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..... Open Disclosure

I look forward to working with you and your child this year. I feel communication between parents and teachers is vitally important to a successful year. The purpose of this document is to inform you of the overall plans and policies for the year. Please read the document, sign, and return the attached signature page.

Goals and Objectives

Utah has developed a core curriculum which outlines standards of learning that are essential for all students at each grade level. The curriculum includes ideas, concepts, and skills to provide a foundation on which subsequent learning may be built.

Instructional Materials

Eureka Math, McGraw-Hill Wonders, Trade Books/Novels, Time for Kids, Kids Discover Magazine, Other resources TBD

Instructional Practices

Reading: Students will work on independent self-selected reading, small, and whole group guided reading of many books in a variety of literary genres including informational books and textbooks to improve comprehension. Students will be expected to keep reading response notebooks, write book reviews, summarize, retell, and analyze literature through discussions of characters and plot development, the vocabulary of literature, and the characteristics of different literary genres. A great deal of emphasis will be on comprehending nonfiction text to enhance science and social studies learning. Students will also read primary source materials and historical fiction as they explore different points of view in their study of U.S. history.

Writing: The new Utah Core for Language Arts places emphasis on writing throughout the curriculum. Students will write across all disciplines. Students will go through the writing process as they improve their writing skills using the "Six Traits of Writing." They will also be expected to write in a variety of genres for a variety of audiences and purposes.

Vocabulary and Spelling: Vocabulary and spelling instruction will be aligned with content vocabulary in literature, math, science, and social studies, as well as vocabulary lessons from McGraw-Hill *Wonders* reading basal.

Math: This year we will spend time exploring mathematical concepts through math investigations, hands on manipulatives, and with a variety of other resources including Eureka Math and Houghton Mifflin Expressions online tools. We will spend time in math talk, analyzing and explaining problem solving strategies both orally and in writing. Computational skills are taught within large concept areas and are supported by the use of calculators to encourage more time on problem solving.

Social Studies: U.S. history and research skills are the curriculum focus in this area. Students will participate in an interactive approach to social studies.

Science: In science, we will be using the scientific method to explore our world (core topics- the earth's changing surface, matter, electricity, magnets, heredity and inherited traits). Students will participate in inquiry-based experiments to explore science concepts, and use the scientific method to prepare for science fair.

Technology: We will focus on computer key boarding skills, process writing and final draft writing, PowerPoint presentations, Prezi, MS Publisher, and research skills on school computers. At times, iPads will also be used.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to attend school regularly, be on time, and come prepared to learn. ALL students are expected to complete ALL assignments. Assignments will be due at the end of the day. Late assignments will ONLY be accepted due to an absence. All late work will be due no later than Friday of the week the student returns to school.

Assignment Weight

Class assignments- 30 %; Homework- 10 %; Tests- 50 %; Projects- 10 %
Grades are calculated based on the assignment weight.

Homework Policy

Students are expected to *read a minimum of 30 minutes each night*. Homework assignments will be due the following day it is assigned unless otherwise stated. Homework assignments will be posted on our class website: www.tdinh.org.

Discipline Plan

Students will follow school and classroom rules. I have developed a classroom discipline plan which gives every student guidance in making good decisions about his/her behavior, and thus an opportunity to learn in a positive, safe, and nurturing classroom environment.

The plan below outlines our classroom rules, rewards, and consequences for behaviors.

Rules:

- Follow directions first time given
- Be respectful to everyone
- Be kind and helpful to others
- Be responsible

Rewards:

- Principal's 200 Club ticket
- Extra recess, computer time, parties
- Note home

Consequences:

- 1st- Verbal warning
- 2nd- Complete "Stop and Think" form
- 3rd- Lose privileges and removed from the room

Bullying, fighting, vandalism, causing the classroom to cease functioning or ANY overtly defiant acts will result in immediate removal from class and sent to the principal's office.