

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school! I am looking forward to working with each of you and your child. I hope that together we can make this year an exciting and successful one for your sixth grader.

Listed below is an outline of sixth grade subject matter and a brief discussion of each program. As these programs are implemented, the Utah State Core Curriculum is utilized in the planning process:

1. **Language Arts:** Concepts covered include Reading, Writing, Language, and Speaking & Listening. These topics include fluency, vocabulary, spelling, grammar, reading comprehension strategies. Reading instruction will focus on analysis of literature and informational text. In sixth grade, students are expected to be fluent readers. To support this fluency they are required to read at **least 30 minutes a night** (6 nights a week). Please record his/her independent at-home reading on the “Road to Success” reading slip or record minutes on the Road to Success Website. Completed slips or recorded minutes on the website are due the first day of the school week. Students are also required to complete a reading log. This is due the first day of the school week as well. It is **not** a summary of what they read. It is a reaction to their thoughts and feelings about what they read. **This is part of your child’s reading grade as well as part of the school wide program for reading success.**
2. **Math:** Concepts covered include Number Sense, Ratios and Proportional Relationships, Expressions and Equations, Geometry, & Statistics and Probability. It would be helpful to provide additional practice on the concepts your child is presently learning. Math homework will be given every night Monday through Thursday. This assignment will be a short review of prior skills. Check their weekly work and go over these papers to review concepts.
3. **Spelling:** Spelling is taught during Reading/Language Arts. Spelling lists go home on Monday (or the first school day of the week) and tests will be on **Thursday**). Please study each night with your child so she/he will be prepared for the weekly test.
4. **Writing:** Students will have the opportunity to express themselves while learning the 6-Traits Writing Process. Our writing focus includes informational, argumentative, and narrative writing. Students will be writing every day.
5. **Interconnections:** Some of our Social Studies, and Science concepts are: World Civilization, Mapping Skills, Microorganisms, Heat/Light/Sound and Solar System.
6. **Art and Music:** Thanks to our P.T.A., we will also be involved in the “Meet the Masters” program. Music will be held every Monday at 3:00-3:30 with a music specialist.
7. **Physical Education:** PE is held on Tuesday for 45 minutes. Please see that your child dresses appropriately.

Book Report/Records: Students are required to complete a simple book record/retell for 13 books this year from different genres. The students have a copy they are to keep track of their book reports on. It is blue and should be kept in their homework folders at all times. I am including a copy for you of the genre tracker as well as a sample retell record with this letter.

Miscellaneous Items:

- **Labeling**—Please put your child’s name on all personal belongings, e.g., coat, hat, gloves, boots, lunch boxes, etc.
- **Backpacks/Book Bags**—Some type of book bag or backpack is very helpful in transporting books and papers. They keep things cleaner and are more reliable than hand carrying papers (especially on windy days).
- **Pencil Boxes**—Some type of pencil box or case is required for safe keeping of supplies during the year.
- **Art Supplies**—Specialty items such as paint, chalk, paper etc. and other necessary supplies will be provided when they are needed for special projects. See supply list for items your child is required to bring to school the first day.
- **Leaving School Early**—If your child is to leave school early, they must be checked out through the office and the teacher notified.
- **Arriving Early**-Students must remain outside until his/her teacher brings their class in (except in extreme weather when students may go directly to the lunch room).
- **Doors**-sixth grade students are to use the east doors when entering or exiting the building during school hours.
- **Parent Volunteers**—Parent volunteers are always welcomed in our classes.
- **Tissue/Antibacterial Liquid Soap**—See supply list.
- **Birthday Treats**—They are welcomed, but not mandatory. State law requires store bought treats. Please coordinate a time to bring in treats with me.
- **Homework**—(1) Reading: at least 30 minutes a night (6 nights a week), (2) Spelling: Homework, (3) Math: reviewing concepts learned in class (4) Misc. projects throughout the year.

If you have any questions concerning your child, please feel free to email me: akendall@graniteschools.org The school’s phone number is 385-646-5049. Please add my website: mrskendall.weebly.com to your favorites. I have weekly announcements, schedules, homework, spelling lists, assignments and useful links on the website.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kendall

Name _____

6th Grade Marathon Reader Record

Complete six of the following genres

	Date	Pages
1. Fantasy _____	_____	_____
2. Biography _____	_____	_____
3. Non-fiction _____	_____	_____
4. Sports or Animal _____	_____	_____
5. Graphic Novel (comic book) _____	_____	_____
6. Historical Fiction _____	_____	_____
7. Realistic Fiction _____	_____	_____
8. Science Fiction _____	_____	_____
9. Mystery _____	_____	_____
10. Poetry, Fables and Myths _____	_____	_____
11. Multi-cultural _____	_____	_____
12. Adventure _____	_____	_____

NEWBERRY AWARD OR NEWBERRY HONOR WINNER

13. _____	_____	_____
14. _____	_____	_____
15. _____	_____	_____

FREE CHOICE

12. _____	_____	_____
13. _____	_____	_____
14. _____	_____	_____
15. _____	_____	_____

This is a copy of the genre list your student has in their homework folder. They should be completing it as they complete a book report. I fill out a copy for each student and keep it along with their completed and graded book report in a binder in the classroom. Students are encouraged to check it frequently to make sure their records and mine are the same.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

Classroom Expectations:

- Use time wisely
- Listen carefully
- Follow directions
- Work quietly—Do not disturb others who are working
- Respect others—Be kind with your words and actions
- Respect school and personal property.
- Work and play safely

Consequences:

- Warning
- “Stop and Think”—in the classroom
- “Stop and Go”—removed to another classroom
Complete a “Behavior Debriefing Form”
Note sent home for parent to sign
- Severe/Repeat Offender—Visit to the Principal’s office
Action as deemed necessary by the Principal
Note sent home for parent to sign

Rewards:

- Praise
- Positive notes home
- Prize box
- Extra Privileges
- Surprises
- Power Parties at the end of each month for everyone who has NOT received a “Stop and Go” for that trimester and completed their work.

*Make sure that you are familiar with the school wide Discipline Policy.

PREMIER AGENDA PLANNERS

The sixth grade at Twin Peaks Elementary School will be utilizing the Premier Agenda Program. Through this program we hope to teach students organization and responsibility skills that will benefit them from for the rest of their lives. You will find basic information about the school, policies, and programs at the beginning of the planner.

Our objectives in using the planners are:

- To increase home and school communication.
- To encourage responsibility.
- To improve academic performance.

Students are expected:

- To write the weekly calendar in his/her planner.
- To show responsibility by taking his/her planner home, sharing calendar with a parent, and returning the planner to school—signed/initialed by a parent.

Parents are expected:

- To read the weekly calendar and indicate that they have done so by signing or initialing in the corresponding box (and responding when necessary).
- To use the planner to communicate any important information the teacher needs to know.

Teachers will:

- Use the planner to communicate with home.
- Check students' planners weekly.
- Provide rewards for those students who demonstrate responsibility regarding his/her planner.

IF LOST—The replacement cost is \$5.00.

Thank you for your involvement with your child and the planners. It will be exciting to see the progress in responsibility, organizational skills, and academic achievements. If you have completed this lengthy information packet I will reward your student. Simply send me a note or email me that you have read this by Friday, August 29, and I will give your student an extra grade as well as a treat.