

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT



POMERADO
2009-2010

Welcome! Please sign in! Also, please take the time to sign up for a Parent-Teacher Conference in November. Thank you!

Room 18 - Mrs. Panagakis

DAILY SCHEDULE

Students will start the day in their home classroom but they might end up in other rooms (with other teachers) throughout the day. A typical day might look like this:

8:15 Opening: check homework, complete warm-up activities
8:45 Language Arts Block
10:15 RECESS
10:30 Read aloud and discuss literature, reading fluency writing
11:15 Math Block
12:30 LUNCH
1:10 Science with Mrs. Panagakis OR Social Studies with Mrs. Aneshansley
2:35 Dismissal

Other things that affect our schedule:

- **P.E.:** We will go outside for P.E. on Mondays and Fridays, from 2:00 to 2:35. Students should come to school ready to participate in appropriate attire/footwear.

- **Computer Lab:** We will be going to the Computer Lab once a week for an hour (date/time TBA)

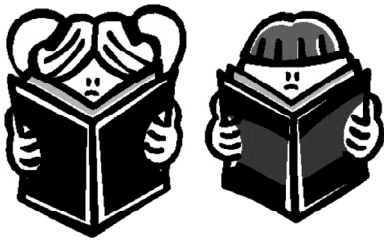
- **Library:** We will be going to the library from 11 until 11:30 every Wednesday

- **Band:** If students choose to play a band instrument or violin, they will meet with Mr. Erb on Friday mornings. Later in the year, they will also meet with him on Tuesday afternoons (after lunch). Students are responsible for remembering to bring their instruments on band days. I will probably NOT let them call home to have a parent bring them their instrument.

- **Wednesdays:** School ends at 12:55 every Wednesday

LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

You will learn about a LOT of things in 5th grade. Here are just some of the "big ideas" we'll cover this year

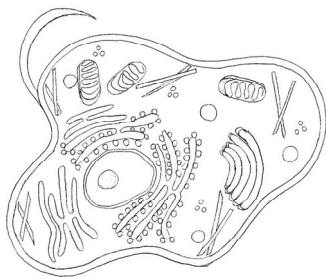
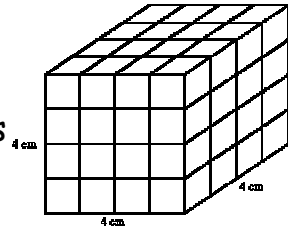


Language Arts:

- Reading and Understanding Nonfiction
- Understanding the Elements of a Story
- Writing a Response to Literature
- Writing a Persuasive Essay
- Writing Reports

Math:

- Solving Problems Using Algebra
- Working with Fractions, Decimals, and Percents
- Understanding and Working With Data Sets
- Calculating Area and Volume



Science:

- Cells
- Body Systems
- Classification
- Plants and Photosynthesis
- Weather and Space
- Atoms
- Matter and Energy

Social Studies:

- The First Americans
- The Age of Exploration
- The Colonial Period
- The American Revolution



STATES AND CAPITALS

In fifth grade, students will be expected to memorize the fifty states and their capital cities by the end of the school year. Here is a list of states and capitals to refer to throughout the year as you help your child study. They will need to know where to find all the states on a blank map (see the next page), and SPELLING COUNTS!

Alabama - Montgomery	Montana - Helena
Alaska - Juneau	Nebraska - Lincoln
Arizona - Phoenix	Nevada - Carson City
Arkansas - Little Rock	New Hampshire - Concord
California - Sacramento	New Jersey - Trenton
Colorado - Denver	New Mexico - Santa Fe
Connecticut - Hartford	New York - Albany
Delaware - Dover	North Carolina - Raleigh
Florida - Tallahassee	North Dakota - Bismarck
Georgia - Atlanta	Ohio - Columbus
Hawaii - Honolulu	Oklahoma - Oklahoma City
Idaho - Boise	Oregon - Salem
Illinois - Springfield	Pennsylvania - Harrisburg
Indiana - Indianapolis	Rhode Island - Providence
Iowa - Des Moines	South Carolina - Columbia
Kansas - Topeka	South Dakota - Pierre
Kentucky - Frankfort	Tennessee - Nashville
Louisiana - Baton Rouge	Texas - Austin
Maine - Augusta	Utah - Salt Lake City
Maryland - Annapolis	Vermont - Montpelier
Massachusetts - Boston	Virginia - Richmond
Michigan - Lansing	Washington - Olympia
Minnesota - St. Paul	West Virginia - Charleston
Mississippi - Jackson	Wisconsin - Madison
Missouri - Jefferson City	Wyoming - Cheyenne

DISCIPLINE POLICY

In our classroom, students are expected to follow all school rules as well as the Six Pillars of Character. Our classroom should be a place where everyone feels comfortable and is able to learn. If someone are being disruptive to the class in any way, here is what will happen:

- First, they'll be given a warning.* I will tell them exactly what it is that you're doing, and ask them to stop.
- If they continue to be disruptive, they will receive a behavior mark. Their name will be written on the board, and they will be benched for one play period (recess/lunch).
- If they still don't stop the behavior, they will receive a second behavior mark and may be sent to another classroom. They will be benched for an additional play period. When they waste class time by being rude or disruptive, they lose the privilege of getting to play. I might also call you (the parents) at this point, or have your child call you and explain what happened.
- If things get REALLY bad, they will get a third behavior mark AND a referral. Mrs. Danzer will contact you. Remember, if they get more than one referral (or ANY suspensions), they can't be in Club 90!
- GREEN SLIPS: If I get a green slip from one of the noon duties saying that your child was misbehaving during recess or lunch, they will get a behavior mark. If they get three green slips in the same month, that's an automatic referral (school policy).

Hopefully, you will never have to worry about any of this, and we can have a wonderful year together! ☺

*Note: Sometimes, if a behavior is REALLY bad (like hurting another student, for example), they will NOT be given a warning. In that case, they would be given an automatic referral.

SCHOOL DRESS CODE

Students may not dress in a manner that creates a safety hazard or that interferes with or distracts from the learning process. This includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Clothing, jewelry, book covers, backpacks, or binders that contain sexual connotations, or mention tobacco, alcohol, drugs, profanity, obscenity, weapons, violence, or gangs are not permitted.
- Blouses or shirts may not show the midriff or skin. Straps narrower than 2", strapless or halter tops will not be allowed.
- Pants must be tailored to the waist and stay up without using a belt. Undergarments should not be visible.
- Shorts, skirts, and dresses must be an appropriate length.
- The following items may not be worn to school: bandannas, hairnets, and altered clothing.
- Sunglasses and hats may not be worn indoors
- Trench coats, knot caps, and heavy overcoats are allowed only during appropriate weather conditions.
- Belts may not hang down and must be tucked into belt loops at all times.
- Attire, including clothing, jewelry, and other accessories which may be a safety hazard to the wearer or others is not permitted (e.g. wallet chains, spiked rings or bracelets, chain necklaces, body jewelry).
- Appropriate shoes that stay on the feet well must be worn at all times. Beach shoes/ flip-flops are not to be worn at school.
- No writing on or alterations of backpacks, ball caps, or binders, other than a student's name, is allowed.

HOMEWORK

- Homework will be assigned every night, Monday through Thursday.

Assignments **might** include:

- Reading and keeping a Reading Log (parent signature required)
- Nightly math assignments
- A weekly math packet
- Studying various subjects (parent signature required)
- Completing Book Record sheets (parent signature required)

- Homework will be checked every day. If a student is missing a particular paper or signature, it will count as a missing homework assignment. This will affect their eligibility to be in Club 90

- In most cases, students will know what their homework assignments are for the entire week. They should be able to plan their time accordingly. No late homework assignments will be accepted unless they have a VERY GOOD excuse AND a note from a parent.

EXAMPLES OF UNACCEPTABLE EXCUSES: sports games or practices, church events, or forgetting binder at school

EXAMPLES OF ACCEPTABLE EXCUSES: Birth, death, or injury in the immediate family, or illness. Remember, students need to have a note from a parent to verify their excuse!

- If your child forgets to write an assignment down, they should call another student in the class to get it. On the first day of school, they wrote down the names and phone numbers of two fellow students.

- We want all students to do well on their homework. If your child does not understand something, please encourage them to try their best. If they leave too many parts blank, it may count as a missing homework assignment! They should show that they have at least **tried** to complete the assignment.

- At the end of the year, students who have completed 100% of their homework assignments will receive a special award!

WEEKLY PROGRESS REPORT

Pretty much every Friday, you should receive a weekly progress report that looks like the one below:

Weekly Progress Report

Name: _____

This paper goes home every Friday and must be signed over the weekend. Don't forget!

DATE SENT HOME	MISSING HOMEWORK	MISSING CLASSWORK	BEHAVIOR WARNINGS	COMMENTS	PARENT INITIALS

Your child will need to show it to you and have you sign it over the weekend, and return it to school on Monday. If they forget to get it signed AND/OR forget to return it, it will count as a missing homework assignment.

Each Weekly Progress Report should last through an entire grading period. This piece of paper will be used to figure out whether or not your child has made it into Club 90.

READING GOALS

- Students are expected to read at least 25 pages a night as part of their homework. This means they should be reading 100 pages a week, and at least 400 pages a month.
- Once you finish a book, they need to complete a Book Slip. These forms will be given to them at the beginning of each month and kept in their binder. They will also need to complete other paperwork in the Reading Goal section of your AVID binder.
- Completed slips should be turned in on FRIDAY MORNINGS at this location to the designated Reading Goals tray
- Students will NOT receive credit for pages until they turn in the Book Slips and have them approved by their teacher.
- They should be reading books at their reading level (or slightly above it). If they are reading books that are way too easy, they might not receive credit for the pages. Also, they will not receive full page credit for books with a lot of pictures (like the Great Illustrated Classics).
- Every month, they will be asked to read a certain number of pages, and they will be given a due date (recorded in their AVID binders). All Reading Slips must be turned in on or before that date-- **THEY SHOULD NOT PUT THESE OFF UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE!**
- They also need to take and PASS an Accelerated Reader quiz on a school computer OR on BookAdventure.com. Heads up: Not every book is an Accelerated Reader or BookAdventure book. They will NOT be given an extension if they wait until the last day of the month and then fail the quiz. If you are unsure whether there is a quiz for a certain book, check with Mrs. Panagakis before reading it. If they choose to complete a bookAdventure quiz at home, they must print out your score sheet, get it signed by a parent, and turn it in to me to receive credit.
- Again, students will **NOT** be given any extensions! We want to create responsible students who are prepared for middle school, so they need to learn to work with a deadline!

CLUB 90

- Making Club 90 is kind of like making the Honor Roll for 5th grade.
- At the end of the first two grading periods, students who qualify for Club 90 will receive a special treat.
- If your child makes it into Club 90 for **ALL THREE** grading periods, then they will receive a special award at our Promotion ceremony at the end of the year.

To make it into Club 90, students must meet all of the following requirements:

- They must complete at least **90%** of all your homework assignments
 - They must make their monthly **Reading Goal** for each month during the grading period
 - They cannot have more than **one** referral during the grading period
 - They cannot have **any** suspensions
- At the beginning of each grading period, students will start fresh with a "clean slate."



CLASSWORK EXPECTATIONS

Your child's paper should ALWAYS have the following heading:

	Student Name, #
	Subject or Name of Assignment
	Today's Date

- Assignments should always be completed IN PENCIL, unless the teacher says otherwise. An assignment **may not be accepted** if it is completed in any other way (pen, colored pencil, marker, etc.)
- Your child should always do their best work on every assignment. They should use their neatest handwriting, their best spelling, and proper indentation.
- Some assignments will be graded, and some will not. Your child may or may not know ahead of time which assignments are being graded, so they should take everything seriously!
- If students do not complete classwork in time, they may be asked to give up some of their recess or lunch time in order to complete assignments.

Please sign the Parent-Teacher-Student Pledge and return to me tonight! Thank you! 😊

SUPPLIES/DONATIONS

The following items are always appreciated and welcome in our classroom—especially during these lean financial times!

1. Laser Printer Toner Cartridges (Samsung ML40)
2. Clorox Wipes
3. Reams of colored copy paper (any color—brighter is better!)
4. Books for the classroom library (appropriate for 5th grade)
5. Expo dry-erase markers, any color
6. Cash donations (to pay for field trips and end-of-year events)
7. Your time!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

ROOM PARENT(S): Be my heroes! Help organize class parties and other fun events.

ART DOCENT: Teach art lessons to the class, usually once a month

BIZTOWN: We will need a whopping **TWENTY** parent volunteers for this field trip, and it is hard work! Mark the date on your calendar: June 3, 2010

CARNIVAL COORDINATOR: Please help me run our booth and recruit other parent volunteers to take turns working shifts.

5th GRADE BOOSTERS: Plan and execute various fundraisers to help our kids. Also help organize/run Field Day at the Poway Pool and Fifth Grade Promotion.

COPIES: If there is a particular day of the week you can help me by making copies, stapling, etc., let me know! I may not always need the help, but it's nice to know it's there. ☺

OTHER WAYS TO GET INVOLVED/HELP

- **Join PTA!** 50% of the \$8 membership fee goes to our school. Gift wrap sale is going on right now.
- **Pomerado Foundation- Dime a Day** Fundraiser starts today
- **Friday Store-** we need parents to run this!
- **5th Grade Parent Boosters-** We need volunteers to help raise money for our 5th grade activities Our goal is to raise \$2000... any excess money raised will be used on a class gift for the school (supply donations to classrooms, etc.). Let me know if you are interested in helping!

FIELD TRIPS

We will probably go on several field trips this year. These will be discussed as they are scheduled/confirmed. As of right now, there are three field trips planned:

1. College trip (most likely SDSU)—late November/early December
2. Possibly a Star Party (details TBA)
3. BizTown (June 3rd)
4. Field Day at the Poway Pool (June 4th)

Remember, going on a field trip is a PRIVILEGE, not a RIGHT! This means that your child does not *automatically* get to go on a field trip. If they have not been doing their classwork or homework, or if they have been behaving badly in class, they might not be invited on the trip. Instead, they will stay behind with another teacher and complete an assignment.

If a student has shown their teacher that they cannot follow these rules, the student might not be invited on the next field trip.

Please also remember that permission slips must be filled out completely and turned in on time. If not, your child may have to stay behind.



CONTACT INFORMATION

You may contact me by email at:

bpanagakis@powayusd.com

Or by telephone at:

(858) 748-1320 x2118

Email is the easiest way for me to communicate with you, and I check my email at least once a day (unless the server is down, which happens every once in a while). I will always try to respond as quickly as possible.

Please be sure to leave your email address for me on the back counter! From time to time, I may send out mass emails to keep you updated on what is going on in our class.

OUR CLASS WEBSITE:

<http://www.powayusd.com/teachers/bpanagakis>

OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE:

<http://www.powayusd.com/pusdpoes>

WORLD BOOK ONLINE:

<http://www.worldbookonline.com>
User name: poway Password: success