

**Angela Chatterton**

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade Room 229**

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**Beacon Heights Elementary School**

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Welcome to fourth grade! I am looking forward to working with you and your child this year. My goal is to build a community of learners that involves students, parents, and teachers. The fourth-grade core curriculum is comprised of many interesting and fun topics. Please read the document below, sign, and return the attached signature page.

### **Goals and Objectives**

Utah has developed a core curriculum which outlines standards of learning that are essential for all students at each elementary grade level. The curriculum includes ideas, concepts, and skills to provide a foundation on which subsequent learning may be built. The curriculum for each grade level can be found on the Utah State Office of Education's website: <http://www.schools.utah.gov/curr/core>.

### **Class and Activity Schedule**

Math, Language Arts, Science and Social Studies will be taught throughout the school week. Students will also participate in PE, Music, Art, and Library once a week.

### **Instructional Materials**

- Eureka Math
- McGraw-Hill Wonders
- Trade books and novels
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Science USBE OER
- Other supplemental resources TBD to enhance student learning

Parents can make an appointment to come to the school/classroom to view the instructional materials being used in the class. Please contact me to set up a time.

### **Instructional Practices**

Students will be exposed to many different instructional practices. We will work as a whole group as well as in various sized groups to meet individual need. We will be working both asynchronously and synchronously via Zoom, canvas, and other online platforms. Students will have many opportunities to participate in discussions, interactive online content, and will also be creating computer presentations as well as oral presentations.

### **Reading**

A variety of materials will be used in the teaching of reading. These materials include Wonders by McGraw-Hill, chapter books (a variety of genres), picture books, leveled readers, poetry, textbooks, dictionaries, thesauruses, newspapers, magazines and books on tape. Our class will be a balanced literacy classroom where we will be participating in the Daily Five Program. During daily five, students select from five authentic reading and writing choices (read to self, read to someone, work on writing, listen to reading or word work), working independently toward personalized goals, while the teacher meets individual needs through whole-group and small-group instruction, as well as one-on-one conferring. Students will work on fluency, comprehension, accuracy, and expanding their vocabulary.

### **Writing**

Writing will be an integral part of the student's day. Students will learn a variety of writing purposes, conventions, and genres. Students will use the writing process as they improve their writing skills using the "six traits of writing."

### **Vocabulary and Spelling**

Vocabulary instruction will be aligned with content vocabulary in literature, math, science, social studies, as well as lessons from McGraw-Hill Wonders reading basal.

Spelling words will be aligned with the Wonders program. The spelling program I implement in my class allows each child to individualize his or her spelling list from week to week. Throughout the week, each student will practice his or her words both at school and home. Every Friday, the students will take a final spelling test. Any words that are misspelled will carry over onto the next week's personal list and will stay there until the word has been mastered. Students who have mastered the words given on Monday's pre-test will be given more challenging words.

## **Math**

During fourth grade, students will increase their knowledge of place value, using the four operations with whole numbers, multi-digit multiplication and division, adding and subtracting fractions, and understanding geometric figures and their properties. We will explore math concepts through investigations, hands on manipulatives, online tools and a variety of other resources. Students will gain an understanding of mathematics, compute fluently, apply strategies to solve problems, reason logically and connect mathematical ideas through the standards for mathematical practice.

## **Social Studies**

We will be focusing on Utah history and geography. Students will study Utah's government, economics and culture to help build their understanding of Utah's past, present and future.

## **Science**

The fourth-grade science core focuses on organisms functioning in their environment, energy transfer, wave patterns, and observable patterns in the sky. Emphasis will be placed on science and engineering practices that scientists use to investigate and explore phenomena. Cross cutting concepts (patterns, stability & change, cause & effect, matter & energy, systems, structure & function, and scale & proportion) will be applied as the tools scientists use to make sense of natural phenomena.

## **Grading**

Grades will be recorded in PowerSchool. Parents will have access to this program. They will receive a letter with log-in information at the beginning of the year. Parents will be notified of student progress through SEP conferences. However, please feel free to contact me at any time concerning student progress. In special circumstances, parents may be contacted by phone or notes home.

## **Course Requirements**

It is extremely important that your child participates in schoolwork every day. All canvas assignments will have limited availability and assigned due dates. All assigned work is required for course grades. Any assignment not completed after the due date will receive a zero.

## **Homework Policy**

Homework is an important part of the fourth-grade curriculum. It helps the student make the most of their school experience and builds responsibility and independence. Homework is assigned to reinforce concepts learned in class as well as to promote inquiry and self-directed learning. It is important for the student to complete their own work so we can measure their growth. Please support your child in their homework and encourage self-regulation. This year, students are expected to read a minimum of 150 minutes a week outside of their scheduled on-line learning. Reading logs will be due on Monday.

## **Classroom Management**

In order for each student to be successful, rules and procedures must be adhered to as much as possible. I believe in ownership and accountability. Students will help me create rules and consequences on the first day of school. I will hold each student responsible for the rules. It is my belief that students respond to positive reinforcement with more enthusiasm than they do negative consequences. Rewards in our class may include; star cards, Principal's 200 club tickets, class parties, extra recess, and positive notes home to parents.

\*Severe Clause: Should any student fight, vandalize, steal, or defy authority, they will be issued a severe referral and immediately be sent to the principal. Students who receive ANY principal referrals during the school year, may lose privileges to attend field trips, etc. if problems continue to occur.

**Please sign, detach and bring back to Mrs. Chatterton.**

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**I have read Mrs. Chatterton's 4th grade disclosure document.**

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

