

DRY CREEK ELEMENTARY'S  
**BLOCK DC HANDBOOK**  
**2021-2022**

Rev 9/18/21

## A Message from Mr. Cook

The Block DC Award is the highest award offered to upper grade students at Dry Creek Elementary School. It presents a worthy challenge and is attainable through hard work, dedication, and forethought. It will require most, if not all students, to work outside of their comfort zone and complete activities that they would not have likely attempted if it were not for the Block DC award. The recipients of this award truly exemplify the concept of the Clovis Sparthenian...to “be the best you can be in Mind, Body, and Spirit.”

Goals serve as our “guidance system” as we travel through life. They are often determined by our desires, dreams, aspirations, abilities, resources, and values. They provide direction and meaning and act as “check points” to gauge our accomplishments and progress. For this reason, goals play a significant role in the achievement of the Block DC Award.

Successful students are well-rounded and when presented with a variety of experiences, we certainly hope they will choose to become involved. We anticipate participation in the Block DC program will inspire students to try a wide variety of available Dry Creek school activities, recognize important opportunities for service, and discover new interests and hidden talents.

Starting in 2020-2021, Dry Creek began the transition of moving the Block DC from a semester award to a year-long award. Current 6<sup>th</sup> grade students in 2021-22 will be able to earn two discs by completing the yearly point requirement of 35 points. All other students will earn a single disc in their ultimate accomplishment of becoming a “3-time” Block DC recipient at the end of their sixth grade year.

Go Panthers!

Mr. Cook

*Please note that there may be occasional updates to the Block DC during the school year. Any update applied to the application or handbook will not result in making the award more difficult to receive. Revision dates are posted in the top right corner of the handbook.*

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## Overview

The Block DC is a prestigious award designed to honor students who have demonstrated excellence in mind, body and spirit. Students in grades 4, 5 and 6 are eligible to apply for this award at the end of each semester. To earn this recognition, students must accumulate the required amount of points for their current grade level, with at least 1 point in each category:

- MIND – Scholarship/Curricular & Athletics
- BODY - Activity
- SPIRIT - School Service/Spirit

**We highly suggest that students, along with their parents and teacher, discuss and plan for this award at the beginning of each semester.**

## YEARLY POINT REQUIREMENTS

**4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE: 30 POINTS**

**5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE: 35 POINTS**

**6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE: 35 POINTS**

**SPECIAL NOTE:** We recognize that many Dry Creek students are involved in activities not sponsored or supported by our school programs. While we acknowledge the value of such activities, participation points will NOT be awarded for Block DC purposes. ***Block DC points will only be awarded for participation in the Dry Creek activities described in this handbook.*** Students are expected to fully participate in the activity requirements and maintain appropriate behavior during practices and performances. ***Student misconduct (any suspension or 3 Major office referrals) and absenteeism (5 unexcused tardies or 3 unexcused absences) are grounds for disqualification of this award. Students shall behave themselves, arrive at school on time, and be present.***

## MIND

### SCHOLARSHIP/CURRICULAR

#### PRINCIPAL'S HONOR ROLL – 3

Students earning all A's on their report card earn 3 points for that quarter.

#### HIGH HONOR ROLL – 2

Students earning all A's and 1 B on their report card earn 2 points for that quarter.

#### HONOR ROLL – 1

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Students earning all A's and two B's or all A's and one C on their report card earn 1 point for that quarter.

**MATH FACTS (BIG 4) – 1**

Completing four 100 fact sheets in addition, subtraction, and multiplication; and four 90 fact sheets in division will earn 1 point. Each math facts page must be timed by the classroom teacher and completed in 3 minutes or less. Students are eligible to earn points in this category one time during the school year.

**ACCELERATED READER CERTIFICATE – 2**

Earning the Accelerated Reader Certificate will earn 2 points. Students must read books, pass AR tests and accumulate the required amount of points for his or her grade level during the first semester. To reach the AR Certificate level, **4<sup>th</sup> grade students must earn 35 AR points, 5<sup>th</sup> grade students must earn 40 AR points, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students must earn 45 AR points** in the semester. [max 2 points]

**DC ROBOTICS – 3 (4)/ [1]**

Active participation on a Dry Creek Robotics team will earn 3 points. If your team qualifies for the regional championship, 4 points will be awarded during the first semester. An additional 1 point may be earned when a team qualifies for the national tournament and the team continues to practice into the spring semester.

**ESSAY CONTEST – 1 (2)**

Participation in each Dry Creek sponsored essay contest is valued at 1 point. Special recognition and/or winning the contest will earn a 2<sup>nd</sup> point for that contest.

**HISTORY DAY – 2**

Submission of a quality project in will earn 2 points. Projects selected for regional competition or qualifying for additional rounds of competition will earn an additional 1 point. [max 3 points]

**SPELLING BEE – 1**

Participation and regular attendance at Spelling Bee practices will earn 1 point. Dry Creek qualifiers will earn a 2<sup>nd</sup> point. Qualifying for the state or national competitions will earn additional point for each award earned.

**CHESS CLUB – 2 (3)**

Students who participate in at least 10 chess club sessions and one tournament are eligible to earn 2 points. Team placement at a Central Valley Chess tournament or State Championship tournament will earn 3 points in that semester.

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**I-READY MATH TYPICAL GROWTH – 1**

Earning a minimum of 100% of the “typical growth” target after the winter diagnostic assessment will earn 1 point per semester.

**I-READY MATH STRETCH GROWTH – 1**

Earning a minimum of 66% of the “stretch growth” target after the winter diagnostic assessment will earn 1 point per semester.

**I-READY READING TYPICAL GROWTH – 1**

Earning a minimum of 100% of the “typical growth” target after the winter diagnostic assessment will earn 1 point per semester.

**I-READY READING STRETCH GROWTH – 1**

Earning a minimum of 66% of the “stretch growth” target after the winter diagnostic assessment will earn an additional 1 point in each semester.

**MIND**  
**SCHOLARSHIP/CURRICULAR**

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC – 1 (2)**

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students who actively participate in orchestra or band and earn Outstanding (O) grades on both quarter report cards will receive one point for that semester. Performance participation increases the points earned to 2 points in the second semester.

**FESTIVAL CHOIR – 1 (2)**

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students who actively participate in choir and earn Outstanding (O) grades on both quarter report cards will receive one point for that semester. Performance participation increases the points earned to 2 points in the second semester.

**4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE MUSIC – 1 (2)**

4<sup>th</sup> grade students who perform in Dry Creek’s Winter Holiday program will earn 1 point in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester. Students who perform in Dry Creek’s Arts in the Park event in the spring will earn 1 point for the second semester.

**ORAL INTERPRETATION – 2 (3)**

Participation in Oral Interpretation rehearsals and performances earns 2 points during the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. A Superior Rating at the Oral Interp. Festival increases the value to 3 points.

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**DC DRAMA PRODUCTION – 3**

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade actors, actresses, and backstage crew members earn 3 points for their involvement in the Dry Creek Drama production during the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester.

**GATE – 1**

Students who qualify and participate in GATE activities earn 1 point per semester.

**ART/POSTER CONTEST – 1 (2)**

Participation in a Dry Creek sponsored art or poster contest is valued at 1 point. Special recognition and/or winning the contest will earn 2 points.

**BOOK CLUB – 1**

Students who attend a minimum of 7 Book Club meetings per semester earn 1 point.

## **BODY**

**PFA HEALTHY FITNESS ZONE – 1/2 (3)**

In the 1<sup>st</sup> semester, students may earn 1 point for passing the PFA mile run pretest. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, all students scoring in the Healthy Fitness Zone during PFA testing earn 2 points. Students who perform above the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile/Superintendent's Award earn 3 points.

**FALL SEASON – 2 (3, 4)**

Athletes who attend practices and games/meets on Dry Creek's cross-country, football, or girls volleyball team earn 2 points in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester. A Buchanan Area championship increases the value to 3 points for all students participating in that sport (A, B, C teams). Team recognition as District Champions increases the value to 4 points for all students that earned Fall Block DC points in that sport.

**WINTER SEASON – 2 (3, 4)**

Athletes who attend practices and games/tournaments on Dry Creek's girls or boys basketball, or wrestling team earn 2 points in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester. A Buchanan Area championship increases the value to 3 points for all students participating in that sport (A, B, C teams). Team recognition as District Champions increases the value to 4 points for all students that earned Fall Block DC points in that sport.

**SPRING SEASON – 2 (3, 4)**

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade athletes who attend practices and games on Dry Creek's softball, baseball, or boys volleyball team earn 2 points in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. A Buchanan Area championship increases the value to 3 points for all students participating in that sport (A, B, C teams). Team recognition as District Champions increases the value to 4 points for all students participating on the district championship team.

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**TRACK – 1 (2)**

4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade athletes who attend practices and meets on Dry Creek's track team earn 1 point in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. Individuals who qualify for the Buchanan Area Championship earn 2 points.

**PEP/CHEER/GAME SQUAD**

Athletes who participate on Dry Creek's Game Cheer Squad will earn 3 points in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester and 1 point in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester for attending monthly practices, performing in rallies, and attending the football carnival and other special events.

**4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SPIRIT SQUAD – 2**

4<sup>th</sup> grade athletes who participate on Dry Creek's Spirit Squad earn 2 points in the first semester and 1 point during the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester for attending monthly practices, performing in rallies, and attending the football carnival and other special events.

**INTRAMURALS – 1**

Students who participate in at least 6 lunch time intramural games will earn 1 point for the semester.

## **SPIRIT/ATHLETICS**

**CITIZENSHIP – 1**

Students earning an "O" for outstanding citizenship on their report card earn 1 point for that quarter.

**STUDENT COUNCIL – 2 (3)**

All students are welcome to participate in Student Council. Those students who regularly attend student council meetings and participate in a minimum of five leadership activities will earn 1 point. Student Council elected officers, as decided by those in Student Council, have additional responsibilities and may earn an additional 1 point per semester. [max 3 points]

**PANTHERZ CLUB – 1**

Students who apply, are selected and regularly participate in Pantherz Club will earn 1 point per semester. [max 1 point]

**ATHLETE OF CHARACTER – 1**

Students who are identified as an "Athlete of Character" by an opposing team at away games will be awarded a maximum of 1 point during the season and semester it was received.

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**SAFETY PATROL – 2**

Safety Patrol members earn 2 points per semester for following the duty schedule and reporting on time to the designated location.

**SCHOOL SERVICE CONTRACT – 1**

Students may earn school service points by prearranging activities to support Dry Creek staff members and Dry Creek school activities. Students must complete 7.5 hours of school service. Examples include helping in the library, cafeteria, office, previous year's teacher, etc. Students may not earn school service hours from their current teacher. Attach the Block DC School Service Form to the application for verification.

**HUMAN RELATIONS COUNCIL – 1**

Students who participate in the Dry Creek Human Relations Council will earn 1 point per semester.

**HERITAGE EVENT – 2**

Students who participate in the Dry Creek Panther Heritage Event will earn 2 points per semester.

**PASA – 1**

Students who participate in the Dry Creek Principal's Advisory for Student Affairs will earn 1 point per semester. [max 1 point]