State Report

Completed reports are due: Friday, April 8th, 2016

Dear Parents,

As part of the course of study for Social Studies, all fifth graders are required to write a research report on one of the fifty states. Attached to this note is an outline designed to help your child write his/her report. The outline should make it easier to write the report in HIS/HER OWN WORDS as main ideas are the focus, rather than long sentences or paragraphs copied directly from the book. Encyclopedias and books are available at school, however, materials from other sources such as the town library are also recommended.

As a suggestion, information gathered away from the classroom can be placed on 3x5 note cards. Reports may be typed or hand written in clear, easy to read cursive with no erase marks. Time will not be given at school for typing papers due to our limited access to computer lab time.

The state report must have the following items to be considered complete:

1. Cover
2. Title Page
3. Table of Contents: typed/written on plain white paper without lines.
4. Written Report: minimum of 500 words (3-4 pages). The report must be typed (12 size font) or written NEATLY in cursive.
5. Illustrations must be drawn and colored neatly on plain white. Photographs, photocopies, and computer images will not receive credit, but may be added as additions to your research or drawings.
6. Alphabetized Bibliography: All books, magazines, encyclopedias, etc. must be recorded on plain, unlined white paper. It must have at least three (3) entries and it must follow the guidelines of the attached example from this packet. The Bibliography cannot consist solely of internet resources.

Please sign and return.

I have read the packet with my child and know the date this report is due.

______________________________  ______________________________
Student signature                  Parent signature

TIMELINE FOR STATE REPORT

REPORT DUE: April 8th, 2016

This timeline is provided so that you may stay on task and finish by the due date. Portions of the report will be checked off individually, but the final report must be handed in completed.
Follow this checklist as you work on your report and you will be sure to meet all of the requirements.

____ Research your state using the computer.
____ Get a book from our school library on the state you have chosen.
____ Find a third source on this state.
____ Write note cards (at least one full card per category).
____ Write a rough draft.

_____ Cover Page
____ Title Page
____ Table of Contents
____ Intro Paragraph
____ Statistics Paragraph
____ “Why Important” Paragraph (including historical events)
____ Your Choice #1
____ Your Choice #2
____ Concluding Paragraph

____ Create Maps, Charts, Graphs, Illustrations, etc.

_____ Physical Map
____ State Flag
____ Population Chart/Graph

_____ Peer Edit *Peer needs to sign the front page and must write comments on the paper (annotation included). Items to be corrected, clarified, and at least two positive comments.

_____ Make corrections and write second draft.
_____ Finish all charts, maps, graphs, illustrations, etc.
_____ Write bibliography.
_____ Second draft done and checked by: March 25th, 2016.
_____ Write final draft and make a cover for your report (you may create one out of construction paper or use one of the plastic report covers sold at local office supply stores).
_____ Final draft due: April 8th, 2016.

Parent Signature  Date:________________________