

Swope Middle School GT Magnet

*Screenagers screening
April 26th, 6:30 in the
Swope Gym*

The Swope PFA is hosting a screening of the documentary [Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age](#) here at Swope MS on Thursday, April 26th at 6:30 p.m. This is a highly regarded documentary that takes on the topic of teenagers and their ‘screens’ and what the impact of this is. Here is a link to give you more information regarding the content [Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age](#). Tickets are required and here is the link to order them (they are free, but seating is limited): [Get Free Tickets Here](#). We hope to see you at this screening! Please look for the flyer for this event on the last page of this newsletter.

*Year End Testing
Information*

The last quarter of the school year is always filled with lots of standardized testing. Please be sure to refer to our Swope GT Website for the latest information regarding testing: [Swope GT Magnet Testing Information](#). Below is a chart of testing dates. Please do everything in your power to ensure your child is here on these days, so your child completes all testing on time. Our website has lots of links for you to learn more about the testing and what is required of your child during these testing times.

	ELA PT	ELA CAT	Math PT	Math CAT	Algebra EOC	Geometry EOC	Science CRT
6th Grade	April 10 234	April 19 234	April 30 234	May 9 234			
7th Grade	April 17 123	April 26 123	May 7 123	May 16 123			
8th Grade	April 16 456	April 18 567	April 25 456	April 27 567	June 5* 456	June 1** 345	May 4 456

*All Algebra I and Integrated II students will take this test

**All Integrated II students will take this test

*Project Based Learning
Updates*

This semester’s Project Based Learning has been quite successful!

The 6th graders have presented their Growth-Mindset projects to 7th and 8th grade students. It was super exciting to see how much they have learned and we applaud their courage displayed while talking about what they learned through this process!

7th Graders had a ton of fun building race cars and then testing their ideas during the tournament! What a fun night and the parents had fun filling out brackets!

8th Graders are working hard ahead of the annual rite-of-passage College Night that will be held on May 21st at 6:00 p.m. Students are looking forward to giving everyone a peek into their future as they commit to high school administrators, counselors, teachers, and student leaders what they will accomplish in high school! Don’t miss out on this amazing event!

*WCSD Contingency
Days:
June 11, 12, 13*

*Please add to your
calendar if we have
school cancellations*

We have had two snow days this year. **Students will make up one of the days on Monday, June 11th and students are expected to be in attendance on this day.** Students are scheduled to be released at approximately 11:15 for the summer break—specific details to follow as we get this information. No lunch will be served on this day. The second snow-day make up will be held on Tuesday, June 12th and is a faculty professional development day.

Here is the latest information from WCSD regarding Contingency Days:
Make-up (Contingency) Days

Any scheduled school day that is canceled due to inclement weather must now be made up at the end of the school year using make-up (contingency) days. **The dates of June 11, 12, and 13 have been designated by the District and state as contingency days.**

Graduations

As a result of June 11-13 being designated contingency days, graduations for our high schools have been moved back to avoid being held on contingency days and to avoid any possible disruption to the graduation schedule. As a result, the majority of **high school graduations will be scheduled on June 14, 15, and 16.** Information on dates and times of individual high school graduations will be released separately.

Remember, if you have any questions regarding the Swope Magnet, the first place to check is on our team website; then if this doesn't answer your question, please email us—we've set up convenient links to our email addresses on our website.

Our website is: <https://www.washoeschools.net/swopegt>

Important Dates for Upcoming Events

*Screenagers screening
April 26th, 6:30 in the
Swope Gym*

April 11	RHS Honors English Entrance Exam @ Swope MS, 1:30 p.m. (Please note that additional days are available at RHS)
April 17	Swope PFA meeting, 6:00 p.m., Swope Library
April 19	Report Cards issued
April 23	8 th Grade Panoramic Picture (during Advisory)
April 24	7 th Grade Health Screening throughout the day
April 26	<u>Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age</u> screening, 6:30 p.m.
May 17	Swope Spring Band Concert, 6:00 p.m.
May 21	8 th Grade Swope GT Magnet College Night, 6:00 p.m.
May 22	Swope PFA meeting, 6:00 p.m., Swope Library
May 24	Swope Spring Orchestra and Choir Concert, 6:00 p.m.
June 5	Swope PFA meeting, 6:00 p.m., Swope Library
June 6	No Early Release
June 7	Year-End Parties—all day! ☺
June 11	Last Day of School!!! ☺

April Classroom Previews

Faculty biographies can be found at
<https://www.washoeschools.net/Page/8119>

Mr. Bodensteiner

<https://www.washoeschools.net/tbodensteiner>

7th Grade: The students are working on their Constitutional Cuisine project as part of their unit on the United States Constitution. They're exploring the intellectual origins of the Constitution along with an analysis of James Madison and the history behind it's writing. The students will also begin a unit on the French Revolution near the end of the month.

8th Grade: The students are finishing their unit on World War I with a class interactive simulation of the Peace Treaty of Versailles. This Simulation will allow them to negotiate the new world order and peace of the world. They will have a comprehensive exam on World War I and should be studying. The remainder of 4th quarter will be a study of WWII.

Mrs. Hoy

<https://www.washoeschools.net/jhoy>

8th Grade ELA: During April, students will complete the Rocket Boys literature study by collaborating and completing a group project that will provide some historical and social context for this story. After this presentation on April 23rd, students will begin Socratic discussions about the book. Students will also continue their Literary Device quest and vocabulary building activities. Students also will be completing three independent reading assignments this quarter—choice novel, memoir, and resilience. For each reading, students are to complete one page in their reader’s notebook to creatively share what they read.

8th Grade GTC: Students will continue to planning their future this month as they complete an in-depth research paper on the college they were *accepted* to in March. Students will use class time this month to conduct their research, write a draft of their paper, peer edit and complete the writing process with time to revise and edit their paper. The final draft of this paper is due on May 7th. Students will continue to write in their writer’s notebook with specific activities to generate and inspire future writing.

6th Grade GTC: 6th graders have done a great job with their Growth Mindset PBLU. Thank you to all our parents for their support of this long and difficult project. For April, students will continue building upon their descriptive writing skills they worked on last quarter by joining in the NPR writing sensation of ‘This I Believe.’ Using skills developed last quarter, students will write an essay describing something they believe to be a core belief about themselves! This is a fun and delightful way for students to think more deeply about things that are near and dear to them.

Mx. Irwin

<https://www.washoeschools.net/jirwin>

Accelerated Algebra 1: This month we are exploring parent functions and function transformations. Students are familiar with the process of building graphs from various types of equations, and now we will generalize the process of applying different types of changes in different parts of function equations. We will also add exponential functions to our repertoire and explore various ways to use these to model growth and decay.

Accelerated HS Integrated Math 2: Quadratic functions can be used to model areas and flight trajectories. We will learn how to solve quadratic equations and graph quadratic functions. We will use these skills to model and solve problems applied to 3-dimensional volumes and surface areas. Our first unit on statistics will begin just before the end of the month, continuing through May.

Honors Algebra 2: We have entered the matrix. By using arrays of numbers to represent equations and data sets, we can use matrix operations to combine or manipulate data, solve large systems of equations, model more than three dimensions, and even apply cryptographic skills to encode and decode messages.

Accelerated HS Integrated Math 1: 2-dimensional geometry is the focus of our first weeks back after break, discussing perimeter and area of complex shapes. We will then build on this knowledge to move into 3-dimensional geometry, applying these skills to finding surface area and volume of solid figures. Geometric constructions will round out our geometry instruction for this year, carrying us into May.

GT Math Support (Academic Intervention): This month’s discussions will focus on the application of math practice standards as life skills and cross-curricular academic practices. Accuracy and precision, strategic use of appropriate tools, and perseverance in solving problems will serve students not only in math, not only in academics, but in their future careers and throughout adult life.

Mrs. Leslie

<https://www.washeschools.net/leslie>

7th Grade ELA: For the month of April in reading, students will be reading two John Steinbeck novels, The Red Pony and The Pearl. In both stories, students will consider how a writer uses his experiences and personal philosophies to shape his writing style. Students will also discuss the essential question, “how interactions affect relationships?”

Students will also present another form of a book talk to continue working on effective presentation skills. These book talks are really getting interesting and creative!

The independent book project for 4th quarter is the creation of a book trailer using Animoto. Students have already chosen their groups and book; students will need their book completed by the middle of May.

7th Grade GTC: For the month of April in writing, students will write a problem solution essay on a topic of their choice. Students will focus on doing research to make their opinions into viable arguments as well as utilizing the correct structure and format for a problem/solution essay.

6th Grade GTC: 6th graders have done a great job with their Growth Mindset PBLU. Thank you to all our parents for their support of this long and difficult project. For April, students will continue building upon their descriptive writing skills they worked on last quarter by joining in the NPR writing sensation of ‘This I Believe.’ Using skills developed last quarter, students will write an essay describing something they believe to be a core belief about themselves! This is a fun and delightful way for students to think more deeply about things that are near and dear to them.

Mr. Shader

<https://www.washeschools.net/rshader>

Accelerated Math 6: After finishing our unit on 2-D geometry, we’ll be working our way into 3-dimensional geometry looking at prisms, pyramids, nets, and cylinders.

Accelerated Science Investigations 6: Our Earth History unit continues with a unit on fossils and their relationships to past environments. We’ll be looking at index fossils to correlate rock layers, those that are found in the Colorado Plateau sites in particular. The next unit concerns Igneous rocks which starts with a look at the layers of the Earth. We’ll try to identify the characteristics that differentiate igneous from sedimentary rocks.

Accelerated Historical Perspectives 6: We start the quarter with a look at the Middle Ages. We’ll start with a short review of the legacy of the Roman Empire and move into the development of Feudalism in Western Europe, life in Medieval towns and cities, and the decline of feudalism into the Byzantine Empire.

Accelerated Critique of Language 6: We’re still working our way through Sophie’s World, our treatise on the history of Western philosophy. We’re starting the month with a look at the existentialists: Descartes, Spinoza, Locke, Hume, and Berkeley. Next up will be philosophy in the Age of Enlightenment and moving into Romanticism after that.

Accelerated HS Integrated Math 1: After finishing up our lesson on radicals, we’ll be moving into algebraic inequalities with graphing. Next will be compound inequalities which will include a look at absolute value and the application of inequalities using figures and lines.

Mrs. Wilbrecht

<https://www.washoeschools.net/kmwilbrecht>

7th Grade Physical Science: Thank you to all of the parents and family members who came out for our night at the races. It was a wonderful time and it was great to see all of the support our students have. Moving forward into our last quarter we will be exploring electricity, electromagnetic radiation, and building solar ovens.

8th Grade Biology: This quarter we will be finishing up evolution, taking a closer look at one of its major components, geologic time, and looking at the classification and diversity of life on Earth. Finally, we will be linking all of that back around to our ecology unit we began the year with.

Summer Break Camps!

[Kids University](#)

[Challenge Island](#)

[Discovery Museum](#)

[KidScape Productions](#)

[Galena Creek](#)

[City of Reno Youth Camps](#)

[University of Nevada Summer Engineering Camps](#)

[Nevada Wolfpack Summer Sports Camps](#)

[Davidson THINK Summer Institute](#)

[Lake Tahoe Music Camp](#)

[Northern Nevada Girls Math and Technology Program](#)

[Sierra Nevada Journeys](#)

[Girl Scout Camp](#)

[Boy Scout Camp](#)

[Super Camp](#)

[Summer Institute for the Gifted](#)

[Summer Discovery](#)

*Fun Things To
Do Over Spring
Break!!!*
