



Tiger Tales

October 2015

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HURON MIDDLE SCHOOL: “A Great Place To Learn”

I want to thank everyone for the terrific start to 2015-'16. It is hard to believe that we are in the 7th week of school. With a late start, after Labor Day, the 1st academic quarter will not end until Friday, November 6. Middle School conferences are scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 12 and Tuesday, Nov. 16 (4:00-7:15 PM). Students are expected to attend these conferences to meet with teachers and discuss learning, behavior, etc.

Think positive! As a parent, motivate your child to do their best work. See homework as a chance for your child to prove his/her independence by getting work done on time and by doing it by themselves. Ask your child to share what he/she is learning in classes. Expect your child to be in school all day, every day---encourage good attendance. The state of South Dakota requires us to have every student in attendance 94% of the school year, thus they can only miss 10 school days before we get penalized as a school.

Our goal is “educational excellence for every child.” We expect all students to graduate with their present classmates. We will hold all students accountable for all missing summative work. We will only calculate summative assessments into grades; what did they actually learn.

We will not deduct points for late work, but do emphasize meeting deadlines. To help us reach our goal, we provide extra time and support throughout the year: Before school (7:30-8:00 AM), every day; during lunch time, every day and after school (3:25-3:55 PM), on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. We do not accept failure, as we know all children are capable of learning. Take advantage of this extra help .

The Middle School Parent Advisory organization would like to thank those who generously gave towards a \$15 donation to help fund student activities, programs, materials, equipment, etc. Please consider giving towards your parent group, so that we can continue to offer opportunities for all kids. Checks made payable to H.M.S. Parent Advisory or stop in the office and drop off a donation today. President--Lisa Kopfmann; Vice-President--Jodi Hegg; Secretary/Treasurer—Sheila Renner. Stay active in your child's education!

Multi-media allow us to communicate easily and often, but the face-to-face conversations are the best means to share. Students are using mobile devices all the time these days. Wouldn't it be great if they could be learning at the same time? Our 8th grade students & staff



are being introduced to 1:1 iPads. It is a learning curve for each as teachers design lessons with technology to enhance the delivery and individualization of instruction. Students must use the tools and resources properly to be effective 21st century learners. As parents, we ask that you make sure the safe and correct use of these mobile devices and that you keep tech time in balance with simple home guidelines.

The beautiful thing about learning is no one can take it away from you.

Best wishes,

*Michael Taplett
Principal*

SCHOOL COUNSELOR HEATHER SIEH

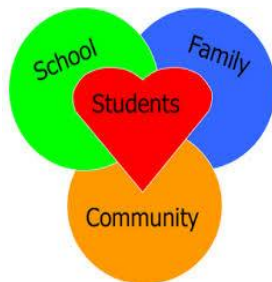


Hi everyone! I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself to all the parents of the students here at Huron Middle School. My name is Heather Sieh and I am the school counselor and also an 8th grade STRIPES teacher. I grew up in Florence, SD. I have three sisters and am the second oldest in my family. After graduating high school I moved to Aberdeen and I lived there for 11 years until I moved to Huron in August of this year. I received my bachelor's degree in Psychology and Sociology with specializations in Human Services and Criminal Justice in 2009 and I just graduated with my master's degree in School Counseling in May 2015. This will be my first year as a school counselor! I have 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ years of experience working with children and families outside of the school setting but I am looking forward to my experience here in Huron! Outside of school I like to spend time with my family, especially my three nephews. In my spare time I also like to sing, travel, go to amusement parks, go to concerts, shop, exercise, play sports (especially basketball, volleyball, and softball) and spend time with friends. I am looking forward to getting to know students, parents, and the staff here at Huron Middle School! I believe this will be the best job I have had yet and am looking forward to a great year!

The school year already seems to be flying by and as we get into the month of October we are focusing on bullying prevention. October is National Bullying Prevention Month and this campaign unites communities nationwide to educate and raise awareness of bullying prevention for students, parents, and school staff. At Huron Middle School we implement several activities to spread awareness throughout our school. Some of the activities include a door decorating contest and



emphasizes a bully prevention technique, video presentations that emphasize the 2nd Step: A Violence Prevention Curriculum, and group activities that promote teamwork and group interaction skills. One of the most important components of the 2nd Step Curriculum is the role of the bystander. It is our goal to teach students that “doing nothing” as a bystander and tolerating the behavior of a bully is as unacceptable as the act of bullying itself. Here at Huron Middle School, and throughout the district, we take a strong stand against bullying behavior. In addition to education and awareness, the anti-bullying policy of the school district provides a detailed intervention policy to investigate and intervene in a



report of bullying behavior. This policy, Bullying/Harassment of Students can be found on the school district website.

With new technology available to students cyber bullying has increased dramatically in the past few years. With our 8th graders receiving iPads this year, their access to technology is even greater.

There are steps that parents can take to help their children from becoming victims or from becoming a bully themselves.

Here are some suggested tips for parents and students regarding cyber bullying:

What Can Parents Do?

1. Keep the computer in a common area of the home. Do not allow it in your children's bedrooms. Monitor their online usage.
2. Learn how various social networking websites work. Become familiar with Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Ask your children if they will show you their profile pages.
3. Talk regularly and specifically with your children about online issues. Let them know they can come to you for help if anything is inappropriate, upsetting, or dangerous.
4. Build trust with your children. Set time limits, explain your reasons for them, and discuss rules for online safety and Internet use. Ask your children to contribute to establishing the rules; then they'll be more inclined to follow them.
5. Tell your children not to respond to any cyberbullying threats or comments online. However, do not delete any of the messages. Instead, print out all the messages, including the e-mail addresses or online screen names of the cyberbully. You will need the messages to verify and prove there is cyberbullying.
6. Don't overreact by blaming your children. If they are being bullied, be supportive and understanding. Find out how long the bullying has been going on and ensure that you'll work together to find a solution. Let your children know they are not to blame for being bullied.
7. Don't under react by telling your children to “shrug it off” or just deal with the bullying. The emotional pain of being bullied is very real and can have long-lasting effects. Don't tease them about it or respond with a “kids will be kids” attitude.

8. Don't threaten to take away your children's computers if they come to you with a problem. This only forces kids to be more secretive.
9. Talk to your school's guidance counselor so they can keep an eye out for bullying during the school day.
10. If there are threats of physical violence or the bullying continues to escalate, get law enforcement involved.

What Can Kids Do?

1. Don't respond to any online or text messages sent by cyberbullies.
2. Don't be an accomplice by forwarding any of the messages to other kids.
3. Save and print out all the messages as proof and evidence of cyberbullying.
4. If you are being bullied, tell an adult immediately to get help solving the problem.
5. If you see someone being bullied online or in person you can say something to the bully or talk to an adult that can help.

More tips can be found at <http://www.parents.com/kids/problems/bullying/18-tips-to-stop-cyberbullying/>

TAP

Colleen Jensen

The Huron Middle School Tiger Afterschool Program (TAP) is in full swing! Middle School students who participate are involved in exciting enrichment activities in reading, mathematics, science, physical education activities from 3:30-5:30 each day! Our program focuses on hands-on, project-based learning that emphasizes student choice and individualized attention!

A nutritious snack is also served, at 3:30pm!

Certified teachers, and paras are the Tiger Afterschool Program's mentors and facilitators.

Fall 2015 offerings are: Book Club; Jewelry Club; Sewing Club; Quiz Bowl Club; Art Club; Chess Club; Creative Problem Solving Club, STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) Club...with other classes, activities and clubs offered as the year progresses!

We dismiss promptly at 5:30pm. Students need to be picked up, or walk/bike home immediately at 5:30pm.

If you would like more information or a registration form, please stop by the middle school office, or contact Colleen Jensen at Huron Middle School.

The following pictures depict students participating in our TAP activities this fall!



ART ROOM NEWS—MRS. JOHNSON

Below you will find some of the projects that your student will be completing in the Art Room during the trimester. Ask them to show you their artwork, some of their designs are incredible.

8th Grade

- Pop Art-enlarged paper mache candy wrapper
- O'Keeffe-oil pastel flower
- Clay
- Word Art
- 4 medium project
- Dimensional project

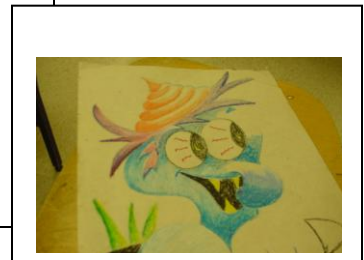
7th Grade

- Van Gogh-"Starry Night"
- Monochromatic scale
- Mondrian-triadic color scheme
- Drawing
- Clay-coil pots
- Paper Molas
- Complementary color scheme



6th Grade

- Line Design
- Visual Texture
- Grandma Moses
- Clay-pinch pot
- Oil pastel Creature
- Drawing
- Paper Mosaic



6-8th Grade English

Victoria Erwin



Welcome to the wonderful world of vocabulary. Students have begun learning how to use a variety of words that are regularly encountered throughout their academic career. Throughout the process, they use pictures, definitions, and even videos to help gain a better understanding of the words. The process of going through the words is in hopes to both bring up test scores, but we also want all students to have a better understanding of words the next time they are used. Many of the students have already learned words like quadrant 1, coordinate plane, or even Boolean search.

Music Notes

By

Mrs. Smith

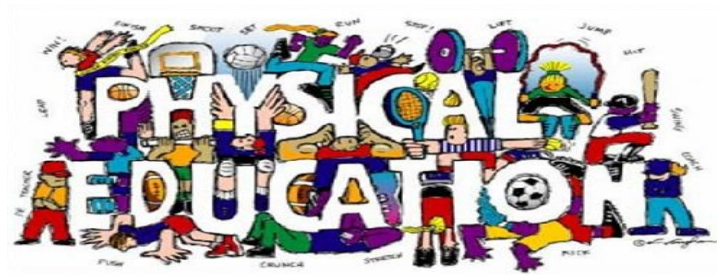
Students in 6th Grade General Music are working on rhythm and note reading skills. We will put these into practice in our upcoming units on guitar and recorder playing.



7th Grade Music Exploration students are creating and presenting mini-musicals in class using fun music from the early days of rock and roll. The students must write a short scene leading up to the song, lip-sync and dance to the song, then write a short scene to end their mini-musical. Many students bring fun costumes and props from home to help put on a really great show. Some of the songs we are using in class are “Return to Sender”, “Blue Suede Shoes”, “Wake Up Little Susie”, and “Jailhouse Rock”. We are learning that putting on a musical takes a lot of hard work and creativity.

8th Grade Theater students are inventing cool and unusual products so they can create a commercial for the class. It’s fun to see the creative ideas they are coming up with. “Girl Lure” and a special spray to help your mother change her emotions are just a couple of the fun ideas. The commercials will be presented live in class in the next week.

Vocal music students in sixth, seventh and eighth grades are busy rehearsing music for the fall concert. Our concert will be held on Monday, November 9 at 7pm in the HHS Auditorium. Please note the change of venue for this year.



Huron Middle School Physical Education Department

When we think about exercise, we imagine ourselves lifting weights, running, or attending an aerobics class. We feel the pain and the suffering of trying to fight the battle of the bulge. For our students exercise means playing and being physically active. By incorporating games into our middle school fitness classes students can still be active and learn the lifetime skills of working together to meet a common goal, communication skills, the power of a positive attitude, and sportsmanship.

This quarter in middle school physical education classes we have provided our students with a variety of different games such as Ultimate Football, 5 base, Can ball and Volleyball to keep our class fresh and exciting. We also have incorporated

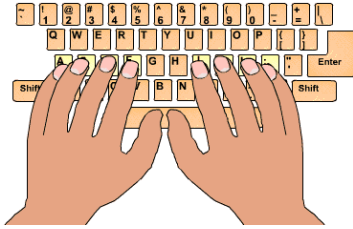


Fitness and Fun Fridays. By combining a regular physical activity program and a healthy diet students will have stronger muscles and bones, be less likely to become overweight, decrease the risk of developing type 2 diabetes, and have a better outlook on life. The best way to get your son or daughter hooked on exercise is by being a good role model. Too many of us are bad role models because we skip breakfast to rush off to work, eat fast food for lunch because it is convenient, and then crash in front of the television at night because we are tired. Be a role model for your children and exercise! Your health depends on it!

Julie King and Tim Buddenhagen

Tammy Barnes

6-8 Exploratory



In 6th grade Keyboard we are using a program called Mavis Beacon to learn our keyboarding skills. The program has lessons and games to help them learn the keys, accuracy and speed.

Writing is our focus in 7th grade. We are excited that each student has the opportunity to complete a published children's book. We are working on becoming better writers by not overusing simple

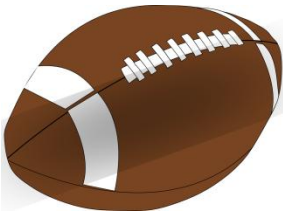
words and being more descriptive in our writing.

Our 8th grade class is participating in a career-exploration online program called *The Real Game*. The students assume and explore the realities of adult life. They have randomly chosen an occupation which they are learning about education, daily experiences, budgeting and other real life situations that go along with their job.

HURON MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS

8th Grade Football

This year has been exciting for the 8th grade football team. We have 28 students on our team, which makes for competitive practices. These students have worked very hard as a team, which has led to success. Our current record for the A team is 6 - 0 and B team is 3 - 1. We have one game remaining against Brookings. The Coaches are **Al Steffen and Tony Thomas**.



7th Grade Football

The 7th grade football team has been playing very well. The "A" team is undefeated with a 4-0 record with the "B" team having a record of 2-2. The two losses that the "B" team suffered were less than a touchdown both times. We as coaches are very happy with the way they have been playing, but know there are some areas that we need to improve. Our team has a huge test at home Thursday night against Mitchell.

Coach Schuyler Holtrop

JV and Varsity Girls and Boys Soccer

Leah Branaugh (coach)



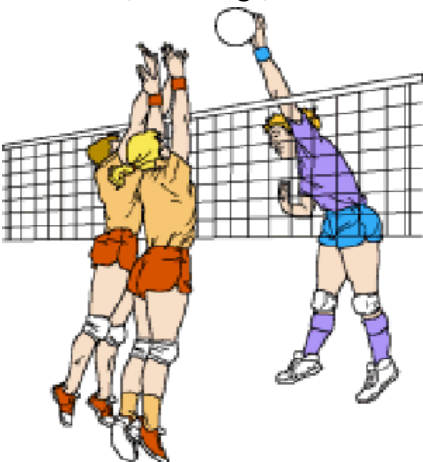
The girls and boys soccer season wrapped up with the girls having their final game on September 24th and the boys ending their season with a loss in the 2nd round of playoffs in Brookings on October 3rd. The middle school had many boys and girls participating in Varsity and JV soccer. The student athletes had successful seasons. The boys JV team finished with an 8-3 record and the boys Varsity finished with a 9-4 record. The girls JV and Varsity team both showed much improvement on the year by each winning games and scoring goals! In season ending awards decided on by the ESD Conference Coaches, 8th grader Hsa Wah Paw was named to the ESD All Conference Honorable Mention Team for her outstanding play as varsity goalie this season.



7th Grade Volleyball!!

Lisa Kissner

We have a great group of athletic and eager girls out for volleyball this year! We have been focusing on the fundamentals, along with moving into our positions and of course learning our approaches to hit. Our season has been very successful. The girls have all been improving as we go. Our season will wrap up on October 31st with the Big 4 teams competing in Watertown. Those teams will be Huron, Watertown, Brookings, and Mitchell.



This year's volleyball athletes include:

Tenley Buddenhagen
Bessie Willemssen
Brooklyn Boetel
Lexy Gilbert
Morgan Kahl
Cailey Coss
Ashley Busch
Leah Pyle
Haylee Peterson
Abbey Gross
Mackenzie Brown
Mariah Mille

Mikena Moore
Bree Gose
Karlle Bigelow
Jayda Hennrich
Dazee Ries
Regan Hamilton
Brooke Schiltz
Mattie Huber
Torrey VanBerkum
Jasmine Feild
Danci Dunkelberger

GOLF

Chris Rozell

The middle school boys' golf team started their season a couple weeks before school this year. The weather was nice and with no school yet they had all day for golf. The members on the team were 8th graders Nathan Gauer, Marty Boetel, and Will Meyer. Will Smith in 7th grade and Drew Arteman and Landon Roberts in 6th grade. This group had the great opportunity to participate in 3 events this season. They all performed very well. With this season under their belt they are excited about their upcoming years and want to get better in the up-coming summer months.



The Nurses' Corner



Reminder - If your child needs to take medication (even Tylenol and ibuprofen) at school a signed authorization sheet is required yearly. Please call with any questions.



**LET THE OFFICE KNOW
WHEN YOUR STUDENT
HAS ANY APPOINTMENTS!!!**

**STUDENTS NEED TO CHECK OUT
AND CHECK BACK IN AT THE OFFICE
FOR THOSE APPOINTMENTS!!!**