

8th Grade Syllabus

Meet your team:

Robin Gilchrist	Language Arts – Bears Core	robin.gilchrist@adams12.org
Lance Pulliam	Math- Bears Core	lance.pulliam@adams12.org
Nahid Razani	Social Studies – Bears Core	nahid.razani@adams12.org
Dan Visser	Science - Bears Core	vis016912@adams12.org
Shannon Langdon	Language Arts – Buffs Core	lan015979@adams12.org
Mari Harp	Math- Buffs Core	Mari.S.Harp@adams12.org
Nathaniel Roberts	Social Studies – Buffs Core	nathaniel.roberts@adams12.org
Lynda Szumski	Science – Buffs Core	lynda.d.szumski@adams12.org
Darla Ponzio	Language Arts – Falcons Core	darla.ponzio@adams12.org
Ruzena Sucharova	Math- Falcons Core	ruzena.sucharova@adams12.org
Jennifer Sykes	Social Studies- Falcons Core	Jennifer.A.Sykes@adams12.org
John Davis	Science- Falcons Core	dav020401@adams12.org
Nicole Spaeth	Language Arts- Rams	spa018195@adams12.org
Sonya Fitzgerald	Math- Rams	Sonya.K.Fitzgerald@adams12.org
Katrina Shult	Social Studies- Rams	Katrina.M.Shult@adams12.org
Dan Fanelli	Science – Rams	daniel.j.fanelli@adams12.org
Olivia Doll	ELD	Olivia.J.Doll@adams12.org
Porfidia Beuke	8th grade Counselor	porfidia.c.beuke@adams12.org
Rob Sears	Dean	robert.sears@adams12.org
Jen Oldweiler	Assistant Principal	jennifer.oldweiler@adams12.org
DJ Eipper	Assistant Principal	daniel.j.eipper@adams12.org
Chelsea Behanna	Principal	chelsea.behanna@adams12.org

Chromebooks

Rocky Top is a 1:1 school. It is vital to students' learning for them to be prepared with their Chromebook in proper working condition. Listed below are the school-wide Chromebook expectations ("Chromebook Commands") and consequences. If a student's Chromebook has been sent in for repairs, is being replaced or is otherwise non-functioning, students should check out a Chromebook from the school.

Chromebook Commands

1. You must ALWAYS bring your Chromebook *and charger* to school.
2. Your Chromebook must be charged EVERY night.
3. Your Chromebook must ALWAYS be in a case when carried.
4. NEVER touch another's Chromebook without permission.
5. Chromebooks are for ACADEMICS, use them appropriately.

Chromebook Commands Consequences

FIRST OFFENSE: WARNING

SECOND OFFENSE: Lunch detention and parents will be contacted.

THIRD OFFENSE: REFERRAL to office.

Homework Policy

- The purpose of homework is to practice skills, elaborate on topics introduced in class, and prepare for upcoming topics of study.
- Teachers post topics for daily study and assigned work on the board as well as on their blog. Students are expected to copy classwork and homework assignments into their agendas or e-calendars daily. Parents may access core homework calendars on the Rocky Top website for further information.
- Each student should expect **approximately** 10 minutes of homework per grade level; 7th graders will have 70 minutes. There may be additional homework (practice) if your student is learning a musical instrument or foreign language.
- No homework will be due on **Mondays**, (excluding long-term projects), or over long breaks from school, in order to support time for families and activities outside school.

Late Work Policy

- When an absence is excused, students shall be given a period of at least the same number of days they were absent plus one additional day to make up missed assignments. This make up period begins the next school day following the absence. (Superintendent Policy 2.3.2) Students should confirm due dates with their teachers upon their return to school.
- For student work to increase learning and serve as an opportunity to show what students have mastered, it is essential that assignments be submitted in a timely manner. It is also our goal to teach students the importance of effective time management when meeting deadlines. In order to determine progress toward mastery of a standard, it is essential that students complete and submit a sufficient amount of work to create a body of evidence.

Tardies

- Students are expected to be on time for all class periods. Consequences for tardies will be decided by individual teachers.

IDs

- IDs should be worn on a lanyard around student's necks at all times. It is the student's responsibility to obtain a temporary ID from their first hour teacher if their school issued ID is lost or missing.

Replacement IDs can be purchased from the office. After the 3rd temporary ID is issued in a given quarter (and each subsequent temporary ID is issued that quarter), an ID will be automatically printed by the office and students will be billed.

Study Sessions

- Each core offers regularly scheduled study sessions for students seeking additional explanation of topics covered in class. Students must arrange for their own transportation before and after these sessions. Core study sessions are outlined below. (Teachers are not available before or after school outside of regular study sessions unless prior arrangements have been made.)
- Help Session passes, to allow entrance into the building from 8:00 to 8:25 AM, can be found on Rocky Top’s website.
- Students need to arrive on time to study sessions in order to get the most out of the session and to prevent disruption to the learning of others in attendance. If a student is late, they may not be able to participate, and other arrangements will need to be made with the teacher for extra help.

Study Sessions:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning sessions 7:50-8:20 am	Pulliam (Math) (by appt only) Gilchrist (Lang Arts) Roberts (Social Studies: by appt only)	Pulliam (Math) (by appt only) Roberts (Social Studies: by appt only) Razani (Social Studies) Sykes (Social Studies)	Pulliam (Math) (by appt only) Roberts (Social Studies: by appt only) Shult (Social Studies)	Pulliam (Math) (by appt only) Roberts (Social Studies: by appt only) Sucharova (Math) Visser (Science) Szumski (Science) Davis (Science)	Pulliam (Math) (by appt only) Roberts (Social Studies: by appt only)
Afternoon sessions 3:50-4:20 pm	Fitzgerald (Math):	Ponzio (Language Arts) Spaeth (Lang Arts)		Harp (Math) Langdon (Lang Arts) Fanelli (Science)	

Communication

- Communication between parent/guardians and teachers is a vital component in your student’s education. Please check your student’s agenda each day to find a list of topics and assignments from each class. Be sure to visit our website (www.rockytop.adams12.org) to track daily homework and long-term project assignments.
- To track your student’s academic achievement, you may access the parent portal through our website (www.rockytop.adams12.org). Contact the counseling office to set up your family’s login information at 720-972-2218.
- The best way to reach us is by email. Teachers are not available to take telephone calls during the day, but feel free to leave voice mail messages. You can expect a response to voicemail or email within 24 hours.
- Please schedule an appointment if you would like to meet with a teacher or core team. Making arrangements ahead of time will ensure that we are able to devote our time and full attention to you.

Assessment of Learning Trajectory

<p style="text-align: center;">4 Advanced Understanding of the Standard</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3 Meets the Standard</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">2 Approaches the Standard</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1 Does not Meet the Standard</p>
<p>In evaluating a student’s overall performance in a Grade Reporting Criteria (GRC), a student earns a “4” when s/he demonstrates and advanced (complex, sophisticated, original, deep synthesized and/or applied) understanding of the standard by the end of the grading period.</p>	<p>In evaluating a student’s overall performance in a GRC, a student earns a “3” when s/he demonstrates a strong fundamental understanding of the standard by the end of the grading period.</p>	<p>In evaluating a student’s overall performance in a GRC, a student earns a “2” when s/he has demonstrated some evidence of learning and understanding that aligns with the standard; however, the evidence doesn’t demonstrate a thorough grasp of the standard.</p>	<p>In evaluating a student’s overall performance in a GRC, a student who earns a “1” has demonstrated little evidence of understanding the standard or has not met the majority of performance indicators or criteria for that GRC.</p>

- Note that ALL group projects will be represented by an individual grade for each student.
- Assessments and grading standards are applied consistently to students of similarly demonstrated ability.
- Assessments are based solely on demonstrated student progress and achievement of reasonable and clear standards.
- Students will be assessed approximately every two to three weeks in each content area.
- No extra credit will be given. Instead, students are encouraged to retake or redo assignments or assessments in which their score was not satisfactory.
- Students are encouraged to be engaged in and motivated toward the completion of their assignments.
- To accurately reflect student learning, special education and general education teachers collaborate to document progress toward grade level standards. These results are reflected in the report card and in quarterly IEP progress reports.

Student Grade Calculation and Reporting	Percent of Grade
<p><u>Assessment</u> – Unit tests, quizzes, projects, labs, essays, presentations, etc. During each grading period, students will have the opportunity to demonstrate progress toward mastery of the standard 4 to 7 times for each Grade Reporting Criteria. Therefore, retakes may not be a regular practice.</p>	100%

Gradebook Reporting Criteria (GRC)

In order to provide clearer understanding of where each student is on her/his learning trajectory, educators across the Adams 12 Five Star School District will use the following GRC's. Based on the Colorado Academic Standards, these grade reporting criteria break down an overall course grade into specific aspects of study, so that educators, students, and parents can know where a student is doing well and in what areas s/he may need to focus more attention.

Math	Language Arts	Social Studies	Science
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Number System • Expressions and Equations • Geometry • Statistics and Probability • Procedural Fluency • Communication • Functions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Writing • Oral Expression & Listening • Language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History • Geography • Economics • Civics • Connected Literacy Standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life • Physical • Earth • Science Practices

Chronological Essential Learnings/Standards

Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies
Establishing a Classroom Community Memoir /Short Story Historical Fiction Dystopian Unit/Argumentative Writing Non-fiction unit Contemporary Realistic Fiction On-going: Writer's/Reader's Workshop, Language review, student-led	Linear Equations Transformations Angles and Triangles Graphing and Writing Linear Equations Systems of Equations Functions Rational and nonrational numbers Pythagorean Theorem Volume and Similar Solids	Laboratory Safety and Scientific Investigation Energy Force and Interactions Earth's Place in the Universe Weather and Climate Interactions of Matter	US Geography Pre-Revolution The American Revolution Constitution First Presidents Westward Expansion A Divided Country Civil War Reconstruction Personal Financial Literacy

discussions	Data Analysis		
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