



# Quarter Three News From 7th Grade

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**Team Two:** Allin, Kuehl, Dunkelberger, Hovden, Weis

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. In addition, there are some "feature articles" towards the end. These will cover STAR testing and how to access that data, information about free, bilingual homework help at the public library, and an upcoming spring field trip.

**We are looking forward to an excellent second half of the year with our 7th graders!**

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## Core Class Information

## **Science: Mrs. Allin**

**([aallin@northfieldschools.org](mailto:aallin@northfieldschools.org))**

In Quarter 2 we learned about how we heal and discovered what was wrong with M’Kenna as we studied cells and the human body.

Our first quarter 3 unit is Microbiology, which includes bacteria, viruses, an overview of the immune system, and a reading project. All students will read a book about infectious disease. There are twelve books to choose from, including fiction and non-fiction in a variety of reading levels. They should be finished reading the book by February 22. After Microbiology, we will study Genetics. Our current plan is to do this unit using the new Open Sci Ed curriculum.

Student notes are 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. I grade selected pages of notes and tests are open-note.

Key resources when students are absent are posted in Schoology: teacher slideshows, assignments, and selected pages of my notes.

Please contact me with questions. I have enjoyed getting to know my students and I look forward to a wonderful 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 Wednesday, January 25. 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:

<https://historygoestothemovies.wordpress.com/2016/02/01/all-quiet-on-the-western-front-1979/>

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, we learned a lot about solving equations and what makes up the parts of expressions when we are solving equations for my A classes. In AA we have been working through proportional relationships using proportions to solve real world problems.

As we move into quarter 3, my A classes will be moving into our unit 6 on proportional reasoning. This includes analyzing graphs, tables and relationships to determine unit rates. In

Unit 7 we will be utilizing ratios within proportions to solve real world problems. Within this

unit will be a strong emphasis on finding percent of a number to calculate tax, tip, discounts and markups that are very applicable in the real world.

In AA math, we will be finishing up our unit 8 on geometric proportionality. In this unit we have been using proportions to find scale factors used in figures/scale drawings. We are going to be shifting gears in this unit to move into finding area and circumference of circles and parts of circles. To finish up unit 8, we will be finding surface area and volume of cylindrical objects. In

unit 9, we will move into our graphing unit which focuses on graphing linear equations and understanding general graphing concepts.

I thought I would highlight some important things to keep in mind as we move into this third quarter. I have been giving students multiple opportunities to better their quiz scores within

each daily homework assignment. If a student does not receive at the least a 70%, I would like

them to retry the quiz. If a student receives a 0 on the quiz, I am treating that like an incomplete assignment. If they have attempted the quiz twice and still have a 0, then they need

to come check in with me. After giving a test, I have given students opportunities to correct

tests and get points back. If a student doesn't do well after corrections, there will be an opportunity to retake a test very similar to the previous. A student will be redoing the same

numbers on the new test (different problems).

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Looking forward to a fresh start in this new quarter.

## **Health--Mrs. Weis**

**[lweis@northfieldschools.org](mailto:lweis@northfieldschools.org)**

Health class is finishing our nutrition and personal hygiene unit, and about two weeks into quarter 3, we will move into our social health unit.

#### Unit 6: Social Health and Wellness:

- Promoting healthy relationships
- Preventing and responding to violence, bullying, and cyberbullying

#### SEL Unit: Managing Relationships and Social Conflict:

- What makes conflict escalate?
- Resolving Conflicts
- 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. Next, we studied the author Charles Dickens and read

a dramatic 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

still study that impact more than 150 years later. Now, we are in the middle of our poetry unit working on careful language and word choice in all our communication. In addition, students completed 6 weeks of Reading Plus assignments.

As we begin quarter three in English 7, we will be wrapping up our unit on poetry with a

unit assessment and a chance for students to show their understanding by writing an original poem.

We are looking forward to using the skills we learned in our poetry unit as we write our 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter essay. This one will look a little different from the last two since it will be a narrative essay. This is often students' favorite essay assignment of the year. After the narrative essay, we will spend a few days designing and completing a book cover for a project that we will be completing during 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

Next, we will read a whole class novel called *Refugee*. In this unit, we will review the elements of fiction from our short story unit on a larger scale while focusing on cause and effect, inferences, conflict and themes of fiction. We will end the quarter beginning our writing project for quarter 4 -- persuasive writing.

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 fabulous fourth quarter!

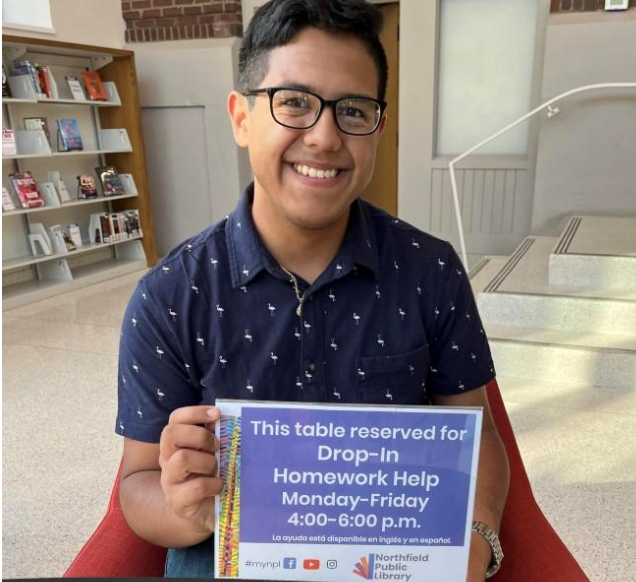
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## Other Helpful Information

### 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.

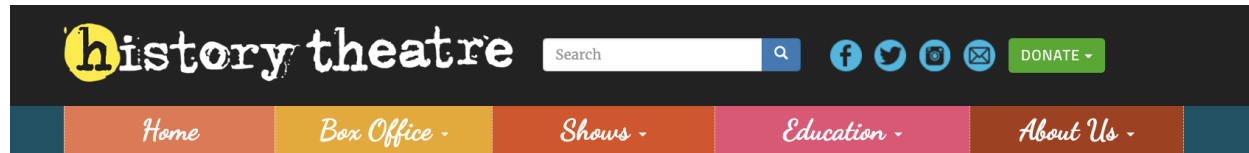
*Drop in at the library for free homework help!*

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](http://mynpl.org)  



# Coming in May: Field trip to History Theatre!



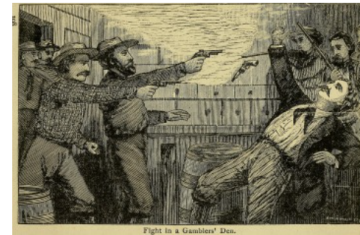
## The Defeat of Jesse James

Written by Jeffrey Hatcher  
Music and lyrics by Chan Poling

April 29–May 28, 2023

1876. Every year, the town of Northfield, Minnesota reenacts the events that took place on September 7, 1876, when The James Gang attempted to rob the First National Bank. The townspeople said NO! It's a story of small-town grit performed by volunteers on horseback firing blanks. But this year, volunteer Finn Dahlberg finds himself in a reenactment with a twist: It is September 7, 1876! The robbers are real and so are the bullets, as Finn is transformed into Joseph Heywood, the bank cashier who gave up his life rather than open the safe!

From the team behind Glensheen, The Defeat of Jesse James is “Back to the Future” meets “High Noon” in a time-warping, nail-biting, sidesplitting ride.



Team Two is scheduled to see the production of “The Defeat of Jesse James” at the History Theatre in St. Paul on Thursday, May 11th. We would love to entertain ideas to reduce our transportation costs for students to make this opportunity more equitable for all students, such as grant programs that you may have heard of, etc. Please drop a line to Mrs. Hovden (lhovden@northfieldschools.org) or any other Team Two teacher.