**DANIEL WRIGHT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**BRIAN BLUM, PRINCIPAL**

**2335 West Case Rd. Columbus, Ohio 43235**

SEPTEMBER 2014

Dear Parents,

The Dublin City Schools Language Arts Curriculum maintains a focus on word study as an essential component of the Grade K-5 instructional program.

Word Study is integrated throughout the day and is formally and informally assessed as your child connects and applies their word knowledge and use of spelling patterns through the reading and writing activities in which they participate. The study of words and their meanings is incorporated within all content areas.

Students will receive 10 – 15 minutes of explicit word instruction daily with additional focus on word learning throughout the reading and writing workshops. Your child will increase understanding of words as he or she engages in reading experiences using a variety of literature (e.g., picture books, poetry, and nonfiction) as well as during modeled, shared and independent writing experiences. This instruction will support your child in applying spelling strategies and noticing patterns in words to help them make generalizations about the spelling and meaning of all words in multiple contexts.

Students will have opportunities to develop new vocabulary through reading, conversations about language, and the discovery of appealing word choices as young authors.

The Dublin City Schools word study program focuses on five major components:

* Phonological Awareness
* Phonics
* Word Recognition
* Visual Strategies
* Vocabulary and Word Structure  The process of inquiry helps students understand how words are constructed and how they are connected to one another. Some word work will be studied during whole group instruction during workshop time based on grade level curriculum. At other times, students will be grouped based on identified word learning needs.  Over the course of the trimester, your child will be assessed in a variety of ways. At the end of each unit of study an assessment of learning will occur. Ongoing assessment throughout the unit will also be factored into your child’s word study grade. Evidence of how your child transfers the explicit word study skills and strategies into his/her reading and writing is the primary focus of the program and will be emphasized.  Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have about this important academic portion of the Language Arts Curriculum.



