

2026-2027

Welcome to Ms. Aronson's 4th Grade Class!

Dear Families,

I am so excited to be teaching your children this school year! Fourth grade will be a year of growth, exploration, and fun! I am a former Perkins student myself, and I cannot wait to share my love for the arts and learning with your child. I was born and raised in our beautiful St. Petersburg, Florida, and I graduated from the University of South Florida. In my free time, I love drawing, learning new things, and all things music!

I value open communication, so always feel free to reach out to me with any comments or questions. The best way to reach me is by email: aronsona@pcsb.org.

This is going to be an **amazing** year, and I am honored to share it with your children!

Learning Highlights

Reading:

We will read many great books in fourth grade! Some of the titles include *Manatee Summer*, *Gregor the Overlander*, *Esperanza Rising*, *The Odyssey*, and *Save Me a Seat*.

I strongly encourage all students to read every day for at least 30 minutes.

Students who would like to participate in **Battle of the Books** in 4th grade should get started and read at least 3 of the SSYRA books. Here is a link to the new Sunshine State Young Reader Award Books for 3rd to 5th grade:

<https://www.floridamediaed.org/ssyra-3-5.html>

Resources: There are many great titles available on MYON, Newsela, and CommonLit for free. Students can access that through CLEVER using their same username/password.

*Please note that student usernames are modified to include the@pcsb.org after the r2.d2. For example: C3.4t@pcsb.org

Math:

To prepare for 4th Grade math, I STRONGLY encourage every student to:

- 1) Learn their basic math facts (through 12 for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division). This is **ESSENTIAL for success** in 4th grade math!
- 2) **Understand basic place value through the thousandths place.** Place value is the backbone of math. We will use it throughout the year for multi-digit multiplication and division, as well as, when we learn about decimals and measurements in math and science.

Grading Standards

4th and 5th grade uses **Standards Based Grading** as our grading method. This is significantly different from previous grades.

Students will not receive a participation grade but rather will be graded according to their mastery level on our B.E.S.T Standards for ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies.

There will be multiple opportunities to demonstrate mastery throughout the grading period. Students are encouraged to review each assessment and work through the resources provided for reteaching, reinforcement, or enrichment to be prepared to demonstrate proficiency/mastery at the next opportunity.

More detailed information about our standards-based grading policy, embedded retakes, and resources for review will be sent out in the fall.

- If you would like to look at all the Florida Standards for 4th grade, you may access them through these links:
<https://cpalmsmediaproduct.blob.core.windows.net/uploads/docs/standards/best/1a/elabeststandardsfinal2108.pdf>
<https://cpalmsmediaproduct.blob.core.windows.net/uploads/docs/standards/best/ma/mathbeststandardsfinal.pdf>

IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION INFO:

Perkins will NOT be using Class Dojo this year. Please email me from your preferred email address so I have a reliable method to communicate important information to you!

I value open communication and encourage you to reach out anytime, please **do not hesitate to contact me!**

I look forward to working with you and your child this year!

Sincerely,

Ms. Aronson

Email: aronsona@pcsb.org

Fourth Grade Supply List

Essentials

- **4 composition notebooks**
 - We will need 2 for math, and 2 for ELA. No spiral notebooks please, they fall apart easily.
- **5 folders with PRONGS and POCKETS**
 - Green for math, blue for science, purple for ELA, yellow for Social Studies, and red for homework.
- **24 pencils**- Students go through a LOT in a year!
- **4 glue sticks**
- **USB or USBC Headphones**- these are **essential** for daily learning.
- **Water bottle**
- 1 pack of **sticky notes**
- 2 boxes of **tissues**

Nice to have

- Colored pencils
 - Supply pouch (preferably not a box because it is too bulky for the desk)
 - Cap erasers
 - A highlighter
 - Expo markers
- *All this can be stored *inside* the supply pouch.

Wish List for the Class

- Extra of anything above 😊
 - Bandages
 - Snacks to share with the class
 - White cardstock
 - Page protectors
 - Gallon and quart sized bags
 - Disinfectant wipes
 - Copies of 2026-27 SSYRA Books for the class
 - Gregor the Overlander Series book set
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Tips for Supporting Your Child's Academic Progress

- **Visit your local library!** Help your child find “right fit” books. Right fit books are books that are of high interest to your child and are not beyond their reading level. You can use the five-finger test to determine if the book is too difficult for your child. Open the book to a page with many words. Have your child begin reading the text. Hold up a finger for each word he/she does not know. If you have 4 or 5 fingers up, the text may be too difficult for your child to read independently. Feel free to still check out the book! It just may be a book you want to read with your child.
- **Encourage at least 20 minutes of reading a day.** Reading every day will vastly improve your child's vocabulary! If reading is not one of your child's top

priorities you may want to create fun incentive programs to encourage daily reading.

- **Read with your child.** When you read to your child he/she can hear the rhythm of the text. Explore different genres of reading. Poetry is a great way to improve phonemic awareness skills as poetry often incorporates rhyme, and it can improve fluency and vocabulary.
- **Read for different purposes.** Reading directions for a recipe or directions for assembling a toy are fun ways of incorporating reading into everyday activities.
- **Play games with words.** Games like *Apples to Apples* and *Scattergories* improve vocabulary. Hink Pinks are a very fun and addictive vocabulary game. No materials needed!
https://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/TM/WS_sponges.shtml
- **Play simple math games with cards and dice** to help learners strengthen place value skills and fluency.
<https://www.upperelementarysnapshots.com/2015/09/7-math-games-for-card-sharks.html>
<https://www.weareteachers.com/math-card-games/>