**Parent Handbook**

**2016-2017 School Year**

Ms. Moucha

&

Mrs. Yildirim

Behavior Policy:

**General Classroom Procedures:**

**Clip Chart(STEP 1)**- Everyone starts the day on **Ready to Learn** board (3 points- this is their goal). Based on behavior students can move up or down the board. If they have moved down, they can still climb back up. Typically, a warning will be issued before they are asked to move their clip down. However, in some cases (severe behavior) an automatic move down one level may be needed. A student will move their clip up when exceptional behavior is being demonstrated. Higher levels are for: great work, being helpful to a peer, following directions carefully, etc.

**Point system**-

Outstanding= 6 Great= 5 Good=4

Ready to learn=3 Think about it= 2 Responsibility task= 1

Teacher’s Choice= 0

Points are charted on the blue board at the end of the day. Points can be used to “buy” items (prizes, passes, treats, special requests, etc.).

**Group points**- Are earned for everyone in the group being: ready, quiet, focused, on task, etc. These are given out, as appropriate, throughout the day.

**Monthly Contract Party-** At the end of each month (or near a holiday) students will be able to participate in a ½ day “party” (academic based crafts and activities) if they have not “Struck Out”.

**“Strikes” (STEP 2)-** A strike towards the monthly contract party may be given once the student has reached “Teacher’s Choice”, if needed.

**Positive behavior rewards:**

**-Daily Points:** this will inform you of how many points (0-6) your child has earned during the day. Please sign and return daily.

**-Fun Friday:** Extra time on Friday for recess. Time may be lost if not enough points are kept, work is missing, behavior has been disruptive that day, etc.

**- SOAR Tickets:** School wide behavior incentive for when students are “caught” doing something great.

**-Dojo Points:** Students can earn/lose points throughout the day based on behavior, participation, etc.

**-SOARing Student:** Student of the month for demonstrating SOARing behaviors.

**Communication-**

The best way to communicate with us is in writing, through **Class DoJo**, or by phone. You can reach us at 254-3110 (please remember that we do not always get a chance to check our messages during the day). The agenda or behavior sheets are also great options, as it is checked by us and you daily.

**Agenda page-**

Students should bring home their agenda (inside the take home folder) every night. This allows you to see what homework assignments they have and any notes we may need to send.

**Homework & Take Home Folder-**

Reading homework will be given every night. Assignments are expected to be turned in first thing in the morning. Please be sure to check the folder every night for student work, assignments, agenda page, and important information that may be sent home. We really need your support with this! ☺

**Grades-**

Homework, daily participation, class work and various forms of assessment will be used to determine your child’s grade. If you are concerned about a grade, please contact us.

**Report Cards**

These will be sent home 4 times per school year.

**Independent Reading Time-**

We ask students to read for 30 minutes per night at home. They should be asking you to “sign” their log. **Every 15 minutes of reading = 1 line signed**. For every 40 steps (lines signed), the student will pick a prize. Your child should be reading books that they think are fun and easy. Please encourage him/her to talk to you about what they are reading.

**Materials-**

Thank you for all of the materials that have been sent in so far! If you have not had a chance to yet, please send in: 4-5 folders, 4 notebooks, a take home folder (plastic), pencils, notebook paper, erasers, crayons, a 3 ring binder, headphones, a pencil sharpener, and a pencil case for your child. As well as 2-3 boxes of tissues and hand sanitizer to be shared with the class.

**Curriculum**

There are many changes that take place when entering the intermediate grades (4-6). Expectations become higher, students are expected to attend for longer stretches of time, and the work becomes more complex. We (parents, students, and staff) must work together to help support these changes so that your child has a successful and enjoyable school year.

**Math-** Module 1 includes: place value (millions down to thousandths). Multiplication and division with decimals.

**Science-** Topics include: inquiry, life cycles, classification, interrelationships, solar system, seasons/climate, electricity and magnetism, and classifying matter.

**Social Studies-** Human rights, immigration/migration into the Western Hemisphere, influence of geography on culture, revolutions in the Americas.

**ELA-** Module 1 ties in the social studies curriculum by looking into human rights and how real people and fictional characters respond if those rights are challenged. In unit 2 they will read *“Esperanza Rising”*. Student will read and listen to gather details, come up with a central idea, and understand setting, characters, theme, etc. We will focus on creating fluent sentences and paragraphs to share information that they have learned.

**Study Skills-** organization, test taking strategies, study techniques, listening, and memory aid skills.