

Freedom Middle School



in the middle

October 2024



Hello and welcome to 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:

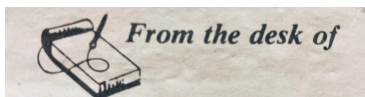
Wednesday, Oct. 9	8th grade to Tsyunhehkwa Farm
Monday, Oct. 14	MAPSS meeting 5:00pm
Tuesday, Oct. 15	Parent/teacher conferences 4:00 - 7:30pm
Thursday, Oct. 17	12:30 dismissal; PM inservice
Friday, Oct. 18	No school; conference break
Monday, Oct. 21	School board meeting 6:30pm
Tuesday, Oct. 22	Pentemester 1 ends
Wednesday, Oct. 23	Pentemester 2 starts
Friday, Oct. 25	Halloween Dance 3:30 - 5:00pm
Thursday, Oct. 31	8th grade band to Elementary school, Masquerade Concert

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Important Reminders:

- ★ 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 Friends!

September came and went in a flurry of activity! I am very proud of our students and staff who have done a great job of "getting back to normal" routines and procedures at our middle school.

I have had a lot of questions from students and parents about social media this month. Over the years, I have found that many parents are frustrated with their student's online activities. I am working with our counselor, Mr. Bins, and other staff to establish resources for parents and to provide guidance to our students regarding digital literacy.

I encourage parents and guardians to reach out to me or to teachers with any questions or concerns.

For those of you who are new to our school district, the middle school has a parent organization called MAPSS (Middle School Association of Parents, Students, and Staff). This group meets monthly and focuses on student and parent voices, and facilitates many great fundraisers and activities at FMS. If you are interested in joining this group, please email me at gmethner@freedomschools.k12.wi.us

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6th Grade News

Welcome to Freedom Middle School, 6th Graders! Lots of pats right on the ol' backs for these students. Way to get acclimated quickly to middle school! We, now, know our way around the building and have been getting pretty good with our lockers.

In Science, 6th graders have built and tested their solar ovens to see how light interacts with different mediums. They were excited to get these outside and make yummy s'mores in the process! In Social Studies, the 6th graders are studying geography which includes learning how to locate places using latitude and longitude, the six elements of geography, how human beings impact the environment, and how the environment impacts human beings. In ELA, we have been focusing on finding good fit books, understanding a purpose for our reading along with genres. Math has started a brand new curriculum, Illustrative Math. This has been a great transition. The students have been very engaged in the activities in class!



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As we begin to get to know your child, we would like to remind you that our study hall time is dedicated to work time on homework. The expectation is that all students complete all assignments during this time, so that they have the opportunity to ask their teachers questions. Student agendas should be going home every night to keep you updated on homework and announcements.

Please contact your child's 1st hour teacher with any general questions about Sixth Grade. If you have questions about a specific class, contact that subject teacher. Thank you.

Terri Erickson, ELA Teacher

terickson@freedomschools.k12.wi.us

Andy Fellingner, Social Studies Teacher

afellinger@freedomschools.k12.wi.us

Erika Van De Leygraaf, Science Teacher

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Margo Fox, ELA Teacher

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Adam Fox, Math Teacher

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Andrew Gibbons, Resource Teacher

agibbons@freedomschools.k12.wi.us

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7th Grade News

ELA - Literacy: We are so excited to begin the year with our Realistic Fiction Unit! During this unit, we will dive into developing our skills in reading more complex fiction texts, analyzing characters, analyzing themes, and thinking critically about point of view and perspective, all while reading critically with questions in mind. This unit will have an emphasis on getting students to think and write critically about complex texts.

Social Studies: Hello everyone! My name is Mr. Gerritts, and I am teaching 7th grade U.S. History. I am so excited to be here in Freedom working with your children. I graduated from Freedom High School in 2001, so it certainly feels like I am coming home. In class, we have studied the Age of Exploration and the Columbian Exchange. If you can't remember anything about those topics from your 7th grade Social Studies class, you should ask your 7th grader. Go Irish!

Science: Greetings parents. My name is Ryan Atwater, and I am the 7 th grade science teacher. This is my 22nd year here at Freedom and my 19th teaching 7 th grade. We are off to a great start here in science. We have switched our online platform for science in themiddle school this year. We are now using OpenSciEd for our curriculum, which is part of the Einstein Project. It is a phenomenon/lab based program that has a lot of hands-on labs. We will be focusing on chemistry for the majority of quarter 1. I'm looking forward to a successful year with your children. Please feel free to email me at ratwater@freedomschools.k12.wi.us with any concerns. Place your child's name in the subject line of the email. Also, please check Skyward, the online grading program often to track your students' progress. Thank you for all of your efforts for a successful school year at home.

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ELA - Writing: Seventh graders are off to a good start in ELA - Writing finishing off the parts of speech review. They'll be using their knowledge of these parts of speech as we begin our daily work with Patterns of Power. In October, we'll work through subject and predicate. Students will also be working on narrative writing by constructing an autobiography that covers past events and brings them into the future! They'll draft, revise, edit, and produce a final copy.

Below: Students work on a group project in ELA - Writing creating an imaginary food truck.



Math:

Students have been doing a great job with our new Illustrative Mathematics curriculum. We are working through Unit 1 on Scaled Figures. The picture below is an example of a group sorting images to explore the ideas of scaled factors that are less than 1, equal to 1, or greater than 1.



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8th Grade News



During an assembly on Thursday, Sept. 5, eighth graders were asked to participate in team-building activities.

8th Grade Math

Math 8 is off to a great start! As you have heard from your student, we are working with a new curriculum this year called Illustrative Math (IM). IM is a problem based curriculum where students spend their time in class working independently and collaboratively on carefully designed and sequenced problems. Students will collaborate with their peers by talking about math, listening to others' ideas, justifying their thought process, and critiquing the reasoning of others. During the month of September, students focused on transforming shapes and points in the coordinate plane. Students have learned to perform and describe translations (slide), rotations (spin), and reflections (flip).

8th Grade ELA

ELA students have been busy with choosing independent reading books and learning their page goals for each week. Students always have the ELA assignment to read for 20 minutes each night to ensure they are completing those goals. Each week they are scored on how many pages they have read out of their overall goal. Weekly goals are averaged together for a monthly Skyward grade. Take time to ask your students what they have been reading.

As we look forward, students will continue to work on a punctuation and sentence combining unit that teaches them to identify and utilize more complex sentences. These skills increase in difficulty, so challenge your students to show you some of their work. This unit moves into reading *The Outsiders* as a text to model many of those skills and work on literary analysis. Finally, they will include the sentence variety in a realistic fiction writing assessment.

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Encore Classes

MS Spanish: Señora Zabel

Middle School Spanish is off to a **GREAT** start! Students can ask and answer basic questions such as How are you? Where are you from? What is your name? How old are you? They are working hard on learning numbers, basic commands and vocabulary. Even though Spanish may sound like a lot of work, we also have a lot of fun. Not only are students working hard at greetings and reviewing concepts, but they are also learning about Hispanic cultures. Students will learn about the Day of the Dead and will research the country of choice for our Flag Project. Our time is also filled with group activities, hands-on learning, competitions, trivia, and games.

Exploratory Music: Brandt

It's the most wonderful time of the year...wait...wrong song. All the same, our time in exploratory music is off to a great start! Each grade level has begun their opening units: 6th on instrument families, 7th on piano, and 8th on guitars. On top of our instrument playing, our older grades have begun the process of researching more about their favorite artists. Who are they as people? Why do they make the music they do? What influences them? These are all questions we hope to answer as we connect the music we study in class with the music students listen to outside of school.

Band/Choir

The FMS Band and Choir programs are off to a successful start. All groups are singing and playing and having a great time learning. A few important dates for the year are listed below. Please add them to your family calendar.

Tuesday, December 2 - Choir 6-12 Winter Concert - Fieldhouse - 7:00pm

Tuesday, December 16 - Band 6-12 Winter Concert - Fieldhouse - 7:00pm

Monday, May 5 - Band and Choir 6th Grade Spring Concert - Fieldhouse - 6:00pm

Monday, May 12 - Band and Choir 7-12 Grade Spring Concert - Weidner Center - 7:00pm

If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year please feel free to contact Christy Delany at cdelany@freedomschools.k12.wi.us or (920)788-7945 ext. 2347 with band questions or Amy Wright at awright@freedomschools.k12.wi.us or (920)788-7945 ext. 2293 with choir questions. We look forward to working with you throughout the year.

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Note from Mrs. Kazik:

Dear FMS Families,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to inform you that I have made the difficult decision to resign from my position as the district nurse. This choice was not made lightly, as I have truly valued the connections I've built with students and their families.

I will sincerely miss each of these wonderful students and wish you all continued success and happiness.

Best regards,

Nurse Amie

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.**
- **All medication must be brought to school/picked up from school by a parent/guardian**
- **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**

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Full Student Meal is \$1.35 Reduced is \$0.30 Extra Milk \$0.40				
Freedom Middle & High School Breakfast: October				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1	2	3	4
	Frosted Cinnamon Roll	Sausage Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich	Pancake & Sausage on a Stick	Belgian Waffle & Cheese Omelet
	Applesauce	Banana	Orange	Apple juice
7	8	9	10	11
French Toast Sticks & Sausage Patty	Frosted Cinnamon Roll	Sausage Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich	Breakfast Smoothie	Belgian Waffle & Cheese Omelet
Orange juice	Applesauce	Banana	Orange	Apple juice
14	15	16	17	18
Sidewinder Breakfast Basket	Frosted Cinnamon Roll	Sausage Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich	Pancake & Sausage on a Stick	No School
Orange juice	Applesauce	Banana	Orange	
21	22	23	24	25
French Toast Sticks & Sausage Patty	Frosted Cinnamon Roll	Sausage Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich	Chocolate Strawberry Overnight Oats	Belgian Waffle & Cheese Omelet
Orange juice	Applesauce	Banana	Orange	Apple juice
28	29	30	31	
Hashbrown Casserole	Frosted Cinnamon Roll	Sausage Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich	Breakfast Smoothie	
Orange juice	Applesauce	Banana	Orange	

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Full Student Meal is \$3.00 Reduced is \$0.40 Extra Milk \$0.40				
Freedom Middle & High School: October Lunch Menu				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1 (1) Chicken Tenders & French Fries (2) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	2 (1) Asian Rice Bowl (2) Cheeseburger (3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	3 (1) Burrito Bowl (2) Breaded Chicken Sandwich (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	4 (1) Popcorn Chicken Bowl (2) Pizza Dippers (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables
7 (1) Chicken Wings (2) Cheeseburger (3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	8 (1) Rotini in Spaghetti with Meatballs (2) Chicken Tenders (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	9 (1) Chicken Alfredo Flatbread (2) Cheeseburger (3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	10 (1) Pulled Pork Nachos (2) Spicy Chicken Sandwich (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	11 (1) Broccoli Cheddar Soup & Breadstick (2) Pizza Dippers (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables
14 (1) General Tso's Chicken with Fried Rice (2) Cheeseburger (3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	15 (1) Mini Corn Dogs w/ Macaroni & Cheese (2) Chicken Tenders (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	16 (1) Baked Potato Bar (2) Cheeseburger (3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	17 Early Release Hot Dog & Potato Chips Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	18 No School
21 (1) Orange Chicken with Fried Rice (2) Cheeseburger (3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	22 (1) Chicken Alfredo & Garlic Breadstick (2) Chicken Tenders (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	23 (1) French Toast Bake (2) Cheeseburger (3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	24 (1) Beef Nachos (2) Spicy Chicken Sandwich (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	25 (1) Popcorn Chicken Bowl (2) Pizza Dippers (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables
28 (1) Chicken Nuggets & Pretzel w/ Cheese (2) Cheeseburger (3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	29 (1) Rotini in Spaghetti with Meatballs (2) Chicken Tenders (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	30 (1) BBQ Pork Sandwich w/ Potato Chips (2) Cheeseburger (3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	31 (1) Chicken Caesar Wrap (2) Breaded Chicken Sandwich (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	

A full student lunch includes a choice of entrée supplying protein and grain, two (2) vegetable side dishes, one (1) fruit side dish, and a choice of milk. Milk choices include skim white, 1% white and non-fat chocolate. Menu subject to change. Please contact Logan Wilson, Director of Dining Services 284-5570 This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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FASD

School Store

Use the below QR Code to check out our 2024-2025 School Store designed by Kenny Rose Boutique! These are just a FEW of the options available!!!





Or Click on This Link:

[2024-2025 FASD School Store – Kenny Rose Boutique](#)