

# Welcome to the 2024-2025 School Year!



Mrs. Stevens's Class

Grade 5

# 3 Hour Early Release Days

We have **7** Mondays where the students will be released at 12:35pm to allow for teacher planning and professional development.

Please complete the survey on your child's desk to confirm your child's after-school plans on these Mondays.

September 23

October 28

December 9

February 24

March 17

April 28

May 19



# Meet Mrs. Stevens

♥ Hometown: Southington, Connecticut

♥ Family: Husband Chris and two children, Hazel (11) and Rowan (6)

♥ My Idea of Fun:  
Playing with my kids,  
travel, reading, theatre

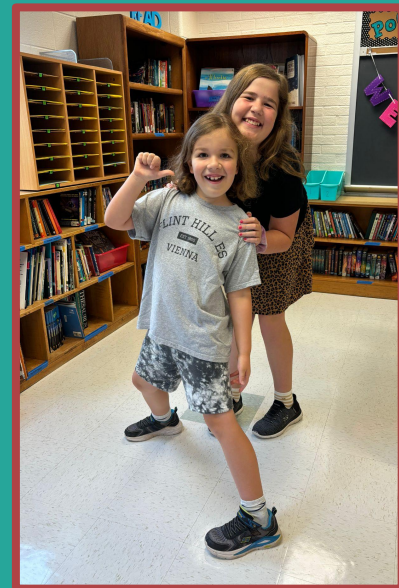


## Professional Life:



B.A. (English) - University of Maryland  
M.S. Ed. - Shenandoah University  
Advanced Academics endorsement

Previously taught 5th grade Advanced Academics at  
Centre Ridge Elementary



# Meet the 5th Grade Team



Catherine Faust

Mark Dickenson

Breann Grzankowski

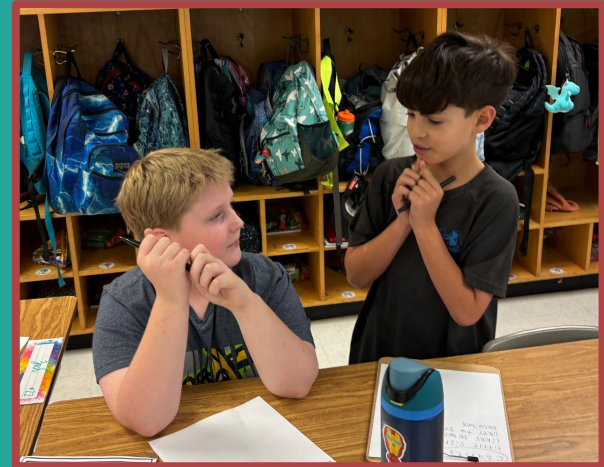
Jeff Bechtle

Ana Ochoa

Nicole Stevens

# Daily Schedule

8:45-9:00	Arrival & News
9:00-10:00	Specials
10:00-10:20	Morning Meeting
10:20-11:00	Science/Social Studies
11:00-12:00	Math
12:00-12:30	Falcon Time
12:30-1:00	Lunch
1:00-1:30	Recess
1:30-3:30	Language Arts





# This Year's Focus



Developing  
Critical and Creative  
Thinking  
skills

# Reading and Writing

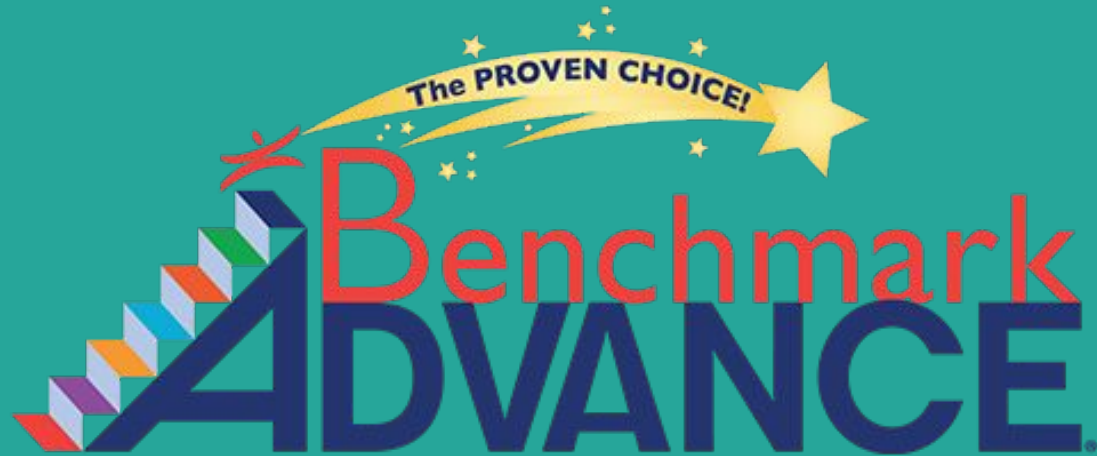
Students improve their literacy skills through targeted instruction that incorporates all subject areas.

Our Benchmark Advance curriculum includes:

- Themed units that incorporate science and social studies topics
- Word study
- Fiction and nonfiction writing
- Reading across all genres



# Our New Curriculum for K-6

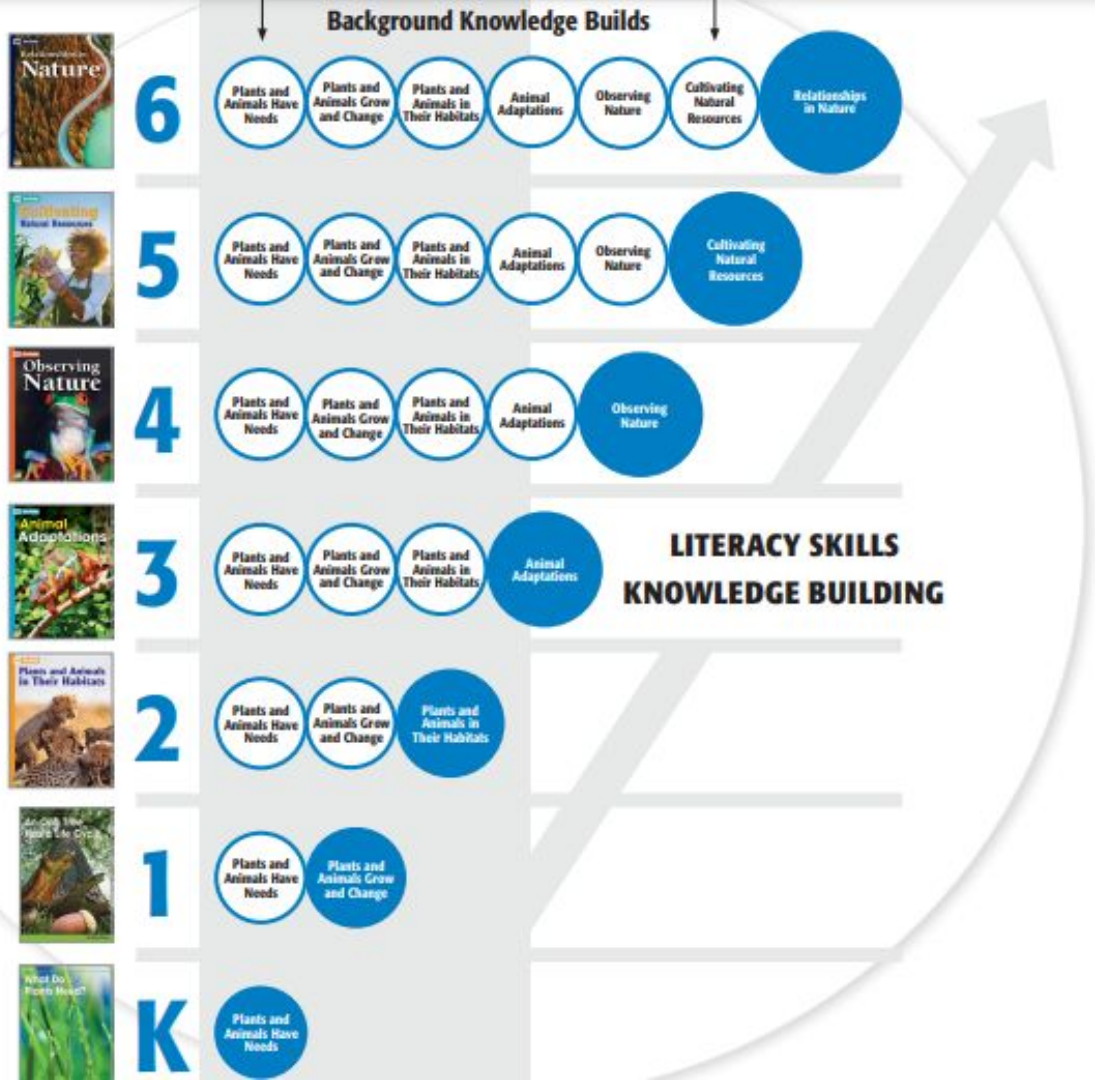




# Common Topics, K-6

Unit	Knowledge Strand	GRADES						
		K	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Life Science							
2	Character Matters							
3	Government and Citizenship							
4	Perspectives in Literature							
5	Technology and Society							
6	Themes Across Cultures							
7	History, Culture, and Geography							
8	Earth Science							
9	Economics							

# Growing Knowledge Over Time



# Essential Questions Get More Complex

## Unit 1: Life Science

### **Plants and Animals Have Needs**

Why do living things have different needs?

Kindergarten

### **Animal Adaptations**

How do living things survive in their environment?

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

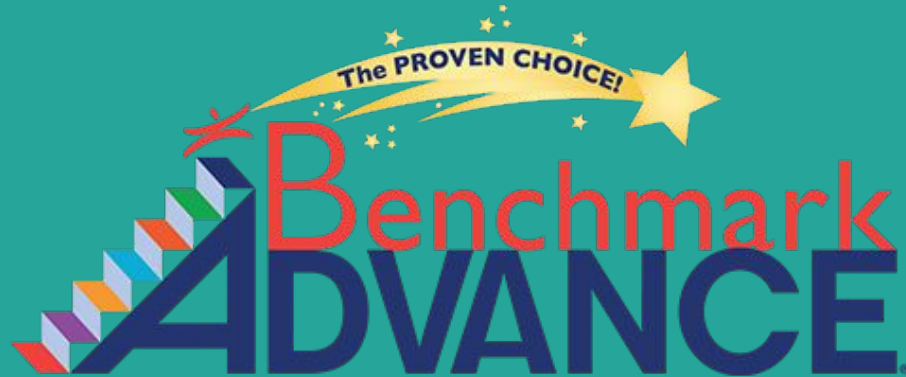
### **Relationships in Nature**

What roles can we play in the balance of nature?

6<sup>th</sup> Grade

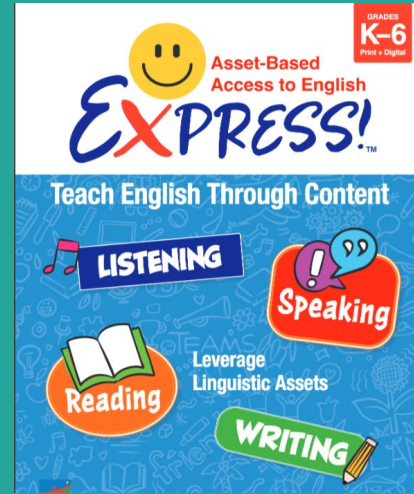
# Core Instruction & Students with Disabilities

Benchmark Advance has numerous scaffolds and supports to assist all teachers in providing core instruction responsive to the needs of students with disabilities.

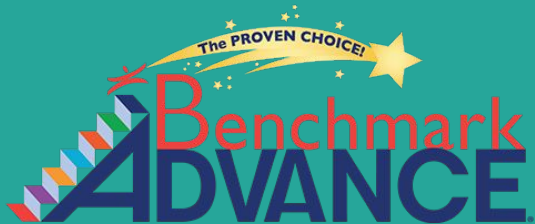


# Core Instruction & Multilingual Learners

Benchmark Express is the English Language Development curriculum that complements Benchmark Advance in providing tier 1 instruction for multilingual learners.



Benchmark Advance includes scaffolds and supports for multilingual learners.



# Core Instruction & AAP

All students receiving Advanced Academic services will participate in Benchmark Advance, which includes extensions for advanced learners. In addition to inquiry-based research embedded in Benchmark, each quarter will focus on at least one supplemental AAP ELA curricular resource to be used throughout that quarter.

## Advanced Academic Programs (AAP)

Fairfax County Public Schools offers a continuum of advanced academic services for students K-12 that builds upon students' individual strengths and skills and maximizes academic potential for all learners.

# Math

Students develop confidence, build conceptual understanding and increase fluency with numbers through a variety of learning opportunities.

- Heterogeneous, Flexible Grouping
- Format: Math Workshop
- Targeted Extensions and Scaffolding



# Number Sense Routines

Which One Doesn't Belong?

9	16
25	43



# 5th Grade Math

## Quarter 1 Topics :

- Measures of Central Tendency
- Graphs
- Prime & Composite Numbers
- Algebraic Expressions
- Order of Operations
- Whole Number Computation



**Looking Ahead:** Fraction and Decimal Computation, Geometric Measurement, Probability... and more!

# Advanced Math

## Quarter 1 Topics :

- Measures of Central Tendency
- Identifying & Representing Integers
- Inequalities
- Fractions, Decimals, and Percentages
- Ratios and Proportions



**Looking Ahead:** Integer and Fraction Computation, Coordinate Planes, One-Step Equations ... and more!

# Science

Students learn new concepts and the scientific method through exploration and experimentation.

Experimental Design

Force, Motion, & Energy

Landforms

Electricity and Magnetism

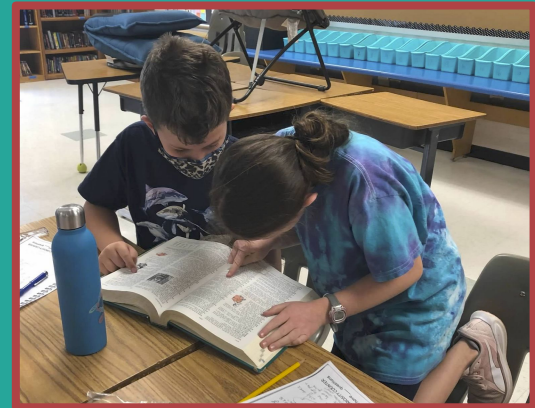
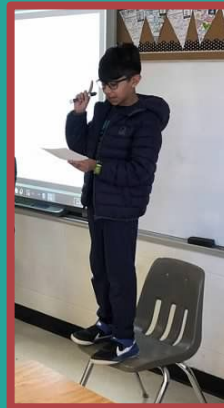
Light and Sound



# Social Studies

Students will study ancient civilizations looking for cultural universals and identifying the ways that the ancient past still affects our lives today.

Research: Greek Mythology Project



# Homework

Students should **read** 20-30 minutes every day.

All students will receive math homework from Monday-Thursday.

Students will not have homework on days that they have a test or on the final day of the week.



# Responsive Classroom

We will promote an  
academic, socially,  
and culturally  
responsive learning  
environment for our  
students.



# ONE

SCHOOL | COMMUNITY | WORLD

#ONEkindactVienna

**ONE** Kind Act can change the world

...

We are continuing our ONE  
campaign and growing our  
growth mindset.

**You Belong Here !**



# Communication

Weekly newsletters  
will be shared with  
you via email.

If you have not received  
the weekly newsletter,  
please let me know before  
you leave.

Dear Families,

We had a wonderful first week of school! This week we worked on building a classroom community. We enjoyed playing games, strengthening our communication and collaboration skills, and learning about our families, interests, favorite activities, and a whole lot more. Students jumped into Language Arts with daily reading, writing, and word study. We are excited to explore more content next week. We are looking forward to a fantastic year!

Please see the attachments for important information about Band, Strings, and Chorus registration.

Below are some important dates and announcements:

- **Headphones:** All students need a pair of headphones (or earbuds) for next week.
- **Band & Strings** registration is open! Ms. Landers and Ms. Mims are so excited to welcome young musicians into our band and orchestra programs. Registration is due **by August 29th**.
  - Questions? Please Email: Helen Landers, Band Director, [hlanders@fcps.edu](mailto:hlanders@fcps.edu)  
Tamara Mims, Orchestra Director, [tmims@fcps.edu](mailto:tmims@fcps.edu)
- **Chorus** registration is open! Ms. D'Alelio and Ms. Golomb look forward to another wonderful year of singing together. Chorus is a free, optional activity that occurs once per week during the school day. It does **not** conflict with Band or Strings. Registration is due **by September 5th**.
  - Questions? Please Email: Kathie D'Alelio - [kmdalelio@fcps.edu](mailto:kmdalelio@fcps.edu) or Emma Golomb - [emgolomb@fcps.edu](mailto:emgolomb@fcps.edu)
- On **Tuesday, September 10th from 5:30-7:00 PM** we will host Back to School Night, so please save the date. We hope you can join us!
- **School is closed on Friday, August 30th and Monday, September 2nd** for Labor Day.



# Conferences

- Conferences will be held at the end of the first quarter. I will send an email with a link to sign up.
- You can also request a conference any time if you have a concern to discuss.



# Report Cards and Standards-Based Grading

	1	2	3	4
<b>Frequency</b>	Seldom	Some of the time	Most of the time	Nearly all the time
<b>Support</b>	Considerable	Moderate	Limited	No support
<b>Understanding</b>	Limited	Partial	General	Thorough
<b>Errors</b>	Frequent	Some	Few	None

Meets 5th grade expectations



# Report Cards and Standards- Based Grading

Report Cards will be available in  
ParentVUE on

**Tuesday, November 12th @ 6am**

\*Paper copies will be sent home for Q1

# 5th Grade Events

- Greek Gods & Goddesses Agora
- Field trips: (Pending Approval and Availability)  
Planet Word Museum and Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- End of Year Picnic at Peterson Lane Park



“No significant  
learning can occur  
without a significant  
relationship.”

~James Comer

# 3 Hour Early Release Days

We have **7** Mondays where the students will be released at 12:35pm to allow for teacher planning and professional development.

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# FLINT HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*parent teacher association*

Please consider joining  
if you haven't already!

The PTA supports our school with:

- Classroom Technology
  - Teacher Materials
  - Field Trip Expenses
  - Teacher Training
  - Community Building
- And so much more!

# Before you leave....



Please write a note to  
your child so they have  
something to read in the  
morning.





Questions?

Thank you for coming to  
Back to School Night!



I look forward to a wonderful year working with you  
and your child!