

Woodstation Elementary School
Family and School Team (FAST)
Virtual Group Meeting #2 - Meeting Minutes
March 22, 2023

Family Packets

Personalized family packets with all documents and activities needed to participate in the virtual FAST meeting went home with students on Wednesday, March 22. These packets contained instructions for how to participate in the online meeting, Family-School Compact for Achievement, reading and math activities for home practice, a meeting evaluation form, and Lexile and Georgia Milestones information (grade 3-5). The agenda for this meeting was included as a slide in the presentation.

Sign-In

The family packet included a cover sheet to be completed by parent and returned to school. This form served as sign-in and included meeting evaluation questions.

Teacher Presentations

Previous to the meeting, each K-5 teacher prepared a video for their classroom parents. It was a recording explaining the FAST google slide presentation. These video recordings were posted on the school website on March 22 and remained on the website through April 19. Parents could access the website at their convenience and watch their teacher's video on any device with an internet connection. The FAST program is a way for teachers and families to partner together with the goal of higher student achievement. It gives all families the skills and confidence needed to support learning at home.

Family-School Compact for Achievement

A copy of the grade level compact was included in each family packet. The compact is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will work together to make sure all students reach grade level goals. Parents are encouraged to refer to the compact for learning strategies throughout the year.

Introduction of Grade Level Skills

Teachers introduced and explained two important grade level skills and why they are important for reading and math achievement.

- Kindergarten – Word Reading (Spire, heart words, high-frequency words) and Teen Numbers
- First Grade – Passage Reading Fluency and Math Fact Fluency
- Second Grade – Vocabulary and Fractions
- Third Grade – Vocabulary and Fractions
- Fourth Grade – Vocabulary and Math skills
- Fifth Grade – Vocabulary and Math skills

Home Practice Activities

The family packet included activities for home to practice the foundational skills that were introduced in the video. Everything needed to use the activities was included in the family packet.

Videos of our Academic Coach explaining and modeling the activity were available on our school website.

- Kindergarten –Flash cards, sidewalk chalk, and heart words website
- First Grade – Scooping phrases fluency activity and Two Fisted Penny Addition game board
- Second Grade – Vocabulary Bingo and Buggy for Fractions game
- Third Grade – Vocabulary Bingo and Sweet Fractions game
- Fourth Grade – Vocabulary Bingo and IXL login and skill review
- Fifth Grade – Vocabulary Bingo and IXL login and skill review

Grade level Goals

Woodstation teaches the Georgia Standards of Excellence. The family packet included a grade level goal sheet for the current grade and for the next grade. Parents can use this sheet to do a learning check-up for this year and to preview what students will be learning in the next grade level.

Lexile Range

Teacher presentations for grades 3-5 included information about Lexile levels. A student's Lexile level helps identify text they can read and understand. The higher the Lexile number, the stronger the student's reading ability. Parents can use the Lexile Find a Book tool to locate books on a child's reading level. Reading books that match a student's Lexile level will help increase reading ability. A student data sheet was included in the family packet that showed student Lexile level according to winter MAP. Students in 3rd grade should aim for a Lexile range of 520-820. Students in 4th grade should aim for a Lexile level of 740 – 940. Students in 5th grade should aim for a Lexile level of 830-1010.

Georgia Milestones Information

Parents with students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade received information about the upcoming Georgia Milestones Assessments. Third, fourth, and fifth grade students take Georgia Milestones in order to tell how well students have learned the state standards (Georgia Standards of Excellence). Testing dates for this year are (April 25-28). A handout with these dates was included in the family packet. Only 5th grade will test in science this year and there will not be a social studies assessment. A data sheet was provided that included a Georgia Milestone Achievement Predictor based on the student's winter MAP score. Achievement levels on the Georgia Milestones Assessments are:

1. Beginning Learners – Need substantial academic support
2. Developing Learners – Need additional academic support
3. Proficient Learners – Prepared for the next grade
4. Distinguished Learners – Well prepared for the next grade

The goal for Woodstation students is to be a Proficient or Distinguished Learner. Parent responsibility for test preparation should be centered on helping testing week go smoothly by eliminating extra stress for students. Going to bed early, eating a nutritious breakfast, and getting to school on time are great ways to help students have a successful testing experience. The practice test website is <http://www.gaexperienceonline.com> Instructions for using the site were included in the family packet. The school website has more information about Georgia Milestones including links to the GaDOE and grade level study guides.

Meeting Feedback

The cover sheet in the family packet included a meeting evaluation form. Parents were asked to complete the form including any suggestions or comments about the meeting and return it to school.

Title I Information available under the Title I tab on the school website.

- o WES Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Input
- o District Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Input
- o District Policy Trifold
- o Georgia Standards of Excellence Brochure
- o Student Testing in Georgia Handout
- o Annual Meeting Information
- o Components of a Schoolwide Program
- o Family-School Compacts for Achievement
- o How to Communicate with Your Child's Teacher Brochure
- o Input Card