# Back to School Night

Mr. VanZant 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Room 145



### **Curricular Areas**

- Mathematics
- \* RELA:

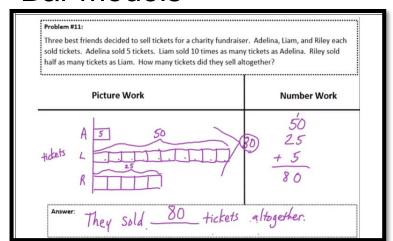
Reading, Writing, & Language

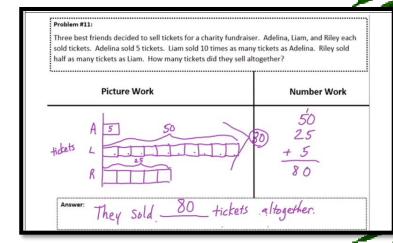
- Content Areas:
  - Science and Social Studies
- Social Emotional Learning
- \* Technology



### Math

- Math In Focus, will be the primary tool for math instruction.
- Bar models





District "Study Guides" will be sent home.

### **RELA**

### Writing/Language

- Narrative, Informative, Poetry, Journaling
- Handwritten and typed pieces
- Spelling (No tests.)
- Language/Grammar
- Handwriting

### Reading

- My View Literacy (integrated RELA)
- Class novels
- IR/Journal Writing



### **Content Areas**

### **Science**

- Our Solar System
- Motion
- Life Cycles

#### **Social Studies**

- Social Studies Alive
- Units of Study:
  - Geography
  - Communities



# Social Emotional Learning

- Second Step Program
- Morning Meetings and Closing Circles
- Class games



# **Technology**

- \* Laptops:
  - Please take it with you and review careful transportation and appropriate use of them.
  - Students will bring them to school each day.
  - Please charge nightly.
- We will cover a variety of programs and computer skills this year.



### "Eternal Skills"

- Problem-solving
- Creativity
- Collaboration
- Communication
- \* I want my students to view the world as full of possibilities for them.

### enable EMPOWER!

- Giving students the skills to claim their success- no matter what their abilities.
- Improve one step at a time, success does not just appear.
- GROWTH mindset, as opposed to a fixed mindset.
  - A lifelong path:
  - It is the journey that strengthens and builds- not arriving at the destination.
- This approach can lower anxiety.



# What can parents do?

- Engage your child, frequently, in conversation about concepts covered, as well as activities worked on in class. Review their homework with them.
- Utilize a "growth mindset" around learning.
- Encourage your child to problem-solve and work through any challenges.
- Talk through strategies with them.
- Contact me if school brings <u>undue</u> stress into your home.



**Homework and Projects** 

Assignments will be written in the assignment books.

- 30 minutes, on the average, per night
  - About 15 minutes of Math, 15 minutes of Reading, and occasionally, other subjects (such as handwriting and "studying" of content for an assessment)
  - If homework presents a difficulty on a given night, do not force it. Send me a note and we will work on it in class.
- Unfinished class-work might also be assigned as homework
- If there is no homework, the assignment book will actually read "No Homework"
- "Home Projects" will be very rare, but enrichment homework is available on my site.

### Communication

- E-mail: <u>dvanzant@cbsd.org</u>
- Sharepoint (My Website)
- Newsletters (usually, monthly)



### Snack

- We have a "working snack"
- Food items should be easy and safe to eat while working

## **Birthdays**

- Non-food items:
  - Pencils
  - Erasers
  - Guest Reader



State Assessments and Grading

- PSSA Math
- \* PSSA ELA

- Trimesters
- Letter Grades



Things I Thought That I Might Forget, But Did Not Want To

- Bus changes need to be authorized through transportation.
- Check out "Self-Portraits"
- Please answer letters.
- Please, no gifts!
  - Student artwork/cards
  - Donations to non-profit orgs that support people (or animals) in need