



VOYAGEURS NEWS

Greetings from our Director:

We're off to a great start this fall with a number of returning students and staff. We welcome Cort Claypool to our Middle School Science program and Deb Risberg as our new Special Education Teacher. Tim Lohtka joins us as a Special Education para and spent time with us last spring as a student teacher.

We're focusing in even more on making relationships an academic standard. Designing a school atmosphere that sets expectations and support is having an immediate positive effect on our programs.

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming Parent Night on Oct 26th as well as our fall conferences Nov 9-10.

We also are looking to our parents/guardians to share their talents and knowledge by creating a listing of community experts. Can you spare some time to show us what work you do and what skills you have learned? I'm sure we can find a time to have you share these gifts with us.

Enjoy the fall and thanks for sharing your student with us.

Respectfully,
Scott Anderson

Thoughts from a high school parent for student success:

Visit the school website and check out the teacher pages for your student's classes. Find out what they are learning about in classes and visit with them about highlights from classes. Also log into JMC and check on progress reports, see how the grades are looking, and help your student form a plan to stay on top of classes.

Daily attendance in class is critical to success, as many hands on assignments, demonstrations, and projects happen in class. Missing a day takes a lot of work to catch up. Encouraging attendance is the best way to combat getting behind in class.

Every hex is a great way to make a "new start" to success. As much as it's important to pass each hex, moving forward to even better success on the next hex is critical. I think it's a great life skill to be able to reflect on how our strategy in the past led to a level of success and then using that to build an even more successful tomorrow.

Calendar of Events:

No school Thu. Fri. Oct. 19, 20

Parent Night, Thu. 10/26 5 to 7 pm

Parent Conferences Nov. 9, 10

No school Nov. 23, 24

No school Fri. Dec. 1, teacher development day

Expedition Day Fri. Dec. 22

Winter Break Dec. 25 to Jan. 2

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Programs

MAAP STARS

This is an after school extracurricular activity for high school students who attend charter schools or who are in alternative education. It is part of a statewide organization that engages students and fosters leadership. Voyageurs MAAP STARS chapter is working on service projects this year, including developing public service announcements videos which will promote our school within the community. Students who are interested should contact Troy Johnson troy@voyageursschool.org.

Knowledge Bowl

We have a high school team that competes against other northwest Minnesota schools 6 times in the winter. Contact Ruth Webb ruth@voyageursschool.org or Tim Lohtka tim@voyageursschool.org

Presentation by Audoban Center of the Northwoods



Photo of Milkweed Seed Pod by Shawn Oakgrove



Cold Weather Policy

If you hear that Bemidji ISD 31 is delayed or cancelled, then Voyageurs will be delayed or cancelled. You can also check www.WCCO.com or www.paulbunyanbroadcasting.com or the Voyageurs Facebook page.

Homework and Grades

Students who miss class are responsible for making arrangements with the teacher to find out what assignments they missed. Missing assignments will receive a 0. Check JMC often for grades. If you need help accessing JMC give Kathy in the office a call at 218-444-3130.

Attendance Expectations

Parents have an obligation to report their child's absence by 10 am. As per state law, Voyageurs must comply with attendance reporting and truancy filing for students who have more than 7 unexcused absences.

Congratulations to the following students for being selected for our 2017-18 STAR Team:

Kody B.
Azalea C.
Jasmyne L.
Katelynn S.
Jasmine S.
Jayla S.

Thank you to all who applied. The staff enjoyed reading your application responses.

What Does Environmental Literacy Mean?

People who are environmentally literate understand the complexity of natural and social systems and their interrelationships. They demonstrate the knowledge, skills, attitudes, motivation, and commitment to work individually and collectively toward sustaining a healthy, natural, and social environment. They have the capacity to perceive and interpret the health of environmental and social systems and take appropriate action to maintain, restore, or improve the health of those systems.

10 ways to reduce electricity usage in your home.

1. Turn off lights when you leave a room.
2. Change lightbulb from incandescent bulbs to LED bulbs.
3. Unplug electric devices when not in use.
4. Set thermostat at 68 degrees in the winter and 74 in the summer.
5. Use solar powered landscape lighting.
6. Buy Energy Star rated appliances for your home.
7. Insulate pipes to water heaters and hot water lines.
8. Insulate your home to reduce heat loss in the winter and heat gain in the summer.
9. Eliminate vampire power.
10. Shut your computer down each night.

Humane Society Service Project



Student Art Work



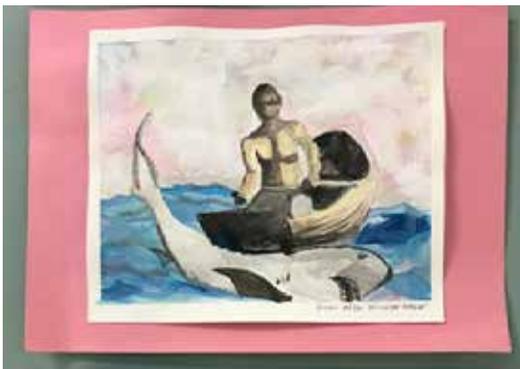
Middle School Monet Study



Jasmine S.



High School Life Drawing



Susan B.



High School Value Study



Derrick S.



This I Believe

By: Robert Johnson

Culture means a way of life; it's how a society functions. There have been countless cultures out in the world and throughout history. I think learning about these cultures is important. I am Native American, Ojibwe, a very large part of a certain culture. My generation of people are going to have to pass these values down, in order for our culture to thrive. We'll have to pass down our ceremonies, our practices, and our traditions. Our smudging, our gatherings, and our language. I believe in Culture.

People should know where they came from and the history of their culture/cultures. I have this really vivid memory of when I was about 6 years old. I remember there being so many colors, red, blue, black, orange, green. They were all mixed together in different shapes and patterns. There were so many sounds, like the roaring of the different drum groups (huge drums were used to make music). People also sung when they beat the drums; the songs were sung in the Ojibwe language. The beat of people's feet as they danced their hardest, mixed in with the drums was exhilarating. There were many different types of people there as well, too many for me to remember. It was a powwow, a cultural gathering my people have, we have these all throughout the state of Minnesota. I have another memory, when I was a few years older. My grandparents took me on a trip to New Mexico, where I experienced another type of culture; the Mayan. It was a type of dance similar to the ones I saw at the powwow. The colors and drums were also similar; they wore these types of headdresses, which were pointy and fanned out in different directions. I really enjoyed the different types of clothing they wore; it was all so colorful. These were my first memories experiencing culture.

I believe in Culture. My earlier experiences opened up another door for me. They made me value my culture and where I came from; it's really changed the way I look at things in life. It's important to understand Cultural Teachings, because by teaching younger generations (like myself) different traditions that a culture has will, in conclusion carry on that culture.

Attention Parents & Guardians of Seniors:

Is your student planning to attend college next Fall? Are you feeling overwhelmed by the thought of applying for financial aid? If you answered YES, please plan to join us for Financial Aid 101.

A representative from the Bemidji State University Financial Aid office will be here to answer your questions about grants, loans and the FAFSA (Free Application for Student Aid).

We hope to see all seniors and their parents/guardians there!

When: Thursday, Oct. 26 (Parent Night)

Where: HS Social Studies Room

Time: 6:00-7:00 PM

