

Communication between the school and home will be essential during the coming school year. Effective tools of communication include:

The Student Planner: The planner is the most important organizational tool we will use. Each day, assignments will be posted and students will be expected to copy these assignments into their personal planners. Information regarding upcoming quizzes, tests, projects, etc. will be documented in the planner. Additionally, the planner can be used as a method of communication between parents and the teacher as I will check planners daily. Due to the importance of the planner, it is required that parents sign the planner each day.

Email and Phone: During school hours, the best way to contact me will be email. My email address is bhuck@jpsonline.org. I will respond as quickly as possible. I can also be contacted via the phone at 616 – 457-8488 ext. 2638. Phone calls will be returned at the end of the day or prior to class the following day. Regardless of the method of communication, please do not hesitate to contact me with questions, concerns, or comments. Educating a child is a team effort and communication is vital.

Friday Folders: Each Friday, your child will be bringing home a folder. This folder will contain valuable information, such as graded assignments, our classroom newsletter, updates on curriculum(every other week), and information regarding upcoming projects, assignments, and events. Please take time to review this information each weekend.

Welcome to Mr. Huck's Sixth Grade Class!



The greatest accomplishment is not in never
falling, but in rising again after you fall.
– Vince Lombardi

My name is Brent Huck and I am excited to be your child's sixth grade teacher. After graduating from the University of Michigan in 2006, I spent seven years as a sixth grade teacher at Milan Middle School located in Milan, MI. The 2013 – 2014 school year will be my first within Jenison Public Schools. I am looking forward to joining the Bursley staff and becoming part of the Wildcat family!

Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my wife Kim, our son Louis, and our dog Henson. Additionally, I love to spend time at the beach reading my favorite book, exercising, or cheering on my Wolverines. Go Blue!

As an educator, I will work very hard to establish meaning relationships with your children. This process will begin early in the school year and continue until our last day together. In my opinion, these relationships are essential for learning to happen.

In addition to establishing relationships, I will have high expectations for each child. I will push them to advance their skills in each subject matter and to always put forth their best effort.

Finally, I will tailor my instruction to the individual needs of each child. Every student deserves to experience personal success and I will work tirelessly to make that happen.

**Success comes from knowing that you did
your best to become the best that you are
capable of becoming.
- John Wooden**

**This year, your student will engage in the following
content area work:**

Reading

Students will continue to fine-tune their reading comprehension strategies as they examine literary elements such as setting, plot, character development, conflict, theme, mood, and author's craft. Students will also be engrossed in nonfiction texts examining organizational patterns, central ideas, and supporting details. Additionally, students will be required to keep a reading log that will be updated on a daily basis.

Writing

Students will compose both fictional and nonfiction texts using the 6+1 traits of writing, which are ideas, organization, word choice, voice, sentence fluency, conventions, and presentation. Additionally, students will use research based strategies to write within other content areas.

Math

Students will be placed in flexible ability-level groups for more individualized instruction. Sixth grade math topics include problem solving, place value, graphing, geometry, fractions, measurement, probability, and algebra.

Science

Students will investigate concepts of matter, energy, and forces. Students will also learn about geological time and the rock cycle. Finally, students will learn about aspects of an ecosystem, such as abiotic/biotic factors, food chains, and symbiotic relationships. I will teach science to both classes.

Social Studies

Sixth grade social studies shifts from a focus on history to a focus on regions of the world. Students will study North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Oceania. Students will gain perspective as to how the geography of a region is linked to its culture, history, government, and economy. Mrs. Steele will teach social studies to both classes.