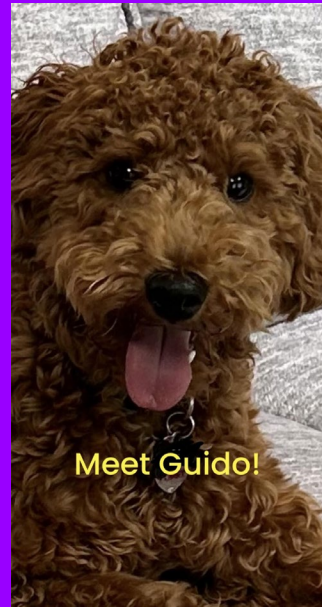
> Dad taught in this building for 33 years

> Enjoy golfing, fishing, and watching sports



# Mrs. Kucinski

- Language & Literature/Science teacher
- 22nd year teaching
- 3 Children (9th, 7th, & 5th grade)
- 3 Pets (2 dogs, 1 cat)
- I love all sports, coaching, reading, exercising, cars, and listening to music
- Forensics coach, Girls 6th softball, Games Club, and Be the Change Club



# MRS. JILL BLAZIS-SLOAN

Teaching - 31st year in education

Colleges: Michigan State BA, University of Colorado MA



Michael- Senior in Finance at GV, musician, traveler and soccer player



Kevin- Graduate of Norwich University in finance, serving as Quartermaster at Schofield base on Oahu. On his way to be a captain in the US Army

Interests: Art, Music, Theatre, Literature, Boating, Nature and NEIL THE SEAL

Leader of Student Senate

Sponsor of Creative Writing, Reading and Drawing Club



# MRS. KRISTEN VIGIER



- 8th grade Science/6th-8th grade Design and Technology
- 23rd year teaching
- 2 Children (9th and 13th @ MSU)
- 2 Pets (Zoey and Bogey)
- I love all sports, cooking, reading, and traveling



# CHROMEBOOKS

Students will receive their district issued Chromebook. They should **ONLY** use district issued Chromebooks while in school.

Students need to make sure their computer is charged each night.



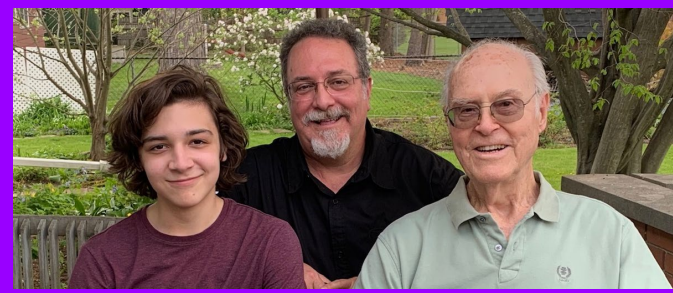


# Science!



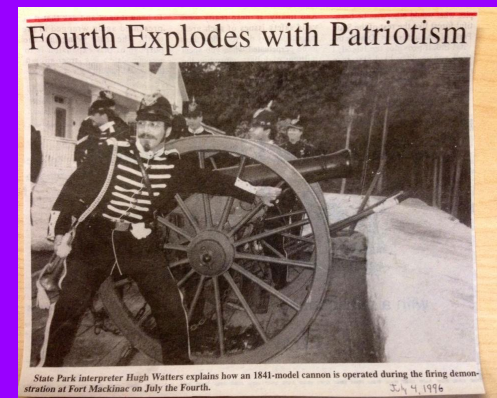


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# New NGSS Curriculum



## Mi-STAR Unit Progression Model (Grades 6-8)

### With NGSS Performance Expectations (PEs) and Unifying Crosscutting Concepts (UCCC)

Mi-STAR is made possible by a grant from the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation. Neither Achieve nor the NGSS lead states and partners were involved in the production of this product.

Grade	1 <sup>st</sup> Semester Units				2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester Units			
UCCC	Systems and system models				Patterns / Cause and effect			
6	6.1 <sup>+</sup> The water cycle  MS-ESS2-4 MS-PS1-4 MS-ETS1-1* (ETS1.A) <sub>W,B</sub>	6.2 <sup>+</sup> Investigating and modeling body systems MS-LS1-1 MS-LS1-2 MS-LS1-3 MS-ETS1-3* (ETS1.B) <sub>P</sub>	6.3 <sup>+</sup> Chemical processes in organism digestion MS-LS1-7 MS-PS1-2 MS-PS1-5 MS-PS1-6 <sub>P</sub>	6.4 <sup>+</sup> Forces and motion MS-PS2-1 MS-PS2-2 MS-ETS1-1* <sub>B</sub>	6.5 <sup>+</sup> Plant growth MS-LS1-5 MS-LS2-1* <sub>F</sub>	6.6 <sup>+</sup> Interactions within ecosystems MS-LS2-1* MS-LS2-2 MS-LS2-4 MS-ETS1-2 <sub>S</sub>	6.7 <sup>+</sup> Cycling of energy and matter through food webs MS-LS1-6 MS-LS2-3 <sub>F</sub>	
	UCCC	Energy and matter				Structure and function		
7	7.1 <sup>+</sup> Creating an energy plan MS-PS2-3 MS-PS3-1 MS-PS3-2 MS-PS3-5 <sub>EE</sub>	7.2 Cycling and use of minerals MS-ESS2-1 MS-ESS2-2 MS-ESS2-3* (ESS2.B) MS-PS1-1* (PS1.A) <sub>ES</sub>	7.3 <sup>+</sup> Moving thermal energy MS-PS3-3 MS-PS3-4 MS-ETS1-4 <sub>B</sub>	7.4 <sup>+</sup> Life cycle of building materials MS-PS1-3 MS-ESS3-1 MS-ESS3-4* (ESS3.C) MS-PS3-3* (PS3.A,B) <sub>EE</sub>	7.5 How humans affect plant/animal reproduction MS-LS1-4 MS-ESS3-3 <sub>S</sub>	7.6 Genetics and agriculture MS-LS1-5* (LS1.B) MS-LS3-1 MS-LS3-2 MS-LS4-5 <sub>F</sub>	7.7 Water chemistry and quality MS-PS1-1 MS-ESS2-2* (ESS2.C) MS-ESS3-1* (ESS3.A) <sub>P</sub>	7.8 Maintaining ecosystem services MS-LS2-5 MS-ETS1-3 <sub>W</sub>
	UCCC	Scale, proportion, and quantity				Stability and change		
8	8.1 Natural selection and antibiotics MS-LS3-1* (LS3.B) MS-L4-4 MS-L4-6 <sub>P</sub>	8.2 History of life on earth MS-LS4-1 MS-LS4-2 MS-LS4-3 MS-ESS1-4 <sub>S</sub>	8.3 Sound and light waves in communication MS-PS2-5 MS-PS4-1 MS-PS4-2 MS-PS4-3 MS-PS4-4 MS-LS1-8 <sub>B</sub>	8.4 Solar system, forces, and seasons MS-ESS1-1* (ESS1.A) MS-ESS1-2 MS-ESS1-3 MS-PS2-4 <sub>ES</sub>	8.5 Weather, climate, and Michigan agriculture MS-ESS1-1 MS-ESS2-5 MS-ESS2-6 <sub>F</sub>	8.6 <sup>+</sup> Natural hazards MS-ESS3-2 MS-ESS2-3 <sub>P</sub>	8.7 <sup>+</sup> Climate change MS-ESS3-4 MS-ESS3-5 <sub>W</sub>	

Key: Each unit addresses a theme, as indicated by the following color letter coding:

Built Environment <sub>B</sub>	Human & Public Health <sub>P</sub>	Food & Agriculture <sub>F</sub>	Water Resources <sub>W</sub>	Sustainable Ecosystems <sub>S</sub>	Earth & Space Systems <sub>ES</sub>	Earth & Energy Resources <sub>EE</sub>
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\*Indicates units that will be available Fall 2018. For all other units, the unit topic is subject to revision based on the creative design of curriculum design teams.

\*Where a specific DCI is noted in parentheses following a PE, only the DCI is primary in the package. The CCC, SEP, or other DCIs associated with the PE are not primary

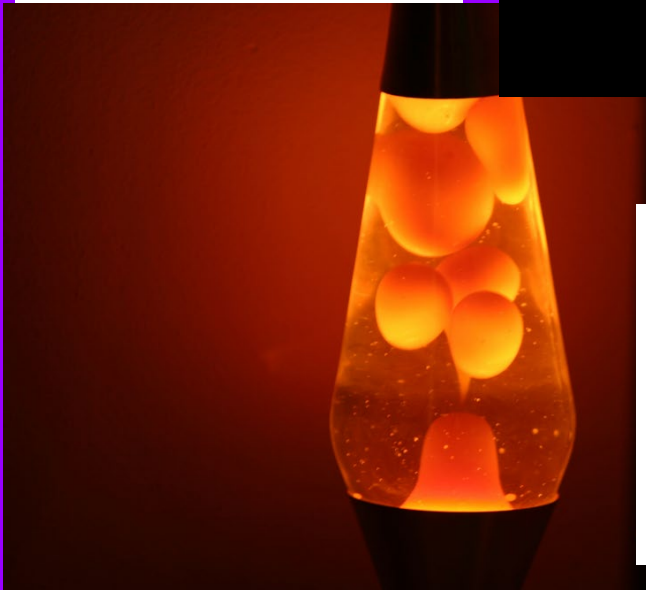
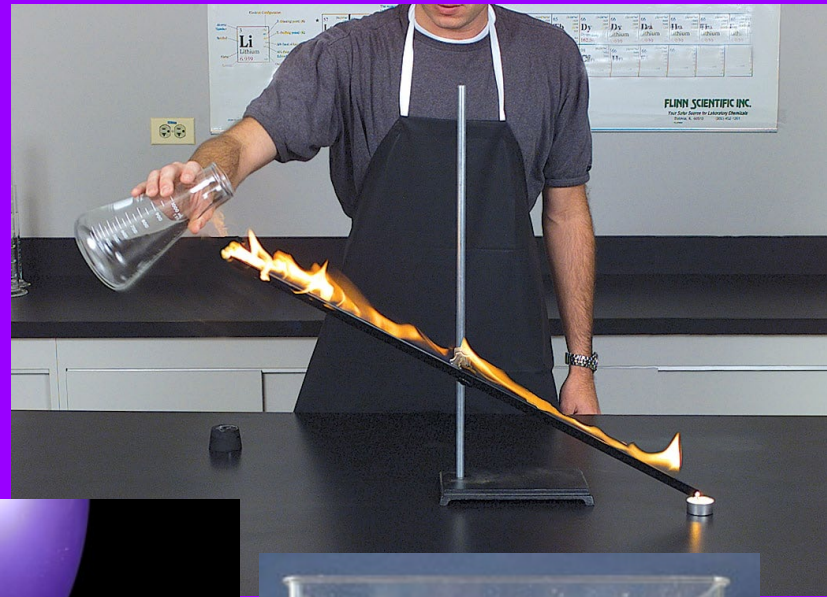
Note: PEs, concepts, and practices indicated here are thoroughly addressed in the unit. Each unit also addresses supporting concepts and practices that allow for scaffolded learning over time.

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# The 2024-2025 school year...

- Nature of Science/Scientific Method
- Natural Selection
- Fossils and Rocks
- Sound and Light Waves
- Solar System
- Weather and Climate
- Climate Change
- Natural Hazards





# Monday Mysteries



Claim, Evidence, Reasoning (CER) practice

Note-taking skills

Organization

Connect science with real world puzzles

Connect to current unit or prior science knowledge

Solved on “Figure it out Fridays”

Open note quiz each semester

# American History





**Mr.  
Scott  
Sugg**



- **Teacher of American History**
- **35th year teaching**
- **Married for 29 years to Michelle**
- **1 daughter, Sabrina, senior at U of M**
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~~Body~~



CARE -

ACRIML

## Units of Study



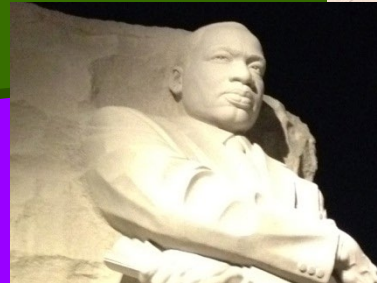
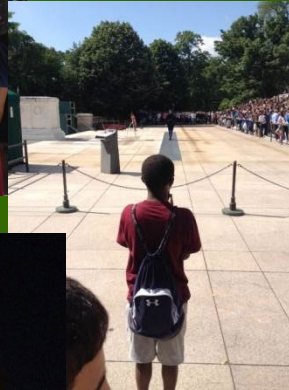
	Unit Name/Topic	Statement of Inquiry	Inquiry Questions
Unit 1	<b>Colonization/ Independence</b>	There comes a time when we must change and choose the hard right.	What unites us? What are we willing to sacrifice for our values?
Unit 2	<b>The Constitution of the United States</b>	Foundations need to be strong.	How do we respond to failure? How do we compromise and keep our values?
Unit 3	<b>Manifest Destiny</b>	Perspective of what is fair is influenced by our culture and who has the power.	What happens when our decisions do not match our values? What is more important, our values or vision?
Unit 4	<b>Industrial Revolution</b>	With power comes responsibility.	How can growth create conflict? Can we increase profit and treat our workers fair? What does fair competition look like?
Unit 5	<b>Reform Movements</b>	Courage can be transforming!	How do movements begin? Why do some people resist change?
Unit 6	<b>Road to the Civil War</b>	Decisions define our destiny.	What turns brother against brother? How do we live in vision rather than circumstance?
Unit 7	<b>Civil War/ Reconstruction</b>	Our perspectives create our beliefs.	How can tragedy make us stronger? How can we move past conflict?

**SOUTH HILLS**  
Middle School



# Washington DC

## April 30-May 3, 2024





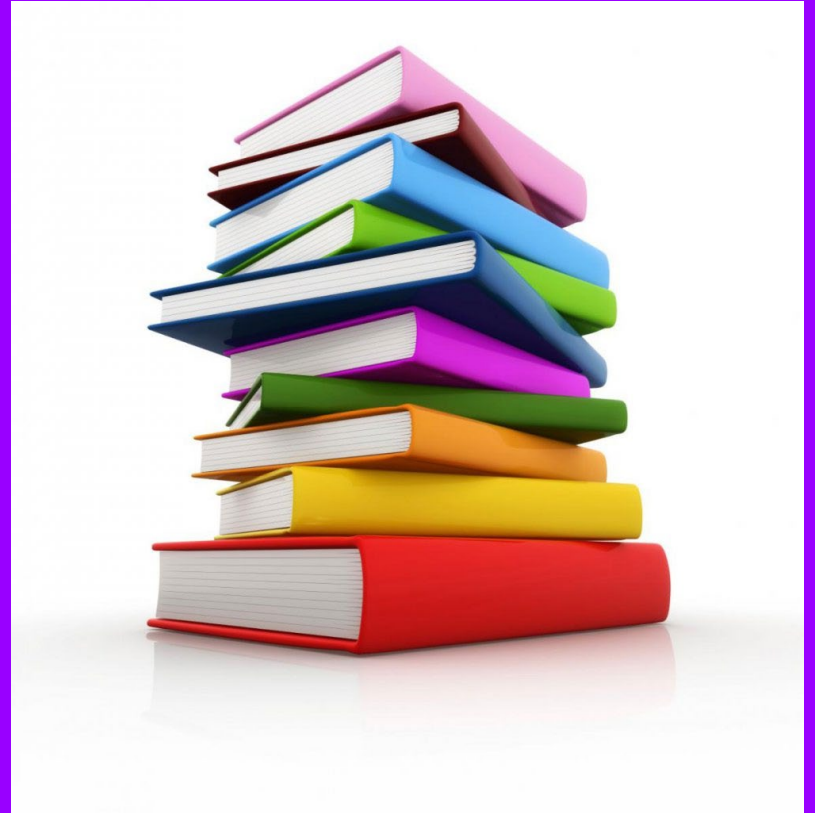
## D.C. Overview

- Parent meeting virtually next Wednesday, 9/18 at 6 PM via WebEx
- 3 buses guaranteed
  - first 120 students, rest waitlisted)
  - 4th bus possible
- Medication / Dietary Needs
- Personal Property
- Registration live following meeting
- Financial Assistance Available

## Social Studies Skills

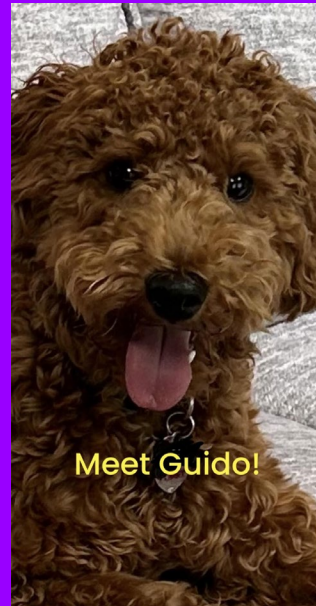
- Considering Historical Perspective
- Annotation/Note-taking
- Sequencing Events
- Analyzing Primary/Secondary Sources
- Determining Cause and Effect

# Language and Literature



# Mrs. Kucinski

- Language & Literature/Science teacher
- 22nd year teaching
- 3 Children (9th, 7th, & 5th grade)
- 3 Pets (2 dogs, 1 cat)
- I love all sports, coaching, reading, exercising, cars, and listening to music
- Forensics coach, Girls 6th softball, Games Club, and Be the Change Club



# MRS. JILL SLOAN

Teaching - 31st year in education

Colleges: Michigan State BA, University of Colorado, MA

Abigail Adams



Michael- Finance major at GVSU Senior, world traveler, soccer player, musician, artist, dreamer...



Kevin- Graduate of Norwich University in finance, serving as Quartermaster at Schofield base on Oahu. On his way to be a captain in the US Army...



Interests: Art, Music, Theatre, Books, Movies, THE SEAL  
Leader of Student Senate  
Sponsor of Creative Writing, Reading and Drawing Club



## 8TH GRADE Units of Study SOUTH HILLS

Month	Reading	Writing
<b>September</b>	<b>Launching the Year:</b> Establishing our reading expectations, vocabulary acquisition, my life as a reader	<b>Launching the Year:</b> Establishing our writing expectations, On Demand Writing, grammar and mechanics
<b>October</b>	Independent reading assignments, vocabulary acquisition	Poetry, grammar and mechanics
<b>November</b>	Dystopian Book Study: <u>The Giver</u> vocabulary acquisition	Literary analysis, grammar and mechanics
<b>December</b>	Dystopian Book Clubs vocabulary acquisition	Literary analysis, grammar and mechanics
<b>January</b>	Dystopian Book Clubs vocabulary acquisition	The Literary Essay: Analyzing Craft and Theme
<b>February</b>	“Flowers for Algernon” vocabulary acquisition independent reading assignments	Theme, argument
<b>March</b>	Position Papers: Research and Argument	Position Papers: Debate
<b>April</b>	Literary Nonfiction vocabulary acquisition	Literary Nonfiction
<b>May</b>	Time for independent reading	Journalism
<b>June</b>	Thematic Book Study: <u>The Outsiders</u>	Reflective writing, final practice in various genres

# GRADING

IS DONE WITH FORMATIVE AND SUMMATIVE RUBRICS BASED ON THE CRITERIA OF THE GIVEN TASK.

Formative

4-Excellent

3-Substantial

2- Adequate

1- Limited

Summative

## B: ORGANIZING

- There are a series of relevant events leading up to the lesson. ( I have a clear beginning, middle, end and lesson learned)
- The path of the piece is **logical** between events in the memoir due to the use of transitional words, phrases, sentences, and/or paragraphs

### MYP Criterion B

- employ organizational structures that serve the context and intention
- organize opinions and ideas in a sustained, coherent and logical manner

## SCORE

	MYP	MiStar
Does not Meet	0	5
Limited	1-2	6
Adequate	3-4	7
Substantial	5-6	8
Excellent	7-8	9-10

# HERE'S THE IMPACT OF READING 20 MINUTES PER DAY!

A student who reads

20:00

minutes per day

will be exposed to  
**1.8 MILLION**  
words per year  
and scores in  
**90th PERCENTILE**  
on standardized tests

A student who reads

5:00

minutes per day

will be exposed to  
**282,000**  
words per year  
and scores in  
**50th PERCENTILE**  
on standardized tests

A student who reads

1:00

minute per day

will be exposed to  
**8,000**  
words per year  
and scores in  
**10th PERCENTILE**  
on standardized tests

# WHAT MIGHT I SEE AT HOME?

- Reading! (Class goal increasing from 30 to 45 minutes a night)
- Continuing writing that began in class
- Gathering additional research
- Making sticky notes, writing about reading, jotting questions
- A notebook with multiple drafts, pieces of writing, “thinking on paper”
- Students making their own choices about reading/writing based on personal goals
- Writing for authentic audiences



WE EXPECT OUR STUDENTS TO BRING THEIR  
INDEPENDENT READING BOOKS TO  
**EVERY** CLASS **EVERY** DAY

**Parents** approve independent reading books. Please email your student's Lang. and Lit. teacher if your student has any issues! (Book suggestions, book concerns, etc.)

# How You Can Help

- **Keep books in their hands! Get a library card, make stops at bookstores, browse online for books**
- **Snoopervise** their reading: Ask about it, make sure you see it happening
- **Limit** screen time at night during the week in exchange for reading--good luck with that one :)
- **Expose** students to podcasts to generate interest in nonfiction topics
- **AUDIO IS GREAT** - utilize YouTube, Audible, or iTunes to find audio texts to support struggling readers
- For any 'literary classics', find the book **read aloud** to ensure comprehension
- **Keep in touch** with us if you have concerns!

# ACCESSING EXCELLENT LITERATURE DIGITALLY

## Our Media Center

[SORA-- Our school's online library](#)

[Books To Read Before High School](#)

Does your student have a Bloomfield Township Library Card? If so, they have access to many digital books!

[LIBBY](#)-- Libby is a free app that allows users to access digital content from their library, such as ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines.

[Hoopla](#)-- Hoopla is a free digital library service that allows library cardholders to borrow and stream a variety of media on demand such as eBooks, eAudiobooks, Comics, Movies, TV shows, Music, and Magazines.

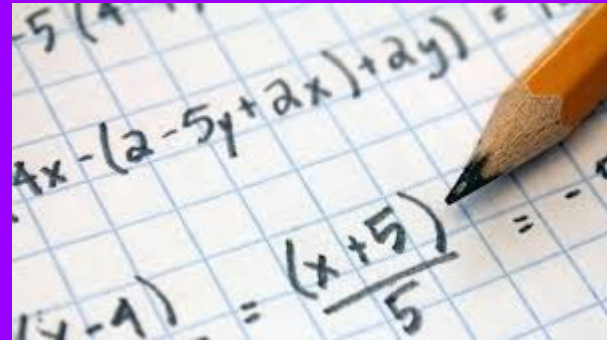
# Grammar and Vocabulary Acquisition

**Grammar lessons and vocabulary lists will be given to students within each unit.**

**We also encourage PSAT practice on Khan Academy as a supplement.**



# Math





# MR. MICHAEL PHOU

> Conceptual Algebra and Algebra 1 Teacher (have taught ELA here too)

> 8th Year at BHMS, 15th year teaching MS

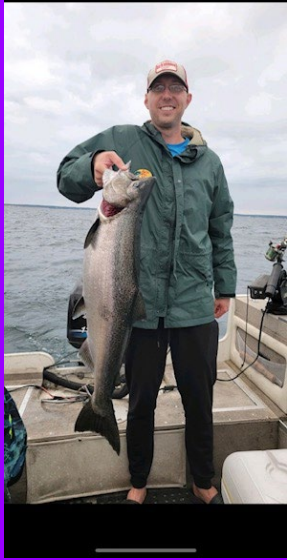
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> Hobbies/Interests: Basketball, NFL, poetry, soccer, tennis, collecting sports cards & vinyl records

> 4th generation teacher!



Oakland County  
**TIMES**.com  
MICHAEL PHOU FROM FERNDALE  
MIDDLE SCHOOL WINS TEACHER  
OF THE YEAR NEW VEHICLE LEASE,  
2017



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> Wife Mary Davis teaches at BHHS

> Owner of school therapy dog, Douglas

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> Enjoy golfing, fishing, and watching sports



CONCEPTUAL ALGEBRA (MATH 8)

VS.

ALGEBRA 1 (HS)

VS.

PRE-AP GEOMETRY W/ STATS (HS)

# Important Links: Syllabi and Class Calendars

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## [Conceptual Algebra Syllabus](#)

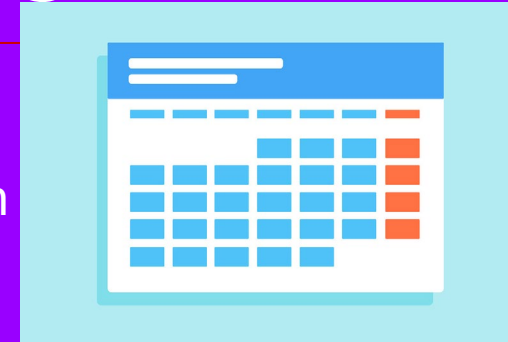
Calendar/Plans/Resources on Google Classroom

## [Algebra Syllabus](#)

Calendar/Plans/Resources on Google Classroom

## [Pre-AP Geometry with Stats Syllabus](#)

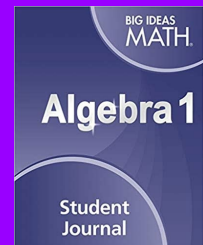
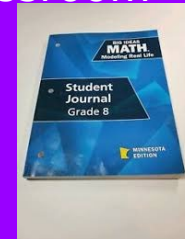
Calendar/Plans/Resources on Google Classroom



# Big Ideas:

## Con. Algebra, Algebra 1, and Geometry

- Inquiry/Task based, CCSS aligned and promotes critical thinking skills
- Algebra 1 text adopted in 2019
- Math 8 text recently adopted (2021)
- Class set of textbooks
  - Each student will have a DIGITAL textbook linked to their school Google account, accessible through Clever
  - Helpful links/resources will be posted to Google Classroom
- Student Journal (Workbooks)
- Other Key features:
  - Video and text examples
  - Live tutor feature for online assignments
  - Traditional (book and worksheet) and digital (online/offline) work options
  - Built in tools for graphing, calculator, manipulatives etc.
  - Homework App for iOS and Android



# Math Materials



- **Math Only** Binder or Folder
- Math Notebook/loose leaf, Graphing Paper
- Highlighter, Checking pens
- Pencils, pencils, pencils! (Mechanical preferred)
- Calculators
  - Class set of TI-83 and TI-84 (graphing calcs.)
  - Students need at least a scientific calc. at home
  - Graphing calculator is encourage



# Power Hour: Free After School Math HW Help

---

Mr. Phou offers free after school math help on (most) Tuesdays from 3:30 - 4:30.

Students must be in Mr. Phou's room (803) by 3:30 and have their own transport home after.

No sign-up in advance required.

All 8th grade math students welcome so long as prompt, polite, and productive.

We look to partner with BHHS NJHS members to serve as mentors/tutors too.





# 8th Grade Math Units:

1. Equations
2. Transformations
3. Angles and Triangles
4. Graphing and Writing Linear Equations
5. Systems of Linear Equations
6. Data Analysis and Displays
7. Functions
8. Exponents and Scientific Notation
9. Real Numbers and the Pythagorean Theorem
10. Volume and Similar Solids

## Algebra Units:

1. Solving linear equations
2. Solving linear inequalities
3. Graphing linear functions
4. Writing linear functions
5. Solving systems of linear equations and inequalities

### **Semester 1 Final over chapters 1-5**

1. Exponent rules and exponential functions
2. Polynomial equations and factoring
3. Graphing quadratic functions
4. Solving quadratic equations

### **Final exam over chapters 6-9**

# Geometry Units:

1. Measurement in Data
2. Tools and Techniques of Geometric Measurement
3. Measurement in Congruent and Similar Figures
4. Measurement in Two and Three Dimensions

# Communication

**Google Classroom:** Students will access all necessary materials and assignments through Google Classroom.

**Email:** We will email parents and students with important information, kudos and concerns on your SCHOOL email and on the email for parents provided on Mi-Star through the REMIND app. Please check your email frequently to keep up-to-date!

**Mi-Star:** Students WILL earn grades this year.

Updates to Mi-Star will happen within a few days of collection. If an assignment is missing, you will see an empty spot.

Parents- any empty spot in Mi-Star indicates an assignment is not turned in.

# Teacher Contacts

- [aneuwirth@bloomfield.org](mailto:aneuwirth@bloomfield.org)
- [lkucinski@bloomfield.org](mailto:lkucinski@bloomfield.org)
- [mphou@bloomfield.org](mailto:mphou@bloomfield.org)
- [hwatters@bloomfield.org](mailto:hwatters@bloomfield.org)
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ANY  
QUESTIONS?

