

Fifth Grade Handbook



2019-2020



5th Grade Teachers Contact Information

Please do not hesitate to contact us anytime!

How to Reach Mr. Johnson

Classroom Phone: 841-5388

Email: paul.m.johnson@austinisd.org

Class Website: <http://boonemrjohnson.wordpress.com/> I will update this site with math information and games for the current concepts throughout the year. This is an easy way for your student to get practice at home.

How to Reach Ms. Sladek

Classroom Phone: 841-5386

Email: jennifer.sladek@austinisd.org

Class Website: <https://jennifersladek2.wixsite.com/website>

How to Reach Ms. Zecca

Classroom Phone: 841-5383

Email: yesenia.zecca@austinisd.org

Class Website: <http://mszecca.wixsite.com/laclass>

How to Reach Ms. Pavey

Classroom Phone: 841-5375

Email: karla.pavey@austinisd.org



For Your Information...

School Hours

School hours are from 7:45 to 3:00. The first bell rings at 7:40. **Students are tardy if they arrive after the 7:45 bell. Parents, please remember that students are also counted tardy if they leave school early.** Morning assembly begins at 7:40.

Student Absences

Student absences **require a note explaining the absence, or a doctor's excuse**, and the date of the absence. Any absence that is not followed by a note will be considered unexcused.

Lunch

Zecca: 12:18 - 12:48

Sladek: 12:21 - 12:51

Johnson: 12:24 - 1:54

Conference Time

5th grade conference time is from 1:15-2:00. Our classroom numbers are:

Ms. Zecca: 841-5383

Ms. Sladek: 841-5386

Mr. Johnson: 841-5388

Please feel free to call us during this time or after school or you can send us an e-mail anytime at:

yesenia.zecca@austinisd.org.

jennifer.sladek@austinisd.org

paul.m.johnson@austinisd.org

Language Arts Class News

Class News will be sent home weekly in your child's binder and it will also be posted on Ms. Zecca's class website. The class news contains information on what we are studying that week, homework, spelling lists, reminders, and important dates to remember.

AVID Binder

The AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) Binder comes home daily. The binder contains the student's homework (if any that day), planner, schedule, class news, spiral and any important notes/information. In their planner they write down their homework daily so that you know what homework your child has that day. They also reflect on their learning daily by writing a DLIQ (D-did, L-learned, I-interesting, Q-question) in their planner. Students are required to read for 20 minutes Monday-Thursday and write a Reading Response. **Please be sure your child writes down what they read in their reading log located in the front pages of the planner and initial it daily. . Please be sure to sign/initial your child's planner daily!**

Thursday "Blue" Folders

Thursday folders go home every Thursday. We will also send graded papers in Thursday folders. Remember any grade below 70 may be signed, corrected and returned. The highest grade that can be earned on re-do's is 70. Your child must return corrected papers by the following Tuesday. The Thursday folders are due back on Friday, **empty and signed**.

Science Fair Project

Science Fair Projects will be due in January when we return from our Christmas Break. We will be following the same guidelines for our projects that are sent out by Austin Energy. To download information you can visit the following website: <http://www.sciencefest.org/elementary/elementary-parents-students>

Projects will be judged locally in January and top projects will be sent on to compete in the Austin Energy Regional Science Fair in February 2020..

Book Orders

Ms. Zecca will be sending home Scholastic book orders periodically, depending on the interest shown. If you order from more than one catalog, only one check is needed. Please make your check payable to **Scholastic Book Clubs, NO CASH PLEASE**. She will also send information about ordering online, if you prefer. It is very easy and secure to order online and you have a greater selection of books to choose from. You can order online at <https://clubs.scholastic.com/> and use Class Code: GXVQD

Snacks

We have a snack in the morning. It should be something your child can eat in about 10 minutes while working. No messy snacks please.

Information and Requests for Parents of Fifth Graders

The fifth grade team-- Ms. Zecca, Ms. Sladek, Mr. Johnson, and Mrs. Pavey--work together to provide fifth graders with the opportunity to be academically successful in fifth grade, and to be prepared for middle school.

Fifth graders switch classes, teachers, and classrooms every day. All students begin their day in their homeroom, where they get organized for their day. From morning assembly until 8:30 is what's called "EMI", or Early Morning Intervention. This is a time when teachers pull students into small groups for pre-teach, re-teach, challenges, or for any need we notice in a child, regardless of which homeroom the student is in. If the student needs small group support in math, Mr. Johnson will likely pull them on a scheduled day; likewise for Ms. Zecca for language arts and Mrs. Sladek for science. Mrs. Pavey works with Language Arts and Math. Students who are not working in a small group read or work on computers, at the homeroom teacher's direction.

From 8:30 on, each fifth grader follows a schedule that is in their AVID Binder. However, their classes are composed of students from each of the three homeroom classes. A student may be in one homeroom class, but in "Class 2" for math, science, and language arts. All fifth graders return to their homerooms for social studies class. Our schedule works very well for meeting the needs of individual students.

When you are emailing a fifth grade teacher, please consider whether to include all the names shown below in the address bar. If information pertains to all of us, emailing our team will insure that each of us receives information or requests regarding your child promptly.

Thank you.
The Fifth Grade Team

Jennifer Sladek	Science	jennifer.sladek@austinisd.org (512) 841-5386
Yesenia Zecca	Language Arts	yesenia.zecca@austinisd.org (512) 841-5383
Paul Johnson	Math	paul.m.johnson@austinisd.org (512) 841-5388
Karla Pavey	Language Arts, Math	karla.pavey@austinisd.org 512) 841-5575

Mrs. Sladek, Ms. Zecca, and Mr. Johnson each teach Social Studies to their homeroom class.

5th Grade Work and Grading Policy 2019-2020

Graded Work

Teachers will grade selected assignments on work turned in. All student work should have first name, last name, date, class code, and assignment title on the paper. If name/heading is missing, points will be deducted from the student's grade at the teacher's discretion. Any assignments that have not been turned in will be recorded as a zero in the gradebook.

Redoing Graded Work

If the grade received on graded assignments and assessments is 69 or lower, the student may redo the work. It is the responsibility of the student to turn in work by the due date. Any assignment your child chooses to redo is due on Tuesday following the Thursday they were sent home in Thursday Folders. The highest grade a student can receive on work redone is 70, in accordance with AISD policy. If a redo is not turned in, the original grade stands.

Homework

All students are required to complete homework. Math homework will be assigned Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Language Arts homework will be assigned on Monday-Thursday. Students must fill out their homework in their planners for every class.

Homework is due at the beginning of class the following day, unless otherwise noted.

Failure to copy homework assignments in the agenda or turn in homework may result in loss of privileges, and may be noted on the personal development portion of the report card. Students are expected to read 20 minutes Monday-Thursday and complete their Interactive Reading Log Entry for that day on Google Classroom.

Worksheets and Extra Copies

Students are responsible for all worksheets passed out in class. Teachers will not recopy lost worksheets.

Absences

Students are responsible for doing work they missed while absent. It is the student's responsibility to ask the teacher what he or she missed and what needs to be made up. Due dates for make-up work due to extended absences will be written on the assignments.

5th Grade Master Schedule 2019-2020

Time	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3
7:45-8:30	EMI	EMI	EMI
8:30-9:45	Language Arts	Math	Science
9:45-11:00	Science	Language Arts	Math
11:00-12:15	Math	Science	Language Arts
Lunch (Homeroom)	Zecca 12:18-12:48 Tables 1 and 2	Sladek 12:21-12:51 Tables 8 and 9	Johnson 12:24-12:54 Tables 10 and 11
1:00-1:15	WOW		
1:15-2:00	Special Areas		
2:00-2:30	Social Studies in Homeroom Classes		
2:30-3:00	Recess (Monday-Thursday on the Blacktop/Track; Friday on the Playground)		
3:00	Dismissal		

Library	Counseling (A Week)
Monday (with Zecca)	Tuesday (with Johnson)
Class 1 8:45-9:25	Class 2 8:45-9:15
Class 2 10:00-10:40	Class 3 10:05-10:35
Class 3 11:15-11:55	Class 1 11:15-11:45

5th Grade

Classroom Expectations

- 1. Do not interrupt teaching or learning.**
- 2. Be prepared.**
- 3. Do your BEST.**
- 4. Respect everything.**

BENCHMARK / STAAR INFORMATION

Dear Families,

As many of you are probably aware, this year your child takes the **STAAR** test in Reading, Math and Science. We have provided some important testing information below. Together, we will help your child pass all 3 tests!

Each year we take **benchmark** tests to see where the students are and how they are progressing.

DATES OF TESTS:

- **January 14** **MOY Reading Benchmark**
- **January 15** **MOY Math Benchmark**
- **January 16** **MOY Science Benchmark**
- **April 7** **MATH STAAR TEST**
- **April 8** **READING STAAR TEST**
- **May 11** **MATH STAAR RETEST #1 (if necessary)**
- **May 12** **READING STAAR RETEST #1 (if necessary)**
- **May 13** **SCIENCE STAAR TEST**
- **June 23** **MATH STAAR RETEST #2 (if necessary)**
- **June 24** **READING STAAR RETEST #2 (if necessary)**

***MOY- Middle of Year**

Please contact your child's teacher if you have further questions or concerns.

Thank you,
Fifth Grade Teachers

Why Can't I Skip My Twenty Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Let's figure it out – mathematically!

Student A reads 20 minutes five nights of every week.

Student B reads only 4 minutes a night or not at all!

Step 1: Multiply minutes per night times 5 times each week.

Student A reads 20 minutes times 5 times a week = 100 minutes per week.

Student B reads 4 minutes times 5 times a week = 20 minutes per week.

Step 2: Multiply minutes a week times 4 weeks each month.

Student A reads 400 minutes in a month.

Student B reads 80 minutes a month.

Step 3: Multiply minutes a month times 9 months per school year.

Student A reads 3,600 minutes in a school year.

Student B reads 720 minutes in a school year.

Student A practices reading the equivalent of 10 whole school days a year.

Student B gets the equivalent of only 2 school days of reading practice.

By the end of 6th grade, if Student A and Student B maintain these same reading habits,

Student A will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days.

Student B will have read the equivalent of only 12 school days.

One would expect the gap of information retained will have widened considerably and so, undoubtedly, will school performance. How do you think Student B will feel about him/herself as a student?

Which student would you expect to read better?

Which student would you expect to know more?

Which student would you expect to write better?

Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary?

Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?



How parents can help

Check this list of things parents can do to help their children learn:

- *Read to your child.*
- *Listen to your child read.*
- *Play games with your child.*
- *Help your child get a library card from the public library nearest you. Encourage your child to go to the library as often as possible.*
- *Go to the library with your child. Help him or her pick out interesting books to read.*
- *Find out about activities for children that take place at your library.*
- *Talk to your child about subjects that are interesting to him or her.*
- *Listen to your child.*
- *Set aside a special “reading time.” Let your child know that you look forward to and enjoy your time together.*
- *Give your child his or her own place to keep books.*
- *Write notes to your child.*
- *Help your child write letters and notes.*
- *Encourage your child to keep a scrapbook about a subject that interests him or her: stamps, dogs, birds, trucks, etc.*
- *Limit your child’s television watching—select certain shows to watch. Turn the television set on for the show and turn it off immediately after the show is over.*
- *Read and discuss your child’s schoolwork.*
- *Provide materials such as crayons, art paper and paints for creative projects.*
- *Give your child a calendar so he or she can write down special events and mark off each day.*
- *Help your child make a telephone directory with the names and phone numbers of his or her friends.*
- *Ask your child to add a sentence or two to letters you write to far-away relatives.*
- *Give your child specific duties to perform on a regular basis at home.*
- *Let your child help you prepare dinner.*
- *Subscribe to a children’s magazine (in the child’s name).*
- *Bring books for your child to read in the car while he or she waits for you to run errands.*
- *Look up words in the dictionary with your child.*
- *Encourage your child to start a collection of rocks, stamps, etc.*
- *Encourage your child to show his or her schoolwork to your relatives and friends.*
- *When traveling, read road signs with your child. Discuss what they mean.*
- *Show your child how to use a yardstick, ruler and tape measure for measuring objects around the house.*
- *Provide counting experiences for your child.*
- *Show your child how to count change.*
- *Give your child a special place (box, dish pan, etc.) to keep items he or she must take to school each morning. (This ends last-minute searching for library books, papers, bike keys, etc., all of which can cause your child to be late for school.)*
- *Show your child how to tell time.*

