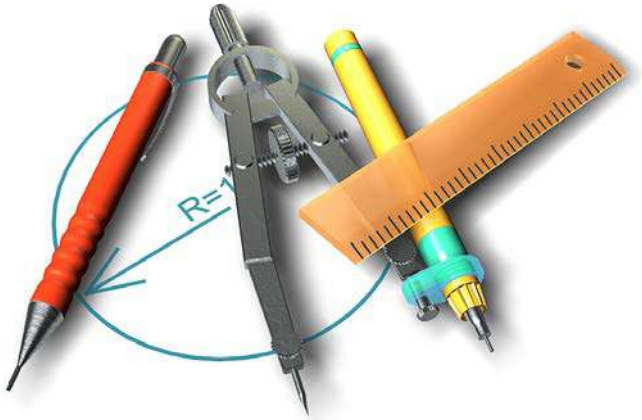
ABINGTON

Excellence is our standard, achievement is the result



GRADE 6

CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT HANDBOOK FOR PARENTS

Abington School District
Abington, PA

Superintendent's Message

This Curriculum Handbook is the result of recommendations made by a committee of staff members and parents/guardians. The committee recognized a need to provide another source of information to improve communication between home and school regarding the instructional program.

On the following pages, you will find the standards categories as listed on the grade level report card. These categories correlate with the standards established in the Pennsylvania School Code. For each area of the curriculum, examples of the concepts, skills and activities that are done at this grade level are listed. During parent-teacher conferences, teachers will be reporting student progress by the standard category and will be using Performance Level Descriptors that reflect those used on the Pennsylvania State System of Assessment. Information about the Performance Level Descriptors is given on the last page of this handbook.

Parents/guardians are urged to use the information in this booklet as a basis for formulating questions regarding their student's progress.

If parents/guardians have any questions concerning the instructional program or their student's progress, they should contact the teacher and the school principal.

Jeffrey S. Fecher, Ph.D.

Grade 6
Curriculum and Assessment Handbook for Parents

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Student: _____ **School:** _____

School Year: _____ **Grade:** _____ **Teacher**: _____

COMMUNICATION ARTS	Marking Period 1	2	3
Learning to Read			
Reading Critically			
Interpreting Literature			
Writing			
Speaking			
Listening			
Research			
MATHEMATICS			
Numbers and Computation			
Geometry and Measurement			
Reasoning and Problem Solving			
Probability and Statistics			
Algebraic Concepts			
SCIENCE			
Inquiry and Design			
Biological Sciences			
Physical Science			
Earth Sciences			
Technological Devices			
HEALTH			
Concepts of Health			
Healthful Living			
Safety and Injury Prevention			
SOCIAL STUDIES			
Career Education and Work			
Civics and Government			
Economics			
Geography			
History			

ART	Marking Period 1	2	3
Production, History, Critique, Aesthetics			
Work Habits and Social Skills			
MUSIC			
Production, History, Critique, Aesthetics			
Work Habits and Social Skills			
PHYSICAL EDUCATION			
Physical Activity and Movement			
Work Habits and Social Skills			
WORK HABITS			
Demonstrates effort			
Comes to school prepared			
Demonstrates positive attitude			
Works well independently			
Keeps materials organized			
Follows directions			
SOCIAL SKILLS			
Respects rights of others			
Demonstrates self-control			
Follows school and classroom rules			
Accepts responsibility for behavior			
Cooperates with others			
ATTENDANCE			
Absent			
Tardy			

Grade 6 Standards-Based Curriculum

Communication Arts

- Learning to Read
  - Decoding strategies
    - Phonics, word analysis
  - Vocabulary
    - Sight vocabulary, synonyms, antonyms, context clues, multiple meaning words, reference sources, word families, homographs, homophones, analogies, word origins, application of new vocabulary
  - Comprehension
    - Predicting, purpose-setting, analysis, evaluation, inferences, summary, retell, connection of new ideas from text, conclusions, text structure, citation of evidence from text
    - Author's perspective and purpose, main idea, details, judgments, generalizations, persuasion
  - Fluency
    - Pace, expression, intonation, phrasing, accuracy

- Reading Critically
  - Comprehension of informational texts: essential and non-essential information, inferences and conclusions, author's purpose, text structures, fact/opinion

- Interpreting Literature
  - Comprehension of and response to a variety of types of literature
  - Comparing works of literature
  - Literary elements: character, setting, plot, cause/effect, compare/contrast, sequence
  - Literary devices: rhyme, rhythm, patterns, alliteration, onomatopoeia, figurative language, imagery, foreshadowing, flashback

- Writing
  - Narrative and informational forms (narrative, expository, persuasive)
  - Responding to reading
  - Writing process: pre-write, draft, revise, edit, publish
  - Domains: focus, content, organization, style, conventions
  - Appropriate grammar, usage and mechanics, including spelling

- Speaking
  - Small/large group discussions and presentations

- Listening
  - Listening skills in a variety of situations
  - Purpose for listening, following directions

- Research
  - Locating information, including use of primary sources
  - Text features
  - Use of functional everyday documents
  - Library resources, including technology and electronic resources

Mathematics

- Numbers and Computation
  - Divide fractions by fractions
  - Compute fluently with multi-digit numbers using the four operations with or without a calculator
  - Find common factors of two whole numbers
  - Find the least common multiple of two whole numbers
  - Recognize and use the distributive property
  - Use positive and negative numbers in real-world contexts
  - Plot rational numbers on a number line
  - Understand ordering and absolute value of rational numbers

- Geometry and Measurement
  - Determine the area of triangles and special quadrilaterals (i.e. square, rectangle, parallelogram, rhombus, and trapezoid)

- Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving area, surface area, and volume
- Compose and decompose polygons to solve area problems
- Draw polygons in a coordinate plane given coordinates for the vertices
- Use nets to represent 3-dimensional figures and to find surface area

■ Reasoning and Problem Solving
- Create mathematical representations using numbers, words, pictures, symbols, tables, graphs, and concrete objects to model real-world situations
- Make mathematical conjectures and arguments
- Explain mathematical thinking clearly and precisely
- Identify and use mathematical models, and structures such as categories, patterns, and properties to solve problems and answer questions
- Create and justify rules and generalizations

■ Probability and Statistics
- Display, analyze, and summarize data sets in relation to their context
- Display numerical data in line graphs, dot plots, histograms, and box-and-whisker plots
- Understand statistical variability
- Summarize and describe distributions
- Find measures of central tendency for a data set, such as mean, mode and median
- Find measures of variability for a data set, such as range, inter-quartile range and mean absolute deviation

■ Algebraic Concepts
- Understand and use ratio concepts
- Solve real-world and mathematical problems using proportional reasoning (rates, ratios, and percents)
- Complete tables to compare rates and ratios
- Solve unit rate problems
- Identify, write and evaluate numerical and algebraic expressions involving whole number exponents
- Write algebraic expressions with numerals, symbols, and variables from verbal descriptions
- Identify parts of an expression using mathematical terms (e.g. sum, term, product, factor, quotient, coefficient, quantity)
- Evaluate algebraic expressions and formulas used in real-world contexts
- Order of operations: perform basic calculations and generate equivalent expressions
- Solve equations and inequalities
- Model problems with algebraic expressions involving variables
- Create, solve and interpret one-variable equations and inequalities
- Use variables to represent two quantities in a real-world problem that change in relationship to one another

Science

■ Inquiry and Design
- The scientific method
- Predictions and problem solving
- Controlled experiments with variables
- Scientific terminology and communication
- Test results displayed in words, drawings and graphs
- Scientific conclusions drawn from test results
- Test repetition and result comparisons
- Dichotomous keys

■ Biological Sciences
- Human body systems
- Human health
- Earth’s resources
- Interactions of living things
- Earth’s biomes and ecosystems

■ Physical Science
- Matter
- Energy
- Atoms and the periodic table
- Interactions of matter

- Technological Devices
  - Experimental design
  - Use of equipment to gather and evaluate data

Social Studies

- Career Education and Work
  - Career acquisition

- Civics and Government
  - Governments of ancient civilizations, kingdoms, and empires
  - Codes of law
  - Continuity and change over time and across civilizations

- Economics
  - The role of trade in exploration and the development of civilizations
  - Development of agriculture
  - Inventions and industrialization
  - Economies of civilizations, kingdoms, and empires

- Geography
  - Use of geographic tools and map reading skills
  - Physical features of early civilizations
  - Impact of geography on development of early civilizations

- History
  - Exploration, revolution, and independence
  - Development of civilizations, kingdoms, and empires
  - World War
  - The Holocaust
  - African-American contributions to history

Health

- Concepts of Health
  - Human growth and development
  - Nutrition and fitness

- Healthful Living
  - Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE)
  - Stress management
  - Disease prevention
  - HIV/AIDS
  - Anti-bullying strategies
  - Personal and mental health
  - Influences of social pressure

- Safety and Injury Prevention
  - Strategies to avoid or resolve conflict
  - Recognition of safe/unsafe practices

Art

- Production, History, Critique, Aesthetics
  - Advanced color mixing
  - Utilization of abstract shapes
  - Human figure proportions
  - Evaluation of works of art and of works done by peers

Music

- Production, History, Critique, Aesthetics
  - Basic guitar chords
  - Major, minor, chromatic and whole tone scales
  - Changing and irregular meter
  - Application of curricular rhythmic and melodic concepts through original compositions
  - Aural recognition of more complex musical forms

Physical Education

- Physical Activity and Movement
  - Cooperative games
  - Fitness activities and testing
  - Modified games and sports
  - Rhythmic activities
  - Sport-specific skills
  - Team concepts and game strategies

Performance Level Descriptors

Advanced (A)

Demonstrates:

- superior understanding of concepts, skills and strategies with respect to the standard
- 93 – 100% mastery on assessment items related to the standard and scored numerically
- achievement at the highest level on assessment items that are related to the standard and graded with a rubric
- the ability to apply and extend learning and to explore ideas/topics independently

Proficient (P)

Demonstrates:

- solid understanding of concepts, skills and strategies with respect to the standard
- 80 – 92% mastery on assessment items related to the standard and scored numerically
- achievement at the proficient level on assessments that are related to the standard and graded with a rubric
- the ability to apply and extend learning and to explore ideas/topics with support

Basic (B)

Demonstrates:

- partial understanding of concepts, skills and strategies with respect to the standard
- 60 – 79% mastery on assessment items related to the standard and scored numerically
- achievement one level below proficiency on assessments that are related to the standard and graded with a rubric
- a need to begin to apply and extend learning and to explore ideas/topics

Below Basic (BB)

Demonstrates:

- inadequate understanding of concepts, skills and strategies with respect to the standard
- less than 60% mastery on assessment items related to the standard and scored numerically
- achievement at the lowest level on assessments that are related to the standard and graded with a rubric
- a need for additional, focused instructional opportunities

Work Habits and Social Skills
Performance Level Descriptors

Excellent (E) Good (G) Needs Improvement (N)