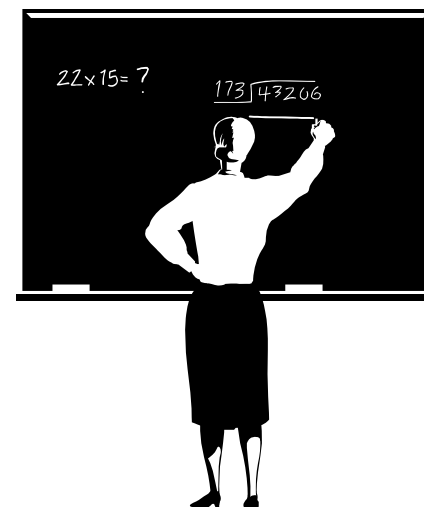




**Wayne-Westland**  
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



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### *Mission Statement*

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools, in cooperation with parents and the community, will educate and prepare all of our students to be knowledgeable, responsible, contributing members of a global society.



**Wayne-Westland**  
Community Schools

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# *Parent Guide* *Fifth Grade* *Learning* *Standards* 2007 – 2008

*The State Board of Education is in the process of reviewing and approving new Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCE) for Social Studies and Science in all elementary grade levels. They are expected to be approved by October 2007.*

*Below is what is currently being taught .*

## ***Social Studies***

*The Wayne-Westland Elementary Social Science/Studies Curriculum provides students with the skills they need to be able to participate effectively as citizens of the U.S. and, of a global community.*

Students will develop the ability to inquire, to engage in public discourse, to make decisions and to be involved citizens through historic, geographic, economic and civic perspectives. *Early Eras of the United States* will be the focus of study for fifth grade.

The purpose of the fifth grade social studies curriculum is to provide students with a survey of major events and personalities of the United States from the arrival of the earliest inhabitants through the development of the constitution. Included are cultural origin, the five themes of geography, and the democratic values.

- Students will study major events in the formation of the United States and acquire a basic time line of the nation's chronology.
- They will become acquainted with various individuals and groups who have made significant contributions to the political, technological, economic and cultural life of the nation.
- They will discover how geography influences the development of our country.
- The students will be introduced to the structure of the federal government with an emphasis on the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

## ***Science***

In this grade, problem solving and investigating ways to construct and use knowledge is emphasized. The scientific method is used in extended units throughout the year. Units will include:

- Floating and Sinking
- Waves & Vibrations
- Experiments with Plants
- Astronomy



***Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCEs) have been established by the Michigan Department of Education for English Language Arts & Math. These are described in the parent guides available from MDE or your school office.***



## ***Special Area Classes***

*Wayne-Westland Community Schools provide instruction in five elective content areas for all elementary students in grades kindergarten through fifth grade. The five classes are music, visual arts, physical education, media information, and life skills. Each class meets for 50 minutes, (kindergarten for 20 minutes), once a week. The curriculums for each class is based on the state and national standards and benchmarks. Lessons are planned to support the core content areas.*

A brief summary of each class is as follows:

- **Music:** experiences include singing, listening, creating rhythms, and learning about musicians. Fifth graders explore sound production on electronic equipment.
- **Visual Arts:** experiences include drawing, painting, designing, and sculpting, as well as working in clay, paper, and fibers, to develop visual, spatial, and manipulative skills.
- **Physical Education:** students are taught basic skills in a variety of sports activities, with much attention to physical fitness.
- **Media Information:** experiences include reading, viewing, listening, and using technology for understanding, enjoyment and to access information.
- **Life Skills:** experiences include units in character education, nutrition/health, career awareness, and problem solving.