

Hemminger



Hawks Handbook 2019/2020

Prepared for you by
Marcy Hemminger
marcia.hemminger@lcps.org
540-751-2540

Philosophy

Fourth grade is such an important year. This year builds on the foundation and prepares your child for future learning!

Whether it is in delving into Virginia history, expanding math and reading skills, or moving rapidly with technology...this year can be a defining one for your child. I take my role in this foundation seriously and will work the entire year in making it not only a productive one, but positive and enriching too!

Your role is important too! It takes your support and reinforcement of concepts, information and skills to complete the educational picture – together, we will make an awesome team! I look forward to developing this partnership with you – so feel free to contact me anytime with questions, information or just plain to say “Hello!” My e-mail here is marcia.hemminger@lcps.org, the phone number at KWC is 540-751-2540 and my home number is 540-882-3395.

So let us begin our adventure in learning! Together we will explore new worlds and grow both educationally and as individuals. None of us are too old to learn from someone else. Thank you in advance for the privilege of working with you all!



Warmly,
Mrs. Hemminger

Parent Contact Form

Feel like you need a conference? Just fill out this form and send it in with your child! I'll select and circle the date and time that works best and return it to you!

Your name: _____

Child's name: _____

Preferred dates of meeting:

1st choice: _____

2nd choice: _____

3rd choice: _____

Preferred times of meeting: (of the following possible)

6:30 am

7:00 am

2:45 pm

3:15 pm

3:45 pm

4:15 pm

1st choice: _____

2nd choice: _____

3rd choice: _____

Brief description of purpose: _____

If you need a time other than those listed, please write it down – I will do my best to accommodate you!

Parent Volunteers

I enjoy having parents come in and work with me each and every week. I do recognize that many of you work and are not as available, but here are ways that you could volunteer your time and services to our classroom and children throughout the year:

- Morning Math block - assisting our class during math class beginning mid-September and generally from 8:15 – 9:15AM.
- Language Arts block – assisting our class during the reading, writing and spelling part of our day. This is usually between 11:30 and 12:15 each day.
- Field trip chaperones – more information to follow nearer to our field trip time/destination
- Room parents for holiday parties. Our class will have the following parties this year: Fall, Winter and End-of-Year. We have a very informal Valentine’s Day party, but the main focus is to wrap up our letter writing unit and delve into the Valentine’s boxes!
- Eating lunch with your child – any day.

If other opportunities arise, I will certainly let you know. I will do my best to create opportunities for everyone to be involved in a way that suits them. If you’ve got an idea – please call or e-mail me!



Contact Information

Mrs. Marcy Hemminger

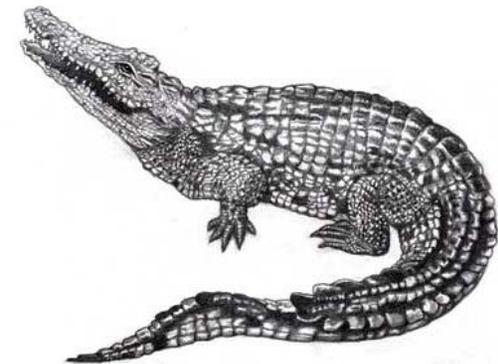
Email: marcia.hemminger@lcps.org

Phone: (540) 751-2540 work

School Location: Room 33

*The **Kenneth W. Culbert website** is a great resource for finding information about our class and the school. To visit my page on the website, follow the directions below:

- Go to the Kenneth W. Culbert Elementary website.
- Click on the “Teachers” tab.
- Click on “Mrs. Hemminger – 4th”
- Navigate through the tabs on the left for more information including: homework, newsletters, and helpful resources for students.



Health Information



Just for your information...

- If you have any health concerns or questions, please call or visit our clinic and speak with Mrs. Lanham the health clinic nurse. She will be able to help you with directions and procedures if medication is involved.
- If your child needs medication or health-related care at school, you and your child's physician must complete and sign a required a Physician's Orders and Health Care Plan form each school year.
- Walkie Talkies are taken outside any time we go outside. That way if an injury occurs during recess, help can be obtained immediately.
- In the classroom, I will handle small issues such as paper cuts or broken blisters. All other injuries will be sent to the Clinic to be addressed.
- If your son or daughter visits the clinic during the day, you will receive a purple slip saying why they went and what treatment was given. This is so you can be aware of what is going on in school.
- To promote healthy practices, we recommend ***food-free birthdays***. So if your child has a birthday during the school year and you'd like to send in treats – please do! Last year our children came up with very creative ideas to celebrate their birthdays without food treats!

Parent Volunteer Form

I would love to help out!

Math block - generally from 8:15 – 9:15-9:30 AM.

Preferred day of helping:

1st choice: _____

2nd choice: _____

3rd choice: _____

Language Arts block – generally between 11:30 & 12:15.

Preferred day of helping:

1st choice: _____

2nd choice: _____

3rd choice: _____

Room parent – organize parties, PTA liaison, etc.

Assist with holiday parties

Field trip chaperone

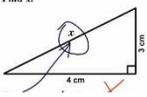
Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

9-Week Objectives in Brief

Please recognize that this is a brief summary of our first 9-week objectives. A more detailed list will come home at our Back-to-School night and then each subsequent 9-week set of goals will accompany each report card.

Subject	Goals
Reading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Using context clues to clarify meaning ▪ Author's purpose ▪ Use word-reference materials ▪ Identify major events & supporting details ▪ Summarize content
Writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop a plan for writing ▪ Organize writing to convey a central idea ▪ Use noun-pronoun agreement ▪ Incorporate adjectives & adverbs
Math 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Comparing whole numbers ▪ Place value ▪ Rounding whole numbers ▪ Add, subtract, multiply & divide ▪ Algebraic Properties
Sciences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plan & conduct investigations ▪ Virginia natural resources ▪ Weather conditions & phenomena
Social Studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Virginia geography ▪ Early inhabitants of Virginia ▪ Virginia's major products & industries ▪ Reasons for English Colonization
Technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Operations of technology systems ▪ Operate various technologies ▪ Practice responsible use ▪ Locate, evaluate, and collect information ▪ Use technology resources for solving problems

Discipline Policy

The word “discipline” comes from the root word – disciple, which means “to teach”. My goal is never to punish children, but to teach desired and appropriate behaviors. It is part of our school’s PBIS model. I do this in a variety of ways:

1. Use of positive reinforcement to encourage appropriate behavior and skill development such as:
 - Prize box & CROC tickets
 - Praise
 - Lunch with me
 - Bonus recess/free time
 - Extra computer time
 - Home-work pass
 - Lunch with Mrs. Brownell our principal
2. Redirection towards an appropriate activity or task
3. Use of consequences to extinguish inappropriate behavior or poor work habits such as:
 - Completing a “Think Sheet” to demonstrate the awareness of inappropriate choice and what to do next time
 - “Fixing”/repairing the poor choice ~ Winners find solutions!
4. Use of teaching to model appropriate and alternative behaviors. An example might be when a student says something mean out of frustration or anger. Two things would occur – first a consequence for such hurtful talk (Fixing the hurt feelings by expressing an apology) and then **teaching an appropriate response** to anger and frustration such as saying, “I am so frustrated!”
5. That way we see the natural consequence of our behavior **and** learn a new way to deal with the feelings in the future!

Everyone here at Culbert Elementary School are participants in the Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) program. This program provides expectations for positive student behavior and rewards for exhibiting these behaviors. **Crocs “ROC”** is the acronym that was created at Culbert to present these expectations. The letters stand for:

Respectful ~ Organized ~ Citizens.

The students at Culbert will be learning about school-wide behavioral expectations. These agree—upon expectations are an effective way to be proactive in managing behaviors throughout the school.

TEACHING CLASSROOM RULES

I. RESPECTFUL

- Raise hand
- Listen to teacher first time
- Use caring language and tone

II. ORGANIZED

- Keep desk uncluttered
- Replace supplies as needed
- Have materials ready

III. CITIZEN

- Take Good Care of Personal and School Property
- Body to Self
- Be Helpful

This approach to managing behaviors is a positive one. Students are acknowledged for exhibiting the behaviors that we expect and are recognized for it with a Croc ticket. Students turn in the tickets, which are submitted for a daily drawing on the morning announcements for a Certificate of Recognition. Student’s pictures are placed on the Crocs ROC Wall of Fame in the cafeteria and in the monthly newsletter.

Please take this opportunity to talk to your child about the expectations at school and the importance of continuing to demonstrate Crocs ROC behaviors. With your continued support and involvement, Culbert Elementary School will remain a school where students can excel and **Crocs ROC!**

**Kenneth W. Culbert
Elementary School**



Reading

KWC 4th Grade Goals for the Year

Develop fluency

- Read with expression
- Read with appropriate phrasing
- Read at an appropriate pace (approximately 120 wpm by the end of the year)

Comprehension

- Retell stories to include characters, setting, problem, and solution with no prompting
- Make connections with text (What does the text make you think about?) and be able to write explanation.
- Identify favorite parts of the story and explain in writing why it is his/her favorite.
- Write a summary of text including beginning, middle, and end, as well as, two other parts.

Writing

- Use age-appropriate spelling in writing
- Write summaries to include characters, setting, and important details
- Use Four-Square writing (main idea and four details)

Spelling

- Sorting words by similar features

4th Grade Math Strands		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Place Value ▪ Algebraic Properties ▪ +/- Whole Numbers ▪ Functions ▪ Equality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ X/÷ Whole Numbers ▪ Probability ▪ Graphing ▪ Fractions ▪ Decimals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Measurement: Customary & Metric ▪ Geometry ▪ Elapsed Time ▪ Problem-Solving

Handwriting

Here in Loudoun County, we use D'Nealian as our handwriting form. I will work towards helping your child be proficient (and legible) in two forms of technology: a pencil and a computer!

Please encourage the correct formation of the cursive letters as shown below to assist with daily writing and Fun work assignments. Thank you!



Homework Information

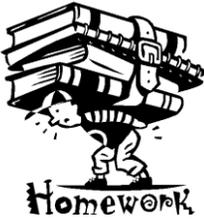
Each Friday the homework assignments for the following week will be posted both in the classroom and on my webpage online. This way students can plan ahead to complete work even with busy schedules.

Please do understand that there **may be slight variations** from what is posted due to the content covered in the classroom. For example, online math assignments may change if more or less information was reviewed during the instructional day. **If you work ahead, you may be working on a concept not covered yet within the classroom.**

The objective of homework is to reinforce material and information taught in the classroom, not to introduce new information or tasks. Thank you for your support!

Homework Packet Policy

Each child receives a homework packet on Friday. This packet is to be **completed and returned the following Friday** – this way you can plan your week and get the homework done when it suits your busy schedules. Even though they have this packet, we will write all assignments in the agendas each day.



If a student is missing a homework packet, he or she may call home to let you know. I do this so that they take the responsibility of letting you know that it is missing. It is totally up to you as to whether you try to drop it off during the day or not. My goal is to make your child responsible for completing **AND TURNING IN** weekly homework. I compare homework to sports. One cannot be expected to play their best and improve without practice. Academics is no different. Practice helps to build and improve skills – even with reading, math, science, social studies!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! Together we CAN make a difference!