

Elementary Disclosure Document

Fourth Grade-2009-10

Mrs. Barbara Black

Room 22

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Grade Level/Class Description

- By fourth grade, students should have a firm understanding of how printed language works. They should be able to communicate fluently and work toward effortlessly reading without hesitation. They should begin to be comfortable using basic mathematics skills in everyday situations and to apply their math skills in daily life. Fourth grade students are introduced to Utah history and other aspects of the state. In science, students study water and the water cycle; the elements of weather, rocks and rock formation, including fossils; and characteristics of Utah's wetlands, forests, and deserts. In addition, they receive weekly instruction in physical education, computer skills, and library skills.
- Students should begin to take responsibility for their own learning. They should be encouraged to develop strategies to deal with problems as they arise, and to make responsible, safe decisions.

Grade Level Goals and Objectives

- Utah has developed a Core Curriculum which outlines standards of learning that are essential for all students at each elementary grade level. The curriculum includes ideas, concepts, and skills to provide a foundation on which subsequent learning may be built. The curriculum for each grade level can be accessed on the Utah State Office of Education's website at: <http://www.schools.utah.gov/curr/core>

Instructional Materials

- Story Town, grade 4, published by Harcourt, 2008
- Math Expressions, grade 4, published by Houghton-Mifflin, 2006

Instructional Practices

- Language Arts instruction will be done in a whole group setting as well as smaller reading groups on the student's instructional level.
- English Language Development Classes will be grouped based on the students' needs in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Third and fourth grade teachers are co-teaching these classes.
- Students will be paired for a Science Fair project. However, these projects will be completed during school hours under the teacher's direction.
- A full range of activities will be used for teaching of math concepts. We often use manipulative materials, flexible grouping, and cooperative learning during math.
- Students will do research in the library and on the Internet for a report or Power Point Presentation.

Course Requirements

- Students are expected to attend school regularly, be on time and come prepared to learn.
- 30 minutes of reading at home, with verification by the parent's signature, is required daily.
- Math homework is sent Monday through Thursday. Students are expected to become fluent with multiplication and division facts.
- Our classroom rules are: **1) Follow directions the first time given. 2) Keeps hands, feet and objects to yourself. 3) Use all materials properly. 4) Be in the right place, on time. 5) Use kind words and appropriate voice level.** Rewards will be given to those who follow the rules. Students who do not follow the classroom rules will first be given a warning, and then lose 5, 10 or 15 minutes of recess.
- In addition, there is a Schoolwide Citizenship Plan. Students who do not follow the schoolwide rules will be issued a white slip, with the consequence of missing a lunchtime recess. Severe behaviors are defined as: any behavior with the intent to harm, vandalism, overt defiance, leaving school grounds without permission, threats

or intimidation, theft, 4th white slip in a quarter, or 5th misbehavior in one day in the classroom. Severe behaviors will have the consequence of time out of class, with the decision being made by the administration. Parents will be contacted if an administrative referral is required.

Grading Procedures

- Clear standards and expectations are established for all students at each grade level. To be on grade level, students are expected to be able to demonstrate knowledge for the information that has been taught with minimal assistance from the teacher.
- Students receive report cards in November, March and June. They will be graded on the basis of Academic Performance in Reading, Writing, Math, Science and Social Studies.
- Grading key:
 - 3 is exceptional performance
 - 2 is At Standard
 - 1 is Approaching Standard
 - P is Progressing (below grade level)
 - N is Need for Improvement (below grade level)
- Fine Arts, Music P.E., Health, and Information Technology will be given an S (Satisfactory) or N (Needs Improvement)
- Performance Results and Citizenship will receive a S (Satisfactory) or N (Needs Improvement) grade.
- Reading progress and results of standard tests will be reported each term.

Tentative Class and Activity Schedule

- The entire morning is usually spent on Language Arts and English Language Development.
- Students receive about 90 minutes of math instruction each day.
- Library, P.E. and Computer classes are on Thursday afternoons.
- Music is on Tuesday afternoons.
- Spelling and Language Arts tests are given each Friday. Math tests are given at the end of the unit.

The Salt Lake City School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, or sex.

I have received a copy of the Open Disclosure for 2009-10 School Year for Mrs. Black's class.

Student's name

Parent's Signature

Date