

Eagle Express



Volume XV • Issue 1
FEBRUARY 2020

From the Principal

Dear Eagle Families,

We are having a successful school year! We are committed to our school mission to provide a learning environment that addresses the academic needs of your child. The mission of Greenwood Lakes Middle School is to ensure that all students acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to be productive citizens.

Along with teaching the curriculum, we are also preparing your child for the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA). These assessments will begin April 1 and 2 with FSA Writing and continue May 1st and through May 18th. Specific grade level information and dates will be sent out through Skyward Family Access and posted on our Greenwood Lakes Middle School calendar. Visit www.greenwoodlakes.scps.k12.fl.us for more details. Remember to update both your email and phone numbers in Skyward Family Access. You can do this at home by simply logging into and updating your contact information.

We encourage you to check out the types of questions your child will be asked to answer on these rigorous assessments. You can do this by going to <http://fsassessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/>. You will then click "Take the Computer-Based Practice Tests", click "Sign In" (no need to change the Guest log in information), select the grade level and click "Yes", and then select the Student Practice Test you would like to take. All students will participate in a refresher of the FSA testing computer skills prior to the test. We appreciate any time you can devote to you and your students understanding of the FSA. We have many great activities coming up in the second half of the year including our Spring Carnival will be sometime in April, Musical Theatre Performance May 7th & 8th at 6:00pm in our Gym, Chorus Concert May 12th at 6:00pm at LMHS, and Band Concert May 14th at 6:00pm at LMHS. Our 8th Graders are looking forward both the 8th Grade Dance and Field Day. The 8th Grade Field Day will be Thursday, May 21st after lunch. The 8th Grade Dance is Friday, May 22nd! Permission forms went home in December and need to be returned back to Ms. Waller, Administrative Dean. Students need to see Ms. Waller if they need another form. Ticket sales and additional information will follow. These events are for 8th Graders only and a privilege. Student Awards Ceremonies will also occur Tuesday, May 19th. We believe that our students can do anything they wish to do and can be anything they wish to be. We want to provide hope and encouragement to all students to dream big and go after their dreams. If there is anything we can do to help your child, please do not hesitate to contact us.

As Always, Let's SOAR Eagles!

Breezi Erickson

Principal

Mrs. Breezi Erickson, Principal

Mr. Rendon Fletcher, Assistant Principal
Ms. Jacqueline Wick, Assistant Principal

Mr. Evan Sokolowsky
School Administration Manager (S.A.M.)

Ms. Lauren Fedi, Dean of Students
Ms. Megan Waller, Dean of Students

Mrs. Melanie Cavallaro, Guidance Counselor
Mrs. Kimberly Longarzo, Guidance Counselor

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Mission Statement

The mission of Greenwood Lakes Middle School is to ensure that all students acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to be productive citizens.

Sixth Grade standard math is all about expressions and equations in the beginning of the third quarter. Students will be learning about writing, solving, and graphing equations and inequalities. They will end the quarter learning about relationships in geometry. In this unit, students will focus on calculating the areas of triangles, special quadrilaterals, and polygons, as well as the volume of rectangular prisms. Please continue to work on multiplication facts and completing homework which is assigned daily.

Sixth Grade advanced math students will be studying Geometry during the third nine weeks. The focus will be on finding the area of two-dimensional figures as well as surface area and volume of three-dimensional figures. This nine weeks also includes the study of statistics. Students will use different displays to show numerical data and calculate measures of center and measures of variation. It is very important that students complete classwork, homework, and are reviewing on a daily basis.

GEM students have a busy schedule for the third nine weeks. Students begin the quarter exploring statistics with the focus being on measures of variation, shapes of distributions, and choosing appropriate measures. Following statistics, students will dive right into linear relationships, functions, and bivariate data. These units will enable students to study 6th,

7th, and 8th grade standards as they prepare for Algebra. It is an exciting time for them as they are able to use their capabilities to learn and grow.

In **Seventh Grade standard math**, students are diving into three-dimensional geometry. Students will need to have a good understanding of 2D geometry in order to be successful. February starts off with circumference and area of circles. We then move onto surface and volume of prisms and pyramids.

In **Seventh Grade advanced math**, students will be working on writing and graphing linear equations and functions. Students then will dig deeper into statistics. This quarter is focusing a lot on 8th grade skills that students will need to be proficient in order to be successful in Algebra 1 next year.

During the third quarter, **Pre-Algebra** classes will be starting with Geometry and then finishing with systems of equations. Geometry will include: Transformation of shapes (translations, reflections, rotations and dilations), applying the Pythagorean Theorem and volume. Please note that material the first semester will be 55% of the FSA. We will begin reviewing the standards from the first semester through daily problems beginning with Number Systems and working through linear equations, functions and systems. Students will also be given review through various sources such as Khan Academy, Textbook resources, and PowerPoints throughout this quarter leading up to FSA. It is imperative that students complete the review given and teachers will monitor their progress to note any concepts and areas of weaknesses.

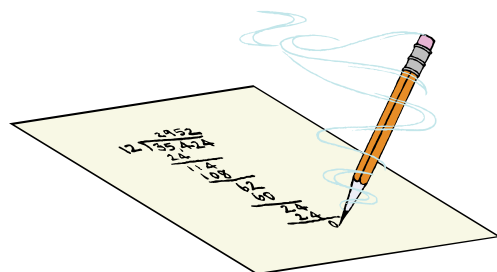
Algebra has an action packed quarter

ahead of them. We begin by looking at statistics with data displays and interpreting and analyzing data sets. We will continue by exploring quadratic functions, which is covered heavily on the EOC. We will interpret parts of a quadratic function and relate it to the graph. There is a big push to connect quadratic functions to the real world so we will look at most quadratic functions in a real-world context. When your child comes home singing the Quadratic Function song, ask them to show you how we use it and what it's used for.

Students in **Algebra I** and **Geometry Honors** do not take the Math FSA on the same schedule as the school. These students take the EOC, which will be given in the beginning of May. We will be having a Boost Camp for students to get additional practice and review in preparation for the EOC. More information will be coming.

Geometry Honors has been working very diligently. We spent a large portion of the second quarter looking at triangle congruency and we begin the third quarter by applying those concepts within other types of polygons. We will then move on to similarity in triangles and end the third quarter studying trigonometric ratios within triangles. Students will begin to see Math Nation weekly assignments to help prepare them for the EOC in May.

Students are working hard in intensive math! They should be passing two iReady lessons each week and getting at least 46 active iReady minutes. These are weekly grades. Students should also be practicing their multiplication facts and using the CUBES method to solve word problems.





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Dr. Richard Dunn, DDS
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Office of Student Services

Welcome Back Eagle Families!

We hope that the winter break was a relaxing experience that allowed your loved ones to spend quality time with one another and provided the opportunity to reflect on the many things in which one can be grateful for. For many adults, the beginning of a new calendar year usually involves some sort of resolution or goal setting. Students should do the same! If you have not already done so, ask your student what he or she would like to accomplish this semester. Then, discuss the steps needed to reach the personal goals that your student identified. Come up with a reasonable amount of time to check in on his or her progress and reward your student accordingly.

Upcoming Events:

1/30/20 Incoming 6th Grade Curriculum Night 6:00-8:00 PM
 2/6/20 Lake Mary High School 8th Grade Field Trip
 2/10/20 Seminole High School 8th Grade Visit (at GLMS)
 2/14/20 Last day to apply for the Take Stock in Children scholarship

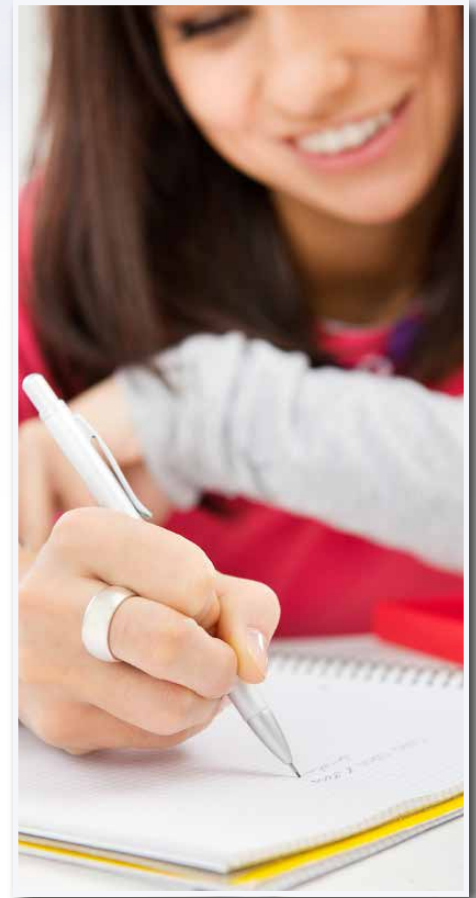
Counselors

Melanie Cavallaro

Counselor for all ESOL, 504 students and all
 7th & 8th grade regular education students.
 407-320-7607
 Cavallmz@scps.k12.fl.us

Kimberly Longarzo

Counselor for all ESE, Gifted students and
 all 6th grade regular education students.
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PBS

Hello Eagles! If you have any items for donation for our school store, The Nest, or would like to give PBS a monetary donation we would greatly appreciate it. Students are so excited about The Nest, therefore our supplies are dwindling. As the weather changes, please remember to dress appropriately over the next few months. Blankets are not permitted on campus so students should add additional layers of clothing to stay warm. We would also like to remind students to put away all headphones and cell phones as they walk in the hallways and keep them secure during class.

The 8th grade tradition of field day and the dance will continue this year! We are so excited for our students to end their middle school years with fun memories as they make preparations to transition into high school. Please note if an 8th grade student receives a discipline referral that results in an Out of School suspension, he or she will not be permitted to attend either event. In December, the Deans spoke to all 8th grade students about these expectations. We provided a handout that was to be signed by the student and his or her parent/guardian and returned no later than January 10, 2020. If you have not signed this handout or your student has not turned this in, please make sure to do so ASAP.

Tim Tiralosi, D.M.D.

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JROTC's Trip to the WWII Museum in Merritt Island

JROTC is preparing for our annual trip to the museum. Museums are important because they teach **critical thinking, empathy**, and other generally important skills and dispositions. Trips to museums help **get kids excited about school subjects**. In this case, Social Studies and JROTC. Museums **expand the general world knowledge** of students. Museum visits **increase students' cultural capital**; in turn, school groups help museums reach non-traditional museum goers.



WWII Museum Merritt Island, FL

Art Club

Welcome back to the 2nd semester of the 2019-2020 school year. The Art Club is currently working diligently on door art design concepts for the art room. Feel free to stop by and check out our progress in room 2-001. After we finish decorating the art classroom doors, we will be preparing for the upcoming art exhibitions around the community. We look forward to these opportunities to show off our talents. If you feel like you're missing out on the fun, join the Art Club.

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Legal Eagles Update

Welcome to the second semester of Law & Order: An Introduction to Legal Studies! Legal drama takes center stage as students try cases in our classroom court. Our Legal Eagles have been working hard to prepare their first cases. Students take turns playing roles of courtroom professionals in our entirely student led trials. Those who continue with the Forensic Science and Legal Studies Program at Lake Mary High School may take advantage of dual enrollment courses in Forensic Science, Criminal Justice or Paralegal career pathways.



Our trials would not be complete without involvement from parents and community professionals. Please contact Mrs. Bratton if you, a friend, or family member are affiliated with law enforcement, scientific or legal professions and would be interested in assisting with classroom mock trials. Volunteers must be registered as Dividends through the Seminole County Public School website.

Open to Title I Families

Family Resource Center – 1101 S. Bay Ave, Sanford

Out of the Box Wednesdays

Visit the Family Resource Center every Wednesday until 4:00 PM for a fun learning activity that is completely out of the box! Each activity reinforces FL academic standards and encourages the whole family to get involved! You don't want to miss it! For questions, please email scpsfamily@scps.us.

Title I Parent & Family Engagement is excited to announce the launch of the Family Empowerment Series. Join us on the second Tuesday of every month from 10 AM – 12 PM for a dynamic interactive workshop on a variety of topics chosen by families like you! For a complete list of workshops and to RSVP, please visit www.scps.us/family.



2020 Track Schedule – Coach Haynes

January 29th.....	GLMS.....	4:30pm
February 5th.....	Teague.....	4:30pm
February 12th.....	Galileo.....	4:30pm
February 19th.....	GLMS.....	4:30pm
February 29th.....	County Meet.....	Hagerty High School @ 8am

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Reading Department

The Reading department in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade just finished up the second round of iReady diagnostic testing. The data from iReady has been shared with your students individually.

Students are expected to complete two lessons each week on iReady with a score of 67% or more. Classroom time has been set aside to allow the students enough time to complete their required lessons. If the students have not completed their lessons by Thursday afternoon, they will need to complete the lessons at home if a computer and internet is available.

The Read to Lead competition is another great way to have your child improve his or her reading skills. You can still join the club meetings on Mondays and Tuesdays from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. This will help your student build up reading stamina that will help them on the FSA exams. The Reading FSA exam is going to be occurring in May.



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ELA

6th Grade:

The sixth grade team will be delving into the world of Greek Mythology over the next few weeks to practice analyzing elements of plot and determining the theme of a story! Students have also been reading informational texts in order to analyze how the information is organized as well as the author's purpose for writing. In addition, students are working very hard to practice their writing skills in preparation for our second Write Score practice essay coming up on February 5th and 6th. Being present for the Write Score assessment is very important! These essays give us a very good idea of how the students will perform on the FSA Writing exam. The essays the students produce for Write Score will be used to reinforce key writing skills before the FSA Writing in April. Finally, be on the look out for 6th Grade Student-Led Conferences hosted by the awesome 6th Grade ELA team!



7th Grade:

Our awesome seventh graders will be working with a variety of texts to determine point of view. Students will also be reading informational texts to practice analyzing text structure. We will also be working on different writing strategies to help us prepare for our next Write Score assessment in February! Students have been analyzing their results from our first Write Score in the Fall to determine their own strengths and weaknesses in regards to academic writing. Students have been working very hard to enhance those strengths and improve their weaknesses!

8th Grade:

8th grade ELA has been focusing on writing and analyzing their Write Score essay scores. Students worked hard reading sources, pulling evidence, and supporting their claims. We are now reading a series of historical fiction and informational texts about and around the Civil War. We will read to examine the central idea, analyze interactions, interpret words and structure, and determine the author's perspective in a variety of texts. We will be working hard to prepare our 8th graders for high school English classes. Students are still expected to be reading on their own and turning in weekly reflections as well as complete the practice assignments on www.noredink.com. It is important for students to build reading stamina to prepare for high school and beyond!

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Science Department

6th Grade:

Students have been learning about layers of the Earth and will be going into the rock cycle! The unit they are in is called "Change Over Time". Ask them about what the inside of the earth looks like and what they already know about the rock cycle. They should already know how to describe the layers of the solid earth, including the lithosphere, the hot convecting mantle, and the dense metallic liquid and solid cores.

7th Grade:

Students are learning about the Hierarchy of Organisms. This includes cells, cell theory, and energy transformations (photosynthesis/cell respiration). Ask them all about cell organelles and the difference between a plant and animal cell. They will be able to recognize the parts of a cell and why they are important.

8th Grade:

Students are working on the units of Variations and Hierarchy of Organisms. Variations will cover the theory of evolution stating that living things evolved from earlier species. They will identify methods for measuring the age of the Earth, including Law of Superposition and radioactive dating. Students will be able to explain and give examples of how physical evidence supports scientific theories that Earth has evolved over geologic time due to natural processes. Understand how genetic variation, adaptations and environmental factors contribute to evolution by natural selection. Students will describe hierarchical organization from atoms to organisms. They will also need to identify general functions of the major systems of the human body. In the Hierarchy of Organisms, students will also have the opportunity to dissect frogs (something most students have been excited to do!)

Social Studies

6th Grade:

During the months of February and March, all World History students will be covering two of the most exciting units of the year; Greece and The Roman Republic. The students historically seem to enjoy these two units and enjoy engaging in all of the mythology and stories of the Ancient Greeks and Romans. The Roman Republic will include a DBQ and will be covered for most of February.

7th Grade:

During the months of February and March, 7th grade Civics students will be discussing the Bill of Rights and other Amendments to the Constitution and Landmark Supreme Court cases. These units are some of the student's favorite units of the year and have real life applications all around them. Students will be expected to learn the Bill of Rights in its entirety. Civics will be starting weekly "Bootcamp" tutoring sessions every Thursday afternoon from 4pm-5pm. Fliers and permission slips will be sent home to all civics students.

8th Grade:

During the months of February and March, 8th grade US history students will be discussing Westward Expansion with a DBQ, Jacksonian Democracy, The North and the South, and Reform movements. These topics discuss some of the most important pieces of our country's history and why our nation looks the way it does today. All 8th grade students will be working on their history fair projects which are to be completed by February 6th.

LAKE MARY

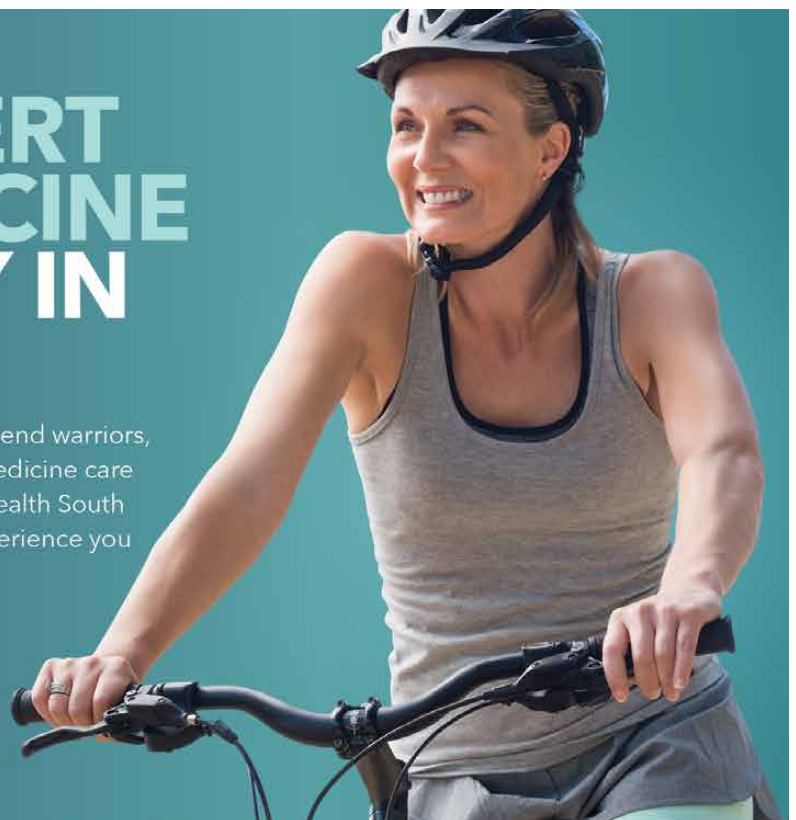
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Reading Department

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