

7th Grade Curriculum Night

...

2025-2026

Agenda

- Welcome!
- Introductions by Department
- Expectations
 - Homework
 - Materials
 - Technology
 - Communication
- Other Info...
- Q&A



5:00-5:15 - Introductions

5:20-5:27 - Period 1

5:30-5:37 - Period 2

5:40-5:47 - Period 3

5:50-5:57 - Period 4

6:00-6:07 - Period 5

6:10-6:17 - Period 6

6:20-6:27 - Period 7

6:30-6:37 - Period 8

6:40-6:47 - Period 9

6:50-6:57 - Period 10

Meet Our Team: Social Studies

	Mr. Teichert 	Guy Engelman 	Ms. Reynolds 
Quick Facts	12th year teaching at Nichols	29th year teaching 3rd year at Nichols	26th year teaching; 6th year at Nichols
Favorite part of 7th Grade Social Studies	Salem Witch Trials! I find how people interact with each other fascinating. Closely looking at art, folklore, and primary sources lets me understand the world in new and interesting ways.	The American Revolution! It was the first time people fought for independence based on popular sovereignty, constitutional rights, and rule of law. Many other countries since have followed their lead to become independent themselves!	The constitution-how it was imagined, developed ,and intended to help govern the people of the United States helps us better understand why current acts of the government are being questioned now

Meet Our Team: ELA

Ms. Peter



Ms. Berry



Ms. Jackson



Ms. Diaz



Dr. Christopoulos



Quick Facts

On year 10 of teaching middle school ELA!

17th year of teaching, 12th year in D65, & 1st year at Nichols.

I grew up in Evanston and went to D65 and 202!

24th year of teaching.
15th year at Nichols.

4th year teaching ELA.
This is my first year in 7th grade.

4th year teaching ELL and AVID at Nichols, 23rd year of teaching ELL.

Favorite Part of 7th Grade Language Arts

Giving students the space to express their opinions, and teaching them the power of words.

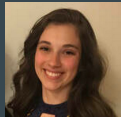
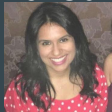
Helping students find a book that makes them want to not stop reading & creating a safe space where students can use their voices!

Watching students' young minds grow as readers, writers, thinkers. The potential for maturity in word and deed is really something!

Since I taught 6th grade last year, I get to work with these amazing students again and continue to grow!

Being a part of Newcomers' transition, seeing them adapt to their new environment and become successful students and happy life-long learners!

Meet Our Team: Math

	 Ms. Bastas	 Dr. Baker	Ms. Koh	 Mr. Kim	 Mrs. Kareotes	 Ms. Daredia
Quick Facts	8th year teaching at Nichols.	25th year in D65, 32 years in education	19th year teaching, 12th year in D65	13th year teaching, 9th year at Nichols	24th year teaching at Nichols , 28 years in education	2nd year at Nichols; 12th year as a teacher
Favorite Part of 7th Grade Math	I love the projects we do. Especially the end of year carnival project.	Working with the students and watching them get the math.	I enjoy seeing the creativity in students from all backgrounds and the various methods shared to develop diverse thinking to reach goals.	The chaotic energy. The frenetic discussions. The openness and willingness to truly grow and fail better every single day.	I love getting students out of their seats doing scavenger hunts and working at the board.	I love seeing the growth of my students when compared to the beginning of the year to the end, and also building relationships.

Meet Our Team: Science

Shannon Dangerfield

I'm excited to be teaching my first year at Nichols! I taught the last 19 years at Haven and in Chicago for 4 years before that. I've worked in the Education department at the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum & had many other science related positions before shifting to teaching.

I love science & I love teaching science even more! I grew up in Florida, attended the University of Georgia, and have still not adjusted to the cold northern winters!



Tucker Lawrence

Movin' on up! After teaching half of the 6th grader's last year, I'm lucky enough to teach one class of 7th grade. I've taught in Minneapolis, Seattle, Portland, and now Evanston!

This is my second year at Nichols and tenth year teaching total. I'm looking forward to a great year!





World Languages



Mission: In the World Language classroom, we aim to prepare students to communicate, explore, and connect across cultures, in order to foster attitudes of mutual understanding and respect.

Vision: Our vision is to create an environment where language learning takes place through the lens of interculturality, so students can discover appropriate ways to interact with others whose perspectives may be different from their own.

Español

Preliminary Unit: Unidad Preliminar

Unit 1: Identidades

Unit 2: La Vida en la Escuela

Unit 3: Mi familia es tu familia.



Français

Preliminary Unit: Les salutations

Unit 1: L'identité

Unit 2: La vie à l'école

Unit 3: Ma vie en famille



Sr. Chung



Srta. H.



Mme. López

Visual Arts/ Media Arts

Drama

Band/ Orchestra

Music

Library



Nicole Nava
6th, 7th, & 8th Media Arts
navan@district65.net



Mariah Keko
7th Grade Drama
kekom@district65.net



John Carroll
Band
carrollj@district65.net



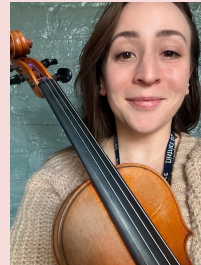
Tiffany Bowen
6th, 7th, & 8th Grade
General Music
bowent@district65.net



Kefira Philippe
Library
philippe@district65.net
[Website](#)
[Slideshow](#)



Dan Van Wetering (Mr. VW)
6th, 7th, & 8th Media Arts
and Visual Arts
vanweteringd@district65.net



Audrey Alger
Orchestra
algera@district65.net



Dominique Martin
7th Grade
General Music
martind@district65.net



Denise Taylor
7th Visual Arts
taylor@district65.net

Check your child's **Google Classroom for detailed information on assignments and activities.*



Physical Education

Ms. Hodges

Mr. Otto

Mr. Roberts

Mr. Turman

Ms. Gomez

PE Uniform: Bring Your PE T-Shirt or Sweatshirt & Gym Shoes Everyday (No Crocs, Sandals, or Boots).

-Pricing: PE T-Shirt: \$10.00 and PE Sweatshirt: \$15.00 cash or check(made out to Nichols Middle School).

-Fitness Gram Testing: pacer, sit-n-reach, push-ups, and curl-ups. Fall and Spring testing.

-Sports Units: Some examples: Badminton, Basketball, Soccer, Ultimate Frisbee/Football, Volleyball, Team Handball, and Pickleball

-Fitness Activities: Some examples: Bikes, Weights, Medicine Balls, Rowers, Ellipticals, Weighted Bars, Running/Walking and Fitness Games

Please email at anytime if there are any questions.

After school sports please email Mr. Turman with any questions.

Meet the Student Services Team



Ms. Angelica De Mari, School Counselor
uziellidemaria@district65.net

Provides individual and small group counseling with a primary focus in 3 areas: Academic, SEL, College/Career. Works mostly with GenEd students.

Ms. Diana Salinas, School Psychologist
salinasd@district65.net

Support youth to succeed academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally. By collaborating with teachers, staff, and parents, school psychologists help cultivate and foster safe and supportive learning environments.

Ms. Vonetta Robinson, Social Worker
robinsonv@district65.net

Provides direct services to individuals and small groups, case management, and gender support planning. Works mostly with students with a 504/IEP



Occupational Therapy



Ms. Wendy Melgarejo OTR/L
melgarejow@district65.net

In school based OT, occupational therapy providers support students in their education. They support fine motor, visual motor visual perceptual, sensory motor, executive functioning skills, cognitive skills, physical skills or other area which impacts the student's ability to learn.

Ms. Samantha Warchol, Speech-Language Pathologist
warchols@district65.net

Mrs. Amy Aviles, Speech-Language Pathologist
avilesa@district65.net

Provides direct services to individuals and small groups, case management, works mostly with students with a 504/IEP

- expressive and receptive language
- fluency (stuttering)
- articulation (word sounds)
- social language
- feeding



Hello Nichols Lions!

I'm John Brownlee, your FACE Liaison

- As the family and community engagement liaison, I provide support to identified students and families for the purpose of ensuring successful outcomes
- Bridge the gap between home and school for the purpose of enlisting parent / caregiver involvement in the student's education
- Access and facilitate support services on behalf of the student and student's family
- Develop mentoring relationships and academic enrichment programs
- Integration and collaboration with existing cross-functional school teams



7th Grade Expectations

...

2025-2026

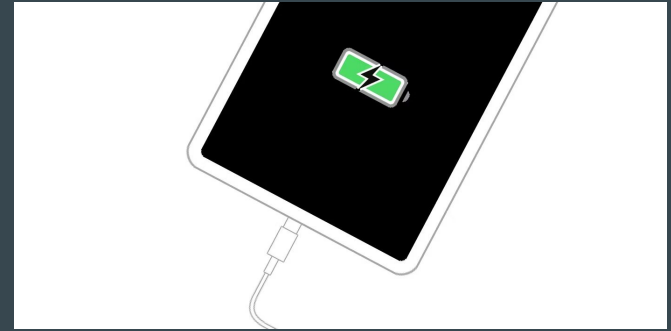
Materials

Students are expected to have a **charged iPad** and **universal binder** with them all day.

Please help them develop a system for **charging their iPads at night** and remembering to bring them to school each day.

In **their universal binders**, students should have writing utensils and folders labeled for every class. This binder should travel with them throughout the day and come home at night.

Students should also bring an **independent reading** book to ALL classes.



Materials we do NOT want to see...

No phones/apple watches

No headphones

No airpods

We are off to a GREAT START this year!

Please reinforce this expectation at home.



Homework

Homework is USUALLY a continuation of what we did in class.

How can you find out what we did during class?

Use our [7th Grade Website!](#)

Communication

Now that students are in 7th grade, we hope that **they will communicate with us about their needs** .

Please encourage them to email us with questions and concerns.

We are trying to prepare them for 8th grade, high school, and beyond.

Now is a great time to practice the skill of **self advocacy** .



Self Advocacy

Absences

Please remind your students to check in with teachers when they are absent.

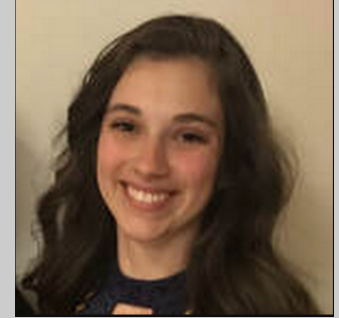
Students need to check in with their teachers and make up learning activities that they missed during absences.

A red, rectangular stamp with a double border, tilted slightly upwards to the right. The word "ABSENT" is written in bold, red, sans-serif capital letters inside the stamp.



*Start Date: Tuesday,
September 30th, 2025*

Do you need help with homework? Or help with understanding the lesson? Or maybe even general study skill and organization? If so, Morning Mentors is the place for you!!!



Schedule:
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
7:10 - 7:50am
Meet in the Library

For more info, please see
Ms. Verzo - Room 124
Ms. Bastas- Room 201

Classroom Supply Request

To help keep our classroom clean, safe, and ready for learning, we'd love your support with the following items [sent to your child's block 3/4 teacher]:

- **Kleenex** – keeps everyone comfortable and minimizes distractions
- **Clorox Wipes** – quick and effective for sanitizing surfaces
- **Dry Erase Markers** – helps students collaborate and share thinking on whiteboards
- **Hand Sanitizer** – keeps hands clean and reduces the spread of germs

***Your donations make a big difference—thank you for helping our students thrive!

Thank
you!