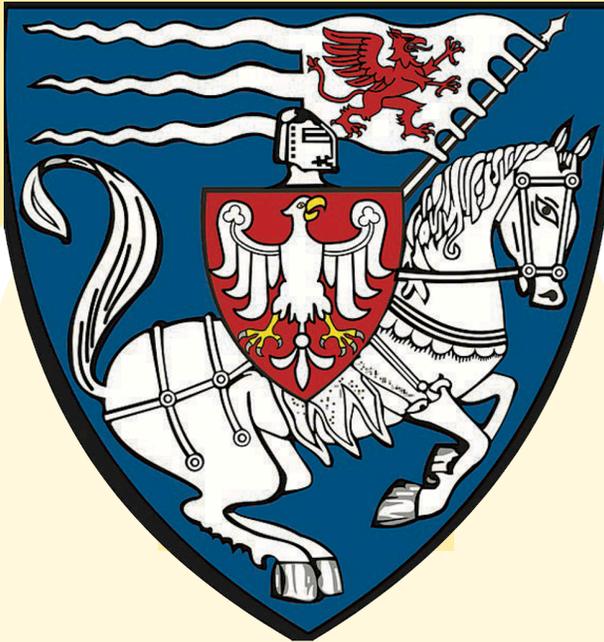


UPPER MERION MIDDLE SCHOOL

8TH GRADE



ANDOR DREKKI JORR



8TH GRADE PHILOSOPHY

Our mission is to support the philosophy of the Upper Merion Area Middle School by encouraging our students to recognize who they are as individuals and to work together to create a fun and respectful learning environment.

8th grade students have the opportunity to participate in many fun team-building activities throughout the year such as: field day, spirit rallies, trip to Hershey Park, trips to FLUX/Corbett Center, etc. We believe these opportunities help our students grow as individuals and build on their collaboration skills.

Real life skills are brought into the classrooms through the Aquaponics/Hydroponics business. Students are able to work as CEOs, farmers, marketing specialists, chefs, engineers, lawyers, and human resource representatives to run their own business where they are creating a food truck offering. They learn financial skills, interview skills, litigation techniques, and problem solving abilities that flow into all four content area classes. Businesses compete across the entire grade for rewards and are able to showcase the wide variety of skills that our unique diverse student body brings to the table.

8TH GRADE ACADEMIC TEAMS

TEAM ANDOR

Kevin Love - Science
Rose Gersten - Language Arts
Michelle Franchi - Math
James Crowley- Social Studies
Grace Ro - Co-teacher

TEAM DREKKI

Heather Mahon - Science
Ray Powers - Language Arts
Imran Majeed - Math
Richard Blakely - Social Studies

TEAM JORR

Benjamin Giordano - Science
Alli Phanthavong- Language Arts
Michelle Gove - Math
Lisa Erdei - Social Studies
Michelle Cincotti - Co-teacher
Lori Werner - Co-teacher

SUPPORT TEACHERS

Colleen Bramucci- Gifted Support
Davis Chubb- Viking Reading
Angela Della Valle- ESL Support
Jessica Morgan- Learning Support
Stephen Piazza- Learning Support
Brienne Rober- Viking Math

LANGUAGE ARTS

The language arts curriculum addresses the skills of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking. Students will develop and enhance their fluency in these areas through reading and responding to literature, content area reading strategies, engaging in writer's workshop, enhancing grammar skills, following directions and partaking in class discussions, and creating individual and/or group projects.

SOCIAL STUDIES

The 8th grade social studies curriculum has been designed as American Studies Pre-AP course. Students will delve deeply into a few critical moments across the whole of United States History. The units of study will be researched in a chronological sequence providing students with a condensed historical summary between units designed around the revolutionary period, Civil War period, America's rise to a world power and post-world war domestic America. Each unit will focus on how the idea of conflict and compromise has shaped American history through the themes authority and power (government), civil rights and civil liberties in a diverse America (domestic) and America's role in the world (international). We will develop student research, writing and communication skills, and encouraging each student to view history through his or her own perspective.

MATH

Eighth grade students will be taking Algebra I, Algebra IA, or Algebra II. The curriculum varies within each subject. Each course is aligned to the Pennsylvania Common Core Standards and Keystone standards. As part of each course, the students will learn new skills and how to apply those skills to real-life situations. Students enrolled in the Algebra 1 course will that the Keystone exam in May. They will also have the opportunity to use both scientific and/or graphing calculators.

SCIENCE

The eighth grade science curriculum revolves around the expanding world of aquaponics and hydroponics and how they relate to sustainability, energy use, and the Earth we live in. The year is highlighted through an aquaponically and hydroponically centered business project that incorporates every content area. Students will use information about our world in order to effectively collaborate with one another and compete against other businesses. With sustainability as our main benchmark, students must create and sell environmental and health conscious food/drinks while generating revenue. Roles such as CEO, marketing, production, media, attorney, engineering and farmers all must work together on a common goal. 8th Grade Science will surely be a year to remember as students not only grow scientifically, but as a more responsible citizen. These projects assess the diverse science standards as well as 21st century skills.

WORLD LANGUAGE

WORLD LANGUAGE SUPPLIES

If your child is a language student, please bring the following items to their teacher:

- Two packs of #2 pencils
- Two boxes of tissues



SUPPLY LIST

- CHARGED iPad
- Stylus
- Earbuds
- Folder and expo marker (math)
- 1 folder for loose papers
- Pens/Pencils Highlighters

- To Homeroom Teacher:
 - Tissues
 - Hand Sanitizer
 - Box of #2 pencils

*Any additional teacher/team-specific items will be communicated separately.

IN ORDER TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THE 8TH GRADE CLASSROOM AND PREPARE FOR HIGH SCHOOL, IT IS IMPERATIVE FOR STUDENTS TO COME TO CLASS EVERY DAY READY TO LEARN. THIS MEANS WITH A CHARGED IPAD AND PENCIL. WHEN ABSENT, IT IS A STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO REACH OUT TO THEIR TEACHERS TO MAKE UP REQUIRED WORK THAT WAS MISSED. THIS ENSURES EVERYONE IS STILL LEARNING THE CONTENT WHILE BEING RESPONSIBLE YOUNG ADULTS.