

Dear Parents,

Welcome to sixth grade at North Star Academy! We are so excited to begin a new year with you and your child. As you look through the disclosure, please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Daily Schedule

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Homeroom: 8:30	Homeroom: 8:30	Homeroom: 8:30	Homeroom: 8:30	Homeroom: 8:30
Math: 8:45	Math: 8:45	Math: 8:45	Math: 8:45	Math: 8:45
Recess: 10:00	Recess: 10:00	Recess: 10:00	Recess: 10:00	Recess: 10:00
Language Arts: 10:15	Language Arts: 10:15	Language Arts: 10:15	Language Arts: 10:15	Language Arts: 10:15
Lunch: 11:40	Lunch: 11:40	Lunch: 11:40	Lunch: 11:40	Lunch: 11:40
Language Arts: 12:20	Language Arts: 12:20	Language Arts: 12:20	Language Arts: 12:20	Language Arts: 12:20
Specials: 1:10	Specials: 1:10	Specials: 1:10	Specials: 1:10	History/Science: 1:10
Science: 1:50	History: 1:50	Science: 1:50	History: 1:50	Science/History: 2:00
Dismissal: 2:52	Dismissal: 2:52	Dismissal: 2:52	Dismissal: 2:52	Dismissal: 2:52

Weekly Learning Plans

The weekly learning plan is a system designed to let you know what is going on in 6th grade and to help your child be accountable for what is being taught during the week. It will include a weekly syllabus, a homework tracker, reading minutes log, weekly ASPIRE check, a behavior log, and a goal tracker. The learning plans will be passed out on Mondays and must be signed by a parent and returned that following Monday. It should be returned with reading minutes filled out, ASPIRE check completed, and a parent signature. Please support your child in being diligent with reading, completing, and returning the learning plan on time.

Google Drive Account

Your student will have daily access to a Chromebook checked out to their name. Before that Chromebook can be used, parents and students must READ and SIGN the school-wide appropriate use policy (AUP) as well as the 6th Grade Google Drive Information Agreement.

Homework

North Star Academy's homework policy outlines the amount of time each grade level can require their students to do homework. According to the North Star Student Parent Handbook, the amount of time suggested for homework in 6th grade is 30-60 minutes. Some assignment corrections will be completed as homework. Occasionally class projects and writing projects may require some work to be completed at home.

Grading

90%-100% =4
80%-89%=3
70%-79%=2
69%-below=1

For students to be eligible for honor roll, they must earn all 4s in the bolded subject areas. To earn the citizenship award they must earn all CS's in work skills and social skills.

Missing Work

For students to be eligible to play NSA sports and participate in school plays they must maintain grades above a C- and have NO missing work.

Reteaching and Labs

Math lab will be held on **Mondays** from 3:00-3:45 p.m. **Language Arts** lab will be held **Wednesdays** 3:00-3:45 p.m. Students will be invited through emails and phone calls home to attend after school labs. Students will retake any tests and receive support with concepts during those times or during class when possible.

Late Work

All missing work must be completed within 2 weeks from the assigned due date. Late work will be noted on the back of the learning plan as a warning and after 2 weeks partial credit may be given. Students who are missing assignments may make arrangements and choose to stay in at recess and complete work. **Please help your child to be diligent about checking ASPIRE!** As needed, a missing work report will be sent home with your child. It is their responsibility to make up missing work. If you have extenuating circumstances, please inform us and we will be happy to help create a plan to achieve success.

ASPIRE

Student grades are posted online using a system called ASPIRE. You can sign up in the office for your own account in order to view your child's grades. Grades will be posted within 1 week after the due date. We expect students and parents to be diligent in monitoring their grades. When viewing the online grades, missing assignments will be marked with an "M". If you have any questions concerning your ASPIRE account, please contact the front office.

Friday Folders

A folder will be sent home every Friday containing your child's work for the week and school or teacher communication. they will find assignments that need to be corrected and returned by Monday. Please remove the work and return the empty folder on the following Monday. The Friday folder also serves as a weekly goal tracker. Please take the time each weekend to review your student's goal and steps to meeting the goal. The goal tracker needs to be filled out and signed each week.

Curriculum

Math: Mrs. O'Neil is teaching Saxon Math Course 2 and Miss Bird is teaching Saxon Math Course 1. Homework will be given nightly and will consist of some of the math problems that were not finished in class that day. Test days will be listed on the learning plan. Any test score below 80% must be retaken. Retakes will be given during school and lab hours. If your student needs to review concepts, please have them attend math lab, held on Mondays. Any math assignment that is scored below an 80% will need to be corrected on a separate piece of paper and turned in.

Spelling: Your child will be given a differentiated spelling list to study, as well as homework/class practice assignments. Please refer to the learning plan for spelling practice due dates and test dates. Test days will be listed on the learning plan. If your child scores below 80%, retakes will be given in class or language arts lab.

Reading: Your child is required to read at least 20 minutes a night. These minutes should be recorded on the back of the learning plan. Your child may have additional reading homework for guided reading and fluency practice.

Vocabulary tests will be given throughout the year and nightly review is recommended for success.

Writing: Most writing assignments will be completed in class and kept in a Writing Portfolio, both digitally and in a binder. With more extensive assignments, parents may be asked to help with editing and research at home. The focus for sixth grade writing is narrative, informational, argumentative, and poetry.

Science: Our 6th grade science units are as follows: The Earth-Sun-Moon System, the Solar System, Matter, Energy, Transfer of Energy, Heat, Weather and Climate, and Ecosystems. Additional Core Knowledge units include Light, Sound, Microorganisms, Oceans, Human Body Systems, Genetics, and Plate Tectonics.

History: Our 6th grade history units are as follows: World Deserts, Ancient Civilizations, World Religions, Middle Ages, Enlightenment, Revolutions, Industrialization/Urbanization, Immigration, and Modern World Events.

Behavior Expectations and Rules

BEARS values:

Be Safe,

Encourage Others,

Act responsibly,

Respect all, and

Strive for Excellence

The BEARS values listed above will be the expectation in our classroom to maintain a positive learning environment. The first week of school the students will work together to write classroom rules and expectations as well as compose a class mission statement to follow throughout the year. In the case of small infractions, a written warning is given on the back of the learning plan or class dollars are taken. They will be dated and explain why your child was given the warning. At the end of the week, your child must get your signature at the bottom of the learning plan. A parent/teacher meeting via email, in person, or by phone will be scheduled when a concern arises.

Reinforcement System

Our 6th grade students will receive class dollars as incentives for work habits, character, and organization. They will have opportunities to earn, deduct, and spend their money in the classroom and at quarterly auctions.

Ways to Earn Money

Monthly Paycheck	\$100
Class Jobs Vary	\$10-\$40
Spirit Wear	\$5
Class Compliment	\$10
100% Test	\$20
Quality Work	\$5-\$10
Good Behavior/On Task	\$5-\$10
No Missing Work at Midterm and/or End of Term	\$50
Random Desk Check	\$15

NSA School Improvement Goal:

"I will discover my unique abilities to strengthen myself and help others."

In sixth grade we will be incorporating high interest, differentiated reading material through digital learning activities and infusing students' learning styles into weekly lessons in an effort to support this goal.

Website:

<http://sixthgradensa.weebly.com>

Contact Information:

Mrs.O'Neil: **phone-** (801) 302-9579 ext. 261

email- woneil@north-staracademy.com

Miss Bird: **phone-** (801) 302-9579 ext. 260

email- rbird@north-staracademy.com

Credentials:

Mrs. O'Neil holds a Bachelor of Science in Family Studies and Human Services from Kansas State University. She is starting her seventh year as an elementary teacher. She is a licensed level 2 teacher and is qualified to teach K-8.

Miss Bird holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Weber State University. She taught for 13 years in the State of California public school system and has 18 years of teaching experience in all. Miss Bird meets all the requirements by the state of Utah as a qualified instructor and holds a Level 2 license.



Critical Thinking

Citizenship

Academic Excellence

Student Supply List

- ⇒ Pack of graphing paper - optional
- ⇒ Pack of college rule paper - optional
- ⇒ ½" 3 ring binder with your name on the spine
- ⇒ 3 college rule notebooks (75-150 pg.)
- ⇒ 2 Red pens
- ⇒ Colored pencils
- ⇒ markers
- ⇒ Container to hold your supplies
- ⇒ Pencils
- ⇒ Glue sticks
- ⇒ Fine point Sharpie
- ⇒ Ruler, clear plastic labeled with your name
- ⇒ **Math- transparent protractor and high quality metal compass labeled with your name**
(These are MUST haves for math!)
- ⇒ 1 pair pf adult-sized scissors (labeled with your name)
- ⇒ 2 Dry erase markers
- ⇒ 2 Highlighters
- ⇒ Light-colored book cover for math book (neon or dark ruin the books)
- ⇒ **Ear buds or head phones to leave at school** – check the dollar store!
- ⇒ Pocket folder for ART class

Optional Supplies (donations please)

- ⇒ #2 pencils and mechanical pencils
- ⇒ Dry Erase Markers
- ⇒ Tissues, tissues and more tissues
- ⇒ Clorox or Lysol wipes
- ⇒ Hand sanitizer
- ⇒ Any creative art supplies such as clay, poster paint, acrylic paint, paint brushes, poster board

We, the parent(s) and student have read the sixth grade disclosure statement. We understand and agree to abide by the North Star Academy student handbook policies, as well as the sixth grade disclosure statement.

Parent Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Student Signature _____

Date _____

