

April 10, 2008

Dear Fifth Grade Parents,

STANDARDS ASSESSED 3rd TRIMESTER

We would like to take this opportunity to explain to you the standards and skills being assessed during the third trimester. The Fifth Grade Team will assess skills in the areas of reading, writing, speaking and listening, research, math, science and social studies.

In Reading, students will be assessed on four standards: knowledge of vocabulary to understand text, use of comprehension strategies, responding to text by sharing personal connections and responding to text by comparing story elements, themes and literary techniques.

In Writing, students will be assessed on eight standards: 1) planning, drafting, revising, editing and publishing a variety of forms of writing; 2) organization; 3) content/ideas; 4) style/fluency 5) language; 6) planning/revising/editing; 7) creating legible documents; and, 8) using spelling strategies and resources during the writing process.

In Research, students will be asked to research people, events, and inventions of the Age of Extremes. They will locate, organize and summarize information to be used in small groups to create period newspapers.

In Math, students will be assessed on number sense, and computation all three trimesters. In addition, students will receive instruction and be assessed in the standards of Measurement, Geometry, Number Sense, Computation, Probability and Data Analysis.

In Science, students will be assessed on their ability to use scientific method to conduct experiments. They will also be assessed on the Life Science and Earth Science standards. They will be doing experiments using the Foss Landforms Kit, the BVSD Water Kit, and materials from the Water Festival. They will also be learning about Human Growth and Development.

All four Social Studies standards will be met this trimester as students study the early 19th century and the Age of Extremes. They will be studying monetary issues, labor politics, civil rights, immigration, and inventions applicable to this period, which relate to history, geography, civics, and economics.

In closing, we hope that this will help to explain the areas being assessed this trimester. We appreciate all of your support and help.

Sincerely,

The Fifth Grade Team
(Kathi Freemann, Jeni McCormick, and Suzanne Peters)