



UTSALADY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**SUPPORTING STUDENTS
IN
READING AND MATH**



LEARNING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

2013 – 2014

Helping Students Succeed

The Utsalady Elementary staff is committed to helping all students become proficient readers and mathematicians. At the beginning of the school year, all students are assessed in the areas of reading and math with a variety of assessments including Measures of Academic Progress, Test of Early Literacy, Test of Early Numeracy, and other Curriculum Based Measures.

The results of these assessments, along with other information about the students' reading and math progress, are used to determine an instructional level in reading and math for each student. Students who score below grade level benchmarks are identified. Those most in need are provided supplementary assistance through the LAP tutoring program.

Learning At Utsalady Elementary

- Early, systematic instruction in phonics.
- Small group instruction in reading for all students, kindergarten through fifth grade.
- A daily 90-minute reading block with either in-class supplemental support or pull out to reading room support.
- *Houghton-Mifflin's Journeys* reading program as the core reading curriculum for students in kindergarten through fifth grade.
- *SRA's Early Intervention Program* and *Primary Phonics* for 1st graders who have been identified for the Learning Assistance Program.
- *Read Naturally* and *Rewards* may be used for 4th & 5th graders who have been identified for the LAP tutoring program for reading.
- Special Education support in reading provided during the school-wide daily reading block for Sped identified students.
- A 20-minute **daily** read-at-home homework expectation and 10 minute math homework with parent signature required.
- The *Origo* math resource is used with students to build strategies and fluency in math computation.
- Students are assessed regularly to monitor reading and math progress.
- A Parent Resource Library (located in Room 12) with materials, books, and games is available for all parents.
- The LAP Instructional Library provides teachers with additional resources to support reading and math.
- Title 1/LAP sends monthly newsletters to all parents with ideas for working on reading with children at home, which go home as hard copies to LAP students and can be found on our UES website: <http://uesweb.stanwood.wednet.edu/>

- Online support for **Journeys** and **Math Expressions** can be found at Think Central and can be accessed by both students and parents at:

www.thinkcentral.com

User Name: your child's 7 digit lunch number

Password: stanwood

Washington State Common Core Standards Requirements in Reading and Math

Reading and math instruction and assessment at Utsalady Elementary are linked directly to the essential learnings mandated by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for Washington State:

READING

- *Literature & Informational Text Standards*
- *Foundational Skills Standards*
- *In addition the Common Core Standards include writing, speaking & listening, & language*

MATH

- *The student understands and applies the concepts and procedures of mathematics.*
- *The student uses mathematics to define and solve problems.*

The Common Core Standards are available from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction's website: www.k12.wa.us

Learning Assistance Program (LAP)

The Stanwood-Camano School District receives federal and state funding to support students who need assistance in order to meet the grade level performance expectations in reading and math. This year, Utsalady Elementary has focused their LAP funds on K-5th reading and K-2 math support.

If your child qualifies for additional help through the Learning Assistance Program, you will receive notification with information on how your child qualified and the services that he/she will receive. You may find out more about the program by contacting the Learning Assistance Program Coordinator at any time throughout the school year. Contact information is on the bottom of this notice.

Research Based Instruction

In the past 20 years, brain research has provided important information about how children learn:

- *Students need exposure to “on grade level” material and to be taught at their instructional level, where the best academic progress is made.*
- *Students benefit from early, systematic instruction in phonics.*
- *Students need to learn a variety of strategies to unlock unknown words.*
- *Students need to learn strategies for monitoring comprehension.*
- *Students need to understand and apply procedures for addition and subtraction and later multiplication and division of whole numbers with fluency.*

In planning for reading and math instruction at our school, these important research-based findings are given high priority and woven into the instructional plan for all students.

Volunteer Opportunities

Parent and community volunteers are always welcome at Utsalady to support our students. If you are interested in helping our Utsalady students, please contact your child’s teacher. If you are interested in listening to students read, tutoring students in math, or becoming a member of the Title I/LAP Parent Advisory Council, please contact the Learning Assistance Program Coordinator for more information.

Parent/Family Information and Activities

A strong home-school connection is a key ingredient of student success. At UES, we are committed to working hand-in-hand with parents to help each of our students succeed. We welcome and encourage your active involvement at Utsalady Elementary.

Our Utsalady Booster Club holds many fun evening activities to help promote a warm community feel to our school.

Information on student progress and assessment is shared during fall and spring conferences and reported on the trimester progress reports. Curriculum nights and Open house are held in the fall, where you can learn about grade level performance expectations. Teachers are available throughout the school year to discuss individual student progress. The Learning Assistance Program Coordinator is available to meet with parents at any time throughout the school year to review assessment data and answer any questions or concerns about progress or materials.

The parent/teacher/student compact will be sent home in the fall in our UES Student Handbook and shared with parents of participating LAP students throughout the year, beginning with the fall conference. You are welcome to contact Julie Knight, LAP Coordinator, to learn how you can provide input on the compact or the parent involvement policy.

You can keep informed of Stanwood-Camano School District and UES by going to www.stanwood.wednet.edu



We welcome your comments and questions regarding the Learning Assistance Program at Utsalady Elementary School. The UES parent involvement policy is available in its entirety for review upon request.

You have the right to file a written complaint if you think that there are violations of federal statute or regulations that apply to Title 1, Part A programs. The procedures for filing a complaint are available from the Stanwood-Camano School District Title 1/Learning Assistance Program Coordinator, who can be reached at 360-629-1200.

Contact information for Utsalady Elementary:

Colleen Keller, Principal
ckeller@stanwood.wednet.edu

Julie Knight, LAP Coordinator
jknight@stanwood.wednet.edu
or call 360.629.1260