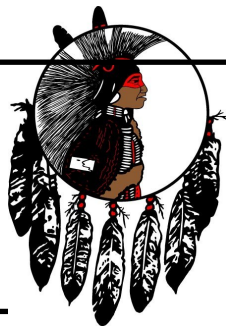

In this issue:

7th & 8th
Grade



Enemy Swim Day School

Let Our Voices be Heard

“Naunkih’ Unpi”

Toka Nuwan Wayawa Tipi - Enemy Swim Day School

Monday, May 18th, 2026

www.esds.us

Volume 2025-26

Issue No. 12

7th Grade Geography

In 7th Grade Social Studies, we've covered several aspects about Latin America and its geographical challenges. We began with the human geography of all 33 countries in what is known as Latin America, the physical geography of the Andes Mountains and the Amazon Rainforest, and the various issues each region faces. Currently, we're exploring the land use conflicts in the Amazon Rainforest and all of the factors involved in protecting the rainforest. We've also been doing case studies on various issues in Latin America. For example, we learned about the “Dirty Wars” in Argentina during the 1980s when thousands of people disappeared for speaking out against the dictatorships that rocked South America.

8th Grade Dakota Studies

This quarter we were busy with many activities. We left Waziya and entered Wetu.

I went with the 7th grade to Thunder Butte, SD and took part in welcoming back the Thunder Beings ceremony. Man, it was a long walk.

The 8th graders did a lesson on Cansasa and then gathered some from the shores of Enemy Swim lake and prepared it. We went over each step, cleaning and then drying.

We also did a lesson on food sovereignty and planned a garden.

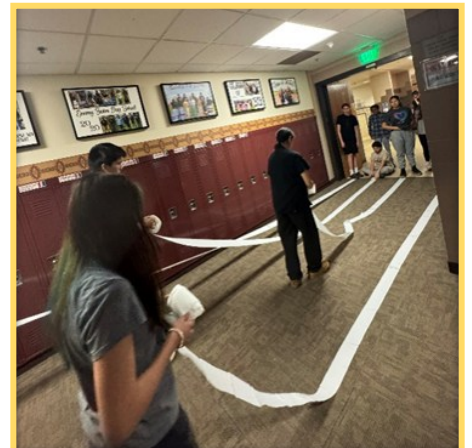


7th & 8th Grade Science Newsletter

7th Grade - The 7th graders learned about ecology and the environment. The students now understand concepts such as food chains, food webs, symbiosis, ecosystems, and biodiversity. They created model projects based on our lessons to apply what they learned. We also completed a community project where they worked on rock and canvas painting together with some of the elders in the community. It was wonderful to see them engaged in something they love (art). For our final units this quarter, we have started learning about the history of life on Earth, evolution, and inheritance. This will be an exciting way to end the school year, as they will be creating more fun and meaningful projects.



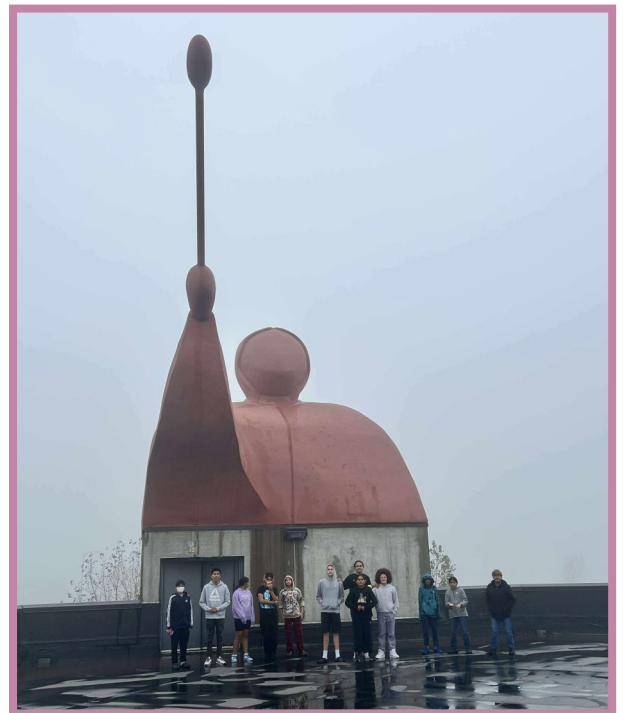
8th Grade - In 8th Grade, the students learned about the rock cycle, tectonic plates, the history of Earth, and the age of rocks. They explored how scientists determine the age of the Earth and completed projects related to Earth's history. One activity they did was the toilet paper geologic time scale, where they represented important events in Earth's history using toilet paper to help visualize how long Earth's history is. The 8th graders also took their BIE Science test, and everyone did their best to complete it. Now that we are in the last quarter, they are learning about Earth's natural resources and how humans affect these resources.



7th & 8th Grade Literacy Highlights

7th Grade Literacy - Miss MorningSong's 7th graders have been working hard to sharpen their writing and analysis skills. Following last quarter's persuasive essays, students dove into the creative process to craft narrative poems focusing on elaboration using imagery. Students wrote epilogues after reading a novel excerpt from Ball Hawk, practicing writing from the first-person point of view. We finished our major writing assignments incorporating figurative language including metaphors, similes, and personification.

Alongside our writing-intensive lessons, the class read and analyzed various literature genres, including historical fiction, short stories, and informational texts. In our unit, Game On!, we explored themes of sports, friendship, family, community, and personal growth. These lessons prompted reflections and discussions on what games and sports mean to not only the students, but to their communities as well.



8th Grade Literacy - This spring, the 8th Grade ELA class made significant strides in writing and analysis, particularly in persuasive writing. Students developed compelling arguments focused on school-wide improvements. Thanks to their hard work and dedication, the administration took many of their suggestions into consideration, leading to actual, positive changes in the school. This project empowered students to see the impact of well-crafted, persuasive writing and the importance of their own voices.

7th & 8th Grade Math

7th Grade Math - The 7th graders have covered a range of topics this past quarter. These topics include finding equivalent expressions, solving multi-step equations, and finding solution sets to multi-step inequalities. These



were tough lessons, but the 7th graders worked so hard to improve these skills! We are now into our unit on solving problems with percents. These include lessons on percent change and percent error. We will finish off the year working with statistical samples and reviewing some geometry skills. I am so proud of all the 7th graders have accomplished so far this year in math!



8th Mathematics - The 8th Grade celebrated a well-earned 8th Grade math party with a movie, snacks, and some device time. The 8th Grade earned the party with TRACKS positive cards and by learning even when their teacher, Dr. Eastman, is at council, in meetings, and on travel. Emma, our assistant, works hard to support their learning during class and during intervention. She takes the time to pull students for ZAP (zeroes aren't possible) to help students get caught up with their missing work. The 8th Grade completed a big unit on Functions and have been working on Laws of Exponents. This week we are going to spend three days testing on the BIE Mathematics Summative Assessment. I'm so proud of the class for how much they have learned. As they know, we work hard every day from bell-to-bell with many nights of independent practice or homework. During parent-teacher conferences we talked about high school math readiness with all the 8th grade parents. We have a very good reputation for preparing students for high school math.

