



Quarter Three News From 7th Grade

Team Two: Allin, Kuehl, Dunkelberger, Hovden,
Bollum

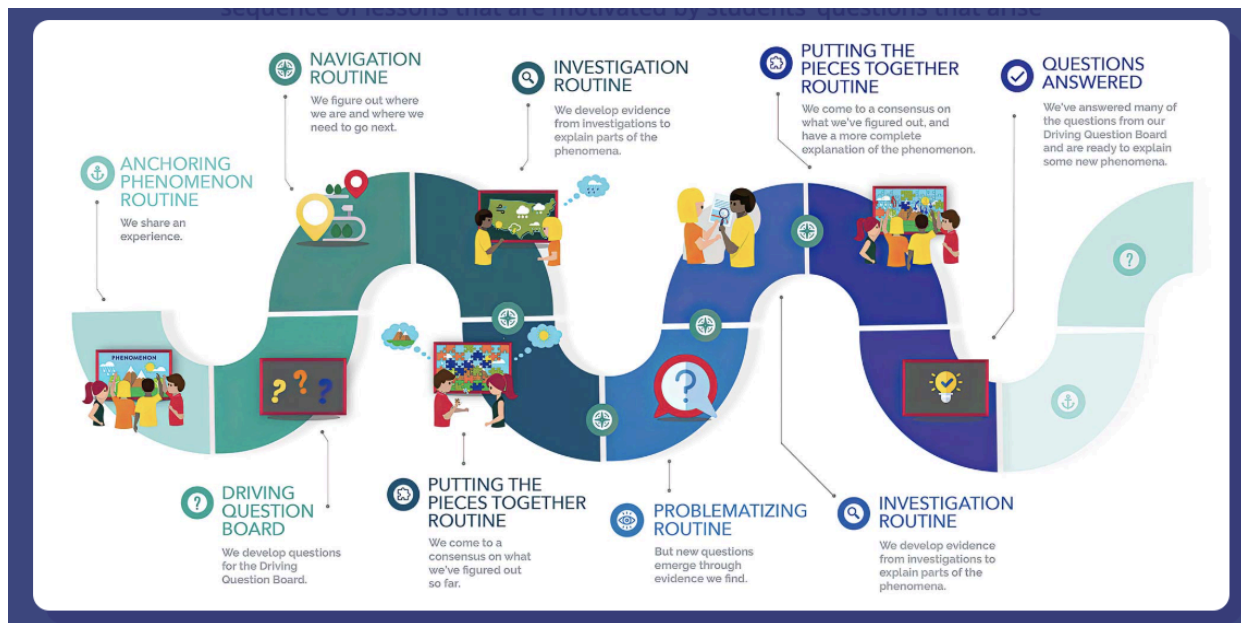
Welcome to Quarter three! The year is flying by. Below you will find a short blurb for each of your student's core academic classes as well as teacher contact information. Please reach out with any questions you might have for us. We are looking forward to an excellent second half of the year with our 7th graders!

Core Class Information

Science: Mrs. Allin

aallin@northfieldschools.org

In quarter two we learned about how we heal and discovered what caused M’Kenna’s symptoms as we studied cells and the human body. The OpenSciEd curriculum uses a story line approach and requires students to reach a consensus and figure things out together. I appreciate all the students who contributed to discussions and collaborated with classmates throughout quarter 2. By building a community of learners, students used evidence to explain how we heal and how body systems function.



After a human body lab, our main quarter three unit is Genetics. We figure out how living things look so different from each other using cattle with extra big muscles as our anchoring phenomenon.

The next unit is Natural Selection. In that unit, students investigate how living things today are connected to things that lived long ago. We will evaluate evidence and learn about connections between ancient and modern penguins to understand natural selection.

Student notes continue to be a key resource for recording what we have learned. We do phase one note-taking together, with students processing, connecting, and summarizing more independently, but with guidance. We grade selected pages of notes, and tests are open-note. Other key resources posted in Schoology include teacher slideshows and assignments. The slideshows are important to look at when a student is absent. Please encourage your student to use these slideshows when they miss class.

Please contact me with any questions. I look forward to a great quarter three!

Social Studies: Mrs. Hovden

[\(lhovden@northfieldschools.org\)](mailto:lhovden@northfieldschools.org)

In the first week of Quarter 3, students will wrap up their World War I historical fiction novel assignment. I'm so proud of their hard work and effort with these books! Book Check #3 (the last comprehension check) is due Monday, January 27. After we wrap up our books, we will close the unit by watching the movie adaptation of "*All Quiet on the Western Front*" (the 1979 version made for television), considered to be the greatest (anti)war novel of all time. Here is a review of the film: [Film Review](#)

After the World War I unit, we will study United States history from the 1920s to the Vietnam era in the late '60s and '70s. During the third quarter we will be studying what many historians call "hard history." Topics include:

- the Boom and Bust of the 1920s
- the Stock Market Crash and the Great Depression
- World War II
- the post-war era of the 1950s and Cold War
- the Civil Rights movement of the 1950s-1970s
- the Vietnam Era

Our studies will include a mix of resources including interactive activities, readings from the History of US book series (Joy Hakim), authentic video and audio clips, and other primary sources. Please discuss aspects of these challenging topics with your student as they arise in discussions at home. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Math: Mr. Dunkelberger

[\(bdunkelberger@northfieldschools.org\)](mailto:bdunkelberger@northfieldschools.org)

In Quarter 2, my A classes focused on understanding the components of expressions to better navigate the process of solving equations. Meanwhile, in AA, we analyzed proportional relationships using graphs and tables, then applied that knowledge to solve real-world problems with proportions.

As we enter Quarter 3, my A classes will begin Unit 6, which centers on proportional reasoning. In this unit, students will analyze graphs, tables, and relationships to identify unit rates. In Unit 7, we will focus on solving real-world problems using ratios and proportions, with a special emphasis on calculating percentages for everyday situations like tax, tips, discounts, and markups.

In AA math, we will begin Unit 8, which covers geometric proportionality. Students will learn to use proportions to find scale factors and determine unknown sides in similar figures and scale drawings. We'll also explore how to calculate the area and circumference of circles, along with parts of circles. The unit will conclude with surface area and volume calculations for cylindrical objects. Following Unit 8, we will move on to Unit 9, which introduces graphing linear equations and key graphing concepts.

As we move into Quarter 3, I'd like to highlight a few important things for students to keep in mind. I continue to offer multiple opportunities for quiz score improvement through daily homework assignments. If a student scores below 70% on a quiz, I encourage them to retake it. A score of 0 on a quiz is treated as an incomplete assignment, and if a student still has a 0 after two attempts, they should check in with me. After tests, students are also given the chance to correct their mistakes and earn back points. Additionally, I want to stress the importance of timely homework completion. It would be incredibly helpful if you could check in with your students on their homework progress throughout the quarter.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns. I'm looking forward to a fresh start in this new quarter!

Health--Ms. Bollum

(lbollum@northfieldschools.org)

Health class is finishing up in unit 2 taking care of our Mental and Emotional Health. In Quarter 3 we will be moving into Unit 3 Nutrition and Physical Activity .

Unit 3 :Nutrition and Physical Activity:

Chapter 7 Nutrition

- Lesson 7.1 Getting Enough Nutrients
- Lesson 7.2 Following Health Eating Habits
- Lesson 7.3 Managing Your Weight

- Lesson 7.4 Having A Healthy Body Image
- Chapter 8 Physical Activity
- Lesson 8.1 Understanding Physical Activity And Fitness
 - Lesson 8.2 Knowing About Types Of Physical Fitness
 - Lesson 8.3 Staying Safe During Physical Activity
 - Lesson 8.4 Developing A Personal Physical Activity Plan

SEL Unit: Managing Relationships and Social Conflict:

- Having a Positive Body Image
- Perspective taking
- Taking responsibility for your actions

Ramp-UP lessons include:

- Habits of success
- Matching interests to careers
- Knowledge and skills that build belief

It is amazing to watch teens internalize good student behaviors as they learn what is needed to help them succeed in school. Good habits of health can enhance all areas of their lives now and in the future. It is such a privilege to partner with you during these exciting teen years.

English 7: Mrs. Kuehl

[\(hkuehl@northfieldschools.org\)](mailto:hkuehl@northfieldschools.org)

It is difficult to believe, but we have reached the mid-point of the school year already. During quarter 2 we wrapped up our grammar unit and then had a chance to practice those skills in our 5-paragraph Gratitude Essay. Before winter break, we studied the author Charles Dickens and read a play adaptation of his ghostly classic *A Christmas Carol*. We studied how Dickens was influenced by his environment and how he, in turn, made an impact on his environment.

We also just completed our poetry unit learning about the tools poets use and what characteristics make a poem, a poem. Students have been challenged to read poetry to see what they notice about form and structure, word choice, and sound devices in poetry. Students had a culminating assignment called “Being Poems.” Please confirm with your student that this assignment was completed since it will be the first assignment graded in quarter 3. I believe you will find them entertaining.

Third quarter will begin with an informational text unit. We will watch a documentary and read various materials about plastics in our oceans. This unit is part of a pilot of some new curricular materials we are considering. The culminating activity of this unit will be an argumentative essay. Thank you in advance for a little extra patience as we try out some new curricular materials.

We will also continue our work to improve our comprehension and reading fluency using our individualized, online reading program called Reading Plus. Please remind your student to practice their reading each week that there is an assignment. If your student's Skyward account shows missing work in this area, you can easily check how they are doing by asking to see their Reading Plus Dashboard.

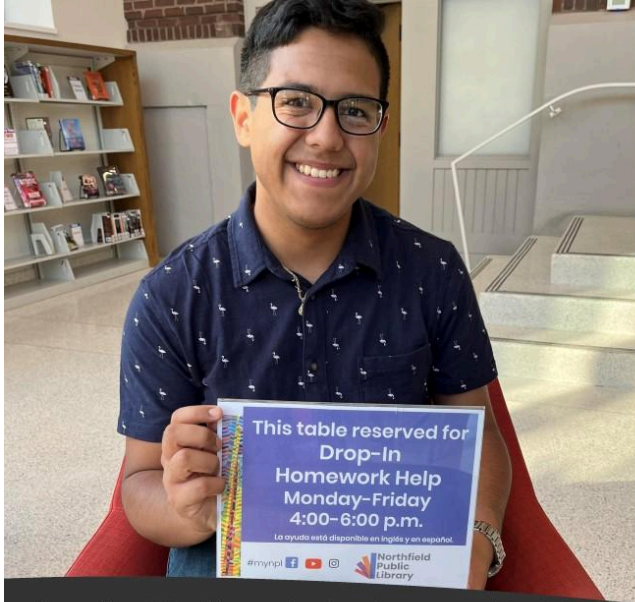
Please let me know if you have any questions about your student's progress or coursework. I am looking forward to a terrific third quarter!

Other Helpful Information

STAR Testing

During the first weeks of January, students completed a mid-year, standardized STAR assessment in their math and English classes. STAR is a customized test that students take on their iPads. The test is designed for students in grades 1 through 12. This computer-adaptive test chooses each question from a large pool of test items, making subsequent questions more or less difficult than the prior question depending on whether the student answered the prior question correctly. This is a short assessment that is completed during a single class period and helps us track your student's progress in several areas. If you would like to view the results, they will be available in Family Access by the end of January. Please contact your child's English or math teacher if you have any questions.

Homework Help at Northfield Public Library



Bilingual Drop-in Homework Help

Library Atrium
Monday-
Friday
4:00-6:00 p.m.

Drop in at the library for free homework help!

For K-12 youth: get help from experienced Carleton student tutors on weekdays from 4:00-6:00 p.m. No appointment needed--just drop in. All subjects welcome. Tutoring available in English and Spanish.

210 Washington St • 507-645-6606 • mynpl.org  

