

# LION PRIDE



## DRYDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

LORA CHAMPLAIN, PRINCIPAL

GREGORY HARRIS, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

### Dear DMS Families:

Hello Dryden Lions! Spring is in the air, in spite of the cold wind and rain we have gotten lately, the sun is definitely trying to come out! With Spring time comes a renewed sense of focus, the end of year is in sight and the joy of things to come (summer)! We are now in the merry-month-of-May and we have the NY State ELA and Math tests behind us and 7 more weeks before the end of the marking period and the end of the year! It is going to go by fast!! Please make note of the list of events that appear in this newsletter. Make sure to mark these dates in your calendars.

As we near the end of the school year make sure to reach out to your child(ren)'s teachers if you have any questions or concerns. You can also reach out to our counselor, Ms. Reynolds if you want to discuss your child(ren)'s grades and if you have any concerns about next year.

Believe it or not we are in the home stretch, we only have seven weeks left! That is; 31 days, or 5 Fridays!!! So, dig in and finish off this year strong!!! #LionPride

Ms. Champlain and Mr. Harris



ELA teachers Jenna Griffith and Ashlie Munson are co-teachers in our 8th grade ELA classroom. They make it look easy and bring a sense of fun to each day by coordinating their outfits. They are pictured here wearing matching graphic tees with the words: "Synonym Rolls – Just Like Grammar used to make". Ashlie & Jenna, we truly appreciate your creativity and expression, you inspire those around you with your energy and passion.

### End of the Year Events

May 11 - Panorama SEL Screening

May 16 - MS/HS Art Show

May 16-19 - Spring STAR Assessment Window

May 16-25 - Spring Math Fluency Assessment Window

May 17 - Biology Field Trip

May 19 - PBIS Award Day

May 23 & 24 - NYS Science 8 Test

May 24 & 25 - Spring SRI Assessment Window

May 25 - Dryden Games

May 31 - 6th Grade trip to Lime Hollow

June 2 - MS Spring Dance

June 5 - NYS Science 8 Written Test

June 9 - 5th Grade Transition Day and 8th Grade Dinner & Dance

June 13 - 6th & 7th Grade Awards Night

June 14 - Living Environment Regents

June 15 - Algebra I Regents

June 16 - 6th Grade trip to Treman Park and 8th grade trip to Hershey Park

June 20 - Check Point A Spanish Exam Grade 8

June 21 - 8th Grade Moving Up Ceremony

June 22 - DMS Lion Pride Fun Day

## Student Council Update

The student council finished its second dance fundraiser of the year at the end of March. We had a great turnout. The students had a fun time dancing and gathering with friends. Those that prefer the gym were shooting hoops and socializing on a Friday night. We look forward to celebrating the last dance on June 2. The 8th grade students will also have an opportunity to celebrate their accomplishments in middle school with a dance of their own on June 9.

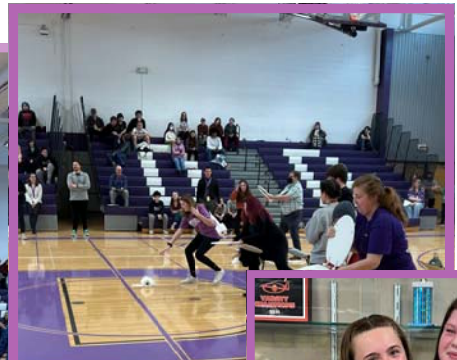
We had a great time competing in Battle of the Grades on March 16. This was a fun event planned to build a sense of community and friendly competition within the middle school building. Students along with faculty were playing silly games in the gym at the end of the school day.

March is a long month and the student council members hoped to bring some smiles and laughter into the building during this fun filled event.



Students competed in events such as toilet paper toss, wrap the teacher in duct tape and cover him/her in balloons, scooter ball toss and many more. The 8th grade students were the winners of the Battle of the Grade with 6th grade in second place and 7th grade in third place.

I have been lucky to work with a great group of students this year. We will finish our year together with an ice cream social.





## 8th Grade Trip to TST BOCES

8<sup>th</sup> graders of Dryden Middle School toured the Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs at TST BOCES on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. Opportunities such as this tour made available by the TST BOCES staff, become more and more important as students begin to think about high school and beyond. Currently TST BOCES offers fourteen CTE programs which you can read about on their website [www.tstcte.org](http://www.tstcte.org).



In general, CTE programs become available to high school students who are entering their junior year (11<sup>th</sup> grade). The two year programs are offered for half the school day, while other coursework typically takes place at Dryden High School the other half of the day. CTE students very often report that the 8<sup>th</sup> grade field trip was both motivational and influential in their decisions about their high school academic program and career path. Dryden Middle School is fortunate that TST BOCES provides our students this valuable opportunity.

## 8th Graders Start Planning for High School



The culmination of Middle School for our current 8<sup>th</sup> graders is fast approaching. One of the tasks 8<sup>th</sup> graders have been completing this spring is selecting courses for 9<sup>th</sup> grade. During social studies classes in early March, Mrs. Kannus, school counselor, presented 8<sup>th</sup> graders with high school diploma requirements and some general information about Dryden High School. Each student received the



[2023-2024 DHS Course Guide](#). Page 1 outlines all of the NYS diploma requirements. You can also see this course guide on-line at [hs.dryden.k12.ny.us/about\\_us/counseling\\_department](http://hs.dryden.k12.ny.us/about_us/counseling_department).

As was shared this spring with parents and guardians through mail and email, all 9<sup>th</sup> graders take English, social studies, math, science, and physical education. Students are also encouraged to consider continuing with Spanish. Further, in general, students are able to choose one (sometimes two) specific elective courses open to 9<sup>th</sup> graders, including art, business, music, and technology. Please reach out to Mrs. Kannus, [mkannus1@dryden.k12.ny.us](mailto:mkannus1@dryden.k12.ny.us), if you have any questions regarding your child's course selections.





Artwork by Gia Maher, grade 6



## MS/HS ART SHOW Tuesday, May 16th

Located in the MS gymnasium, the art show will be open to classes from 8:00-2:30 and then open to the public from 5:00 - 7:00 pm. After voting on the District Spending Plan in the Auditorium, community members should feel free to drive around the building to the HS entrance for easiest access.

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DRYDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
P.O. Box 88 | Dryden, New York 13053

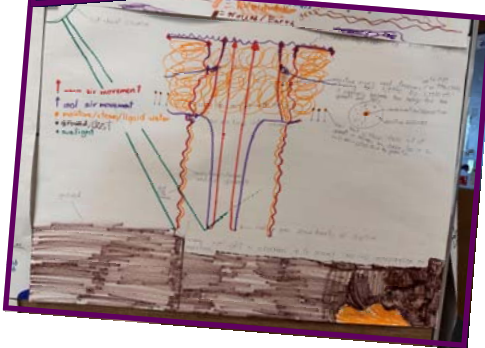
District Office | 607-844-5361

Schools | 607-844-8694

[www.dryden.k12.ny.us](http://www.dryden.k12.ny.us)

## Sixth Grade Science

We have been very busy in science this past marking period. Students participated in many labs and explorations to understand why hail forms and falls from the sky. In this phenomena based unit students learned about cloud formation, rising and falling air masses, evaporation and condensation of water vapor in clouds and how exactly hail forms and stays in clouds until it falls down to earth. By the end of the unit students made models and presented their models to the class.



We are now busy exploring the phenomena of why Mt. Everest is growing 2 cm a year and moving 4 cm North every year. We will be learning about how plate tectonics, earthquakes, convection currents, weathering and erosion influence how mountains grow, shrink and move. We are looking forward to the three upcoming

field trips in which students will be able to apply their scientific knowledge to what they see and experience in nature.

## Learning Web

The Learning Web, located at 320 West Buffalo Street, Ithaca, has visited several students during extra reading, writing and thinking support.

During that time, the representatives from the Learning Web have discussed future job/career interests and options. This month we hope to set up a few visits to professional settings for students who have received permission from their parents.

The Learning Web uses the following guiding question to get students thinking: **"What Do You Want to be When You Grow Up?"**