

WELCOME...

Welcome parents, caregivers, and students!

I am Mr. Wasser, Art teacher for grades PreK4 - 4th grade at Mauro-Sheridan.

As we begin this journey of the 2021 - 2022 school year together, I want you to know that I am committed to supporting your child's learning, creative growth, and social development, and I am also committed to supporting your needs as parents and caregivers as well. I truly believe that we are in this together!

***MY GOAL...**

As your child's Art teacher, my goal is to ensure that your child has the opportunity to explore the world of Visual Art and discover art as means of creative self-expression; to ensure that your child learns about the elements of Art and builds a strong foundation that allows your child to express their creativity; to ensure that your child is introduced to meaningful works of art, various techniques and tools used to create art; and to ensure that your child is given every opportunity to develop and express their own unique creative "voice" through Visual Art.

***SUGGESTIONS FOR ART SUPPLIES...**

Mauro-Sheridan provides your child with all of the necessary art materials to support our comprehensive Visual Arts curriculum throughout the school year.

However, if you prefer that your child uses only his or her own art supplies due to safety concerns related to Covid 19, here are some suggestions for art supplies that you may want to have your child bring with them to Art class: a pencil with an eraser, crayons, washable markers, or color pencils, oil pastel crayons, child's scissors, a glue stick, a paint brush.

***ART SCHEDULE & USE OF GOOGLE CLASSROOM...**

All Kindergarten - 4th grade Art classes are held in person in the Art room. PreK 4 Art classes are held in the PreK classrooms. PreK 4, KDG, and 1st grade students have Art twice a week and 2nd - 4th graders have Art class once a week.

My Google Art Classrooms are available for you to view Art assignments, to submit extra credit work, as well as for parents and caregivers to communicate with me online and to receive important information, including information about meeting virtually on Google Meets for Report Card Conferences.

Please be sure to accept the Google Art Classroom invitation that I have sent to your child online. If you have not received an invitation from me yet, please notify me and I will send you an invitation to join. You will need to be able to access my Google classroom in order to meet with me for conferences on Google Meets.

***ATTENDANCE...**

Having excellent attendance is extremely important! I take attendance during each Art class.

If your child is not present in class they will miss valuable instructional time, and hands-on learning / hands-on creating time. This will not only affect your child's learning but may also affect your child's grades.

***ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING...**

Finished artwork is ordinarily collected and saved in student Art portfolios for grading. All artwork will be returned to the students at the end of the school year. Art grades are posted in Powerschool at the end of each semester. Parents will also receive progress reports about student progress when called for.

ART - Mr. Wasser's Grading Procedures 2021-2022

POINTS	CRITERIA
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FULLY PARTICIPATED IN CLASS ● RESPECTFUL TO PEERS AND TEACHER ● RESPONSIBLE BY PRACTICING CLASS EXPECTATIONS ● SAFE BY PRACTICING CLASS RULES ● COMPLETED ALL WORK ON TIME ● MET ALL AND EXCEEDED CRITERIA FOR EACH PROJECT
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● RESPECTFUL TO PEERS AND TEACHERS ● RESPONSIBLE BY PRACTICING CLASS EXPECTATIONS ● SAFE BY PRACTICING CLASS RULES ● COMPLETED WORK ON TIME ● MET CRITERIA FOR EACH PROJECT
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● RESPECTFUL TO PEERS AND TEACHERS MOST OF TIME ● RESPONSIBLE BY PRACTICING CLASS EXPECTATIONS MOST OF THE TIME ● SAFE BY PRACTICING CLASS RULES MOST OF THE TIME ● COMPLETED MOST OF THE WORK ● MET MOST CRITERIA FOR EACH PROJECT
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● RESPECTFUL TO PEERS AND TEACHERS SOME OF THE TIME ● RESPONSIBLE BY PRACTICING CLASS EXPECTATIONS SOME OF THE TIME ● SAFE BY PRACTICING RULES SOME OF THE TIME ● COMPLETED SOME OF THE WORK ● MET SOME CRITERIA FOR EACH PROJECT
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NOT RESPECTFUL TO PEERS AND TEACHERS ● NOT RESPONSIBLE BY PRACTICING CLASS EXPECTATIONS ● NOT SAFE BY PRACTICING CLASS RULES ● DID NOT COMPLETE WORK ON TIME OR AT ALL ● DID NOT MEET ALL CRITERIA FOR EACH PROJECT OR AT ALL

5 = (A) 4=(B) 3=(C) 2=(D) 1= (F)

*** RULES AND EXPECTATIONS...**

In Art class, all students are expected to follow the "3-B" rules:
Be respectful, Be responsible, and Be safe.

Students are expected to be respectful towards one another, and towards me, at all times.
Students are also expected to be respectful about one another's artwork, one another's work space, and one another's right to learn and create art in a quiet, safe, and nurturing environment.

Students are expected to be responsible for their work space, their use of art materials, and for completing and submitting their artwork to me when the work is due.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a safe manner in the Art room at all times; always using art materials properly and safely, and remaining seated at their designated tables spaced at least 3 - 6 feet apart from other students, as covid safety protocol dictates.
Masks must be worn properly at all times in the Art room, and hand washing and/ or sanitizing must be practiced as necessary.

In Art class, students are encouraged to ALWAYS TRY THEIR BEST!
Effort is of the utmost importance.
Creating art is a learning by doing process.
Effort equals success!

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL BE LEARNING...

Elementary Art education is all about introducing children to the world of art and providing opportunities for children to discover visual art as means of creative self expression.

My goal is to introduce students to the basic elements of art making; to teach students how to utilize many different types of art making media; to teach students problem solving skills; to teach students a multicultural history of Art and Artists through an all-inclusive, racially just lens; and to teach students to discover their own creative "voice" using visual art.

Art lessons will be centered around learning about the 7 basic elements of design that are used in the Visual Arts; these elements are - line, shape, form, color, texture, space, value. Students will also be learning about meaningful works of art and Artist's styles & techniques that connect with these elements of design, and aim to inspire the students' own art making.

Providing hands-on learning experiences for students is of the utmost importance, therefore Art lessons will always include opportunities for the students to create their own art.

Students will learn about and explore hands-on drawing and coloring techniques and skill building, painting, collage, and 3D sculptural work, with a wide range of different types of art making media.

***ART CLASS IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE...**

- Art helps children with the development of motor skills, language skills, social skills, creative problem - solving, risk-taking, and inventiveness.
- Art teaches children about color, layout, perspective, and balance; knowledge and skills that are applicable and often necessary for us as adults.
- Art helps children to learn about and appreciate their own culture and experiences as well as the culture and experiences of others; Art teaches children about respecting themselves and others on multiple levels.
- Art teaches children history through a multicultural and racially - just lens.
- Art teaches children about observing and appreciating the world around them; Art teaches children another way of “seeing” and experiencing their world.
- A report by Americans for the Arts has documented that young people who participate in the arts are 4 times more likely to reach academic achievement, and to excel in math, science, and language arts than children who do not participate in the arts.

***VISUAL ARTS CURRICULUM:**

Mauro-Sheridan’s Visual Arts Curriculum is based upon the National Core Arts Standards for Visual Arts. The curriculum consists of four guiding principles designed to optimize student learning and art making.

The National Core Arts Standards - Artistic Processes and Anchor Standards

Artistic Processes are as follows:

Creating

Definition: Conceiving and developing new artistic ideas and work.

Performing/Presenting/ Producing

Definitions: Performing: Realizing artistic ideas and work through interpretation and presentation.

Presenting: Interpreting and sharing artistic work. Producing: Realizing and presenting artistic ideas and work.

Responding

Definition: Understanding and evaluating how the arts convey meaning.

Connecting

Definition: Relating artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external context.

Anchor Standards

Students will:

- 1. Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.**
- 2. Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.**
- 3. Refine and complete artistic work.**

Students will:

- 4. Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work for presentation.**
- 5. Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation.**
- 6. Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.**

Students will:

- 7. Perceive and analyze artistic work.**
- 8. Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.**
- 9. Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.**

Students will:

- 10. Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.**
- 11. Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding.**

****CONTACT ME...***

Please feel free to reach out to me at any time if you have questions or concerns, or need my assistance.

You can email me directly at: daniel.wasser@new-haven.k12.ct.us

You can also send me a private message here in google classroom or on Class Dojo.

In addition, I am also available to speak via phone or text. Please don't hesitate to reach out... I am here for YOU and YOUR child!