2019-20 Jones Elementary School Writing Policy

As an elementary requirement for Jones Elementary School students, the writing portfolio is a significant assignment that students build upon throughout their academic career. The writing portfolio will be an invaluable resource as we seek to prepare students for the Georgia Milestones End of Grade Assessment which includes constructed response items requiring students to think critically and write effectively. This assessment begins with students in third grade.

**Overview:** Each grade level will add at least one example of student writing into the portfolio (see information below). The homeroom teacher will select the writing(s) to add to the folder. At the end of each school year, the writing folders will be placed in the child’s permanent record.

**Requirements by Grade Level**

1. **Kindergarten** – submits one piece of unedited writing at the end of the school year. By the end of the year, students will be able to compose a narrative, opinion, or informative writing, and will write with independence and consistency.

2. **First Grade** – submits two pieces of unedited writing (one from the beginning of the year, and one from the end of the year). In first grade the students are exposed to narrative, informative text, and opinion. By the close of their first grade year, students get to publish writings and present their writing projects.

3. **Second Grade** – submits two pieces of unedited writing as well, one at the start of the school year and one at the end. The second grade continues writing narrative, informative, explanatory, and opinion pieces. The students are introduced to digital tools to produce and publish their writings. The end of the year culminates with research and writing projects.

4. **Third Grade** – submits one piece of writing at the end of the school year. In third grade, the students are encouraged to take ownership of their writing. They are allowed to select their best piece of writing from the genres (narrative, persuasive, or informational) to place in their writing portfolio. Students also participate in a writing assessment three times per year.

*Writing folders will be stored with the homeroom teacher, who will in turn place the folder in the student’s permanent record.

*Teachers will use the following writing resources: Sanron Writing Program, Thinking Maps, Pacing Guides, Benchmarking, Georgia Center for Assessments, and Georgia Milestones End of Grade Assessment