

Burr District Elementary, a Region 17 School,  
Presents

# GRADE FOUR

Starring...

Becky  
Rodbourn



Ken  
Talbot



Heather  
Barse



# 4th Grade at BES

Students will receive reading instruction from their homeroom teacher.

Writing- Mrs. Rodbourn

Science/Social Studies/Math Facts- Mr. Talbot

Math- Mrs. Barse

# Typical Day:

## Mon., Wed., Fri.

- 8:35 Students Arrive + Morning Meeting
- 9:00 Unified Arts-Specials
- 9:45 Readers' Workshop
- 10:40 Homeroom Sci/SS, Writing, or Math
- 11:35 Recess and Lunch
- 12:30 Flex time
- 1:00 Switch 1 Sci/SS, Writing, or Math
- 1:55 Flex time
- 2:25 Switch 2 Sci/SS, Writing, or Math
- 3:20 Afternoon Meeting
- 3:25 Dismissal

## Tue., Thur.

- 8:35 Students Arrive + Morning Meeting
- 9:00 Unified Arts-Specials
- 9:45 Readers' Workshop
- 10:40 Homeroom Sci/SS, Writing, or Math
- 11:35 Recess and Lunch
- 12:30 Flex time
- 1:00 Switch 2 Sci/SS, Writing, or Math
- 1:55 Flex time
- 2:25 Switch 1 Sci/SS, Writing, or Math
- 3:20 Afternoon Meeting
- 3:25 Dismissal

# This year in Reading, we will

- Think deeply and develop ideas about characters, theme, and author's craft
- Read nonfiction with purpose
- participate in Historical Fiction Book Clubs
- Read and interpret Poetry
- Write about our reading

# This Year in Writing, students will write..

- Realistic Fiction
- Opinion Essays
- Expository Essays
- Poetry
- Using figurative language, grade appropriate spelling, and correct mechanics and conventions

# Math

- The C.C.S.S. (Common Core State Standards) reflect a philosophy of deep study within a math topic, but including fewer topics at each grade level. **Students are expected to show and explain their thinking.**
- Daily math instruction includes: mini-lesson, practice, games or activities to help solidify understanding and enrichment opportunities.
- i-ready: Students will be taking a diagnostic assessment 3 times a year to assess their progress and to note any areas of weakness

# Math Units of Study

- September/October: Multi-digit Whole Number Computation
- October/November: Factors and Multiples
- November/December: Multi-digit Multiplication and Division
- December/January: Comparing Fractions and Understanding Decimal Notation
- February: Addition, Subtraction and Multiplication of Fractions
- March: Angles and Angle Measurement
- April/May: Measurement
- May/June: Geometry

# Flipped Math Classroom

We will be using a flipped classroom in math. Students will be watching instructional videos and answering questions to demonstrate understanding for homework.

[www.playposit.com](http://www.playposit.com)

Log-in Tab

username: XX227222

password: pass399

# Science & Social Studies...

- Science units in order: Changing Earth, Energy Transfer, Biomimicry
- In social studies, students will be studying the regions of the United States Throughout the year.
- Students will soon be informed of math facts they should be working on, ( $x \div$ ) and will do targeted practice to increase fluency with the multiples that they are learning.

# Homework Policy

- Based on district policy students in fourth grade have 35 minutes of homework each night.
- 4th grade teachers value homework that is connected to classroom instruction, accommodates different learning needs, is based on research, and has a positive impact on academic achievement.

## Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A"  
reads **20 minutes**  
each day

3600 minutes in  
a school year

**1,800,000 words**



*90<sup>th</sup> percentile*

Student "B"  
reads **5 minutes**  
each day

900 minutes in  
a school year

**282,000 words**



*50<sup>th</sup> percentile*

Student "C"  
reads **1 minute**  
each day

180 minutes in  
a school year

**8,000 words**



*10<sup>th</sup> percentile*

By the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade Student "A" will have read equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

(Nagy & Herman,

# Nightly Homework

Each night students will (Monday night-Thursday night):

- Read for at least 20 minutes. Complete reading log
  - Watch the assigned math video (available on [www.playposit.com](http://www.playposit.com)) and answer embedded questions.
  - If necessary, practice math facts.
- Weekend Homework (Friday night- Sunday night):
- Read for a total of 40 minutes.

## Consequences for missed assignments

- 1) 1<sup>st</sup> missed assignment in each month: a reminder
- 2) 2<sup>nd</sup> missed assignment in each month: Student will take a working lunch in the classroom.
- 3) 3<sup>rd</sup> missed assignment in each month: Student will take a working lunch in the classroom. Students will work with their families to complete an action plan to help them with their homework routine. This will be completed at home.
- 4) 4<sup>th</sup> missed assignment in each month: Student will take a working lunch in the classroom. Your child's teacher will notify you to discuss concerns and ways in which he or she can support your child

# Homework Routine

- At this age students are capable of completing their homework independently, BUT often need to help creating a routine.
- Please work with your child to create a procedure of when and where homework will be completed.
- Students also need to create a routine for putting their materials back in their backpacks before they come to school.

# Fourth Grade Activities

- Fourth graders host the final Burr School community meeting and share experiences from their years at BES.
- Fourth graders go on a field trip to Hartford, where we learn more about the government and history of CT.
- Fourth graders take a field trip to the HK Middle School to tour the school and learn about programs.
- Fourth grade band students join other students from KES and HES to play in a District Elementary Band concert. They go to the middle school for one rehearsal before the concert.

# Transition to Middle School

- HKMS sends paperwork in the spring to parents that needs to be filled out and returned to the fourth grade teacher.
- Students get a visit here at Burr from middle school counselors, who explain the programs and procedures for the middle school.
- Students go on the field trip to the middle school.
- Students attend programs during the summer at the middle school to get them used to their new “home”.
- Students get summer reading projects handed out in their last fourth grade report card.

# Final Thoughts...

- Having a water bottle at school is very helpful.
- Please sign up for an October Parent-Teacher conference. Look for Sign-up sheets from each classroom teacher.