



Welcome to Malletts Bay School

Grade 3 Parent Orientation

May 5th, 2015

Agenda



- Malletts Bay School Basics
- Nurse Josie
- Daily schedule for third grade
- Assessment
- Teachers
- Transitions
- The elementary years
- Placement and Step Up Day Activities
- Questions

MBS Basics

- “Houses”
- School rules
- Busses
- Curriculum and assessment
- Homework
- Class sizes (22-24 students)
- Technology
- Unified Arts

Daily Schedule

- Café opens for breakfast at 8:00 a.m.
- Busses begin dropping students off at 8:15 a.m.
- Supervised a.m. recess for all students 8:15-8:30 a.m.
- School day starts at 8:30 a.m.
- Third graders have separate lunches but all have recess together
- 5 Unified Arts classes weekly (Band and chorus start in fifth grade)
- School day ends at 3:00
- Dismissal carefully monitored – parents pick up in the gym and “check out” with a staff member; staff members monitor bus dismissal all along the pathway

Parent Participation

- Classroom volunteers
- Four Winds
- MBS PTO
- Fuel Up to Play
- School-Community Council
- Substitutes





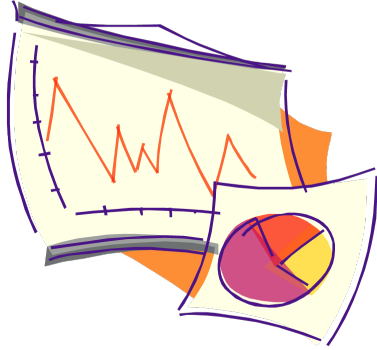
Snack and Lunch

K-5 all share the same guidelines for snacks provided at celebrations, in accordance with District policy.

Third graders wanted me to tell you that there are differences in food service:

- Students need to learn to enter their own PIN code
- Students pick up their own tray

By fifth grade, students can join a student “lunch committee.”



Assessment

- Parents of third graders felt that the pace of instruction “picks up” at MBS.
- This may be due to the requirement to test all the children on the annual test.
- All students take the Smarter Balanced Assessment in the spring.
- Our teachers rely heavily on formative assessment – what they see the children doing each day on their assignments and classroom work – to make instructional decisions.
- We do our best to help children approach the required tests with a healthy attitude. Unlike some states, we do NOT focus heavily on “test prep” or put pressure on our children.

Our Teachers

We have 7 third grade teachers in three houses. They work closely together to design units, and have several shared learning opportunities throughout the year.

Harmony House: *Mrs. Schroeder and Mrs. Cioffi*

Summit House: *Mrs. Sato and Ms. Laurent*

Lighthouse: *Mrs. Bonfigli, Mrs. Rayner-Cyr, and Ms. O'Neill*



The Big Transition





Summer Transition

- The playground is open to the public during the summer. Some parents have organized informal play dates over the summer. If anyone wants to do this, I'm happy to use Powerschool to let families know.
- The third grade teachers organized a "Smart Start" in August. During "Smart Start," children meet their Unified Arts teachers and parents get a chance to meet with the classroom teacher.

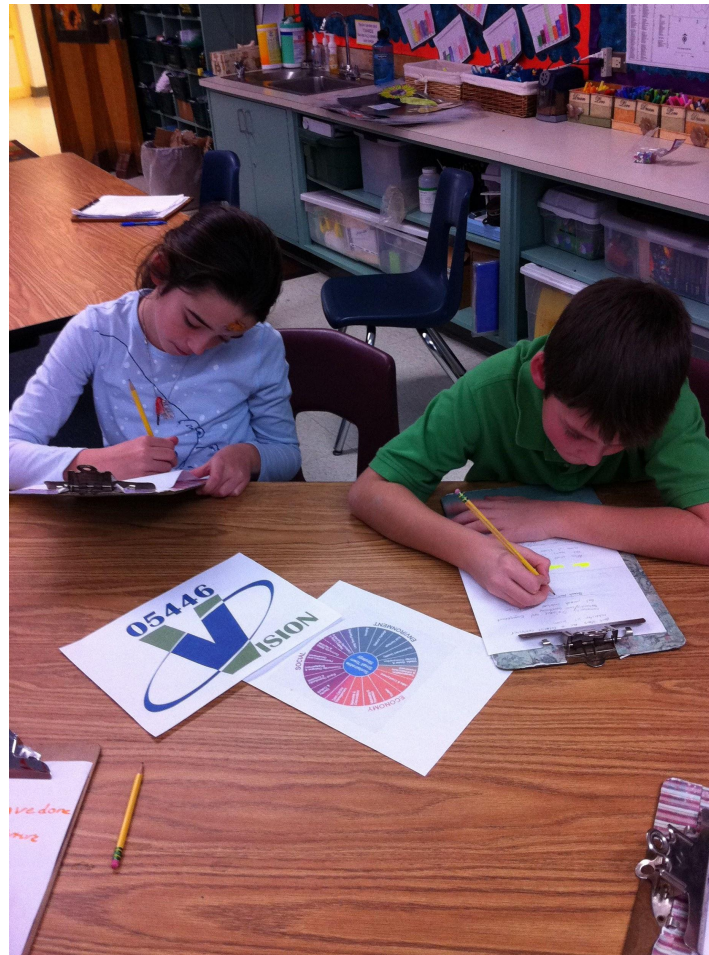
The Elementary Years



Increasing importance of peers (and peer pressure)



Development of student voice and independence



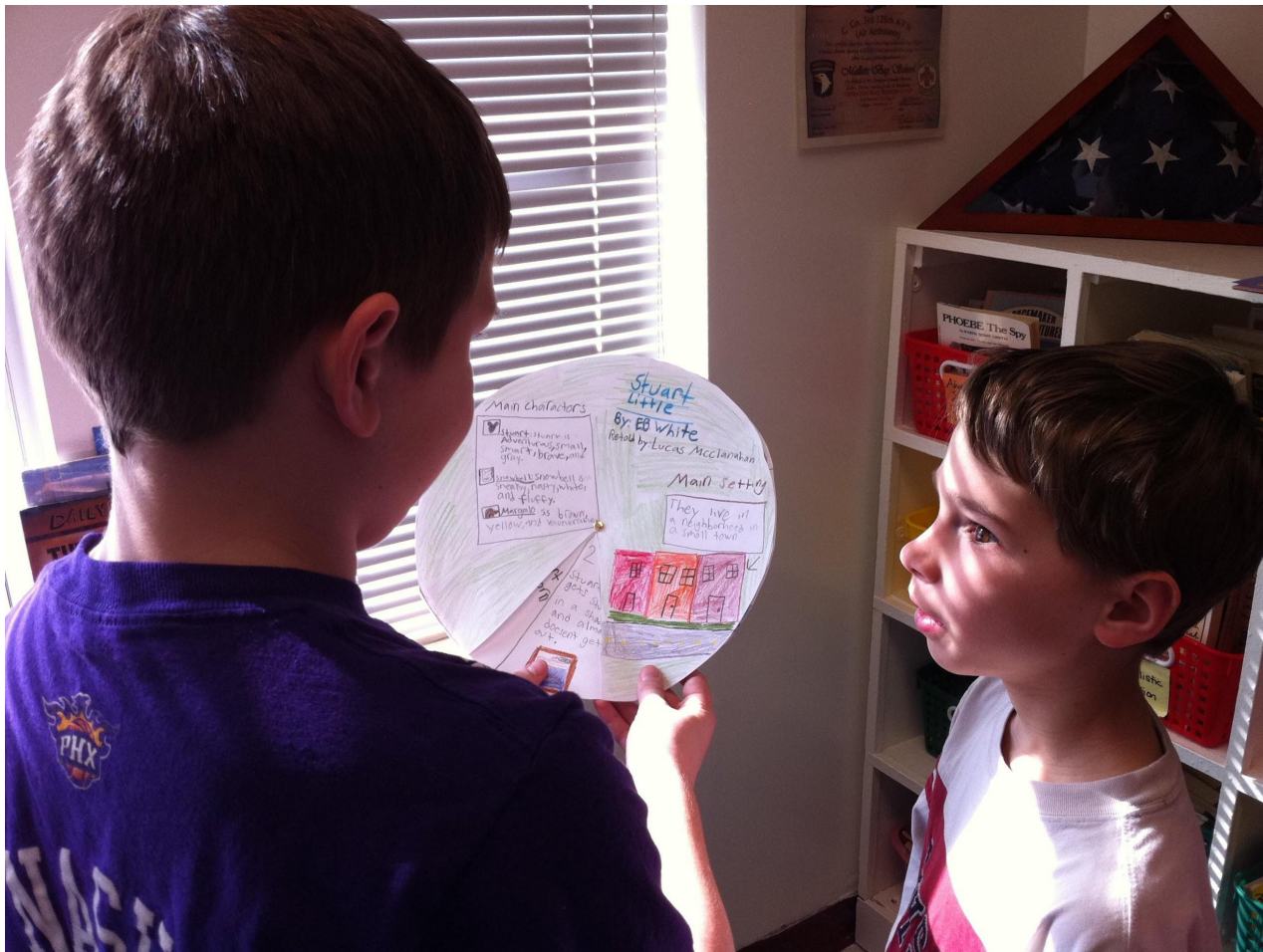
Formative years for character development



Ability to empathize and consider the needs of others



Ability to know yourself as a learner and set goals





Placement and Step Up

- Preliminary placement process started
- Input considered from parents and sending teachers
- Several drafts allow for multiple perspectives to be considered
- Balanced classes Fly Up activities the morning of June 2nd
- Classroom visits and “paper dance” in the gym

Support for All Learners

Strong Educational Support System that includes:

- Title I funded reading and math teachers
- In-class interventions for all academics
- Weekly Educational Support Team meetings
- Individual and small group guidance counseling
- Access to technology to help with skill practice
- Supportive, individualized discipline

Your Questions?

