



# "KNIGHTLY NEWS"

Eastern York Middle School  
Newsletter  
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Eastern York Middle School

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## School-Wide Positive Behavior Support

### *Fast Facts!*



#### What is **School-Wide Positive Behavior Support**?

Positive Behavior Support (PBS) is a general term that refers to the application of positive interventions and system changes to achieve socially important behavior change. PBS was developed initially as an alternative to aversive interventions used for students with significant disabilities who engaged in extreme forms of self-injury and aggression. More recently, the technology has been applied successfully with a wide range of students, in a wide range of contexts, and extended from an intervention approach for individual students to an intervention approach for entire schools.

(For a complete definition visit [www.pbis.org](http://www.pbis.org)).

#### What are the **GOALS** of Positive Behavior Support?

Positive Behavior Support is not a new intervention package, but an application of a behaviorally-based systems approach to enhancing the capacity of schools, families, and communities to design effective environments that improve the fit between research-validated practices and the environments in which teaching and learning occur. The focus is on creating and sustaining school environments that improve lifestyle results (personal, health, social, academic, work, etc.) for all students by making problem behavior less effective, efficient, and relevant, while making desired behavior more functional. In addition, the use of culturally appropriate interventions is emphasized.

#### Who is **INVOLVED** in the Positive Behavior Support Process?

School-wide PBS requires a collaborative team consisting of administrators, teachers, support personnel, behavior specialist, and parents. You may already have these people coming together as part of a School Improvement Team. This School Improvement Team can build on the processes a school already has in place to improve the effectiveness, efficiency and relevance of both child and adult behavior and to develop a comprehensive, school-wide system to proactively reduce challenging behaviors and teach more appropriate behaviors.

#### What is a School-Wide Positive Behavior Support **PLAN**?

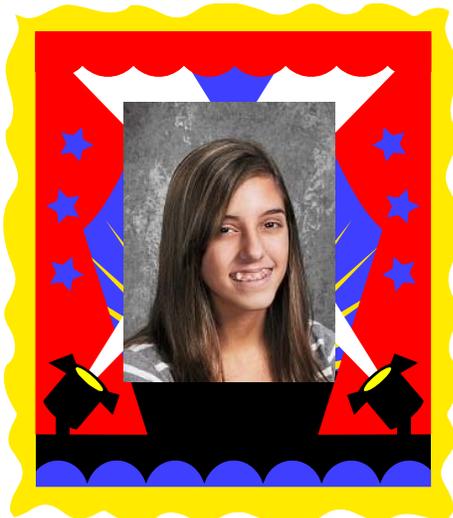
The School-wide PBS Plan would include the following steps:

1. Expectations are clearly and positively defined.
2. Behavioral expectations are taught to all students and staff.
3. Appropriate behaviors are acknowledged.
4. Behavioral errors are proactively corrected.
5. A database for keeping records and making decisions is established.

### Student Spotlight

Katie Grim

8<sup>th</sup> Grade S-Team



Katie was selected as a People to People Student Ambassador for the York/Adams delegation.

She will be traveling to England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland this summer for a 19 day adventure with 30 other students from York and Adams counties. We are very proud of her accomplishment.

# News from 6th Grade

## I T e a m

As snow flakes begin to fall gently from the sky, we say a fond farewell to fall and welcome to winter! The I-Team has been busily engaging in many exciting activities since the beginning of the school year...

In reading, students have just wrapped up the steps to FLIRTING with texts. Now we are preparing for Reciprocal Teaching by reading the following novels: Number the Stars, Cracker Jackson, Who Really Killed Cock Robin, Tuck Everlasting, and Maniac MaGee.

Mr. Hengst's classes have been composing several essays including a compare and contrast piece on places the I-Team students have visited on their travels. This was one topic they compared among other compare and contrast topics. While working through components of compare and contrast essays, the students have been focusing on organization in their writing. The road to becoming a better writer for this year's wonderful I team students includes: conventions of writing next, which includes Nouns, followed by Persuasive pieces.

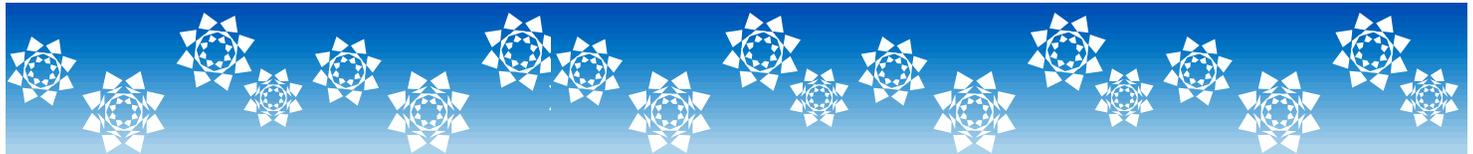
Social Studies class has also been incorporating many of the reading strategies into its content. Students determined the 10 most important events in American History and created a visual timeline to sequence those events. The top 10 timelines turned in were: Haley Spyker, Drake Renn, Makenna McElhenny, Elizabeth Pyles, Natalie Grim, Kierstin Grove, Alyssa Tascione, Melanie Schaefer, Taylor Thomas, Madison Miller, and Lyssa Artman.

Mr. Campbell's science class is in the midst of studying "invisible" organisms. We have just ended our debate over the positives and negatives of bacteria, as we were shocked that most foods we eat hold bacteria. Also, the class has investigated the workings of a virus. Now we move on to discuss simple protist and fungi.

In math, Mrs. Beaver is concluding a unit on multiplying decimals. The students are starting pre-algebra and algebraic formulas.

In Healthy Life students have been practicing their measuring skills and learning just how much math there is in cooking. Our granola definitely tasted better when we measured carefully!

The I-Team took time out on December 8<sup>th</sup> to honor all the hard work that its students have been doing. During the meeting, 89 students received awards for the November ARMOR Party. In addition, 58 students earned Distinguished Honor Roll for the 1<sup>st</sup> Marking Period, and 18 students made Honor Roll. Lastly, 23 I-Team students had Perfect Attendance for the 1<sup>st</sup> Marking Period. Julia Atwater, Daylon Gohn, Ben Leaman, Elizabeth Pyles, and Haley Spyker were selected at the I-Team Knights of the Roundtable for October. Congratulations to all of our students on their accomplishments. Keep up the great work in the Second Marking Period.



# News from 6th Grade



## N-Team Star Students

The N-Team would like to introduce our October Knights of the Roundtable Recipients:

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Lydia Massa comes to us from Wrightsville Elementary School. Her favorite part of the middle school is getting to meet new teachers. She believes it is good to meet new teachers and experience a variety of personalities in school. Her favorite subject is math; she believes it is important for success in life. Lydia was nominated by her N-Team teachers because she is a quiet leader. She always has a hand in the air and completes her work to the best of her ability. When asked what it means to her to be a Knight of the Round Table, she responded "It means a great deal to me. Since I earned this I know I am making school an important part of me life." Her parents were very proud when she told them. She said they are very proud of all her hard work. Lydia will continue to strive to do her best, but what she looks forward to the most here at the middle school is meeting even more new friends than she has right now.



Grace Ports comes to us from Kreutz Creek Elementary School. Her favorite part of the middle school is switching classes as well as meeting new teachers and students. Her favorite subject is reading and she claims, "reading is fun, and so is the teacher!" Grace was nominated by her N-Team teachers because she exemplifies all the qualities of a Knight. She is always respectful, focused, responsible, and motivated to do well in everything she tries. When asked what it means to her to be a Knight of the Round Table she responded, "It is important because it lets other students know the advantages of being a good student." Her parents were very proud when she told them she was nominated for KORT. Grace will continue to strive to do her best, but what she looks forward to the most here at the middle school is meeting new people and learning new things.



Michael Shoff comes to us from Canadochly Elementary School. His favorite part of the middle school is having lockers; they keep all your materials organized so everything is not crammed into your desk. His favorite subject is math he claims, "I am good at it!" Michael was nominated by his N-Team teachers because he is an excellent N-team student. He is ready to accept any challenge his teachers have to offer. He comes to class with a ready response and a smile. When asked what it means to him to be a Knight of the Round Table, he responded, "I think it is a great opportunity, and your friends look up to you." His parents were very proud when he told them he was nominated for KORT. Mike will continue to strive to do his best, but what he looks forward to the most here at the middle school is getting good grades and striving to be a Knight of the Roundtable every month.



Luke Kessler comes to us from Wrightsville Elementary School. His favorite part of the middle school is gym, he likes running all around after sitting all day! His favorite subject is science and he claims, "I like it because it comes easy to me and I like to do experiments." Luke was nominated by his N-Team teachers because he is quiet, focused, motivated and always prepared for class. When asked what it means to him to be a Knight of the Round Table he responded, "To me it means I am getting good grades and participating in class." His parents were very proud when he told them he was nominated for KORT. Luke will continue to strive to do his best, but what he looks forward to the most here at the middle school is going to Washington D.C., if we get to go on a field trip.



Nicole Kreuger comes to us from Kreutz Creek Elementary School. Her favorite part of the middle school is switching classes for every subject. Her favorite subject is math and she claims, "It has always been my favorite and it challenges me a lot." Nicole was nominated by her N-Team teachers because she puts forth her best effort in everything she does. She has made an excellent transition to the middle school and accepts challenges willingly. When asked what it means to her to be a Knight of the Round Table, she responded, "It is a great honor to be a Knight of the Roundtable; it shows me that I am being recognized for all my hard work." Her parents were very proud when she told them she was nominated for KORT. Nicole will continue to strive to do her best, but what she looks forward to the most here at the middle school is everything! Middle school is a brand new experience for her and she is very excited about it.

# News from 7th Grade

## H T E A M



### The Race to the Finish! The Creation of CO<sub>2</sub> Cars

By Ms. Luckenbaugh

in conjunction with Stephanie Shirk and Conner Barshinger



Please note: In honor of this month's Reading power standard—Vocabulary—A vocabulary key has been added for your convenience.

I-Tech class is an exciting place to be for the month of December! G Team students are currently gearing up for the races by creating and building CO<sub>2</sub> cars. To begin with, the students first have to draw a **concept design**<sup>2</sup>. Next, they have to do a **rough sketch**<sup>3</sup>. Then, students are expected to do a final drawing. Mr. Hess has to check the final drawing to make sure it's legal for the race. **Specifications**<sup>4</sup> include the size of the car, the placement of the **axle**<sup>5</sup> and wheels, the distance of the **eyelets**<sup>6</sup>, and the dragster's **body mass**<sup>7</sup>. All of which is measured in metric units. After the drawing is approved, students then create a **prototype**<sup>8</sup> of the car, which is made out of Styrofoam. Due to time limitations, students will not be creating a prototype. Students then cut out the final draft and glue it onto a wood block. In essence, the creation of the final drawing is the pattern for their CO<sub>2</sub> cars. After using the heavy machinery to cut out their cars, they then have to add the finishing touches by sanding and painting it. Last, but not least, they have to add the wheels and axles. Then they are ready for race day, which is held during the Science Fair Day in May!!!!

#### Vocabulary Key

<sup>1</sup> CO <sub>2</sub>	Carbon Dioxide
<sup>2</sup> Concept Design/Thumbnail Sketch	A non-detailed drawing the size of a thumb
<sup>3</sup> Rough Sketch	Scale model drawing of their proposed car
<sup>4</sup> Specifications	A detailed, exact item of particulars
<sup>5</sup> Axles	The bar that holds the wheels on a car
<sup>6</sup> Eyelets	Tiny holds with a screw on top: Allows for racing of cars
<sup>7</sup> Body Mass	A property of matter equal to the measure of an object's resistance to changes either in the speed or directions of its motion

## G T E A M



### Winter Wonderland of Words

By: Anthony Alfred Amato and Andrew Jacob Smith



As the Winter Wonderland of Words blow into the classrooms, seventh graders are bracing for a cold front of words. Both G and H team seventh graders are participating in this fun way to learn new vocabulary.

The December power standard for reading class is "Use meaning and knowledge of words across content areas to expand reading vocabulary." Mrs. Barnhart and Mrs. Pullen make this standard fun even though it sounds boring. They motivated students by coming up with a contest that makes students want to know more words. They do this by having the students learn about prefix and suffix meaning. The students think of words that share the same prefix and suffix. They can also research words on line or with a dictionary. The students write the words on green slips of paper that look like money. These money slips include breaking the word apart, telling the word's importance, using the word in sentences, and finding words that are related to the word. The importance of these slips of paper is to see which period will bring in the most slips. The winning period will receive a doughnut party. We are also competing team to team. The prize, you ask for the winning team? Well, it is a mystery holiday stocking filled with treats.

Please encourage your student to enhance their learning and have some fun at the same time. Students may hand in word slips until December 20th. Now the cold front is strong, so please have your child bundle up with a Winter Wonderland of Words.

# News from 8th Grade



Susan P. Byrnes  
Health Education Center

Educating & Inspiring people of all ages to make healthy choices.

## Susan Byrnes Health Center Field Trip

By: Brianna Oppong-Antwi

Today teens face many issues. There is pressure to get good grades, the struggle of fitting in, and the expectation to resist the temptations of drugs and alcohol. From day one we are always told not to do drugs, stay in school, and be you. But one major issue that everyone never wants to talk over is sex. That is why in 8th grade we have health class where we learn about all these issues and how to deal with them. The T team in 8th grade took a field trip to the Susan P. Byrnes Health Education Center to learn about sexually transmitted diseases, the reproductive system, and how to communicate in a relationship.

The first program the 8th grade had was called Teen Talk. We used hands on diagrams and labels to learn about the parts of the reproductive system and the major changes that occur in your body during puberty. We used a role-play to understand how to clearly communicate in a relationship. The major thing to take away from the program was abstinence. There are huge responsibilities and consequences that come along with sex that you should seriously consider and talk about it beforehand.

We saw another program about STDs and the Immune System. STDs, especially the AIDS virus (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) goes through stages, first infecting a person as HIV, then over time progressing into full blown AIDS and decomposes their immune system. The main thing we took away from this is that even though AIDS has no cure it is 100% preventable, as long as you avoid risky behaviors. Many of us were enlightened about how you can actually contract an STD, and what they really do to you. We then got to do an activity that demonstrated how fast AIDS can spread. Everyone was given a cup of water. About 3 cups out of fifty had a few drops of lemon in them. We then poured our water in our "partner's" cup and they poured ours back halfway. Everyone did this with three different "partners." At the end of the activity a pH tester was used to detect the lemon acid in the cups and it was discovered that 12 people had acquired "AIDS." That was a fantastic example of how fast, easily, and unknowingly an STD can spread.

There is not one T team 8th grader who can say they didn't learn anything during their day at the Susan Byrnes health center. I am glad we got the opportunity to go and learn about these issues in a nonjudgmental and no pressure environment. I know the information we learned will help us make decisions in important situations all throughout our lives.



### Caring Colonials Collecting Cans

EYMS 8th grade students "Pay it Forward Colonial Style" by collecting cans and non-perishable items to help people in our community in need. The items were donated to the Grace United Methodist Church food pantry. The 8th Grade American History classes are learning history first hand by acting as colonists from the 1600's. This is a modern way for students to pay it forward like the Native Americans did over 400 years ago. We are very proud of the 8th grade students because they collected over 1,000 non-perishable items for the food bank.

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**A Message from the Attendance Secretary**

When your child is being picked up early from school, your wait time in the school office can be decreased if you send a note with the student in the morning. The note should indicate who will pick them up and what time they are leaving. When they bring a note to the office upon their arrival to school, we will issue a pass for them to leave class and be in the office waiting when you arrive. Hopefully this can streamline the process for you and for us.

# Upcoming Events

- 12/03/10 – PTSO Winterfest Set-Up 5-9 pm
- 12/04/10 – PTSO Winterfest 9am–3pm
- 12/08/10 – Mid-Marking Period
- 12/10/10 – PTSO Fun Knight – 6-8 pm
- 12/13/10 – PTSO Meeting – 6:30 pm - MS Library
- 12/14/10 – MS Winter Concert – 6:30 PM  
MS Gymnasium
- 12/23/10 – Early Dismissal – 12:45 (HS and MS)  
1:45 (Elementary)
- 12/24 - 1/02/10 – Holiday Break



Earn money for your school...

Click to register



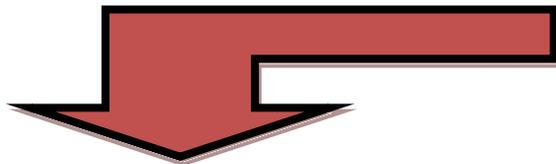
This Giant Program is a cash back program for schools and patrons who place their Giant Bonus Club number into their computer system.

A certain percentage of everything you spend then would come back to the school in the form of a check in April.

A patron can designate up to 2 different schools. If they do that; the percentage is split between the schools. Actually it is FREE money for schools.

Go to [www.GiantAPlus.com](http://www.GiantAPlus.com) or [www.Giant.com](http://www.Giant.com) to learn more. Be sure to visit this site often to view program updates and to track your school's A+ School Rewards progress.

The Middle School number for the Giant Program is 00690.



Don't forget to check your child's grades and assignments online at <http://www.eyork.k12.pa.us/>



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