

# WELCOME TO FIRST GRADE

WHAT YOU AND YOUR CHILD CAN EXPECT IN FIRST GRADE

Hamburg School  
30 Linwood Avenue  
Hamburg, New Jersey 07419



## Mission Statement

The mission of the Hamburg Public School District is to provide an education, which will enable students to acquire the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to become contributing members of society.

The educational program will enable each student to develop emotionally, socially, psychologically, and cognitively within his or her abilities and interests.

The mission of the Hamburg Public School District, therefore, is to develop an educational program that is under constant evaluation, allows all students to achieve the Common Core State Standards and the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards at all grade levels, and is dedicated to providing experiences relative to the demands of modern society in an effort to best prepare our students for success in college and career.



## GRADE 1 DEVELOPMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS

### GROWTH PATTERNS

<u>Physical</u>	<u>Social</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Works with head down on desk</li><li>• Pincer grasp at pencil point</li><li>• Written work is tidy and neat</li><li>• Likes confined space</li><li>• Many hurts, real and imagined</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sometimes moody</li><li>• “Nobody likes me”</li><li>• Needs security, structure</li><li>• Conscientious, serious</li><li>• Strong likes and dislikes</li></ul>
<u>Language</u>	<u>Cognitive</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Good listener</li><li>• Precise talker</li><li>• Likes one-to-one conversation</li><li>• Vocabulary development (rapid)</li><li>• Likes to send notes</li><li>• Interest in meaning of words</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Likes to review learning</li><li>• Needs closure</li><li>• Likes to work alone</li><li>• Works slowly</li><li>• Likes to repeat tasks</li><li>• Enjoys manipulative</li></ul>

### IN THE CLASSROOM

<u>Vision &amp; Fine Motor</u>	<u>Gross Motor</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Printing, drawing, number work tends to be small</li><li>• Often work with 3-fingered pencil grasp</li><li>• Printing and drawing is anchored to bottom line</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prefer board games to gym games</li><li>• Sustained, quiet work periods</li><li>• Playground games are popular</li></ul>
<u>Cognitive Growth</u>	<u>Social Behavior</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Routine and need for closure</li><li>• Like to work independently or small group</li><li>• Want work to be perfect</li><li>• Like to collect and sort</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Frequent friendship shifts</li><li>• Schedule changes are upsetting</li><li>• Anxiety about tests and assignments</li><li>• Moderate seriousness in class</li></ul>

These excerpts from *Yardsticks: Children in the Classroom Ages 4-14 (A Resource for Parents and Teachers)* by Chip Wood



# CURRICULUM

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

### READING

#### Concepts of Print:

- Recognize distinguishing features of a sentence: first word, capitalization, ending punctuation

#### Phonemic Awareness:

- Recognize rhyme and word patterns
- Distinguish long from short vowel sounds in spoken single-syllable words
- Segment spoken single-syllable words into their complete sequence of individual sounds

#### Phonics:

- Decode words by recognizing: initial and final consonant sounds, long and short vowels, consonant blends, and word families
- Apply decoding skills to solve problems while reading

#### Vocabulary:

- Grade appropriate high-frequency words
- Use word parts to figure out new words
- Use context clues for decoding vocabulary

#### Reading Behaviors:

- Demonstrate and continue to strengthen fluency in reading
- Self-select books for independent enjoyment
- Self-correct errors that interfere with meaning
- Recognize and use simple punctuation

#### Comprehension:

- Identify and recognize the differences between: narrative and informational text
- Identify characters, setting, events, problem, and solution
- Retell key details in a story
- Use picture clues to comprehend text
- Make predictions
- Begin to draw conclusions and make inferences from text

### WRITING

#### Ideas:

- Writes daily
- Choose topics from experience
- Incorporate detailed drawings
- Express a preference to a topic/book
- Provide sense of closure

#### Organization:

- Writing has a well organized beginning, middle, and end
- Develops two or more ideas
- Organizes ideas in a logical sequence

#### Voice:

- Use some dialogue to add interest
- Writing shows feeling

#### Word Choice:

- Includes vivid verbs, strong adjectives, and specific nouns
- Use sensory details
- Selects a more precise word when prompted
- Incorporates newly used words

#### Sentence Fluency:

- Uses complete sentences
- Develops an idea beyond one sentence
- Includes a variety of sentence types

#### Conventions:

- Sentences begin with capital letters and end punctuation

## **MATHEMATICS**

### Operations and Algebraic Thinking:

- Represent and solve problems involving addition and subtraction.
- Understand and apply properties of operations and the relationship between addition and subtraction.
- Add and subtract within 20.
- Work with addition and subtraction equations.

### Number and Operations in Base Ten:

- Extend the counting sequence.
- Understand place value.
- Use place value understanding and properties of operations to add and subtract.

### Measurement and Data:

- Measure lengths indirectly and by iterating length units.
- Tell and write time.
- Represent and interpret data.

### Geometry:

- Reason with shapes and their attributes

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

- Citizenship
- Neighborhood
- Community
- Geography
- Family

## **SCIENCE**

- Waves and Application
- Structures and Processes
- Heredity and Traits
- Earth's Place in the Universe
- Engineering Design

## **TECHNOLOGY**

- Basic keyboarding
- Parts of a computer
- Keyboard familiarity
- Terminology
- Designed systems
- Problem Solving

## **WORLD LANGUAGE**

- Instruction focuses on cultural awareness and basic communication skills

## **MUSIC**

- Musical styles
- Elements of music
- Instrument familiarity
- Pitch and timbre
- Rhythmic patterns

## **ART**

- Principles of design
- Art appreciation
- Textures
- Cultural awareness

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

- Socialization skills
- Familiarity with use of large spaces
- Gross motor skills
- Body control and application
- Games of low organization



## MEASURING YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING PROGRESS

**NWEA MAP Assessment:** Hamburg School utilizes the Measure of Academic Progress Assessment (MAP) for all students (Kindergarten - Grade 8) and will measure progress in the areas of reading and math. The assessments will be administered in the fall, winter, and spring and scores will be provided to parents following the assessment. The school uses this assessment as one data point to determine specific needs of our students.

**Standardized Testing:** New Jersey is currently using the Partnership Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC), which assesses students in the areas of reading and math based on the Common Core curriculum beginning in third grade. Fourth and eighth grade students are also assessed in Science through the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJASK). These assessments are administered each spring.



## COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL

We welcome your partnership in helping your child achieve success in school. By working and talking together we can create a very positive learning environment. Each staff member has email and voice mail. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher(s) or the main office with any questions or concerns.

### WAYS WE KEEP IN TOUCH

- District Website
- Back to School Night
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Report Cards
- Oncourse Parent Portal
- Parent/Teacher notes, phone calls, emails
- Digital School Newsletter
- School Facebook
- Honeywell Instant Alert
- School Calendar

### WAYS FAMILIES CAN GET INVOLVED

- Join the PTA
- Monitor your child's homework
- Volunteer within the PTA
- Attend conferences
- Share information about your career or hobbies with your child's classroom
- Contact your child's teacher with questions or concerns
- Check the website often for new announcements