



Shorewood Elementary Scribbler



September 18, 2015

★ Hello Shorewood Families,

★ At this point in the school year, you've probably already visited school multiple times and you're having daily conversations with your child about positive school experiences. We know that motivation and engagement are key components for a successful school year, and we're proud of our student centered environment. Goal setting is one way we inspire and motivate our students to be their best. In this issue, our teachers share how they use goal setting to promote self-assessment and confidence. Goal setting encourages children to work hard. There are many steps along the way to reaching a goal, so let's celebrate often and reinforce the importance of effort. Building stamina and perseverance at a young age will not only help your child meet current goals, it will also be vital as they face the many challenges of college and career. As always, thank you for your interest and support. We're excited for a fun filled and fruitful year!

Julie Mancione

Shorewood MENTors



Over the years we have noticed that our students absolutely love when their dads volunteer for field day. We have also noticed that the dads enjoy the field day experience almost as much as the students do! This got us thinking. Are there other ways that we could invite fathers to volunteer at our school? Today, we are very excited to announce a new program that will answer that very question!

The **Shorewood MENTors Program** will give fathers the opportunity to volunteer their time by assisting in our gym classes. Our gym teacher, Mr. Goron, is thrilled to participate, and has already thought of many ideas for how the MENTors can help out. We just know that this will be a great program and an amazing experience for your children.

Additional details and sign-up information will follow soon.

Welcome to Kindergarten!

In Kindergarten, we will be introducing students to the process of goal setting. When students know exactly what it is they are trying to achieve, they are able to be more successful. At the beginning of the year, we focus on setting routine and procedural goals which set the foundation to transition into academic goals later in the school year.

We begin the year with setting goals regarding classroom routines and procedures. Here are some of our classroom goals:

- Raise your hand to speak
- Stay in your assigned spot at your table and the carpet
 - Ask for permission before leaving the classroom
 - Follow directions the first time you are asked
 - Walk quietly in the hallway
- Be responsible with your supplies and classroom materials

We will then transition to academic goals. Here are some of our academic goals for trimester I:

- Identify all uppercase and lowercase letters
 - Produce all letter sounds
 - Count to 30
 - Recognize numbers 1-20
- Recognize flat and solid shapes
 - Print first name correctly
- Read and write heart words

Students will set individual goals based on their own progress. We will guide students through the process of setting their goals. An example of a student's goal would sound like "My goal is to count to 30." Once students meet their goals, we will help them set new goals to motivate them to continue to grow. As we progress through the school year, the rigor of our curriculum will increase and your students' goals will become more challenging. We encourage you to have conversations with your child about his/her goals at school. Please celebrate with your child as they achieve their goals.

Thank you for your support at home!
The Kindergarten Teachers

First Grade



Welcome back to another great school year! The children have settled in to their new routines and are ready for a super first grade year. We are hard at work getting to know your student and putting goals and expectations into place for student success. In the first trimester, the goals that we will work on are classroom behaviors, speaking, listening and building stamina for reading.

In first grade, the children are still learning how to be a student. Our first goal focuses on classroom behaviors. We would like the children to work quietly at their seats, raise their hand to share thoughts and ideas during group discussions and be problem solvers. In addition to these, each teacher has outlined classroom behaviors for their students. You can view these on our First Grade webpage.

Our second goal focuses on speaking and listening. The children will participate in many classroom discussions and have opportunities to share their thoughts and ideas. During these discussions the teachers will be looking for students to ask and answer questions in complete sentences, speak clearly when presenting information to the group and listen when someone else is speaking.

The final goal that we will work on in trimester 1 is for our children to build stamina while reading. In the classrooms, the children read independently each day. They will also read in small groups and with a buddy. We would also like the children to read at home. Our reading goal is 50 minutes a week. This goal is noted in the homework packet that we send home weekly. It will help our children build their stamina and become confident readers.

The First Grade teachers will work with the children throughout the trimester to help them understand their learning goals and be able to build upon them. We look forward to a great year together with lots of learning!

The First Grade Teachers



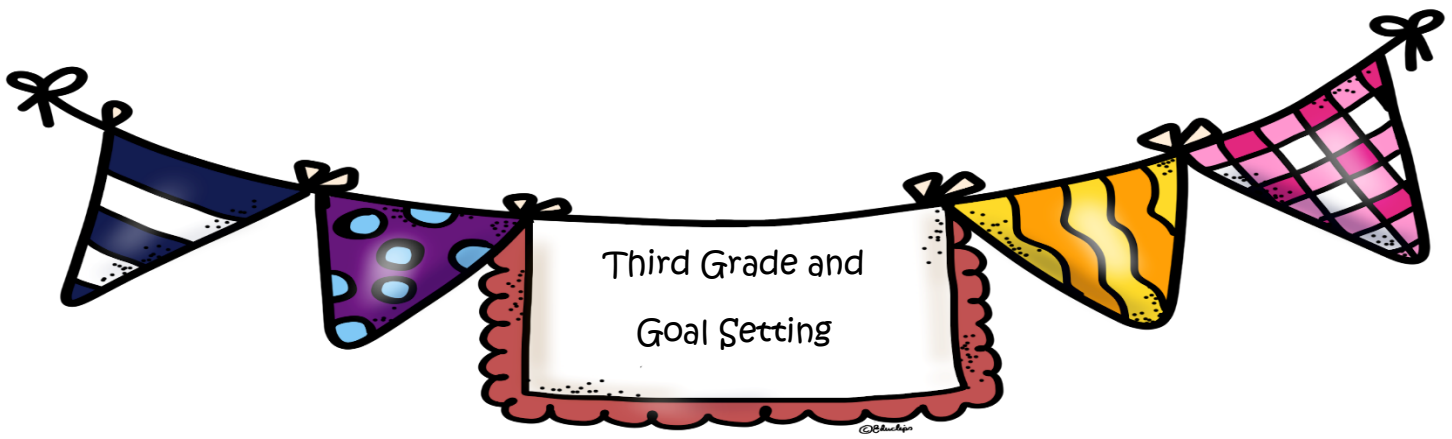
Goal Setting in 2nd Grade

As you know, we strongly believe in encouraging 2nd graders to be real world learners. Of course we emphasize reading and math, but one area we often overlook is teaching our students how to set goals and create action plans for themselves. Many of us were never taught how to set goals for ourselves, and we only discovered the power of goal-setting later in life. But with a little creativity and guiding, we strongly believe that we can lead our students in setting goals for themselves

Teaching students to set personal goals begins with teaching them to believe in themselves. We have to teach them to believe in themselves, because without that belief, they aren't likely to achieve their goals. We also believe we need to teach them that they can achieve and accomplish anything if they truly try!

Our goal (see, look at that) is to guide the children in their goal setting and provide them with resources and strategies to meet their goals. Please look for your child's goals in their weekly reflection in the weeks to come. With your help and encouragement at home, we believe that our children will reach their personal goals! What a great skill!

The Second Grade Team



As we begin the third grade year, setting goals is an essential piece of student growth. Knowing what they are successful in and where they need to improve can spark student thinking about setting important reading goals. This allows the students to take responsibility for their own learning within the classroom. As we conference with students individually and in small groups, our objective is to create attainable goals that reflect their individual reading habits. Below are some examples of current reading goals:

- My book box will be half fiction and half informational.
- I will read different genres.
- I will stop and jot when I am reading.
- I will use schema and context clues to find the meaning of words I do not know.

The beginning of the year is a great time to also set personal goals at home to promote independence and responsibility.

As always, thank you for your continued support!

The Third Grade Team

News from Fourth Grade

Mrs. Las

Mrs. Lara

Ms. McGuire

Mrs. Petrovic



We are off to a great start in fourth grade! The students are working hard getting routines and procedures down and following directions carefully. We spend a lot of time reviewing routines in anticipation for all the collaborative learning that takes place throughout the year.

Your child, along with their fourth grade teacher, has been conferencing and setting goals for both reading and math. Goal setting is an important component of your child's active engagement in the learning process. It allows for reflection and room for growth, while also taking a moment to celebrate one's own accomplishments. By being an active participant in the goal setting process, your child will be invested and motivated to achieve their goals. This will be an ongoing process that will allow for new goals to be set as the year progresses.

On September 15th, both students and grandparents thoroughly enjoyed comparing and contrasting education today to education in years past, all while practicing their speaking and listening skills. Be sure to keep an eye out for the letter that will be coming home thanking the grandparents for donating their time. Thank you again for all of the grandparents who were able to participate and make it a memorable learning experience.

Please continue to keep yourself updated on classroom homework and announcements by looking at your child's planners and/or classroom calendars. We look forward to partnering with you and your child this year. Thank you for your support!

The Fourth Grade Teachers



Students Rule the School...and Their Own Learning

I am so very excited to start another year at Troy Shorewood! The students in ACE are doing a spectacular job of being good learners, teammates, and friends. A big part of that is students taking ownership and responsibility for themselves. That can be social (asking a lonely classmate to partner read in workshop), mental (tracking bonuses and fines in their classroom economy folders), and academic, which is our new focus.

This week, we have started setting academic goals for ourselves to supplement the goals I set in class. Students are learning to look at their personal data, identify areas for improvement, and controlling how best to fill in those gaps to make them more well-rounded young men and women. We've started in math, but will continue into ELA very soon, and everyone is working hard to start helping themselves grow. However, they still need adult guidance and support, which is where we come in!

I will be conferencing with them after we learn the goal-setting process, but it would be an immense help if parents and families got in on the action! Ask your child to share their new goals with you. Ask them about their triumphs. Talk to them about their struggles. Help them persevere, fail, regroup, try again, and (inevitably) push themselves to the next level. A marathon always starts with one step, and an encouraging crowd, banners in hand, doesn't hurt either. :)

We will continue to work towards accomplishing our goals all year, but so far, so good! I hope everyone involved with ACE is just as excited as I am. Let's make it a great year!

~Miss Jenny Rumpf

Welcome back to the 2015-2016 school year!

As this new school year begins, with it comes many new adventures for our children...including new goals for the year! All of us have the same goal in mind for each of our children, SUCCESS. The way we meet these goals is by setting them **with** our students. Goals are better met when ownership is taken for the action steps involved in meeting them. It is important for our children to “own their goals”. This will help them to understand, as well as work to meet and exceed them.



The ELL students have academic and language goals to meet each year. Each student’s ACCESS scores are used to develop an understanding of the growth they have made towards language proficiency, as well as where we are headed. MAP data also points us in the direction instruction needs to follow for academic growth. Our goals are based on data, the continuum of learning and the progress of our abilities as second language learners. Through the use of these tools, together we plan for our success. This is how we plan to achieve and exceed in reading, writing, listening and speaking, as well as the Common Core State Standards. Together, we discuss and plan where we will focus our attention, and the changes we can make to achieve our goals. We decide and document our plan of growth and how we will obtain the tools to successfully meet our goals. Classroom support, individual and small group instruction is provided to meet these goals with the collaboration of classroom teachers.

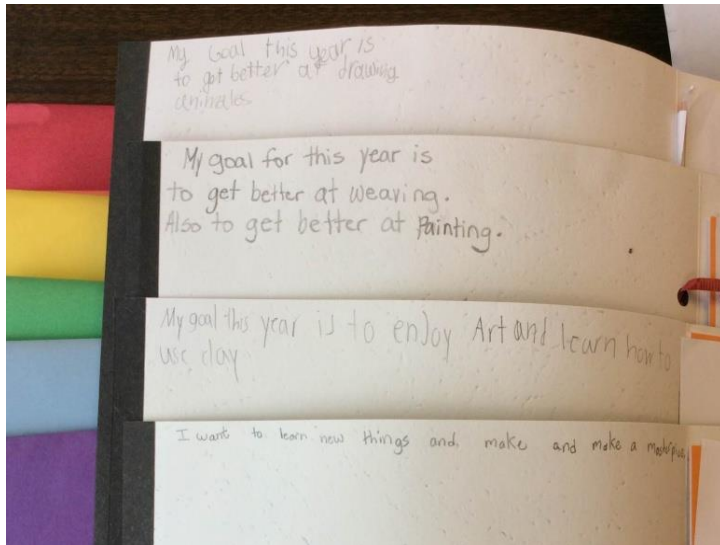
Parent involvement is also key to our children being successful. As this year unfolds, my goal is to engage as many ELL parents in activities as I can! There will be many family events to participate in this year. The activities are designed to partner our parents with the school, build comfort with the academic setting, and teach us as adults how to come together for the success of our children. Our first ELL Family Night was held on Monday, September 14, 2015 in the Shorewood School gym. Invitations were mailed to our ELL families district wide. Please watch for and plan to attend these events. Together, we can make the goals of our children obtainable through a well-developed home and school relationship.



I look forward to helping your family reach many academic and social goals this year!

Arlene Roderick, ELL Specialist
Troy Shorewood School 815-577-7312, extension 1138

Goal Setting in the Art Room



Within the first two weeks of school, students set a goal for what they want to accomplish or learn in Art this year. Each grade level approached this task differently. Kindergarten, first, and second grade students set a goal and drew a picture of something they wanted to learn by the end of the year in Art. Third and fourth grade students created their own sketchbook journals. Inside of the journal cover, students wrote their goal for the year and illustrated it

on the front cover. Because a picture is worth a thousand words, I have included some visual examples of students' artwork.

Each day that students attend art class, a designated student helper (Studio Assistant) reads the "Daily Target" objectives which are linked to a Common Core Visual Art Standard. The "Daily Target" encompasses what students should know and be able to accomplish by the end of one art period.



Students will continue to set personal and artistic goals throughout the year in order to become independent creative thinkers and problem solvers.



As our new school year begins you will find many students and teachers making academic goals to prepare our children for the future. The school library is a place that extends learning and the ability to meet these goals.

“School libraries are extensions of the classroom. Rich with print, electronic resources and the technologies necessary to view, hear, and use them, the school library allows students to delve deeper into classroom subjects and topics of personal interest. Reading as a foundational skill is supported and promoted by the school library program. Research has shown that students’ standardized reading test scores are higher when they have access to a well-resourced school library.” (1)

Librarians also play an important role in meeting reading and math goals. Librarians do not just supply and recommend books, or provide literary and informational text related to math. We also share our understanding and use of literature to think across the many curricular areas in the school. Librarians recognize their role in the teaching of reading and math and contribute to the classroom goals. The library can also assist in structuring problem solving activities that help students understand and communicate their solution process. A school librarian’s knowledge and support of students’ writing, researching, speaking and listening skills is used to meet the shifts and goals of the Common Core State Standards.(2)

As your children use the school library this year, ask them questions about what they are learning in the library, what resources they are able to use and how they are meeting their classrooms goals. You will be surprised at all the information they are able to share with you!

Jolene Chamblee, Troy Shorewood School Librarian

Resources:

(1)American Association of School Librarians (AASL) and Achieve in support of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS)

(2)“School Library Research Summarized: A Graduate Class Project.” 2007. School Library Impact Studies Project. Library & Information

Technologies, Mansfield University of Pennsylvania. (accessed February 23, 2011).



With the cold and flu season fast approaching, here are some helpful guidelines for staying healthy:

- WASH your hands often with soap and water.
- AVOID touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- AVOID kissing, hugging and sharing cups and utensils with people who are sick.
- DISINFECT surfaces, such as doorknobs and toys – especially if someone is sick.

Please keep your child home if he/she has a fever of 100° or greater, excessive coughing, vomiting and or diarrhea. Children must be free of fever and vomiting for 24 hours before returning to school.

Please check Skyward to make sure all emergency phone numbers are available and correct.

As a reminder, Kindergarten and 2nd graders need a current dental form on file. All dental exams within the year are accepted.

Please dress your children for the weather. Unless it is under 20° F and/or raining, the children will be going outside for recess.

Yours in Good Health,

Mrs. Perinar



The Troy CCSD 30-C learning community will achieve excellence and will conquer the challenges of the future.

September 16, 2015

To all our families-

I want to thank all of you for a fantastic start to our school year. Your students have come to school ready to learn. We appreciate all that you do!

Now that we are in the flow of school, I want to make some simple observations as we prepare for the days ahead. First, please know that the safety and health of your child is our primary concern. In that light, please make sure that we are aware of any changes in your child's health or safety needs. Never hesitate to contact your school with concerns about health or safety. Second, we are excited about our new food service. Arbor Management provides well-balanced, kid friendly food choices for our students. Your students are participating, and we will continue to put our menus out ahead of time so you can plan your meals. As always, please contact us with questions. Finally, as we enter into fall, we enter into flu season. Now is as good a time as any to remind your children to wash hands, cover coughs, and get plenty of sleep. Attendance at school is critical to success, and we love to see our students at school.

I want to share with you a great opportunity to honor a teacher. The Joliet Area Chamber of Commerce graciously organizes the annual Joliet Great Teachers Award. This is an opportunity for parents, students, community members, and other educators to nominate the best and brightest in our teaching ranks. The process for nomination starts with you, and we have made the form available online. To find it, please go to the district home page at <https://troywebs.troy30c.org/> and look under the Latest News section of the web page to find the link.

If you have a teacher that has inspired you, your child, or your family, please take the time to fill out the form and send it to the Joliet Chamber offices by 4:00 p.m. October 15, 2015. The address of the Chamber office is on the form. Those you nominate will be sent the Great Teacher application packets which will be reviewed by a team of educators upon submission. The Great Teachers will be selected from these applications and honored at a celebration event on February 18, 2016. We know that we have great teachers in Troy 30-C, so please take the time to nominate one to honor their work and the impact he/she has had on your life. I can guarantee that each will be deeply humbled by your actions.

It is great to be in Troy 30-C. We have the right combination of students, parents, and staff to create the environment for student success. We are off to a great start with the momentum to carry us through the year. Please feel free to contact us with questions, concerns, and suggestions that you have about the education of your student.

Sincerely-

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dr. Todd Koehl".

Dr. Todd J. Koehl, Superintendent
