Welcome to Malletts Bay School

Grade 3 Parent Orientation

May 10th, 2017
Agenda

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

• Building layout
• School rules
• 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 lunch and recess by community
• 5 Unified Arts classes weekly (Band and chorus start in fifth grade)
• School day ends at 3:00
• Dismissal carefully monitored
Parent Participation

- Classroom volunteers
- Four Winds
- MBS PTO
- Fuel Up to Play
- Substitutes
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
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 primarily 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 a healthy attitude. Unlike some states, we do NOT focus heavily on “test prep” or put pressure on our children.
Our Teachers

We have 8 third grade teachers in two “communities.” They work closely together to design units, and have several shared learning opportunities throughout the year.

Harmony House: Mrs. Schroeder, Mrs. Cioffi, Mrs. Marlow, Mrs. Sato

Greenhouse: Mrs. Rayner-Cyr, Mrs. Bonfigli, Ms. O’Neill, Ms. Riggs
PBiS

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

- Statewide initiative
- Proactive approach to developing supportive systems for social and academic growth
- Explicitly define, teach and reinforce expectations
- Consistent responses by all adults to help guide student development
- Celebrations and school spirit
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 our announcement system to let families know.

• The third grade teachers hold 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

- Input considered from parents and sending teachers
- Several drafts allow for multiple perspectives to be considered
- The goal is balanced classes

“Fly Up” activities the morning of June 9th, including 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
- Individual and small group guidance counseling
- Access to technology to help with skill practice
Your Questions?