



*Jefferson School  
Sixth Grade  
Handbook*

*2024-2025*

# Welcome to Sixth Grade!

- Sixth grade is an exciting time in a student's life filled with a lot of changes and new adventures. In order to make this school year as successful as possible, this handbook has been created to keep students and parents informed about the curriculum and expectations.

## Behavior Policy

- This year Jefferson School will continue to use the five point creed. School wide behavior will be controlled by using the Jefferson School Creed:

- Be Responsible
- Do Your Best Each Day
- Think Before You Speak
- Put Others First
- Avoid Conflict

- Our classroom behavior system will also be based on the Jefferson School Five Point Creed. Student behavior will be managed in each classroom.

## Homework

- According to Jefferson School district board policy, sixth graders should have homework for approximately one and a half hours each night. This will not be the case most nights. Students should use the remainder of the time studying for tests, doing projects, or independent reading.

## Absences

- When absent, your child is expected to check the google site while at home and complete the work they can do on their own, so they do not fall behind. Students will be given extra time to complete assignments that need teacher explanation.
- Every day your child is absent, they will be given the same number of days to get their missing work completed. For example, if your child is absent for three days, they have three days from when they return to turn in any work they missed for full credit. Also, if you request your child's work to be picked up from school when they are absent, it is expected to be completed upon the student's return.

- We will post homework/classwork on our Google Site:  
<https://sites.google.com/jsdtracy.com/6thgradejefferson/home>.

## Late Work Pass

- Students will be given four late passes for each subject (ELA, History, Math, Science) each trimester. These passes are designed to be used by students when special circumstances keep them from completing their work on time. They are not meant to be used as a "day off." Once they have used up their passes, late work will no longer be accepted. Absent work does not need a late pass.
- Late passes will be accepted up until the day of the test, or end of trimester (whichever comes first).

## Extra Credit

- **NO** extra credit will be offered.

## Chromebooks

- Students will use their school-issued Chromebooks in each of his/her classes every day. It is important that chromebooks are brought to school fully charged each day.
- There is no need to bring the charger to school since students will not be able to charge chromebooks at school. If a chromebook is not charged, or it is not at school students will be expected to complete the classwork at home and it may be counted as missing or late.

## Big Bucks

- Students (individually or in groups) who are on task, responsible with their assignments, have good behavior, or are simply 'caught' being respectful and supportive of others will be rewarded with Big Bucks. We feel that the Big Bucks plan will not only encourage cooperative group work and adherence to the Jefferson School Creed and rules, but will also provide students with the opportunity to learn about the value of saving money for less immediate needs. Big Bucks may be spent on classroom items, such as using the restroom, borrowing a pencil, etc. This 'money' will also be used throughout the year to participate in activities and/or earn awards. Big Bucks cannot be transferred from student to student.

# SUPPLY LIST

- ✓ 1 Binder with ONE inch rings (science)
- ✓ Binder Dividers with at least 7 tabs
- ✓ 1 Folder w/ a pocket on each side
- ✓ A Pencil Pouch or box for backpack
- ✓ Erasers (large or pencil top)
- ✓ Pens (blue or black)
- ✓ Pencils (Ticonderoga are best)
- ✓ Highlighters
- ✓ Scissors
- ✓ Glue sticks
- ✓ A box of 12 Colored Pencils
- ✓ 3 Dry Erase Markers
- ✓ 2 Packs of Index Cards (3" x 5")
- ✓ Earbuds

## CLASSROOM WISH LIST ITEMS:

These items will be collected and used for the entire class.

- ✓ Boxes of Tissue
- ✓ Hand sanitizer
- ✓ Black **Ultra Fine** Sharpies
- ✓ Pencils (Ticonderoga are best)
- ✓ Airwick Air Freshener refills

## Physical Education

- ✓ Running Shoes (no high tops, casual or skater shoes)
- ✓ 1 Folder w/ a pocket on each side

## Important Websites

Important websites can be found on the sixth grade website:

<https://sites.google.com/jsdtracy.com/6thgradejefferson/home>

# Sixth Grade Teachers

Ryan Freitas

Room 115

[rfreitas@jsdtracy.com](mailto:rfreitas@jsdtracy.com)

835-3053 ext. 1115

Stacey Maslyar

Room 111

[smaslyar@jsdtracy.com](mailto:smaslyar@jsdtracy.com)

835-3053 ext. 1111

Renaë Potts

Room 113

[rpotts@jsdtracy.com](mailto:rpotts@jsdtracy.com)

835-3053 ext. 1113

Delma DaVeiga

Room 203

[ddaveiga@jsdtracy.com](mailto:ddaveiga@jsdtracy.com)

835-3053 ext 1203

## Language Arts & Reading -

Mrs. Potts, Mrs. Maslyar, & Mr. Freitas

Our ELA program is called SpringBoard which is computer based so we will be using our chromebooks daily. We will be utilizing Google Classroom for a majority of the assignments. In writing we will be focusing on expository writing and claims and evidence. Students will also have an online Writer's Notebook with a daily writing prompt.

### INDEPENDENT READING

Students will be required to read independently throughout the year. They will be given time in class daily for silent reading, so they must have a book with them. Please also encourage your child to read nightly for at least 20 minutes.

### GRADING BREAKDOWN

Even though our curriculum combines Reading and Language Arts into ELA, your child will receive a separate grade for Reading and Language Arts. These subjects are broken down into the following grade categories:

#### Language Arts

Classwork/Homework 40%  
Assessments 60%

#### Reading

Classwork/Homework 40%  
Assessments 60%

### CLASSWORK/HOMEWORK

Students will be given classwork almost daily and given time to complete the work in class. Students who do not finish in class will need to take it home to finish. There will rarely be any other "homework" assigned aside from their independent reading.

### ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are embedded into our program. Many of these assessments are writing tasks, scoring guides will be given to students in advance, and be discussed at length in class and can be found in Google Classroom.

# Mathematics -- Mr. Freitas

This year we will be using Eureka Math<sup>2</sup>. Students will be given a workbook in which they can write in to do their classwork and homework..

It is my intention to create, within the classroom, a balanced math curriculum where students work on the basic skills needed, while also being given the opportunity to develop the higher level thinking skills needed in our changing world. There will be an emphasis on complex problem solving based on real life situations. I will be striving to make sure all students are learning mathematics at their highest potential.

## GRADING BREAKDOWN

Your child's grade is broken down into the following 3 categories:

Tests - 60%

Take-Home Quizzes - 20%

Homework/Classwork - 20%

## RE-DO TESTS

**NO** re-do tests will be given.

## HOMEWORK

Homework will be assigned upon completion of each lesson. And yes, if a lesson ends on a Friday, there may be homework over the weekend.

## TESTS

Students will be notified of tests at least a week in advance. WORK MUST BE SHOWN FOR EVERY PROBLEM unless stated otherwise by me. If work is not shown, they will not receive full credit for the problem (even if they get the correct answer). Students must be able to justify how they arrived at their answer.

## Science -- Mrs. Maslyar

This year we will be using STEMScopes, which is our science curriculum that is aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). STEMScopes focuses on integrating all the sciences. This means that students will be exposed to multiple areas including Earth science, life science, physical science, etc. Science is no longer about reading from textbooks, rather, students will discover new concepts as they participate in hands-on activities and labs.

### GRADING BREAKDOWN

Your child's grade is broken down into the following categories:

Labs/Projects 15%	Tests 50%
Classwork/Homework 5%	Quizzes 30%

### HOMEWORK

There may be homework assigned, but not every night. If students are working to the best of their ability, they will have ample time to finish their work in class. If students do not finish in class, they are expected to take home the classwork and finish at home. Homework time at home should also be spent studying or doing projects.

### LABS

During lab time I expect students to follow safe lab procedures. Students not behaving appropriately during a lab will be removed and will not be given the opportunity to make-up the lab.

If a student misses a lab, it is their responsibility to see the teacher on the day they return to schedule a time to make up the lab.

### TESTS/QUIZZES

Students will be notified of tests at least a week in advance. Quizzes will typically occur every Monday and will be based on the previous week's material. Students will be allowed to use their own science binders during tests/quizzes. They are responsible for taking their own notes and keeping their science binders up to date.

## History--Mrs. Potts

Sixth grade students will examine the history, culture, geography, economy, and government of the people of many civilizations. Reading, research, writing, and art will be experienced by students throughout the following units: Prehistory/Early Humans, Mesopotamia, Ancient Hebrews, Ancient Egypt, Ancient India, Ancient China, Ancient Greece, and Ancient Rome.

Our sixth grade Social Studies program incorporates the TCI (Teacher's Curriculum Institute) units with our National Geographic history textbook World History. The units are created to meet the different learning needs of students, as well as make history come alive for students who might otherwise find the subject remote, boring or inaccessible. We will be doing two simulations, one first trimester and one third trimester. These simulations will be fun, but also require a lot of work on the students' part. Using class time wisely is extremely important.

### GRADING BREAKDOWN

Your child's grade is broken down into the following 3 categories:

Tests/Quizzes - 50%

Classwork/Homework - 20%

Projects - 30%

### PROJECTS/CLASSWORK/HOMEWORK

There will rarely be any homework assigned. If students are working to the best of their ability, they will have ample time to finish their work in class. If students do not finish in class, they are expected to take home the classwork and finish at home or the work will be considered incomplete. Some time (10-20 minutes a night) should be spent studying or working on projects. Weekend homework will not be assigned, but students may need to work on projects or catch up on missed work over the weekend. Projects lose 10% every day they are late. Late passes cannot be used for projects.

### TESTS/QUIZZES

Students will be notified of tests at least a week in advance. All required information should be in their History Slides, which can be found in Google Classroom. Flashcards will be made as a class assignment and should be used at home as a study tool. Notes or flashcards cannot be used on the test/quiz.