

Welcome Back

“All our dreams can come true
– if we have the courage to pursue them”

– Walt Disney

August 17, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the sixth grade at Boulder Creek School! We are eager and thrilled to work with your child during the 2017 - 2018 school year. We are excited to join together to make this a fun-filled, dynamic school year for all our students. With your cooperation, the sixth grade teaching staff will meet the needs of your child by providing high expectations, support, and encouragement.

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves, as each sixth grader rotates through all of our curricular area classes. Mrs. Brawley teaches Social Studies, Mrs. Goss teaches Science, Mrs. Lane teaches Language Arts/Literature, and Mrs. McCormick teaches Math. Each teacher is assigned one class as their homeroom class. This class is where students will receive all communications home, etc.

This year the 6th grade team will be using Bloomz as a way to communicate electronically with parents. Please see the attached page to join our Bloomz 6th Grade class if you would like to receive text messages or email notifications regarding important information and communication. Using Bloomz you will receive alerts informing all when progress reports are sent home as well as opportunities to sign up early for parent teacher conferences.

Please visit our 6th Grade Website at www.bouldercreek6thgrade.weebly.com. On this website you will find weekly reminders, our 6th grade shared calendar with projects & essay due dates, field trip dates, and other important dates. Along with useful links such as PowerSchool to check grades and Clever login. This website is also where you will find the links to each teacher's websites. Each teacher maintains their own website that includes a great deal of important information such as announcements, homework, project information and other detailed curricular resources relevant to each specific class.

Please add www.bouldercreek6thgrade.weebly.com to your favorites.

Homework:

The amount of time each child spends on homework will depend on his/her use of class time, personal ability, and quality of effort. Thirty-five to fifty minutes of homework each night, in addition to thirty minutes of independent reading, should be expected for the average child. This is the district guideline for sixth grade.

Assignments not turned in on the due date will be considered late, will not receive full credit, and will be given zero credit until completed. All late assignments will be reduced to 70% if turned in by the end of the progress report period or chapter/unit. Late assignments turned in after the progress report period or chapter/unit ends will receive zero credit. Late projects will be graded according to the standard and then an additional credit loss will be applied.

With the exception of math homework, if an assignment was completed on time but does not meet the expectations set forth, it will receive a re-do and will receive full credit AFTER the student has made corrections. All **incomplete** and **re-do** papers are given a “0” score until they have been completed/corrected and turned in to the late/re-do box.

Work completion is very important to the success of our students, and we will stress this all year. Interacting with the concepts they have been taught allows students to begin the mastery process. Please make sure to check the PowerSchool website regularly to ensure your child’s work is being completed and turned in on time.

Students are expected to write homework and class assignments in their planners daily. **Please check your child’s planner and/or our teacher websites nightly for a list of homework and class assignments.**

Absences:

Absent students are responsible for making up all missed work. The number of missed days is equal to the number of days to make up missed work. Missing assignments due to absences will not result in a late grade unless it is turned in after the given time.

We highly encourage parents and students to check our teacher websites to obtain information about missed work. Often, students will have everything they need from the websites to complete absent work. Occasionally, students may need to obtain a handout from the absent box upon their return.

Grading Policy:

This is the first year students will receive academic letter grades. To aid in our communication, your child’s homeroom teacher will send home progress reports **every three weeks**. They will be sent home on Mondays. Your child will be required to get the progress report signed by you and returned the next day, Tuesday, along with completing any missing work associated with the progress report by the following Monday. **If your child does not return the signed progress report on time, he/she will receive an after school detention.** We want to build a habit of open communication between home and school. Keep in mind, you will have daily access to your child’s grades online as the district will be sending home online access information (user names and passwords) within the first two weeks of school.

Students’ grades will be based on a percentage system as stated below.

A+ = 100%	B+= 88-89%	C+ = 78-79%	D+ = 68-69%
A = 94-99%	B = 84-87%	C = 74-77%	D = 64-67%
A- = 90-93%	B- = 80-83%	C- = 70-73%	D- = 60-63%
			F = 0-59%

Grade Breakdown-Academic Classes

Social Studies

Homework/Classwork = 40%
Tests/Quizzes = 30%
Portfolio = 15%
Projects = 15%

Science

Homework/Classwork = 15%
Tests/Quizzes = 30%
Notebook/Portfolio = 15%
Labs/Projects/Participation = 40%

Grade Breakdown-Academic Classes (Continued)

<i>Math</i>	<i>Literature</i>	<i>Language Arts</i>
Homework/Classwork = 30%	Homework/Classwork = 30%	Homework/Classwork= 40%
Tests/Quizzes = 30%	Tests/Quizzes = 30%	Tests/Quizzes = 30%
Portfolio = 15%	Portfolio = 15%	Portfolios = 15%
Projects= 25%	Reading Logs = 10%	Writing = 15%
	Projects = 15%	

Classroom Materials:

In addition to curriculum, we will be emphasizing organization and responsibility! Because of this, a ***3-ring binder*** will become your child's most valuable school supply. **Your child will need a 1 inch binder shared between math/science/social studies as well as a 1.5 inch binder for language arts/literature.** Old-fashioned binders with three rings work best. Trapper Keepers and Data Organizers ***do not work well.*** The rings are too small and break quickly and easily. Dividers will be provided by each teacher and folders are not necessary. *Other needed school supplies are listed on the page attached.*

We will be participating in fundraisers this year in order to take field trips and provide reward opportunities. Please sign and return your child's Ducky Derby permission form as soon as possible. We are asking that each child set a goal of selling at least **10 ducks**.

We hope to see you at **Back to School Night**, Thursday, August 24th. 6th grade middle school parents will meet in the big gym for a presentation from the 6th grade teachers. You will receive a great deal of valuable information at that time, including how your child will need to maintain the curricular binders for each class, homework, assignments, online grading, technology, etc. If we have not met you before then, we will look forward to meeting you at Back-To-School-Night!

Again, we anticipate an exciting year. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call us at Boulder Creek: **224-4140**, or email us: nbrawley@eesd.net, jgoss@eesd.net, jlane@eesd.net, lmccormick@eesd.net. We will check our email daily. This is a great form of communication, and we will get back to you as soon as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Nicole Brawley – S.S./Science, rm. 36
Mrs. Jaylynn Goss- Science rm. 36
Mrs. Jenn Lane – L.A./ Lit., rm. 33
Mrs. Lucia McCormick– Math, rm. 35

6th Grade Welcome Letter Signature Page

Please read and review this letter with your child. Before signing and returning this form, please visit our 6th grade website at www.bouldercreek6thgrade.weebly.com to access your child's homeroom teacher's website. Once on your child's homeroom teacher's website, please go to the Homeroom tab and click the "6th Grade- Parent Contact Form" and provide your best contact information for the school year. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

Please check one:

- I have completed the online parent contact form.
- I do not have access to the online parent form and would like a hard copy of the form sent home to complete and return with my child.

Print Student's Name

Date

Print Parent/Guardian Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Boulder Creek

Sixth Grade Materials List

- One 3-ring binder- size 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches (for Language Arts & Literature)
- One 3-ring binder- size 1 inch (shared for Math, Science, & Social Studies)
- College-ruled filler paper (enough to last the school year)
- Graph paper - quarter inch squares
- #2 pencils (mechanical pencils must have extra led)
- Hand-held pencil sharpener **with** shaving catcher
- Erasers
- Colored pencils
- Reinforcement labels
- 200 3x5 index cards **OR, preferably**, pre-assembled pack(s) of loose-leaf, ringed index cards
- Highlighters (pink, green, yellow, orange and blue)
- **Ultra-fine** point black Sharpie pen
- Zipper pouch to hold supplies
- Inexpensive pair of headphones (the school is not responsible for lost/stolen headphones)
- 1 Spiral bound single-subject college ruled notebooks (70-100 pgs)
- 2 composition notebooks (lined or graphing notebook is okay)
- Red pen (green, purple or pink is okay)
- Blue or Black ink pen
- 2 dry erase markers kept in plastic baggie (preferably with eraser attached)
- **Here are some optional items to donate for the whole class and much appreciated: Hand Sanitizer, Kleenex, Antibacterial Wipes, Extra packs of colored pencils and markers.**

Teachers will provide students with section dividers for their binders for each subject.

**** \$5.00 for 6th grade planner purchased at BC the first week of school (this is a great tool to stay organized throughout the school year and to record homework)**