



4th Grade Handbook 2019-2020

Dear Families,

Welcome to Sunset Ridge! The 4th grade team is excited about the upcoming school year. We look forward to watching your child learn and grow as the year progresses. The 4th grade team is committed to reaching each child's individual learning needs. We have already met several times, planning together to create a supportive and safe environment for all of our students. It is our belief that students perform best when they take an active role in their own learning. We encourage students to be independent and creative problem solvers and appreciate your help, parents, in making this possible!

Please refer to this handbook throughout the year for any questions you may have. Please go over this handbook with your child. Once you have done so, sign and return the attached form to your teacher. Experiences show that building a strong connection between students, parents, teachers, and the community leads to success and growth. We are all looking forward to a great year!

Sincerely,

Ms. Friedberg, Mrs. Hawkins and Mrs. Rodriguez

Sunset Ridge Mission Statement



**At Sunset Ridge,
we support students emotionally and academically,
preparing them to be lifelong,
well-rounded, critical thinkers.**

Contacting Your Teacher

It is crucial that our learning time is not interrupted. Phone calls made to the classrooms during school hours go straight to voicemail. If you need to get a message to your child **before the end of the school day**, please call 623-445-7800 and our office staff will give us the message. Email is always the preferred way to contact your child's teacher.

Remind App

All three of us use the Remind App to text class announcements and reminders. Please join your child's teacher's Remind Class by texting the following:

For Ms. Friedberg, text @sfriedberg to 81010
For Mrs. Hawkins, text @hawkins327 to 81010
For Mrs. Rodriguez, text @rodz4 to 81010

Homework Policy

Beginning the second week of school, your child will be responsible for bringing home the 4th grade calendar and a monthly reading log. **The calendar needs to be looked at each day and signed at the end of the week.** The Reading Log (starting in September) needs to be signed each time your student reads and records his/her minutes read, and turned in on the first school day of the next month.

Throughout the year, other homework will be given as review, practice, and test prep. Homework assignments will be recorded into the calendar by your child. There is no Spelling homework, so students are responsible for studying their words at home with the ideas given to them by their teacher.

Late and Missing Work

Assignments are marked late after the due date. If a student is absent, he/she has the number of days absent to complete work for full credit, per district policy. Other late work will be considered at teacher discretion depending on the circumstances. Students can turn in work up until the end of the quarter for partial credit, but if an assignment is never turned in, it will be recorded as a 0. It is the **STUDENT'S** responsibility to complete and turn in work. We do not give Extra Credit assignments.

Grading System

Please refer to your Power Schools account to keep track of your child's grades. If you misplace or forget your password to log on to Power Schools, you must come to the school office with a photo ID to receive a new one. **Teachers do not have access to your Power Schools account.**

Power School Key:

Checkmark = completed

L = turned in late

M = Missing

Our day is filled with projects, assignments, and group activities ~ however, not every single item is graded. We grade assignments that we feel best reflect the curriculum standard that we are teaching at the time. In 4th grade, students will be evaluated using the following system:

97-100% = A+

93-96% = A

90-92% = A-

87-89% = B+

83-86% = B

80-82% = B-

77-79% = C+

73-76% = C

70-72% = C-

67-69% = D+

63-66% = D

60-62% = D-

59% or below = F

Homework, per district protocol, is 5% of final grade.

Classwork is 45% and Tests/Quizzes are 50%.

Behavior Expectations

Our goal is to provide a school community where children are comfortable expressing themselves positively and responsibly. Our expectations for all students at Sunset Ridge are to SOAR:

S = show SAFETY in words and actions

O = take OWNERSHIP for your words and actions

A = take pride in your ACHIEVEMENT

R = be RESPECTFUL to all students and adults

During the day, teachers distribute Hawk Bucks when students show outstanding behavior. Those cards will be collected weekly and names drawn for rewards. This is SCHOOL-WIDE, so ANY staff member can give your child a Hawk buck!

Clip Chart

Our classrooms will have a hanging chart with 7 colors on it. Your child should be familiar with this system if he/she attended 3rd grade at Sunset Ridge. Each student will have a clip with their name or number on it. Each day, all clips will begin on green. Throughout the day as children exhibit positive behavior, they will be asked to clip up. If students are making poor choices, they will be asked to clip down. At the end of the day, students will record their ending color in their calendar for you to see. **Please remember that green IS A GREAT DAY!!!** Do not lose sight of that!

PINK-"outstanding" ~ moved up 3 times

PURPLE-"great job" ~ moved up 2 times

BLUE- "good day" ~ moved up 1 time

GREEN- "ready to learn" ~ followed ALL expectations for the day!

YELLOW- "reminder" ~ made a choice that was not appropriate for the classroom learning environment.

Everyone in life needs reminders, so if the behavior stops, there are no additional consequences for this level.

***Please note: Forgotten homework and/or forgotten calendar signature may result in your child starting his/her day on yellow instead of green.**

ORANGE- "teacher's choice": the teacher will determine an appropriate consequence for their action to rectify the situation. This could be a phone call to a parent, a loss of privilege, writing an apology, etc.

RED- "parent contact" ~ the student was consistently making poor choices that affected the learning environment. Parents will be contacted that day about their child's behavior.

***Each teacher has her own rewards and consequences for where students end the day on the clip chart.**

Birthdays

Birthdays can be celebrated at school. Treats can only be dropped off at the office before school or during school hours. Please bring single serving items, such as donuts, cookies, etc. **NO CAKES**, please! All treats need to be store bought and sealed. Please alert your teacher of any food allergies your child may have **ASAP**.

Snacks

We do allow 4th graders to bring a quick, quiet, and healthy snack to have in class in the afternoons. No candy, gum, cookies, nuts, or chips, please. Water bottles are encouraged ~ only water, though!

We look forward to a wonderful year with everyone!

The Fourth Grade Teachers

Please sign and return this portion:

We have read the handbook, understand the expectations, and are looking forward to a great 4th grade year!

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____