**Syllabus for Grade 3 ELA**

**2017-2018**

****

Mrs. Loher - Room 205

**Welcome to 2017-2018 school year at Burton International Academy.**

My name is Mrs. J. Loher and I am very excited to meet both my students and their families. I look forward to establishing a relationship with you as we journey together through the third grade English Language arts learning experience. It is my privilege to teach your children and ensure that each child’s learning experience is filled with exciting opportunities to explore different places through reading. There are many exciting activities and projects planned for the students in the 2017-2018 school year. I am eager to work as a “teacher, parent and student partnership” to make your child’s overall learning experience a positive and challenging one!

**Contact Information**

Jennifer Loher E-mail Jennifer.loher@detroitk12.org

 Website <http://3rdgrade-ela-socialstudies.weebly.com/>

For urgent needs during the school day, please contact the Burton International Academy School office at (**313) 596-3800**.

On my website, you can find the third grade calendar of events, classroom announcements, weekly spelling and vocabulary word lists, and homework updates. I encourage you to check the website regularly as I update it frequently.

**Communication**

Each child will receive a Communication Folder to deliver handouts, permission slips, and notes from school-to‐home and home-to‐school. **This folder will come home nightly and should be returned every morning; please plan to check your child’s folder every evening and remind your child to turn in any notes or signed papers.** In addition, I will communicate through regular updates to the class website. All inquiries or concerns will be addressed within 48 hours.

**Curriculum**

**Reading/Language Arts**

Each reading and writing unit includes high ‐ quality literature, which I will use to model specific reading or writing strategies that students emulate in their independent work. Our reading series is called “Imagine It”. We will read several stories based on a theme and participate in activities designed to enhance your child’s reading and comprehension skills. The class will also work independently and in groups as we explore the unit theme using graphic organizers and other hands on activities to improve reading comprehension. There will be a reading test once a week. During the language arts portion of the class we will spend time developing our phonetic, vocabulary, spelling and language usage skills. Equally important, we will be working to develop your child’s writing in several styles including:

Descriptive: Writing to describe Narrative: Writing to tell a story

Expository: Writing to explain Persuasive: Writing to persuade

**Assessment**

Third Graders take several diagnostic tests during the first weeks of school. We use the information to inform our instruction and re-teaching groups. Students will take tests throughout each unit, as well as a summative assessment at the end of each unit. Students reading levels are assessed three times a year using Star reading tests. Parents will receive communications about student performance through quarterly report cards, mid‐advisory Progress Reports, Parent ‐Teacher Conferences, and graded assessments sent home.

**Homework**

Starting the 1st week of school, students will receive weekly homework packets that contain Language Arts assignments. Students are also expected to read 150 minutes/week and fill in their Reading Log, which is due on Wednesdays. Students will be required to choose one of the books on their reading log and write summary to turn in with the reading log on Wednesdays. Homework packets will be due every Friday. Spelling words will be available on the class website as well as in their weekly homework packets. Additionally, students will be assigned projects which will be due on the dates indicated on the rubric that accompanies the instructions for completing the project.

**Academic Progress**

Students’ classwork and homework will be sent home regularly. This will enable you to monitor your child’s progress routinely. Please note that the only exception to this will be when a student receives a letter grade of a D or F on a test. Such papers will be sent home ***Immediately*** for your ***review and signature***.

**Grading Scale**

**PERCENTAGE GRADE VALUE**

100 – 90 A

89 – 80 B

79 – 70 C

69 – 60 D

59 – 0 F

**DEFINITION OF GRADES**

A= Excellent
B= Above Average
C= Average
D= Below Average but passing
F= Failure

**Classroom Management**

I use the Responsive Classroom approach to create structure and build a strong classroom community. Whenever possible, I empower students to be independent thinkers and problem--‐solvers. I use role modeling to introduce and reinforce appropriate behavior and language, also I employ logical consequences to address misbehavior (quiet reminder, verbal warning, call to parent, if these measures do not produce an appropriate behavior modification, then a parent teacher conference will be requested). Additionally, I will hold class meetings to reflect on appropriate classroom expectations, set behavioral goals, and ***celebrate*** achievements. Concerns not resolved by the teacher should be addressed either by completing a Parent Concern form by email at Burton.concerns@aol.com or by calling (313) 596-7601 and leaving a message.

I hope this overview proves helpful to you. Communication, commitment, and cooperation are essential in the education process. Let’s work together to make this a successful school year for your children. If you have any questions regarding this syllabus, please feel free to call at (313) 596-3800 (school).

Please sign and return the bottom portion of this paper on the first or second day of class

I have received and read the Third Grade Syllabus. Any questions I had have been addressed and answered by the teacher.

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_