



# The Haggard Herald



August 29, 2017

## Welcome to 4<sup>th</sup> Grade!

I have great plans for your child this year. I hope your son or daughter is as excited as I am to begin this journey of learning and sharing some amazing things together.

I have just a few pieces of information to get you started. First, students will not have weekly homework worksheets. Yea! Instead, I will be challenging your child to explore new texts/topics by reading 40 "just right" books from September to the end of May. This will average about a book a week. Students will be responsible for reading their books at home for a minimum of 20 minutes each school night. Your child will also be writing one letter per week telling me about their book. I will meet with individuals to discuss their stories, read their letters, and create a plan for future "just right" books. (More specific details on this process will be sent home during the first weeks of school.)

Some other big things your 4<sup>th</sup> grader will be working on this year involve learning all of the 50 states and their capitals, having efficient strategies to recall the basic multiplication & division facts, and learning new science concepts including: rocks & minerals, magnetism & electricity, and the water cycle. In addition, 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be designing their first Science Fair project in the spring. These are not the only things we will be doing, but they will give you a sneak peak of what is to come.

## Announcements:

Emergency/Field  
Trip/Technology Forms  
Please Return: ASAP

Book Orders Due: 9/15/17

School Pictures: 9/20/17

## Visit Our Class

### Website:

<http://thaggard.weebly.com>

Find classroom newsletters,  
photos, and links to helpful  
websites.

Feel free to call or email me  
anytime. My email is

[thaggard@isd91.org](mailto:thaggard@isd91.org)

## About Mrs. Haggard

Hi, I am Tracy Haggard and I absolutely love teaching 4<sup>th</sup> grade. I graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point with my Bachelor of Science degrees in Elementary and Special Education. I've taught children in Pre-K through 9<sup>th</sup> grade in Wisconsin, Rhode Island and Minnesota. I grew up in on a dairy farm in Central Wisconsin and attended a school very similar to Barnum Elementary. My husband and I built our home in Barnum seven years ago and we couldn't be happier. This will be my fourth year teaching fourth grade at Barnum, which by the way, is my favorite grade to teach. Some of my hobbies outside of school are running, four wheeling with my son, and reading a good book in the hammock. I look forward to getting to know your child and your family this year.

## iPads

The students and I will be talking about using the iPad responsibly and safely. It is a great resource and we will have specific rules for this technology. Students will even be taking the iPad home to assist with some school tasks. Please help monitor that your child uses it for this task and then turns it off to conserve the battery for the next day at school.

On the technology form you may indicate that you wish your child not to bring their iPad home to complete assignments. If this is the case, the child may miss non-academic time (snack, recess, Friday free choice time) to complete the iPad work.

## Snacks and Birthday Treats

Each student may choose to bring a daily snack. If you do send a snack, please send healthy foods such as: fresh fruits & vegetables, pretzels, crackers, yogurt, cheese sticks, granola bars, or dry cereal. If you'd like to send a snack for all students who forget or are not able to bring a daily snack a great class donation is "healthy" cereal.

Birthday treats must also be healthy. The school requires shared treats to be store bought. Popular birthday treats have been small oranges, cheese sticks, beef jerky, Go-Gurt and applesauce cups. We currently have 21 students in our class.

## Folder

Each child will receive a Take-Home Folder from the school and weekly paper planner needs to stay inside the folder.

The Take-Home Folder is for loose papers, letters, forms, and completed work. Please use the folder when sending notes to school too.

## Class Rules/Discipline

We will be using the "Above the Line" behavior plan this year. As part of this plan, our class will work together on the following:

- "Above the Line" positive behavior expectations
- "Below the Line" and "Bottom Line" behaviors to avoid
- Consequences of our choices (above, below, and bottom line)
- Class rules and expectations
- Job descriptions for student, teacher and parent.

I will be sharing more about this with you over the coming days and weeks.

# This is going to be a SUPER year!