

DeKalb County School District

4th Grade Standards & Grading Procedures

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Fourth Grade students will receive instruction in Georgia Standard of Excellence (GSE) for ELA and Math. Science, Social Studies, Music, Health and Physical Education instruction will be based on the Georgia Performance Standards (GPS.) Both, GSE and GPS standards can be found at www.ga.doe.org

By the end of Fourth Grade students will:

GSE for Language Arts Standards for Literature and Informational Text

Literature	Informational Text
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to details & examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text. • Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text. • Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text. • Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including those that allude to significant characters found in mythology. • Explain major differences between poems, drama, and prose, and refer to the structural elements of poems and drama when writing or speaking about a text. • Compare and contrast the point of view from which different stories are narrated, including the difference between first- and third-person narrations. • Make connections between the text of a story or drama and a visual or oral presentation of the text, identifying where each version reflects specific descriptions and directions in the text. • Compare & contrast the similar themes, topics & patterns of events in stories, myths & literature from different cultures. • Read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poetry, in the grades 4–5 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to details & examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text. • Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text. • Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text. • Determine the meaning of general academic and domain specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a grade 4 topic or subject area. • Describe the overall structure of events, ideas, concepts, or information in a text or part of a text. • Compare and contrast a firsthand and secondhand account of the same event or topic; describe the differences in focus and the information provided. • Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears. • Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text. • Integrate information from two texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably. • Read & comprehend texts, including social studies, science, and technical texts, in grades 4–5 text complexity proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

GSE Reading Standards: Foundational Skills

- Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.
- Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

GSE Writing Standards

- Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.
- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

- Write narratives to develop real or imagined events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.
- Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development & organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- With guidance and support, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.
- With some guidance and support, use technology, including the Internet, to produce & publish writing as well as to interact & collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding to type at least one page in a single sitting.

4th Grade Standards & Grading Procedures

- Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.
- Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; take notes and categorize information, and provide a list of sources.
- Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- Write routinely over extended and shorter time frames for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

GSE Speaking and Listening Standards

- Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
- Paraphrase portions of text read aloud or information presented in diverse formats including visually, quantitatively & orally
- Identify the reasons and evidence a speaker provides to support particular points.
- Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience in an organized manner, using appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details to support main ideas or themes; speak clearly at an understandable pace.
- Add audio recordings & visual displays to presentations when appropriate to enhance the main ideas or themes.
- Differentiate between contexts that call for formal English and where informal discourse is appropriate.

GSE Language Standards

- Demonstrate command of the conventions of English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
- Demonstrate command of the conventions of English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
- Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.
- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on *grade 4 reading and content*, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
- Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
- Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, or states of being and that are basic to a particular topic.

Passwords for Textbooks

Listed below are the websites, usernames, and access codes to retrieve online textbook resources per grade-level and content area for grades K-5. The same username and pass code can be utilized to access the Math, Science, and Social Studies online textbook.

GRADE	ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	MATH, SCIENCE, AND SOCIAL STUDIES
4 TH	www-k6.thinkcentral.com Username: 4classdekalb Password: dekalbstudent4	http://www.eduplace.com/eservices Username: 4classdekalb Password: dekalbstudent4

Class Websites

- <https://dekalb.itslearning.com>
- <http://wadsworths.dekalb.k12.ga.us/SabreenJai.aspx>
- www.edmodo.com
- www.gooru.org
- www.ixl.com
- www.newsela.com
- www.readworks.org
- Others

Classroom Standards and Practices

Most of my communication to students and parents is through **Infinite Campus, VERGE, and Edmodo**. I do my best to keep you current with what's going on in the classroom, homework and projects on our class website. I encourage parents **to see Mrs. Lynch in the front office** and join **Infinite Campus** to stay abreast of your child's class performance. **Check your child's account in VERGE often so** that you can receive notifications and stay abreast of your child's activities and responsibilities.

Web Links for Parental Support

- Homework/Project Reminders: Text to: **81010** Message: **@884dd** Once registered, text your child's name.
- CompassLearning & Odyssey <http://www.compasslearning.com>
- NetTrekker classic & Netrekker di (Differentiated Instruction) <http://www.nettrekker.com>
- Information on standards-based education <http://edinformatics.com/parents.htm>
- Georgia Department of Education (Standards for all content areas) <http://www.doe.k12.ga.us>
- Resources, research tools, and grade-specific activities <http://lightspan.com>
- Educational games for students and advice for parents <http://school.discovery.com>

English language Arts Web Links for Parental Support

- Family Education <http://school.familyeducation.com/reading/cognitive-development/38329.html>
- Web English Teacher <http://www.webenglishteacher.com/readingmain.html>
- Websites
http://kisdwebs.katyisd.org/campuses/PE/parentresources/Documents/Reading_Websites_For_Parents.pdf

GRADING SYSTEM

The DeKalb County School District believes that the most important assessment of student learning shall be conducted by the teachers as they observe and evaluate students in the context of ongoing classroom instruction. A variety of approaches, methodologies, and resources shall be used to deliver educational services and to maximize each student's opportunity to succeed. Teachers shall evaluate student progress to students and parents in a timely manner through the electronic grading portal. See Board Policy IHA.

GRADING CATEGORIES	GRADE PROTOCOL
Formative Assessment – 0%	A 90-100 Excellent P (Pass)
Assessment During Learning – 25% (Warm Ups, Quizzes, Projects)	B 80-89 Good F (Fail)
Guided, Independent, or Group Practice -45% (ELAINs, Homework, Classwork)	C 71-79 Fair
Summative Assessment or Assessment of Learning – 30% (Formal Post Assessment Tests, Culminating Exam, Culminating Project or Performance)	D 70 Failing
	F Below 70 Failing

GRADE POINT AVERAGE CALCULATION

Grade point average (GPA) is calculated by dividing the total amount of grade points earned by the number of core classes. The GPA may range from 0.0 to a 4.0 and are calculated on a scale of A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1 and F=0.

Example: LA + MATH + SS + SCI + SPANISH ÷ 5 = GPA

STUDENT PROGRESS

Semester progress reports shall be issued four and a half, nine and thirteen and a half weeks into each semester. The progress of students shall be evaluated frequently and plans shall be generated to remediate deficiencies as they are discovered. Plans shall include appropriate interventions designed to meet the needs of the students.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND HONESTY

Students will not engage in an act of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, providing false information, falsifying school records, forging signatures, or using an unauthorized computer user ID or password. See the Code of Student Conduct - Student Rights and Responsibilities and Character Development Handbook. Receiving and/or giving information for an assignment is considered cheating. When caught in the act, student will not receive credit nor receive the opportunity to make-up.

HOMEWORK

Homework assignments should be meaningful and should be an application or adaptation of the teaching/learning in the classroom. Homework is expected to be completed as assigned and can be used as a review and/or notes. It should be considered in the possession of the student, reviewed, and evaluated. Homework should be considered *very important* and as a means for continued study for mastery.

LATE AND MISSING ASSIGNMENTS AND PROJECTS

Homework may be assigned Monday-Thursday. Periodically, a project may be assigned to enhance the learning of a unit. Each project will have a rubric with guidelines for points and a due date. Student assignments and projects must be completed within the prescribed time limit and missed assignments will be noted in the agenda. All late assignments and projects will be posted as a zero in Infinite Campus until it has been submitted as complete. Late assignments and projects submitted within two days after due date will be reduced by 10-20 pts. Assignments submitted three days late will receive a maximum grade of 75% pending 100% correct answers. Extra homework and projects will not be assigned to boost low scores due to negligence.

MAKE-UP WORK DUE TO ABSENCES

When a student is absent because of a legal reason as defined by Georgia law or when the absence is apparently beyond the control of the student, the student shall be given an opportunity to earn grade(s) for those days absent. Make-up work must be completed within the designated time allotted. Classwork and homework from each class will be collected for the absent student throughout the day. When the student returns from the absence, their makeup work will be given to them in a folder on the first day back. After receiving the folder, he/she must submit the assignments by the designated time allotted. Upon request, the makeup folder with assignments and necessary books/materials can be sent to the office for pick up after 2:30 pm. UPON RETURN AFTER AN ABSENCE, IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK WITH ALL TEACHERS FOR CLARIFICATION OF THE ASSIGNMENTS.

MATERIALS/SUPPLIES

Students will be expected to report to class daily with their assignments, agendas, interactive notebooks (ELAINs), paper, pencils, and glue sticks.

THE USE OF AND ACCESS TO A COMPUTER, PRINTER, AND INTERNET ARE REQUIREMENTS OF WADSWORTH MAGNET PROGRAM.

Please refer to Verge, Edmodo, the student agenda, and Thursday courier to stay current on assignments and activities. Parents are asked to monitor/initial the agenda for assignments and/or notes from the teacher daily. In addition, please remember to view Infinite Campus for your child's current grades/evaluations.

FOURTH GRADE ELA COURSE SYLLABUS

***The teachers reserve the right to alter any section of this course syllabus at any time during the semester to meet the needs, interests, and to ensures academic success of the students and to comply with DeKalb County and State of Georgia.

Wadsworth Magnet School for High Achievers

Fourth Grade English/Language Arts (ELA) Course Syllabus

School Year 2016-2017

Please sign and return this page acknowledging that you and your child have read and discussed the curriculum overview, grading procedures, and guidelines.

Yes, we have read the course syllabus for English/Language Arts (ELA).

Student's Name _____

Homeroom _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

Additional information to support continued contact:

Information Parent/Guardian