

# Sixth Grade Red Team

Empowered to DREAM, BELIEVE, AND ACHIEVE

Wilbur Middle School 2019-2020

## March News



### Our Email Addresses

Ms. Ficken - Language Arts  
dficken@usd259.net  
(Team Leader)

Ms. Daniels - Social Studies  
ddaniels@usd259.net

Ms. Sears - Science  
psears@usd259.net

Ms. Wysong - Math  
rwysong@usd259.net

### Late work policy:

- Students have 5 days to turn in work late.
- Late work will receive a 10% penalty
- After 5 days it is too late to turn it in

**Tutoring Available**  
(academic support)  
Monday - Thursday  
3:20 to 4:30  
(Students are limited to 2 after school sessions a week.) To sign up for tutoring students need to see Ms. Wysong in room 111.

Assessments are coming, note the dates below. Please don't schedule appointments during our testing hours. Make-up testing is not always easy to do.

Also, some students are in need of pencils, paper, and highlighters. We would appreciate you checking on your child's supplies. As we approach this last quarter, encourage your child to finish strong. We are seeing students not following the expectations both in the classroom and hallways. Tic Tok movements are a distraction in the classroom along with excessive talking. Mr. Linn has asked that we remind students to keep their hands to themselves. This last quarter is very important as we are preparing them for seventh grade. Please encourage your child to focus and put forth their best effort.

**We, as a team, have high expectations for our students. We expect them to do the right thing.** If you ever have any concerns, please contact either the teacher directly via email, phone call or you may contact me (Dana Ficken, team leader). You may reach the team of teachers during our team time. We meet on Mondays and Friday from 1:05-1:45. My classroom number is 973-1024. We are focused towards helping your child be the best that he/she can be.

### ***Important Dates:***

- March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Statewide Tornado Drill Practice
- March 5 – Band Concert at 7:00 p.m.
- March 6<sup>th</sup> – Newsletter posted
- March 8<sup>th</sup> – Daylight Savings Begins
- March 11<sup>th</sup> – End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter
- March 12 – no school
- March 16-20 – Spring Break – no school

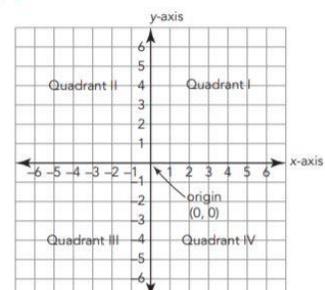
### State Assessment Schedule for Red Team

ELA	Math
March 30 <sup>th</sup> (8:00 - 9:42)	April 20 <sup>th</sup> (8:00-9:42)
March 31 <sup>st</sup> (9:46 - 11:24)	April 21 <sup>st</sup> (9:46-11:24)

### Math Moment

#### The Four-Quadrant Coordinate Plane

The intersection of a horizontal x-axis and vertical y-axis at a point called the origin divides an infinite flat plane into four quadrants.



## Language Arts News (Ms. Ficken)

We have wrapped up our Imagination Unit and are headed into an assessment review. We will take the next few weeks to revisit tested standards. Setting, tone and mood, along with figurative language are just a few of the literary elements we will review before spring break. After we return from spring break, we'll touch on plot and theme. Even though our new curriculum has this built into the units, it is always good to do a review and refresh our students' memories prior to testing. Then we'll head into our next unit which deals with exploration.

Encourage your child to read at home. If you have some time, you might want to visit the Advanced Learning Library. It truly is an amazing place.

## Math News (Ms. Wysong)

In our current module, students are formally introduced to negative numbers. They focus on the meaning assigned to positive and negative rational numbers, with particular focus on the meaning in real-world and mathematical situations. Students develop an understanding of the relationship between opposites and distance on a number line, leading to the concept of absolute value. Students will then explore the four quadrant coordinate plane. After developing a strong foundation for plotting points and determining distances on the coordinate plane, students analyze and solve problems involving geometric shapes on the coordinate plane.

## Science News (Ms. Sears)

We have successfully wrapped up our Intro to Chemistry unit and are now diving into Ecology. So far in Science, we have completed photosynthesis and cellular respiration and have now gone into populations. Over the next week, we will be learning more about symbiosis. Symbiosis is the interactions between at least two living things that typically benefit from each other. The students will be taking a quiz on Thursday, March 12, 2020. This is a good stopping point for our unit and when they come back from Spring Break we will retouch on what we have learned this far and jump on into food webs and food chains. As a reminder, it is important for students to complete their work in a timely manner. If students are absent it is their responsibility to make sure they get and return the work they missed. Absences are not an excuse for not completing their work and getting it turned in. As always, if there are ever any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call the school and leave a message for me or email me directly and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

We only have two months of school left, please encourage your students to keep pushing until the very end!

## Social Studies News (Ms. Daniels)

Social Studies—Knowledge is POWER!!

After spring break we will begin our study of ancient Greece by looking at the Athenian and Spartan societies. This is a really fun unit and leads up to a big debate about which one would be the better society to be a part of. We will learn about the beginnings of democracy, where citizens have rights as well as responsibilities. Students will connect their learning to our current citizenship requirements which include, going to school. Yes, it comes as quite a surprise to students that they are required by law to attend school as part of their citizenship responsibilities. We tend to think of only our rights without realizing that we also have responsibilities as American citizens. The United States of America invests in the future of all citizens by gifting them a 12 year education of basic skills needed to become a productive member of society in the future. Tax money is used to invest in each young citizen's future. This opportunity is given to all citizens with the expectation that they will be ready to become productive citizens who are involved and participate in our democracy. Most American kids do not realize that school is an individual privilege and also a civic duty to our country. Lots of learning will take place in this unit.