



**Freedom Middle School**

# in the middle

November 2022



Hello and welcome to the third edition of the “*In the Middle*” monthly newsletter. Enjoy reading about all of the great things happening here at Freedom Middle School!

GO IRISH!!!!

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## Important Dates:

Thursday, Nov. 3	Quarter 1 ends
Friday, Nov. 4	12:30 student dismissal; PM staff inservice
Friday, Nov. 11	Veterans Day Program 11:30am - 2:00pm
Monday, Nov. 14	MAPSS meeting 5:00pm library
Monday, Nov. 21	School Board meeting 6:30 pm
Thursday, Nov. 24	No school Thanksgiving break
Friday, Nov. 25	No school Thanksgiving break
Monday, Nov. 28	8th grade to the PAC 8:45am - 11:15am

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## **Important Reminders:**

- ★ Masking is optional when riding the bus.
- ★ Masking is optional while in school.
- ★ School starting time is 8:00am. Ending time is 3:21pm. Students should be in their 1st hour class no later than 7:55am.
- ★ Turn in all appointment notes to the office. This will help in regards to the 5 and 10 allowable absences from the state.
- ★ Early release time is 12:30.

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**Dr. Methner**

*Hello FMS Parents and Guardians!*

*You may have heard your children referring to "IRISH HOUR" over the past few weeks. Irish Hour is a time when all students have access to additional instruction from their core teachers. This is a time for reteaching, preteaching, targeted skill development, and enrichment.*

*Regardless of your student's GPA, Wisconsin Forward test score, or our local screener Fastbridge, all students need extra help from time to time. Irish Hour provides that structure and adds a time for enrichment in fun, engaging activities. I am proud of our staff who have jumped into Irish Hour with both feet!*

*If you aren't already doing so, please take a look at our Homework Hotline. This is a great resource that is updated daily on our school website.*

*The Homework Hotline will indicate upcoming assessments as well as daily homework, and is a great way to engage in academic conversation with your student. Here's a link to the page:*

*[Freedom Area School District - Homework Hotline](#)*

*To our students and staff: I continue to be impressed with your dedication to learning and school spirit. You are what makes Freedom Middle School a great place to be!*

*I encourage parents and guardians to reach out to me or to teachers with any questions or concerns. I can be reached via email at [gmethner@freedomschools.k12.wi.us](mailto:gmethner@freedomschools.k12.wi.us), or by phone at 920-788-7945 ext. 2309.*



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## *Counselor's Corner - Mr. Jason Bins*

Greetings Freedom Middle School Stakeholders and where did the first month of school go? Although fast, our 2022-23 school year is off to a great start. Thank you for your support and guidance thus far and as we move forward!

The middle school counseling department is working on a number of items in October to support our students and families.

First is our yearly school, peer, and self safety presentation. In this we talk about how to support each other and overall school safety. Included within this presentation is a review of the See Something, Say Something (our district's school safety reporting platform) and the Speak Up - Speak Out platform created by the Wisconsin Department of Justice. These are both great tools to report potential safety issues and to keep our schools and students safe!

We are also continuing work on rapport building with our students, but adding an emphasis on family communication and building relationships with families to support the students at FMS.

With this said, I encourage you to let me know if there are "things" going on at home which may impact your students' day at school. This could be as simple as sending me an email that says "HANDLE WITH CARE - STUDENT NAME." This will alert me that something is going on at home that could impact your student's day. It

will not be followed with questions. Just a communication of receipt and an email to your child's teachers to provide extra grace to your student. Teachers/staff have been trained to not follow up with questions to your child, but just to provide the extra grace and understanding.

Your communication could also be more detailed with pertinent information to support your child's day at Freedom Middle School. As always, this information is protected by counselor confidentiality ethics (voided by potential or current physical harm to parties involved) and legitimate educational interest law.

As I often tell students, my entire role at FMS is to support the social/emotional wellbeing of the students of FMS. Please let me know how I can support your students as they continue their path into adulthood through Freedom Middle School!

Thank you for your support of Freedom Middle School and its students and staff! Please let me know what I can do to help your student. I can be reached at (920) 788-7945 (x2288) or via email at [jbins@freedomschools.k12.wi.us](mailto:jbins@freedomschools.k12.wi.us).  
Water the Bamboo! -JB



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## News from Sixth Grade

Our Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya Field Trip that had to be postponed has been rescheduled for April 14, 2023. Please mark your calendars. All permission slips and payment has been collected, so you won't need to worry about that come Spring. More information will come home about it in the Spring.

Sixth Grade did enjoy our field trip to Homestead Meadows Farm where students learned about Conservation. Classes were taken outdoors to learn about a variety of conservation topics from area groups and professionals. These include water, food production, soil, pollinators, technology, recycling and composting.



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## 7th grade

In ELA, students will continue Patterns of Power work with subject and predicate. Upon conclusion of our narrative writing unit (autobiography), we will move into a class novel unit: [The Watsons Go to Birmingham - 1963](#). Students will continue biweekly Word Work covering vowel digraphs and a monthly independent reading project.

The month of November will be the beginning of the National History Day project. Students will also make Veterans Day cards for local veterans and those at our state veteran's home in King, Wisconsin.

In science, students are learning how to write a chemical reaction and proving whether or not it occurred.

In seventh grade math, students will be finishing up percentages then moving into rational numbers.

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## 8th grade

In science we have been digging deep into our Earth Science unit. Plate boundaries, seismographs and earthquake proof building design all meet in our pasta building earthquake activity. Students engaged with the design and engineering process designing and redesigning buildings to try to withstand the earthquake shake table. We used Pocket Labs to assess how specific forces affected their building designs.

On October 3, the 8th grade visited Tsyunhehkwá in Oneida. We learned about the importance of White Corn to the Oneida Tribes' culture as well as the proper steps of picking, husking, and braiding of the corn. The students also participated in the husking and picking of the White Corn during our visit.





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## EnCore classes

**Spanish—Mrs. Zabel** I'm so proud of the Middle School Spanish students and all of their hard work. So much was accomplished this pentemester with students learning about various Hispanic Cultures and engaging in many learning activities. They were successful in learning how to say how they are feeling using verb conjugation, creating conversations, playing number games, and giving commands.....all in Spanish!



### **Exploratory Music:**

Exploratory music is moving into new units as the autumn leaves begin to fall. The 6th graders have been going into other music rooms to see what instruments are being played. The 7th graders are hard at work learning the keyboard and the 8th graders are brushing up on their guitar skills. We have lots of music planned ahead and I can't wait to keep watching our musicians grow and learn as the year progresses.

### **BAND:**

It's hard to believe it's almost November! The saying "Time flies when you're having fun" is definitely true here in the middle

**Agricultural Department/FFA:** This school year, we are lucky to offer Exploratory Agriculture classes to both the 7th and 8th grade students! With these classes, students are able to join the FFA. The FFA is a student organization, or club, that focuses on developing premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. Middle school members have some leadership and competition opportunities. Once they enter high school, students will have the option of many more opportunities! If your student is interested in joining FFA, they can get a membership form from the Middle School office or from Mrs. Heezen. If you have questions, please reach out: [sheezen@freedomschools.k12.wi.us](mailto:sheezen@freedomschools.k12.wi.us)

### **Choir:**

Our 7th and 8th graders are busy preparing a song entitled, "We Honor You, which we will be presenting at the Veteran's Day tribute on November 11 and all grades are working hard to learn our pieces for our Holiday Concert on December 5. We are celebrating both the big and little victories within each rehearsal and are staying focused on using our musical abilities to spread joy and share the power of music with others.

We are also pleased to announce the nomination of several choir students for the Northeast Wisconsin Conference Middle

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school band room! All of the band students are busy learning lots of songs for all of their upcoming performances. On Halloween, the 8th grade band will be heading to the elementary school to play some spooky favorites for our young audience. Then on November 22nd, members of the 8th grade band will be joining the high school band at the Appleton Christmas Parade. Also look for us at the Freedom Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 3rd.

Mark your calendars for the Winter Concert on Monday, December 19th, at 5:30 PM in the Field House. This is a required performance for all band students. We will be playing many holiday favorites. There will be more info to come as we get closer to the date.

We hope that you are able to make it to our Winter Concert on December 19th!

School Honor Choir. Names of our representatives will be announced in the future. Congratulations to those receiving nominations!

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## From the health office:

### Reminders for the school year-

- If vomiting/diarrhea- your student must be 24 hours vomiting/diarrhea free prior to returning to school/co-curriculars
- Fever of 100.4 or greater, your student will be sent home. Your student must be 24 hours fever free without the use of fever reduction medications prior to returning to school.
- Bring in your emergency medication forms and medications. If a medication is kept on person, a physician must indicate that in the letter/form.
- If there is a change in your student's health condition/diagnosis, physical restrictions, please let the nurse know. Phone is 920-788-7944 or Email is [akazik@freedomschools.k12.wi.us](mailto:akazik@freedomschools.k12.wi.us)

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MIDDLE/HIGH LUNCH MENU  
November, 2022

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
31 Pizza or Chicken Sandwich Applesauce Fresh Veggies Choice of Milk	1 Chicken Wrap or Nachos Pears Corn Choice of Milk	2 Corn Dog or Hamburger French Fries (both) Peaches Baked Beans Choice of Milk Chocolate Chip Bars	3 Chili or Hot Dog w/ Tots Apple Slices Lettuce/Fresh Veggie Choice of Milk Breadstick	4 Bag Lunch Ham & Cheese Fruit Veggie Milk
7 Fish Sandwich or Chicken Patty w/ Mashed Potato Peaches Coleslaw Choice of Milk	8 Italian Sub or Tacos Pears Corn Choice of Milk Hard or Soft Shell	9 Pizza Burger or Chicken Nuggets French Fries (both) Mandarin Oranges Baked Beans Choice of Milk	10 Pizza or Spaghetti & Meatballs Apple Slices Lettuce/Fresh Veggies Choice of Milk Breadstick	11 Veterans Turkey Dinner w/ Mashed Potato Pineapple Corn Choice of Milk Sugar Cookie
14 Pizza or Popcorn Chicken w/ Rice Mixed Fruit Fresh Veggies Choice of Milk	15 Nachos or Mini Corn Dog w/ Tri Tator Applesauce Corn Choice of Milk	16 Chicken Burrito Bowl or Sloppy Joe w/ Smiles Pears Lettuce Choice of Milk	17 BBQ Pork or Chicken Strips French Fries (both) Pineapple Baked Beans Choice of Milk Yellow Cake	18 Chicken Patty w/ Mashed or Hamburger w/ Tots Peaches Green Beans Choice of Milk
21 Chicken Alfredo or Ham & Cheese Pears Cooked Broccoli Choice of Milk Breadstick	22 Fish Sandwich or Chicken Fajita Applesauce Lettuce/Coleslaw Choice of Milk	23 Diced Chicken over Mashed Mandarin Oranges Cooked Carrots Choice of Milk Pumpkin Bar	24        NO SCHOOL	25        NO SCHOOL
28 Chicken Nuggets w/ Tri Tator or Rib Sandwich Berry Cups Cooked Carrots Choice of Milk	29 Pizza or Nachos Applesauce Corn Choice of Milk	30 Mini Corn Dogs w/ Smiles or Gyro Peaches Baked Beans Choice of Milk Oatmeal Bar	        As a reminder there must be funds available in the family foodservice account in order to purchase A la Carte items.	A la Carte Items Rice Krispy Bar \$1.25 Muffin \$1.00 Granola Bar \$0.75 Dbl Ch Oatmeal Bar \$0.75 MEGA Meal \$1.50 Fresh Fruit \$0.65 Water \$1.25