

First Grade DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT

Northridge Elementary

August 2020

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First Grade Website: FlyingInFirst.Weebly.com (Updated Weekly)

Welcome to our Northridge First Grade family! First grade is a wonderful year for children, as they continue the learning process. We plan to work side by side with you in helping your child to grow and develop socially, emotionally, intellectually, and physically. Education is truly a "united" team effort! Let's make this year an adventure in learning and a positive experience for everyone. We are looking forward to working and learning with you. Learning is magical!

We understand that these are unprecedented times, and we are committed more than ever to make sure your child is in a safe learning environment at school, where he or she can excel and have fun! Please refer to the school rules and guidelines for masks and face coverings and other areas pertaining to the prevention of spreading COVID-19, in the Northridge Elementary policies on the school's website. We look forward to having a magical, safe, and wonderful year!

Reading/Language Arts: We will be following the Utah Common Core Standards as we use the highly effective and popular Wonders literacy program, published by McGraw-Hill. We will also involve the children with a wide variety of balanced literacy activities. These will address phonics, whole-language, literature-based readiness skills, fluency, comprehension, and more, as they progress along the road to reading mastery. We will offer many writing experiences for the children such as making class books, writing in journals, shared group writing, writing individual stories, and much more!

Math: We will use the Common Core Standard-based math program, McGraw-Hill *My Math* that uses many "hands-on" materials and group activities to build a basic math foundation. You will be able to support your child's math experience each week with math activity suggestions that will be sent home and/or can be found on our First Grade website.

Other Curriculum: We cover many other subjects in first grade, including social studies, science, physical education, art, music, dance, health, and educational technology.

Something Special: To prime our "teaching tool box" with the best and most innovative ways to help every child reach his/her full potential, Northridge teachers and classrooms will strive to incorporate the "6 Cs" of Education: Character, Citizenship, Critical Thinking (and problem solving), Creativity, Collaboration, and Communication.

We will also continue to incorporate **STEAM** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) education and activities. This is truly an exciting and magical path of learning!

Homework: For the most part, first graders look forward to having homework. Please take advantage of this and use these “golden teaching moments” to work on something school-related for a short time each day. Reading to and with your child 20 minutes each day is highly encouraged and will greatly benefit your child. Homework will be sent home as a “Choice Board” each month, with a fun variety of engaging activities to choose from. Additional math pages will also be sent home, from time to time, for practice. These pages will say “My Homework” at the top of the page. With a limited amount of time and practice in class, we do see much better understanding of the skills and concepts in students who have this extra practice at home. Also, reading logs will be sent home at the beginning of the month and are due at the end of the month. More information will come home with the homework and reading logs. Thank you for your wonderful support!

Attendance: Class starts at 8:00 (Early Birds) and 9:15 (Later Gators). Attendance is taken within the first fifteen minutes of class. If your child **arrives after 8:15 or 9:30** please have your child check in at the office. It is very much to your child's advantage to be at school each day. However, it is not advisable to send children to school when they are sick. **For safety reasons, please do not have your child arrive at school any earlier than five minutes before the start of class.** A more detailed attendance policy can be found in the Northridge Handbook or at www.northridge.alpineschools.org.

Grading As Reflected on Progress Reports: Each child will be accountable to *master* the skills and curricula that are outlined in the curriculum. We will be using the Skyward computer-grading program. First Grade progress reports will be sent home three times a year. The grading scale is listed below:

- 4**—Student demonstrates early mastery of this standard and is working to expand and deepen understanding.
- 3**—Student is working at expected grade level proficiency at this time and is on track to master the standard by the end of the school year.
- 2**—Student is working below grade level proficiency at this time and will need targeted support to master the standard by the end of the year.
- 1**—Student is working well below grade level proficiency at this time and will need intensive and targeted support to master the standard by the end of the year.

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held in October and February where your child's progress will be shared in more detail. If you have any questions or concerns at any time, contact your child's teacher. You can also monitor your child's progress by reviewing his/her work when it comes home.

Discipline Plan:

We expect our students to follow the **Northridge School Rules**, which are:

1. Follow directions.
2. Respond appropriately to a polite request.
3. Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.
4. No name calling, put downs, or teasing.

These standards will be in conjunction to what we expect as a class as well.

We **love** to give a lot of praise, positive feedback, send positive notes home, etc. for all of the responsible and positive choices that the students make. We also realize that sometimes, a different choice may be made, and that has consequences as well. If a child chooses to disobey a rule, the following consequences will be administered.

1. A warning is given to the child.
2. The child is removed from the situation, but will remain in the group.
3. Time out-the child is removed from the group.
4. Parents are notified.
5. The child is sent to the principal.

CLASS SUPPLIES: IMPORTANT: We are taking every precaution to prevent the spread of unwanted germs in our classrooms, as we strive to keep your child healthy and safe. With this in mind, ALL class supplies will be provided to your child. We know that students like to buy new school supplies, but, since first graders love to share their supplies at school, we ask that the new supplies your child wishes to purchase stay at home to be used on homework or at-home projects. Thank you so much for your support! Your child will definitely have everything he or she needs at school. We will provide the supplies and will replace them, as needed, throughout the year.

Donations: We are requesting a \$20.00 donation or whatever you are comfortable with donating, if anything at all. This will cover the cost of some of the activities and crafts for Theme Days, Christmas and Mother's Day gifts, and one field trip (if applicable). No child will be excluded from an activity because they did not pay a donation. We would greatly appreciate any other classroom items that you would like to donate (i.e., tissues, paper towels, Ziploc bags, hand (baby wipes) and Clorox wipes, hand soap/sanitizer, small wrapped candies for the treat tub, and/or small toys for our treasure box). Thank you **SO** much! If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation, please visit our first grade website (FlyingInFirst.weebly.com) and click on "Donations".

many thanks in advance!

volunteers: There will be many opportunities for you to volunteer in your child's class, as guidelines allow. Please contact your child's teacher individually, if you are interested in volunteering. We truly appreciate your willingness to help this year! Thank you so much!

**we are looking forward to
a fabulous first grade year!**

Thank you for your super support!