



Wayne-Westland Community Schools
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Mission Statement

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools, in cooperation with parents and the community, will educate and prepare all of our students to be knowledgeable, responsible, contributing members of a global society.

Parent Guide **First Grade** **Learning** **Standards** *2008 – 2009*

Social Studies

The Wayne-Westland Elementary Social Studies Curriculum provides students with the skills they need to be able to participate effectively as citizens of the U.S. and, of a global community.

Students will develop the ability to inquire, to engage in public discourse, to make decisions and to be involved citizens through historic, geographic, economic and civic perspectives. *Families and Neighborhoods* will be the focus of study for first grade.

The purpose of the first grade social studies curriculum is to expand the students knowledge of families and to introduce the concept of neighborhoods.

- The neighborhood is defined as a collection of families and individuals who live in a particular area.
- These studies will provide students with the necessary skills for being a responsible family and neighborhood member, thereby learning the basic skills for being a good citizen. The outcomes may be addressed throughout the overall curriculum.



Science

It is increasingly important for students to understand the world in which they live. The emphasis on experiments and hands-on activities to enhance learning is critical to basic knowledge about science. Units will include:

- Process Skills
- Balance and Motion
- Insects
- Air and Weather



Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCEs) have been established by the Michigan Department of Education for English Language Arts and Math. These are described in the parent guides available from MDE or your school office.



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Futures Start Right Here!

Special Area Classes

Wayne-Westland Community Schools provide instruction in five elective content areas for all elementary students in grades kindergarten through fifth grade. The five classes are music, visual arts, physical education, media information, and life skills. Each class meets for 50 minutes, (kindergarten for 20 minutes), once a week. The curriculums for each class is based on the state and national standards and benchmarks. Lessons are planned to support the core content areas.

A brief summary of each class is as follows:

- **Music:** experiences include singing, listening, creating rhythms, and learning about musicians. Fifth graders explore sound production on electronic equipment.
- **Visual Arts:** experiences include drawing, painting, designing, and sculpting, as well as working in clay, paper, and fibers, to develop visual, spatial, and manipulative skills.
- **Physical Education:** students are taught basic skills in a variety of sports activities, with much attention to physical fitness.
- **Media Information:** experiences include reading, viewing, listening, and using technology for understanding, enjoyment and to access information.
- **Life Skills:** experiences include units in character education, nutrition/health, career awareness, and problem solving.

