



Happy Holidays from L'Anse Area Schools!

We are all very excited to be back to school after spending time with our friends and families this holiday. Lots has been happening in the high school. From our staff to you, we all wish you a Happy New Year!



ALGEBRA 1 –

Mrs. LaFave is back! Everyone is adjusting to the classroom expectations and routines. We just finished our chapter on linear equations. The students spent a couple weeks working with slope-intercept equations, point-slope equations, and Standard Form. They also found equations for lines parallel and perpendicular to given lines. We are now working on linear inequalities. The students are learning how to solve inequalities and graph their solutions.

Ms. Budweg's Corner

Students are beginning to prepare for their PSAT/SATs regularly! English II is currently learning about the Salem Witch Trials by reading the play *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller. The students researched certain topics of the time, and are now wrapping up the play by watching the play itself. English III students are currently finishing the novel *Animal Farm* by George Orwell and learning about allegories and the history of Stalin and Communism/Socialism. College Prep (11th grade) are working on individual kindness projects while they read *I Am The Messenger* by Markus Suzak.

Health with Mrs. Schneider

- The 23 students in the Health 9 class just completed a section of study on performing adult CPR and using the AED. Mrs. Schneider was assisted by Mr. Soli, an EMT from Bay Ambulance. Each student earned their completion certificate.
- 28 Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA) are preparing for the Regional competition on Jan. 9th in Iron Mountain.





Mr. Smith's Math Classes

12th Grade Math (and some 11th and 10th grade)

NMU Calculus I: We have just completed Chapter 3 on Differentiation. There was a 2-part Chapter 3 test scheduled for Monday, December 17 and Tuesday, December 18. While we will begin Chapter 4 of Applications of the Derivative before the first semester ends, we will be concentrating on reviewing Chapters 1 through 3 for the first semester exam which will be on Wednesday, January 16. It will cover Chapters 1 through 2 and count for **30%** of the semester grade, which is NMU policy.

Precalculus: We are halfway through Chapter 4 Trigonometric Functions. The Chapter 4 test will be given on Thursday, January 3. While we will be starting Chapter 5 on Trigonometric Identities and Equations before the semester ends, the first semester exam will cover only Chapters 1 through 4. It will be given on Friday, January 18.

11th Grade Math (and some 10th grade)

Algebra 2: We will be completing Chapter 4 on Quadratic Functions and Relations by December 14. We will get halfway through Chapter 5 before the semester ends. The Les. 5-1 through 5-4 quiz will be given on January 10. The first semester exam is on Wednesday, January 16, and will cover Chapters 1 through 4, plus Les. 5-1 through 5-4.

Algebra 2A: We will be completing CH. 3 on Systems of Equations and Inequalities by December 14. We will be starting Chapter 4 on Quadratic Functions and Relations before the semester ends, but the first semester exam will cover only Chapters 1 through 3. It will be given on **Thursday, January 17**. It is extremely important that students take advantage of the usual 30 minutes of in-class time to work on the assignments as this is one the main reasons the slower paced Algebra 2A is offered as a class. Not using this time will have an adverse effect on some student's grades in the class.

Algebra 1 Math Lab and Geometry Math Lab: Please be aware that the Math Lab class is graded only on bringing required materials (textbook, notebook, etc.) and most importantly, participation. Some students are choosing not to work during Math Lab which is resulting in lower grades than they should be getting. Please take advantage of the 52 minutes of time available to work each day while I am available to guide your problem solving. Since Math Lab is 7th hour, students should be able to complete their math assignment each day before school ends. If they complete their math assignment before class ends, then they may work on assignments from other classes.

Please note that all of the above information can be found on my school website at <https://sites.google.com/a/laschools.k12.mi.us/mr-smith/home>



Mrs. Wilder's Words of Wisdom

Semester exams are scheduled for:

Wed. Jan. 16th (1-3 hours) – dismissal @ 1:30 p.m. *Lunch is served on this day.*

Thurs. Jan. 17th (4-5 hours) – dismissal @ 11:30 a.m. (grab n' go lunch)

Fri. Jan. 18th (6-7 hours) – dismissal @ 11:30 a.m. (grab n' go lunch)

Upcoming dates to know:

Wed. Jan. 23rd – Early Dismissal @ 1:30 p.m.

Mon. Feb. 11th – Midwinter Break

**Please remember to use my link to my classroom website (can be found in school's website under my name in the staff listing.*

It contains some of the following helpful items: weekly lesson plans, copies of some of the handouts being used in class, changes or updates to what was done in class on a particular day, etc.

Also, please remember grades should never be a surprise. Please monitor Skyward to see how your student is doing and if this is not possible – ask them because each week I post in the room a print-out (by scrambled Student ID's) of their current grades. If you need help with your Family Access login or password contact Nicki Frisk in the jr-sr high school office. 524-6000 ext 300





Mrs. Wilder's Words of Wisdom

*Exams are 20% of their semester average (Semester average: Qtr 1 = 40% + Qtr 2 = 40% + Semester Exam = 20%)

*Credit is earned/lost at the end of each semester

The plan for after Winter break is to reinforce topics covered in Chapters 1-5 rather than to begin Chapter 6 prior to the exam.

* Once students receive their set of practice exam questions they should begin doing problems on their own each night - at least 15 minutes of nightly practice is recommended.

*They should not consider the time we spend in class as "enough." The independent work time is crucial to being prepared for their exams - and not just their math exam!!

*Use online math resources properly! Using them to get answers is not going to help you - make sure you take the time to figure out how the answers were attained. Watch the tutorial videos if available - or slow down and study the steps they show to see what they did.

* Use the school's tutoring services. We have after school tutoring Monday through Thursday from 3:20-4:20. We also have math teachers here in the morning who are willing to help!

Mrs. Knisley's News Briefing

Mrs. Knisley's Civics/Economics & U.S. History Classes:

Several times a week my students are exposed to stories of international significance and on-demand news broadcasts when they watch CNN10. CNN 10 is a 10-minute news show that is produced daily from CNN.com. The show maintains a neutral position on controversial topics, provides multiple viewpoints, clear illustrations, and general overviews instead of graphic descriptions of these topics.

So, why is exposing students to current events important? Research has proven that studying current events helps students understand the importance of people, events, and issues in the news while stimulating students to explore and learn more about these things. It also encourages students to pay attention to the news they see and hear outside of school.

Interested in seeing what your child is viewing? Go to <https://www.cnn.com/cnn10> to see today's episode and find the archive of past episodes.





Mr. Arens' & Mrs. Turpeinen's News

Precision Machine

Students have been working on learning the basics of machining manually on the lathes and endmills. Students will be beginning a final lathe and mill project to end the semester. They will be creating dice and a matchstick case. Looking ahead to the second semester, students will begin learning the fundamentals of CNC machining and programming.

Metal Fabrication / Advanced Metals

Students in both classes have been working hard on completing their assigned projects for the first semester. Students have been practicing welding together different types of joints on the stick and wire welders. They have also been using the foundry to create castings. In the second semester, students will begin working on personal projects of their choice.

Machine Woods / Advanced Woods

Students in both classes have been working on their personal projects. Many great projects have been created and left the shop already. Some examples are coffee tables, side tables, cutting boards, table tops, small wall art, bobbing sticks, etc.

Note to Parents/Guardians:

Some students are having difficulties thinking about personal projects they can create. If you have any ideas for projects, please encourage students to create them for you! When suggesting projects make sure they are of the student's skill level or slightly more challenging so that they are doing the majority of the work. Thank You!

English I

Students have spent several weeks reading and discussing the memoir *Tuesdays with Morrie*. We have learned about literary devices in the book and reflected on the many lessons about life that the story teaches. To complete the unit, students are now working on a narrative project. They have selected a person in their lives who has made a positive impact and are writing a character sketch, telling an anecdote, and reflecting on how the individual has influenced them.

English IV

In quarter 2, the 12th grade students completed a thematic unit where they studied literature, informational texts, and biographical videos on the topic of resilience. As a final project, they synthesized three sources we discussed in class and wrote a short paper using proper in-line referencing and citations. Leading up to break, we are reviewing grammar rules related to clauses, phrases, and commas.

AP English

Students have been busy this semester mastering the process of writing literary analysis, learning how to create strong thesis statements, engaging introductions and conclusions, and writing literary commentary. At the beginning of quarter 2, they completed close reading of poetry and wrote a poetic analysis paper. They have also studied texts from various authors about the experiences of Americans from other cultures and tackled short stories from prominent Modernist authors. Currently, we are examining Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* and considering how Conrad critiqued the problem of European imperialism in the 19th century.

