



Welcome to 4th Grade

Mrs. Swenson's Room

Welcome Message

Welcome to a new school year and our class. I am excited to begin a new year. This year we will integrate technology, but also return to using some of OMA, technology, STEM, and small group instruction to help students grow. I am invested in child.



A little about me

First, a little about me. I have been teaching for 28 years now, all in TUSD. Although I love teaching all the subjects, math and reading are my favorite. I have lived in Tucson most of my life. I have a wonderfully close family that often spends a great deal of time together. My husband and I have three great kids ranging from 20 to 14 years old. We have three dogs, a Goldendoodle and two German Shepherds. We love to camp, go for walks, ride bikes, play video games and spend time together. I am sure you will hear an occasional story about our journeys together throughout the year.



Plan for the school year

I love to share my desire for learning with children. I plan to infuse this year's lessons with many fun, interactive activities. Learning is fun and what we do in the classroom should be as well. We will complete work on paper and using computers. Our work will be in small groups and as a whole class. We will learn the standards and good study skills as well as working on growth mindset and mindfulness. It is going to be a wonderful year.





Staying in touch

I enjoy staying in contact with parents. After all, if we aren't talking then a major part of your child's education is missing. My email address is Kristina.swenson@tusdl.org. I try diligently to return emails before I leave for the day, if not before the start of the next day. Another way to contact me is through Class Dojo. I post my weekly newsletters there, as well as sending them to you through email. We can also message each other through the app. I send an email for each individual child on a rotational basis. This email included praise for the great things a student did during the week as well as if they had any missing assignments. These emails usually are sent Friday nights. I plan to try to continue that this year, but the messages may go out Saturday morning, I have a son playing high school football and may be unavailable some Friday nights to finish all the emails. You will also get a Sunday newsletter email.

Supplies

If you would like to purchase school supplies for your child, I have included a list of things that would help them or the class throughout the year. Please don't think students need these supplies on the first day. I have some of these supplies as the school for students but know as both a parent and a teacher this time of the year is the only time you can find Crayola Crayons for 50 cents. I leave it up to you what you decide to purchase. I know we will be working with computers, but I am unsure when each child will be assigned their computer or what the policies for those computers will be. Once I know I will let you know.



For student use only

Headphones (I have a set for each student right now. If they are damaged before the end of the year, I may not have extra)

Pencil box

Art supplies (Based on what you and your child decide. They each have crayons from me)

2 Notebook – Composition or spiral

***** Reusable water bottle

To share with the class

Pencils

Glue Stick

Boxes of tissues



Class Expectations

Treat others with respect.

Try your best always

Understand that mistakes happen and they help us learn.



Handle with Care

If your family is experiencing difficulties at home, I would like to provide additional support at school. I understand that you are not always able to share details, and that is okay. If your child is coming to school after a difficult night, morning, or weekend, please message me, "Handle with care." Nothing else will be said or asked. This will let me know that your child may need extra time, patience, or help throughout the school day.

