

## **MONTHLY BLAST!!**

Keep an eye out for a new “**Monthly Blast**” section of the ViewPoint! Each monthly update will focus on what a particular grade and department have been up to.

This month we have news from the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Class and English/Language Arts...

### ***6<sup>th</sup> GRADE CLASS***

Yes, Sixth graders have mastered their lockers, lunch/recess and the rush from one class to another, even from the Portables to the Tech Ed workshop! The challenge of managing materials and homework in 7+ classes (A/B Days) seems to still be overwhelming at times, but consistent use of the agenda book and Canvas' Assignments, Announcements and Calendar offers support for home and school. Some of the learning challenges include Engineering and Technology Education where 6th graders are using the Engineering Design Process to create rubber band-powered cars while Social Studies classes are evaluating which geographer's tool better represents the entire Earth - a map or a globe? In all classes, students must show evidence from the text to justify answers and responses. In Inquiry & Innovations, students are challenged to survey what they read before diving in to discover new facts or information, and to relish the literary reading experience. The Careers classes have begun the research process to investigate the history of work and jobs. All classes have engaged students to balance what they know with the excitement of new knowledge that makes them think. We are off to Outdoor Ed October 7-9<sup>th</sup>! More later...

### ***ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS***

#### ***6th grade***

Just started analyzing internal and external conflict and how it motivates characters in preparation for reading *A Backwoods Boy*, a compelling biography on Abraham Lincoln by Russell Freedman.

#### ***7th grade***

Beginning to read Jack London's classic *The Call of the Wild* while exploring the thematic unit of perseverance and the hero's journey.

#### ***8th grade***

After learning about William Shakespeare and the Globe theater, students will begin reading *Romeo and Juliet* next week as they begin to analyze blank verse, iambic pentameter, and the richness of Shakespeare's language.

## **STAFF SPOTLIGHT**

### **ERIC GRABAU**

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Teacher

Favorite Movie/ TV Show [Star Wars](#)

Favorite Sports Team(s) [Buffalo Bills, Baltimore Orioles](#)

Most Interesting Place you have Visited or Lived [Barcelona, Spain](#)

Most Played Song on your iPod [Coldplay and Mumford and Sons](#)

Favorite Quote

*"Far better is it to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checked by failure...than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in a gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat."*

- Theodore Roosevelt

If you could learn to do anything, what would it be? [Gourmet Cooking](#)

### **STEVEN LEWIS**

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Teacher

Favorite Sports Team(s) [Ravens, Orioles](#)

Favorite Vacation Spot [NYC, Rehoboth Beach](#)

Most Interesting Place you have Visited or Lived [Amsterdam](#)

Which celebrity do you get mistaken for? [Chandler on 'Friends'](#)

Favorite Quote *Do unto others as you would have them do to you.*

Tell us something fun/interesting/silly that we don't know about you....

[I love seeing musical comedies on Broadway!](#)