

# Parent Orientation

## Keys to Success

### Mr. Cullen

Dear Families,

We are providing to you some highlights of key areas that we feel will be essential for you and your child to regularly keep on top of. Success in these areas will lead to a year of powerful learning and exciting growth.

Please post this in a place where it can frequently be seen and refer to it. We believe a great beginning **is for students to come to school regularly and that they arrive on time. Please note that we write down and discuss homework from between 2:20 and 2:40.**

### ORGANIZATION

Parents are encouraged to check in and help their child in these areas at least each weekend.

**-Backpacks clean.** Please make sure papers such as homework or handouts are not randomly stuffed in backpacks.

**-Reading book.** A just-right reading book will need to travel from school to home and back to school each night

**-Binder organized and clean.** A binder with areas for each subject should be kept neat. Papers need to be in the correct sections. Folders for each subject are also fine. Please make sure there is a pocket or folder for papers families need to see or sign.

### HOMEWORK

We will not be assigning an overwhelming amount of homework. However, it is extremely important that the reasonable amount be completed well each night. Homework will usually consist of:

**-Reading.** Thirty minutes of quality reading time each night, including on weekends. Students should be reading a just-right book in a quiet place. This reading will lead to success in all subject areas. It is essential that it happen!

**-Talking.** Students should talk with a family member about their book each night.

**-Math.** Several math problems will be assigned. This work will be a review of work already explained in class. **Students will need to have their math notebooks in their backpacks. The notebooks will have examples of problems that the students can refer to if they become stuck on homework problems.**

**Parents should monitor and check in on student's homework each night.**

**The students are to have an assignment planner in their backpacks. The planner will list the homework that needs to be completed each night.**

### **BEING ACTIVE IN CLASS; BRINGING EFFORT AND ENTHUSIASM TO LEARNING.**

**-Identify interests.** Students will be expected to identify things they love or are interested in. Examples include seeking out books they love or thinking about important moments or people special to them that they are interested in writing about.

**-Talking.** Students will be expected to talk regularly about their learning in partnerships, small groups, whole-group situations, and at home. Effort will make a huge learning difference!!!!!!

**-Finding help.** Students should work to ask for help as soon as they need it.

**-Work hard!!!** Students will be asked to give their all to complete assignments and achieve goals.

### **SOCIAL HAPPINESS**

Students will be asked to be positive leaders on campus who are active in achieving happiness and who help others.

**-Involvement and accountability.** A positive leader will engage in creating classroom expectations and give their best effort to follow them regularly.

**-Playground/Community Hall.** A positive leader will follow expectations in both of these areas. A positive leader will look for ways to productively solve problems. Students are asked to work closely with aides on the playground if help is needed in solving issues. Students should also ask their teacher for help sooner rather than later.