***Welcome to Mckinely Elementary School***

***4th Grade!***

Dear Parents and Guardians,

 My name is Mark Klinedinst and I am your child’s 4th grade teacher for the 2018-2019 school year. I am very excited that I have the opportunity to get to know you, and am looking forward to a happy and productive school year.

***Family Involvement***

 It is important to know that families are welcome in our classroom at all times. I will welcome you any time to join your child in our class and observe or participate in our learning. It is my hope that all parents and guardians will be able to find ways to volunteer their support of our students in portable I. Some examples of volunteer support include guest speakers, chaperoning field trips, and contributing to fundraising efforts. If parents are available during the day, it has been very beneficial to have volunteers provide students with small group reading support. Especially English Learners, who are trying to pick up the language while trying to maintain pace in the class.

***Field Trips***

 Hopefully, with necessary funding, we will take a variety of field trips throughout the school year. These will likely include trips to the San Leandro Public Library, Mission Dolores in SF, the State Capital, and the A’s Home Run Readers game.

 ***Attendance***

 Your child’s success as a student is dependent on their daily attendance to school. Please make sure your child arrives at school on time every day. Breakfast is available to all Mckinley students in the multi-purpose room at 7:45am daily. Students with perfect monthly attendance will be awarded a Perfect Attendance certificate.

***Communication***

Most of the communication from Portable I will be through email, telephone/text, and Class Dojo. In addition, your child will receive a Friday Folder, which will be sent home weekly containing important correspondence from McKinley. This folder will also contain a weekly progress report on your child, which will need your signature. The folder will be sent home on Fridays and must be returned by the student on the following Monday. Through Class Dojo, I will be able to text message you quick information about your child’s progress and behavior on a more frequent basis. I will send home information soon about how to open a free account. A code will be provided to help you sign up.

***Supplies:***

1. 2” 3 ring binder
2. 1 set of eight 3 hole tabs
3. 3 wide rule binder paper packages (this will need to be replenished throughout the school year).
4. 1 spiral notebook
5. 2018-2019 Planner – See below for more information
6. One set of Crayola Markers

Optional supplies that might be useful at home include: Pencils, erasers, pens, highlighters, gluesticks, crayons/ colored pencils, or markers, scissors, and a dictionary. Students should come to school with their binders and tabs. We will assemble them at school.

***Daily Planner***

 It is very important for your child to remain organized. It would be very helpful to buy a 2018-2019 assignment planner, so your student can write down their homework assignments at the end of the day. The planner should be formatted like a calendar. They are available for purchase at Wallmart/Wallgreens/Rite Aid/ CVS/ Office Depot, etc. In middle school, planners like these will be provided, so it is good idea to prepare your children for what lies ahead.

***Homework***

Homework will be assigned Monday-Thursday and will be expected to be returned the following day. Late homework is not accepted. If a student is absent they will have as many days as they were absent to make up their classwork.

***Grading***

 I use a grading website called Thinkwave.com. Parents can log in from their computers at home in order to monitor their children’s grades and classroom assignments. I will be sending home more information regarding this grading website within the next week or two. Parents will be given a password so that they can log in and see their children’s grades at any time.

***Aeries Parent Portal***

New and very important this year are AERIES Parent Portals Accounts. If you are a returning student, or registered early during the summer, you should have received correspondence regarding how to create your AERIES Parent Portal. If you have not done so already, please take a moment to create your AERIES Parent Portal Account. If you have not received this information in the mail or if you need help setting up your account please stop by the office so we can assist you. The portal will provide you online access to: updating emergency cards, attendance, medical records and much more. We have a limited number of backpacks to give to students who return their signed emergency card from the portal. Thank you for your patience and cooperation with this new process.

***Cheating***

 Cheating on homework or tests will not be tolerated! If a student is caught cheating they will be given a zero for the assignment and their parents/guardians will be notified.

***Expected Behaviors***

1. **BE SAFE:** Keep hands feet and unkind words to yourself.
2. **BE ORGANIZED:** Be in the right place at the right time, ready to learn.
3. **ACHIEVE:** Always put forth your best effort.
4. **RESPECTFUL:** Respect yourself and others.

***Consequences***

1. Warning
2. Community Service/Turn it around form
3. Lunch recess
4. Phone call to Parent
5. Office Referral

***Positive Incentives***

1.Praise

2. Homework pass

3. Positive phone call home

4. Gift Cards

5. Class Free Time

6. Small prize

7. Short Video Clip

All School wide rules, policies, and procedures can be reviewed in the Mckinley Family/Student Handbook.

I hope to see you at Back to School Night on Thursday, September 13, 2018!

Please contact me with any questions

Mr. Mark Klinedinst

Email: mklinedinst@slusd.us

Phone: (510) 618-4320 x2959 (classroom)

Please sign the letter to acknowledge that you have gone over and read the letter with your child. Just cut off an return this bottom portion.

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 Parent Signature Date