

Second Grade Curriculum Night

2011-2012

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year at Albert Einstein Elementary! I look forward to a wonderful school year with this friendly and eager group of students. This curriculum handout will give you an idea of what awaits you and your child this year.

SCHEDULE

Here is a general outline of a typical day in our classroom. On any given day this schedule will vary.

9:00	Morning Routine (Attendance, Calendar, etc.)
9:30	Language Arts
10:15	Recess
10:30	Language Arts
11:30	Science/Social Studies
12:20	Lunch/Recess
1:10	Specialists/Chess
2:15	Recess
2:30	Math
3:30	Dismissal

SPECIALISTS SCHEDULE

Specialist	Day	Time
PE	Monday/Friday	1:45
Music	Monday/Friday	1:15
Library	Tuesday	1:10

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CLASSROOM/SCHOOL RULES AND CONSEQUENCES

Learning self-control, responsibility and independence as a learner is very important. The teacher has a job to do, work hard to teach; and the students have a job to do, work hard to learn!

Our School Guidelines are:

- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be Safe
- Be Here to Learn

Behaviors that interfere with learning or safety may result in time-outs/restrictions, apologies and amends. We try to apply logical consequences to help each child learn from his/her choices. We help the students practice the skill (hand raising, walking in the halls, etc.) when we have time...recess. If there is violence, stealing, cruelty, persistent disruptions or difficulties, we will contact parents.

We have high standards for our students at Einstein. Students should follow the classroom, lunchroom, recess, and bus rules daily. Students not following a rule (classroom or school wide) will receive a warning. Students getting a second warning will miss the next recess. In the case of severe behavior or if a behavior persists students will be sent to the office to call home, and/or a Communication Slip will be sent home to be signed.

COMMUNICATION

Mark your calendars with important dates when the **Otter Mail**, our Einstein Weekly Newsletter, comes home. If you have e-mail you will receive this electronically. You don't want to miss any of the exciting events scheduled at our school!

You will receive a **monthly newsletter** from me with information about our curriculum and upcoming events. This newsletter may also include ideas for you to try at home to supplement what we are doing at school. Please read this carefully. You will receive additional notices for special events as needed.

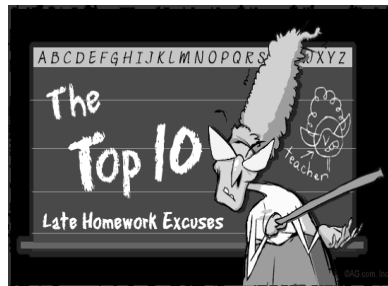
Progress reports are sent home in **January** and **June**. Goal setting conferences will occur October 3, 4 and 6 and progress conferences will occur January 31, and February 2 and 3.

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Below are the grading standards used throughout Elementary School.

Score	Description
4	Exceeds Standard More complex content and thinking
3.5	Score 3.0 performance + partial success at 4.0 content
3	At Standard No major errors or omissions regarding standard/learning target
2.5	Mastered 2.0 content + partial success at 3.0 content
2	Approaching Standard No major errors or omissions regarding foundational content (concepts and procedures)
1.5	Partial success at 2.0 content
1	Not at Standard With help, student can perform score 2.0 performance
/	<i>Not Evaluated at this Time</i>
	<i>See Special Services Addendum</i>

HOMework



Your second grader should be spending an average of **twenty minutes** per night doing homework. Check his/her Take Home/Homework Folder nightly for this homework. It is **due the following** day unless otherwise noted. At least 10 minutes of this dedicated homework should be spent reading. Students are encouraged to either read a book from home or one brought from school. This should be a “Just Right Book” the child has selected. **Students will then write in a reading response journal that should come back to school daily.** We check homework together each morning.

This is the time to help your child create long lasting home study habits. Creating a special time and place for homework activities will benefit your child for years. You are your child’s most influential teacher! During “homework time” you will want to go through the take-home work in

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your child's folder and give positive comments on strengths and improvements. You will also want to spend some time listening to your child read. It's still important for these young readers to gain confidence and fluency while reading to an adult.

We ask that students only use pencils (not pens, colored pencils, markers or crayons) for writing schoolwork. Use colored pencils or crayons for work that requires coloring only.

Some students will be making **addition and subtraction flash cards** in class. Please practice flash cards at least three times per week. Math learning "games" will also be sent home from time to time.

Please sign your child's **homework calendar** each night after he/she completes his/her work. Students receive a sticker on the calendar each time it is signed.

TAKE HOME FOLDER

The "Take Home Folder" is used as a way of teaching organization skills and responsibility. The folder is to be taken home daily and returned the next morning (**EVERY DAY**). Homework, completed work (which is to stay home), Friday Packets, Newsletters, and notes from the teacher will appear in the Take Home Folder each day. Please make sure to check it every night.

LUNCH

You may send checks with your child to be deposited in his/her lunch or milk account if your child is purchasing school lunches often. When a student is about to run out of money in the account, a note will be sent home as a reminder for you to send another check. **When sending checks or cash to school please place it in an envelope marked with your child's name and my name.** We don't want to lose any lunch money! The cost of a single child's lunch is \$ 2.50. The cost of an adult lunch is \$3.25. Milk is 50 cents.

BIRTHDAYS

We love to acknowledge our friends' birthdays in a low-key manner. Simple treats like cookies or cupcakes work best. **Please do not send drinks, cakes, or treats that require preparation, plates, forks or a big clean up.** Just drop them off in the office before school and we will celebrate during snack time. It would be appreciated if you would send napkins for the class when you send the treat. There are 27 children in our class (so far this year!). *To avoid hurt feelings, please do not send invitations to birthday parties via the school. We suggest phoning or mailing invitations.*

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CLASS PARTIES—COST ITEM

We will have three class parties this year (Fall Harvest, Valentine and End-of-the-Year Party). We are asking for **\$10.00 to cover costs**. You may send this in partial payment if you like such as \$4 in September and \$3 in January and March. Also, if you need a scholarship to cover your contribution, please contact me at jwartenbe@lwsd.org or call the school at (425) 558-7973.

Weekly Reader-Cost Item

I subscribe to Weekly Reader magazine for each child. Please help with the cost by sending \$5 in an envelope with your child's name on it to school. Checks should be made out to Einstein. Thank you. Each Wednesday all children will bring the magazine home to read for homework and to discuss with parents.

SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS

Please try to schedule medical and dental appointments, trips and visits after school hours. We know this can be difficult, but our school year calendar does provide some early release days (every Wednesday at 2:00) and time off during the year. It is difficult to make up lost work, as much of what we do requires direct instruction and/or the use of hands-on materials.

TOYS AT SCHOOL

Please do not allow toys to be brought to school. They distract from teaching and learning. They may get lost, broken or stolen. We are not responsible for toys/cards that get lost at school.



BUS OR NO BUS?

If your child is going on a different bus (i.e., to a friend's house or daycare) or has any change in transportation arrangements you must **send a note** so that the teacher can make sure the child gets to where he/she should go .

LOST AND FOUND

We have a lost and found at Einstein that is currently located in the hallway just beyond the main office. We check daily for lost items on our way to lunch. It is a tremendous help to us if you label clothing (especially your child's Einstein t-shirt or sweatshirt). Unclaimed lost and found items are donated to charity during the year.

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BOOK ORDERS

I will send book orders home in the Take Home Folder throughout the year. Please return them by the specified date or order online. The books usually arrive about two weeks after the order has been placed. Also, please send a **check** payable to **Scholastic Book Club** in an envelope attached to your order.

VOLUNTEERS

I appreciate and enjoy having help in the classroom. I need parents who can come each week (or trade off every other week with another parent), who will keep all that they hear and observe confidential, and who enjoy working with students even on the most routine task! **Since most of your time will be spent working directly with students we ask that you do not bring younger siblings with you.** Supervision of these youngsters is often distracting to our students. I also need home-helpers who will correct work, cut, etc.

MEDICATION

All medication and other health devices must be checked in at the office. This includes things like cough drops, vitamins etc. A note with doctor and parent permission is required for medication that is to be given to a student. Forms are available in the office.

Please feel free to write a note or call us at school if you have questions or concerns regarding your child. Our school phone number is **(425) 936-2540**.

ACADEMICS FOR SECOND GRADE

SOCIAL STUDIES

- History: People, places and events related to school/neighborhood communities
- Environment: Knowledge/care of local environment
- Geography: Mapping skills using legends
 - Personal/classroom resource management
- Culture: Expressions of culture/traditions: home, school, surrounding communities.
- Civics: Citizenship role; rules/responsibilities in classroom/school
 - Democratic process: decision making/conflict resolution.

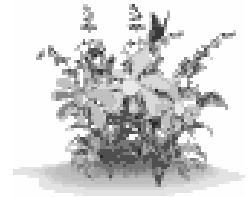
- Economics: Meeting needs/wants in local community; roles of community member

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- Community resources; transportation; communication.

SCIENCE

- Life: Insects – Fall
- Earth: Pebbles, Sand and Silt - Winter
- Physical: Balance and motion - Spring



HEALTH

- Personal safety/ Substance use and abuse
- Disease prevention
- Emotional/social growth and development
- Nutrition

ART

Students will use a variety of media: paper, paint, chalk, crayons, fabric, yarn, magazines, clay, pastels, etc. as we work with line, shape/form, color, texture, space and pattern.

TECHNOLOGY

Our goal is to have each child learn basic key/mouse functions, use of discs/servers, use and care of all equipment. Teachers will be modeling simple Word and presentation applications for children to explore. Through a program called “Type to Learn” students will learn the location of keys and be encouraged to use two hands for keyboarding.

Beginning this year we will have computers available to us on a much more frequent basis than in the past. Three half days per week we will have available in our classroom a set of notebooks to use with various pieces of our curriculum.

MATH

Our Math program is entitled, enVision Math. As in each area of the curriculum our math goals encompass the Lake Washington School District Power Standards which reflect the Washington State Standards in math.

Mathematical Objectives for Second Grade Include:

Number and Operations:

- Students write and rename numbers using place value.

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- Students add and subtract two-digit numbers efficiently and accurately and explain why their procedure works.
- Students recall addition and related subtraction facts for sums through 20.

Algebra:

- Students solve equations where the unknown is in a variety of places.

Geometry/Measurement:

- Students determine the value of collections of coins up to \$1.00.
- Students use analog and digital clocks to tell time to the minute.
- Students estimate and measure length using both U.S. customary and metric units and tools.

Data Analysis/Statistics/Probability:

- Students collect, organize, represent, and interpret data in bar graphs and picture graphs.

Reasoning, Problem Solving, and Communication:

- Students solve problems involving two- and three-dimensional geometric figures.
- Students solve problems in addition, subtraction, and measurement, use a variety of problem solving strategies and verify solutions.

LANGUAGE ARTS

All second grade students will be assessed in reading during the month of September, January and May using the DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) Test. Students who are found to be non-proficient will receive additional support during the school day from our Safety Net teachers. Parents will be notified of this additional help.

READING

We will use the Scott-Foresman reading series, which integrates reading, writing, spelling, phonics, and listening. The students will be exposed to many genres and forms of reading materials including:

Fiction, nonfiction, folk tales, myths, legends, realistic fiction, adventure stories, biographies plays and poetry.

Literary elements: character, setting, plots, main idea.

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Phonics:

- Long Vowel Spelling Patterns
- R-controlled vowels
- Vowel diphthongs
- Letter clusters
- Multi-syllable phonetic words
- Spelling patterns



Word Structure

- Syllables
- Prefixes, suffixes, root words
- Compound words, homonyms
- contractions

WRITING

We will follow a process of prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing.

To improve the content of our writing, we will use the **6 Traits** which was developed by the Northwest Regional Education Laboratory. These are:

- **Ideas** - the main theme with all the details that enrich and envelop the theme.
- **Organization** - the internal structure of a piece of writing. We will use a program called
- **Style: Sentence Fluency** - the rhythm and flow of the language. The writing is free of awkward word patterns that slow the reader's progress
- **Voice** - the sense that a real person is speaking to us and cares about the message.
- **Word Choice** - the use of rich colorful, precise language that enlightens the reader.
- **Conventions** - the mechanical correctness of a piece - spelling, grammar, usage, paragraphing, use of capitals, and punctuation.
- **Applied Spelling**

Writing Forms:

Recount/ Retell: The students will write a personal recount and a factual recount, in addition to journals and a personal letter.

Narrative: The students will write realistic and fantasy stories.

Poetry: Rhyme and Poetry will be introduced.

Visual Displays: Signs and Posters will be made.

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HANDWRITING --Printing

Beginning this year we will teach the Block Manuscript letters. Children are taught how to hold their pencils and paper and to print using proper letter formation. We work on touching and stopping on the handwriting lines, starting letters in the correct place, and watching for reversals. Students are also learning to print their names the correct way (first letter capital and the rest lower case letters).

SPELLING

Spelling improves as children learn and use more phonics. Children will work on spelling rules and patterns as well as sight words such as *was* and *the*, etc. They will also learn to spell the "tricky words" that don't follow phonetic rules. Getting new Spelling words is part of our Monday routine. Please practice these several times during the week and periodically afterward.

Thank you so much for your interest in our classroom! I am looking forward to a wonderful year working with your children and you!

Jane Wartenbe

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