I am excited to begin the 2022-2023 school year!  I am happy to begin another year in person! Many students are still recovering from our year of virtual learning, but I believe we are close to being back to pre-pandemic levels. I am ready to do what I can to make the most of this year and maximize your child’s learning. I ask for your patience and support as we navigate this year together.

Welcome to Fourth Grade!! Mrs. Koch

2022-2023 

Fourth grade is a big year for growth and independence.  Your child will learn many things!  I look forward to getting to know each child and to working with you this school year.  Please read through this packet carefully with your child.  If you have any questions regarding anything listed, please let me know as soon as possible.

*Departments*: Your child will have 3 teachers this year! Mrs. Lauren Williams will teach reading/language arts and composition, Mr. Dillender will teach science/social studies, and I will teach math. I am also your child’s homeroom teacher. Organization is a huge part of keeping up with three classes.  *Please help your child maintain organization! Check bookbags and discard random items that are not necessary.*

*Email*:  Email is the easiest way to communicate with me.  I check my email in the morning and in the afternoon.  My email address is: kochlf@scsk12.org If you email regarding a homework assignment after 3:15, I cannot guarantee that I will get back to you prior to the next morning.  It is IMPERATIVE that I have a CURRENT, WORKING email address on file for each parent. Please check PowerSchool to ensure email addresses are current. You may also email me with your preferred email and I will update my address book.

*Weekly Newsletters*:  Newsletters will be posted to **Richland’s website** by Sunday of each week. (My goal is Friday though.) Please check Richland’s website to understand the week’s lesson plans/expectations.

*Important Updates*: I will use the REMIND app to keep you aware of necessary updates/info. Please be aware that I will not respond during instruction and will keep office hours.

*Homework:*  Homework is a required SCS grading category. It comprises 5% of your child’s average each quarter. I must take a minimum of 4 homework grades. Homework is graded for completion, not accuracy.

*Graded Papers*:  Graded papers will be sent home each Wednesday in a work folder. You will also be able to access your child’s grades via PowerSchool. Be sure that you can login to your child’s PowerSchool account. If you need assistance, you will need to contact the main office.

Grading Policy:  Grades 1-5:

 The basic grading system for knowledge / subject area is expressed by the letters “A”, “B”, “C”, “D”, and “F” with the following numerical values except for 1st grade science and social studies which will be expressed by the letter “S” or “N”.

A         ........................................................    90-100

B         ........................................................    80-89

C          ........................................................    70-79

D         ........................................................    60-69

F         ........................................................    Below 60

Homework: 5% (minimum four grades)

Class Participation: 5% (minimum four grades)

Classwork: 40% (minimum four grades)

Projects, portfolios, or presentations: 5% (minimum one grade)

Tests: 45% (minimum four grades)

*Parent-Teacher Conferences*:  Parent conferences must be arranged by appointment. There are two designated conference dates. However, it is not necessary to wait until conference days.  You are always welcome to contact me about scheduling a conference.  I will try to work with you to schedule a time to meet.

*Science and Social Studies*: Due to the overwhelming amount of content knowledge in these subject areas, 4th grade will split the subjects during each nine week period.  Students will spend a few weeks in science, then will switch to social studies.

*Math Facts*: 4th grade math is built on the foundation of knowing basic multiplication facts.  All students should have multiplication facts mastered by February of this school year.  Each week, students will take a 2 minute timed fact quiz.  Students with 504s/IEPs will receive documented time and a half. We will begin the year with the 2x fact family.  We will move to the 3x fact family the second week, and so forth.  Following the 12 x fact family, quizzes will have mixed facts.  PLEASE practice math facts with your child on a daily basis*.  I cannot express enough the importance of knowing basic multiplication this school year. Math facts will be entered as project grades…which account for 5% of the final average.*

*Discipline Plan*: Each classroom will develop specific classroom rules for their class.  However, consequences for breaking these rules are the same grade wide.  From quiet warnings, to time outs with reflection time, to loss of privileges, a range of interventions will be used depending on the severity of the rule that is broken.  Students will be given 3 chances to correct “minor incidents” before a referral to the office. (Parents will also be made aware.) Very serious problems will be sent to the office with a disciplinary form and a notation will be entered in the principal’s computer files.

*Make up work:* If your child is absent, please send or email an excuse.  A note is required for excused absences.  These notes MUST be sent to school within 3 days.  After the 3rd day of returning to school, the secretaries will no longer have the option of changing the unexcused absence to excused.  I will give students their make-up work. It is the student’s responsibility to complete the work and submit it.

*Supplies:* Thank you for purchasing the supplies suggested on the 4th grade list.  Throughout the year, please remember to check with your child to see which supplies he or she has run out of, especially after the holidays. Also, make sure your child always has a working expo marker.  **Dry erase expo markers do not last all year and we use them DAILY in math.**

**Lunch: 1:00-1:30**

Recess will be the last 20 minutes of science/social studies daily. A more detailed schedule will be uploaded to my website soon!

*Wish list*:

 <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/LTYPRQ34IUGX?ref_=wl_share>

