

PLAIN TALK

Quarterly news and views from Sierra Vista Junior High

Important Information

Grading Timeline

February 16: End of Progress Report grading period.

February 24: Quarter 3 Progress Report Grades carried home.

March 16: End of Report Card grading period.

March 23: Quarter 3 Report Card Grades carried home.

Minimum Days

February 23, March 16, March 22, March 29

Quarter 3 Holidays

February 17 and February 20

Principal's Message

Greetings Sierra Vista Families,

I would like to wish a Happy New Year to all members of the Sierra Vista family. We are looking to have an exciting and event filled second semester. One new aspect to the new semester is our STAR prep days. We have designed seven days leading up of the STAR test in April in which students will meet with their STAR testing group and instructor. We completed the first STAR prep day by explaining to the students what the STAR exam means for them such as future class placement. We also went over their scores. It was amazing to discover that the vast majority of students had no idea what their score was from the previous year. We have made the goal for all students to raise their achievement by at least one level. We know we have outstanding students and teachers at Sierra Vista, and we feel that by including the students in setting these goals, we will obtain a higher rate of student achievement.

We Can All Learn from Words of Wisdom

On January 31, a well-known motivational speaker, Keith Hawkins, came to Sierra Vista to speak to our students about the importance of education and helping fellow human beings. While his message was directed towards the students, I also found a great tool to use, with my own children. Everyday I ask my daughters, "What did you learn at school today?" If your children are like mine, they usually respond with "nothing" or "I don't know." Mr. Hawkins gave parents a great tool that day. Everyday he asks his children two questions, "Did you work hard today?" and, "Who did you help today?" Asking the first question should lead to a follow up. If they say "yes" you ask what it was they did. If the answer is "no" you can say, "Well then we need to talk about your effort." The second question is impactful because it causes children to think about things that affect others and how their actions can impact other people's lives. I have been practicing this in my home and it has already led to some great conversations in the Crawford house. I hope you give it a try.

End of the School Year Schedule

It is never too early to begin planning for end of the year events. The last day for students is **Friday, June 1, 2012**. There is no promotion ceremony this year. Listed below is the end of the year schedule with all the activities we are offering to our 8th grade students.

- **Thursday, May 10 – 8th grade awards ceremony (evening)**

- **Wednesday, May 30 – yearbook distribution party**
- **Thursday, May 31 – 8th grade Disneyland trip**
- **Friday, June 1 - 8th grade BBQ celebration**

Please make note of these dates with your family.

STAR Exam Is Coming Soon

The STAR exam is a state administered test that is very important in allowing schools to view data in order to celebrate success as well as identify challenges. It is becoming increasingly important to the students because many class/program decisions your student may be involved in are based in part on their STAR exam scores. It is very important for your student to be in attendance for these tests. This year our STAR exam schedule has been condensed. The STAR exam will be administered on the following days:

Thursday, April 19

Tuesday, April 24

Thursday, April 26

Friday, April 27 (regular school day)

These school days will be minimum days for the students except for Friday, April 27. However, the departure time for the students has not been determined. As soon as we complete the schedule, we will post it on our website (www.hartdistrict.org/sierra).

Canyon High School Counselor Visits

In order to assist your student in the transition from Junior High to High School, the counselors from Canyon High School will be here meeting with our 8th grade students on **Monday, March 26, 2012 and again on Tuesday, March 27, 2012**. This will be the first time your student will get to meet his or her high school counselor and begin the planning process for the next four years of his or her education. These are very important dates for your student

to be in attendance. Please plan accordingly.

PAC Meetings

The Sierra Vista Parent Advisory Council meets the second Tuesday of every month. All parents are invited to attend. During these meetings we discuss school programs, curriculum, and events. We also take this opportunity to highlight our performing groups. Our next two meetings are scheduled for **February 8, 2012 and March 13, 2012**. The March PAC meeting will be important for 8th grade parents. Canyon High School Principal Bob Messina will be there to discuss the transition from Junior High to High School. Also in attendance will be a panel of former Sierra Vista students discussing the transition from the student perspective. We hope to see you there.

A calendar of events and a wealth of other information can be found on the Sierra Vista website, www.hartdistrict.org/sierra.

Best wishes

Mark Crawford

Principal

Sierra Vista Junior High School

AP Corner

by Brenda Bennett

We recently had an excellent assembly with speaker, Keith Hawkins. Mr. Hawkins' overall message was about the importance of education and being kind to one another throughout life, no matter your age. At one point in the assembly, Mr. Hawkins was talking to our students about a universal conversation in most households after school. He asked students, what is your response when your parents ask you this question, "How was school today?" And the audience responded in a resounding "FINE." He then

asked for their response to the question, "What did you do today?" And again, a resounding "NOTHING" came from the students. Some of you may or may not be laughing right now as you may know these responses from teens all too well. Mr. Hawkins then explained how the same thing happened in his household so he and his wife rephrased what they ask their kids each day. Instead, they ask, "Did you work hard today?" because a "yes" leads to other questions they can't get out of and a "no" leads to a whole other set of questions. Their 2nd question every day is, "Who did you help today" in an effort to encourage and instill in their children the meaning of kindness to all. For me, this was an "ah-ha" moment and I have already started this in my household and have been pleased with the results. I would encourage you to consider adding these questions to the conversations you have with your children and I hope you will find unexpected and wonderful results over time.

With that being said, one of the problems that plague all middle and junior high schools is bullying. As you know from previous articles, bullying takes many forms and can be anything from minor to very serious teasing, ridicule, etc. and can happen even among friend groups who like to state, "we were just playing around." This semester behavior even more important to many students because demerits will effect the loss of the Yearbook distribution party, team activities and field trips, and end of the year activities for 7th and 8th graders, including the Disneyland trip and 8th Grade BBQ celebration.

Please read through the demerit policy, listed below, with your student so that they are aware of how demerits are assigned and how quickly they can add up. (Note: This information is also printed in your student's Binder Reminder on p. 7).

Demerit Policy

If a student violates school rules they will receive demerits. At the start of the new semester (January 17th) all students re-set back to zero. This allowed everyone a fresh start. However, even with only a month of school so far, we are already seeing students with 20 -25 demerits. In most cases, this is due to excessive tardies already and/or multiple Saturday Schools or Suspensions.

Students will receive demerits for behaviors that can result in the following:

Detention = 5 demerits
Saturday School = 10 demerits
Suspension = 15 demerits

Additionally, students will receive demerits automatically each time they violate the following:

Confiscation of a cell phone or an electronic device = 5 demerits
Dress Code Violation = 5 demerits

Consequences for Demerits each semester:

30 demerits: loss of all dances
35 demerits: loss of all team/class field trips, and all team/class activities
40 demerits: loss of ALL school wide activities. For the spring semester, this includes loss of the Yearbook Distribution Party for 7th and 8th graders, the 8th Grade Disneyland Trip, and the 8th Grade BBQ Celebration.

Note: Teams and teachers may have additional rules and requirements.

We want all students to be able to participate in the field trips and activities that their teams put on for the end of the year and for 8th graders, staying under 40 demerits is critical in order to go to Disneyland and the BBQ Celebration. Please remember that for the 8th Grade

Disneyland trip, students must be academically eligible (must have a minimum of 107.5 credits) and be under 40 demerits. However, all 8th graders are allowed to attend the 8th grade BBQ Celebration unless they have 40 demerits or more.

Please remind your student to be on their best behavior, on time to all classes each day, and to be helpful to at least one person every day.

*Information shared from the Keith Hawkins assembly was agreed to by Keith Hawkins and we thank him for his time with our school.

Notes from the ASB Office

Box Tops

Thank you to everyone who has been cutting out Box Tops coupons and sending them to school. So far this year we have earned almost \$500. PLEASE keep looking on all your purchases for the Box Tops coupons and send them in with your student. The next turn in day will be February 29th.

Checks

Please put your student's I.D. number on all checks turned in at school. Also, any checks returned to us for insufficient funds, closed accounts, etc. will be charged a \$15 return fee, since our cost for these items has increased this year. Also, your student will be placed on the CASH ONLY list for the remainder of the school year. Please make all checks payable to SVASB.

Intervention News

If your student is struggling with math or English, then we have an intervention program (ASA) offered right here at the school. It is Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 2:15 to 3:15. In addition, to receiving the help they need, once they attend 30 hours they earn 2.5

credits. For more information, speak with your student's counselor or Ms. Brownlee.

News from the Library **Mrs. Fulleman, Teacher Librarian**

STAR testing is soon approaching at Sierra Vista Jr. High. The staff of the SVJH library recognizes that strong school library programs will assist students in succeeding on these tests by not only reinforcing reading skills, but by helping students to **want** to read.

Library Contests

Our literature-based contests are examples of programs that promote literacy. The 8th grade Poster Contest has concluded, and the 7th grade Bookmark Contest will begin during the week of March 5th. The resulting beautiful posters and bookmarks encourage students to read for enjoyment.

Congratulations to the winners of the 8th Grade Poster Contest:

Grand Prize and Student Choice Winner: Melody Hartman.

1st Runner-up: Ashley Revilla.

2nd Runner-up: Anjum Poswal.

3rd Runner-up: Katrina DeGuzman.

Honorable Mentions: Wayne Boyce, Alegra Minutti, Alisha Perera, Sara Garcia, and Brittney Wagner.

Book Fair

A luau-themed Scholastic book fair is coming to Sierra Vista beginning Monday, March 26th to March 30th. Purchases may be made during school hours and at Open House. An excellent selection of both fiction and nonfiction books will be available. All proceeds will be used to acquire new books and SRC quizzes for the SV library. We appreciate your support! For further information about the fair with book previews, go to our library home page or <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bookfairs/cptoolkit/homepage.do?method=homepage&url=sierravistajhs1>

Recruitment for Library Elective Class and Circulation Desk Workers for 2012-2013 School Year

Mrs. Fulleman is looking for students to join her year-long 8th grade elective class called "Exploratory Literary Media." A few select students for each period will learn how to work at the circulation desk, maintain our collection of books, use advanced technology skills, and create special projects such as book trailers that encourage others to read. We are also looking to select stipend-paid positions for students to work at the library during brunch and lunch or before/after school. Interested students should see Mrs. Fulleman during the month of March and turn in their application to her by April 20th.

READ Posters with ASB

Students in our ASB posed for photos/posters to promote reading. They may be viewed around campus and in some classrooms. Below is a sample of one of them.



CJSF- Honor Society News



Congratulations to all 7th and 8th grade students who have qualified and joined CJSF, our Honor Society. The Installation Ceremonies will be on 2/28/12 for the 8th grade students and 2/29/12 for the 7th grade students. For both evenings, students must meet at the SV

Library by 6:45 p.m. to assemble in alphabetical order for the **7:00 p.m.** procession into the MPR.

The optional field trip this semester is to the Gene Autry Museum for a tour, group activity, and lunch. This is a program specially developed for school groups. The date and time for this trip is March 23, 2012 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The cost for this optional trip is \$15.00, which covers the cost of entrance to the museum, lunch, and transportation. Trip slips and monies are due to the ASB office by 3/9/12.

For more information regarding CJSF, go to the Sierra Vista Home page; click "On Campus" then "Honor Society." Or, you may e-mail the faculty advisor, Mrs. Fulleman, at fulleman@hartdistrict.org.

Elective Department News

The ability to offer elective programs such as Foods, Woodshop, Art, and Video are important to any school. They offer students hands-on experience with a subject that could later become a career. These experiences are invaluable to the intellectual growth of our students. However, elective departments statewide are finding their funding being dramatically cut to the point that some programs are being eliminated. At Sierra Vista, we find ourselves in a similar situation. We want to provide these classes for all students, yet it is becoming increasingly difficult to offer these classes with the hands-on activities that are so important. Every lab activity in the elective program involves consumable goods. When the students make a cake in foods, they eat it. When a student makes a table or jewelry box in woodshop, they take it home. Many great art projects are created by the students, but you can't reuse paint.

The teachers in our elective programs love working with your students. We want to

continue to provide great activities and experiences for all of our students. If you are able to assist us with a donation it would be greatly appreciated. Any donation to our elective department should be made to Sierra Vista ASB. Please specify to which course you are contributing.

Thank you for your consideration,
Mr. Crawford and the Elective Department
Doris Barela-Fossen - Foods and Nutrition
Matt Ballard - Music
Darcy Frandsen - Art
Stan Rushing - Wood

Math Department News



CONSUMER ELECTRONICS RECYCLING –

The Math Department is again collecting used (working or not) consumer electronics for recycling.

You can send your items to

your child's math teacher or take them to the office. The list of recyclables includes...

- ink jet and laser printer cartridges
- cell phones
- Ipods
- digital cameras
- digital video cameras
- personal gaming systems (DS, PSP)
- notebook/laptop computers

We do not need chargers, cases, etc. for the items, only the items themselves. The items will be sent to a company called EcoPhones who recycle the electronics. Email Mrs. Coleman (kcoleman@hartdistrict.org) for more information.

Seventh Grade Math Team

Pre-Algebra

In Pre-Algebra this quarter, students will be learning how to graph linear equations and exploring slope. Students will also learn exponent properties and solving proportions, as well as, continuing to

review solving two-step equations and inequalities.

Enriched Pre-Algebra

In Enriched Pre-Algebra this quarter, students will be learning how to graph linear equations, horizontal and vertical lines, and exploring the slope of a line and the slope formula. In addition, students will learn the exponent properties and be able to use the properties to simplify expressions.

Algebra 1

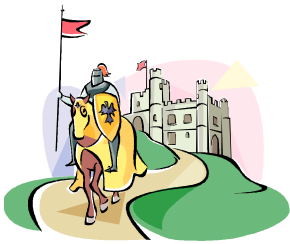
In Algebra 1, we have four more chapters to complete until STAR Testing. Students are currently learning how to factor expressions, so we can start solving quadratic equations. Algebra ASA is available to students who are struggling with any standard. If your son or daughter is not officially enrolled in ASA, he/she can still attend as needed. Classes are held in room 617 on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 2:15 until 3:15.

Please continue to check Infinite Campus for homework, important dates and homework assignments. This is critical when students are absent so they are not behind when they return from an absence, as well as keeping up with your student's overall performance in their classes. In addition, please be sure to check your student's Binder Reminder for nightly homework, as they are required to record their homework assignments for each class. Please contact your student's math teacher if your student needs any additional assistance.

Team Legacy

In Mrs. Terranova's science class, students are learning about the fascinating topic of genetics! Students are discovering why they look similar and/or different from their mother, father, sister, or brother, and are understanding WHY humans can vary so greatly in their appearance.

This quarter in Mrs. Caneday's English class, we are developing our persuasive writing skills throughout the quarter. As we read different novels in literature circles, we will be improving our active reading skills as we take one of the following roles every week: Discussion Director, Clarifier, Literary Luminary, Connector, or Illustrator. We are also focusing on roots and affixes in an effort to improve spelling and understanding of multi-syllabic words. The main writing assignment of the quarter will be a persuasive essay and the project will be a themed roots and affixes dictionary. Please check my website for important dates, homework, daily warm-ups and words of the day, and the table of contents at <http://staff.hartdistrict.org/sscott>.



Third quarter history finds us exploring the world of Middle Ages Europe. Students will be participating in a simulation activity lasting for several weeks where various roles are assumed, including: serf, peasant, clergy, knight, lord, king and more. We will also have a "Monastery Day" where all students will take a vow of silence and not speak for the entire period. The "Middle Ages/Renaissance Biography Project" will be assigned during this quarter as well. In pairs, students will become an expert on a major historical figure and create a presentation using Google docs. Presentations began in class the week of February 6th.

Team Academia

Team Academia has a field trip planned this quarter. Please note that it is imperative for students to be on track both academically and behaviorally in order to participate. Additionally, continue to use infinite campus and our team website to

stay abreast of what is taking place in classes. In science, third quarter is off and running. We are discovering the cell cycle and genetics. This quarter is very interesting to the students as they learn a lot about their own genetic make-up. In English, students are reading the novel, *War Between the Classes* while learning persuasive writing.

The Monarchs

In Mrs. de la Cruz's science class third quarter, we discuss what determines our traits. Our class constructed a candy model to help us learn the structure of DNA. Using Punnett Squares, we are able to calculate the likelihood of the traits we get from mom and dad showing in our physical appearance. We will also be looking at both positive and negative consequences of DNA technology, such as gene therapy, cloning, and stem cells.

Mr. Harper's class has been engulfed in the world of Medieval Europe. Kings, queens, knights, priests, monks, and serfs have taken over the classroom. It has been a great experience, but we will soon leave the Dark Ages and move forward into the Renaissance. We will learn about how this time period, which was filled with some of history's greatest geniuses, changed the world forever.

The main focus in Mrs. Marsh's English class this quarter will be on persuasive reading and writing, as well as delivering oral presentations, in order to prepare for the state writing test in March. Also, students will be reading *The Outsiders*, a novel set in the 1960's where we will analyze and identify literary elements like theme and characterization.



The Cavaliers

The Cavaliers were excited for 3rd quarter to begin! If your students begin to look at you funny it is because we are studying how genes, DNA & heredity all play a role in how individuals look. They are just trying to figure out why they look the way that they do. We will be looking at the structure of DNA & RNA. We will also be seeing how Punnett squares can be used to predict an offspring's genotype and phenotype. Third quarter is also when we will be covering human reproduction.

We're off to a quick start in English class, moving through the various spelling techniques and straight into persuasive writing. Ms. Stauch's students are now reading S. E. Hinton's second novel, *That Was Then, This Is Now*, to further explore theme and characterization. We will be discussing our novel's themes and incorporating them into our writing while preparing for the California STAR exams. As for the next quarter, students will get to have their say in what novels we read in class. Get excited, it's going to be a blast!

This quarter we have found ourselves in the middle of Europe during the Medieval Period. We have been learning about how the feudal structure emerged and how it changed Europe. We will end this quarter with a study of the rebirth of the Classical Age with the Renaissance, a pivotal moment in the beginning of the Early Modern Era. Next quarter we will explore how modern concepts of government and society emerge in the Age of Revolution and Exploration.



The Champions Team

Believe it or not, we have successfully completed the first half of this school year. Semester I is over! The Champions have

been hard at work with class activities, tests and benchmark exams.

In Mr. Holsenbeck's Math classes, the 7th grade classes will continue their year long journey of working with rational numbers by focusing on fractions during the third quarter. This will include addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of fractions along with the joys of simplifying fractions. 8th graders will be improving their algebraic knowledge by learning to solve one and two step equations and inequalities that involve all forms of rational numbers.

In Mr. Somerville's Life Science classes, the students have begun the New Year by discovering that organisms' traits are based in genetics with modification by the environment. They will also be learning that a tremendous variety exists among species and this variety can be shaped by environmental factors. They have also been excited to delve into the cycle of the cell and the process in which cells divide. The students have been doing lots of hands on interaction with the process in which DNA replicates itself and continues to duplicate life as we know it. In Physical Science, students have sped off to a great start by studying motion, speed, and that velocity is the rate of change in position. The students will also be learning that unbalanced forces cause a change in velocity. Classes will be doing a variety of hands on activities that acquaint them with the structure and make up of the solar system and that it can be understood by studying the changes in stars and galaxies.

Students in reading and history classes are making excellent progress in the SRA reading program. They also completed a history unit on the Constitution, and are looking forward to starting a history unit on the Westward Expansion.



This quarter, Mrs. Brar's English Language Arts classes are focused on writing persuasive compositions. Students will be writing a persuasive letter to our principal, Mr. Crawford regarding a change they wish to implement at Sierra Vista.

The Icons

In science, Ms. Coronado has gone on maternity leave, and Ms. Rupa Sinha has taken her place for the time being. Our Icons students are learning how to graph and calculate acceleration. We are also learning how to recognize acceleration and its relation to science.

In history we are wrapping up our Wagon's West game in which the students simulate life along the Oregon Trail. Students will be completing a project at home detailing their journey. This was due February 9th. During the second half of Quarter 3, we will be discussing the differences between the northern and southern states, ultimately leading to the Civil War.

In Ms. Brownlee's English class, students are focusing on persuasive writing while analyzing conflicts, attitudes and beliefs of various societal ideals. We are reading the novel, Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry, the play Diary of Anne Frank, and watching clips of Farewell to Mazanar as tools to focus on the aforementioned concepts.

In Miss DeWitt's English class, we are creating mobiles to display all the parts of a thesis statement: Topic, Claim and Reasons. Also, we will be visiting the library soon to do research for our persuasive essays and using MyAccess as a tool to develop our writing skills in grammar, mechanics and analysis. Finally, with STAR testing just around the corner, we are using Bellworks warm-up books to prepare for the English portion of the test.

All-in-all, the Icons have a busy, great quarter ahead of them!

Team Excellence

In Mr. Drabinski's history class during the third quarter, we are going to be learning about America expanding westward all the way to California and the Pacific Ocean. We will discuss how the Gold Rush of 1849 turned our area from a territory to a state. We will also look at how the Industrial Revolution changed the way goods were manufactured and with the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad, how people could cross the country in only 8 days.

We are shifting gears in science this quarter. After studying chemistry in quarter 2, we are now focusing on physics. We will be covering motion, speed, acceleration, energy, forces, friction, gravity, density, and other topics. As always, we will be enhancing our learning with hands-on experiments, ending our quarter by making a balloon car with simple materials and measuring its efficiency.

In quarter three, Team Excellence is reading *The Giver*, by Lois Lowry. The novel takes us to a Utopian community where we observe how Jonas, the main character, deals with the new information he receives with his new job. We will be comparing this novel to the movie *The Truman Show*, so please be sure your student's permission slip is turned in. Additionally, we are working on writing persuasive essays. Students are giving thoughtful consideration to counterarguments and supporting their thoughts with rigorous evidence. If you find your student trying to persuade you for some new privileges in a new way, this may be why! ;) Please encourage your student to read 15 pages each night; there is now an online Interactive Reading Log available on the class blog: mrspennay.edublogs.org.



Majestic Team



In Mrs. Herr's English class this quarter, we are mainly focusing on two things. First, we are reading *The Giver*, a futuristic novel that will provide an interesting contrast to the two other novels we have read together this year. Second, we are focusing on writing a persuasive essay. We will be writing in class using the MyAccess system in order to learn the organization of such an essay and its main components. The District Writing Exam is March 6 and for this, students will need to write a persuasive essay in a set amount of time. It is important that students do as well on this exam as possible. Decisions regarding placement in high school can be made based on the test results. To finish the quarter, we will have a few days before the benchmark on March 13 to review grammar and to begin reviewing for the STAR tests in April. Please don't forget to have your son or daughter read every night as homework. The next SRC test, on a book of their own choosing, is February 15.



Westward Ho Pioneers,

As the weather starts to produce sunnier days, Majestics students will be headed back in time on a westward journey in Mrs. Velazquez's history class. They will encounter many hardships similar to those experienced by more than a thousand men, women and children who left Independence, Missouri in the largest wagon train ever to cross the continent west to Oregon in 1843. Students, who become members of this simulated wagon train, will begin to understand many aspects of frontier life and will also create a journal in class of their experiences. Some of the questions we will be exploring are



why people packed all their worldly possessions into small wagons to face uncertainties of trail life? What were the supplies people took with them? What problems did they face when they were far from civilization and how they solved them? Students will get to experience these problems in the form of fate cards, which will affect their progress along the trail. This westward journey will be one of the most fun and memorable learning experiences of the year. As the old saying goes, "Hold onto your hats and glasses... its going to be a bumpy ride."

In Mrs. Parkinson's science class, we are studying Newton's Three Laws of Motion. Ask your student why it is harder to toss and catch a bowling ball than a basketball! We are racing cars, crashing cars, and analyzing changes in velocity. Students are surprised about how gravity pulls objects to Earth. Ask your student whether a softball or a golf ball falls to Earth faster or if they fall at the same rate. We are learning about friction and why it is important to keep enough oil in our cars. Physics is fun this quarter because we can do lots of hands-on activities to help us understand it.

The students are getting more excited about our annual field trip on



the train to Santa Barbara for the day on May 4th. The trip will focus on a historical theme in which students will learn the early history of Santa Barbara as well as be introduced to the historical importance of train transportation to the California economy. Students will also encounter one of the oldest trees in California along the way. We always need parent volunteers for this trip among other volunteer opportunities such as the Ellis Island Simulation in history to be held on May 22

and 23. Information for both activities will be coming home soon.

Please continue checking your student's Binder Reminder, Infinite Campus grades, class notebooks and our school/class web sites. This is the time of year when students begin to feel that they have done enough work to last them for the rest of the year and their grades start to drop. The teachers on the Majestic Team want to guarantee a strong end to the third quarter and a confident stride through the fourth quarter. Please contact Mrs. Velazquez at www.jvelazquez@hartdistrict.org if you would like to volunteer for any of our end of the year events. With your help, our students will succeed in doing their very best!

The Supreme Team

Supreme Team students are off to a great start in Quarter 3! We are pleased to welcome Ms. Suzie Fulleman as Mrs. Frias' long-term sub; Mrs. Frias welcome her daughter, Ava, in December and is out on maternity leave. Ms. Neva Yergensen has also joined us as Ms. Ostrom's long-term sub. Ms. Ostrom is serving as one of our school's counselors in the absence of Justine Saunders, who is also on maternity leave.

In history, students will be learning a during quarter 3. In addition to preparing for the STAR test in April, we will be learning about Andrew Jackson, the Industrial Revolution, Reform Movements, the Growth of Slavery, the Movement West, The Mexican American War, The Civil War, Reconstruction and more! Students will enjoy our Westward Wagons simulation project as we study the changing scenery of the United States during the 1800s.

In English, our focus for the quarter is the art of persuasion. The students are debating, researching, and discovering how

persuasive arguments can be found just about anywhere! In science we are learning about motion, speed, acceleration, and force. Students are performing labs where they calculate the speed and force of objects. There will be many options for extra credit experiments as home for the 2nd half of the quarter.

Supreme Team teachers would just like to send a friendly reminder out to parents to stay on top of your students to make sure they're getting their homework completed and studying for tests/quizzes.