

LION PRIDE



DRYDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MICHAEL FARNEY, PRINCIPAL

LORA CHAMPLAIN, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Art Class Spotlight

Student Teacher Leanne Sweeney



Middle School Art classes have welcomed Ms. Leanne Sweeney, a student teacher from Ithaca College earning her Bachelor of Arts in Art Education. Originally from New Jersey, Ms. Sweeney has made Ithaca her home for the past four years and is excited to see what the Dryden community has to offer. Ms. Sweeney will be at Dryden through May 9th and plans to return for the Dryden MS/HS Art Show on May 15th. Currently, Ms. Sweeney is completing her observational period, and has been involved

in getting to know the students and helping them

with their artwork. She has assisted 8th graders with their Sculpey Architecture projects, as well as their Observational Shoe Drawings. In 6th grade, she has worked closely with students as they complete their Identity Self-Portraits. In the upcoming weeks, Ms. Sweeney is very enthusiastic about teaching independently and continuing to be part of the Dryden Middle School Community!

Dryden Middle School
118 Freeville Rd
Dryden, NY 13053
Phone: 607-844-8694

Upcoming Events:

April 20

DMS Variety Show

8:00 a.m.

April 20

Jazz Dessert Night

HS Gym 7:00 p.m.

April 23

BOE Meeting

MS/HS Library 7:30 p.m.

April 25

Conversations w/a Scientist

Auditorium 7:00 p.m.

May 3

MS Bands Concert

MS Cafeteria 7:00 p.m.

A Benefit for the Dryden Music Boosters

Jazz & Dessert



Featuring the
Middle School Jazz Band,
Beyond Measure, and the
High School Big Band



\$10 for individuals
\$25 for families

Friday, April 20th, 7PM
Middle School Large Cafeteria



"Battle of the Grades"



Don't wait to order your DMS yearbook, **the deadline is this Friday, APRIL 20th!**

Order forms are available to pick up in the middle school office or place your order online at: ybpay.lifetouch.com, yearbook ID Code: 11562018

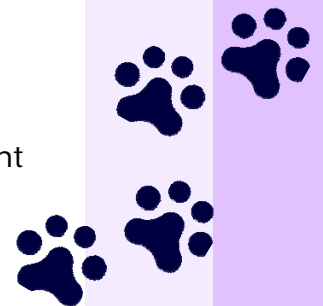
Prices are:
Standard yearbook: \$15
Add \$5 to imprint your student's name in foil on the cover

Please remember:
NO food deliveries or caffeinated beverages are allowed during the school day, cell phones are NOT to be used during the instructional parts of the day.

6th Grade ELA

Module 3 ELA Class Study

The ELA classes have just completed our 3rd module which included the high-interest novel *Flush* by Carl Hiaasen and a literary nonfiction companion book *World Without Fish* by Mark Kurlansky. Students studied how an author develops point of view and how an author's perspective, based on his or her geographic location, is evident in his or her writing. Students considered point of view as they learned about ocean conservation and the impact of human activities on life in the oceans. The students conducted further research about overfishing. In the final performance task, ELA students apply what they learn about fish depletion and the issue of overfishing to create an informational consumer guide to be handed out in grocery stores about buying sustainably caught fish. Ask your students for suggestions on how to buy fish caught using sustainable fishing methods. We look forward to learning more about human impact on the environment in Module 4!





Photos from "Battle of the Grades" held March 16, 2018

Find more information about Dryden Middle School
on the web at: <http://dcsd-ny.schoolloop.com/>

Student Council

Sherry Tasselmyer, Advisor

Event Highlights:

- February Valentines week candy and flower sales
- February dance fundraiser, successfully raised money for future activities while having a great time.
- Dodgeball tournament - first of many we hope, we had 8 teams play and everyone had a great time.
- Battle of the Grades - everyone had a great time, the makeup challenge seemed to be the most popular. Congratulations to the 7th grade team for winning. The class graduation year will go on our trophy.

Upcoming Highlights:

- Dance in May, date TBA
- 8th grade dance, dinner and awards banquet (supported by student council)
- Talent Show (supported by student council)
- Student Council Officer Elections - please encourage your child to apply –applications available early May
- Possible Dodgeball Tournament!



In Mrs. Tasselmyer's and Mrs. Darlow's 6th Grade Science classes students are busy working on their Geology Unit, topics include:

- Age of the Earth
- Continental Drift and Pangaea
- Plate Tectonics and Ring of Fire
- Volcanoes, Earthquakes and Tsunamis
- Rocks and Minerals and the Rock Cycle

Students have had some fun labs and activities which include:

- Pangaea Drawing
- Fossil Lab
- Plate Tectonics Model Lab (see pictures) food was involved!

Future Activities include:

- Mount Saint Helen's, movie, reading and writing
- Mineral and rock identification labs
- Crayon rock cycle lab

We finish our year with a study of Astronomy and designing and engineering gliders that students will be able to fly and bring home.

Science 6



Parent Tips to Prepare Your Child For NYS Testing

How can we prepare students on the day of the test?

- ◆ Find a restful sleep routine. Making sure your child gets enough rest will help them focus and think more clearly about the test questions.
- ◆ Eat protein at dinner (the night before) and breakfast. Meals high in protein will help students feel full through the morning so they can concentrate on the test.
- ◆ Remain positive! Let your student know that this is a great opportunity for them to show off what they know!
- ◆ Encourage your child to read as much as possible. Reading increases their vocabulary and will improve reading skills needed for the tests.
- ◆ Look for educational games and programs that will engage your child. Keep their mind active and learning.
- ◆ Help your child learn how to follow multi-step directions. Many tests questions have more than one step a student has to be able to show. Give them practice following multi-step directions.

What can we do now to help our students achieve higher scores?

- ◆ Ensure your child is completing homework assignments. Homework is practice to solidify their skills.
- ◆ Ensure your child is attending school every day. Consistent attendance is linked to higher test scores.
- ◆ Stay in communication with your child's teachers. This will help in knowing their strengths, weaknesses, and what can you do to support your child and assist in their growth.

Our upcoming testing dates are as follows:

- ◆ NYS Math Exam (Paper-Based Assessment) Grades 6, 7, & 8 exams will be on May 1st & 2nd
- ◆ NYS Science 8 Exam (Grade 8) performance exam – one 40-minute time slot between May 23rd and June 1st
- ◆ Grade 8 Science written exam June 4th

The Dryden Middle School mission is to promote the core values of excellence, integrity, and creativity.

