



# Mustang Minutes



Message from Concord Administration

Dr. Dana Doggett, Principal  
Mrs. Tracie Connelly, Assistant Principal

Happy New Year 2024!

Welcome back from what we hope was a restful and relaxing winter break.

**Concord's student attendance percentage for the month of December 2023 was 86.32%. It is imperative that your child attends school daily and arrives on time. Our goal is to have our school's attendance percentage at 94% and higher.**

If your child is absent from school, please complete *the Absence Reason Notification Form on our school's website, [www.pgcps.org/Concord](http://www.pgcps.org/Concord)*. Continue to email and/or bring in an absent note to your child's teacher as well. Absent notices can also be submitted to Mrs. Jones, our registrar secretary.

We are midway through the second quarter of this school year and the 2nd quarter will end on January 22, 2024. This time is approaching quickly, which is why we urge all parents to make sure your child is completing and submitting all assignments on time. Please check in with your students each night to see what assignments are due. This will enable you to support your students with improving their grades. All students need to complete their homework assignments nightly along with completing their Reading and Math logs.

Finally, we urge all parents to check their child's grades in the School Max Family Portal once per week. If you do not have a family portal account, you can visit the county website to register. This will enable you to track their weekly grades

**Below are important dates for the month of January 2024:**

Monday, January 15, 2024 School Closed for Students (Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday)

Monday, January 22, 2024 End of 2nd Quarter  
½ day for Students w/Asynchronous Learning (virtual)

Tuesday, January 23, 2024 Parent & Family Math & Science Night (5:00 - 7:30 PM)

Lastly, please ensure that your contact information (phone number, address, email address, emergency contact information) is updated and shared with your child's teacher and the main office. Our school newsletter will be available monthly on our school's website along with all information. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (301) 817-0488 and/or at [Dana.Doggett@pgcps.org](mailto:Dana.Doggett@pgcps.org) and [Tracie.Connelly@pgcps.org](mailto:Tracie.Connelly@pgcps.org).





## Primary January Updates

### Pre-Kindergarten

This month, we will start focusing on how structures and tools work and how to make or do things. Children explore the form and function of objects through observations, simple experiments, games, and activities. In particular, we explore how objects move and investigate their shapes and uses. They imagine, design and create. And, they explore delightful books to inspire their creativity and to help them understand the concept of sequence.

Reading – Letter Formation and Creating the Letters of the Alphabet Using Different Materials, Initial Sound of Letters (focus letters) and Medial and Ending Sounds for Recognition of Rhyming Words, Concepts of Print and Parts of the Book

Math – Counting and Plus-One Pattern, Subitizing, Identifying Patterns, Duplicating and Extending Patterns, Drawing and Making 2-D and 3-D Shapes, Using Simple addition and Subtraction while building things.

### Kindergarten

The kindergarten students have been busy testing. We have taken Dibels and KRA assessments. Fortunately, all students did complete assessments by the due date given. Kudos to the friends for completing all of the assessments! Also, please remember to submit homework by the due date given. Please remember homework assignments are graded. If your child is sick, we ask that you keep them home. If your child is absent from school, remember to submit a letter of absence. We are learning sight words and focusing on letters and their corresponding sounds. Please reinforce these skills at home. Continue to assist your child in writing their names. We still have a few friends that are unable to write their first names. Please practice this skill daily at home.

### First Grade

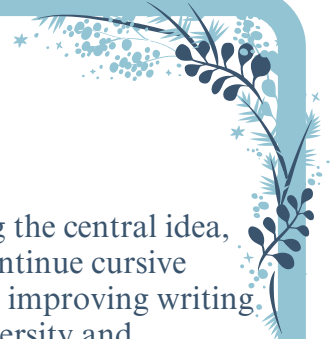
Will continue to learn the foundational skills with the focus on blending and segmenting phonemes. Consonant blends, features of a sentence, text features to locate key facts, nouns and pronouns are introduced in Reading as well as narrative writing.

In Math, they will use different strategies to solve subtraction problems such as counting back, decomposing to ten, subtraction as inverse addition and solving math problems. In Science, they explain why they can see an object if it gives off its own light or light shines on it and identify the impacts various materials have on light as well as understand that a solid object does not allow light to pass through it. In Social Studies, they will explain how culture is shared and how families are alike and different. In health, they explore what medicine is and how it helps or can hurt your body, and they learn the medicine rules.

We encourage all students to use I-Ready Reading and Dreambox on weekends for 15 minutes. This will prepare them for the next assessments. Encourage your child to read for 20 minutes every day and to practice addition and subtraction Math facts. Keep up the great work!

### Second Grade

Is a blast so far! We are learning about exploring the world around us. In reading, reading both informational texts and fiction stories to learn about exploring the world around us. We will continue to learn digraphs, blends, vowel teams and different spelling patterns in our spelling words. In class, we are reading the "Blend it" books in the curriculum to practice reading blends and words and learning heart words. We will continue to work on blending, decoding, and working with prefixes/suffixes. In Math, we will learn telling time by the hour, half hour, and quarter hour. We will learn different vocabulary to use when measuring time. In Science, students will learn about changes to land and water on Earth. In Social Studies, we are learning about cultures and traditions/customs. We are discussing the importance of respecting other people's cultures as we practice sharing our own cultures with classmates. Please make sure your child is reading for at least 20 minutes each and every night. Reading logs will be sent home every Monday with the homework packet. All Homework packets and logs are due on the Friday of each week. Please ensure you are sending your student to school with their fully charged Chromebook and charger each day!



## Intermediate January Updates

### Third Grade

In Reading, students will practice synthesizing, asking/answering questions, finding the central idea, and monitoring and clarifying in Module 9- From Farm to Table. They will also continue cursive handwriting practice, learning their signatures, identifying content area words, and improving writing skills. In Social Studies, third grade students will explore the theme Celebrating diversity and traditions. Students will learn the history of cultures and different traditions. In Math our third graders will continue to learn multiplication, strategies to help solve multiplication problems, and extending on the concept of multiplication. In Science students will learn about inherited traits. In third grade, we will also begin practicing responding to questions that students will see on Benchmark assessments and MCAP assessment in the spring. Students will continue working on expanding on their thoughts, ideas, and writing using reasoning, in both reading and math.

### Fourth Grade

In Reading and Language Arts, students will learn about Module 9 and continue to identify the Author's Point of View (RL3.6) and describe character actions, motivations, and feelings (RL3.3). Ongoing language skills may include regular and plural nouns, commas in address or a series, and using conjunctions to prevent run-on sentences. In social studies, students will explore the theme Celebrating Diversity and Traditions as it relates to how technology impacted people's lives long ago in comparison to today. Students will respond to the Document Based Question about Transportation and Communication.

In Math students will continue to spend a lot of time with multiplication and division strategies within 100. In Science students will also learn about force and its interactions. In Health students will learn about how to address attitudes, values, and goals, personal choices and responsibilities, and refusal skills for risky situations.

### Fifth Grade

The Second Quarter is almost over. Our scholars will continue to multiply and divide decimals by a whole number ( ex. 18.9 divided. by 6) and by another decimals ( ex. 17.82 divided by 0.3). It is important that our students continue to practice their multiplication and division facts.

Science covers Unit 3 which is the Interacting Earth System. Students will continue to explore, observe, interpret, experiment, and state conclusions.

Health focuses on human emotions and the effects on the body, positive ways to cope with stress, conflict, disappointment, and failure; and personal safety. Child sexual abuse prevention is included.\*





## Special Subjects January Updates

### Physical Education

Happy New Year! Is it 2024 already? Yes! I hope you all had a great holiday season filled with joy, laughter, and fun. To kick off the new year, students will learn how to work with others through sharing and cooperative learning. We will also go over some nutrition facts such as what's healthy vs. what's not healthy. Finally, we will introduce dancing to the kids as a necessary locomotor skill to remain active and moving.

As you know, Winter is here. Therefore, students will most likely not be outside during P.E. days unless it's unseasonably warm. Jackets and coats would still be required to participate in our outdoor activities if weather permits.

As a reminder, please ensure that your child is wearing the correct shoes on P.E. days. No clogs, flip flops, dress shoes, boots, or cleats. If you do send your child to school with shoes that are not suitable for P.E., please ensure that they have a set of spare shoes to put on.

### Media

[Brochure Virtual Library](#)

### Special Education

Parenting children with disabilities has some challenges. Doing positive things which you as parent of a child with disability will be very beneficial to you, your child with disability, and your family. Take time to take care of your mental, emotional, and physical health. It is important to stay healthy mentally, emotionally, and physically. As a parent, you may start scheduling activities that get your entire family out into the community. You can all go to fairs, go apple picking, and/or go to a public park and have a picnic or just enjoy nature. The activities will offer opportunities for your child with disability and his siblings some experiences that they can't learn in school. Next, you will start to laugh more. Raising a child with special needs is hard and laughing provides immediate stress relief. Laughing is contagious. Every member of your family will laugh, and things will simply be fine. And lastly, be comfortable with asking others for help. Neighbors and community organizations are always willing to fetch in or offer helping hands. The saying goes, "Ask and you will receive." Start doing these tips. If you have some tips that work will for you, share it with the Concord families of children with disabilities. Have a relaxing new year!





## Technology Updates

Parents it is important that your student has a working chromebook daily. If they need to replace a broken device please complete the [form](#) to begin the next steps for a replacement. Students are not accessing all of the resources to support their development in reading and math if they do not have a working device. Academics are enhanced by completing lessons in the online intervention tools for reading (iReady and Lexia Core) , and Dreambox for math. These online tools are accessible at home, and should be used for a minimum of 20 minutes three times a week. Concord is proud to celebrate the top users who appear on our leaderboard for the highest completion rate in iReady and time/ number of lessons completed for Dreambox in Grades 3-5 during December.

### Online intervention Leaderboard

#### *iReady*

5th Grade Lesson Completion YTD (Year-to-Date) percentage

#### *5th Grade- iReady-Lesson Completion YTD (Year-to-Date) percentage*

##### **Dr. Zoleta HR**

Maleah Rollins 93%

Jorel Hicks 91%

Teriah Cleveland 88%

Rodolfo Gonzalez Zecena 87%

##### **Ms. Dember's HR**

Rashaad Smith 100%

Kennedy Robinson 100%

Kymani Fogg 95%

Damari Palmer 92%

\*\*Most lessons completed - Camille Jenkins 126 !!!

#### *4th Grade- iReady-Lesson Completion YTD (Year-to-Date) percentage*

Leiya Alston 100%

Neveah Angus 100%

Hazel Atwater 92%

Mikaya Banks 92%

Kamryn Battle 100%

Mia Fonseca 95%

Karter Ray 96%

\*\*Most lessons completed- Elijah Chapman 77 !!!!

Dreambox Student Usage (Percentage of students using the tool per grade level)

Kindergarten-15%

1st Grade-86%

2nd Grade - 83%

3rd Grade - 80%

4th Grade- 100%

5th Grade- 97%



## Technology Updates continues

### Top Users Grades 3-5

#### Grade 3

Jerimiah Delaine 3 hr 27 min  
(26 lesson completed)

Lily Maynard 1 hr 19 min  
(13 lessons completed)

#### Grade 4

Hope Delaine 4 hr 29 min

Maggie Fogg 3 hr 42 min

Adriel Robinson 3 hr 19 min

#### Most Lessons Completed

Fabio Gonzalez-Portillo = 29

Maggie Fogg = 28

#### Grade 5

Yarelin Ortiz- Dominguez 8 hr 38 min

Victory Ayuk Ayuk 8 hr 27 min

#### Most Lessons Completed

Yarelin Ortiz- Dominguez = 45

Kendrick Strattonbey = 42

### Dreambox K-2

#### Grade K

Jonas Tolson 3hr 12 min

Adeline Menjivar Alva 1 hr 38 min

Karter Clark 23 min

#### Most Lessons Completed

Jonas Tolson= 5

#### Grade 1

Ra'Shawn Smith 4hr 25 min

Massai Colbert 2 hr 36 min

Jordan Trigueros Martinez 2hr 23 min

#### Most lessons Completed

Massai Colbert = 15

#### Grade 2

Elijah Johnson 3 hr 29 min

Raniya Burns 3 hr 5 min

Adam Portillo-Gonzalez 2 hr 43 min

#### Most Lessons Completed

Elijah Johnson = 37

Raniya Burns = 36

### Lexia Core 5 - Grades K-3 (Reading intervention)

#### Grade Percentage Using # of Students

K 76% 25

1 62% 16

2 32% 8

3 48% 12

Over the last 4 weeks 61 out of 118 students are using Lexia Core Intervention