

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

The Discipline Program at LES emphasizes respect and responsibility in all areas. The Luverne School System also has a responsibility which goes beyond the educational program by exercising every precaution to safeguard and control pupils while on the school premises, when using school transportation, and school related activities away from the school grounds. Students are issued Stop and Thinks for minor misbehaviors. These Stop and Think tickets are sent home to inform parents of the infraction. More serious behavior concerns are sent to the principal with an Office Referral.

COMMUNICATION

Parent involvement and home/school communication is important for every child's success. LES has established several ways to facilitate communication between home and school. A Friday Folder is sent home at the end of each week. This folder includes our school's weekly newsletter as well as permission slips, lunch letters and classroom papers. This folder should be returned each Monday. Parents can send notes and lunch money back to school in this folder. Each teacher has a voice mail and an email account. Parents can send and leave messages at any time. Our district's web site is also a great source of information. There are links to teachers' web pages as well as our monthly Events Calendar and our Weekly Messages. Parents are also encouraged to use the JMC Parent Access to check their child's lunch account balance and attendance record.

TESTING AND ASSESSMENTS

Each school year, students in fourth grade will take the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessments provided through Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA). We give students MAP tests to determine their instructional level and to measure academic growth from year to year in the areas of mathematics, reading, and language usage. The computerized assessments dynamically adapt to each student's achievement level, providing precise results for every student, independent of grade level.

The Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) are given every spring to measure how well students have mastered the state math and reading standards. The information gathered from these tests chart the progress of schools and districts over time, generate information for school improvements, and allow for comparisons of schools in Minnesota. In addition, the district is able to make decisions about curriculum and instruction to provide the best education possible for your child.

The mission of Luverne School District #2184, in cooperation with family and community, is to be a proactive leader providing quality educational opportunities for all ages in a positive learning environment while meeting the challenges of a changing world through a continuing commitment to excellence.

FOURTH GRADE

A Parent's Guide To Fourth Grade



LUVERNE ELEMENTARY
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www.isd2184.net

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS

LES has adopted the Pearson Reading Street curriculum and Zaner Bloser Writing curriculum for Language Arts instruction. This includes guided reading, self-selected reading, writing and Working with Words block. A blend of Scott Foresman reading series as part of guided reading, and novels are used in guided reading. The Accelerated Reading program is used in fourth grade to determine each child's reading level and to check comprehension on the books read.

MATHEMATICS

The Harcourt Math series is used in fourth grade. Each teaching unit in this series includes an introduction, guided instruction, practice, and assessment. Fourth grade students cover units on Multiplication, Division, Fractions and Geometry. Various forms of practice are used including a computer program entitled "Math Facts in a Flash."

TECHNOLOGY

Classroom teachers take students to the computer lab twice a week to reinforce the concepts that are taught in the regular classroom. Students will use the Type to Learn program to learn proper keyboarding skills. Fourth grade classes use the computer as a tool to complete some classroom assignments, such as typing reports, typing spelling lists and other assignments.

SCIENCE

Science in the fourth grade is a project based class. Students will explore units on the solar system, the rain forest, the water cycle and oceans, and scientific method. There will be numerous projects and activities. Students will also utilize various types of technology completing these units.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Students in fourth grade will study the United States. This includes the various groups of people and the land and regions. As each region is completed, students are expected to recognize and identify the states and capitals. At the end of the year, a test will be given covering all fifty states and their capitals. Students will also study Native American tribes, their culture, and their dwellings.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Fourth grade students have physical education class for 25 minutes every day. Major areas of concentration in fourth grade include: health related fitness, developmental motor skills or individual and team sports, rhythms and dance, and social development.

MUSIC

Music classes meet for 25 minutes every day. Students in fourth grade sing a variety of music, develop a correct singing voice and work on proper use of the voice. Students will also have the opportunity to play classroom instruments and perform and create rhythmic and melodic patterns. All students will participate in a music program each year.

COUNSELING

LES has a full time elementary counselor to provide services to our students. The guidance program consists of individual and group counseling, consultation with teachers, parents, and administrators, and classroom guidance activities. Our counselor also assists students to understand themselves in the context of home, school and community. The counselor serves as a referral agent and as a member of the child study team.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

LES provides a variety of special education services in accordance with a child's individual education plan (IEP). All children are educated in the regular curriculum to the maximum extent possible. Examples of special education services provided within the districts are: learning disabilities, developmental cognitive disabilities, emotional-behavioral disorders, autism spectrum disorders, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy and adaptive physical education, early childhood and vocational services.