



# ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Newsletter

Month: September  
Year: 2022

### *Principal's Message:*

***Ne'e Papa - To move as a whole unit, moving or working together in unison.*** This is the theme for HDOE and what we have adopted here at Stevenson Middle School.

As a school community, collaboration, communication, and participation are our goals. In order to support all students we know that *ne'e papa* must be our rallying cry. We hope that all families join us as we continue to work together to prepare students for what is to come. Smoothly transitioning to the next level requires, daily attendance, working hard, positive energy, *ha'aha'a*, and *Aloha* for all. Yes, students enjoy being with their friends. And we remind them that they also are here to learn. Thank you for encouraging your student(s) and supporting our work. We are very proud of our progress thus far and know that every student can achieve more.

*Mrs. Luczak*

### Announcements, Updates, Reminders:

All eligible HDOE families are encouraged to fill out the forms for free and reduced priced meals. Families can go online to <http://EZmealapp.com>

Student clubs and activities are starting. Look out for more information from club advisors or coaches.

**APT (Association of Parents and Teachers):** APT continues to welcome parents and guardians who want to be actively involved with RLSMS. Please contact Ken Kakesako at [rlsmsapt@gmail.com](mailto:rlsmsapt@gmail.com). Mahalo!

## A Message from Student Government:

Welcome Buccaneers! We started off our school year by welcoming our newest 6th Grade Buccaneers on August 1, 2022 with campus tours and an array of "get-to-know" activities. We also met a new friend by playing "Find Your Match" on August 25, 2022 where all students were given a random number and had to find a partner who shared the same number. Pairings were given a sweet treat during recesses! Lastly, students wrote down their goals for the year and will be shared on a school wide poster!

Activities to look forward to are: school dances (yes, they are back!), Buctoberfest, and our annual Talent Show (in person this year)! Make sure you tune in to our morning BucTV bulletins to hear about the latest news for activities and club meetings!

## STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

Student Artwork Displayed in Cafe

Left: Freddy Konet

Below: Aria-Paige Gascon-Cagaoan





# 6th Grade

September 2022

## Art

Aloha! My name is Elizabeth Garrison and I teach art. The students began the quarter learning about the elements and principles of design. They all had an opportunity to do a painting that incorporated what they learned. Be sure to stop by the cafeteria to see some of the great paintings. We just started a unit on ancient Egyptian art and the students are having fun learning about their culture.

Elizabeth Garrison

## Social Studies

Hello families! Students started the year on a high note learning about countries represented within our classrooms, the seven continents and major oceans of the world. We are diving right into river valley civilizations starting with the ancient civilization of Mesopotamia. Looking forward to an awesome year!  
-Mrs. Butindaro & Mr. Lee

## Science



Aloha 6th Graders, welcome to Stevenson Middle School! We are looking forward to an awesome year of learning. Wishing all our students an exciting, and productive year as we learn and grow together! So bring your enthusiasm and positive energy as we journey to discover the wonderful world of science!

So far, the students have covered gravitational law, learning what gravity is all about and how it relates to our lives! Coming up is forces, speed, and different units!

Let's all have a great year!

-Mrs. Janis Honda & Mr. Jonathan Shiraki

## Math

During this first quarter, students are learning and applying the use of decimals and fractions while exploring geometry formulas to find area, perimeter. It is wonderful seeing students challenge themselves and problem solving with their peers. We are looking forward to an awesome year.

(~\*~) Mrs. Law

## Beg Band/Orch

### Beg Band/Orch:

Aloha Stevenson Band Families, welcome to the 22-23 SY! My name is Marcus Shinbo and I have the honor of being Stevenson's third year band director! I'm so excited to see so many enthusiastic students eager to get their instruments. I am excited to announce the beginnings of the Stevenson Orchestra with 5 new violins. We're finishing up learning about all of the instruments and will take our Music Theory test and we'll work on getting the instruments in their hands and playing music! -Mr. Shinbo

## Wells Explorer Wheel - Paper Roller Coasters

Students have been busy each class building their paper roller coasters. At the beginning of the quarter students began the project by watching video tutorials on how to make the various components of the paper roller coaster. Students created a budget and off they went, designing, building and "purchasing" the various components creating very cool paper roller coasters. This class is a quarter long class with the final project due the last week of the quarter. Students are to plan carefully in order to complete the project. So far, the projects are taking shape, looking good!!



# 6th Grade

September 2022

## Resource Science 6th, 7th and 8th

Aloha. We have been working on Physical Science standards related to Matter and it's Interactions this quarter. We have been reviewing terms, reading, working in our interactive notebooks and using videos to help us learn. Topics so far have included physical and chemical properties and changes and matter and phase changes. Currently we are learning about atoms, molecules and elements. We will end the quarter with chemical reactions.

Asuncion/Nakamura

## English

As we enter our 5th week of the school year, students in the 6th grade English class have been working on vocabulary words in our novel study "Walk Two Moons". Students have also been understanding words used in literacy and across content areas. We will be taking our first quiz on chapters 1 & 2.

Mr. Pascual

## 6X Math

Aloha. In the first few weeks of school, students reviewed the processes of recognizing patterns and identifying quantities and relationships in word problems. We hope to move on to lessons on finding the area of various shapes and figures.

- Mrs. Talaeai

## Hawaiian Studies (Wheel)

Aloha Ohana!

We had a great start to the year. So far students have been learning about the Hawaiian Flag, made paper flower leis to celebrate Hawaii as our home, and we just began learning about the history of Hawaiian language. In this coming month we will be learning Hawaiian words and phrases and then get into Myths and Legends.

- Mrs. Uperesa

## Music (Wheel)

Hello young music students!

We are entering our 5th week, where we will now focus our attention on the basics of ukulele! We just finished learning about the basics of music, so now we're going to use many terms we learned about (rhythm, pitch, melody, harmony, etc.) as we learn things like strumming C, ami, F, G7 (and at least 10 other chords), picking the C Major scale and related melodies, and keeping a beat! Also, students should be working on their 'ukulele picture', to show me they understand the major parts of the instrument! Mr. Serra



# 7th Grade

September 2022

## ENGLISH

Aloha families! 😊 I am Ms. Ines, one of the 7th-grade ELA teachers at RLSMS.

**Gen-ed:** Students are reading myths this school year. Towards the end of the first quarter, they will compose their own personal myths using narrative elements.

**Ho'onui'ike:** Students are reading *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park this school year. Students will create their own personal narrative while focusing on the word "change."

**Just a friendly reminder, ensure that your students have their own composition books for free writes.**

If you have any questions, please email me at [eleonor\\_simonette.ines@k12.hi.us](mailto:eleonor_simonette.ines@k12.hi.us). Looking forward to a fun, safe, & successful school year!

- Ms. Ines

Physical Education  
Students are playing Ultimate Frisbee and completed their one mile pre test. -Ms. Nakamura

## Math:

Hello families! I am Ms. Uyeno, one of the 7th grade Math teachers. I am excited to be teaching your children this year—it's been great getting to know them for the last month!

**Math 7:** we have been reviewing foundational skills (add, subtract, multiply, divide fractions & decimals) to prepare for our first lesson on unit rate.

**Math 7X:** we started with proportional relationships, an important lesson to prepare us for solving equations, slope intercept form, and interpreting graphs.

**All:** Please double check that your child has a folder to keep all of their work in!

~ Ms. Uyeno

## STEM

**Hello, seventh graders and parents! I'm Mrs. Brewer. I'm happy to be back after being on maternity leave last year. This month we'll be reviewing the engineering design process as we build paper bridges and kites. Please check your STEM Google Classroom for assignments and don't forget to bring in a clean plastic grocery bag for your kite!**

**-Mrs. Brewer**

## General Music (wheel):

Hi 7th graders!

Last year, we used the ukulele as the instrument for learning about music, this year it is the piano! We've already learned about the structure of the piano keyboard and reviewed the staff and treble/bass clef notes, so now we need to get ready for our week 8 piano playing test! Practice (x3)! Mr. Serra

## SCIENCE

Aloha families! Welcome back to school. This month students learned about the classroom expectations, routines, and procedures. We began our Life Science unit learning about Food Webs and Chains.

About different items in ecosystems like abiotic, energy pyramids and trophic levels.

ALL students need headphones that plug into the computer.

- Ms. Reeder



## AVID 7/8

Hello parents and families! Welcome back to RLSMS! This month, we will be working on argumentative essays and socratic seminars. How do we provide a safe space for one another, think critically, and respond respectfully? What is included in an effective argumentative essay? We will slowly move into Tutorials after reviewing our expectations and responsibilities as a group member, facilitator, and a presenter.

- Ms. Kashimura



## Art

Aloha! My name is Elizabeth Garrison and I teach art. The students began the quarter learning about the elements and principles of design. We compared two different artists and students were given the opportunity to do a painting showing what they learned. Be sure to stop by the cafeteria to see some of the great paintings! We just started making paper mache masks last week and the students are having so much fun.

-Elizabeth Garrison

## Hawaiian Studies (Wheel)

Aloha Ohana!

We've had a great start to the school year. So far we have learned about 'Aina (land) and the purpose of an Ahupua'a system. Next we will be learning about the social and environmental changes in Hawaii and then get into Hala seed painting.

- Mrs. Uperesa

## Beg/Inter Band/Orch/Adv Band Beg Band/Orch:

Aloha Stevenson Band Families, welcome to the 22-23 SY! My name is Marcus Shinbo and I have the honor of being Stevenson's third year band director! I'm so excited to see so many enthusiastic students eager to get their instruments. I am excited to announce the beginnings of the Stevenson Orchestra with 5 new violins. We're finishing up learning about all of the instruments and will take our Music Theory test and we'll work on getting the instruments in their hands and playing music! -Mr. Shinbo

## Inter Band/Orch

Welcome to the 22-23 SY! So nice to see all of the students back and enthusiastic to make music. We are excited to announce the beginnings of the Orchestra with a few violin players. Also we are so excited to announce the return of our Parade Marching Band. We've begun on Frosty the Snowman for marching band. Our concert music is making progress as well! :

## Adv Band:

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- Mr. Shinbo :)

Hi Stevenson 7th graders and parents. I am Mrs. Kinoshita, the 7th grade CTE. This is my tenth year at Stevenson and my fourteenth year teaching. We are starting the year learning about how we as students learn best, who we are and what we value as individuals and will move into learning about impulse control. I am looking forward to this exciting year!

Mrs. Kinoshita

## Hula

Aloha Ohana,

I am Mrs. Uperesa and my partner who will be teaching hula is Kumu Keola. So far we have been learning to chant as well as learning to get out of our shells and participate in activities. Next we will be learning more Hawaiian language before getting into learning Hula steps. Looking forward to a great year!

- Mrs. Uperesa

## Social Studies

Aloha 7th Grade Ohana!

I'm Mrs Yonamine, one of the 7th Grade Social Studies teachers here at Stevenson. We started the school year reviewing the geography of the Hawaiian islands and will start our unit on Old Hawai'i soon. I am looking forward to a wonderful year!

Mrs Yonamine & Mr. Lee

## Wells Explorer Wheel - Paper Roller Coasters (8th Grade too)

Students have been busy each class building their paper roller coasters. At the beginning of the quarter students began the project by watching video tutorials on how to make the various components of the paper roller coaster. Students created a budget and off they went, designing, building and "purchasing" the various components creating very cool paper roller coasters. This class is a quarter long class with the final project due the last week of the quarter. Students are to plan carefully in order to complete the project. So far, the projects are taking shape, looking good!!



# 8th Grade

September 2022

## English

The students are working through chapter 7 in our novel study "The Giver" by Lowis Lowry. We have been having discussions on the various events, dystopian conflicts and how they affect the characters and the overall plot structure of the novel. We will be taking our first comprehension quiz on chapters 1-7 in the first week of September.

Mr. Pascual and Mr. Delzotto

## Math

Welcome back to school 8th graders! In Math 8, we will learn about different types of rigid transformations such as translation, reflection and rotation. We will also explore the properties of transformations and analyze how congruent figures are formed. For Algebra 1, we will start with Module 1 and learn about various strategies to transform phrases to expressions and evaluate one-variable equations and inequalities using algebraic properties.

## CTE

For much of the month of August we have been learning all about financial literacy. Students have been learning about credit cards, debit cards, credit scores, and more! Consider asking your child about what a budget is and two benefits of creating a budget.

- Ms. Hitt

**General Music (wheel) :** Hi 8th grade music students! This is your 2nd year of piano/keyboard skills, so I hope you're excited to further your abilities and knowledge! As you know, week 8 are the piano performance tests, so it is just around the corner! Keep practicing your scales and chords and start choosing your pieces!

Mr. Serra

## STEM

Welcome back to an exciting year of STEM. So far we have reviewed various skills needed to submit work in slides while learning about each student through a Digital Name Poster & Presentation. We are already creating & designing vinyl cutters as students research and design a personal name symbol. You may see new designs appearing on their belongings soon!

- Mrs. Wong

## Art

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-Elizabeth Garrison

## Social Studies

Welcome to U.S. History, where we will explore the founding of our nation and its evolution from the American Revolution to where we are now. Students have enjoyed celebrating unusual holidays like national s'mores day, national Kool Aid day, national trail mix day, and national cherry pop over day. We are excited to see what else we can celebrate together. Ho'onui like students are preparing to start their National History Day journey. Come to Mrs. Pratt's parent information night on 2SEP 5-6pm to learn more.

- Andy Pratt



## Science

Aloha and welcome to 8th grade science. We spent the first few weeks developing classroom norms and reviewing scientific method. We are currently learning about the different types of measurement using the metric system. We will be exploring mass, volume and density in the first few weeks of September. We will then move into learning about physical properties and how to measure them. This school year, we will also focus on collecting, organizing, and analyzing empirical data. Let's have a great year! -Mrs. Wells and Mrs. Segawa

## Hula

Aloha Ohana,  
I am Mrs. Uperesa and my partner who will be teaching hula is Kumu Keola. So far we have been learning to chant as well as learning to get out of our shells and participate in activities. Next we will be learning more Hawaiian language before getting into learning Hula steps. Looking forward to a great year!

## Hawaiian Studies

Aloha Ohana,  
I am Mrs. Uperesa. So far we have been doing a lot of self-directed learning on topics regarding Hawaiian History. Next month we will learn about hidden meanings in songs.  
- Mrs. Uperesa.

## Beg/Inter Band/Orch/Adv Band

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## P. E.

The 8th grade PE classes are currently playing tchoukball, The game is played on a basketball court. The ball is thrown off rebounders, if the opponent fails to catch it. Then your team scores a point. We will be finishing our unit in the next week or so. The classes also finished their mile run pre-test (timed). Our next unit will be lacrosse. My 6th grade classes are currently doing soccer. We are working on dribbling, passing, and shooting at the goal, we are playing 3 vs 3 games.

**ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages):** Hello parents and families! Welcome, or welcome back to Stevenson! Our ESOL classes are for English Learners (ELs), and we have three different classes according to your child's WIDA ACCESS score. We focus on the English language (listening, reading, writing, and speaking) so they are successful in their academics!  
- Ms. Amano, Ms. Kashimura, and Mr. Oh

## Emergent

Our Emergent ELs will begin PFR this quarter to work on their foundational skills of sounding out multisyllabic words and picture to word association and context. This guided skills practice will strengthen their knowledge and abilities in reading, speaking, and writing in efforts to help them with word recognition and comprehension.

## Literacy

To know our ELs and for them to know themselves, we have begun a project-based learning unit on Identity, which includes Heart Maps, Place Maps and other graphic organizers to guide students thinking. This unit will culminate in a Personal Narrative writing on Identity at the end of Quarter 1.

## Development

To challenge our Developing ELs, we will be focusing on Identity through Heart Maps and writing on Gratitude, Be The Change, and Personal Narrative writing traits, which help students find their Voice in both thinking, writing, and speaking. Our ELs will complete a Personal Narrative essay on Identity at the end of Quarter 1.