



Welcome to 6th Grade ALPS



Dear Parents and student,

Welcome to sixth grade. As we enter this new year, it will be an opportunity for us to learn and grow together. My sixth grade philosophy is to prepare students for Middle School in all areas (academics, behavior and socially) and teach them the organization and leadership skills they will need to succeed. I would also like to help the students enjoy learning so that they will become lifelong learners.

Communication between parents, teachers and students is critical. The best way to communicate with me is through email. Please check your email and make sure that emails are not going to your spam or junk mail. I would encourage you to teach your child to be proactive and to communicate with me if they need help with homework or are having difficulties in any aspect of school.

Expectations of teacher:

- Provide a safe learning environment.
- Know the academic levels of each student and plan and provide appropriate activities to help him/her learn.
- Learn special needs of any student(s) and adjust all areas of teaching accordingly to meet their needs.
- Make sure grades are available to parents and students in a timely fashion. (Canvas)
- Provide leadership opportunities and teach skills to help students excel in all areas of their life.
- Communicate with parents.

Expectations of students:

- Be to school on time everyday. If you are absent, you are responsible for the work missed that day.
- Participate in all lessons, pay attention, ask many questions and get extra help when needed.
- Complete all assignments and turn work in on time. Make up all missing work.
- Do your best work and live up to your potential.
- Obey all classroom and school rules. Let the teacher know of any difficulties you are having.
- Stay at home when feeling ill.

Expectations of parents:

- Make sure your child is at school, prepared with all materials and ready to learn.
- Communicate with the teacher.
- Check grades on Canvas.
- Help your child to learn to be responsible- sometimes that means to help them work through failures in ways like redos, and make-ups.
- Keep your child at home when they are feeling ill.

We work on helping students become leaders and responsible citizens. We will be upholding the school policy of not letting children call home for items left at home. (Homework, backpacks, supplies for projects etc.) Of course there will be exceptions to this rule. Please understand the purpose for this rule goes back to my philosophy of getting them ready for Middle School. They need to be able to keep track of supplies and homework for several classes and be prepared every day.

Canvas - Most of our assignments will be available through Canvas. Grades will also be there. Please follow your child on Canvas. You will find directions on how to link to Canvas at <https://jordandistrict.org/resources/canvas/>. Canvas provides a to-do list for each student. This will let you know what assignments the student needs to finish. Any assignment not completed in class will be homework for that evening. I will send a list of missing assignments home weekly. Please sign and return this list.

Dress code/ Cell phone- The following link provides the district guidelines: <http://policy.jordandistrict.org/aa419/>. We ask that all students follow the dress code. Students who come dressed inappropriately will be sent to the office to call home for a change of clothes. Cell phones must be kept in their backpack and should not be used during school hours except with teacher permission. We have a classroom phone and if a child needs to speak to a parent they will be allowed to use a phone.. If cell phones become a problem, the phone will be sent to the office for a parent to pick up.

Technology. In our classroom we will be using a lot of technology this year. It is critical that students understand the technology user policy and rules for the Chromebooks and computers. Please make sure you read them thoroughly with

your child and you both understand the rules and consequences before you sign the agreement. Students who lose their technology privileges will struggle staying caught up in my class. We are going to be using Google Classroom, Nearpod, Flipgrid, Canvas and many other programs this year. One of the biggest problems with technology in the classroom is that many students go to websites that are not assigned. I will be using a program to help monitor this but I would also ask that you discuss the issue with your child.

Assignments - Sixth grade students should learn to be responsible for their assignments, projects and behavior. While it is important for students to learn to turn in assignments in a timely manner, the goal of our assignments is to have a chance to practice skills or demonstrate proficiency. Since I want all students to complete every assignment, I will accept complete assignments for full credit up until the day of the unit test. Students will be responsible to find lost or missing assignments or they will need to think of a solution that will show me they have practiced the skills the assignment addressed. Extra credit assignments will be available only to those students who have completed all missing assignments. Work not completed in class will become homework.

Homework - Regular required homework for each child will be 20-30 minutes or more of independent reading nightly. Each student will keep a reading log to show which books they have been reading. Students will also be participating in a 40 book challenge. They may have a little bit of math and possibly small amounts of other subject homework. If they use their class time wisely, their homework will mostly be projects including some research projects of their choice, a STEM fair project and other projects. If this is going to be a struggle due to an individual concern, please let me know.

Writing - Sixth grade focuses on argument writing and informative writing, though we also do some narrative writing. Students will have to find credible sources and use those sources to defend or inform through writing. The students will write a lot in class. I will not be grading all of their writing but will be discussing it with them, focusing on the many things they do well and one area where they could improve.

Books and Software Programs- I have included a list of websites and books that we might use. This list is for all of sixth grade so, of course, we will not use all of the books and websites but they are possibilities. Please let me know if you have any questions about any of the selections. All books and websites are on the Jordan Approved Lists for Elementary. I will be letting you know additional websites or books I'll read to the students as they come up. Please let me know if you have any concerns.

I have joined the Jordan District pilot of SchoolAi. The kids will be learning how to use this Ai program in a way to benefit them rather than doing the work for them. I'm new to the program so we'll learn together.

If you are interested in volunteering, please let me know. I will have a volunteer list available.

I'm so looking forward to meeting each of you and starting a new school year. It's going to be a great year!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Linda Irick

Please check the appropriate response, sign and return this portion of this disclosure statement. Please keep the rest for your records.

_____My child and I have read, discussed and understand the disclosure statement.

_____My child and I have read and discussed the disclosure statement, but we have some questions or concerns.

Please contact me at _____
Please join me on the Remind app. The class code is 6273c8.

Student's Signature_____

Parent's signature_____