

COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200

Handwriting Grade 4

Philosophy: We believe students should be able to communicate ideas with automaticity in a legible written form. Legibility and automaticity improves a student's ability to express thoughts without being distracted and delayed by the mechanics of handwriting.

Subject Expectation 1 (State Goal *) **Students should be able to communicate ideas with automaticity in a legible written form.**

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| Essential Learning 1* | Demonstrate legible manuscript |
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| Critical Content | * | a. master correct upper and lower case letter formation |
| | | • shape |
| | | • slant |
| | | • size |
| | * | b. master proper spacing |
| | * | c. determine strengths and weaknesses in own handwriting using tools <i>such as a Key to Legibility</i> checklist |

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| Essential Learning 2* | Demonstrate legible cursive |
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| Critical Content | * | a. apply correct form in forming upper and lower case letters |
| | | • shape |
| | | • slant/directionality |
| | | • size |
| | | • stroke |
| | * | b. apply proper spacing |
| | | • apply proper spacing on the line |
| | | • apply proper spacing between words and letters |
| | * | c. determine strengths and weaknesses in own handwriting using tools <i>such as a Key to Legibility</i> checklist |

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| Essential Learning 3* | Copy or draft information with automaticity |
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| Critical Content | * | a. practice copying information with automaticity using manuscript and cursive when directed |
| | * | b. apply cursive writing in written work with the exception of maps, graphs, diagrams, note taking and graphic organizers or as directed |

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| Essential Learning 4* | Use writing tools appropriately |
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| Critical Content | * | a. apply legible cursive handwriting using wide-ruled loose leaf paper |
| | * | b. use a functional grip on the pencil |
| | * | c. demonstrate proper body position for desk work |
| | * | d. demonstrate proper paper position |

Board Approved 5-25-05
Grade Four Handwriting Critical Content

*There are no state goals in handwriting so every aspect exceeds State Standards.