

# 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE NEWS @ QVMS

## What We're Learning:

### THE INSIDE SCOOP

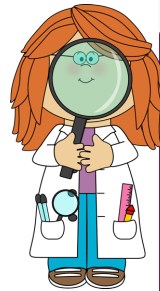
**SOCIAL STUDIES:** During the first 9 weeks, students will have opportunities to identify the historical eras of European Exploration and Early Colonization and be able to correctly sequence them chronologically. Students should also be able to identify major events during each period such as Columbus' voyages in 1492, the founding of Jamestown colony in 1607, founding of Plymouth colony in 1619, and the construction of the Mayflower Compact in 1620. Students will also need to have opportunities to identify starting and stopping events for each era and to be able to explain why these events are turning points in our history.

**SCIENCE:** In 8th grade Science students will continue to dive into our Force and Motion Unit. We will be discussing Balanced and Unbalanced Forces, Newton's laws and more. Our big idea for this unit is how unbalanced forces cause a change in the motion of an object. This unit is jam packed with hands on labs and experiences. These experiences will help students understand how to explain how we interact with physics on a daily basis.

**MATH:** In 8th grade Math students will represent and use real numbers in a variety of forms, such as describing relationships of sets and subsets, approximating the value of irrational numbers, converting between decimal and scientific notations, and ordering real numbers.

Students will also apply their knowledge of real numbers to develop mathematical relationships and make connections to geometric formulas, such as the Pythagorean Theorem to solve problems.

**ELA:** In 8th Grade ELA students will be introduced to the Reading/Writing Workshop with focus on the Expository genre, write an expository essay utilizing the steps of the writing process, read and understand Literary Non-Fiction texts, read and understand Poetry, make connections between ideas across different genres.



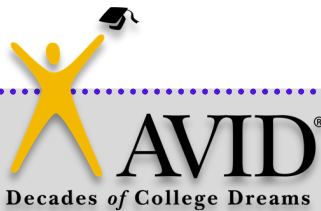
## Important Dates:

- Oct. 6 - Fall Social—QVMS Commons
- Oct. 11 - PSAT
- Oct. 19 - End of 9 weeks (Half-Day)
- Oct. 20 - No School/ Professional Development

## The Counselor's Corner

Counselor's Corner - 8th grade

Hello Fabulous Parents of 8<sup>th</sup> graders! Although we've had a stutter start this year, our 8<sup>th</sup> graders have shown their resilience and positive attitudes in coming back ready to go!



Welcome AVID—Advancement Via Individual Determination to QVMS!

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Kurlenne Martin, AVID Coordinator/ AVID Elective Teacher | Whitney Rachui, AVID Site Team Science Teacher      |
| Georgia Hicks, AVID Site Team Counselor                  | Rochelle Tyler, AVID Site Team Math Teacher         |
| Jeffrey Post, AVID Site Team Administrator               | Camille Kirk, AVID Site Team Math Teacher           |
| Laura Scheiner, AVID Site Team ELA Teacher               | LaToya White, AVID Site Team Math Teacher           |
| Trina Gray, AVID Site Team ELA Teacher                   | Kimberley Pleasant, AVID Site Team Elective Teacher |
| Vivian Holley, AVID Site Team ELA Teacher                | Deric Dawson, AVID Site Team Support Teacher        |
| Maleeya Coleman, AVID Site Team Science Teacher          |   |

## The Counselor's Corner (cont.)

Coming on October 11<sup>th</sup>, our 8<sup>th</sup> graders will take the PSAT 8/9 Test. This is a highly relevant test in that it measures:

1. what one learns in school; and, 2. what one needs to succeed in college.

How can your student prepare? There are no secret tricks to taking the test and certainly, there is no cramming that needs to be done. Simply, students need to complete homework assignments; prepare for any subject tests given by their teachers; ask and answer lots of questions in class discussions. To find out what kinds of questions are on the PSAT 8/9 and what the test will measure, visit this website: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-8-9/inside-the-test>

Final note – please keep an eye on the QVMS Counselor's Website for announcements and calendar dates. We have some VERY important planning for high school coming up this year – we don't want you to miss

### QVMS PTO

**If you haven't had a chance to join our PTO, it's not too late! Go to [www.qvmspto.org](http://www.qvmspto.org)**

**We have lots of events happening this month! Our committees are starting to plan the 8th Grader's Exit Party, our Fall Social is this Friday, the Box Tops contest goes through Oct. 27, and we have our October hospitality event for our teachers and staff at the end of the month!**

#### 8th Grade is going to Washington DC!!!

Dear Parents,

You are invited to an important meeting about Quail Valley Middle School's Washington, D.C. Trip, today, Wednesday, October 4 from 6:00-6:30pm! Scholarships are available for this Spring break trip, and a World strides Representative will be in Room 115 (Ms. Maly's Room) today to speak with you! Please attend this brief and interactive meeting for parents and students. ☺

#### Schedule change requests—

First, a big "Thank You" for your patience in schedule change requests being honored. Our first priority during the first week of school was making sure that ALL students had a full schedule. Now, we are focusing on schedule change requests. Please know that not all schedule change requests can be honored because of class numbers as well as how classes may fall in the Master Schedule plan. As much as we want our kids to have smooth paths in life, sometimes learning how to deal with disappointment is one of the best life lessons they can have.

