

**Mosinee School District**  
**Parents' Guide to Eighth Grade**  
**This year your child will learn to:**

**2014-15**

**Traits Exhibited by Many  
Twelve- to Fifteen-Year Old**

*All children develop differently, but you may notice the following traits as your child attends Second, Third, or Fourth Grades.*

- ◆ Have a strong drive for conformity with own age group
- ◆ Have intense feelings and emotions
- ◆ Are influenced greatly by popular adults and teenage idols
- ◆ Have rapidly changing interests and ambitions
- ◆ Have a long interest span and increasing capacity for self-discipline
- ◆ Prefer competition with outside groups over competition with friends
- ◆ Have an idealism about the world at large
- ◆ Have concern with their personal appearance, self-consciousness and inhibition
- ◆ May begin to mature physically
- ◆ Boys and girls can work together on projects better than they can socialize

**Grade 8 Teachers:**

Marsha Kowalski, Michelle Deining: Language Arts  
David Dunaj, Kelly Remondini: Mathematics  
Marshall Kaiser: Science  
Jenny Bruening: Social Studies  
Christy Mathis: Art  
Curt Campbell: Instrumental Music  
Julie Soczka: Music  
Sara Kaczor, Don Winter: PE  
Michelle DeLeon: Spanish  
Dave Masterson: Technology Education  
Sandra Wurdeman: Library/Media  
Kelly Remondini: Read 180  
Amber Garbe Reading Coordinator  
Kathy Brandon: GT Support  
Jodi Colrud, Jim Lietz, Jody Merchant, Tiffany Tanck: Special Education

**Art**

- Use materials purposefully and safely
- Understand color, shape, texture, line, space, value, and form as elements of art
- Understand and apply mathematical principles to art (proportion, perspective, scale, balance, geometry, pattern, repetition, measurement)
- Understand balance, movement, rhythm, contrast, emphasis, pattern, and unity as principles of design
- Express self through 2D and 3D art media while developing personal artistic style
- Reflect on works of art in the world today and in history
- Understand the concept of an art critique

**Language Arts**

- Use oral and written language to convey a message appropriate to a specific situation
- Listen when others are speaking
- Contribute ideas to discussions
- Read books and other materials for information and enjoyment
- Analyze text in terms of character, plot, setting, conflict
- Identify an author's point of view and provide textual evidence
- Understand the underlying structure of fiction and non-fiction works (narrative, cause/effect, problem/solution, comparison/contrast)
- Orally summarize fiction and non-fiction after reading
- Read a variety of genre
- Write using simple, compound, and complex sentence forms
- Use phrases and clauses to express thoughts
- Write stories, personal thoughts, letters, poetry or reactions to reading
- Know and apply the rules of punctuation including commas
- Apply knowledge of parts of speech, subject-verb agreement, and verb tense to writing and speaking
- Introduce appositives, gerunds, participles, infinitives, direct address, verbals
- Recognize that words may have different contextual meanings
- Understand the connotation, denotation of words
- Understand an author's use of figurative language, rhyme, meter, and/or alliteration
- Understand the importance of word choice and tone in conveying a message and relating to an audience
- Compare genre including multi-media presentations
- Write a persuasive speech and create a brochure using multi-media
- Spell words correctly
- Use knowledge of Greek/Latin roots and affixes to expand vocabulary
- Interpret figures of speech to understand an author's message
- Use writing process to plan and create written work including narratives and informational/research papers
- Use text and digital sources to gather information
- Use computers to organize and communicate information
- Use 6 Traits writing process and assessment
- Multi-media analysis

**Mathematics**

- Compare data to generate, test, confirm or deny hypothesis and check validity
- Make appropriate graph or data display

- Use statistical measures of mean, mode, median, range, quartile, and extremes (outliers)
- Understand rational and irrational numbers
- Solve equations and inequalities using positive and negative integers, fractions, and decimals
- Graph linear equations and inequalities on a coordinate graph
- Determine slope of a line and understand the concept of proportional relationship
- Understand prime numbers, absolute value, opposites, and exponents
- Understand scientific notation, square root, and cube root
- Use commutative, associative, distributive, and identity properties to solve problems including linear equations
- Explain in writing mathematical processes and reasoning
- Use and understand ratio, proportion, and percent
- Understand and use functions to describe relationships
- Understand and use geometric formulas for Pythagorean theorem, perimeter/circumference, area, surface area, and volume
- Classify and understand the properties of polygons
- Use geometry to solve real world type problems
- Classify and understand the relationships of angles, lines, and rays
- Understand the geometric concepts of similarity and congruency
- Understand metric and customary measurements
- Estimate reasonable measurements

**Pre-Algebra**

- Simplify expressions using order of operations, number properties, and combining like terms
- Organize data using stem-and-leaf plots, line plots, and scatter plots
- Recognize patterns and sequences
- Use exponents effectively
- Interpret and make different types of graphs
- Identify and graph the different sets of numbers (rational, whole, etc.)
- Perform operations on the different sets of numbers
- Write and solve linear equations
- Identify and apply concepts dealing with complementary and supplementary angles
- Understand properties of triangles
- Solve multivariable equations for a specific variable
- Graph linear equations on a coordinate plane and understand slope

**Mosinee School District**  
**Parents' Guide to Eighth Grade**  
**This year your child will learn to:**

**2014-15**

- Understand mean, median, and mode, and know how to compute each
- Understand proportional reasoning
- Understand and apply basic right triangle trigonometry
- Understand and apply the concepts dealing with percent
- Understand probability and odds
- Understand weighted averages
- Understand direct and inverse variation
- Explore basic function properties
- Explore measures of variation in statistics
- Find the midpoints of a line segment

**Algebra 1**

- Simplify expressions using number properties and combining like terms
- Know and use the definition of an exponent  $n$ , either positive or negative
- Know that a non-zero number to the zero power is one
- Understand and use negative and positive numbers and even and odd powers
- Be able to multiply exponents
- Convert decimal numbers to and from scientific notation
- Use a scientific calculator
- Maintain equivalence of an equation throughout number operations
- Expand binomials
- Factor expressions
- Interpret geometrical problems and put in equation form
- Know the concept of slope
- Understand and use a function
- Use proportion to calculate for an unknown quantity
- Calculate frequencies
- Solve quadratic equations
- Solve linear equations
- Solve equations with more than one variable
- Understand sine, cosine, and tangent ratios
- Understand the properties of triangles

**Choral Music**

- Sing with proper intonation and breath control
- Identify forms of music
- Sight read simple melodies using note names and solfege
- Apply basic music symbols
- Listen respectfully to others' performances

- Discuss performances using music vocabulary
- Play accompaniments on classroom instruments
- Work for good group singing
- Understand the cultural background of selected songs
- Understand how music contributes to culture today and in history

**Instrumental Music**

- Demonstrate intermediate instrumental technique
- Use proper breath control
- Read, notate and identify standard notation symbols
- Sight read level 2 melodies in bass or treble clefs
- Play different musical styles
- Compose music using different note values
- Identify and evaluate different styles of music
- Evaluate group and individual performances
- Demonstrate proper audience and performance etiquette

**Physical Education**

- Demonstrates basic and specialized skills, as well as applies those skills tactically, in increasingly complex environments and in combination with other skills
- Applies cognitive understanding to improve motor skill development and performance
- Develops and implements an individual physical activity plan
- Participates regularly in moderate to vigorous physical activity in and out of school
- Acquires and applies knowledge of the fitness components for overall fitness
- Demonstrates safe practices, follows rules, etiquette, cooperation and teamwork, ethical behavior, and positive social interaction
- Demonstrates an awareness of the intrinsic values and benefits of participation in physical activity that provides personal meaning
- Participate in fitnessgram fitness testing
- Demonstrates personal responsibility
- Read and analyze informational text within Physical Education

**Science**

- Understand that scientific knowledge is always growing
- Plan and conduct science experiments and communicate results
- Use the metric system for measurement and lab data collection
- Create tables and graphs to record and communicate scientific data
- Learn about the formations of maps and the use of GPS
- Learn about influential scientists

- Understand the function and purpose of wetlands
- Understand the water cycle
- Understand the rock cycle
- Learn about the classification system of rocks and minerals
- Use data and models to understand predictability of volcanoes and earthquakes
- Understand plate tectonics and continental drift theory
- Understand geologic time and fossilized evidence
- Learn about constellations and the formation of the universe
- Learn about evolutionary theories
- Understand how the earth has changed and continues to change (weathering/erosion)
- Conduct research on environmental issues
- Learn about scientific careers
- Use critical reading, writing, and thinking skills

**Social Studies: World Studies**

- Understand that people are alike and different in many ways
- Know the relative location of major rivers, mountains, and cities of the world
- Use maps and globes to locate national and international sites
- Know how people around the world interact with and use their environments
- Describe the environmental effects caused by short term physical changes
- Understand the movement of people, ideas, diseases, and products throughout the world
- Learn about technological, political, and societal contributions made by the international community
- Understand the concept of cultural regions and describe their influences
- Analyze the distribution of products among global markets
- Identify and explain examples of bias, prejudice, and stereotyping as they have existed in the past or exist in the present
- Learn about the Americas, Australia, and Europe incorporating map skills, economies, religions, and societal structures
- Use critical reading, writing, and thinking skills

**Spanish**

- Understand and perform basic commands and classroom instructions given in Spanish
- Pronounce and spell basic Spanish words
- Listen when others are speaking
- Increase reading, writing, speaking and listening skills in target and native languages

**Mosinee School District**  
**Parents' Guide to Eighth Grade**  
**This year your child will learn to:**

**2014-15**

- 
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Participate in conversations related to basic needs or biographical information</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Use the Internet to research, organize and communicate ideas</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Utilize provided web resources to foster language learning</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Learn about and appreciate Hispanic culture and current events</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Explain the usefulness of world languages</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Use self-control</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Show respect for others</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Work to solve own problems</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Work cooperatively with others</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Work independently to a greater degree as the school year progresses</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Use time productively</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Make plans and organize before working</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Work quietly when directed</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Complete work in a timely manner</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Evaluate own work</li></ul> |
|---|--|

**Information and Technology**

- Keyboard accurately at 25-30 wpm
- Use scanner, digital camera, and other digital equipment
- Produce word processing document, spreadsheets, databases, PowerPoint, and drawing products using Microsoft and Google tools
- Search using the Internet, online encyclopedia and other reference materials using keywords, domain and phrase searches
- Transfer graphics, pictures, and video clips into student-made documents
- Utilize text editing and formatting pull-down menus
- Incorporate graphics or pictures into a word processing document
- Learn to assess one's own progress and quality of work
- Work with a group to complete a project
- Use anti-plagiarism strategies
- Create a Works Cited page
- Use an almanac, books online for statistical information
- Create a technical presentation using elements of design
- Understand the meaning of logos, trademarks, and patents
- Understand the meaning of copyright and fair use
- Demonstrate safe use of the Internet
- Understand the purpose of Wikis and Blogs
- Recognize and use primary documents
- Evaluate resources
- Understand bias and opinion
- Use the library catalog
- Use the library webpage

**Technology Education**

- Apply accurate measuring skills
- Become familiar with CAD (Computer Aided Design)
- Complete a design using CAD
- Work effectively as a group
- Exhibit good decision-making skills
- Understand that technology is constantly changing
- Understand that technology is everywhere
- Review computer application skills
- Use critical reading, writing, and thinking skills

**Self-Directed Learning**

- Follow school and classroom rules