



Quarter 3 2023-2024 Newsletter

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A message from Ms. Wells:

Thank you for all of the parents and guardians who participated in our Parent-Teacher Conferences this quarter. Your continued communication with our staff will allow us to better support your child. It is hard to believe we are heading into our final quarter for the school year.

We are excited to announce that we have our first graduate and look forward to having a few more seniors walk the stage in May. We will begin discussions with all home school administration teams on any possible placement changes for the fall of 2024. Students must be working toward completion of their AEP (Alternate Education Plan) for such discussions to occur. Please give me a call if you have questions regarding your son or daughter's placement for the fall.

We will be offering summer school in June for any student who is credit deficient or any student who simply wants to work ahead on credits. More information will be available in April. Spring break is around the corner, March 25-April 1. The office will be closed during this time.

A message from Mrs. Bockenfeld: **Navigation Time**

We continue to discuss and learn strategies to be our personal best. The Navigation Time lessons have focused on integrity and being our best even when nobody else is looking. Integrity and “staying in our lane” have been a focus to being responsible, respectful, and engaged at school. We are having conversations about career exploration by using information about the 16 career clusters posted in the cafeteria and individually focused in our MajorClarity, a district online program to learn about careers.



Students construct a roller coaster to demonstrate the conversion between potential and kinetic energy.

Assessments

We will administer the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) to 7th and 8th grade students during the week of March 4th. IAR is an assessment to show students' English and math preparation for the next grade level.

All 8th and 11th grade students will take the Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) during the week of March 4th. The ISA shows students' progress and performance in science and preparation for science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields of study.

On April 9th, all students in 9th, 10th, and 11th grade, will take the PSAT or SAT. The SAT is a required test for high school graduation. More information to come through school reach messages in April.

Student Support/Family Liaison Reminders:

We are beginning to see a lot of late arrivals.

Doors to The Academy open at 7:20am. Breakfast is served from 7:30am-7:50am. Class begins at 7:50am. If your student is a walker or car rider, please help ensure they arrive at school on time.

Late arrivals drastically impact and throw off the learning environment.

Student Support/Family Liaison Team by grade:

Mrs. Woodworth- 7th and 8th grade

Mr. Carroll- 9th and 10th grade

Mr. John- 11th and 12th grade



School Wellness Update:

School Attendance & Health

Many health factors can keep kids away from school and contribute to chronic absenteeism (missing 10% or more of school days). Missing school can cause health problems, too! Kids who miss lots of days are more likely to fall behind and later drop out. Adults with less education are more likely to have worse health throughout their lives. Chronic absenteeism is now reported at the school and district level so educators can intervene early when kids are missing out and falling behind.

World Teen Wellness Day—March 2

People around the world observe World Teen Mental Wellness Day. This day focuses on helping teenagers with their mental health. The goal is to help teens be aware of issues themselves and others face and to stop thinking of mental health problems as something bad. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), mental health means feeling good about yourself, being able to handle life's challenges, working well, and helping your community. Teenagers often go through mental health issues, making up 16% of problems for people aged 10-19. Teens can face serious issues like suicide and depression, which can lead to other problems like using drugs and alcohol. The stigma around mental illness can make it tough for teens to ask for help. This day encourages talking openly about mental health and making people aware so they can support teens all over the world. Good mental health is feelings of happiness and the ability to engage in activities that bring joy and fulfillment. The ability to form friendships, perform well academically and have positive relationships with family members. Poor mental health is prolonged feelings of sadness, worry and stress which can negatively impact a teen's ability to engage in enjoyable activities and interact with others. Educating oneself about mental health is important as it allows for a better understanding and support of their emotions and feelings as well as the ability to recognize and support others who may be experiencing mental health challenges.