

## **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 kindergarten will be given assessments through AIMSWEB. AIMSWEB assessments consist of a set of standardized, individually administered measures of early literacy development. They are designed to be short measures used to regularly monitor the development of pre-reading and early reading skills. Students in kindergarten will be given the AIMSWEB assessment three times each year. The results of the assessments will be shared with parents through conferences and reports.

## **KINDERPLUS**

Luverne Elementary School offers a morning kindergarten program for all students. Kinder Plus is an optional, tuition-based extended day program offered to parents of kindergarten students as a convenient alternative to traditional daycare options. The program is designed to complement our morning kindergarten program with additional educationally based activities.

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.



## *A Parent's Guide To Kindergarten*

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## **READING/LANGUAGE ARTS**

LES uses the Four Blocks: A Multimethod, Multilevel Reading Framework for its Language Arts curriculum. In kindergarten the focus is on Reading Skills, Reading Readiness and Handwriting. Students will identify letter names and sounds as well as color and number words. Students will be introduced to long and short vowels and blend sounds. By the end of kindergarten each student will be able to print their first and last name, all 52 letters and write a simple sentence.

## **MATHEMATICS**

The Harcourt Math series is used in kindergarten. Each teaching unit in this series includes an introduction, guided instruction, practice, and assessment. Topics covered in kindergarten include sort and classify, counting to 100, patterns and shapes, basic money, time to the hour, and number concepts. Students will be introduced to addition, subtraction, measurement and problem solving.

## **SCIENCE/SOCIAL STUDIES/HEALTH**

Science, Social Studies and Health concepts are incorporated in everyday classroom activities. Students will learn about basic personal safety, nutrition, and personal information such as birthday, address and phone number. Teachers will also include the concepts of weather, seasons and holidays in their daily calendar activities.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Kindergarten students have physical education class several days each week. The focus of our PE program is to foster in children a love of physical activity. Class activities are designed to help students develop coordination and control. Good sportsmanship and fair play are stressed with all students.

## **MUSIC**

Music is offered to our kindergarten class each week. Kindergarten students are exposed to a variety of games and songs. The concepts of steady beat, using singing, speaking and shouting voices, and high and low pitches are emphasized through singing, movement, and music games. Students will also work on listening skills and will be introduced to some musical instruments.

## **TITLE**

Title I is a federally funded program where students can receive extra instructional help from either a certified teacher, or a trained paraprofessional. In kindergarten, paraprofessionals are available in the classroom to help children who need a little more practice in grasping concepts the teacher has presented. Students are recommended for Title services based on teacher recommendation and standardized assessments.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

Allowing students the opportunity to use technology in the elementary classroom is important. In kindergarten the computer is used to reinforce the concepts that are taught in the regular classroom. In addition, students learn the basics of computers. They learn computer terms as well as being able to use the keyboard and mouse.

## **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.