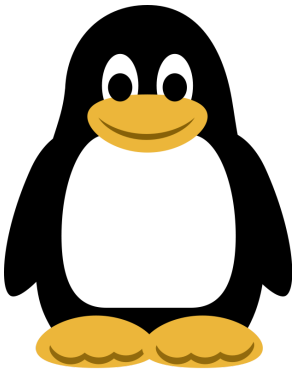
Penguin Team Welcome Letter

2019-2020 school year

Welcome! We are happy to have your student on the Penguin Team.
Our team strives to push students to their potential as 7th graders.



Penguin TA Teachers:
Michael Musto michael.musto@apsva.us Civics and Economics
Emily Larson emily.larson@apsva.us English
Nigel Somerville nigel.somerville@apsva.us Math
Nicci Williams nicci.williams@apsva.us Math
Robert Golden robert.golden@apsva.us Science
Kaila Bell kaila.bell@apsva.us Science
Elita Jenks elita.jenks@apsva.us EL Resource, Math
Inger Moran inger.moran@apsva.us French
Kelly Lopez kelly.lopez@apsva.us Reading

Communication:
Families can find weekly class updates as well as important team information Monday evenings on the Penguin website: jefferson.apsva.us/penguins-team-7th-grade (found on the Jefferson homepage under "Academic Teams" at jefferson.apsva.us.) If your child has a core class with a teacher who is not a Penguin, please contact that teacher directly via email for class updates.

Important Dates:

Picture Day - Tuesday, September 10th Back to School Night - Thursday, September 19th Columbus Day, no school - Monday, October 14th Early release - Wednesday, October 16th Penguin Picnic - Friday, October 18th *tentative date Student-Led Conferences - Friday, October 25th End of Quarter 1 - Monday, November 4th Teacher prep day, no school - Tuesday, November 5th Veterans Day, no school - Monday, November 11th Thanksgiving, no school - November, 27th - 29th Early release - Wednesday, December 11th Winter break - December 23rd - January 3rd	Early release - Wednesday, January 15th MLK Jr. Day, no school - Monday, January 20th End of Quarter 2 - Friday, January 30th Teacher work day, no school - Monday, January 31st Early release - Wednesday, February 12th Presidents' Day, no school - Monday, February 17th Student-Led Conferences - Friday, March 6th Early release - Wednesday, March 11th Spring break - Monday, April 6th - Friday, April 10th Teacher work day, no school - Monday, April 13th Memorial Day, no school - Monday, May 25th Last day of school, early release - Friday, June 19th

Phone policy:
TJMS enforces a "no phone" during the school day policy. We recommend that students leave their phones in their lockers during school hours of 7:50-2:24. If parents need to contact students during the school day they should call the main office at 703-228-5900. If students violate the policy the first offense with a teacher is a verbal warning, second is an email/phone call to parents, and third is a referral to administration.

Penguin Team Welcome Letter

2019-2020 school year

Supplies:
In addition to the TJMS School Supply List that you can find on the school homepage, here are the supplies we request your child bring for the following classes:

Math: Headphones or earbuds, loose leaf paper, pencils	**Civics & Economics:** Notebook or loose leaf paper in binder, subject dividers	**English:** Pencils, any size notecards

TA Donations:
If you are able to donate the following items to your child's TA classroom, we always run low on these items during the year:

- tissues
- pencils
- hand sanitizer

Study Hall:
Study hall is available for all students on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays in the Library from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. starting September 30th. TJMS teachers supervise students looking for homework help or to finish classwork and projects. Cell phones are not allowed in study hall.

Back to School Night:
Jefferson's Back to School Night is on Thursday September 19th at 7:00pm where you will get a chance to hear about our curriculum plans for the year. Please join us!

Penguin Picnic:
The Penguin Team will be having a Penguin Picnic field trip. We walk to Alcova Park, enjoy a picnic lunch, play team-building games, and walk back to school before dismissal. Tentative date is Friday, October 18th.

Activity Fee:
We are collecting $25 as an activities fee for the first half of the 2019-2020 school year. This fee will pay for a 7th grade tee-shirt, fall field trips, and other team activities for quarter one and two. We will be collecting another activity fee again in spring 2020. If your family is unable to pay the activities fee either in part or in full, we have scholarships available. If your family would like to sponsor a student, you are welcome to add more to your $25 payment. You can make checks out to TJMS or pay in cash. Thank you.

We are looking forward to a great year with your student!
~ Penguin teachers