

Ms. Bad's 5th Grade Disclosure Statement

Wasatch Peak Academy 2017-2018

Parisa Badizadegan (Ms. Bad) – Room 12

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Class website: www.msbadscsclass.weebly.com

Welcome to Ms. Bad's 5th grade class! I am excited to get to know you and your student this year. In order to have an outstanding year full of learning and fun, I would like to inform you and your student about the classroom policies and procedures in Room 12.

Students in Ms. Bad's literacy and math classes be held to higher expectations in both work quality and behavior. We will be learning about advanced math and literacy topics that require a good attitude, maturity, and perseverance in the face of difficulties. The following is an outline of what you can expect, but please note that this is a *guideline*. I may make adjustments to ensure every student receives the best education possible.

1. Literacy:

- a. Reading instruction will primarily use grade-appropriate novels**, Reading Street Grade 6.0 by Pearson, and supplemental poems and informational texts. Students will keep all materials related to literacy in a binder that they will turn in at the end of each unit/novel for credit.
- b. Writing instruction will use the Step Up to Writing program and Words Our Way. Students will keep all writing samples in a binder as a record of progress and achievement. Students will also have weekly vocabulary and morpheme words to extend their knowledge and understanding of the English language.
- c. **Please note that some of the content and themes discussed in these books will be emotionally complex subjects. However, students will be given narrative, historical, and cultural scaffolding prior to reading the text to ensure students are informed and prepared to discuss these subjects. *If you do not want your child to participate in the reading of a particular book, please let me know and alternate arrangements will be made.*

2. Math:

- a. Math instruction will use the McGraw-Hill Glencoe Level 6.0 program and practice workbook for skill introduction and acquisition, background knowledge, practice problems, solution methods, and critical thinking problems.
- b. Daily math instruction will include whole group instruction, individual practice, and problem-solving challenges in which students will apply newly learned skills to different situations. Homework is given on a day-to-day basis depending upon progress and understanding. See below for more information on homework.

3. Homeroom:

- a. Homeroom consists of lessons in social studies, science, service learning, and technology. Homeroom will take place during the last 1.5 hours of the day and will vary in topic from day-to-day.
- b. Students will be involved in mostly hands-on projects and class research/reading in these subject areas. Homework will only be given when additional work at home is necessary to complete unit projects.

4. Spanish:

- a. Students will have daily 30-minute Spanish lessons from 12:30-1:00. A Spanish teacher will be in the classroom during this time. Students are expected to behave and participate in the same respectful manner as is expected throughout the day in Room 12.

5. Homework:

- a. It is my strong belief that homework should only be assigned if it truly enhances understanding. Educational research consistently shows homework does not have a very large effect on learning in elementary school settings and rather can become a source of major discord at home. That being said, students will be expected to complete homework as they transition to junior high, high school, and college. Consequently, I assign some homework, but only when necessary and always less than 30 minutes a night.

- b. If homework is assigned, all skills needed to complete assignments are taught during class, meaning your student should feel confident to complete homework at home and should not take more than approximately 30 minutes. If your student is struggling with an assignment, that student is allowed to leave work unfinished if it is brought back to school *with a signed parent note or email* confirming the difficulties. Your student will receive additional help and will have another opportunity to complete.
- c. **Math homework:** Students will be given time to start and work on math practice problems in class in order to receive help and ask questions if needed. Those students who chose to work diligently during class will finish or have less work to complete as homework. **Any assignment started in class that is not finished during the day is expected to be taken home and completed as homework.** It is the students' responsibility to take homework home each night and to return the assignment with the completed work the next day for points.

6. Absent/Late Work:

- a. When a student is absent, *it is the student's responsibility to talk to Ms. Bad and gather missed work.*
 - i. **Absent work is due for FULL CREDIT two days after the student returns to school from the absence!** (For example, if Jill was absent on Monday and returned to school on Tuesday, the work she missed on Monday would be due on Thursday).
 - 1. **Exception:** If your student has been sick/absent for an extended period of time, accommodations will be made according to the amount of work missed.
 - ii. It is extremely important that students complete work on time. *Late work will be accepted but only for HALF CREDIT.*
- b. Missed assignments due to a vacation/prolonged sickness will be provided to your student AFTER he/she returns to school.

7. Grading:

- a. *Grades are earned, not given.* All grades in all classes are letter grades and are based on student participation, classwork/assignments, homework, and performance on quizzes/tests.
- b. In Aspire, you will be able to view your student's current overall grade, points earned on a particular assignment, missing assignments (M) and excused assignments (E). Please note that a blank space in the gradebook indicates I have not yet entered that grade; blanks are not calculated as part of the overall grade.
- c. Grades will be updated weekly on the Aspire website. Please check frequently so you and your student are aware of progress and any missing work.
- d. The grading scale is as follows:

A- To A+	90%-100%	Excellent or outstanding. Shows mastery or complete knowledge.
B- to B+	80%-89%	Above average. Shows significant progress towards mastery or complete knowledge.
C- to C+	70%-79%	Average. Shows some progress.
D- to D+	60%-69%	Below average. Shows some progress but improvement is needed.
F	0%-59%	Significantly below average. Shows little/no progress, improvement imperative.

8. Behavior Expectations:

- a. Wasatch PEAKS
 - i. WPA has a school-wide rules system known as the Wasatch PEAKS. All students are required to follow these rules throughout the school building and school day.
 - 1. **Prepare to learn.** Come each day prepared for class, ready to go.
 - 2. **Engage with effort.** Pay attention. Do your best work. Don't quit or give up.
 - 3. **Attitude of gratitude.** Show respect and gratitude for administration, teachers, staff, and volunteers.
 - 4. **Kindness.** Show kindness to everyone. Every day.
 - 5. **Silent transitions.** Please keep voices off in the halls going to/from recess and rotations.
- b. School Policies:
 - i. Chewing gum is NOT permitted in the school building.

- ii. Birthdays are celebrated at WPA without food items. Instead, we welcome non-food items, donated books, or reading books to classes to celebrate a student’s birthday.
 - iii. Class Passes will be used throughout the school this to keep students accountable for when they are out of the classroom for any reason.
 - c. Ms. Bad’s Great Expectations:
 - i. **Responsibility, Respect, Work, Attitude, Courtesy**
 - a) These five attributes are expected of scholars EVERY DAY in Room 12. We will talk more about what these expectations mean in class and will practice them daily.
 - b) Minor discipline problems will be handled in the classroom using consequences as defined through the Classroom Economy system (see below). Major discipline infractions are referred to the office.
 - d. Classroom Economy:
 - i. Our classroom uses a system called Classroom Economy to teach students responsibility and to encourage behaviors of a safe learning environment. Your student will be earning (and in some cases losing!) classroom “money” as a currency for positive behavior, hard-work, and contributions to the classroom community. Behaviors against school and classroom expectations will result in “fines” and, if necessary, placement on the consequence ladder. More information about this system will be provided during the first week of school.
7. Communication:
- a. If you have *any* questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. My information is on the top of this disclosure statement.
 - i. ****The best way to contact me is via email.** If you’d like to talk on the phone or schedule an appointment for before/after school, please call the school at 801-936-3066 and leave a message or ask for my extension.
 - b. Time-sensitive or critical information will be sent to you directly via email and/or a hard copy note will be sent home. Please be sure you have provided a current and correct email address in the Aspire system and on the signed returned disclosure slip so that I can efficiently contact you via email.
 - c. Classroom website:
 - i. **URL:** www.msbadclass.weebly.com
 - ii. The best way to stay up-to-date on what is happening in our classroom is to visit our classroom website (see URL above). I post general announcements, project due dates, school events, class schedules, and assignment on this website. Students will also be contributing to blogs in each subject that will describe the amazing things we are learning and doing.
8. Visitors and Volunteers:
- a. All visitors must sign-in at the office upon entering the building.
 - b. We are always in need of parent volunteers! If you can help, please make arrangements with Ms. Bad via email so we can coordinate to best utilize your valuable time.
 - c. Please check the class website under the *Parents* tab for more information regarding volunteer opportunities and to view our class Giving Tree for much-needed donation items.
9. Weekly Schedule:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00-9:30	Literacy	Literacy	Literacy	Literacy *Library 9-9:30	Literacy
9:30-9:45	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess
9:45-10:15	Literacy	Literacy	Literacy	Literacy	Literacy
10:15-11:45	Math	Math	Math	Math	Math
11:45-12:00	Lunch Recess	Lunch Recess	Lunch Recess	Lunch Recess	Lunch Recess
12:00-12:30	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:30-1:00	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish
1:00-1:30	Homeroom Science Social Studies	Homeroom Science Social Studies	Rotations: PE Music/Art Computers	Homeroom Science Social Studies	Homeroom Science Social Studies

Please return this page completed and signed to Ms. Bad by Wednesday August 30th, 2017.

I have read and understand the policies in Ms. Bad's disclosure statement for 2017-2018. I agree to uphold and support them throughout the year.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Parent Phone Number(s): _____

Parent Email Address(es): _____

Parent Signature: _____

PARENTS: please answer the following question so that I can most effectively teach your child.

What are the special interests, hobbies, skills, and characteristics of your child?

Brag about your student! What are the things that are good at? What are their strengths?

What do they LOVE to do?

Help me understand your student! What are the things with which they struggle? What are you concerned about regarding their success in 5th grade? Anything in particular you would like me to know about your student?
