

A decorative border surrounds the page, featuring a repeating pattern of letters (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z) and handprints in various orientations and colors (black, grey, white).

Dear Parent (s),

Beginning in September, your child will become familiar with the traits of good writing. Teachers will use an instructional model that teaches students the seven main components of good writing. Throughout the course of the school year, your child will be learning about good writing and applying these traits to his or her work.

1. *Ideas*: the meaning and development of the message.
2. *Organization*: the internal structure of the piece.
3. *Voice*: the way the writer brings the topic to life.
4. *Word Choice*: the specific vocabulary the writer uses to convey meaning.
5. *Sentence Fluency*: the way words and phrases flow throughout writing pieces.
6. *Conventions*: the mechanical correctness of the piece which includes spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.
7. *Presentation*: overall appearance of the work and may include presentation to an audience.

As your child becomes familiar with the seven components of good writing, he or she will also focus on the writing modes; narrative, informative, and persuasive. By writing within these modes, students learn to clarify the purpose of writing, choose the appropriate organization, write to the desired audience, and utilize the traits of good writing. Teachers will assess student writing through writing rubrics that focus on the writing modes and traits of good writing.

Please do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions or concerns.