De Soto Unified School District 232
Monticello Trails Middle School
6100 Monticello Rd.
Shawnee, KS 66226

Phone: (913) 422-1100
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Jennifer Smith
Principal

Dr. Michael Burton
Associate Principal

Mary King
School Improvement Specialist

Amanda Hartegan
Tara George
Counselors

Dear 6th South Families,

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year at Monticello Trails Middle School. We anticipate an exciting year! Working together, we can provide your child with opportunities for academic and social growth.

Communication is the key to any good relationship. Feel free to reach out to us whenever you have a question or concern regarding your child's education. **If your email needs to be updated, please contact the MTMS office to get your contact information updated in Skyward.** Please feel free to call or email us whenever you have a question or concern regarding your child's education.

A copy of the sixth grade policies and course guidelines are included in this team packet. Please take time to review these procedures with your child. We look forward to working with you and your sixth grader this year at Monticello Trails Middle School.

Sincerely,

6th South Team

Mrs. Alicia Goetting - Social Studies agoetting@usd232.org **Team leader*
Mrs. Isabel Munrain - Math isabel.munrain@usd232.org **Team leader*
Mr. Tyler Watts - Science tyler.watts@usd232.org
Ms. Sarah Gilbert - ELA sgilbert@usd232.org
Mrs. Sarah Katsbulas - Pathways skatsbulas@usd232.org

Please contact team leader with any general questions/concerns

Team Policies

Key Websites to Bookmark:

1) **Team Website**
2) **Digital E-Genda**
3) **Parent Cheat Sheet**
4) **K12itc information**

Communication

-Please send content concerns to the content teacher.
-Email is the fastest mode of communication. We will communicate with you within twenty-four hours of initial contact. **Our plan period is from 12:17-1:00pm.**

-You can also reach us through our district phone: **913-422-1100.**

Mr. Tyler Watts - Science tyler.watts@usd232.org ; ext. 3131
Mrs. Isabel Munrain - Math isabel.munrain@usd232.org ; ext. 3436
Ms. Sarah Gilbert -ELA sgilbert@usd232.org ; ext. 3208
Mrs. Alicia Goetting- Social Studies agoetting@usd232.org ; ext. 2295
Mrs. Sarah Katsbulas - Pathways skatsbulas@usd232.org ; ext. 2416

-Please direct general questions or concerns to Mrs. Goetting and she will communicate with the team.

Note: Per district policy, we are unable to communicate with parents via text message or social media.

-Our team will communicate with you weekly via Skyward Messenger. **Please be on the lookout for Skyward emails from Mrs. Goetting that will contain the major information from the team for the upcoming week.**

E-genda: Link HERE

Keeping an agenda is an important skill to help with organization and time management. To facilitate this, we have created an online tool known as the E-genda. This is where we post 1) a snapshot of the daily objective for all core classes, and 2) upcoming homework/due dates.

Pairing the E-Genda with their Agenda

They will be required to write down assignments in their agenda throughout the year.

The E-genda will be projected in WIN, which provides them with another time to fill out their agenda at the end of the day.

Skyward: Digital Gradebook

Skyward reflects your student's grade for each class. Skyward holds all official grades, NOT Canvas. **While some assignments might generate a grade on Canvas, that score is not indicative of their overall grade in the course**. We encourage checking Skyward on a weekly basis.

Skyward Codes

Code	Definition
NHI	Not handed in. Typically accompanied by a score of zero.
INC	Incomplete. Assignment was turned in, but it does not meet basic requirements.
LATE	Assignment was received, but not on time.
*	Not graded. Please assume we have the assignment.

Canvas: Digital Classroom

Canvas is essentially the digital version of your child's classroom. This is where they will go to access lessons, resources, and assignments. As a result, this is also where they will be required to submit digital assignments.

How do I know if my student submitted their assignment? All assignments receive a timestamp. If your child did NOT receive a timestamp, they did NOT submit their assignment.

Want to know what's happening in Canvas?: We encourage you to get the pairing code from your student so you can be synced with their Canvas account. Here are directions to do so.

Student Absences

Students are responsible for completing the work they missed while absent, even if the absence is excused.

When Absent:

1) Check the E-Genda to see what we've done that day.
2) Get on Canvas and complete anything that you can.
3) Email teachers with any questions you might have.

Absent for an extended period of time?

1) Communicate with the team so we can create a game plan to help get students caught up.
2) Stay after school the week upon your return to get caught up.

Team Grading

All core classes will base grades off total points. There are no weighted grades in 6 South. Students are able to redo assignments to improve their grade.

LATE Assignments

- Assignments will receive a maximum deduction of 10% if submitted past the due date.

Note: Absence policy still applies, but teachers will work with the student to help get them caught up.

- Assignments cannot be accepted after the end of a quarter.

Missing Work

- If a student turns in an assignment past the due date, there will be a maximum deduction of 10% on the deserved grade.
- If an assignment is not turned in, the student will receive a zero on the assignment.
- If your student has missing work, they have the opportunity to attend Timberwolf Success Program (TSP) in the library from 3:05-4:30 Tuesday, Wednesday, and/or Thursday every week. There is no school transportation provided after the conclusion of TSP.

Behavior Expectations

Basic supplies needed every day:

1) ***Charged*** Macbook
2) Binder
3) Pencil
4) Agenda
5) Independent Reading Book
6) Wired Earbuds (not wireless)

Behavior Consequences

See student handbook (student behavior expectations section) for behavior consequences.

Tardies

Students are expected to be in their class by the bell (unless they have a pass). If they arrive after the bell with no pass, they will be marked tardy.

USD 232 Middle School Class Tardy Policy

	Intervention
1st tardy	Warning
2nd tardy	Assigned consequence
3rd tardy	Assigned consequence and parent contact
4th tardy or more	Office referral resulting in disciplinary action

Lockers

- 6th grade WILL use lockers.

- 6th grade will NOT have backpacks in the classroom.
- Locker codes/combos can be accessed on Skyward (if students forget).

Technology Policies (building)

-There is a **zero-tolerance policy for cell-phones in the classroom**. No cell phones are to be used while students are in the building.

In Case of Emergency: Contact the office. They will get a hold of your child.

-MacBook integration and expectations will follow the student handbook. Please see the handbook for further information.

- Expectations: Charged computers, appropriate applications, and in their possession on a daily basis.
- It is their responsibility; they are to care for and protect their property in accordance with student policies.
- This is the Macbook they will have until they graduate high school. They need to care for it appropriately.

-Per Kansas testing protocol, **students are required to have WIRED earbuds/headphones** that are compatible with their Macbooks. **We do NOT use wireless headphones** as they are small and are easily misplaced/stolen. Whatever outside technology students bring to school, they are responsible for.

Technology Issues?

If your child experiences an issue with their MacBook, please contact **K12itc.** **Link to K12 Help Desk**

Phone: 816-382-4840.
Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday, 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Students have all vital Macbook information written in their Agenda on their Cheat Sheet. This is glued on the inside of the front cover of the agenda. They will need this information when speaking with K12

6th Grade Math

with Mrs. Isabel Munrain

About the Teacher

Hi, my name is Isabel Munrain, and I'm so excited you're in my class!

This is my 6th year teaching math, and my 5th year at MT. My family includes my husband, Brad, and our boxer puppy, Jax. We are big fans of the Pittsburgh Panthers and are a household divided between the KC Chiefs and Pittsburgh Steelers.

When I'm not at MT, I love cooking and hiking in new national parks. My husband and I are 35/63 of the way through the parks!

My goal is to teach you something new and show you math is fun. Be prepared to learn a lot this year!

Materials Needed

- [ ] Math notebook
- [ ] Pencils
- [ ] Macbook
- [ ] Earbuds
- [ ] Assignments

Technology + AI

Students will be required to utilize their macbooks regularly to enhance math instruction and practice.

It will be expected that students adhere to student guidelines and policies, as noted in the Technology Policy/Procedures document and the Acceptable Use Policy.

Students are expected to complete their own ORIGINAL work in this class. Any plagiarized work will result in a 0 and will be required to be redone.

Contact Info

MTMS Room 113

Email:
isabel.munrain@usd232.org

Plan Time

8:45 - 9:30
12:15 - 1:00

Need some help?

W.I.N.
Time every day to complete assignments and get help

Mrs. Munrain
Email questions
Ask during class

T.S.P.
Tues/Wed/Thurs
3:05 - 4:30 in media center

Grading Policy

Calculated by **Total Points** in the following categories:

- **Independent Practice**
  - Grow in understanding
- **Quizzes**
  - Monitor progress and guide instruction
- **Assessments/Tests**
  - Check for mastery

Point values vary depending on intensiveness of work

In math we strive to ensure academic reporting represents student learning and mastery of standards

Corrections and reassessments will be encouraged until mastery is achieved

Units of Study

- [ ] Number System
- [ ] Ratios & Proportions
- [ ] Expressions & Equations
- [ ] Geometry
- [ ] Statistics & Probability

*Link to 6th grade math goals

Reassessment

Most assignments and assessments can be re-done to demonstrate better understanding of concepts. The best score will be taken.

Assignments:
Students must write "redo" at the top of their assignment and turn in to show their new knowledge.

Assessments:

1. Tell teacher you want to reassess
2. Make test corrections on previous test and turn in
3. Complete reassessment (new test but same content) at a pre-scheduled time with teacher.

Essential Standards

- Decimal Operations
- Fraction Operations
- One Step Equations

Students required to reach 80%+ mastery on these topics

Behavior

In math we are respectful, safe, and responsible learners. Cheating will result in a 0 without opportunity to redo.

English Language Arts (ELA)

2025-2026

Ms. Gilbert- sgilbert@usd232.org

6th Grade: South Room: 112

What will we learn?

KSDE English Language Arts Sixth Grade Essential Standards:
RL/RI. 6.1 Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
RL/RI.6.3 Describe how a particular story's or drama's plot unfolds in a series of episodes as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves toward a resolution.
W.6.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience

How will we learn?

Each of us has a unique experience, which allows everyone to bring their own strengths to the ELA classroom. This gift allows everyone to read the same story, yet interpret it differently.

As a result, we will focus on learning how to **defend our opinion/perspective with evidence** as well as engage in **open-minded discussions**. We will also take time to reflect and express our connections through the written and spoken word.

What is the focus each quarter?

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
➔ Characters Who Change and Grow ➔ Skills: Finding evidence, identifying main idea, written responses	➔ The Recipe for Success ➔ Skills: Organizing ideas, presenting information	➔ Text Analysis ➔ Class Novel: *The Giver*	➔ Our Changing Oceans ➔ Skills: Analyzing and summarizing ideas, researching a topic

Digital Expectations for Learning

- Macbook charged daily
- No games during class
- **All work should be original. Copying and pasting from any source, including AI, will be considered plagiarism and will result in the disciplinary actions listed in the MTMS**

handbook.

Grading:

Your grade should be a reflection of your learning within a timely manner. With that in mind, the policies are as follows:

Bellwork

(Point values will vary) Assigned weekly on Monday and due at the beginning of class the following Monday.

Homework / Practice:

Homework and practice will be graded on a 4 point mastery scale.

- 4 - Turned in on-time, done in full with best effort
- 3- Significantly late (past two weeks), and/or some parts left blank or containing minor errors
- 2-Significantly late, and/or work done incorrectly and missing substantial amounts of the assignment.
- 1-Significantly late, and/or work done incorrectly and missing a majority of work required.

Quizzes:

- (Point values will vary) Students will be able to use their notes on quizzes.

Tests:

- (Point values will vary) Students will be able to use their notes on the test. Study material will be provided.

Retake Policies:

Homework / Practice: Students can redo and make corrections to receive their desired grade up till two weeks after the assignment's original due date.

Quizzes/Tests: If the original score is lower than 70% students may make corrections to receive half-credit back.

What will you need?

To be successful in class each day, you will need:

- A charged Macbook
- A choice book (from home or library)
- A pencil
- ELA Binder

6th Grade Social Studies: Ancient Civilizations

Teacher Contact

Alicia Goetting
Email-
agoetting@usd232.org
Ext. 2295

Essential Standards:

1.Identify causes and effects of an event.

2.Draw a conclusion based on evidence, making a claim and supporting with evidence

3.Demonstrate the ability to read, interpret and analyze a primary source.

Units of Study:

***Review Skills (Geography and Timelines)**
***Early Humans and the Rise of Civilization**
***Ancient Egypt and the Middle East**
***Ancient India**
***Ancient China**
***Ancient Greece**
***Ancient Rome**



Course Materials:

√Binder/Accordion File
√Pencils
√ Macbook (will not need this everyday)
√Headphones/earbuds (will need with MacBook)
√Composition Notebook-will staty in classroom (Notes)

Other optional items :
*Colored pencils, markers, highlighters, notecards, and a glue stick.

Late Work Policy:

Work will be accepted until the end of the unit. Once the unit is completed,work from that unit will no longer be accepted and will result in a zero in the grade book.

Retakes:

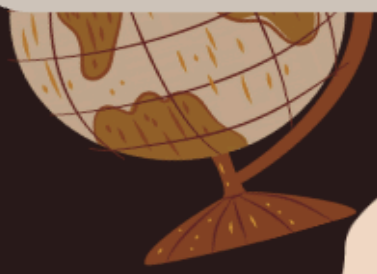
Students will be allowed to redo most assignments, common formative assessments, and tests. Students will need to advocate for wanting to redo the assignment. The teacher and student will agree on a retake day or a due date for the redone work.

Course Evaluation:

Students will be graded by total points. Assessments and assignments are not weighted, however they will be worth different point values.

Students will show their learning by completing:
-Daily Bellwork
-Daily work: notes, simulations, activities
-Assessments
-Projects







A.I. Expectations:



Students will be required to utilize their macbooks regularly to enhance Social Studies instruction. It will be expected that students adhere to student guidelines and policies, as noted in the Technology Policy/Procedures document and the Acceptable Use Policy. Students are expected to complete their own ORIGINAL work in this class. Any plagiarized work will result in a 0 and will be required to be redone.

Cheating Policy:

Cheating will result in 0. The test or assignment will not be allowed to be redone. Guardians will be notified by email.







Classroom Expectations:

Follow the Ways of the Wolf-BE RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE, AND SAFE!

· Be Prompt and Be Prepared: Be ready to learn when class begins with all materials.
· Be a Polite and Positive Participant: Speak in a normal tone of voice, and listen attentively.
· Be Productive: During activities or class time; Turn in work on time, and always do your best.
· Be a Problem Solver: Correct problems quickly and peacefully before they escalate.
· HAVE FUN!!





WELCOME TO
Mr. Watts' Classroom



About Me

Hello! I am Mr. Watts and I teach 6th grade Physical Science, which is Physics and Chemistry. I am married to Tara and a father to Kai - a 5th grader at CCE. I have a science degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from KU. This is my 17th year teaching, and fourth year at MTMS. I co-lead my son's Cub Scout Den and I coach Science Olympiad at MTMS. For fun, I enjoy reading, playing board games, and watching Star Wars, anime, and Marvel media. My goal is to inspire students to better understand their world through Science, and to do their best!.

Contact Me

Room 109
email:
tyler.watts@usd232.org

Please be aware I usually check my email as often as I can, but I cannot always get back to you right away. I will try to respond within 24 hours.

Welcome to Science!

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
What is Science? • Independent, Dependent and Control Variables. • Making Claims • Scientific Testing and Data Analysis • Metric Measurement	Chemistry • Atoms and Molecules • Chemical and Physical Changes • Chemical Reactions • Heat Transfer • Periodic Table • pH Scale	Waves and Energy • Sound and Mechanical Waves • Light and the Electromagnetic Spectrum • Electrical Circuits • Magnets and Magnetic Fields	Force and Motion • Potential and Kinetic Energy • Speed, Velocity, and Acceleration • Newton's Laws

Daily Supplies Needed

Students should always have a pencil and their Science folder/binder. Students need to be **curious** and ready to **learn**!

Essential Standards

1. Planning and carrying out lab investigations.
2. Analyzing, graphing, and interpreting data.
3. Developing and using scientific models

Technology

Students will use their Macbook at times to **enhance learning**. The majority of work will be done on paper and pencil. Computer Games will not be played in class.

Grading Policy

AI Policy

All work should be original. Copying and pasting from any source, including AI, will be considered plagiarism and will result in the disciplinary actions listed in the MTMS handbook. AI is for brainstorming, not the final product.

Assessments

Grading is based on labs, projects, bellwork, exit tickets, weekly vocabulary homework, and unit tests. Students may redo/retake assignments or projects to improve upon their learning.

Cheating

Cheating by sharing answers, plagiarism, or using AI without teacher permission will result in a zero on the assignment or assessment with no chance of retake.

Late Work

- Late work will receive a maximum deduction of 10%, if submitted after the due date.
- Assignments cannot be accepted after the end of a quarter.

Bellwork

Assigned daily at the beginning of class in the first 5 minutes of class. The questions cover our essential standards of scientific models, graphing, data, and writing hypotheses. Students will be expected to complete bellwork for days missed and they can be completed outside of class on our Canvas class page.

Homework

Students will be assigned homework every Monday at 8 AM that needs to be completed by Wednesday 3:05 PM. The homework will always be a Google Slide deck about a scientific vocabulary suffix or prefix.

Grading:

Work will be graded on a 4 point mastery scale.

- 4 - Turned in on-time, done in full with best effort
- 3- Significantly late, and/or some parts left blank or containing minor errors
- 2-Significantly late, and/or work done incorrectly and missing substantial amounts of the assignment.
- 1-Significantly late, and/or work done incorrectly and missing a majority of work required.

Quizzes and Tests:

- (Point values will vary) Students will be able to use their notes on quizzes. Science is not about memorizing things. It's about the the application of knowledge, tools, and skills.

Labs

- During many labs, students will be required to wear lab goggles from a shared classroom set..
- **Safety is very important in this class. You will sign a lab safety contract and are expected to follow the guidelines discussed in class each day. Students, who fail to follow safety rules, will be dismissed from lab, and given an alternate assignment.**

Behavior Policy

Our Science classroom has two rules.

- It is never okay to be hurtful.
- It is never okay to be disruptive.

What happens if I can't/won't do these things?

1. Non-Verbal Cue Redirection
2. Verbal Redirection
3. Lunch Detention
4. Parents and office are contacted.

Reference the CHAMPS cards on the classroom board to see the current behavior expectations.

CLASS OVERVIEW

Welcome to 6 South Pathways

About the Class

Pathways is a year-long course designed to help students begin exploring who they are and who they want to become. This class focuses on helping students discover their unique strengths, interests, values, and skills while introducing them to the exciting world of career exploration.

Course Overview

Throughout the course, students will participate in engaging activities, discussions, and hands-on projects that promote self-awareness, goal setting, responsible decision-making, and personal growth. During the second half of the year, students will explore a variety of career clusters and occupations, learning how their interests and abilities connect to future educational and career opportunities.

Supplies Needed

Students should bring:

- MacBook
- Agenda / Hall Passes
- Pencil
- Reading book for independent reading
- Project materials, when necessary

Essential Standards

Creativity	Communication	Collaboration	Critical Thinking
Students will develop and express creativity through a variety of modes and personal choices, demonstrating originality, and exploration.	Students will be able to develop and apply effective communication skills across various contexts to enhance understanding.	Students will be able to develop and demonstrate effective collaboration skills to work successfully with others in various settings.	Students will be able to develop and apply critical thinking skills to analyze, evaluate, and communicate information effectively.
ASSESSMENTS: Who Am I Project (Q1) Life Map (Q1) Cereal Box (Q2) SMART Goals Project (Q3)	ASSESSMENTS: SMART Goals (Q3) One Word Project (Q3) Interview with Future Self (Q4)	ASSESSMENTS: Essential Skills Board Game (Q2) SMART Goals (Q3) Vacation Budget (Q4)	ASSESSMENTS: Essential Skills Board Game (Q2) GRIT Poster (Q3) SMART Goals (Q3) Budgeting (Q4)

Classroom Policies

Assessment & Grading

- Students will be assessed through a combination of classwork, independent practice, and projects.
- Grades will be calculated using total points.
- Projects may be worth more points than in-class assignments.
- Feedback will be provided regularly to support improvement.

Late & Missed Work

- Learning is a process; my priority is your learning and growth.
- You are allowed to make up (and redo) missing assignments as long as they are completed and turned in before the end of the quarter in which they were assigned.
- Late submissions will receive a 10% penalty. This includes redos.

AI & Academic Integrity

- Students will utilize their MacBooks regularly; students must adhere to school guidelines and policies, as noted in the Acceptable Use Policy.
- All submitted work must reflect the student's own thinking and understanding.
- Misuse of AI or plagiarism will result in a 0 and will be required to be redone.

Class Expectations

Students are expected to:

- Come to class prepared and ready to learn.
- Respect others, the classroom, and themselves.
- Give their best effort and have a positive attitude.
- Be honest, even when it's tough.
- Seek feedback and use it to improve their learning.

Class Values

Our classroom aims to be:

- Respectful
- Inclusive
- Curious
- Focused on growth & effort

Important Dates

- 8/18 - Half Day (6th Grade Only)
- 8/19 - First Full Day of School
- 10/15 - 1st Quarter Ends
- 12/18 - 2nd Quarter Ends
- 3/12 - 3rd Quarter Ends
- 5/27 - Last Day of School

Contact

I am here to help you succeed! If you have questions or need extra support, feel free to reach out.

Sarah Katsbulas
6 South | Room 111
skatsbulas@usd232.org



