**Birney K-8 School Mission & Vision**

**Mission**: Birney K-8 School is a caring community school with qualified, dedicated professionals educating young people in a diverse setting for self-development, learning and success. Each student will be a life-long learner and a responsible citizen in a global community.

**Vision**: Birney K-8 School is committed to providing Excellence in Education for all students. The school will design programs and learning experiences that promote academic achievement and the personal and social growth of every student. As a richly diverse community of learners that values all its members, Birney K-8 School will assume a central role in the community by linking parents, local agencies and businesses to the school.

Birney K-8 School will provide a safe and productive learning environment in which students can communicate effectively, think critically, solve problems and are technologically literate through a variety of curricular and extra-curricular activities. Through a challenging course of study with high standards, students will become responsible learners who can work collaboratively, and be accountable for their own academic and developmental progress.

 Birney K-8 students will become lifelong learners who will be educated to make valuable contributions to society. Through the collaboration of school, home and community, every Birney K-8 student will be well prepared for the demands of the 21st century.

Contact Information:

Phone: 248-746-8800

Alicia Gray:   
email: [alicia.gray@southfieldk12.org](mailto:alicia.gray@southfieldk12.org)

Amy Lerman:   
email: [Amy.Lerman@southfieldk12.org](mailto:Amy.Lerman@southfieldk12.org)

Birney K-8 School  
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**2017-2018  
5th Grade**

**Course Syllabus**  
Mrs. Alicia Gray –**Reading/Writing/Math**

Ms. Amy Lerman- **Science/Social Studies**

Course Objective**Instructional Objectives**

To help students improve and excel in math, reading, writing, social studies and science as they work to master the concepts and skills of the Fourth Grade Standards. The courses and schedule are designed to emphasize study skills, organization skills, time management, self-control and fifth grade preparation; encouraging the creative use and development of these. It will also provide the student with knowledge and development of skills that teaches the acquisition of group projects, presentations, and research.

At the end of the school year, all students will be able to:

1. Master math, reading, writing, social studies and science skills as described in the Fifth Grade Common Core Standards.
2. Apply study skills to everyday classroom situations, assessments, and homework.
3. Improve organizational skills in everyday classroom and home situations.
4. Efficiently use technology to enhance learning.
5. Develop the required skills to make a smooth transition to sixth grade.

**Course Outline**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Reading/Writing | \*Reading – Fantasy, Adventure, Myths, Legends, Biographies, Autobiography, and Poetry  \*Writing – write personal narratives, genre based writing, poetry, research project, and a position essay  \*Listening & Speaking |  |
| Math | **\*Number and Operations – Place value, fractions, problem solving addition, subtraction, multiplication, & division**  **\*Measurement**  **\*Geometry**  **\*Data and Probability** |  |
| Science | **\*Scientific Process**  **\*Physical Science – Changes in Motion**  **\*Life Science –Evolution and Traits of Organisms and Animal Systems**  **\*Earth Science –Position and Motion of Objects in the Sky** |  |
| Social Studies | **Native Cultures, Exploration and Discovery, Colonial Life, Conflict and the American Revolution, The New Nation** |  |

**Assessments** Throughout the year, we will utilize data to identify student’s strengths and weaknesses. This data will be used to personalize instruction. We will ensure that each student is taught at their individual levels, regardless of deficiencies or advanced placements. The following assessment tools will be used to monitor progress at all levels:

* M-Step State Examination
* Measure of Academic Progress (NWEA)
* Study Island Wed-Based Software
* Michigan Literacy Progress Profile/DRA
* Class Projects, Presentations, & Unit Assessments

**Character Education** Character education helps create a positive environment for teaching and learning. Administrators, teachers, and other staff are presented with opportunities to model and teach universal positive character traits such as respect, responsibility, honesty, and compassion. Birney K-8 will also host monthly character education assemblies to model and discuss good character across grade levels.

**Grading System (Report Cards are Standards based)**

100%-98%   A+ 97%-94%   A 93%-90%  A-

89%-88%      B+ 87%-84%      B 83%-80%     B-

79%- 78%    C+ 77%-74%    C 73%-70%    C-

69%-68%    D+ 67%-64%    D 63%-60%    D-

59%- Below  F

**Citizenship & Proficiency Scale**

 4- Secure 3- Developing 2-Beginning 1-Area of Concern

**Classroom Discipline \***Be Respectful! \*Be Responsible! \*Be Safe! \*Be Peaceful!

1. **Be respectful to others**
2. **Keep hands feet and object to self**
3. **Come to class prepared**
4. **Follow Directions & Listen carefully**
5. **Stay Seated**
6. **Raise your hand to Speak**
7. **Work Quietly**

**\*Attendance Expectation:** *Attend school regularly and on time.* If a student is absent, they are responsible for the materials covered in class, including getting the missed work from the teacher. **Students will be given two days to turn in any missed work or to make-up an assessment without penalty.** Late work, not excused by absence, will have an additional 10% deducted.

**Discipline Policy & Consequences-** All behavior incidents will be noted daily on homework chart.

**No Redirection** – Awesome! You had a great day!

**1st Redirection**– Stop and think about your actions

**2nd Redirection**– Think Sheet; Loss of classroom privilege, recess, or lunch detention (think sheet must be signed by parent)

**3rd Redirection**- Parent will be contacted, possible referral