

Meet your Gamma Teachers

2022-2023

Dear Gamma Student Families:

We are excited to begin a new year in Gamma Pod and we are pleased to have your son/daughter with us. As a helpful introduction to seventh grade, we'd like to tell you a little bit about the classes we teach.

American History



Mr. **Kyle Fodness** will teach American History, focusing on the Pre-Civil War Era through modern times. Students will investigate our nation's past and how it has shaped America into the country that it is today through a variety of means that will include: projects, discussions, notes, tests and written assignments.



Mathematics

Mr. **Patrick McNallan** is the math teacher. Students will study geometry, pre-algebra, fractions, decimals, percents and graphing. Students will also have the opportunities to work in groups, on projects and learn through games.

Special Education Inclusion

Mr. **Corey Boen** is the Special Education teacher. He will be in charge of the IEP's and the academic support in the classroom for these students. If you have an email address, that would be very helpful in communicating back and forth with him.

Language Arts



Mrs. **Dannon Kietzman** teaches Language Arts. Students will read short stories, novels and essays. Students will study poetry and complete a variety of writing assignments, including the five-paragraph essay. We will work toward completing the Common Core Standards in Language Arts.



Science

Ms. Thomason teaches Life Science. Life Science will emphasize the study of the environment, cell, genetics, human anatomy, the kingdoms of living things as well as how living things interact in our world. Students will be exploring science by doing a number of hands on activities such as labs and projects.



Welcome to Gamma Pod

As the new school year approaches, we would like to welcome you to Bemidji Middle School and the Gamma Pod community. By working together, our hope is that each child will have a positive and successful 7th Grade experience.

Gamma teachers' names and email addresses are:

Kyle Fodness (Social Studies) kyle_fodness@isd31.net

Pat McNallan (Pre-Algebra) patrick_mcnallan@isd31.net

Lara Thomason (Science) lara_thomason@isd31.net

Dannon Kietzman (Language Arts) dannon_kietzman@isd31.net

Corey Boen (Inclusion) corey_boen@isd31.net

For Personal Use

- Pencils, blue or black pens
- 2 red correcting pens
- Five college-ruled notebooks
- 5 pocket folders or trapper
- 3 composition notebook
- 4 pack of highlighters

For Pod Use

- 1 ream of paper
- 2 boxes of facial tissues
- 24 pack of colored pencils
- pack of #2 pencils
- Donation - \$5 science labs (Cash or checks made to BMS)

Family Access - Parents: Sign up now (if you don't already have an account)

Sign up for Family Access to monitor your child's progress throughout the school year. To sign up or log on to your account go to

<http://www.bemidji.k12.mn.us/parent/family-access/>

GAMMA
DAILY SCHEDULE

1st hr. AA/AE 8:35 – 9:35
locker/bathroom break
2nd hr. Basic 9:40–10:41
No Break
3rd hr. Basic 10:42–11:43
Locker/bathroom break
4th hr. AA/AE 11:47–12:47
Locker/bathroom break
LUNCH *12:50–1:15*
Locker/bathroom break
5th hr. Basic 1:19–2:19
No Break
6th hr. Basic 2:20–3:20

Gamma Pod information:

*As you can see from the daily schedule above the students are never in the pod for more than 2 hours without a break, so we limit the bathroom breaks they get besides the times listed on our schedule.

*Also we provide each student with a planner that they are to fill out each hour. This planner also has 6 bathroom passes they can use for emergencies throughout the quarter. They get a new one each quarter.

*We also sometimes use these planners as a graded assignment as well as partial qualifications for our end of the qtr. rewards.

*We post our daily assignments on the REMIND APP which we encourage you to get signed up for.

Get Gamma Updates Via Remind

What is Remind?

Remind is a free, safe, and simple messaging tool that helps teachers share important updates and reminders with students and parents. Subscribe by Remind app or text.



TO SIGN UP FOR GAMMA REMIND

1. To receive messages via app:
 - Download the remind app
 - Choose +Join a class
 - Enter @gamma22-23
 2. To receive messages via text:
 - Text @gamma22-23 to 81010
- You may opt-out anytime by replying unsubscribe @gammapod

We look forward to meeting our new students on the first day of school, Tuesday, September 6th. Until then, enjoy the rest of your summer!

Gamma Pod Teachers