

## **Trooper News**

### **September 27, 2019**

#### School-Wide Updates:

\*\*Monday, September 30th--Teacher Workday

\*\*Tuesday, October 15, 2019--4pm to 7:30pm--Curriculum Night (see school website for more details)

\*\*Friday, October 25th, 7pm to 9pm--AFMS Fall Dance

#### Language Arts:

We had another GREAT week in ELA! Students are really excited about our novel study, The Lightning Thief. So far, we have worked through the challenges and responses that have faced Percy, as well as made quite a few inferences about his character. Students have been very involved in discussion and written response throughout this week. That format will continue next week as we press on and learn more about our hero!

This past week, students completed a quiz and assessment covering chapters 1-4. All of these exercises are open response and a bit lengthy to complete and grade. Students have been informed that most items will be graded and returned within a week. That being said, coming home with your student today is an Interim Report from all classes. Please note that on the ELA report, a quiz has been entered, but a grade was not available as of the time Interim Reports were printed. When an assignment is given and/or collected, teachers must enter that information into PowerSchools and add the actual score when grading has been completed. As grading is completed, the scores will be entered into PowerSchools. Please encourage your child to check their progress often throughout the year(weekly is great), to stay on top of their grades and activities. Grade Recovery will be offered for **assessments** per the AFMS Grading Policy.

Finally, thank you so much for sending in the recyclable materials this past week. Students that signed up for our STEM activities during SmartBlock had a great time being creative! We look forward to having more of these opportunities throughout the year.

Enjoy the weekend and the extra day off for students on Monday!  
Mrs. Gabbard

#### Math:

The advance class will begin Unit 2 which is Ratio and Proportions next Wednesday. My regular math class will be tested on Unit one next Friday. The second EOG worksheet is due today September 27<sup>th</sup>. All classes are giving the opportunity to do test corrections. Core 1 and 2 corrections are due next Wednesday and Core 3 and 4 are due today September 27<sup>th</sup>. Interims go out today and the cover sheet is due September 27<sup>th</sup> for my homeroom. Have a great weekend.

#### Science:

##### **“Whats A Matta U”**

Next week we will focus on density, physical changes, and preparation for our first test. Density is one of the most important concepts for students to really understand because students will encounter it continuously in science.

Our first matter test is **Friday October 4<sup>th</sup>**. Most students have a pretty good grasp of the basic concepts, but a few are struggling. This is partly due to a lack of effort at home. It is vital that students recognize that when we are talking about states of phases of matter, we are talking about solids, liquids, and gasses. A change of state or phase simply means going from a solid to a liquid (like

melting ice). These changes in state are caused by molecule movements which are determined by temperature.

I will load some Kahoot and Quizizz Games on the website so students can test their knowledge.

This final section on matter will begin on the following week. It is the most difficult because of unfamiliar terms like solute, solvent, saturated, and concentrated. But, it is fun!

### **Matter Test I: Friday October 4th**

#### **Student Learning Objectives:**

I can explain that Density is determined by how much matter is stuffed into a defined space.

**I can compare an element to a compound.**

I can compare and contrast atoms, molecules, and elements.

I can explain how a gas, liquid, and solid are different on a molecular level.

**I can analyze a description or diagram of molecule movement and determine the phase**

#### **Key Questions:**

How do molecules behave in different phases or states of matter?

What impact does heat have upon molecule movement?

What impact does this molecule movement have upon matter?

What is the difference between a physical and a chemical property?

**Science Rocks,  
Mr. Hipps**

#### **Social Studies:**

One of our goals for social studies this year is to introduce students to tools that historians use to analyze events, people, and activities of the past. This week, we learned about culture through looking at our identities. For example, I identify as a teacher, mom, daughter, sister, friend, musician, and reader! The kids learned how to use an organizer called an identity web to expand their thinking of culture. We continued our understanding of geography by exploring longitude and latitude as it relates to Location (one of the five themes of geography). We also analyzed the theme of Place by examining physical characteristics and human characteristics. Our first note-taking activity was on physical features--although most of the kids are not finished with this activity, they will have a chance to finish this next week. We learned the five elements of a map and worked to read maps more accurately. The map quiz went well for most kids. Knowing those seven continents and five oceans is critical as we begin our study of ancient civilizations.

Our first unit test will be next **Friday, October 4th**. Students received the study guide this past Wednesday as well as a link to a Quizlet activity to brush up on vocabulary.