



January 2019
Volume 4, Issue 2

Stallion Status Newsletter

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It seems like just yesterday we were preparing for the new school year and all of the opportunities that arrive with a fresh beginning. Now we are turning our energy to the second semester, which includes a push to continue our district-wide writing across the curriculum initiative and reinforcing the cognitive skills required for success on the End of Course (EOC) assessments. Our mission of preparing all students to be globally competitive is illustrated by our student's constant accomplishments, both artistically and academically. We could not be prouder of our students and staff and their incredible work!

My focus in this current semester will be to continue a shared vision of excellence among all of our stakeholders. As you can imagine creating a sustainable culture of excellence requires lots of hard work and dedication. Please continue to assist us toward this endeavor by ensuring that your child is invested in their learning experience both at school and at home. A regulated place and time for studying has proven to be an element in every scholar's route to success. If additional support is desired, encourage your child to take advantage of the tutorial sessions offered afterschool by our outstanding educators.

We believe in our work as educators and hope that you are pleased with what Martha Ellen Stilwell School of the Arts has to offer your child. Our teachers and staff are some of the hardest working professionals I know, but we also know we can't do it without your support. There is no substitute for the passion and commitment which our staff gives every day to make it a great place to teach and grow our students.

Thank you for your continued support as we look forward to increasing our momentum for a successful school year!

Yours in education,

Michael H Robinson, Ed.D.
Principal



DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

World Languages.....	5
Orchestra	5
Chorus.....	7
Piano.....	4
Dance.....	4
Visual Arts.....	6
Band.....	8
Guitar	8
Theatre.....	4
Science.....	13
ELA.....	15
Math.....	14
Social Studies.....	16
Health & Physical Education.....	11

SPECIAL FEATURES

- Principal's Message.....1
- Media Center Minute.....3
- Counselor's Corner.....2



Counseling Staff

Yumeko Simmons- Lead Counselor

10th Grade E-J, 11th and 12th Grade M-Z

Phone: 770-472-2838

Email: yumeko.simmons@clayton.k12.ga.us

Carol Bentley

10th Grade A-D, 11th and 12th Grade A-L

Phone: 770-472-2838

Email: carol.a.bentley@clayton.k12.ga.us

Andra' Cole

9th Grade, 10th Grade K-Z

Phone: 770-472-2838

Email: andra.cole@clayton.k12.ga.us

Johnnie Hallett

Counseling Secretary

Phone: 770-472-2838

Email: johnnie-lou.hallett@clayton.k12.ga.us

Registrar

Phone: 770-472-2838

Email:

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Vision

The Vision of the Martha Ellen Stilwell School of the Arts is to establish a learning community where students achieve high academic standards, maintain good citizenship, and excel in their artistic environment.

Mission

The Mission of the Martha Ellen Stilwell School of the Arts is to develop 21st century thinkers to become global leaders by providing the highest quality of education in and through the arts.

SAT School Day— March 6, 2019 every 11th grade student will have an opportunity to take the SAT here at Stilwell. Students will be required to submit a signed student contract and log at least 10 hours of practice and one practice test on Khan Academy. Please attend the ACT/SAT Parent Meeting January 24, 2019 at 6pm in the cafeteria.

Career Fair— March 14, 2019 students will have the opportunity to meet with professionals and learn more about job and internship opportunities offered by companies, government agencies, and non-profit organizations where you might like to work.

Schoolwide Parent Teacher Conferences – Schoolwide Conference night will take place on Thursday, March 28, 2019. The conferences are by appointment only. Parents can sign-up by accessing the school's website and following the *Sign-Up* link beginning March 1, 2019.

Seniors – Monitor your grades in preparation for mid-year reporting to colleges. Continue applying to colleges and researching scholarship opportunities.

SADD—The counseling department along with SADD celebrated Red Ribbon Week October 22-26. The students took part in various activities including signing pledge cards to be "Drug Free".

Dual enrollment—Please note if you are interested in Dual Enrollment, please make sure to follow the guidelines set by the Dual Enrollment College and the eligibility requirements set by Stilwell School of the Arts.



TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Let's congratulate Mrs. Sundararaj for not only being our teacher of the year, but for being named as Clayton County Public School's Magnet School Teacher of the Year. She will go on to compete for the National Magnet School of America Teacher of the Year. We wish her the very best of luck!



CURRICULUM NIGHTS AND PTSA MEEINGS

Curriculum Nights

We are hosting Curriculum Nights at Stilwell School of the Arts.

Curriculum Night is an educational open house hosted at Stilwell School of the Arts and the PTSA. It is an opportunity for parents/guardians to engage in the core content curriculum and expectations for the year. It is our way of bridging the connection of the instructional process between school and home. Please plan to attend.

The schedule for the 2018-2019 PTSA and Curriculum Nights is listed below.

Fine Arts/P.E. & Health March 13, 2019 Cafeteria 6:00 PM

MEDIA CENTER BY MRS. SHANA JORDAN

The Media Center would like to introduce Mr. Davis. Mr. Greer Davis is the new media paraprofessional at Martha Ellen Stilwell School of the Arts. He received his Bachelors of Science in Human Services at Gordon State College. Mr. Davis served in the Navy for four years. During his service, he acquired extensive experience and knowledge building programs and intricate power points, running software programs and analyzing, deciphering and collecting data from different sources such as satellites, radar, coordinates, and sonar, building and reconstructing schematics, grids, and different platforms, briefing presentations and forecasting and observing the weather and more. He has travelled the world internationally and lived in many countries and in a few U.S. States. Mr. Davis is excited to be a part of the Stilwell family.

To make books more assessable to student's, the media center has free eBook codes through OPEN eBOOKS. It's a free app which can be downloaded to a smartphone or tablet. The app is constantly adding new books for your enjoyment. Come by the media center to pick up your free code.

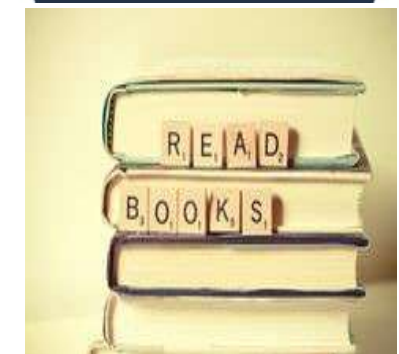
As always, we have been very busy in the media center making every effort to meet the technology and instructional needs of our faculty and students by offering opportunities for collaboration, instruction and technical assistance when needed. Please continue to consider the media center and its personnel as a resource and know that our goal is to serve all stakeholders. If you have any questions please feel free to email me at shana.jordan@clayton.k12.ga.us

Galileo Password: taste

Destiny Discover: Username: Student ID Number with "o"

Password: ccps1234

**Parents, we also have a Parent Resource Center located in the Media Center.
Open Monday –Friday from 9-3pm.**



THEATRE

BY MRS. PARKER-BELLAMY AND MR. BOTTISTI

In October, we competed in the 2018 Hope Jingle Semi Finals. After many votes from our community we were Martha Ellen Stilwell School of the Arts was selected as a 2018 HOPE Jingle Contest Semi-Finalist! Created by the Georgia Lottery, the HOPE Jingle Contest allows schools to win funds for their theatre department by performing and submitting an original rendition of the "HOPE" Jingle! Congratulations to Caleb Middleton for putting together a great video with the assistance of all the Fine Arts Departments. As a result we were awarded 2nd place. Thank you to everyone who participated.



On November 10, we went to Baldwin High School and took 5th place for our one act play, "The Colored Museum". I am very proud of this entire cast and crew for their tireless and courageous journey to put this play on.



DANCE

BY MRS. WIGGINS-SMART

On December 8th, Stilwell participated in State Farm's Got Talent at the Rialto Theater in Atlanta. These students did a phenomenal job and represented Stilwell beautifully. Congratulations to Kendal Brown, Jovan Moore, Tamia Arrington, Alyssa Lewis, Autumn Bryant, Kennedy Lindsey, Tycorey Hooker, Micah Courtland, Marsalis Causey, and Marcus Johnson on a job well done.



PIANO

BY DR. JIMMY CHEEK

The Stilwell Piano students were presented during the performance hour and recruitment show. They were also featured at the CCPS Performing Center during the Chorus Winter Holiday Concert. During the semester, they have individually performed for various events throughout the county. Their Spring Recital is scheduled to be held on April 17, 2019 at the Performing Arts Center in Tarpley.



WORLD LANGUAGES
BY MRS. OPHELIA RIVERA

¡Feliz Año Nuevo!

**Happy New Year from
Stilwell World Languages department!**

It was an exciting year for all of us at Stilwell. Our students concluded their 2018 events on a very festive note. Students celebrated the Hispanic Heritage Month with colorful decorations, student art displays, food, music and dance. Our Spanish classes proudly sponsored Stilwell's 3rd annual Principal's Day. Our special guests were delighted with a spectacular performance by our very brilliant and multitalented students of "Stilwell con Sabor" and selective groups from the Fine Arts Department.

We are looking forward to our upcoming event for the month of February. Our Spanish classes will be joining the Social Studies department in celebrating Black History Month. Students will enjoy the beauty and the richness of the African roots in the Latin America music and dance.



ORCHESTRA
BY MR. JOEL PERKINS

Stilwell orchestra students had the opportunity to work with Clayton State University music education majors to help prepare them for the solo and ensemble festival in November. Afterwards, Stilwell orchestra students coached M.D. Roberts middle school students on their pieces for a fun day of collaboration. The day ended with a wonderful recital.

Solo and Ensemble Day with Clayton State University, Stilwell, and M.D. Roberts



SINGING BROTHERS OF STILWELL

BY DR. JIMMY CHEEK



November 12, 2018, the Singing Brothers of Stilwell of M.E. Stilwell School of the Arts will performed before music educators, district arts supervisors, and leaders in the music education profession from around the country at the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) National Conference in Dallas, Texas. This national event brought together pre-service and in-service music teachers and administrators for four days of professional development, during which these educators share best practices and learn from respected leaders in the profession about the latest innovative ideas in providing music education in every school. The Singing Brothers of Stilwell was one of only seven high school and college-level student groups that will perform at the NAfME National Conference.

The National School Board Association is pleased to announce that the Singing Brothers of Stilwell has won a spot to perform at the NSBA Annual National Conference, March 30-April 1, 2019 in Philadelphia, PA. We are really pleased by the quality and quantity of submissions presented this year. While the competition was fierce, the Singing Brothers of Stilwell prevailed."

VISUAL ARTS

BY MR. JEREMY LEMAHIEU

The visual art department has been busy both in and out of the classroom. Our first official field trip of the year to the Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia (MOCAGA) was a tremendous success. Students were able to see both both professionally curated traditional gallery spaces as well as less conventional installations. The staff at MOCAGA did a great job allowing the students to explore and ask questions. And I look forward to seeing how this experience might impact the students' work going forward.

Looking forward, we should receive results from two important competitions in the next month. Both the Georgia All-State Art competition and the Scholastic Art competition should release the names of the winners in the next few weeks. We look forward, as always, to seeing our students names on the lists.

We are also looking forward to watching our pile of college acceptance letters grow. Our seniors have been working on polishing up their portfolios for art-based scholarships and we expect continued success.

Finally, please mark your calendars. The end of the year art show reception for 2019 will be held on May 3 in the Stilwell halls. We are in the planning phase and are open to any ideas that might increase attendance at the show and the exposure of our brilliant students.



CHORUS

BY DR. KAY PACE

14 Advanced Choral Students Pass 1st Audition for GMEA AllState

Chorus

Fourteen Advanced Chorus students passed the rigorous 1st audition for AllState Chorus, Region 3, which was held on November 11, 2018 in Henry County. The students are: Jacuevas Buckles, Nubia Causey, Emmanuella Emah, Deon Griffin, Daniel Gyimah, Joseph Harris, Kalissa Hernandez, Matthew Hollis, Dawon Johnson, Nyla Jones, Caleb Middleton, Donovan Slack, Cardell Smart, James Stinson. These students will participate in the 2nd audition on Thursday, January 17 at Eagles Landing High School.

3 Choral Students Participate in All-National Honor Chorus in Orlando, Florida

Kalissa Hernandez, Lindell McFadden and Cardell Smart won placement in the All-National Honor Chorus held at Walt Disney World, Orlando, Florida, on November 25-28, 2018. To be able to compete for placement in this national chorus students had to have made All-State in their home state. The All-National Honor Ensembles included Symphonic & Jazz Bands, Orchestra and Chorus. This event was sponsored by the National Association for Music Education.

Advanced Chorus Sings in Orchestra Noir Concert on Dec 1 at the PAC

Our Stilwell Chorus joined Orchestra Noir in a black-tie concert on December 1 held at the PAC. This stellar concert was sponsored by CCPS as a Benefit Concert to support student scholarships.

Advanced Chorus Presents Annual Winter Concert on Dec 7 at the PAC

The Stilwell Advanced Chorus presented its Annual Winter Benefit Choral Concert, "Sounds of the Season," on Friday, December 7, 2018. The concert also featured the Singing Brothers of Stilwell under the direction of Dr. Jimmy Cheek as they celebrated their first year anniversary as a singing ensemble.

Advanced Chorus Sings Annual Holiday Concert at the Carter

Presidential Library & Museum

The Martha Ellen Stilwell Advanced Chorus was invited to sing a Holiday Concert at the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 for the 5th straight year. During the Concert staff of the Library and Museum presented Dr. Kay Pace a framed letter of congratulations from President Carter in honor of the naming of the newest CCPS school—the Kay R Pace School of the Arts.

2 Choral Students Won Placement in All-State Sight Reading Chorus

Cardell Smart and Caleb Middleton won placement in the prestigious GMEA All-State Sight Reading Chorus to be held at the University of Georgia in Athens during the Georgia Music Educators In-Service Convention on January 24-26, 2019. All music performed in this chorus is read at sight and no selections are pre-prepared. Students will read through 70-80 pieces of music during the three day event and sight-sing a concert as well.

Ten Advanced Choral Students Participate in 2nd AllState Workshop at Agnes Scott College

The following choral students participated in a 2nd AllState Audition Workshop at Agnes Scott College on January 4, 2019. The students are Jacuevas Buckles, Emmanuella Emah, Deon Griffin, Daniel Gyimah, Joseph Harris, Matthew Hollis, Dawon Johnson, Nyla Jones, Donovan Slack and James Stinson. The students all stated the workshop was beneficial in preparing them for the 2nd audition on January 17, 2019.

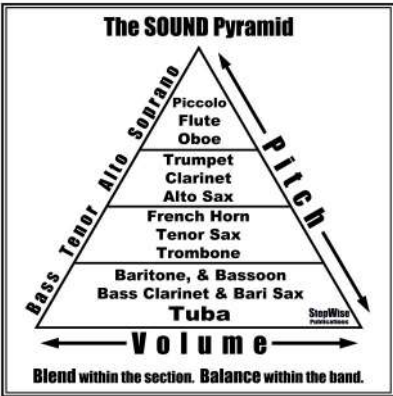
Advanced Chorus Performs in Musical "Hunchback of Notre Dame"

The Stilwell Advanced Chorus performs for the powerful musical Hunchback of Notre Dame which heavily features the chorus throughout the production. The musical requires students to sing at extremes of their vocal ranges and prominently utilizes Latin and other languages over the course of the lengthy two acts. Many choral students also sing leading or supporting roles in the production.

Advanced Chorus sings GMEA Concert on January 26, 2019 in Athens, GA

The Advanced Chorus of Stilwell will sing at the Georgia Music Educators State Convention on January 26, 2019 at the University of Georgia in Athens. On Friday, January 25 the chorus will also sing for Dr. Kevin Broughton in a choral clinic in the UGA music department. The concert will be held on Saturday at 10:00 am in Athens First Baptist Church, 355 Pulaski St, 30601. The Choral Department invites all of Stilwell to attend this performance and show support to our students.





BAND

BY MR. DERRICK JACKSON

The band programs, here at Stilwell, had a great end to an awesome 1st semester as a new school. The jazz band performed for the Hartfield-Jackson airport and also, the Aerotropolis Luncheon. The jazz band and saxophone ensemble members performed exceptionally well and received great praise from the metro businesses and investors. The jazz combo is currently working on numerous tunes to prepare for our annual “Jazz Appreciation Month” gala, which will be held here in commons later this semester.

Also, we have three students that will travel to the University of Georgia to participate in the 2019 Janfest program. These students will spend 3 days participating in master classes, rehearsals, and also, interacting with some the top clinicians, conductors and students in the state of Georgia. Please wish these students much success in this week’s activities:

Kazah Dixon(trumpet), Noah Hughes(trumpet) Frank Neblett(tuba)

We also, had three students make the Georgia State University Rialto Jazz Honor Band for high school students. Please congratulate Evan Garner(bass trombone), Argel Pimintel(Drums) and Christian Zamora(alto saxophone).

District Honor Band Results

Please congratulate the following students for being selected for the Georgia Music Educator’s District 6 Honor Band:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Mikayla Murphy- Clarinet | Kazah Dixon- Trumpet |
| Selena McCrear- Clarinet | Jordan Stephens- Horn |
| Christian Ramsay- Clarinet | Frank Neblett- Tuba |

GUITAR

BY MR. PHIL MCPHERSON

This semester Guitar has participated in several performances, including the Latin Heritage program, Principal Partner’s Day, the Eighth Grade Recruitment Show and Fall Performance Hour. These shows included a variety of repertoire from traditional Latin folk songs and popular artists, as well as American artists including The Beatles, The Who, Lord Huron, Paramore and two songs from Kansas. Next we will be preparing classical repertoire and pieces for our school’s Black History program, while continuing to work on skill-building method repertoire to advance individual sight-reading, varied playing techniques and stylistic application.

FALL SEMESTER HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Congratulations to the following Stilwell band students for passing the auditions and advancing to the 2nd Round of the Georgia Music Educator's Association's All-State competition:
 1. Frank Neblett- Tuba
 2. Kalius Edwards-Tuba
 3. Malcolm Earl- Tenor Saxophone
 4. Mikayla Murphy- Clarinet
 5. Christian Ramsay- Clarinet
 6. Jordan Stephens- French Horn
 7. Kazah Dixon- Trumpet

- ◆ The following students passed the final round of auditions and were accepted into this year's All-State Orchestra. These students not only represent the best orchestra players in Clayton County, but also the best players in the state of Georgia.
 1. Camille Johnson (11th Chair) - String Orchestra
 2. Kevin Kurashima (11th Chair) - String Orchestra
 3. Nehemiah Wiggins (Violin 2, 9th Chair) - String Orchestra
 4. Hiyori Williams (Violin 1, 8th Chair) - Full Orchestra
 5. Zoe Willingham (Violin 2, 20th Chair) - String Orchestra

- ◆ December 19, 2018 marked the ribbon cutting and official opening of Kay R. Pace School of the Arts, which is named after our very own Dr. Kay Pace, Choral Director at Stilwell School of the Arts. We are very fortunate to have her on our staff and proud of the contributions she has brought and continuing to bring to Clayton County Public Schools.

- ◆ Choral Department at Stilwell is pleased to announce that fourteen of our students passed the 1st Round of the Georgia Music Educators Association All-State Chorus Audition for 2019. The students are:

1. Cardell Smart	8. Emmanuella Emah
2. Caleb Middleton	9. Dawon Johnson
3. Nubia Causey	10. Joseph Stinson
4. Kalissa Hernandez	11. Daniel Gyimah
5. Nyla Jones	12. Donovan Slack
6. Jacuevas Buckles	13. Matthew Hollis
7. Joseph Harris	14. Deon Griffin

- ◆ Please congratulate Cardell Smart, Kalissa Hernandez and LinDell McFadden. These Stilwell choral students joined the “best of the best” for the National Association for Music Education’s (NAfME) [2018 All-National Honor Ensembles](#) November 25-28, 2018, at Disney’s Coronado Springs Resort at Walt Disney World in Orlando, FL.



Greetings from the Health & Physical Education Department

Personal Fitness-Ms. Jenkins

Fitnessgram is a Georgia required physical fitness test administered to all students enrolled in a physical education course. The test is used to evaluate your child in the following areas; flexibility, muscular strength, muscular endurance, cardiovascular and body composition. These Fitnessgram tests will be given to each student at the end of the semester to determine their level of health in these areas and a grade for their skills test.

Students have been made aware of their healthy zones, which is where they should score based on their age and gender. These healthy zones can be achieved with hard work on you and your student's behalf. We are in this together and I hope that you will assist me in helping your child be successful for these tests in May.

Ms. Jenkins

Fitnessgram

The FITNESSGRAM assessment does not compare your child to anyone else, nor does it measure skill or athletic performance. Rather, it compares your child to health standards that have been established by researchers as the level of fitness all students should reach in order to attain health benefits.

After your child has completed the FITNESSGRAM you will receive a student report that includes the following:

A brief explanation of each fitness assessment

Details on the importance of each assessment

The child's actual scores and the Healthy Fitness Zone (HFZ) for the child's gender and age

An explanation of the HFZ and the student report



IMPORTANT DATES: 2019

1/14 Fitnessgram Pre-Testing begins

4/29-5/10 Fitnessgram Post-Testing begins

5/13-17 Parent Fitnessgram report distributed to students

5/21-23 Final Exams



HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM CONT.



“The family is the nucleus of civilization.”

Ways to help prepare your child for Fitnessgram testing

A few ways to support your student include:

Stress the importance fitness has on feeling good!

Give your child equipment that encourages physical activity.

Help your child identify a time and place for daily physical activity.

Spend less time watching T.V. and playing video games.

Be a role model for your child.

Praise and encourage your child to be active.

Involve your child in after school or recreation programs within your community.



Health-Mr. Thomas

Spring semester students were able to learn a variety of concepts on physical, social, and emotional health. We discussed concepts such as the meaning of health, effective communication, violence in society, alcohol and drug awareness and learning to read a food label.

Students will be participating in the American Heart Association CPR Anytime “Hands Only” CPR course in December. This course familiarize student to life saving techniques needed to help in cases of emergency. Please feel free to sign your student up at local chapter if they desire official CPR certification. You can find more information at www.shopepranytime.org or call 1-877-AHA-4CPR.

If your student is ready to drive with a Class D driver’s license, the HPE department will administer the ADAP course during their 9th grade Health class. Each student that passes the ADAP exam will receive a certificate to be presented to the department of motor vehicle during application for Class D driver’s license application, NOT for the learner’s permit. For more information on the TADRA (Teenage Driver’s Responsibility Act), please visit www.dds.ga.gov/teens. If your student has lost his/her ADAP certificate, a replacement can be purchase from the Mr. Thomas or Ms. Jenkins for \$3.00.





SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

BY SABRINA ISDELL

Science Newsletter

The science department would like to congratulate Peyton Holston as he advances to the Clayton County Regional Science fair in February. He conducted a project in the category of biomedical sciences: Detection of Friction and Its Implications on Health under the guidance of Ms. Sundararaj.



Please see the tutorial times for each science department member below:

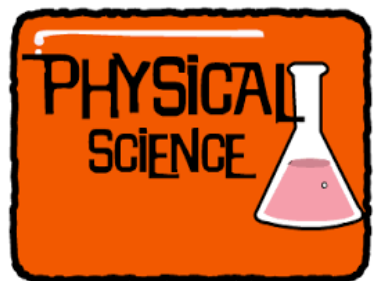
- Rebecca Brown: Biology & Anatomy: Monday 4-5:30PM
- Maisha Humphrey: Anatomy & Environmental Science: Thursday 4-4:45PM and by appointment
- Sabrina Isdell: Biology & AP Biology: Wednesdays 4:15-4:45PM and by appointment
- Shana Martin: Chemistry: Tuesday-Thursday until 4:30PM
- Rajini Sundararaj: Physics & Physical Science: Monday, 4:00-4:30PM & Wednesday, 4:00-5:00PM

Biology Updates: Brown & Isdell

Biology students have just wrapped up the first semester with final exams and will begin to track strengths and weaknesses on taught standards as we prepare for the Georgia Milestones Assessment which will be administered at the end of April. This assessment will count 20% of the students' overall average for second semester. Ask your student to show you the biology tracker sheet so you are aware of your child's strengths and weaknesses and check in with your student weekly on how they are remediating using USA Test Prep and in class activities to assist them in mastering standards towards proficiency. This semester students will be discovering core ideas that include: biological evolution: unity and diversity, and ecosystems: interactions, energy, and dynamics. Students will continue to use the science and engineering practices to plan and carry out investigations, analyze and interpret data, engage in argument from evidence in their writing, and construct explanations and design solutions on the concepts listed above. Upcoming labs include cellular respiration in yeast cells and how light affects rates of photosynthesis.

Physical Science Updates: Sundararaj

Physical science students will develop and use models to compare and contrast the structure of atoms, ions and isotopes. Student will analyze and interpret data to determine trends of the number of valence electrons, types of ions formed by main group elements and location and properties of metals, nonmetals, and metalloids. Students will perform an argument driven inquiry lab and use set of rules to distinguish between chemical and physical changes in matter. Students will develop and use models to predict formulas for stable, binary ionic compounds based on balance of charges. Students use the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) nomenclature for translating between chemical names and chemical formulas to binary covalent and binary ionic compounds. Students will take their unit 5 Assessment on Friday, Feb 15, 2019.



SCIENCE DEPARTMENT CONTINUED

AP Biology: Isdell

The AP biology national exam is scheduled for Monday, May 13th, 2019. In an effort to improve success rates on the math and science AP exams, CCPS is partnering with the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI). This 2 part AP exam consists of multiple choice and free response questions. I highly encourage your student to sign up for the NMSI tutorial sessions and my after school tutorials every Wednesday from 4:15-4:45PM in room 219. The next NMSI Saturday tutorial is scheduled for March 2, 2019 from 8:30A-12:30P. This semester students will be finishing the homeostasis unit and cellular communication and moving into molecular and Mendelian genetics. Students need to be studying on a regular basis and utilize Google classroom for resources to practice their skills.

Anatomy Updates: Brown & Humphrey

Students are finishing Unit 2 of the muscular system and then moving into the Nervous system. Flipped classroom protocol will be utilized to allow student to peer teach. They will explore the 5 senses and a dissection of a cat and cow's eye.

Chemistry: Martin

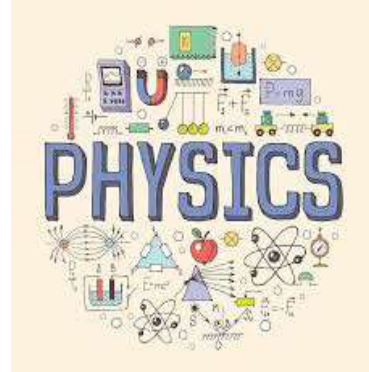
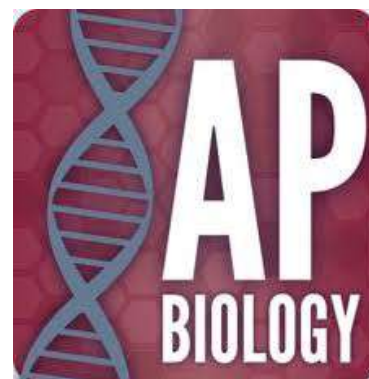
Chemistry is the scientific discipline involved with compounds composed of atoms. Chemistry looks at their composition, their structure, properties, behavior, and the changes they undergo with other substances in a reaction. We are currently working on Unit 3 which focuses on the changes in matter (chemical reactions). The students will complete an argument driven inquiry lab called "Limiting Reactants." The purpose of this lab is for students to *apply* what they have learned about quantifying chemical reactions. They will also be learning how to predict the products in a chemical reaction.

Environmental Science Updates: Humphrey

Students will be starting Unit 3 on Human Populations and analyzing census data and constructing explanations for a research project on the demographics of human populations in different countries.

Physics Updates: Sundararaj

Physics students are currently working on calculating potential and kinetic energy in a closed system. They use their mathematics and computational thinking skills to analyze, evaluate, and apply the principle of conservation of energy and the work-kinetic energy theorem. They will also perform an argument driven inquiry lab to investigate and explore the relationship between potential energy, kinetic energy, mechanical energy, work, and displacement in terms of the motion of objects. They will complete their simulation lab on elastic and inelastic collision by connecting the concepts of Newton's 3rd law and impulse. Students take their unit 3 Energy assessment on Wednesday Feb 13, 2019.





MATH DEPARTMENT

BY MR. EARL LEWIS

Algebra I

The Algebra I classes are currently covering “Quadratics”. Quadratics are functions or relationships that graphically have the shape of parabolas and are found to be a part of the conic family. Specifically, the students are learning several methods of solving quadratics which entails the calculation of points of intersection between the parabola in question and an additional function or relationship.

Geometry

The Geometry content classes are now in the midst of Unit 4, “Circles and Volumes”. In this unit students will be better acquainted with what is likely the best known conic - circles. Students will review several basic concepts such as radius, circumference, area of the circle, etc. Additionally, students will be introduced to more advanced concepts such as inscribed, circumscribed, and central angles, among several others. Then students will learn to extend their understanding to a 3 dimensional mathematical worldview in order to calculate volumes of cylinders, pyramid and cones using Cavalieri’s principle.

Algebra II

Our Algebra II classes are currently instructing on the rational and radical relationships. Students will learn to analyze these functions as to their x and y intercepts, intervals of increasing and decreasing, intervals of positivity and negativity, domain and range, vertical and horizontal asymptotes, end behavior, etc. These skills will be invaluable for students to maintain as they move higher mathematically into calculus and above.

AMDM

Students in Advanced Mathematical Decision Making are currently looking into the application of mathematics into real world situations. Students are using functions to model real world situations. The specific functions being addressed at this time are recursions. These recursive formulae are used to model phenomena that repeat with an arithmetically or a geometrically repetitious pattern.

Precalculus

Our Precalculus classes are currently investigating the usage of matrices in mathematics. Matrices are arrangements of elements in rectangular arrays. These elements can either be constants, variables or expressions. Students are finding that calculations with matrices often follow the same mathematical principles found in non-matrix based mathematics. Additionally, students are being exposed to methods which use matrices to compute the results of problems that they have encountered in the past, yet with better efficiency.

Calculus

Calculus students are in the midst of learning how to graph by hand, higher order functions such as: $h(t) = t^4 + 12t^3 + 6t^2 - 36t + 2$

In order to accomplish this, student must know how to calculate the first and second derivatives, and how to compute the related critical points and points of inflection. These concepts are leading students into more real world applicable problems dealing with position, velocity, acceleration, maximization, minimization, etc.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

All English-Language Arts students are consistently utilizing the Achieve3000 platform to improve their reading Lexiles in order to ensure each of them are ready for college and career level challenges. Opportunities to compete in the Hear our Voices writing and speech competition have also been presented to 9-12 grade English pupils.

9th Grade Lit

9th Grade students have been introduced to Unit 3: “The Bond Between Us.” Students are modernizing Romeo & Juliet after close-reading and annotating the text, and will focus on similar themed short texts within their close reader and textbooks. Students will complete at least 3 narratives, 2 argumentative essays, and 4 constructed responses between reading the texts.

10th Grade World Lit

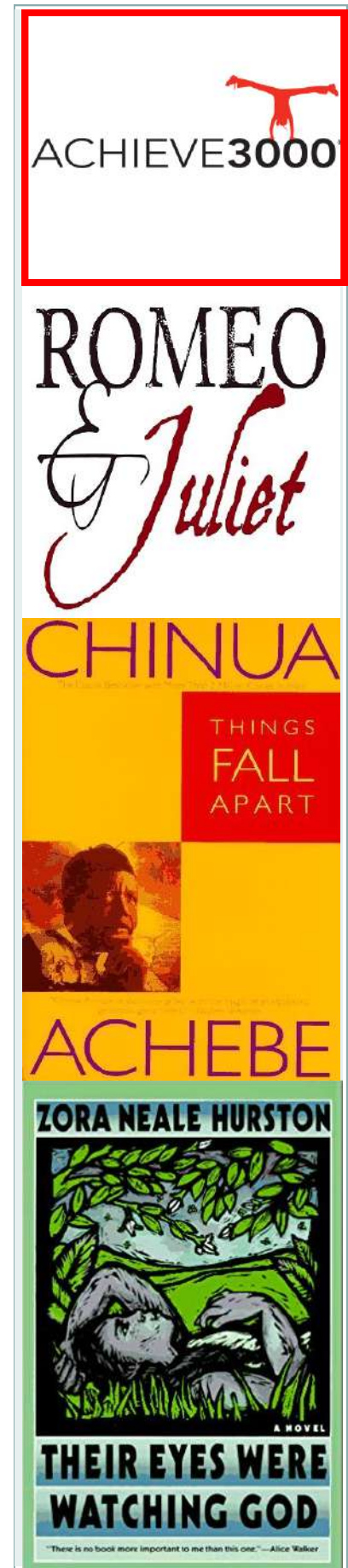
In the 10th Grade, students wrote personal narrative essays about challenges they’ve overcome for their “Laws of Life” essays. They will start reading Chinua Achebe’s *Things Fall Apart* early this semester.

American Literature

Ms. Mains and Mrs. Edwards-Cooley’s American Literature courses are about to begin reading Zora Neale Hurston’s *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. In addition to interacting with this coming-of-age story that follows Janie Starks through post-Reconstruction rural Florida the students will be actively practicing their informational reading and writing skills.

AP Language

AP Language classes have just begun the with graduation on their minds, the seniors are preparing to present their Senior Exit Portfolios led by Ms. Conaway. Career skills like resume building and community service reflections are being practiced to prepare students for life beyond Stilwell.



SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT



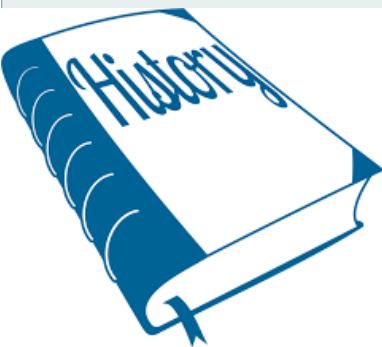
World History –Mr. Holmes World History Classes finished the Fall semester discussing the Middle Ages. Students did research for their Social Science Fair and National History Day projects and will turn in their completed projects early in the Spring Semester. The best projects will be entered into the Clayton County competition in February. World History will begin the Spring Semester with the Renaissance and Reformation and continue through the middle of the 20th century by the end of the year.

American Government and US World Affairs—Mr. DiTomasso

This semester in Advanced Placement Government we are going to be focusing on the three branches of government. Special focus will be placed on the interaction and relationships that exist between all three of these entities. Given the current nature of our strenuous government shutdown, the students will have an example (albeit a less than favorable one) of interaction among the three branches. I am hoping to complete all content delivery by spring break to have plenty of time to allocate to AP Exam preparation.



In US and World Affairs I have chosen to focus my attention on the topic of international organization and cooperation. This course explores the nature and roles of international organizations and cooperation in global governance. It is organized around on the late twentieth century's most challenging intellectual and practical puzzles, a puzzle that challenges the core of the interstate legal order's foundations in state sovereignty: Initiating and sustaining effective international responses to terrorism and other threats to human security require new forms of governance that integrate and fully engage non state entities with state entities at and across all levels of governance



US History— Dr. Graves US History is gearing up for second semester and preparing for the GMAS in April. We will begin with a review of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era in January. Students are also participating in National History Day. Projects are due on January 24, 2019 and will be considered for the regional fair. The curriculum will be completed by Spring Break so that students will have plenty of time to review for the GMAS in April.



AP US History— Dr. Graves Students are preparing for GMAS and the AP Exam in May. The AP Exam will take place on May 10. Students are practicing LEQs, DBQs, SAQs, and Multiple Choice questions. AP Students will also engage in a student teaching activity the month of March to best complete the curriculum from the College Board.

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT CONT.

Economics– Ms. Conner The first semester all economic classes completed units on the fundamentals of economics, microeconomics, and personal finance. Some of the assignments included answering Documented Based Questions (DBQ), completing online finance modules, and participating in Socratic Seminars where students lead the discussion on current events such as should the United States increase the minimum wage. Spring semester will be equally challenging and exciting. In April, students will take the Georgia Milestone Assessment System test. It is my goal for all students to score at least proficiency on the GMAS. This goal is achievable but will require the participation of all stakeholders. Learning is and will continue to be intentional; therefore the first-day students return from the Holiday break students were asked how does the government shut down effect them and how government actions impact the economy? This question was a prelude into the study of macroeconomics. This unit gives students the opportunity to learn the significant economic indicators our government and monetary system used to monitor the health of our economy. Additional units of study this semester are international economics (why nations trade) and personal finance. These units will provide students with opportunities to relate the content to real-life situations that can or will affect them personally so that they can realize the relevance and importance of economics. Economic is the study of choices.



Psychology– Mr. Holmes Psychology students completed the fall course focusing on Personality theories and Psychological disorders. Students completed a major project focusing on a major movie or TV character and analyzing that character's possible psychological disorder. Students used the latest edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM-V) to diagnose their character's disorder and prescribe treatment.

The spring term will focus on Sociology and behavior of individuals in groups and larger society. Students will be choosing a semester class project to focus on one particular public issue and determine courses of action that will lead to positive change in society at large either at the local, state, or national level.



Economic Resources

[Khanacademy.org](https://www.khanacademy.org)

[Econmentor.org](https://www.econmentor.org)

[Georgia Virtual Learning.com](https://www.georgiavirtuallearning.com)

USA Test Prep

Crash Course

Pearson Realize (online textbook and other resources)

You Tube – Clifford Jacob videos on different topics in economics



UPCOMING EVENTS

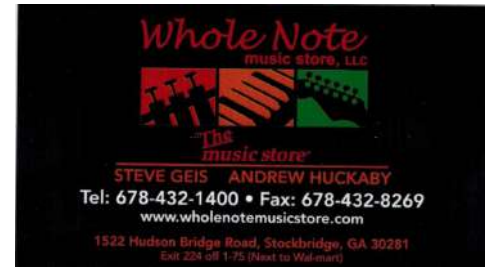
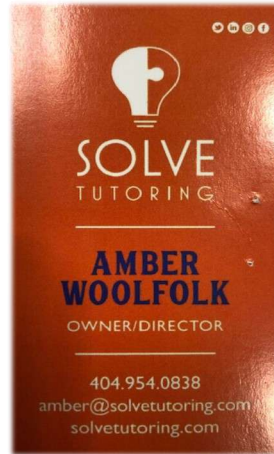
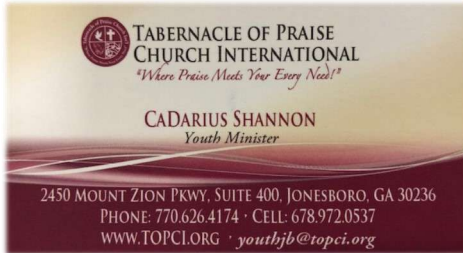
- **January 24**—ACT/SAT Parent Meeting
- **January 21-26**—Homecoming Week
- **January 26**—Chorus Performance at GMEA Convention in Athens, GA
- **February 5**—Freshman Parent Meeting, 6pm, Cafeteria
- **February 7**—Rising Senior Parent Meeting, 6pm, Cafeteria
- **February 8-9**—GMEA District 6 Honors Band at Sandy Creek High School
- **February 13**—24 Hour Play Festival
- **February 18**—No School
- **February 27**—Black History Performance Hour, CCPS Performing Arts Center, 2-4pm
- **March 1**—Read Across America Day
- **March 6**—SAT School Day
- **March 7-9**—GMEA LGPE Symphonic Band
- **March 11-14**—LGPE High School Chorus
- **March 14**—LGPE Chamber Orchestra
- **March 14**—Career Day
- **March 15**—Dance Senior Showcase, CCPS Performing Arts Center
- **March 22**—Theatre Department Lip Sync Battle
- **March 29-April 1**—Senior Trip to Miami, FL
- **April 1- 5**—Spring Break
- **April 4-7**— Orchestra Orlando Heritage Festival Trip
- **April 8-12**—Senior Week
- **April 9**—Singing Brothers performance at the CCPS School Board
- **April 13**—Prom at Stone Mountain
- **April 17**—Piano Recital, PAC
- **April 23-25**—Theatre Senior Showcase, 4:30-6:30, Blackbox
- **April 29**—Dance Spring Concert, 6pm, PAC
- **May 2**—Award Ceremony, 6pm, PAC
- **May 3-6**—School wide Art School
- **May 9**—Band Senior Showcase, 6pm, PAC
- **May 12**—Orchestra Spring Concert, PAC
- **May 14**—Guitar Concert, 6pm, PAC
- **May 24**—Graduation, 5pm, Georgia International Convention Center



Check school website for any additions, changes to dates and/or locations

<https://316.clayton.k12.ga.us/>

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION



ATLANTA BALLET CENTRE FOR DANCE EDUCATION

Martha Ellen Stilwell School of the Arts
2580 Mt. Zion Parkway
Jonesboro, GA 30236

Website:
<http://316.clayton.k12.ga.us/>

Twitter
@StilwellSOA

Facebook
Martha Ellen Stilwell School of the Arts



Next issue
March 29, 2019