

Dudley STEM School
1st Grade Classroom
Handbook



Where Innovation Takes
Root

Updated August 2015

Bobbi VanWormer



August 25, 2015

Dear Families,

Welcome back to a great new school year! We are so excited to be working with you and your child. We will all be learning so much and we want to thank all of you ahead of time for your help and support in the upcoming school year.

It is indeed a pleasure to have your child in our classrooms.

To start off the year right, we are sending home this Classroom Handbook. In it you will find procedures and requirements that will enable us to make this a very positive and rewarding year. We, teachers and students, will put in a great deal of work in creating an environment that supports everyone's learning. We will not ask students to do anything that we have not discussed and practiced in class.

We feel strongly that open lines of communication between the families, students, and teachers are the key to promoting an educational climate that is conducive to learning. Together we can make a difference! You can help by sending well-rested children, volunteering weekly and reinforcing classroom and school policies. We will help by making sure any information you need is made available to you through notes home, phone calls, or our classroom website. We look forward to building relationships with you and your child.

We are working hard at Dudley STEM School to create an environment that our students, families and staff can be proud of. If you ever have any questions or concerns please contact us. We are here to help you and your child.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Bobbi VanWormer

&

Ms. Melissa King

School Expectations

At Dudley STEM student expectations are posted throughout the building. Expectations are: Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be a Scholar. These principles are expected to be followed in every space at Dudley STEM. These expectations will be explained thoroughly, used to guide classroom rules, and be practiced a lot for every space in our school.

Classroom Rules

Classroom rules are expected to be followed at all times. We will discuss and practice what each rule means and what it looks like and sounds like to follow them and not follow them.

1. Follow directions quickly.
2. Keep your body, objects, and unkind words to yourself.
3. Listen when others are speaking.

Consequences

Occasionally, behavior choices in the classroom will result in consequences. We believe these should be natural outcomes of behavior, matching the infraction. When a student chooses to not follow the expectations or rules they are given time to practice. Bullying is not tolerated at Dudley STEM and a phone call will always be made when bullying behavior is observed.

Birthdays

We are happy to celebrate your child's birthday as a whole class, but we ask that we are given at least a days notice for planning purposes.

Snacks

Snacks are not guaranteed every day in 1st grade. If you would like to send a class snack (enough for 25) please send healthy pre-packaged treats. For example: pretzels, graham crackers, single pack carrots or apples, etc.

Conferences

All parents are expected to participate in conferences. If you are unable to attend during regularly scheduled times, we will make accommodations to meet with you.

Volunteers

We welcome volunteers, and always need help. If you wish to help out in our classrooms, please let us know ahead of time so we can have something ready. If you wish to volunteer for extended periods of time, please see the office for additional information.

Folders

Homework folders are sent home Monday - Thursday. These folders also contain notes for the adults in the home and need to come back the next day with all paperwork filled out. We know how hectic weekends can be so we will try our best not to send home notes on Fridays.

Website

The first grade website contains lots of information and educational games for students to play. There is also a lot of information for parents: including weekly newsletters, classroom handbook, and additional links.

<http://dudleystem1.weebly.com>

Cell Phones

Please DO NOT send cell phones to school with your 1st grader. If there is an emergency we will contact you. If you need to reach your child, you can always call the office or the teacher's cell phone (if the teacher provides that). If a child brings a cell phone to school, the teachers may hold it until end of day.

Toys

We are asking parents to help keep toys at home because they interfere with your child's learning. Toys that do come to school and interfere with learning will be taken and held until the end of the day.

Book Orders

During the school year book orders will come home that give you the opportunity to purchase books through Scholastic. Books range in prices and reach every interest and reading level...every order form also has a \$1 book. Every time an order is placed teachers receive points that go towards free materials or books for our classrooms.

Please keep this handbook at home and readily available for referral whenever you have a question and return the last page of this book.

Please sign this page and return THIS PAGE ONLY to school by the end of the week.

I have read the Parent Survival Handbook **AND** discussed the necessary content with my child.

Parent/ Guardian Signature _____

Child's Name _____ Date _____

Comments _____

I have read and discussed the discipline procedures with my child.
Please sign and return to school.

Parent Signature

Child Signature