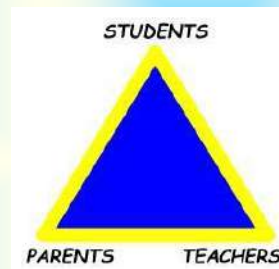


MORAN TRIAD

James H. Moran Middle School
141 Hope Hill Road
Wallingford, CT 06492

Phone: 203-741-2900 Office
203-741-2907 Guidance
Fax: 203-741-2939



Trimester 1 Newsletter September 2018-November 2018

Welcome Note from Mr. Piacentini:

Welcome to this year's first edition of James H. Moran, Sr. Middle School's Triad. We really hope you enjoy this peek into life at Moran. As you will notice from the pictures and articles, there are plenty of fantastic things going on both inside and outside of our classrooms.

As I expected, our school year has gotten off to a terrific start. 6th grade students have done a great job transitioning to life at the middle school. 7th grade, which is traditionally a very difficult transition year at the middle school, has been very impressive in their involvement in school activities. As is typical for our 8th grade students, they always rise to the occasion and become such fantastic peer leaders. I cannot wait to see the growth in all of our students.

My one goal with our extended Moran family is to encourage your involvement in the day to day goings on at Moran. We need your presence and your voice. Please stop in to chat with Mr. Bologna or me, ask to visit a classroom, or volunteer for any number of events we have going on throughout the school year. You are always welcome at Moran Middle School. To keep up with all of the happenings at Moran, here are some additional resources; [@JAPiacentini](#) (Twitter Hashtag = #MoranMS), [@MoranMustangs](#), [@Dan Bologna](#) or visit the Moran website - <http://www.wallingford.k12.ct.us/our-schools/james-h-moran-middle-school>. Make it a great year!

Please see our Guidance Department Newsletters for September, October and November.

<https://www.smores.com/z571t-counseling-newsletter?ref=email>

<https://www.smores.com/tq1us-counseling-newsletter?ref=email-content#w-7501539087>

<https://www.smores.com/rk154-school-counseling-newsletter>

Important Dates:

8/27/18- First Day of School - Welcome back!

8/29 & 9/2 - No School

9/10-9/17 Book fair - Library/Media Ctr.

9/17 - Evening Open House 6-8:15pm

10/8 - No School - Columbus Day

10/25 - Fall Picture Day!

11/8 - Evening Conferences 5-8pm

11/12 - No School - Veterans Day

11/15 - Evening Conferences 5-8pm

11/20 - Evening Conf. Snow date -5-8pm

11/22-11/23 - Thanksgiving Break

12/3 - First Trimester Report Cards

Free and Reduced Lunch applications

Food Service's has now brought on another service for the parents to apply on-line with submitting an application for the free and reduced state program. In our last Central Office Staff meeting I was asked to forward you all this important document for your monthly Newsletter to your parents. See attached document on our new On-Line Application process for your parents.

Any questions please feel free to contact me.

Dave Mensher

https://drive.google.com/open?id=OB_yROMj8lyPN8cjJ2Z2J1ejB6NUtOM1BRdXpBSDdKdXp6MjJr

Moran Summer Blood Drive



As you know, Moran hosted a blood drive this summer. Myself (Mr. Piacentini), Mrs. Giangrave and some of Moran's "Stellar Students" organized and volunteered at this drive. It was the first school-based **Future Blood Donor** drive in our area. It was a tremendous success. Moran was recognized by the Red Cross as being in the top 3 of total pint (blood) donations for the month of July throughout the state of Connecticut. As part of this recognition, I was able to submit two of our student volunteers to be recognized during last night's Yankee game. Elena Bielesz (former 8th Grader) and Sarah Zellner were able to join a group of other successful volunteers on the field prior to last night's game. As you can see from the pictures, they were on the field, right behind home plate. What's even better is that the PA announcer broadcast James H. Moran Middle School for all to hear. It was such an exciting moment! Thank you to everyone who supported, donated or had anything to do with this student-led initiative.



BRIDGE ACADEMY

Summer Junior Bridge Academy for incoming 6th graders was a great success this summer! On August 1-2 about 20 students came to Moran to learn about middle school life. Students had a great time on scavenger hunts, completing team-building activities and preparing for 6th grade.



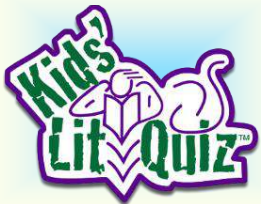
What's Happening in the Library

Follow Mrs. Musket on twitter [@Mrs_Musket](#)

Like **WPS Libraries** on Facebook to find out what is happening in Wallingford Public Schools' library media centers.



Promote Reading Club- The Promote Reading Club ran a Thanksgiving stories and craft event at the Wallingford Public Library on Wed. November 14th and they had 17 children attend. Here are a few photos of the event.



Moran is once again fielding 4 great teams to compete in this year's Kids' Lit Quiz competition. Let's wish them luck.

Book Thieves

Megan Button
Megan Connors
Erin Villano
Vianne Domingues-
Mendoza

Hogwart's Heroes

Emily Carlone
Galina Esposito
Esme Gontarz-Durfee
Lily Valerio

Shadow Children

Austin DiPasquale
Carter Lagasse
Sajag Timilsina
Richard Yeung

Dumbledore's Army

Lisa Doukas
Gabriella Gozzi
Irelynn Marshall
Kayleigh Scecina

A Word about Capstone from Mrs. Kukta

CAPSTONE...WHAT IS IT?

In CAPSTONE, students are encouraged to think critically, solve challenging problems, and develop skills such as communication, research, media literacy, teamwork, planning, self-sufficiency, and goal setting. The motto of our program is to "BE THAT SOMEBODY". Often times, we can recognize that a problem exists and say..."someone should come up with a way to...." the purpose of our program is to not look to someone else to create the "fix" but to instill the skills students need to be the "fix".

We want students to make "things" better by making better "things".

What is a CAPSTONE project?

A CAPSTONE project is a multifaceted assignment that serves as a culminating academic and intellectual experience for students. Such projects take a wide variety of forms, but most are long term investigative projects that culminate in a final product, presentation, or performance.

For the middle school student, CAPSTONE will be a 3-year process:

YEAR 1 (6th grade) - utilize Design Thinking with Moran Community as focus group

YEAR 2 (7th grade) - utilize Design Thinking with the Wallingford Community as focus group

YEAR 3 (8th grade) - utilize Design Thinking for a community of student's choice

CORE COMPONENTS: (projects need to be school/community based)

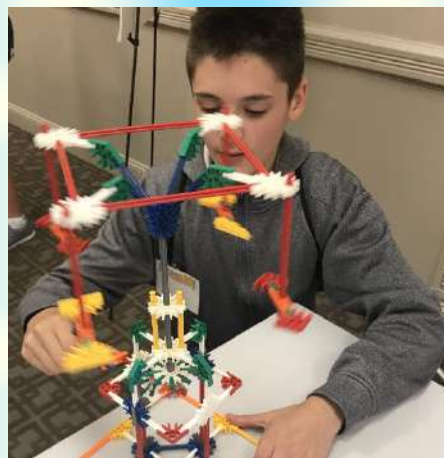
- Students strengthen their ethical understanding and awareness for others
- Students engage in a school community building project individually or in small groups
- All students have at least one adult to facilitate and support them through the project

2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR...

On **Wednesday, October 16th, 2017**, 17 Moran 8th graders joined some 200 middle school-aged students at the Heritage Hotel in Southbury for Manufacturing Mania, an event organized by the Connecticut Center for Advanced Manufacturing Inc. For manufacturers, it was a chance to introduce students to an industry in need of a future skilled workforce.

According to the center, statewide there are nearly 6,000 manufacturing companies that employ about 164,000 people. At one point students were grouped into teams with other students from other schools, who they didn't know, to build a functional carnival swing ride using K'Nex toy parts and skyscrapers out of straws. As they set out to build, the students wore tags which read their jobs – for example, assembly, logistics and quality control. Last year, the Connecticut Business & Industry Association surveyed manufacturers across the state. Most expect to grow their workforce in the coming years, but cite difficulty attracting workers due to "persistent misconceptions about low pay and unappealing work environments" which "belittle the reality of modern advanced manufacturing,"

according to the association's report on that survey. Wallingford was recently declared a STEM town and is working on developing a pipeline program to assist students in going from high school to future employment. Because students are already familiar with computer technology, adapting to more advanced programs, like those needed for 3-D design, is something they can adapt very easily to. Kids are not aware of all the opportunities that exist for them....this opened their eyes to some of those.



Team 6-1 Huskies!

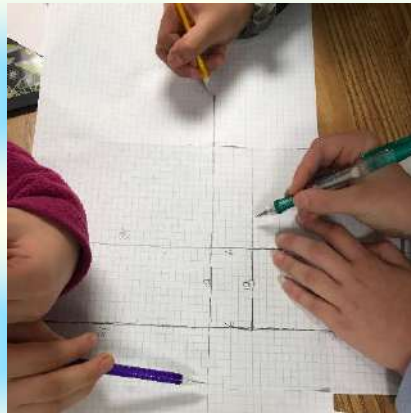
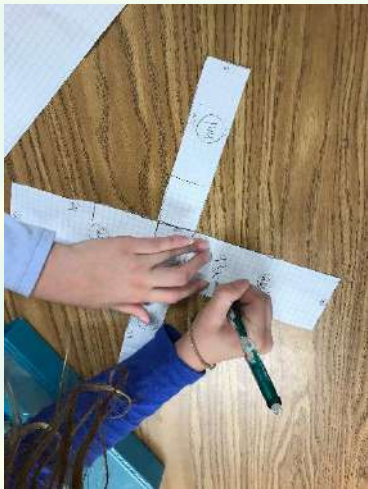
The Huskies Homework Google document has been shared with students

Here is the link to check on daily homework updates: [Huskies Homework](#)



In **Science** this week, we focused on matter. We learned the definition of matter and how there are 3 main phases/states. Students worked with various science tools to find the mass and volume of different items. They explored with triple beam balances to find mass and learned how to find the volume of regular shaped solids (formula: $L \times W \times H$) and irregular shaped solids (water displacement method). Have a great weekend! (See attached pictures)!

In **Mathematics**, most students have finished the Quiz on Parallelograms & Triangles; those who need to complete the quiz will do so during enrichment on Monday. On Friday, we started moving from the areas of polygons (2-D shapes) to the **surface area** of polyhedral (3-D shapes). We used blocks and isometric dot paper to help students visualize and record the rectangular prisms they created.



Camp Sloper Field Trip



Team 6-2 Eagles!!!

Students on Team Eagles have been very busy. Enjoying some holiday spirit, the team decorated their hallway Halloween style. Skeletons, spiders, and vampires, oh my! To add to the spooky festivities, students dressed up in costume for Halloween in hopes of winning the Moran costume contest during Enrichment on the 31st. Eagle students were also encouraged to wear orange on October 24th which was Unity Day to show their support to stop bullying. Students placed orders for team t-shirts and the anticipation to receive them has resounded all through the team.

To all Eagle students who showed their positive attitude and efforts during the month, the team teachers applaud you. Six Eagle students will be named soon in our monthly team recognition for the month of October. Go Eagles!

Great job Mrs. Huskes and Mrs. MacDonald for this amazing bulletin board in the Eagles resource room!



7th Grade Team 7-1 Rising Stars

September

<https://www.smores.com/dxt3r> -Team Newsletter

Hello!

Yes, it is true! Your student is officially a member of team 7-1. The teachers of 7-1 are excited to have each of your students on our team this year. We are sure you are also excited about meeting the new teachers. We repeat, you are excited about meeting the new teachers very, very excited.

October Team 7-1

Team Newsletter: <https://www.smores.com/tk2nz>

Students compete in all their classes to sort metaphors and similes into proper categories.



Students watch short clips to help learn about how stories are organized



Team 7-2 Super Novas

Team 7-2 has had a great start to the year! We have already had two Cabaret Cafes - a whole-team activity where students have breakfast and then are treated to peers that perform talents for them. We also went on a Team-Building field trip to Empower, in Middletown. There, students worked together in teams of 10-20 to accomplish challenge-based activities. The Empower employees were impressed at the students' general willingness to take on challenges and ability to work together to accomplish things. Good for us!



Team teachers are looking forward to the rest of the school year - more field trips and team activities are being planned; we will let 7-2 families know about them as soon as they are set in stone. Let us know if there are any questions you may have about any of our classes or activities. Here's to a good rest of the year!

WELCOME

TO TEAM 8-1 AT MORAN MIDDLE SCHOOL !

Welcome to 8th grade and team 8-1! We are excited that we will have the opportunity to work with you this year! The 2018-2019 school year has a landscape of opportunities in

Trimester 1 Dates to Remember

- 9-17 Open House
- 9-20 Early Dismissal
- 10-8 No School
- 10-18 Early Dismissal
- 10-25 Fall Picture Day
- 11-6 No School
- 11-8 Evening Conferences
- 11-12 No School
- 11-15 Evening Conferences
- 11-21 Early Dismissal
- 11-22 No School
- 11-23 No School
- 11-28 End of Trimester 1

Team 8-1 Website:

<https://goo.gl/KFZgb9>

Daily Homework Site:

<http://goo.gl/y41UPY>

Team Goal

To have the curriculum challenge you; our insight inspire you; our team environment encourage you; and our daily lessons deliver.

Moran Middle School

141 Hope Hill Road

#203-741-2900

Grade 8 Guidance Counselor

Mrs. Emily DeHaan

Email:

edehaan@wallingfordschools.org

Meet the Team



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

MRS. DELEON

"You will see how super reading can be!"

Contact Information

Email: rdeleon@wallingfordschools.org



MATHEMATICS

MRS. NELSON

"Perseverance is what makes a hero a superhero. And it is also what makes a good math student!"

Contact Information



SCIENCE

MRS. MORENO

"You are going to love science with a vengeance after this year!!"

Contact Information

Email: lmoreno@wallingfordschools.org



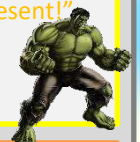
SOCIAL STUDIES

MR. CASELLA

"Looking into the past will unlock the present!"

Contact Information

Email: scasella@wallingfordschools.org



WORLD LANGUAGE

MISS SONSTROM

"We will fight through the difficulties of learning a 2nd language together!"

Contact Information

Email: msonstrom@wallingfordschools.org



SPECIAL EDUCATION

MRS. MAILHOT

"You will see how helpful my powers are!"

Contact Information

Email: tmalhot@wallingfordschools.org



COURAGE, KINDNESS & YOUR BEST, the ONLY options!

Moran Middle School

Team 8-2



Our emails:

- ❖ Evelyn Lorenzo
World Language
and
Team Leader
elorenzo@wallingfordschools.org
- ❖ Keri Carbone
Science
kcarbone@wallingfordschools.org
- ❖ Stefanie Clark
Language Arts
sclark@wallingfordschools.org
- ❖ John Morrison
Social Studies
jmorrison@wallingfordschool.org
- ❖ Steve Scurso
Math
sscurso@wallingfordschools.org
- ❖ Amy Zolnik
Resource
azolnik@wallingfordschools.org

Welcome to 8th grade!

CONTACT US:

- Call or email your child's homeroom teacher with concerns or questions.
- In the subject line, please write the topic: Science HW, WL test, behavior in math class.
- Please identify your child by first and last name. Please identify who you are.

You have access to powerschool in which to check on your child's progress. It would be helpful to check the codes associated with scores before contacting the teachers.

TEAM 8-2 DAILY HW WEBSITE:

<https://goon.g5/3kxkgC>



Dates to Remember:

School Pictures

THURSDAY,
OCTOBER 25

Conference Dates

- Nov. 8, 5 - 8 PM
- Nov. 15, 5 - 8 PM
- March 28, 5 - 8 PM
- April 4, 12:45-2:45 PM

Early Release

Students are released at 12:25

- 9/30
- 10/18
- 11/21
- 12/13 and 13/21
- 1/31/19
- 2/15/19 and 3/31/19
- 3/14/19
- 4/4/19 and 4/25/19
- 5/10/19

Enjoy the school year!

Moran Sports

A look at some of the Sports for this Trimester!

Cross Country - Coach Scurso

Team Members

6th Grade:

Grace Moriarty
Nalya Nhataavong
Ava Raffone
Emmalyn Rodriguez

7th Grade:

Ryan Carim
Zoey Carim
Finnian Dubuc
Alison Kaiser
Angelika Kotula
Katie Lombino
Bryan Medina
Adithya Nataraj
Daniel Phoenix
William Seibt
Devin Welch
Andy You

8th Grade:

Triston Bonilla
Ben Gyulay
Noah Koons
Aaron Mansfield
Hitika Patel
Noah Speeg
Maya Wresien

James H. Moran Cross-Country

Season Schedule 2018

Day	Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Mon	Sept 24th	Dag Hammarskjold MS Washington MS	Moran MS	3:45pm
Wed	Sept 26th	Southington Distance Festival	Camp Sloper	TBA
Mon	Oct 1st	DePaolo MS (Southington)	Moran MS	3:45pm
Fri	Oct 5th	Dodd MS	Moran MS	3:45pm
Wed	Oct 10th	Kennedy MS (Southington) Lincoln MS (Meriden)	Panthorn Park (Southington)	3:45pm
Sat	Oct 13th	**McGee Invitational** (course walks start @ 8:00am)	Sage Park (Berlin)	TBA
Fri	Oct 19th	Ghost Run	Moran MS	7:00pm
Mon	Oct 22nd	**Cheshire Invitational** (course walks start @ 3:00pm)	Cheshire Park	4:00pm
Fri	Oct 26th	Dag Hammarskjold MS	Dag MS	3:45pm
Sat	Nov 3rd	**State Championships** (course walks start @ 9:00am) (Select Athletes Only!!)	Wickham Park (Manchester)	TBA

Revised: August 2018

Managers: Kylie Medici, Victoria Loukides, Riley Kearns and Isabella Raffone



The ghost run!

Music Department

Chorus & String Ensemble

Laurie Brandl - lbrandl@wallingfordschools.org

Band

Jedd Chlebowski - jchlebowski@wallingfordschools.org

General Music

Mimi Knibbs - mknibbs@wallingfordschools.org

Upcoming Musical Events

Winter Concert***Monday December 17, 2018 at Moran

5:30-6:15 6th Grade Chorus, Band & Strings

6:30-7:15 7th Grade Chorus, 7th & 8th Grade Band

7:30-8:15 8th Grade Chorus, 7th & 8th Grade String Ensemble

Student Recognitions for September, October & November!!

6th Grade: William DeMaria, Grace Moriarty, Robert Yawson, Mia Storm, Hunter Nelson, Willow Pickerign, Isabella Rafone, Sophia Diaz, Alicia Dallas, Owen Paul, Ray Barnes, Cole Howard, Matthew Solano, Omee Ahsan, Garrett McHugh, Lorenzo DeFilio

7th Grade: Cormac Burke, Payton, Einhorn, Gianfranco Fernando, Liam Kelley, Chloe Rivera, Satvik Agnihotram

8th Grade: Madeline Geremia, Chase St. Amant, Travis Karosi, Grace Furtado, Hannah Westcott, Ryan Cohen

Unity Day!



Halloween in the Halls



Halloween

Team Huskies—Great job!



6th
Grade
Winners



6th grade!

MVP News

