

# *Welcome to 5th Grade!*

Dear Families,

Fifth grade is a transitional year for your child. Not only is he/she learning content that is specific to the grade, but they are also learning skills needed for success in middle school as well as virtual learning. Our goal is to provide learning opportunities for success in all areas. We love teaching and working with students. We are working to incorporate movement and activity into the lessons that we teach. Classroom expectations are included in this letter.

**Homework/Homework Notes:** In fifth grade, we have **math homework Monday - Thursday** each week. Homework is due the next school day. If your child is absent, the homework will be available to them when they return. We also accept late work and they will still get full credit. Fifth grade math is rigorous. If your child is struggling with homework, please have them do their best for a full 20 minutes. After they've attempted the work, please have them circle the problems they're struggling with so that we may assist them the next day.

**Snack/Water Bottle:** We will have snack time daily. Your child may bring a small snack from home to eat during this time. Please try to make it a healthy option and also not too messy as we usually continue to work through this time. Water bottles are also allowed. Please make sure students are bringing water **only**.

**Classroom Supplies:** Your child will need a folder for every subject and many, many pencils throughout the year. A total of 4 folders will be needed on the very first day of school. We have all supplies needed if your child does not have them. One of the critical skills we will be teaching your child this year is organization. We will be urging students to keep papers in the correct folders and have the rest of their materials organized. We will be keeping all items in a cubby this year instead of desks so organization will be very important.

**Newsletters/All American Hero:** We will send a newsletter every other week **via email**. We also use Skyward to send reminders about upcoming events, assignments, and changes. **It's important that parents/guardians read the newsletters as this is a large part of how we will communicate with you this year.** Also, *All American Hero* sheets will come home every other week. This is a biweekly progress report that lets you know how your child is doing in class. Both teachers work on these reports together so that feedback is consistent.

**Field Trips:** We normally have two big field trips in fifth grade. We attend a musical symphony in the spring and visit Greenfield Village at the end of the year. At this point, we do not know what will take place or when. As the year progresses and more information is available, we will let you know.

It is going to be a fantastic year. We are looking forward to getting to know your child as well as your family. We love to hear from you and if you ever have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to one of us. Our emails are [ritenburgha@beldingschools.org](mailto:ritenburgha@beldingschools.org) and [kurtzm@beldingschools.org](mailto:kurtzm@beldingschools.org). For urgent questions or concerns please contact our main office.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Kurtz and Mrs. Ritenburgh

