

An overview for CCSL parents

Created by S. Quinlan and K. Hunkapiller
Academic Quality Controllers (AQC's), K-2 and 3-6

SABIS® Philosophy

We believe that . . .

- ▶ A **university education** should be accessible to **most students**
- ▶ Students can develop into persons who master the skills to achieve **success** in a **changing world**

CORE PURPOSE

To provide an outstanding education at a reasonable cost and help all students achieve their full potential.

CORE VALUES

-  Practicing honesty and integrity
-  Upholding our principles at all costs and at all times
-  Continually improving and never becoming complacent
-  Emphasizing quality before profit
-  Making a difference
-  Recognizing and rewarding efficiency, loyalty, and commitment

SABIS school setup - CCSL

- ▶ External: SABIS USA headquarters is located in Eden Prairie, Minnesota. Program coordinators assist with each subject (communicate with administrative staff at LCCS)
 - ▶ Internal: Mr. Frederick Randall - Director of LCCS
 - SMC - Student Management Coordinator - Mr. Carl Nystrom
 - AQC - Academic Quality Controller (academics) -
 - Grades K-2: Mrs. Siobhan Quinlan, Grades 3-6: Mrs. Kirsten Hunkapiller
 - SEAC - Special Education Academic Coordinator (special education academics) -
 - Grades K-6: Ms. Amelia Armstrong
 - SLC - Student Life Coordinator - Mr. Jeffrey Shanahan
- Direct communication with parents and teachers

Unconventional practices

- ▶ Student learning is frequently assessed
- ▶ Parents interact with Academic Quality Controllers directly rather than teachers (has the whole picture, is unbiased, can act as a mediator, supports the teacher)
- ▶ SABIS® uses large class sizes to enrich learning
 - ▶ Providing a context in which students can learn to work collaboratively
 - ▶ Offering students an exposure to an enriching diversity of ideas
 - ▶ Raising teaching standards within the school

TEACHING CYCLE

We make sure that students are engaged and learning efficiently

- Through SABIS®'s interactive teaching methods
- Through students who assist the teacher with certain tasks in the classroom

We have frequent indicators of success

- To pinpoint gaps in learning on a weekly basis
- To allow gaps to be filled before they interfere with future learning
- To compare results objectively in the same course across different sections or across schools

The role of an Academic Quality Controller (AQC)

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

The AQC is responsible and accountable for the academic success of students.

CONTACT PARENTS

The AQC provides first contact to parents on academic issues and serves as liaison to the Parent

LEADERSHIP

The AQC provides instructional and academic leadership to the teaching staff, oversees the implementation of curriculum, coordinates exams, and monitors student academic performance.

WORKING TOGETHER

The AQC works closely with the director, the school administrative team, and SABIS® to ensure student success.

MOTIVATE AND INSPIRE

The AQC inspires teachers to excel in their jobs and motivates students to achieve their highest potential.

IMPLEMENTATION

The AQC makes sure the SABIS® philosophy, systems, policies, and procedures are properly implemented and adhered to.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

The AQC is responsible and accountable for the academic success of students.

- ▶ Academic success of students is the AQC's goal
- ▶ It is achieved by leadership, parent communication, motivation and inspiration, working together with teachers, parents, and staff, ensuring implementation of the SABIS philosophy at all times
- ▶ AQC monitors exam results, checks exams and grading
- ▶ Ensures teachers are applying the SABIS Point System in class
- ▶ Track and analyze students' results

CONTACT PARENTS

The AQC provides first contact to parents on academic issues and serves as liaison to the Parent Connection/Network.

Parent communication is the prime responsibility of AQCs because they...

- Have the full picture of the student's academic progress
- Have up to date information about all subjects
- Are held accountable for all communication
- Can follow up on all issues until closure
- Can keep the parents in the loop at all times
- Mediate between the teacher and the parent

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have. This includes questions regarding...

Academics (contact the AQC or SEAC) regarding:

- Your child's grades and exam results/grading
- Communication with your child's teacher(s)
- Adaptations of your child's 504 plan (if applicable)
- Additional study strategies
- Any other academic questions you may have

Behavior (contact the SMDC) regarding:

- Your child's behavior
- Communication with your child's teacher(s)
- Behavioral concerns

Ways we can be contacted:

Email:

aarmstrong@sabis.net (SEAC, Grades K-5)

cnystrom@sabis.net (SMC)

squinlan@sabis.net (AQC Grades K-2),

khunkapiller@sabis.net (AQC Grades 3-5)

jshanahan@sabis.net (SLC)

Phone: 978-458-1399

In addition to the two parent-teacher conferences during the school year, appointments to discuss your child's progress can be made with us at any time throughout the year. The teacher can be present at your request.

Overview and Expectations for Parents with Students in Grades K-2

- At-Home Practice (not homework)
 - Reading/Accelerated Reader
 - Spelling, Mental Math, Etc.
- Periodic exams (Grades 1-2)
- Revision weeks
- KG Folders & Assessments
- Academic Monitoring System (AMS)*
- Diaries

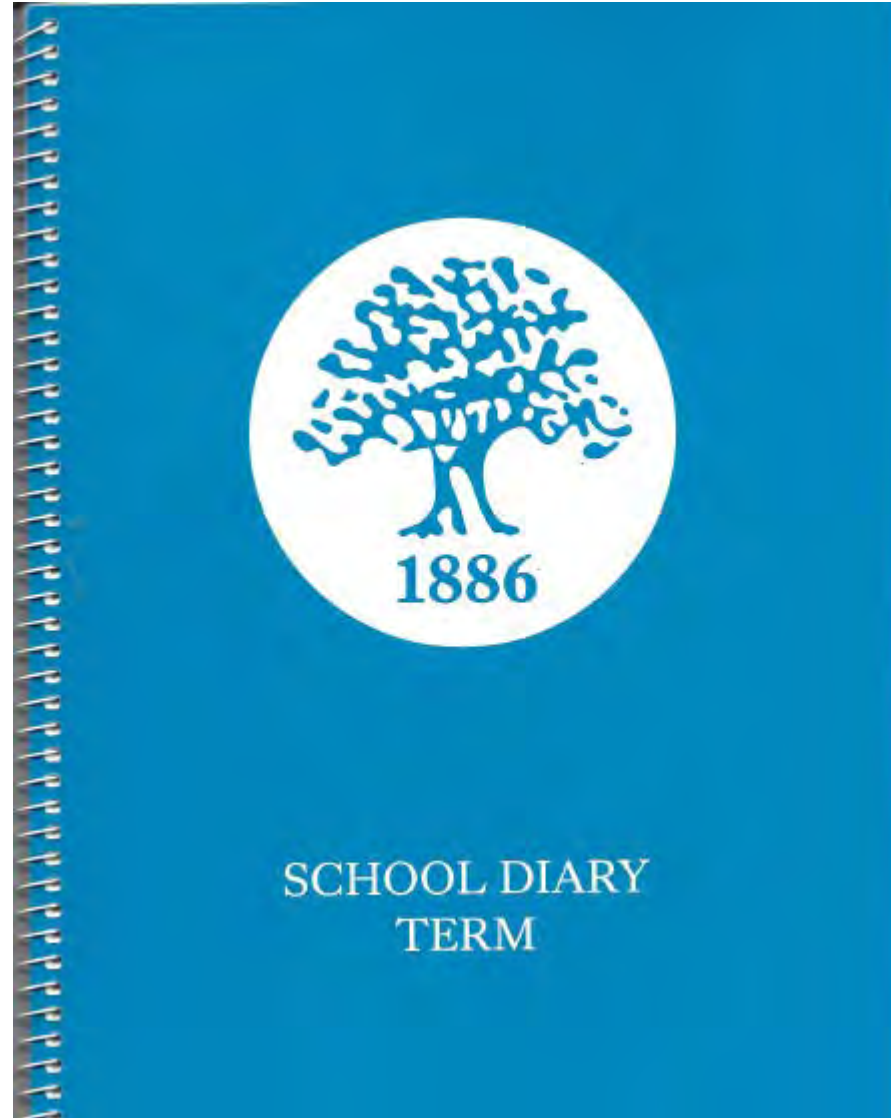
*Grade 2 Only

Overview and Expectations for Parents with Students in Grades 3-6

- Diaries
- Homework
- Reading/Accelerated Reader
- Academic Monitoring System (AMS)
- Periodic exams
- Revision weeks/EOT and EOY exams
- State testing (PARCC/MCAS)
- Report Cards/Retention/Summer School
- Webschool

Diaries

- Each student in grades 3 and above is provided with a SABIS diary at the beginning of the school year
- Each day, students write the points (concepts covered in class) into their diaries. These points are listed on the board by the teacher, and introduced before each concept is taught.
- Students are also expected to write their homework into their diaries and, if a color system is used by the teacher, color their behavior chart color of the day into the diary
- The student is expected to bring home his/her diary and homework each day.



Diaries

Parent responsibilities:

- Empty your child's backpack
- Review points and homework with your child daily
- Sign off on the bottom page of the daily diary (this is part of the students' homework each day!)

WEEK NUMBER

DATE 9 / 8 / 15 all homework is due the next day

DAY	SUBJECT	CONCEPTS COVERED	HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT	DATE DUE	✓
1	E	1. Define "main idea" 2. Identify the conjunctions "and" and "or"	p. 68, Grammar level E		
2	M	1. Round to the nearest 100 2. Round to the nearest 10	math worksheet		
3	Sc	1. Compare and contrast two habitats	—		
4	M	1. Round to the nearest 10	—		
LUNCH/RECESS/AR					
5	P.E.	1. Demonstrate mastery of pivoting in basketball	—		
6	Sc/Str	1. Identify four natural features of New England 2. Define geography	—		
7	M	1. Identify fact families for multiplication and division	—		

NOTES
Don't forget to bring in a real folder tomorrow!

[Signature]

Homework

- Your child will be assigned homework daily, including on Fridays.
- Homework serves to review concepts in class.
- Students should always complete homework independently and show it to you after they are done for your review. Please contact the AQC with any homework problems that occurred.
- Homework times: 3rd grade: 30 mins. Per day, 4th grade: 40 mins. Per day, etc. PLUS at least 20-30 minutes of reading each night, 7 nights per week.
- ▶ **Parent responsibilities:**
 - **Always ask your child to show you diary and homework**
 - **Sign off on diary page each night**
 - **Encourage your child to read each night**

Accelerated Reader (AR)

- ▶ This computerized program has the purpose of fostering your child's love of reading and literature at school and at home!
- ▶ How it works:
 - STAR diagnostic tests determine your child's reading range (e.g. 3.2 - 3.9 (third grade, 2nd month - 3rd grade, 9th month). Your child can read books in this reading range independently. This report will be sent home **at the end of September**.
 - Your child chooses a book from the library/classroom library/at home within that range
 - (- Book level can be looked up at www.arbookfind.com or with the Android PointsScanFree app)
 - The student reads the book twice or more (chapter books only once)
 - The student takes the AR quiz at school (even on a book read at home, if desired!)
 - The computer generates an AR report
 - The child is rewarded by points and book bucks for his/her efforts
- **Parent responsibilities:**
- **Note your child's reading range**
- **Sign up for Renaissance Home Connect (Note will be sent home with first STAR report at the end of September)**
- **Encourage your child to read books within their range and take quizzes at school!**

Home Connect - Renaissance Learning

- ▶ If you sign up for Home Connect, you will receive an email with your child's AR scores each time your child has taken a quiz!
- ▶ Accelerated Reader will start in October and more information and your child's log in will be sent home in the first week of October

Academic Monitoring System (AMS)

- ▶ Begins in Grade 2 for mathematics, and Grade 3 for mathematics and English
- ▶ Includes multiple-choice questions with answers recorded on “bubble sheets”
- ▶ English AMS include reading comprehension, grammar, and vocabulary concepts
- ▶ Checks student learning and long-term retention
- ▶ Evaluates students' grasp of essential concepts taught the week prior
- ▶ Are listed on exam schedule
- ▶ Are computer-scored
- ▶ Count for 20% of a student's total grade in a given subject
- ▶ AMS exams do not go home, but results are recorded by students weekly

Parent responsibilities:

- ▶ Check exam schedules weekly for upcoming exams
- ▶ Ensure child completes homework in preparation for exams
- ▶ Ensure child is present for exams
- ▶ Check AMS recording sheet in diary for results
- ▶ Contact AQC with any questions or concerns

Periodic exams

- ▶ Help isolate “gaps” in student learning
- ▶ Monitor student’s mastery of essential concepts
- ▶ Serve as a re-teaching guide for teachers
- ▶ Test concepts taught in the last three weeks
- ▶ Begin in Grade 1 in all subjects (English, mathematics, science, social studies, Spanish, computers)
- ▶ Provide results which are sent home within 2 weeks of the exam
- ▶ In case of a grade below 70%, your child will be given a retake of the exam within a few days after the exam has been returned to students. Retakes are **not** indicated on exam schedules.

Parent responsibilities:

- ▶ **Check exam schedules weekly for upcoming exams**
- ▶ **Ensure child completes homework in preparation for exams**
- ▶ **Ensure child is present for exams**
- ▶ **Review results with your child when exam has come home**
- ▶ **Sign all exams with grades below 70% and return to teacher for your acknowledgement of the grade**
- ▶ **Contact AQC with any questions or concerns**

Revision weeks and End of Term/End of Year exams

- ▶ Revision weeks: Twice a year, review of all concepts learned throughout the year up until that point, prepare for End of Term exams and End of Year exams
- ▶ Revision packets will be sent home for you to review concepts with your child. A detailed exam schedule will go home prior to exam weeks.
- ▶ End of Term exams: at the end of term 1 (December 2015), test all concepts learned since the beginning of the school year.
- ▶ End of Year exams: at the end of term 2 (June 2016), test all concepts learned since the beginning of the school year. Count 40-50% of your child's grade.

Parent responsibilities:

- Check your child's backpack for revision packets and detailed EOT/EOY exam schedule
- Review concepts with your child
- Ensure your child is present for all exams
- Contact AQC with any questions or concerns

State testing

- ▶ PARCC exams (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers)
 - Assess mastery of English and mathematics concepts after 90% of completion of the school year
 - Practice packets are available at: <http://www.parcconline.org/assessments/practice-tests>
- MCAS exams (Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System)
 - Practice packets are available at: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/2015/release/default.html>
 - This school year, MCAS 2.0 will be implemented.

Parent responsibilities:

- Check your child's backpack for additional information on state exams during spring 2016
- Ensure your child completes all homework daily
- Ensure your child is present for all state testing
- Download and complete practice exams at home for additional preparation

Interim reports, report card, summer school

- ▶ Interim reports: sent home twice a year as per academic calendar, are an informal overview of your child's grades
- ▶ Report cards:
 - are sent home twice a year at the end of each term
 - indicate your child's progress in all areas of academics and behavior
- Retention occurs in the following cases:
 - if your child fails ELA and mathematics with scores below 60% as per end of year report card, **OR**
 - If your child fails ELA or mathematics with a score of below 50% as per end of year report card, **OR**
 - If your child's overall average is below 60% as per end of year report card
- Summer School:
 - Your child will have to attend summer school and pass it with 70% or above if he/she fails ELA or mathematics with a score between 50 and 59% as per end of year report card

Parent responsibilities:

- **Check your child's grades periodically by closely looking at interim reports, attending parent-teacher conferences, calling the AQC**
- **Apply for SABIS® Webschool to check your child's grades daily online**
- **Contact your child's AQC for any questions or concerns**

Webschool

- ▶ A website that allows parents and students to monitor students' grades, attendance, and behavior management
- ▶ Webschool also allows students to watch on-demand tutoring videos for Math and ELA concepts, created by other SABIS® students
- ▶ (English tutoring available starting in grade 4, mathematics tutoring available starting in grade 1)
- ▶ Webschool registration forms will be sent home during the first week of school but are also available now!

Parent responsibilities:

- **Sign up for Webschool if you have internet access**
- **Check your child's grades periodically**
- **Encourage your child to watch ELA and mathematics tutoring videos and ask questions online**
- **Contact AQC with any questions or concerns**

Thank you for your attention!

*(Don't forget to pick up a parent checklist
and a copy of this presentation on your way
out!)*