

# **Ms. Scott's Class**

**Jefferson School**

**Rm. 106**

Welcome to Ms. Scott's Special Day Class for the 2024/2025 school year at Jefferson School. My class currently serves students in the 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades who need additional assistance with their work in a small group environment.

## **Current Staff\***

Lori Scott – Teacher

Brandy Jones-Hsia – Instructional Aide

\*We are currently working on hiring an additional aide for the class.

## **Curriculum**

### **Core Subjects**

Curriculum is focused on direct instruction, ranging from one-on-one to small group and whole-class sessions. General Education curriculum is used wherever appropriate with additional leveled materials used as needed. Work is individualized based on each student's IEP, present levels, and goals.

## **Technology/Chromebooks**

Chromebooks are used extensively in this class to enhance learning in all subject areas. Our class will begin using Chromebooks this week. There are certain criteria that must be met before students can access Chromebooks.

- 1. Students must turn in their signed emergency form/tech agreement.**
- 2. Students must complete the required Digital Citizenship lessons. If a student is absent, lessons must be made up before the student can use their Chromebook at school.**
- 3. Students must bring their Chromebooks to school with a full charge each day.**

## **Logins!**

Students will have their various logins for Google and other websites/programs/apps written in their planners. Please check the planner if they are having trouble remembering their information. Once in Google, you will be able to find bookmarks on the bookmark bar and/or links in Google Classroom. When using websites such as Typing Club, students must use the provided bookmark/link in order to access the correct classes and assignments. Credit will not be given for work that can't be accessed by the teacher.

## **Grading**

Students are graded on the same scale as students in general education classes unless otherwise specified by their IEP. The primary difference is that students in SDC are graded based on work provided at their learning level rather than solely by the grade level standards. Another difference between grading in SDC and general education is the amount of weight given to different types of assignments. Grades are weighted based on whether an assignment/assessment is formative (80% of the final grade) or summative (20% of the final grade). The weight given to summative assignments is significantly higher in general education classes than in SDC.

In SDC, grades are updated on Aeries at least every other week, usually more often. Parents can get access to the Aeries gradebook by visiting the district website. This will enable you to monitor your student's grades in all classes.

## **Independent Work Policy**

Please review the guidelines below and let me know if you have any questions regarding the independent work.

## **Typical Independent Work Load**

- Complete daily planner and have it signed by a parent every night.
- Complete unfinished classwork that is written in the planner
- Complete the weekly Typing Club assignment.
- Complete the weekly Xtramath assignment.
- Finish any incomplete classwork and/or absent work that is written in the daily planner.

- Complete and turn in any projects by the due date given (or according to the student's accommodations).
- Other assignments as they arise.

**Note: Please, DO NOT DO ASSIGNMENTS EARLY JUST BECAUSE THEY HAVE APPEARED IN GOOGLE CLASSROOM! This may result in a student needing to completely redo an assignment.**

### **Daily Planner**

All students have been provided with a free daily planner which SDC will begin using next week. We use this planner in class every day. Students are required to write down all of their independent work in the planner. My aides and I check each planner and initial the entries to show that the student has written down the correct homework. If a student finishes an assignment before leaving school, it will be crossed out and initialed by staff. If an assignment has not been crossed out and initialed by staff, it still needs to be completed.

### **Please be sure to check this planner every day!**

If a student loses their planner, they can purchase a new one in the office or buy one from an office supply store.

### **Absent Work/Late Work**

For every day that a student is absent, they have that number of days to make up their absent work. Late work will be accepted for a grade for up to one week after an assignment's due date; however, as all work builds on the previous assignments, turning work in later will hurt your child's comprehension and skill acquisition. At the end of the trimester, the one-week leeway does not apply, and no work will be accepted after the final day of the trimester.

### **Behavior/Social Expectations**

This school follows the Jefferson Creed and utilizes the Second Step program to teach social-emotional skills to all students, including those in SDC. In addition, the SDC class focuses on teaching social skills, emotional self-regulation, and study skills to help students be successful when they move beyond our program.

### **The Jefferson Creed**

-Be Responsible

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

This class puts a great deal of emphasis on mutual respect. We treat all our students with respect and expect them to show respect to the school staff and to each other.

For good behavior, students may earn rewards such as Super Bucks and Creed Cards. Super Bucks can be redeemed for preferred activity time or other special rewards.

If a student has a Behavior Intervention Plan, that may take precedence over standard classroom procedures and rewards.

### **Supplies**

Please be sure that your child has paper, pencils, erasers, and glue sticks every day when they come to school. Other recommended supplies include scissors, highlighters, colored pencils, and erasable pens. The **full supply list** is attached to the back of this packet.

### **Cell Phones**

Cell phones are permitted, but they must be off and kept in the student's bag. For more information, please see the online copy of the Jefferson District Student Parent Handbook.

### **Water Bottles and Snacks**

Students may have water bottles with them at their desks as long the bottles are clear and have lids with them. Bottles with small openings or straws are preferred. Only ordinary water is permitted in class. Other drinks (soda, sugary beverages, dyed water, energy drinks, etc.). Snacks are not allowed in the classroom or on the playground. Students may eat snacks in the cafeteria before school or at recess. I sometimes provide snacks in class, and students may sometimes earn snacks or candy as rewards. Nothing with nuts is ever provided.

### **Communication**

Parents can reach me via the **phone** and **email**. Phone calls are not put through to classrooms during the day so as not to interrupt instruction. During the day, email is the fastest way to reach me. Please do not leave a message on my voicemail as I am unable to access it at this time.

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