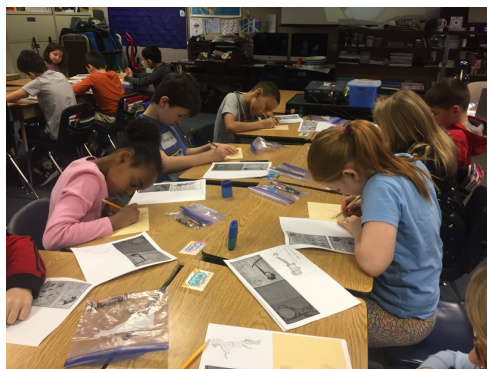
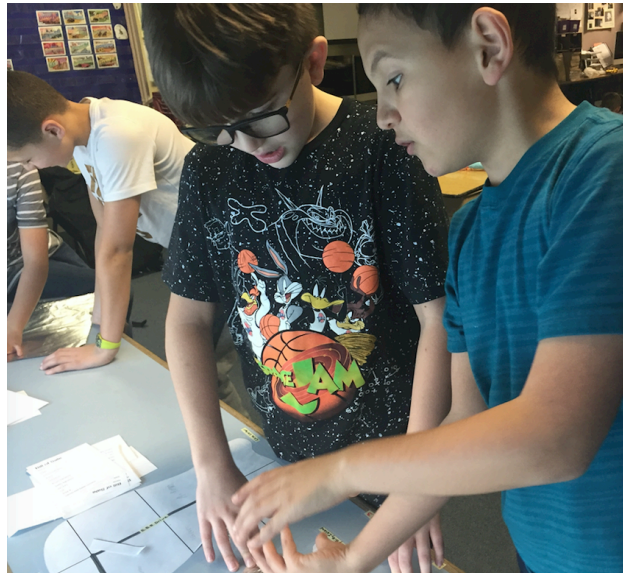




Mr. Lehmann's
AREA 51 Handbook

2018/19 School Year



Dear Parents:

Welcome to the fifth grade. This handbook should answer most of your questions about your child's new class. If after reading this you have further questions, or if you have a special concern you want to bring to my attention, please don't hesitate to contact me by email (cole.lehmann@k12northstar.org) or phone (479-6963 ext 44051).

YOUR TEACHER

I grew up in the Pacific Northwest, moving to Alaska in 1986. I have worked in many varied occupations (grocery checker, letter carrier, roustabout on the North Slope), but it was my experience as a leader in Boy Scouting that led me to the teaching profession. I earned my BA and teaching certificate through Central Washington University (student teaching in Sitka) and my MS degree at Western Oregon University.

My teaching experience is:

K-5 multiage teacher (1 year in False Pass)

4-12 grade teacher and head teacher (1 year in Nelson Lagoon)

2nd grade teacher (2 years in King Cove)

2nd grade teacher (5 years at Eielson AFB)

4th grade teacher (15 years at University Park)

5th grade teacher (1 year at University Park)

TOYS / ELECTRONIC ITEMS

Cell phones, ipods, and any other electronic devices must be turned off and put away during the school day. I do not have a problem if kids want to bring cards or the occasional item to show their friends. However, if they have them out at times other than lunch and recess, I will take them. The items will be returned at the end of the year, or anytime with a note from you.

LUNCH (11:55)

Parents and children alike enjoy eating lunch together and I encourage you to come in if you can get away from work for a few minutes. You don't need to let me know ahead of time, just sign in at the office and come on in. (Our lunch is at 11:55.)

MYSTERY CLOTHES

Kids are kids, and clothes get misplaced. If you write your child's name on all of their belongings (including shoes), I will be better able to get them back to you and perhaps save you some money. (It would be best to put your child's name inside the gear so that a stranger would not be able to see their name.)

WINTER GEAR

For parents new to the Fairbanks area, district policy states that students will have outside recess at temperatures above -20 degrees (this is with wind chill factored in). There may also be a short period of time between when your child arrives at school, and when the doors open, that your child will be required to wait outside. For both of these reasons please be sure to send your child to school with warm winter gear.

CLASS VISITS & BIRTHDAYS

Whenever you visit the classroom, bring your child to school late, or take them out early, please remember to first sign in and out at the office. You are welcome to come into our classroom at any time. All I ask is that when you do, that you come in quietly and don't disrupt the flow of the class. Also, please understand that during class I will be devoting all of my energy and attention to the students so I usually won't be able to chat. If you would like to bring in a class treat for your child's birthday that is no problem, but please bring the treats in prior to lunch.

PULLOUTS

In fifth grade it is common for students to be pulled out of class for activities such as band, orchestra, and choir. While pullout activities are of great value, be aware that pullouts do not excuse the student from the responsibility of completing their regular classwork. That said, I will only require makeup of assignments that are essential to the academic success of the student.

SPECIALS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
PE 9:55	MUSIC 9:55	PE 9:55	COUNSELOR 9:55	MUSIC 10:25
			LIBRARY 10:25	

GRADING POLICY

This will be your child's first year with letter grades and the transition can be difficult for some. Students can be a bit shocked when they discover that one mistake on a five-question quiz equals a B, and two mistakes almost equals an F! Careful attention to each and every task is very important when grading is done by the numbers.

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
Below 60%	F

All late work (up to 5 school days late) will drop one letter grade; no credit for work more than 5 school days late. Students may redo any "F" papers (except tests) if they ask within one week of getting the paper.

AN IMPORTANT WORD ON ABSENCES

Extended or chronic absences may result in gaps in your child's knowledge and performance because they are not physically in class. A great deal of what goes on in the classroom (direct teaching, modeling, discussion, and hands-on experiences) simply cannot be sent home as "make up" work. Many skills are built upon previously learned skills. For example, a child needs to be able to multiply before they can convert mixed numbers to improper fractions. Absence puts your child at a disadvantage in learning and can potentially impact their performance and grades. Finally, there is little time built into the school day for me to sit down and re-teach a student who has been absent. **For these reasons, I ask that you carefully consider the timing of any planned absences (vacations, doctor appointments, etc.).**

NEWSLETTER / HOMEWORK NOTEBOOK

Each Monday your child will bring home a **Weekly Newsletter / Homework Notebook** (usually with some of their graded class work attached). The newsletter will have the week's spelling words, class news, and a review of what we have been working on in class. (In regards to graded work, you may notice less paper / pencil graded work than you're used to since more

tasks / assignments will be done electronically.) You will also be able to monitor your child's progress by using PowerSchool. By reading the newsletter, reviewing your child's graded class work, and checking on PowerSchool you will be able keep abreast of how they are doing in class on a weekly basis. This will enable you to identify areas that they are having trouble in so that you can then give them additional help and support.

HOMework

It is normal for your child to need your support and assistance to learn and practice good homework skills. While many fifth graders can do their homework independently, this is not always the case. The effort you make now will pay dividends over the remainder of your child's school career. Weekly homework will be as described below.

SPELLING LIST

On the front of the Newsletter you will find your child's spelling list. The 20-word list is a full credit list, the 12-word list is whatever grade is earned, minus 15% (to reflect the fact that it's an easier list). Kids will take a pretest on first day of the week, circle words that they have missed on their Newsletter page, and bring it home for study. Kids should study the words that they missed in preparation for Friday's end-of-week test. By monitoring your child's spelling test grades on PowerSchool, you can determine how much time they need to devote to spelling word practice.

WRITING (Notebook)

This year kids will be taking home a HOMEWORK NOTEBOOK. Each week kids will be given a writing assignment (assignment will be listed in Newsletter) that must be completed and turned in by Friday. Most of these assignments will be ungraded, but your child's work will be used as a springboard for class sharing, discussion, and in some cases as a rough draft of a finished piece of writing.

100 MINUTES OF READING AT HOME PER WEEK

GRADE: final quarterly grade will be 50 points plus however many points student has earned. For example, a student who earned 38 points would have a final quarter grade of 88 points (B+).

Students will choose books on the Reading Counts list and read them at home. After they've read the book, they will take a Reading Counts test on that book, on the computer. (They can do this at school, or at home.)