

WHITEFISH BAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Parent Curriculum Overview*  
*Grade 5*



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WHITEFISH BAY  
1200 E. FAIRMOUNT AVE  
WHITEFISH BAY, WISCONSIN  
[www.wfbschools.com](http://www.wfbschools.com)

Parents/Guardians of Whitefish Bay Elementary School Students,

Education in Whitefish Bay Schools is a partnership that includes the school, the family and the community. As partners in the education of your children, we want you to be informed about what your child will be learning during this school year. The purpose of this Curriculum Overview is to provide families with a basic overview of the core instructional program at each grade level.



Curriculum in the elementary level is designed to provide students with a strong foundation in general knowledge and skills that will make it possible for them to think creatively and critically as they progress through the K-12 system. To these ends, district curriculum is carefully established by committees composed of the professional staff and community representatives. All curricula undergo comprehensive review and are formally updated every six-seven years through the district curriculum review cycle. Student performance data on a variety of classroom, local, state and national assessments are analyzed on an annual basis to ensure students are progressing toward the district's academic standards.

These standards challenge students to learn a broad range of content knowledge and skills while developing their ability to process that knowledge and use those skills. This balance between content (information and knowledge) and process (problem solving and real-world application) may be a shift in approach to the education you received when you were in primary school, yet should set the foundation for future learning for college and career readiness.

The methods and instructional strategies in our classrooms bring the curriculum to life. First, we embrace Flippen's saying, "Once you capture a child's heart, you have his mind." Teachers develop trusting relationships with students, and amongst the students in the classrooms, in order to maintain a nurturing climate wherein learning will flourish. Reading and mathematics instruction are offered in flexible, large and small group settings. Hands-on learning activities develop conceptual understanding of mathematics, science and social studies. Students in grades second through fifth will participate in an exposure to world language program (Spanish). Strong programs for art, music, physical education, library-media and guidance, along with the integration of technology as a learning tool, are other important components that contribute to the vitality of the elementary-level program.

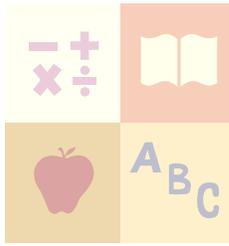
While teachers strive to meet the needs of all students in the classroom, some students benefit from additional assistance or challenge. Academic support programs are available in reading and math. Similarly, gifted and talented programming exists for students whose need for academic challenge far exceeds that of the regular classroom.

If you would like more information about the district curriculum, log on to [www.wfbschools.com](http://www.wfbschools.com) and select the district office link and then select Director of Teaching & Learning Services. On this webpage you will find links to curriculum overview documents, learning standards, and resources for parents. After you have reviewed these resources, if you wish to obtain additional information, please contact your child's teacher, your child's principal, or by contacting the Teaching & Learning Office at 963-3927.

As you support your child's academic and intellectual growth this year, encourage him or her to enjoy learning, take risks, confront misunderstandings, put forth diligent effort to develop new skills, and ask an abundance of questions. A tenacious curiosity and an ability to see challenge as an opportunity for growth will provide rewards for a lifetime.

Sincerely,

Maria Kucharski  
Director of Teaching & Learning  
School District of Whitefish Bay



## Grade 5 Mathematics

**When today's students become adults, they will face new demands for mathematical proficiency. All young Americans must learn to think mathematically, and they must think mathematically to learn (Adding It Up, National Research Council, 2001).**

*Math Expressions*, our newly adopted math resource, is replacing *Everyday Math* beginning the 2013-2014 school year. In *Math Expressions Common Core*, teachers create an inquiry environment and encourage constructive discussion. Students invent, question, model, represent and explore, but also learn and practice important math strategies. Through daily Math Talk, students construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others. Mathematics content and models connect and build across the grade levels to provide a progression of teaching and learning that aligns precisely with the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics.

In fifth grade, instructional time will focus on three critical areas within a Common Core Curriculum; (1) developing fluency with addition and subtraction of fractions, and developing understanding of the multiplication and division of fractions in limited cases; (2) extending division to 2-digit divisors, integrating decimal fractions into the place value system and developing understanding of operations with decimals to hundredths, and developing fluency with whole number and decimal operations; and (3) developing understanding of volume.

**In addition to the critical areas listed above, in fifth grade students will know and understand at a grade appropriate level:**

- how to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- how to model with mathematics and attend to precision.
- writes and interprets numerical expressions using order of operations.
- generates and form ordered pairs using two number patterns with two given rules.
- explains the meaning of place value.
- how to fluently multiply multi-digit whole numbers with standard algorithm.
- uses appropriate tools strategically.
- divides a four-digit by a two-digit whole numbers.
- explains their reasoning or strategy to add, subtract, multiply and divide decimals to the hundredths.
- the use of several strategies when solving problems.
- reads, writes, rounds and compares decimals to thousandths.
- how to collect and organize data in charts, graphs and written format.
- mixed numbers and improper fractions.
- converts like measurement units within a given measurement system.
- geometry concepts relating to the shapes and sides of figures, and congruence vs. similarity.
- understands volume as an attribute of three-dimensional space and that it is measured in cubic units.
- selects appropriate units, strategies, tools for solving problems that involve estimating and measuring volume.
- graphs points on the coordinate plane.



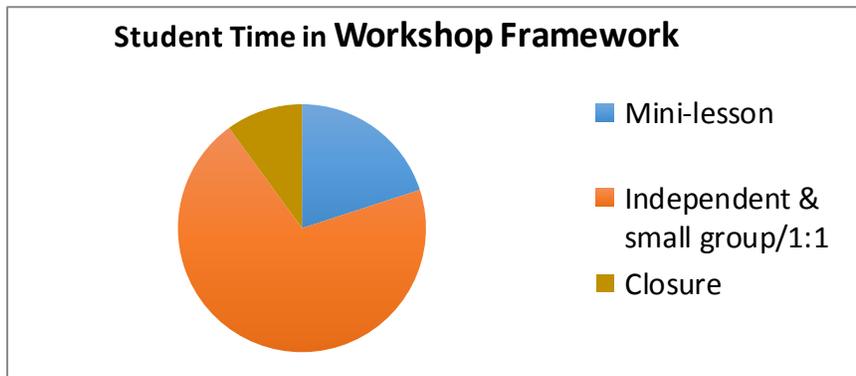
## Grade 5 English Language Arts

The Whitefish Bay School District strives to foster a culture of literacy by providing students with a **cognitive apprenticeship** environment that would enable them to grow into successful readers, writers, listeners and speakers.

Starting in the fall of 2016, the WFB School District will begin a staggered implementation of a balanced literacy program that will be completed by the end of the 2017-2018 school year. A balanced literacy program includes:

Read Aloud	Independent Reading	Shared Reading
Guided Reading	Literature Discussions	Writing Process
Independent Writing	Phonics and Word Study	Language Investigation

The main instructional strategy that is utilized in our balanced literacy program is the workshop framework. Specifically, within each ELA block, which includes Language Studied, Writing Workshop and Reading Workshop, students participate in lessons that include: teacher instruction (modeling, teaching), guided/collaborative practice, independent practice, small group or conferring, and debriefing or closure.



Our District develops our own units of study through an integrated thematic approach. At the fifth grade level, your child will study the following integrated literacy units within our overarching themes of: community and relationships, literacy tradition, living things, sense of self, inspired by true stories and genre studies:

Better Together: Being a Citizen	Watch Out!	Interactive Living Systems
Dealing with Change	It Takes a Leader	Historical Fiction



## Grade 5 Science

**Students in Whitefish Bay Schools will develop the scientific knowledge skills, and attitudes that enable them to make informed use of science in their lives.**

**Students work in a lab based, inquiry enriched environment through a variety of experiments and projects to attain first-hand knowledge of scientific concepts and ideals. Students will:**

- investigate basic concepts of chemistry – properties of mixtures and solutions.
- dissolve a solid in a solvent, make observations about concentration and saturation of a solution, find evidence of chemical reactions, evaporation and crystal formation.
- consider physical vs. chemical changes, mixtures vs. compounds, filtration, contracting and expanding.
- Observe change over time and draw conclusions regarding the decomposition of organic matter
- Use models to explain how biological systems function, such as transport systems in plants and animals
- Design and conduct investigations to discover how food is processed in living systems
- Design and conduct investigations to discover how the nervous system controls animal activities
- Compare food webs on land and in marine ecosystems
- Observe and compare shadows during a school day
- Relate the position of the sun in the sky to the size and orientation of an object's shadow
- Use physical models to explain day and night
- Observe and record changes in the Moon's appearance every day for a month
- Analyze observational data to discover the sequence of changes that occur during the Moon's phase cycle
- Make and interpret a model of the Earth, Moon and Sun system
- Record and display the organization of the solar system graphically
- Identify several constellations as stable, predictable patterns of stars
- Use models to build explanations
- Use tools to collect and analyze data to develop logical conclusions about planetary objects in the sky
- Understand that scientific investigations involve asking and answering a question and comparing the answer to what scientists already know about the world.
- Understand that scientists use different kinds of investigations.
- Know how to plan and conduct simple investigations.



## Grade 5 Social Studies

The Whitefish Bay Social Studies curriculum will nurture attributes, knowledge, and skills through which young people become socially active and informed citizens who understand the structure and processes of society and have the ability to adapt in a changing social, political, and economic environment.

### Our Land and First People

- Students will describe landforms and other physical features of the United States.
- Students will explain how and why climate varies throughout the United States.
- Students will explain how the geography of an area influenced the lives of native people in that region.

### Exploration and Settlement

- Many factors motivate exploration of the unknown such as religion, freedom, wealth, and fame, as well as technology.
- Life in the colonies reflected the geographical features of the settlements.
- Environment provide resources for human needs and activities.
- People and/or groups establish settlements based on the needs and wants of that group.
- The success or failure of a settlement is based on many factors that may or may not be within the settlers' control.

### The English Colonies

- Students will imagine they are George Washington and will write a letter to people in Britain encouraging them to move to the colonies.
- Students will learn and “experience” the life of a slave from capture in Africa, through the Middle Passage, and into their arrival in the Americas.

### The American Revolution

- People adapt to, resist, or participate in change.
- The interdependence of nations has both helpful and harmful consequences.
- Motivating factors such as basic human rights, quality of life, and protection of family and home can play a role in who ultimately wins a conflict.
- The independence of a nation has both helpful and harmful consequences.
- The constitution of the United States established a federal system of government based on power shared between the national and state governments.

### The New Nation

- New inventions and improvements in transportation impacted industry, agriculture, and travel in the early and mid-1800's.
- The purchase and exploration of the Louisiana Territory doubled the size of the United States and allowed for westward expansion.
- There was a rise in nationalism in the United States after the War of 1812.
- European immigration and widespread reforms had a significant impact on the American population.

## World Language - Grade 5



The purpose of the world language program in Whitefish Bay schools is to give students the opportunity to listen to, interact with, and begin to speak another language. Students receive face-to-face Spanish instruction an average of 40 minutes per week.

The fifth grade World Language student will continue to develop skills to:

- Use salutations
- Count from 1 to 1,000, by 1's, 2's, 5's, 10's, and practice math problems
- Recite the alphabet and vowels
- Identify group vocabulary
  - Colors and shapes
  - Calendar (days, months, date, seasons and weather)
  - Telling time to nearest five minutes
  - Clothing
  - Body parts
  - Family
  - Animals
  - Classroom objects
  - Directional words and prepositions
  - Sports
- Learn new vocabulary that is connected to the grade-level core curriculum
- Demonstrate understanding of, and use simple commands
- Understand various aspects of culture
  - Food
  - Music
  - Holidays
  - Dances
  - Explorers
- Begin to read and write in another language

During the 2016-2017 school year, a pilot language lab program will be implemented into the second grade curriculum, while maintaining the current face-to-face programming. Depending on the elementary building your child attends they will either be able to explore a language of choice during the language lab time or will be a part of a blended Spanish language lab experience. Students will be utilizing the lab for 60 minutes every other week, when they are not having their face-to-face instruction.

# Health and Human Growth & Development



## The mission of the K-12 Health Education curriculum:

Students will develop the necessary knowledge, skills, and understanding for mental/emotional, physical, and social well-being.

In fifth grade, students will understand health promotion through instructional concepts such as:

Self esteem	Peer pressure
Decision-making	Communication skills
Advertising	Social skills
Dealing with stress	Assertiveness
Drug, alcohol and tobacco resistance	

## The mission of the K-12 Human Growth & Development (HGD) Education curriculum:

The curriculum will complement the home by providing students with the knowledge, skills, and support necessary to understand their social, mental/emotional, and physical development in order to make responsible decision about health and age-appropriate sexual behavior throughout their lifetimes.

*\* HGD is an elective program. Parents may opt-out their students from participating in identified lessons.*

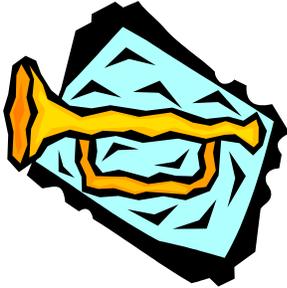
In fifth grade, students will understand healthy decision-making, and social, mental/emotional, and physical development through instructional concepts such as:

- Reviewing emotional changes during puberty and understanding emotions change during development.
- Discussing and assessing their respect for self and others.
- Examining their own understanding and acceptance of a multicultural and diverse society (various races and persons with disabilities).
- Examining and analyzing changing social and emotional growth
- Applying a decision-making model to situations.
- Comparing, contrasting, and evaluating the influence peers have on decision-making.
- \* Defining puberty and identifying body parts and systems affected by puberty.
- \* Explaining, comparing, and contrasting the differences in males and females.
- \* Identifying the reproductive anatomy of the male and female body.
- \* Discussing and recognizing the purpose of the reproductive system.
- \* Identifying the physical changes that must take place before human reproduction can take place.
- \* Explaining and discussing intercourse and conception.
- Reviewing definitions of the types of abuse and explaining the difference between abuse and discipline.
- Discussing different approaches to use in reporting abuse.
- Identifying supportive help in the home, school and community.
- Defining and differentiating between communicable and non-communicable diseases
- Stating the mean of the acronyms AIDS and HIV.
- Identifying how the virus that causes AIDS is and is not transmitted and naming good health behaviors that contribute to the prevention of HIV transmission.

\* Gender separated lessons

# Elementary Specials Overview

## General Music



### Mission of the K – 12 Music Education Program:

**Students will begin a lifelong relationship with music through listening, describing, creating, and performing.**

The kindergarten through fifth grade music program offers a broad spectrum of opportunities designed to promote development on each child's musical potential. It is our goal to provide each student with the skills necessary to both create and enjoy music while understanding it as a universal means of expression. Lessons are designed to convey the joy of music that will encourage each child to seek musical opportunities later in life.

Beginning at the earliest level, students sing, chant, move, and dance to music composed by others while they are encouraged to alter, modify, expand, and improvise upon that music, later creating and composing music on their own. Throughout the elementary school years the children build skills of listening and responding, reading and writing music. The student's own voice is nurtured and good choral habits are stressed throughout the grades. Classroom instruments, both rhythmic and tonal, are used along with recorders at the third grade level and electric keyboards in the upper elementary classes.

The music literature in the classroom is chosen to reflect the backgrounds of our students as well as to expose them to the wide diversity of music created by the peoples of the world.

All children receive General Music instruction as per the time allotments shown below. In addition, fourth and fifth grade students may choose to be involved in the string program. Fifth grade students may choose to be involved in the band or choir program.

### General Music Time Allotments:

Senior kindergarten through 5 <sup>th</sup> grade:	30 minute classes twice per week
5 <sup>th</sup> grade Band, Orchestra, Choir Assemble:	60 minute classes twice per week
5 <sup>th</sup> grade Band, Orchestra	30 minute additional lesson once per week



## Art

### The mission of the K – 12 Visual Art program:

Students will gain the ability to manipulate a variety of media, and develop creative problem-solving skills. Students will build and expand their understanding of art and themselves, as well as establish a life-long relationship with the visual world.

**In the elementary art program, students will develop creativity and problem-solving skills, build and expand their understanding of art, and successfully manipulate a variety of media.**

The elementary art curriculum allows students to begin to:

- Demonstrate understanding of artistic principles through effective use of media, tools, vocabulary and processes.
- Manipulate various media, materials and/or images to be expressive.
- Develop and relate his or her knowledge of art to themselves and others.
- Understand, discuss and respond to works of art.

Students experience a wide variety of materials and media in the elementary art program. They are shown proper techniques for creative use of materials. Projects are assigned with specific goals and criteria in mind, but allow for personal creativity and problem solving. When possible, art experiences link to school-wide as well as classroom learning themes and activities.

**Learning experiences center around:**

#### **The Elements of Art**

Color  
Value  
Line  
Texture  
Shape  
Form  
Space

#### **The Principals of Design**

Balance  
Emphasis  
Harmony  
Variety  
Movement  
Rhythm  
Proportion  
Unity

#### **Art Time Allotments:**

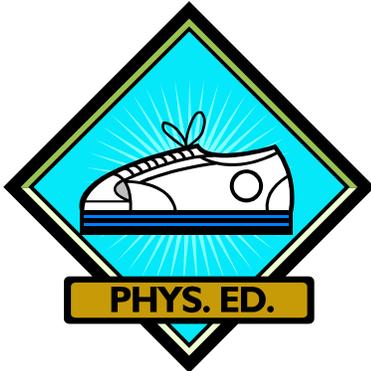
Junior Kindergarten

30 minute class once per week

Senior kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade:

60 minute class once per week

## Physical Education



**Physical Education will enable each student to acquire the knowledge and skills to pursue and enjoy a lifetime of healthful activities.**

Elementary physical education offers a wide variety of physical activities to our students. Our theme of “children learning to move and moving to learn” guides us to teach not only physical skills, but also movement concepts and principles needed for their development.

Optimal fitness for students ages 4 to 11 is the priority. Building healthy lifestyles through physical activity is discussed and practiced in every class. Good sportsmanship, teamwork, respect, and establishing positive attitudes and self-confidence are also common threads in each lesson. Students will learn responsible social and personal behavior in the gym while fitness and physical skills are practiced, and aerobic and sport-specific games are played.

We hope that children will wholeheartedly enjoy physical activity so it will become an integral part of their daily lives and carry over into adulthood.

### Physical Education Time Allotments:

Junior kindergarten:	30 minute class once per week
Senior kindergarten through 5 <sup>th</sup> grade:	30 minute classes three times per week



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## Technology

### **The district’s mission for instructional technology:**

Students will be self-directed learners who can access, evaluate and apply the most effective tools and resources to communicate and compete globally. In order to meet this vision, students need meaningful, dialing integration of technology.

Teachers design and implement technology experiences which allow students to access technology at developmentally appropriate stages. Integrated technology instruction allows students to:

- Use a variety of technology tools in order to facilitate and demonstrate learning across the curriculum.
- Use technology to communicate in various ways.
- Understand and operate computer systems and other technologies.
- Understand, respect and apply rules of ethics to be responsible users of technology.

Technology applications are integrated as appropriate throughout the elementary curriculum. Integrated word processing instruction is introduced in first grade, with new elements added each year through grade five. Word processing is integrated with other curricular areas such as reading, language arts, science, and social studies. Formal keyboarding instruction begins in third grade and builds through grade five. Efficient, safe, and ethical use of varied technologies is taught at all grade levels.