

January-February 2012

DEFIANCE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Richard Peters-Principal

Josh Biederstedt-Assistant Principal/AD

A Note from the Principal



The third quarter of the year can be a hard time to keep students motivated academically. It is very common for grades to dip slightly during this time of the school year. Try to add some extra incentives at home for your child to keep their grades up during the winter months. (If your child's grade card is missing, it is because we have no record that the \$52 class fee has been paid. If you have any questions, please contact the office.)

Important Dates

- Feb. 6** Grades 5-8 Band Concert 6:00 p.m. @ DHS
- Feb. 17** 3rd quarter interim
- Feb. 20** President's Day- No School
- Feb. 21** Civic Oration Contest 1:20 p.m.
- March 12** PEAK mtg. 7:00 p.m.
- March 12** Spring pictures
- March 16** End of 3rd quarter grading period
- March 20/22** 8th grade Four Co. Career Center visits
- March 22** Night of the Arts grades 6-12 @HS 5:30 p.m.
- March 26-March 30** Spring Break

Parent FYI's

8th Grade Four Co. Visits: On March 20th and March 22nd the 8th grade students will have the opportunity to visit Four County Career Center to explore possible future career options and assist in high school course selections. Further details about the visit to come...

Yearbooks go on sale Feb. 1 for \$17: Lifetouch will be accepting 2011-12 yearbook orders from Feb. 1-Feb. 29. Order forms are enclosed and available in the office. Cost is \$17; checks payable to Lifetouch. Yearbooks will be delivered to students in May.

Artsonia: An online viewing of DMS student's art

Artsonia: Artsonia is the world's largest online art museum for showcasing student artwork from kindergarten to high school. The website is a great way for parents, family and friends to become involved in and share their student's talents and masterpieces through a personal art gallery online! Parents, you can invite family and friends to view the grand opening and join your child's official Artsonia Fan Club. You can even post positive comments about your child's artwork in their guest book and purchase customized art keepsakes from Artsonia featuring your child's art. This is the third year Defiance has been participating in Artsonia with great success. We have had the opportunity to earn money towards our art program and nominate students as "Artsonia Artist of the Week." If you would like to register your child in Artsonia a parental permission form may be picked up in the school office.



"Artsonia is a great way for parents and family to get involved in student artwork."

Mrs. Pieracini

DMS Art Teacher

More Parent FYI's

Calculators:

Starting 2nd semester, each 6th grade student received a free calculator as part of their class fees. This calculator may be used for the next two years. If they lose it, the calculator will not be replaced. 7th and 8th grade students may purchase a calculator in the office for \$13 while supplies last.

Spelling Bee:

Congratulations to Bailey Shirey for winning the DMS spelling bee and Elana Barajas for finishing runner-up. Bailey will go on to compete in the county spelling bee on January 24th.

Defiance HS Band Fundraiser: Mattress Sale Saturday, February 4, 2012 from 10am-5pm at the Middle School. Name brand mattress sets will be sold at 30%-60% below retail prices. Delivery is available. Proceeds go directly to the band. For more information, please contact Cathy Booth (cbooth@defcity.org).