

8th Grade BMS

**Open Pod Meeting**

**March 28, 2024**



# **Team Teachers**

- Social Studies - Mrs. Tomas
- Language Arts - Mr. Rexford
- Science - Mrs. Rondon/Ms. Quinn
- Math - Mrs. Murphy/Mrs. McCabe
- Resource - Mrs. Heitzman

# Preparation for High School

- SHS Course Request/Override Deadline - March 28th (no exceptions!)
- Review course selections with SHS counselor - June
- SHS Orientation during school day - May 22nd
- BOLO: SHS Fall Sports Registration - late spring/early summer
- Social Media: Facebook Group "Westport High School Parents"; Instagram pages for sports/clubs/departments

# Absences

- We need to see students in person
- Checking Schoology and Google classroom is a great primer, but doesn't make up for meeting in person
- After missing a day(s) of school a student should plan on meeting with teachers the morning they are able to return
- Teachers will work with student to prioritize assignments and make a plan to make up work

# Social Studies

- Current: Mock Trial and Civil Rights wrap up
- Focus: Human Rights at home and abroad
  - How does the US address issues in the world?
- Content: What are some examples of people who have been denied rights, or are currently fighting for their rights?
  - Using UDHR, Genocide Case Studies, Human Rights book clubs
- Culminating in an independent research project exploring an injustice of their choosing

# Language Arts

- Previous Unit: Romeo & Juliet
  - Focus on tracking motifs to craft inclusive themes
  - Reading and paraphrasing Shakespeare
  - How do Shakespeare's themes connect to us
- Upcoming: Synthesis Literary Analysis
  - Focus on synthesizing theme across texts
  - Formal literary analysis essay: film & short story
  - Grammar: Clarity in writing & sentence structure
- Memoir
  - Mentor text: *Night* by Elie Wiesel
  - Independent text: Self-selected memoir
  - Narrative craft techniques, purposes and impact
  - Narrative writing
- Cumulative vocab assessment

# Math

## ○ Math 8:

- We are finishing simplifying exponential expressions and scientific notation and will begin the Pythagorean Theorem on Monday.

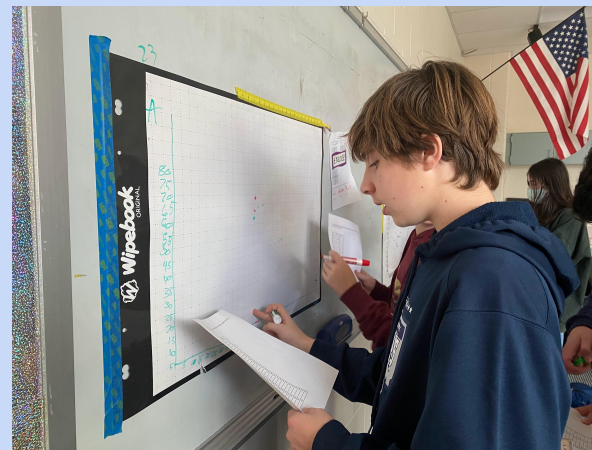
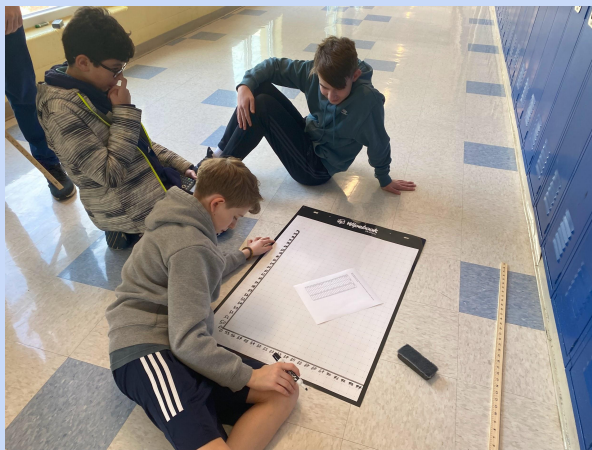
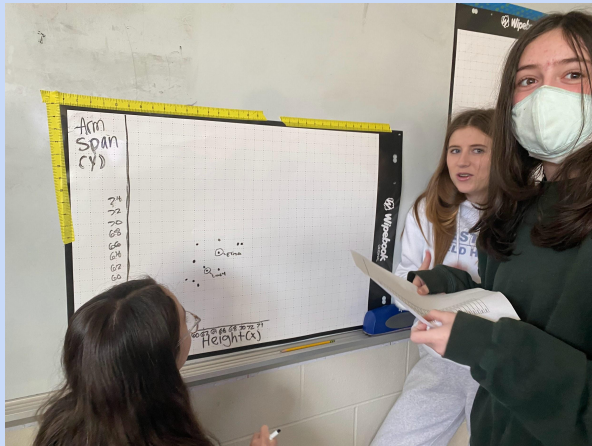
## ○ Algebra:

- We have recently completed our unit on linear systems and linear regression (equations and inequalities) and are currently working on simplifying exponential expressions.

## ○ Geometry:

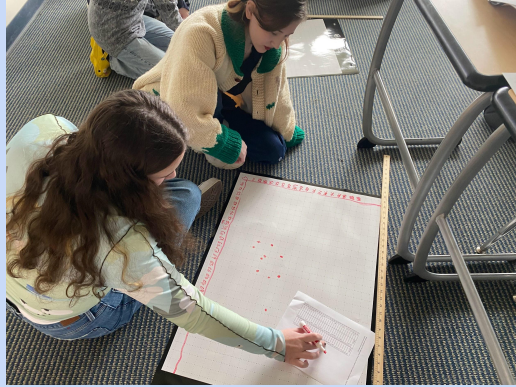
- We will be taking the Polygons and Surface Area & Volume unit test next week and will begin our Transformations unit the next day.

# Math Linear Regression





# Math Linear Regression



# Science

- Previous Unit: Genetics and Evolution
  - Evidence for Evolution
  - Trait determination
  - Gene - Protein - Trait Process
  - Natural Selection
- New Unit: Forces and Motion
  - Car Crashes
  - Newton's Laws and Energy of Motion
- NGSS Prep

# Science

CHROMOSOME -> GENE -> PROTEIN -> TRAIT

Cattle Musculature



Tulip Variations



# Science

**TRAIT VARIATION + NATURAL SELECTION = EVOLUTION**

1,000 years ago

Location B



Today

Location B



**Fur color changes (light vs dark) caused by differences in the MC1R gene.**



# Science

## *COLLISIONS*



**FORCES, MOTION, AND ENERGY**



# Science

## *SPECIAL EVENT - SOLAR ECLIPSE 4/8/24*

- Eclipse Glasses provided to all students
- Viewing and lesson on 4/8 last period
- Students will be sent home with the glasses
  - Eclipse peak is approximately 3:25 PM
  - **Students MUST wear eclipse glasses in CT. It is NOT safe to view the eclipse without them!**



# SBAC/NGSS Testing

- May 14-16 (SBAC), May 23rd (NGSS)
- All Testing Begins at 8:42 AM
- No devices allowed (phones, smartwatch)
- Need **Charged** Chromebook and plug in headphones
- Bring **non-electronic** work/activities
  - Book (hard copy; no Kindles)
  - Paper-based activities (crossword puzzles, coloring pages, etc)

# **BMS Events**

- End of 3rd Q. - April 5th
- Yearbook Orders due April 5th
  - [www.coffeepond.com](http://www.coffeepond.com)
  - Password: Bedford24
- Art Show: April 30th 5:30-7:30 PM



# Upcoming 8th Grade Events

- Chelsea Piers, Stamford: June 4th; TBA
  - Arrive by **7:45 AM**; 8 AM Depart
  - Box Lunch provided, bring water
    - Lunch selection in school- allergies noted
  - Wear comfortable clothing
  - Bring warm clothing for ice skating

# **Upcoming 8th Grade Events**

- **8th Grade Moving Up Ceremony**
  - June 12th, 6-7 pm (outdoors on Wakeman Field)
  - Student arrival time: 5:30 pm
  - Rain Date June 13th