

Kennedy Middle School
School Improvement Team

January 16, 2025

I. Attendance: Ms. Ming, Ms. Wilson, Ms. Carmichael, Ms. Jennings, Ms. Trice, Ms. DeWalt, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Goodrum, and Ms. Caracci

II. Current Enrollment:

6th- 338 7th- 346 8th- 313 Males- 553 Females- 444 All- 997

Hispanic- 42%

African American- 38.1%

White- 7.9%

Asian- 7.5%

Two or More- 4.0%

American Indian- .3%

Students with Disabilities (SWD)- 13.9%

Academically or Intellectually Gifted (AIG)- 7.5%

Multilingual Learners (ML)- 21.7%

McKinney-Vento- 1.8%

Attendance Data: 92.54% Average Daily Attendance (92.02%)

Discipline Data: OSS Currently up to 41 (40), ISS Currently up 58 (14)

Announcements:

1/16-1/27: MVPA Benchmark Makeups
1/16: Home Basketball Game
1/20: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (No School)
1/21: Rising 9th Grade Registration for Palisades HS
1/21-1/23: iReady Reading and Math
1/23: End of Q2/S1
1/23: Last Home Basketball Game @ OHS
1/24: Optional Teacher Workday
1/27: Q3 Begins

2/6-2/28: ACCESS testing for ELLs

III. Title IX:

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a Federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs and activities. All public and private schools, school districts, colleges, and universities receiving any Federal funds must comply with Title IX. **We currently have 0 Incidents.**

[SIP Title IX Quarter 2](#)

IV. Review of SIP

www.indistar.org

Username: GuestS16777 Password: GuestS16777

SIP Indicators Review:

[KMS SIP at-a-glance](#)

Content Lead Update:

Technology/DeWalt- Currently, there are 26 students without a chromebook total. Eleven students are receiving them today. Eleven students need to turn in a payment, and 4 lost their devices.

MTSS Update/Curns- Teachers have been working all year with data from iReady Diagnostic 1 results to assign students relooping and reteaching lessons in their iReady account; this has been an expectation in center time in ELA and Math classes all year. Incentives have been given to some students who have been showing exceptional growth with iReady, and we will continue to encourage students to understand the importance of completing iReady tasks as it will help them to grow in standards that need to be retaught to them based on the test results. Students will be taking their Math and ELA iReady Diagnostic 2 test Tuesday and Wednesday, January 21 and 22.

ELA/Curns- 8th grade: Students are wrapping up argumentative essays for the end of Module 2 and the end of Quarter 2 (beginning of Quarter 3 grade for ML/EC students). Students will also be using some "flex" time and Center Time to work on some test-taking strategies before beginning I-READY Diagnostic 2 (Tuesday through Thursday; end of Q2).

We will begin Module 3 on January 27th, starting with I Notice, I Wonder inferences and background knowledge on WWII and Hitler. The anchor book for this Unit is called *Maus*, which is a graphic novel revolving around the Holocaust.

7th grade: Students are currently finishing their Module 2, Unit 3 activities, centered around research they have gathered looking at epidemic stories. They are finishing up a formal assessment about creating a podcast script using information they have gathered around epidemics. Students will then present this information in podcast form as an assessment grade. Next week, students will focus on completing their iReady 2 Diagnostic next. They will start Quarter 3 assignments on January 27 by beginning Module 3. In Module 3, they will deep dive into learning about the Harlem Renaissance and analyzing poems and plays popular during this time that helped shape our musical culture.

6th grade: Students are ending Module 2 this week by completing a writing assignment and working on how to cite sources correctly. Module 3, Unit 1 centers around the anchor text *Two Roads*; students will read excerpts of the initial chapters of the text in order to help build interest in the history of American Indian boarding schools. They will then compare informative texts around the topic with parts of the anchor text in order to build connections. The Unit 1 Assessment will focus on gauging students' abilities to read critically and independently for author's point of view and for background information on the topics covered throughout the unit. Students will also be spending next week completing their iReady Diagnostic 2 test.

Science/Goodrum- 6th Grade Science: They will be testing Tuesday 1/21 and Wednesday 1/22 on the eye/light waves. On Thursday 1/23, they will start on the Lithosphere. Standards: 6.E.2 Understand the structure of the earth and how interactions of constructive and destructive forces have resulted in changes in the surface of the Earth over time and the effects of the lithosphere on humans. Understand the properties of waves and the wavelike property of energy in earthquakes.

Clarifying Objectives:

6.E.2.1 Summarize the structure of the earth, including the layers, the mantle and core based on the relative position, composition, and density.

6.E.2.2 Explain how crustal plates and ocean basins are formed, move and interact using earthquakes, heat flow and volcanoes to reflect forces within the earth.

6.P.1.1 Compare the properties of waves to the wavelike property of energy in earthquakes, light, and sound

7th Grade Science: They are on Unit 2, Lesson 16-22 that includes the levels of Organization, Body Systems working together, review and assessment. The next unit will be Genetics.

8th Grade Science: They are following this calendar.

Earth History & Evolution

1/16 & 1/17

Biological Evolution

1/21 & 1/22

Natural Selection

1/23 & 1/27

Genetic Variation

1/28 & 1/29

End of Unit Test

Next Unit: Microbes

Athletics/Goodrum- Last Basketball home game 1/23 @ Olympic High School. Spring sports season begins 2/18 (Baseball and Soccer tryouts), 2/24 (Track tryouts)

Social Studies/Anderson: 6th Grade- They have just wrapped up Unit 3, which focused on Ancient India and Ancient China, and are now preparing students for their 6th-grade Social Studies midterm. Looking ahead, they will begin Unit 4 on Greece and Rome at the start of the 3rd quarter.

7th Grade- They are finishing up Unit 4 on the Industrial Revolution. Mr. Kissane is testing Thursday and Friday. Ms. Dunbar is testing Tuesday/Wednesday of next week. They are both using the district created Mastery Connect unit tests.

8th Grade- Students have learned about the Civil War and the consequences of war leading to Reconstruction in the South. Key people include Abraham Lincoln, Andrew Johnson, Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant. Important events and terms we have discussed in these two units are the Freedman's Bureau, Radical Republicans, Gettysburg Address, the Emancipation Proclamation and the 13th Amendment. In the coming unit's students will learn about the American Industrial Revolution and Progressive Era issues.

Math/Johnson-Ritchey: 6th grade Our 6th grade math students are just beginning Unit 5 - Arithmetic in Base 10. In this unit, students compute sums, differences, products, and quotients of multi-digit whole numbers and decimals, using efficient algorithms. They use calculations with whole numbers and decimals to solve problems set in real-world contexts. **6th grade Honors** Our 6th grade honors students are wrapping up Unit 4 this week. They will begin Unit 5, which will focus on 7th grade standards. The focus of this unit will be on extending their previous work with ratios to look at proportional relationships in a variety of forms, including tables, graphs, and equations. They will learn to identify the constant of proportionality from a table or graph and use that to write an equation that represents the relationship between the two quantities. This will lay the foundation for work with linear equations in all future math courses.

7th grade Our 7th grade math students are working in Unit 5 - Rational Number Operations. This involves operating on positive and negative numbers, both whole and fractions. This unit has historically been challenging for our students and is essential for work with solving equations and inequalities. **7th grade Honors** Our 7th grade honors students are currently finishing up Unit 5.5 on Percents. This focuses on 7th grade standards that were not covered in the 6th grade honors curriculum. They will begin Unit 5 at the start of Quarter 3. Unit 5 is on linear expressions and equations. This unit will address both 7th and 8th grade standards. In this unit, students solve equations of the forms $px + q = r$ and $p(x + q) = r$, and solve related inequalities, e.g., those of the form $px + q > r$ and $px + q \geq r$, where p , q , and r are rational numbers. They also write and solve equations and inequalities in which the variable occurs on both sides of the equal sign, and equations with no solutions, exactly one solution, and infinitely many solutions. They learn that any one such equation is false, true for one value of the variable, or true for all values of the variable. They interpret solutions in the contexts from which the equations arose.

8th grade 8th grade math students will be finishing up Unit 4 before the end of the quarter. Most recently, they have been looking at real-world problems involving more than one linear equation and interpreting the solution (an ordered pair) in the context of the situation. As we move into Unit 5, this work will be reinforced through the study of Functions. 8th grade is the first time students learn the term function to describe a mathematical expression that describes a relationship between 2 quantities by assigning exactly one output to each input. They will represent functions in different ways and use functions to model relationships between quantities.

Math I Math 1 students have recently completed Unit 4 on Linear Regression. Much of the last couple of weeks has been spent in preparation for the mid-term. According to the CMS grading policy, the midterm is 20% of students Semester 1 grade. Math 1 students will begin Unit 5 on Functions at the start of Semester 2. For our middle school Math 1 students, this will be their first exposure to the term Functions, as 8th grade math curriculum is when this is introduced. They will learn that a function is a mathematical expression that describes a relationship between 2 quantities by assigning exactly one output to each input. They will represent functions in different ways and use functions to model relationships between quantities. Math 1 students will expand on this by learning to express functions using function notation, investigate different types of functions, and hone their ability to interpret functions. Students also use functions to model a wider variety of mathematical and real-world situations.

V. Other News or Questions

Job Posting for Spanish (1) and EC Extensions Teacher Assistants (2)

VI. Next Meeting- Thursday, February 13, 2025

3/13/2025

4/10/2025

5/15/2025