



# the REACH record

MARCH 2, 2017

“The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential... these are the keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence.”

The Official Newsletter of Jefferson Middle School’s REACH Program

## REACH: Now Online

The official REACH website is now live. Keep up-to-date on your student’s in-class and at-home assignments online at Mr. Moore’s website: [jmsjaguars.weebly.com](http://jmsjaguars.weebly.com)

## WHERE WE’VE BEEN, WHERE WE’LL GO

Students in the Spring 2017 REACH program are studying the art of storytelling in its various incarnations throughout history. They have read ancient Greek and Roman myths. They have also researched traditional folklore from a variety of countries, and they will be presenting their “World of Stories” projects to the class starting Tuesday, March 7.

Over the coming weeks, students will be reading, analyzing, and adapting high school-level text and learning skills that will help them be successful through the rest of their educational journey.

Beginning in mid-March, they will be adapting three stories to the stage, ultimately writing the entire script for our final production called *Legends of the Sword*.

*Legends of the Sword* will be performed for families and the local community in mid-June. It is sure to be an exciting and memorable time. Thank you for all of your support in these coming weeks!

## A Helping Hand with Homework

As students progress through middle school, the time they spend on homework becomes more and more noticeable. To help ease this burden, the REACH program has designed built-in assignment workdays for the projects expected of REACH students. Students are given several days, sometimes several weeks, to complete projects and assignments in class, meaning that there should be very little work for REACH done at home. Students who choose to do extra work are more than welcome to, but this is not expected or required *with a few exceptions*. Here is what you can expect for actual homework assignments from REACH for the rest of the semester:

Other than line memorization for our final production, there will only be two assignments students are expected to work on at home for the remainder of the semester. Both will be given in the coming weeks. The first is to write and memorize a short urban legend to share with the class. This will act as your student’s tryout for the play. The second homework assignment will be the creation of a stage prop or costume piece (the Headless Horseman’s Head or Medusa’s Headdress). Details for both assignments will be available on our website after they are assigned.

Students are encouraged to get started on these projects early, so they can manage their time wisely. In a few weeks, class time will be used exclusively for writing the semester-end production. Students are not expected to work on this at home.

Students who are assigned major roles in our final production may have to spend some time memorizing lines at home beginning the last week of April. REACH should be a positive experience, so if you feel uncomfortable with your student having this extra workload, please email me at [jmoore@osd.wednet.edu](mailto:jmoore@osd.wednet.edu). Your student’s grade will **not** be affected.

Please detach the bottom portion of this newsletter and have your student return it to Mr. Moore by Monday, March 6.

I, the undersigned, have received this copy of THE REACH RECORD JMS newsletter.

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GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

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DATE

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STUDENT NAME

