

# WELCOME

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to

## Iroquois Middle School's Fourth Grade Orientation



# Our Team

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**Christian Zwahlen** – Principal

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**Nadine Avallone** – Lead Teacher

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**Kimberly Bohnel** – School Counselor

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**Lisa Cronin** – School Counselor

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**Nicole Battaglia** – School Psychologist

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**Marc Bigsby** – School Social Worker

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# Transitions

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- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Visits (happening the end of this month)
- Meet and Greet (before the start of the school year)
- Community Building within classrooms
- School tours
- Guided transitions



# Reading and Humanities Instruction

## Reading

Resource to support consistent, explicit, and direct literacy instruction that is standards and science of reading aligned.

Focus on word recognition and language comprehension instruction through a range of genres, including fiction and informational texts.

## Humanities

Standards-based district created curriculum aligned with the science of reading and culturally responsive/sustaining practices.

Focus on critical thinking, applying comprehension thought processes, novel studies, social studies, and process-piece writing.

**MAKING SURE OUR KIDS HAVE IT ALL!**   
**READING AND HUMANITIES INSTRUCTION AT GRADES K-4**

# WHAT EXPLICIT READING INSTRUCTION BRINGS FOR OUR STUDENTS

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- High interest readers that span a wide range of genres and align with grade level text expectations
- A resource that will help us to organize reading instruction in alignment with science of reading research
- Resources that will support teachers' implementation of reading and writing instruction, including:
  - Morphology and Word Study/Vocabulary
  - Grammar and Sentence Structure
  - Reading Comprehension
  - Writing Process Pieces
  - Writing in Response to Reading



# WHAT OUR HUMANITIES UNITS BRING FOR OUR STUDENTS

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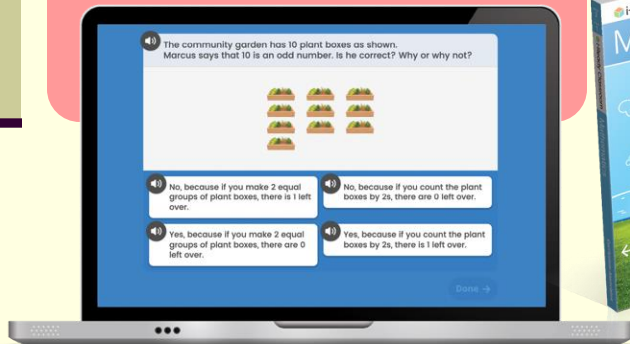
- Engagement in Novel Studies, Authentic Texts, Diverse Perspectives, and Book Clubs that Promote Student Choice
- Writing Process Pieces (that will be strengthened by materials from the reading resource)
- Social Studies and Civic Learning Experiences, including Local History Connections and Service-Learning Opportunities
- Student Collaboration and Discourse



# What Is *i-Ready Classroom Mathematics*?

*i-Ready Classroom Mathematics* is a robust mathematics program designed to help your student become a strong, independent mathematical thinker. It includes:

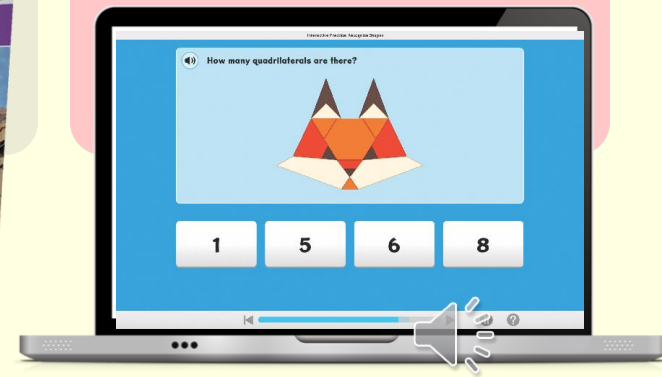
## Diagnostic Assessment(s)



## Student Worktexts



## Student Digital Experience



# What Math Class Looks Like with *i-Ready Classroom Mathematics*



Lessons span approximately one week.



Each day is a session centered around a single, powerful problem.



Lessons start with an Explore session, followed by one to three Develop sessions, and end with one to two Refine sessions.



# What Math Class Looks Like with *i-Ready Classroom Mathematics*

## Discourse Based



Students learn by solving and talking to each other.



Explaining your thinking is central to class.



Knowing *why* something works is as important as knowing how to do it.



# ***i-Ready Classroom Mathematics – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Units of Study***

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Place Value

The Four  
Operations:  
(+, -, x and ÷)

Geometry

Fractions

Word Problems  
& Problem  
Solving



# Fourth Grade Curriculum

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## Science (Amplify) - Aligned with the WICSD Science Outcomes and Next Generation Science Standards

- Introduction to Science
- Energy Conversions
- Earth's Features
- Waves, Energy and Information
- Vision and Light



# Fourth Grade Curriculum- Specials

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- Music



- Physical Education



- Art



- Library



# Homework



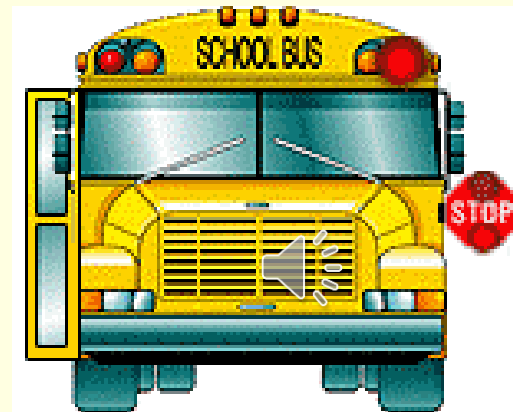
- **Reading** –Some nights students will have choice reading and some nights reading will be assigned by their RTI teacher and will go along with their novel study.
- **Math** – some nights students will be assigned math homework to reinforce concepts and skills learned that day.
- ***All Homework should take no more than 45 minutes to complete***

# Fourth Grade Curriculum

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- Current Field Trips
  - Helmer Nature Center
  - Rochester Museum and Science Center
  - Irondequoit Town Hall
  - Erie Canal Boat Tour

\*these are subject to change



# Cell Phone & Smart Watch Policy



## ☐ Cell Phones

- ☐ Iroquois has a no cell phone policy.
- ☐ Before coming into the building, students should have their phones turned off and in their backpack.
- ☐ All cell phones should be kept in student lockers during the day.

## ☐ Smart Watches

- ☐ Smart watches can be worn however, students should not be using them during the school day.
- ☐ Smart watches should be on silent and school mode, so they do not disrupt instruction or distract students



\*\*There are phones available in the main office for student use\*\*

# Role of the School Counselor

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- Help support students with any social/emotional needs during transition
- Visits scheduled for all 3<sup>rd</sup> graders
- Coordinates with the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers and counselors to ensure smooth transition



# Character Education Program

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## ■ C.A.R.E. Program

- Cooperate, Appreciate, Respect, Excel
- Students can earn CARE letters from any staff member or another student
- CARE letters can be submitted by students in the main office
- Monthly certificates and prizes awarded as students earn CARE letters

## ■ Character of the Month Awards

- Monthly character traits that are aligned with CASEL SEL competencies
  - BE HONEST, BE RESPECTFUL, BE THANKFUL, BE SUPPORTIVE, BE POSITIVE, BE A FRIEND, BE HELPFUL, BE CONSIDERATE, BE RESPONSIBLE, BE ENCOURAGING
- Monthly community meetings scheduled for students to learn more about these character traits and how to apply them in a variety of settings
- Students earn a certificate that will be given to them by their nominating teacher

## ■ Star Student

- Star students are nominated by teachers each month
- Students receive a certificate and are recognized by Mr. Zwahlen over the announcements



# Extracurricular Activities

- A great way to help your student feel involved, included, and a part of the Iroquois family
  - Board Game Club
  - Band
  - Orchestra
  - Intramurals
  - Chess Club
  - Odyssey of the Mind
  - Gardening Club



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Thank you for your time!

Thank you for sharing your children with us!

We look forward to September 2024!

