

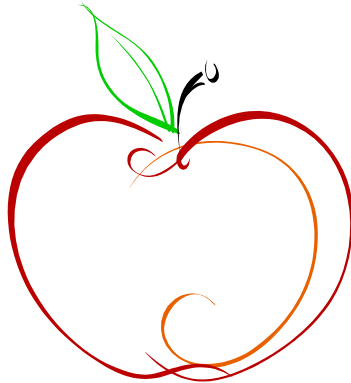
Mr. Beutel's  
2017 – 2018



Fifth Grade Parent Handbook

*The mission of the Parkway School District is to ensure all students are capable, curious, confident, and caring learners who understand and respond to the challenges of an ever-changing world.*

## Welcome to Fifth Grade



**Schedule:** In this packet, I have included a schedule of our daily activities. McKelvey follows an ABCD day schedule. On the bottom of the schedule, you will find what special class we have on A, B, C, and D days. We have **Orchestra** on Tuesdays and Fridays. Please help your student remember to bring their instrument and orchestra binder for the days we have orchestra. **Also, we will have library checkout every other Friday.**

**Classroom Discipline/Incentive Plan:** In order to provide my students with the learning environment that they deserve and require, we will follow the school code of conduct which will be enforced. It is my belief that every child comes to school with a desire to be successful. It is my belief that it is not only necessary to be well educated, but to be *respectful, and responsible* to be great members of society. Based on this belief, the 5<sup>th</sup> grade has an earned recess on Friday afternoons. Students earn this recess if they have not received 3 “strikes” for that week. Strikes are given for violating the class or school code of conduct. Students who do not earn the extra recess will not be allowed to participate in this time. During this time, the student will write a note home explaining what he/she did to earn the strikes and what he/she will do to make sure strikes are not earned in the future. Then will conference with the teacher to discuss ways to better the behavior. If students lose more than the three points, other consequences will be determined.

I also believe it is essential to reward positive behavior. In addition to the earned recess, students who support the class and school code will be given the Braggin' Dragon certificates.

### Additional Rewards:

- Extra Computer time
- Praise
- Positive Notes Home
- Positive Phone Calls Home
- No Homework Pass
- or other items to be determined

**Homework:** All fifth grade students will have homework, regardless of what they tell you! I feel homework is of vital importance as it reinforces skills and concepts taught in the classroom, helps the students develop a strong work ethic and sense of responsibility for learning. Students will have approximately 50 minutes of homework each night. *The amount of homework may vary depending on the amount of class time given to work on an assignment and upon your child's work habits.* Keeping up on assignments is a **MUST!** Homework will be recorded each day in the student's assignment notebooks. Homework should be **neat and completed in pencil or erasable blue or black ink**. The exception is math. This must always be in pencil. The following procedures will be followed for homework in my classroom:

1. Students will be expected to record their assignments in their assignment notebook in order to help them accomplish their tasks everyday. **The assignment notebook will need to be signed by a parent every night. If the notebook is not signed, the child will earn a strike for not being responsible.**
2. All homework is expected to be completed on time, to the best of the students' ability, and in neat writing.
3. Thirty minutes of daily reading and practicing of math facts will be part of the students' nightly tasks.
4. One of the goals of homework (especially long term assignments) is to help the students learn to prioritize and budget their time.

5. Homework may require a written assignment, reviewing what was learned in class that day, reading from a literature selection and then journaling, or studying for quizzes or test. Students will always have advance warning for upcoming tests and quizzes in my class. I encourage them to use good studying habits. Waiting until the night before to study for a test only causes frustration and anxiety!

\*If you feel your child is making a genuine attempt, but still not comprehending the material, please attach a note to the homework. I would prefer that students TRY, so I know how to help them rather than simply giving up. It is much easier for me to see a note on the homework or in the assignment book.

**Homework Accountability:** All students will be held accountable for the completion of their homework assignments. Students who do not complete their assignments on time will attend lunch detention that day to make up the assignment. This will be noted on the Friday Reflection.

**Snack:** I will allow students to bring an afternoon snack and a snack to be eaten at dismissal everyday to rejuvenate their minds. The kids often get hungry and it becomes difficult to think if they ate an early breakfast. Please remember that this is a snack, not a meal. Please do not send any juice drinks or soda- *water only*. Also, please try to pack a healthy snack. No cookies or candy. Fruit, popcorn, pretzels, peanut butter crackers, etc. are good ideas. I have found that students learn better and pay more attention when their stomachs have food in them!

**Birthday Treats:** We do welcome **store bought** birthday treats---let me know in advance when you will be sending them. All treats have to be packaged and store bought. If sending a cookie cake, please send napkins or plates. I will cut the cake if it has not been pre-cut. DO NOT send a knife with your treat. **We currently have 21 students in our classroom this year, and we can only serve birthday treats if there is a treat for every student.**

**Book Orders:** I will send home book orders from Scholastic Book Club. If you wish to order, please shop online using our one time class activation code, LLTV4, or send a check made out to Scholastic Book Club (NO CASH). The books usually arrive 1-2 weeks after the order is put in. No one has to order books, but I recommend the clubs and find the prices cheaper than most bookstores. Reading Workshop levels are listed under most books. If students purchase a book at their reading level, they may read this during reading workshop. Also, by purchasing books through Scholastic, I am able to get books to add to my classroom library.

**Absence:** Please call the front office if your child is ill. Missed work will be sent home with the student upon their return. Your child will be expected to make up missed work. However, much of our work is done in conjunction with a lesson or activity and can be difficult to make up.

**Effective communication between parents and teachers is essential to your child's success in the classroom. This truly is a partnership that must have an open line of communication. Listed below are ways that information will be communicated.**

**Assignment Notebooks:** As a class, we write in our assignment notebooks around 3:45 every day. The assignment notebook will document the homework for the evening. This process is done together as a class and I walk around to make sure students fill it out completely. Please check your child's notebook anytime you have a question regarding the homework for the evening. I will also ask that you sign your child's assignment notebook **each night**, as I will be checking randomly. However, this is not a requirement. You may also leave me a note in their notebook for me to read in the box marked "Parent Messages." Please ask your child to show me this when they arrive in the morning.

**Friday Folders:** Every Friday your child will bring home their "Friday Folder." This will contain a weekly reflection on behavior and academics, as well as graded papers for you to review. The graded papers do not need to be returned, but the folder and the signed weekly reflection must be returned Monday

**morning.** It is *extremely* important to review these papers and the reflection with your student. In addition to me evaluating their weekly behavior, they, too, will reflect on their choices for that week. Please remember that I am not perfect- although I try to be! I may make a mistake when grading a paper- please return this paper in the folder with a note attached. Some papers might also come home with a check mark on top or a sticker, and not a grade. This means that we went over this paper in class and if (if being the operative word here) your son or daughter was paying attention the paper should contain the correct answers.

**Folders/ Textbooks:** Your child has a folder for each subject. This is where assignments will be kept for each subject. Please go through this folder every night with your child. All their homework is also kept in their folder and should be ready to turn in the next day. The exception to this will be assignments which are in a textbooks, such as math.

**Phone Calls and E-mails:** Please feel free to contact me at school if you have any questions at all. Please send a note in the assignment notebook, write a note on the weekly reflection, or please e-mail me. I can respond to you faster through e-mail. However, since I am working with students in the day, it is possible I may not be able to open an e-mail until after school or during lunch. If it is urgent or there is an emergency during the school day, please call the front office and they will relay the message to me. My e-mail is: sbeutel@pkwy.k12.mo.us

**Curriculum:** The Parkway School District has provided us with a wonderful set of basics to prepare your child for sixth grade and ultimately a productive life.

### **Reading**

- Building a Community of Readers
- Using Fantasy to Tackle Fifth Grade Texts
- Poetry
- Navigating Non-fiction
- Reading for Social Issues

- Non-fiction Reading to Become Experts
- Author Study

### **Writing**

- Building a Community of Writers
- Short Story
- Literary Essay
- Editorial
- Personal Essay
- Crafting a Persuasive Speech
- Mentor Author: Revision

### **Math:**

- Mastery of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts
- Fractions: Addition and Subtraction
- 3-D Geometry and Measurement
- Fractions: Multiplication and Division
- 2-D Geometry and Measurement Conversion
- Decimals, Numbers, Operations, and Algebraic Thinking
- Patterns and Relationships: Algebraic Thinking

### **Social Studies:**

- Geography
- Native Americans
- Discovery, Exploration, and Early Settlement
- Colonial Period
- The Revolutionary War
- JA BizTown

### **Science**

- Levers and Pulleys
- Solar System
- Environments
- Mixtures and Solutions

Parent: \_\_\_\_\_ Child: \_\_\_\_\_

Tell me something about your child that you feel is important for me to know.



Tell me how you would like to see your child grow this year.

Comments: