

Welcome to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade!

Eighth Grade Information Night  
September 3, 2009

# Agenda

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- Introductions
- Subject Scoops
  - Math, Science, U.S. History, Language Arts, and Foreign Languages
- Year Ahead
  - Pinnacle
  - Field trips
  - Semester finals
- International Baccalaureate Middle Programme Candidate School
- Things you might encounter
- Staying on top
- Extracurricular activities
- Personal Project
- End of year trip

# Math

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- Pre-Algebra
- Algebra I
- Algebra I Honors
- Geometry Honors
- Tutoring

# Science

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- Integrated Science
- Science
- Science Fair

# U.S. History

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- U.S. History
  - Advanced U.S. History
  - Textbook on CD / Study Skills
  - Focus on reading and writing strategies
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- Academic Team
  - National Junior Honor Society

# Language Arts

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- Language Arts and Advanced Language Arts
- Weekly vocabulary work
  - Tests every Friday
- Writing
  - “Real-life” and essay writing to include Florida Writes in February
- Online
  - Class web site
  - Blog
- Literature
  - Anthology textbooks
  - Interactive Readers
  - In class readings of novels
  - In-class and outside reading assignment every nine-weeks of student choice books

# Foreign Languages

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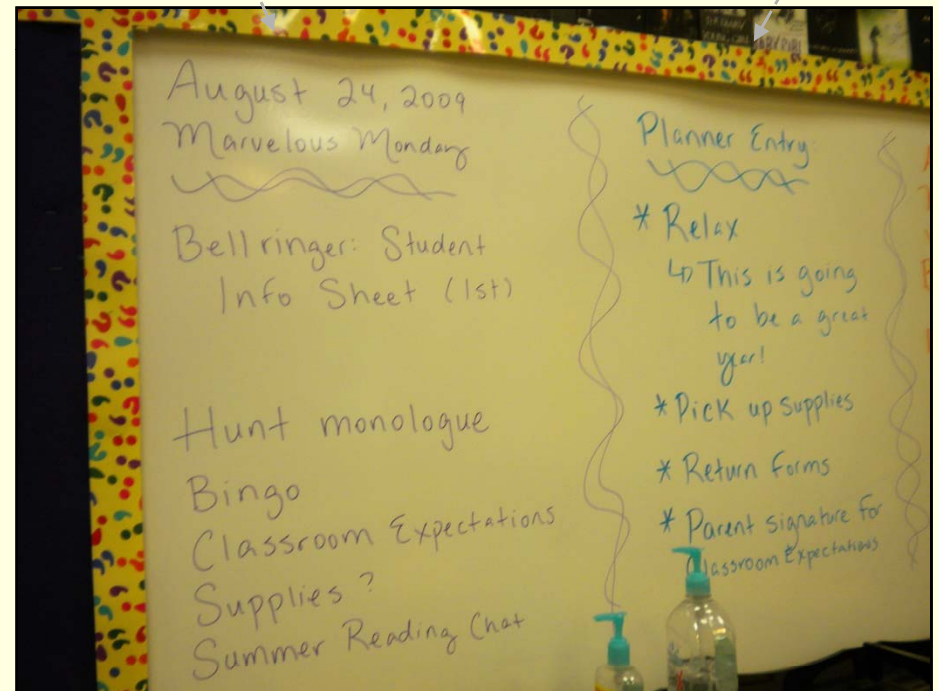
- Students may choose to take French or Spanish and have the option of taking the class as a high school course
- When a student selects the credit option:
  - The grade earned in class will follow the student to high school
  - The student will be placed in level II of the language of choice
- Both courses are based on the Sunshine State Standards which are based on the National Standards for Foreign Language Education established by the ACTFL

# In each of the classrooms

- Posting
  - Day's agenda
  - Planner agenda
    - Students are expected to be entering their assignments into their planners for each class

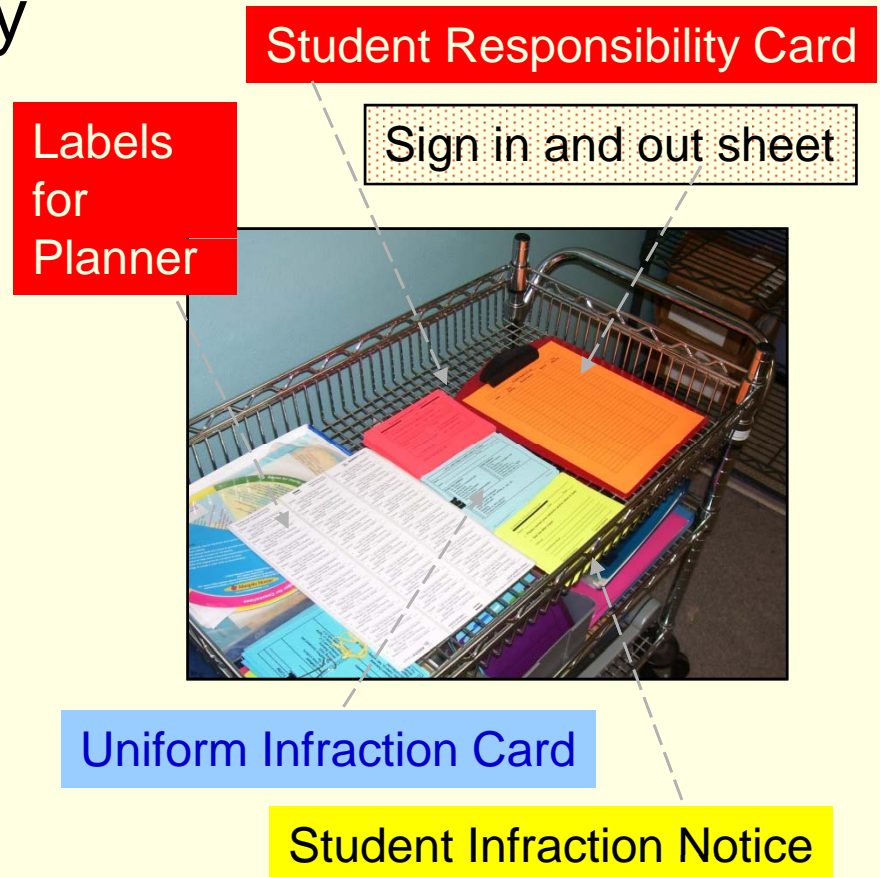
Day's Agenda

Planner Entry



# Things you might see or encounter...

- Student Responsibility Report notes
  - Label in planner
  - Note in grade book
- Guideline Infraction Notices
- LJPS Uniform Compliance forms



# Pinnacle / Electronic Grade Book

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- Posting of grades
    - We post grades constantly!
  - If missing an assignment, teachers post the reason given by the student from the Student Responsibility note in the Comments section of the grade book
  - From the Liza home page, highlight the Links/ Menus/Calendars
  - Click on “Middle School and High School Grades”
- How to log in
    - User name is the student number or student Social Security number
    - PIN is the last four numbers of student number or student Social Security number
      - Please email Ms. Nehring if you have any difficulties signing in

# International Baccalaureate

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- International Baccalaureate Middle Programme Candidate School

# Field Trips

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- Notarized field trip forms
- Notarized chaperone forms (available in the front office)
- Currently scheduled field trips
  - National touring chamber theater production performing at Northwest Florida College, Tuesday, October 6
  - Challenger Learning Center in Tallahassee, Friday, November 20
  - Ripple Up at Fort Walton Beach High School in December (date TBD)

# Semester Finals

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- 8<sup>th</sup> graders do have cumulative semester finals
- Students are encouraged to keep their class binders organized
- First semester finals
  - Tuesday, January 12
  - Wednesday, January 13
  - Thursday Tuesday, January 14
- Second semester finals
  - Friday, June 4
  - Monday, June 7
  - Tuesday, June 8

# Personal Project

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- Not something to be afraid of!
- What is a Personal Project?
  - Philosophy and Intent
  - LJPS Charter requirement
- Completed during second semester with presentations in May
- Incorporating requirements from the State of Florida to include career exploration
- Topics
  - Something of true interest to the student
  - Community connection

# Staying on Top

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- Getting those forms in!
- Absences
  - Five days to make up work for an excused absence
  - Want to avoid excess absences, if at all possible
- Early Release Days
- Uniform compliance
- School supplies
- Assessment pieces

# Extracurricular Activities

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- **We encourage all 8th graders to enjoy the extracurricular activities offered here at Liza**
  - Band
  - Drama
  - Academic Team
  - Student Council
  - Environmental Club
  - Lego League
  - Odyssey of the Mind
  - Yearbook
  - Dance team
  - Sports

# End of Year Trip

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- Big Kahuna's in Destin
- Great time!
- Needed items
  - Chaperones
- Tentative trip information
  - Tuesday, June 1
  - Depart at 9:30 am
  - Arrive back at Liza between 4:30 – 5:00 pm
- Cost
  - \$20-\$22 per student plus spending money
    - Cost includes lunch
- Transportation
  - Liza bus

# Questions?

- Any questions?
- We welcome your questions and thoughts, please contact us at any time
- Thank you for joining us this evening and for allowing us the opportunity to be your student's teachers

Your LJPS 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Team:		
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