

ENGLISH LEARNER (EL) PROGRAM

Our EL Program provides services to students that need assistance in learning English. Arizona law requires that children with a home language other than English be assessed for proficiency in reading, writing, listening and speaking. Following Parent/Guardian notification, students who are identified as limited English proficient may receive various forms of instructional support focused on English acquisition.

EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS PROGRAM

Students being considered for special education placement are screened, evaluated and placed by a team. Special education programming at the school is implemented by a resource teacher, who works directly in the resource room with exceptional students and in consultation with regular classroom teachers to help them better meet student needs. We also have schools with classrooms that specialize in instruction for students with greater special education needs. Parents of special education students share in making the decisions concerning their children's evaluation, placement, and program development. Parent information meetings are held as needed.

GIFTED PROGRAM

The goal of the MUSD Gifted Program is to provide identified exceptionally talented students with individually appropriate instructional programs. Students in grades 3-5 will have the opportunity to participate in a gifted pull out program. Students that are identified as gifted will receive services with a highly qualified gifted teacher. MUSD's Gifted Program aims to offer a broad base of experiences to our gifted students. By providing a qualitatively different curriculum, this program facilitates the growth of students as independent, life-long learners, with the developmental skills, concepts, and positive attitudes with their cognitive, emotional, and social domains considered. A major goal of the curriculum is the teaching and practice of critical thinking skills. For more information, contact: Maricopa Unified School District Office **520.568.5100**.

GRADING

A District-developed grading system will be utilized. Teachers will keep a careful record of the grades assigned to students. Written reports to the parents concerning student achievement will be made every nine (9) weeks by the teacher, and additional written reports will be made when necessary. Teachers will confer with parents when necessary concerning academic progress and discipline of students.

Grades reporting achievement of special education students not taking regular education classes shall be given on a basis commensurate with the students' abilities and based on their individual progress rather than in competition with classmates. The permanent record cards for such students shall indicate enrollment in special education for those classes. Parents of special education students shall be counseled regarding the significance of the grading system in order to avoid misinterpretation of the achievement grade.

HOMEWORK AND STUDY HABITS

The purpose of homework is to provide additional practice on previously introduced skills or to enrich classroom experience. Homework includes such activities as brief drills, reading, collecting information, sharing ideas with Parents/Guardians and providing projects/assignments in which students utilize their time in creative thought.

Homework will be assigned consistent with the developmental level, special needs, and achievement level of the individual student. Homework will address the objectives of the instructional program. To supplement work in class, teachers often give additional assignments to help in understanding of the subject. Parents and students need to work together to find a suitable time and place to do homework.

HONOR ROLL

MUSD Elementary Schools have established an honor roll system to recognize outstanding academic achievement every grading quarter. Grades for reading, writing, math, science and social studies will be considered for the honor roll. Honor roll students will be recognized and celebrations vary by site.

MAKE UP WORK

Students will be allowed the same number of days to make up daily assignments as the number of days missed. If work is not turned in within the designated time period; and no contact is made explaining the circumstances that necessitate an extension, a failing grade will be given. If possible, parents should request make-up work at least 24 hours before they intend to pick it up. Students are responsible for class work missed during an absence.

PROGRESS REPORTS

The purpose of a student progress report is to communicate to Parents/Guardians their child's current achievement status in each curriculum area. Student progress reports will be sent home