



8th Grade NBFA Newsletter

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ELA: Happy New Year! In eighth grade English-Language Arts, the students have completed reading *Call of the Wild* and are working on two projects for the novel. One project combines Health and ELA, while the other is just for Language Arts. For the ELA project, students have a choice of projects, which will be done mostly in class, but may also need to be worked on at home. Both projects will be counted in marking period two's grades.

Math: The 8th grade is focusing on dilations and scale factoring. At the same time, their interdisciplinary project is using their own logo using all transformations, including translations, rotations and reflections. Starting this month, the students start their STEAM lesson which includes creating a model of a miniature golf course. Geometric math is included, focusing on review concepts and as well as new concepts.

Science: 8th grade students have just finished a mini-unit on mutations and they impact living things. They used an online simulation to collected evidence and then were able to apply their knowledge to explain how mutations affect humans. They have now started a unit reproduction and genetic diversity. After this unit, the students will begin a unit on gravity, the solar system, seasons, and lunar phases.

Social Studies: The eighth graders are continuing their work on manifest destiny through the month of January with a cost-benefit project that was just assigned to them. In this activity they will play the role of historian and judge choices made by American politicians in the 19th century. Each student will choose one of the six territorial acquisitions they read about in the chapter and research them to find at least three costs and three benefits for their T-chart. Lastly, the students will write a paragraph answering; did Americans make the right choice? The students will include evidence from their T-chart to support their answer.

Health: The eighth graders just finished up learning about Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. They will be completing an interdisciplinary project with connection to a novel they read in ELA. In addition to that, they have been learning about chronic stress, common stressors for teenagers, and how to manage it. They will be assessed on these concepts in the upcoming weeks.