

# Partnership Magnet Elementary

## '25-'26 School Grading Plan

In the Wake County Public School System, we are committed to maintaining rigorous performance and achievement standards for all students and to providing a fair and consistent process for evaluating and reporting student progress that is understandable to students and their parents.

The information below shares specific information about grading at our school

### Homework

Homework should be a part of the instructional experiences of each student. We feel that it is a purposeful continuation or extension of the instructional program to be accomplished by the student outside the regular classroom setting. Homework should help students become responsible, self-directed learners, improve academic achievement and provide reinforcement opportunities. Homework is reflected in the Work Habits grade. Each grade level will post its grading plan on their team website. Each student spends a major part of the weekday in class. Since there are other valuable experiences to be gained outside of school, homework shall be carefully planned regarding its purpose, appropriateness, and timeliness.

The following are grade/subject specific expectations for the completion and grading of homework:

- Kindergarten--Students will be provided a monthly homework packet that will reinforce skills they have been previously taught. Homework will not be graded; however, the Kindergarten team strongly recommends completing the packet to help support students' academic success and return at the end of the month with a parent signature.
- First Grade - Students are encouraged to complete their homework independently. Students should complete their homework with pencil. Homework will come home on Fridays in the Communication (BEACH) Folder. All homework is due on the following Friday. Students are expected to read for 20 minutes each night, which can be a mixture of parent-led and student-led reading. Students will practice reading the decodable text, "poem of the week," and Letterland unit spelling word lists. Students will complete math sheets weekly aligned with our current math unit of study. Students may have occasional projects sent home based on our monthly theme.
- Second Grade - All homework is handed out on Monday afternoons to each student in their homework folder and handed in on Friday morning of each week. If the week is shortened for any reason, the homework is handed in on the last day of the week that students are in school. All pages must be complete in order for the student to receive a level 3 on their work habits standard grade. All directions such as "show your work" or "explain your thinking" must be followed to be considered complete.
- Third Grade - There will be approximately 50 min. of homework assigned per night. Each night, students will spend part of that time on reading. The rest of the time will be spent on math or work of the home assignments. We will not assign weekend or holiday homework unless students initiate projects where they need some time to research, plan, and gather information. Students are required to complete all homework weekly regardless of extracurricular activities.
- Fourth Grade – We suggest that families build 60 minutes (maximum) of homework time into their nightly routines, which **includes** a reading commitment of 30 minutes per night. Additionally, students may have study guides/resources for math, science, and social studies, as well as a

potential quarter or semester project. Study guides will be completed and corrected in class, with concepts being re-taught as necessary. If your student consistently struggles with concepts from study/review materials, please contact your student's teacher to communicate your concerns. Occasionally, projects/assignments will be given when parent involvement is encouraged. For example, projects are usually assigned over a long time period, including a weekend, to have time to shop, plan, create, etc.

- Fifth Grade - Homework is due the following day unless otherwise posted. All parts must be completed. Students should attempt to complete homework independently referencing class work materials. Homework is posted to the fifth grade website. Students and parents are expected to remain aware of assignments at all times.

The school's Homework Plan can be found in the Partnership Student and Parent Handbook.

### **Classwork & Assessments**

The following are school-wide expectations for classwork and assessments:

Partnership students are expected to master North Carolina learning objectives for each subject area. Standards based grading will be used to convey student understanding of curriculum standards.

#### **English Language Arts**

There are four strands within English Language Arts – reading, writing, language, and speaking and listening. Balanced reading and writing instruction scaffolds students' learning and fosters their literacy success. Teachers provide explicit instruction in foundational literacy skills, word recognition skills, vocabulary development, comprehension, fluency, and writing based on the ELA state standards. After the teacher models new strategies and provides shared practice opportunities, students apply their new learning through independent and/or group activities. This may include guided reading or writing groups, strategy groups, or conferences. The ultimate goal of literacy instruction is that students independently use these literacy strategies to become college and career-ready citizens.

#### **Mathematics**

Mathematics instruction at Partnership focuses on the following:

- Deep conceptual understanding of mathematics
- The exploration of math through the use of manipulatives and problem-solving
- Collaboration in problem solving and the use of math talk
- Instruction planned around ongoing assessment information
- Real-world, multi-step, higher level thinking problems so students understand the importance of lifelong applications of math
- A variety of individual, small, and whole group instruction based on students' prior knowledge and needs.
- Use of calculators to assist in problem solving and to check solutions.
- Integration of appropriate technology to increase problem solving skills.

#### **Science/Social Studies/Healthful Living**

Science, Social Studies and Health are important components of the overall academic program at Partnership. Instruction reflects the Essential Standards developed by the State of North Carolina. Much

of the curriculum in these subject areas will be integrated into reading, writing and math instruction as appropriate.

The following are grade/subject specific expectations for the completion and grading of classwork and assessments:

- Kindergarten expectations for class work/assessments are for all students to complete the assignment in the time allotted. Class work that is not completed during the time allotted will be finished during morning arrival or center time. All assessments that are not completed will be finished before the end of each quarter. This will help to ensure that all students receive a chance to succeed with all kindergarten benchmarks. All assessments and selective class work will be used to create students' grades throughout the quarter.
- First Grade - Students are encouraged to complete their classwork independently unless otherwise noted. Students should complete classwork assignments in the time allotted. Important classwork that is not completed may be completed at an alternate school time or sent home to be completed in addition to the weekly homework assignments. Classwork is graded based on completion of the assignment and mastery of the standards. Students are given a check mark, smiley face, or sticker when work is completed. The teacher will add additional comments if needed. Assessments are graded using teacher created rubrics.
- Second Grade - Students must participate in science and social studies class projects and experiments to receive a level 3 on their report card. Students must also complete the written work for each class assignment in order to receive a level 3.
- Third Grade - Students should complete all assignments independently unless otherwise noted. All classwork assignments need to be completed in class; extra time at home is not permitted. Students need to complete assignments in the allotted time. Students need to show their best work in all assignments.
- Fourth Grade – Students should complete all assignments independently unless otherwise noted. All classwork assignments need to be completed in class; extra time at home is not permitted. Students need to complete assignments in the allotted time. Students need to show their best work in all assignments. Assessments are scored using standards based grading. Projects will be graded individually.
- Fifth Grade - Students are expected to complete all class work, assessments, and projects. Assessments and projects are scored using standards based grading.

<b>Missed Work</b>
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The following are school-wide expectations for missed work:

- If the absence is approved in advance and/or if the work is assigned by the teacher in advance, all make-up work, including tests assigned for the day of return, is due upon the student's return to school. Teachers should use discretion and may make exceptions in the case of students whose excused absences were not planned in advance, were beyond the student's control, and the nature of which would not support make-up work the day of return.
- If the make-up work has not been assigned in advance, for absences of one (1) to three (3) days, the student will have one day for each day absent. For absences exceeding three (3) days, the student may have two (2) days for each day absent to make up work. Special consideration will be given in the case of extended absences due to injury or chronic illness.

The following are grade/subject specific expectations for the completion and grading of missed work:

- Kindergarten - Selected class work that is missed due to an excused absence will be completed at school when the student returns. All other work will be completed during morning arrival or center time or sent home to help review skills. Any assessment that is missed will be completed when the student returns back to school.
- First Grade - Important classwork that is not completed in school may be sent home to be completed in addition to the weekly homework assignments and should be returned Friday or the following Monday. First grade teachers will make efforts to have incomplete work finished by the student in the classroom before sending it home.
- Second Grade - Missed assignments that are paper based can be made up within three days and turned in for a grade. Any assignments that are not turned in will be marked as “missing” in the Gradebook Program.
- Third Grade - If a student misses an assignment(s), they are required to make up the assignment during school hours at appropriate times as stated by the teacher.
- Fourth Grade – Please note that when parents request work extensions, students will be unprepared for class. Extensions on graded homework and classwork will be honored ONLY for absence, severe sickness, family emergencies, or homework passes. Students will have two days to complete work for every one day he/she is absent.
- Fifth Grade - Students are expected to complete missed work when the student returns to school or before (if possible). All work is scored using standards based grading.

#### **Prevention-Intervention Plan**

For students at risk of academic failure, our school seeks to provide a prevention/intervention system that promotes successful completion and mastery of work. Please talk with your child’s teacher regarding questions.

#### **Extra Credit**

Extra credit is offered at the professional learning team’s discretion. Where it is offered, extra credit opportunities to enhance grades must be connected to learning outcomes and consistent within grade level teams.