

Welcome to 6th Grade – Meet the 6th Grade Team



Mrs. Sneider
Social Studies/ELA

I graduated from Western Michigan University with a Bachelor of Science degree and Aquinas College with a Masters in the Art of Teaching. I have been teaching for 20+ years and have taught every grade kindergarten through sixth. I have a strong background in English Language Arts, which is my favorite subject to teach. I grew up in West Michigan, where I have lived all of my life. I have been married to my husband, Brad, for 19 years. We have three children, Ryan 17, Alex, 15, and Maya 12. We enjoy spending time up north at the family cottage, boating and enjoying the lake. We also enjoy downhill skiing as a family. I enjoy cooking, reading, crafting, and gardening when I have free time. I'm looking forward to another year of learning and growing at Knapp!



Miss Rushlow
Science/ELA

I graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education, a teaching focus in Integrated Science, and a minor in Environmental Studies and Sustainability. Go Green! I am from Livonia, Michigan as the oldest of five siblings. Throughout high school and college, I taught swim lessons. I have two adorable five-year-old cats, Lenny and Lucy. I love eating delicious food, especially Thai, Italian and Mexican foods! I am very passionate about wellness, being mindful, and practicing yoga. I am an outdoor enthusiast, who enjoys camping, hiking, kayaking, swimming, farming, and gardening. I also enjoy traveling the world with my boyfriend, who is also a teacher! Last year my class was in charge of recycling for the entire school. I am excited for my second year at Knapp!



Miss Obetts
Mathematics/ELA

I graduated from Grand Valley State University where I majored in Mathematics and Elementary Education. This is my 4th year teaching 6th grade. While I attended Grand Valley, I was a cheerleader for all 5 years of my college career. I now coach varsity sideline and competitive cheerleading at Forest Hills Central High School! I grew up in Comstock Park, so I have always been a part of the West side. I also enjoy gymnastics, hanging out with my friends, playing with my nephews, and laying by my pool. I am looking forward to another year at Knapp.



Sixth Grade "Highlights"

Knapp's sixth grade team has a talented and compassionate staff that strives to create a safe and stimulating environment for your student. Smaller classroom sizes mean more one on one attention for your student. Rigorous testing means your student is taught at their ability level with a focus on academic growth. Moral focus curriculum means that the student's heart is looked after as well.

Our team teaches your student to be independent and to take responsibility for their own actions. Students are required to dress appropriately and manners are expected. Our goal is for your student to try their hardest. When expectations are high, students try to do their finest work. We look forward to the opportunity of teaching your child!

Exciting Opportunities

With school of choice, parents have an opportunity to choose a school for their child. With that in mind, parents have to look at many different aspects of a school and decide which would be the best fit for their child and allow their child to develop academically.

Knapp Academy has the best of both of these: a perfect fit for any child and exceptional academics. Knapp teachers greet students at their doors with a warm welcome and handshake making students feel appreciated and cared for as soon as they enter the classroom. With that mindset, students feel more comfortable to express themselves and try their best in class. Students also participate in activities where they get to know each other, respect differences, and learn from each other's strengths.

A Standard of Excellence

The Sixth Grade team is very focused on making sure your child meets all of their educational objectives. We take pride in giving every student the best educational experience and we do this by teaching the students at their own individual level.

We work closely with one another to make sure that we are sharing our strengths and weaknesses as a team.

Supply List:

General Supplies - Required

Pens/erasers/box of colored pencils
Box of 24 #2 pencils
dry erase markers
hand held pencil sharpeners
Pencil pouch or box
Scissors
Many, many glue sticks
1 ream of 8 1/2 x 11 copy paper

Language Arts/Homeroom

1/2" binder
2 packs of notebook paper
1 pack of dividers
2- two pocket folders
3 boxes of Kleenex
Hand Sanitizer
1 container disinfecting wipes like
Lysol or Clorox

Math

5 Subject wide ruled notebook (sturdy)
Make sure it's big enough to glue on a
paper 8.5 x 11 inches
Two Pocket Folder with fasteners
in the middle

Science

Sturdy 3 Subject Spiral Notebook
Pencils
Glue
Scissors
Colored Pencils

Social Studies

Sturdy 3 (or 5) subject notebook (8.5" x 11" --it is important that the size is correct or it won't work for gluing interactive notebook pages – MEAD 5 Star makes the best one)

Spanish

1 – two pocket folder

PE

Shoes for Gym Class
Deodorant

Recommended, but not required:

Clear tape
Scientific Calculator - TI-30X IIS
Erasable Pens

***Knapp Academy** A Tuition-Free, Public School*

1759 Leffingwell Ave NE Grand Rapids, MI 49525 616-364-1100 KnappCharterAcademy.org

Welcome to 7th Grade! Meet the 7th Grade Team



Mr. Lee
Mathematics

Hello everyone! I am ridiculously excited to be teaching 7th grade math at Knapp! I am a Calvin College graduate with a degree in Mathematics and Secondary Education, along with a Sociology minor. This will be my third year teaching 7th grade math at a National Heritage school, and my second year at Knapp.

I believe that math is a fundamental and essential part to everything around us! I am looking forward to all we have in store for us this school year. I cannot wait to learn, discover, grow, struggle, and have fun together as a math class!

Outside of school, I enjoy going to the gym, listening to music, and spending time with friends. I love rap music, sour candy, food, and shopping as well! This summer, I am getting married and plan on owning a house, so that's also super exciting! I cannot wait for this upcoming school year and to meet you all!



Mr. DeVries
Social Studies

In 2018 I graduated from Calvin College with a Bachelor's degree in History and Social Studies. Teaching History and Social Studies is a passion of mine. I love learning new things about the past and seeing how they are important today! This will be my second year at Knapp and can't wait to get started with all of you!

When I'm not in the classroom, I love to spend time outside hiking, and playing games with my friends. Also love to go to the movies and would love to talk about movies with any of you! Overall, I'm looking forward to meeting and learning with each one of you and sharing my love of History and Social Studies with you.



Mrs. Jorritsma
Language Arts

Hello! I am so excited to be teaching you all in language arts this year. I graduated from Calvin College with a bachelor's degree in English and mathematics. I believe reading and writing skills are fundamental for thriving both in and outside of school. When I'm not at school I enjoy reading, golfing, gardening, eating good food with friends and family, and going on walks with my husband, Austin and dog, Obi. I am looking forward to meeting all of you and having a great school year!



Mrs. Quinn
Science

I graduated from Ferris State University in 2015 with my Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. I also have my certification in Science and Language Arts. You might recognize me, as this will be my 4th year working at Knapp Charter Academy. Science is a huge passion of mine and I look forward to sharing that with each of you this year. Outside of school my husband Aaron and I spend most of our time chasing after our two-year-old son Gavin and our two dogs. In my free time I enjoy reading, crafting and traveling.



7th Grade "Highlights"

Seventh Grade is a great year for students. Some of the students favorite activities include: house challenges, academic fair, career showcase night, and our year end trip! You also have the opportunity to study many new and exciting topics in your core classes. We're looking forward to an eventful year with you!

Exciting Opportunities

With school of choice, parents have an opportunity to choose a school for their child. With that in mind, parents have to look at many different aspects of a school and decide which would be the best fit for their child and allow their child to develop academically.

Knapp Academy has the best of both of these: a perfect fit for any child and exceptional academics. Knapp teachers greet students at their doors with a warm welcome and handshake making students feel appreciated and cared for as soon as they enter the classroom. With that mindset, students feel more comfortable to express themselves and try their best in class. Students also participate in activities where they get to know each other, respect differences, and learn from each other's strengths.

A Standard of Excellence

The Seventh Grade team is very focused on making sure your child meets all of their educational objectives. We take pride in giving every student the best educational experience and we do this by teaching the students at their own individual level.

We work closely with one another to make sure that we are sharing our strengths and weaknesses as a team. We meet weekly to plan strategies and resources that will best meet the state objectives as well as the needs of our students.

Supply List:

ELA

(2) Composition Notebooks (like the small black marbled kind))

(2) Package of 3 x 5 cards

(2) 2 Pocket Folders

(2) Highlighters Pens/ Pencils

Homeroom

(3) Boxes of Tissues

(5) Large Glue Sticks

(1) 2- Pocket Folder (Friday)

(1) ream of 8 ½ x 11 copy paper

Sanitizing Wipes

(1) Pair of tennis shoes for gym

Math

2 Composition Notebook

1 Spiral Notebook or Binder with loose-leaf paper

1 Pocket Folder

Pencils

Pencil Sharpener

Pens

Highlighters

Calculator (a basic/simple one is fine)

Scissors

Glue

Science

1 Composition Notebook (black marbled - 100 pages)

1 Pocket Folder

1 Spiral 1-subject notebook or loose leaf lined paper

Pencils/Pens

Colored Pencils

Scissors

Glue Sticks

(1) Box of Tissue

Social Studies

College Ruled Composition Notebook (at least 100 pages)

Different color highlighters

Pencils/Pens

A 3-ring binder/folder

Knapp Academy *A Tuition-Free, Public School*

1759 Leffingwell Ave NE Grand Rapids, MI 49525 616-364-1100 KnappCharterAcademy.org

Welcome to 8th Grade! Meet the 8th Grade Team



Mr. DeVries
Social Studies

In 2018 I graduated from Calvin College with a Bachelor's degree in History and Social Studies. Teaching History and Social Studies is a passion of mine. I love learning new things about the past and seeing how they are important today! This will be my second year at Knapp and can't wait to get started with all of you!

When I'm not in the classroom, I love to spend time outside hiking, and playing games with my friends. Also love to go to the movies and would love to talk about movies with any of you! Overall, I'm looking forward to meeting and learning with each one of you and sharing my love of History and Social Studies with you.



Miss Kukowski
Language Arts

I graduated from the University of Louisiana at Monroe in 2018 with a Bachelor's degree in English and Spanish. During my time at ULM, I competed on the varsity women's soccer team. This will be my second year teaching at Knapp. I also helped coach the girls' soccer team last year. Outside of school, I love reading and traveling. I am excited for the new year and look forward to getting to know all of you.



Mrs. Quinn
Science

I graduated from Ferris State University in 2015 with my Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. I also have my certification in Science and Language Arts. You might recognize me, as this will be my 4th year working at Knapp Charter Academy. Science is a huge passion of mine and I look forward to sharing that with each of you this year. Outside of school my husband Aaron and I spend most of our time chasing after our two-year-old son Gavin and our two dogs. In my free time I enjoy reading, crafting and traveling.



Mrs. Steketee
Algebra/Mathematics

I graduated in 2005 from Aquinas College with a Bachelor's degree in Math and Language Arts, then in 2009 from Cornerstone University with a Master's degree in the Art of Education. I taught middle school math and language arts at Vista Charter Academy for four years, then moved here to Knapp nine years ago. I have been married to my husband for twelve years this summer. He is a principal at Godfrey Lee Elementary. Our daughter turned 8 in May and we have twin boys who turn 6 in July. I enjoy reading and spending time with my family. I am excited for the new year with all of you!



8th Grade "Highlights"

8th grade highlights

In Eighth Grade we participate in many middle school team building activities such as Camp Roger, Earth Day movie, and Academic Fair. We also visit Grand Valley University as well as some high schools throughout the year to help prepare and encourage students to become college ready. At the end of Eighth Grade we go to Chicago as a class to celebrate the year.

Exciting Opportunities

With school of choice, parents have an opportunity to choose a school for their child. With that in mind, parents have to look at many different aspects of a school and decide which would be the best fit for their child and allow their child to develop academically.

Knapp Academy has the best of both of these: a perfect fit for any child and exceptional academics. Knapp teachers greet students at their doors with a warm welcome and handshake making students feel appreciated and cared for as soon as they enter the classroom. With that mindset, students feel more comfortable to express themselves and try their best in class. Students also participate in activities where they get to know each other, respect differences, and learn from each other's strengths.

A Standard of Excellence

The Eighth Grade team is very focused on making sure your child meets all of their educational objectives. We take pride in giving every student the best educational experience and we do this by teaching the students at their own individual level.

We work closely with one another to make sure that we are sharing our strengths and weaknesses as a team. We meet weekly to plan strategies and resources that will best meet the state objectives as well as the needs of our students.

Supply List:

Math Supplies

1 Composition notebook
10 Glue sticks (or more)
1 TI-30 calculator or higher
Pencils and Pens
2 Kleenex Boxes

Language Arts

2 inch binder
5 dividers for binder
Highlighters
Pencils/pens
Lined paper
2 Kleenex boxes

Science

1 Composition Notebook (black marbled - 100 pages)
1 Pocket Folder
1 Spiral 1-subject notebook or loose leaf lined paper
Pencils/Pens
Colored Pencils
Scissors
Glue Sticks
(1) Box of Tissue

Social Studies

Different color highlighters
Pencils/Pens
A 3-ring binder/folder
Lined paper
Glue Sticks
Colored Pencils/Crayons

Knapp Academy *A Tuition-Free, Public School*

1759 Leffingwell Ave NE Grand Rapids, MI 49525 616-364-1100 KnappCharterAcademy.org