

THE MABELLE B. AVERY INFORMER

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Clay Krevolin, Principal

Administration

As a school, we want to assure that students have a comprehensive understanding of the importance of Veteran's Day; the sacrifices that veterans have made to the freedom of this country along with the historical significance. The MBA staff has worked diligently to plan a day of educational events that will increase students appreciation of the National Holiday. These are some of the things that students will be learning about as we focus on Veteran's Day.

On Monday, November 12th, an all-school Veteran's Day Assembly was held. We hosted veterans from the American Legion Post 101 who spoke to the significance of the annual remembrance day.

8th Grade:

Subject	Activity
Language Arts-Miranda	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students research veteran's stories from Stories of Service; The American Legion; American Veterans Center; Army Heritage Center• Complete a ribbon focused on a veteran- Template: Name of the veteran, branch of the military, short summary of their story
Language Arts-Ally	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students participate in a veterans day scavenger hunt• Students participate in a gallery walk where they interact with photos of veterans/soldiers and discuss/share their thoughts
Art	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn about the significance of red poppies• Create red tissue paper poppies/silhouette of a soldier
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research on 5 branches of military that are honored on Veterans Day to create posters.
WL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comparison of the US branches of military with France and Spain/other Spanish speaking countries• Students will use website Nation Master to access information• Groups will then create a venn diagram showing similarities and differences
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BrainPop: Veterans Day

Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing with students how my great uncle died in WWII and pictures I took at the wall of remembrance at Cambridge American Cemetery
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7th Grade:

Subject	Activity
Language Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missing man table
PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Army Ranger Fitness Training
World Regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss/Research the History and Creation of Veterans Day
WL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of Veteran's Day in general for Spanish/Armistice Day in France
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible Service Activity?
Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create Density Map of US Veterans by State

6th Grade:

All students in 6th grade will be writing letters to veterans thanking them for their service to the country. The letters will be collected and brought to the Veteran's Hospital in Newington for distribution to veterans who are hospitalized there. Last time this was done, the school received an official thank you for MBA's generosity in recognizing deserving veterans.

School Counselor Corner and Social Worker

TIPS FOR SAFE SOCIAL NETWORKING FOR TEENS

These tips, based on the latest research, will help teens' socializing stay fun and safe.

Be your own person. Don't let friends or strangers pressure you to be someone you aren't. And know your limits. You may be internet savvy, but people and relationships change, and unexpected stuff can happen on the internet.

Be nice online. Or at least treat people the way you'd want to be treated. People who are nasty and aggressive online are at greater risk of being bullied or harassed themselves. If someone's mean to you, try not to react, definitely don't retaliate, and talk to a trusted adult or a friend who can help. Use privacy tools to block the meanies.

Think about what you post. Sharing provocative photos or intimate details online, even in private emails, can cause you problems later on. Even people you consider friends can use this info against you, especially if they become ex-friends.

Passwords are private. Don't share your password even with friends. It's hard to imagine, but friendships change and you don't want to be impersonated by anyone. Pick a password you can remember but no one else can guess. One trick: Create a sentence like "I graduated from King School in 15" for the password "IgfKSi15."

Read between the "lines." It may be fun to check out new people for friendship or romance, but be aware that, while some people are nice, others act nice because they're trying to get something. Flattering or supportive messages may be more about manipulation than friendship or romance.

Don't talk about sex with strangers. Be cautious when communicating with people you don't know in person, especially if the conversation starts to be about sex or physical details. Don't lead them on – you don't want to be the target of a predator's grooming. If they persist, call your local police or contact CyberTipline.com.

Avoid in-person meetings. The only way someone can physically harm you is if you're both in the same location, so – to be 100% safe – don't meet them in person. If you really have to get together with someone you "met" online, don't go alone. Have the meeting in a public place, tell a parent or some other solid backup, and bring some friends along.

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TIPS FOR SAFE SOCIAL NETWORKING FOR PARENTS

Be reasonable and try to set reasonable expectations. Pulling the plug on your child's favorite social site is like pulling the plug on his or her social life. Instead of being protective, it can shut down communication and send kids "underground" where they're more at risk. It's too easy for them to set up free blogs and profiles from anywhere, including friends' houses or even a cell phone.

Talk with your kids about how they use the services. They, not news reports or even experts, are the ones to consult about their social-Web experience. Help them understand basic safety guidelines, such as protecting their privacy (including passwords), not harassing peers, never talking about sex with people they don't know, avoiding in-person meetings with people they "meet" online, and taking care in what they post - because anything people put online can be grabbed, reworked, and used against them.

Support critical thinking and civil behavior because no laws or parental-control software can protect better than a child's developing good sense about safety and relationships. Research shows that kids who are aggressive and mean online toward peers or strangers are at greater risk of becoming victims themselves. So teach them to be good citizens and friends online as much as offline.

Consider requiring internet use in a high-traffic place in your home - not in kids' rooms - to help you stay aware of their online time. This way, you can encourage a balance between online time and their offline academic, sports, and social times. Know that there are also many ways kids can access the Internet away from home, including on many mobile phones and game players.

Try to get your kids to share their profiles and services with you, but be aware that they can have multiple accounts on multiple services. Use search engines and the search tools on social-networking sites to search for your kids' full names, phone numbers and other identifying information. You're not invading their privacy if they're putting personal info in public "places" online. If their pages are private, that's a good thing, but it's even better if they share it with you. Be aware of the apps they use on their mobile devices.

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Grade 6 Team



Sixth Grade Transition: Stargirl

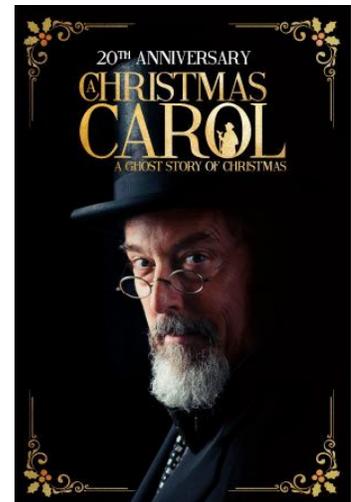
Students in Sixth Grade have made a great transition from the elementary school over the past several weeks. Since the beginning of September, when our hallways were filled with butterflies; students have settled into their schedules and daily routines. Sixth Grade students have all set up a Google homework document, one that is often shared with other students and even parents. Students' homework can be found on our [Sixth Grade Homework Blog](#). Over the summer, our incoming Sixth Graders read Jerry Spinelli's [Stargirl](#), which will be made into a major motion picture this fall. We encourage all parents to visit our display case during our upcoming Parent Teacher Conferences (Wednesday, November 28th and Thursday, November 29th. You will hopefully see that our Sixth Grade is composed of students with a wide variety of interests, goals, and passions.

Sixth Grade Field Trip

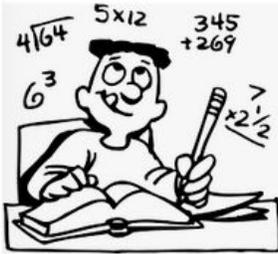
On Tuesday, November 27th, Sixth Grade students will be attending our first field trip; to see Hartford Stage's incredible adaptation of Charles Dickens, [A Christmas Carol](#).

Students are reminded to bring a hearty snack, a "paper-bag" lunch and disposable drink, and to dress appropriately for this special occasion. We will depart at 9:00 a.m. and return to MBA around 2:00 PM. One of the highlights of this year's experience is seeing the production on opening day; along with having the opportunity to stay for a brief question/answer session following the performance.

Students: Start thinking of a great question you would like answered!



Math



A Message to Students About Math Homework . . .

As students, you practice all sorts of things. You practice your instruments for band, your lines for a play, your drills for sports... WHY? Why do people practice? ... To get better!

This is why we practice math, to get better and to identify where we need to improve. None of us are born knowing how to add integers, solve an equation, or write an explicit formula for a geometric sequence. We had to learn these skills, and in order to be able to demonstrate our abilities, we had to practice.

For math class, homework serves many purposes:

- To reinforce concepts learned in class. It is important to take time to review and try the concept again . . . this helps commit it to memory.
- To “F.A.I.L.” What? . . . To experience your “First Attempt In Learning!” Your teachers expect that you will make mistakes on your homework! That’s part of learning! Your job is to IDENTIFY where your mistakes occur, so that your faulty thinking can be corrected . . . before high-stakes quizzes and tests!
- To Build Good Work Habits, such as time management skills, planning and prioritizing, organization, task persistence, and focus.

Just as you have heard Mrs. Luginbuhl say “*Just because you intellectually understand the concepts of snowboarding, you need to anticipate the falls, the bruises, the frustration! And then it clicks and it’s heaven! That’s math!*”



We need your help!

On Thursday, March 28, 2019, Mabelle B. Avery Middle School will be hosting a **CAREER DAY** for our students. We are looking for volunteers who would be interested in sharing information about their careers. The purpose of this program is to acquaint students with a variety of career opportunities and the skills and training necessary for success.

Our program will run in the afternoon on this day. Presenters will be located throughout the school. Students will be scheduled to visit 3 careers based on their interest. Presenters are encouraged to bring in visual aides and/or interactive demonstration materials.

If you or anyone you know is interested in volunteering in our program, please email or complete and return the bottom portion of this letter. You can contact Jaime Bohan, School Counselor at Jaime.bohan@somers.k12.ct.us or Erin Scholes, 7th grade Math at erin.scholes@somers.k12.ct.us.

FITNESS CLUB

Fitness Club began at MBA. Fitness club is an hour activity where students participate in a dynamic warm-up and then play a fitness type game after school. Fitness club runs from 2:30-3:30pm on the following dates (November 14, 16,19, 26, 30. December 3, 5, 10, 12, 14). Students should dress like they do for PE class but also have warm clothes as they will often times go outside if it is not snowing or raining.

To participate in Fitness Club students must

- 1.) Have a physical on file with the nurse that has been completed in the last 13 months.
- 2.) Have a Cardiac Arrest form completed and submitted to Mrs. Lyver or Mr. McCarthy. (You may find these online at the end of this e-mail or outside of Mr. Brown's room)
- 3.) Have a Concussion Informed consent form completed and turned into Mrs. Lyver or Mr. McCarthy (You may find these online at the end of this e-mail or outside of Mr. Brown's room)
- 4.) Have an After School Activities Permission Slip completed and turned into Mrs. Lyver or Mr. McCarthy. (You may find these online at the end of this e-mail or outside of Mr. Brown's room)

---If students have participated in field hockey or cross country this school year, they only need to have the After School Activities Permission Slip completed.

---Students can sign up for Fitness Club in the gym or outside room 502.

Cardiac Arrest Form -

http://sps.ss19.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_61294/File/Departments/Athletics/17-18/CardArrestConsent.pdf

- Concussion Form

http://sps.ss19.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_61294/File/Departments/Athletics/17-18/ConcussionParentConsent.pdf

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wed., 11/21	Early dismissal (11 AM)
Thurs., Fri., 11/22 & 23	Thanksgiving Recess
Tues., 11/27	Grade 6 Field Trip - A Christmas Carole, Hartford Stage
Wed., 11/28 (12-3PM)	Parent Conferences/Scholastic Book Fair
Thurs., 11/29 (4:30-7PM)	Parent Conferences/Scholastic Book Fair
Fri., 12/7	Professional Development - No School