

## Grade Four

### To Parents and Guardians:

Triton Regional School District's curriculum reflects the learning standards outlined in the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. The district's skilled teachers strive to address these standards through a wealth of learning activities and best teaching practices.

Your child's success depends upon common goals and close communication between parents/guardians and teachers. Involved, informed parents/guardians boost their children's academic achievement. Your child's teacher looks forward to working with you in partnership regarding your child's growth and progress in school.

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### Reading/Language Arts

Students make a critical transition from learning to read to reading to learn in subject-matter content. They continue to read and comprehend complex narrative and expository texts in content areas such as history, social science, and science and technology. Students receive systemic and explicit instruction in comprehension strategies, word study, and reading fluency. Students are expected to read independently both at school and at home. Our reading program uses quality children's literature as the basis for instruction. Students read fiction, non-fiction, poetry, fables, and biographies.

Children learn to write in all content areas. Through the use of *Empowering Writers*, students learn that writing is a process as they draft, revise, rewrite, edit, and publish their work. Direct instruction occurs in topic development, grammar, mechanics, and spelling.



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### Mathematics

One goal of the math program, *Math in Focus*, is for students to become confident problem-solvers who have both a conceptual understanding of fundamental mathematical ideas as well as the procedural knowledge required for efficient problem solving. All students are provided access to challenging mathematics. As they engage in mathematical thinking and reasoning connected to real-life contexts, they learn to develop computational fluency, make connections between mathematical ideas, develop proficiency with arithmetic, and represent their thinking using models, diagrams, and graphs.

Students learn multi-digit addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, properties of operations, expanded notation, equivalent fractions, decimals, three dimensional shapes, lines and angles, and standard units of measurement. They construct, interpret, and compare data on a line graph. This learning follows a spiral rather than a linear progression, ensuring that children encounter and apply concepts over time. Practice is promoted through meaningful games and activities.

### Science

*STEMscopes*, the science program used in grades 3-8, asks students to observe, collect, and record information as they develop fundamental understanding of science topics and engage with the practices of real scientists. All lessons are designed around the 5-E model of instruction, encouraging students to engage, explore, explain, elaborate and evaluate. The science theme of Grade 4 is Matter and Energy; this theme will be carried through the study of Earth & Space Science, Life Science, Physical Science and Technology/Engineering.

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### Social Studies

The social studies program focuses on the study of geography and people of the United States today. In addition, students learn about the geography and people of Mexico and Canada. Use of a variety of resources develops their understanding of units studied.

### Visual Arts

Students use the elements of art and design to develop their artistic abilities. The visual arts program is designed to develop media skills, perceptual awareness, creative self-expression, aesthetic appreciation, and cultural awareness. Students may participate in art projects related to content area curriculum. Finally, students reflect upon their work and study the work of their peers and the work of major artists.



### Music

Students develop a sense of music appreciation through listening, singing, playing, and movement using the elements of music such as melody, rhythm, form, tone, and harmony. Students will continue to develop skills in performance and improvisation with voice and Orff instruments such as xylophones and glockenspiels. Students have the opportunity to begin lessons on band instruments. Students study classical and multi-cultural music through active listening and participatory lessons.

### Physical Education

Students are introduced to more specific skills that relate to team and individual sports and activities. The Grade 4 physical education program teaches good sportsmanship, group participation, respect for individual differences, healthy choices, consideration for others, and game strategies. Through engagement in *Botvin LifeSkills* lessons, students develop personal self-management, social and drug resistance skills.

## Library/Media

Fourth grade students continue to learn to navigate print and electronic resources to locate books and information. They are introduced to skills needed to access information from atlases, almanacs, dictionaries, encyclopedias, and thesauruses. Use of table of contents, index, maps, globes, captions, and diagrams is emphasized.

An appreciation of quality literature is developed and students are exposed to a variety of genres and authors. Emphasis is put on the following genres: *Myth, Realistic Fiction, Mystery, Biography, Autobiography, and Non-fiction*. Students are introduced to *Historical Fiction, Fantasy, Poetry, and Memoirs*.



## ADMINISTRATION

### **Newbury Elementary School**

Grades PK-6

63 Hanover Street, Newbury

(978) 465-5353

Beth Yando, *Principal*

Daniel A. Jewett, *Assistant Principal*

### **Pine Grove School**

Grades PK-6

191 Main Street, Rowley

(978) 948-2520

Christine A. Kneeland, *Principal*

Nicole R. LaPerriere, *Assistant Principal*

### **Salisbury Elementary School**

Grades PK-6

100 Lafayette Road, Salisbury

(978) 463-5852

James L. Montanari, *Principal*

Theresa A. Gilbert, *Assistant Principal*

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Brian L. Forget

*Superintendent of Schools*

Kimberly Croteau

*Assistant Superintendent*

David Magee

*Administrator of Special Education*

Michelle L. Cresta

*School Business Administrator*

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# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## GRADE FOUR



*Respect – Integrity – Excellence for All*

**Triton Regional School District**

**112 Elm Street**

**Byfield, MA 01922**

**(978) 465-2397**

**[www.tritonschools.org](http://www.tritonschools.org)**