



Making a World of Difference.

Form Due by Monday, September 15, 2008

Student's Name: _____ Home Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

Homeroom

Grade: _____ Teacher: _____ Cell Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

Parent Email: _____ @ _____

Academic Contest*: 1st Choice _____

2nd Choice _____

*Students may compete in **one** event only. Please give two choices.

Student's Signature: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____

We Need Parent Coaches and Volunteers!

____ I am interested in coaching

____ I am interested in Judging at UIL competition on December 6, 2008

Subject: _____ Grade: _____

Dear Parents,

We are so excited about UIL for this coming school year! For 2008 – 2009, all of our teams will have volunteer coaches and teacher resources. Meetings will all be held on Mondays from 3:00 – 3:45 beginning September 22. Your child will be notified regarding where his/her group will be meeting. UIL competition is open to students from 2nd through 5th grade. This sheet contains information you need to know about the UIL competition for your child. The *PROGRAM AT A GLANCE* section is a brief description of each contest and grade-level. To begin preparation for our **district competition on Saturday, December 6^h, 2008**, we will be forming teams as soon as possible. If you are interested in coaching please contact Mark Charles at charlesm@lisd.net (479.948.2404) or Jayne Suess at jayne@wifimom.com (972.333.3987), or indicate on the form provided. Please complete this form and return it to your child's homeroom teacher by Monday, September 15, 2008.

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

ART CONTEST (grades 4-5): The art contest involves the study of paintings from the National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C. and paintings or pictures from selected Texas museums. As part of their study, students will demonstrate an understanding of art history and interpret ideas and moods in original artworks while making informed judgments about the artwork.

CREATIVE WRITING (grade 2): Creative Writing is designed to promote creativity in an academic format and to encourage writing skills at an early grade level. Through preparation for the contest, they will be able to evaluate their own writing and the writing of others. Students are given captioned pictures and 30 minutes to write their story about one or more of those pictures.

DICTIONARY SKILLS (grade 5): Thorough knowledge of the dictionary is a way to increase the student's ability to find the information that is needed for class work as well as everyday living. Students are given 20 minutes to answer 40 objective and short answer questions.

MAPS, GRAPHS, & CHARTS (grade 5): The maps, graphs, & charts contest is designed to help students learn to get information from world maps, pie charts, bar charts, and local area maps. The 75-question objective test, that students must complete in 45 minutes, measures skills such as using a reference book to locate information, making comparisons, estimating and approximating, using scale, and interpreting grid systems, legends and keys.

MUSIC MEMORY (grades 3-5): The focus of the music memory contest is an in-depth study of fine pieces of music literature taken from a wide spectrum of music genres. Students listen to a portion of each selection on the music list and must list the composer, the name of the major work, and name of the selection.

NUMBER SENSE (grades 4-5): The ability to perform quick mathematical calculations in order to make decisions is the premise behind this contest. The test covers basic arithmetic and mathematical functions appropriate for the grade level. Students are given 10 minutes to complete the fill-in-the-blank test.

ORAL READING (grades 4-5): As students prepare a piece of prose/poetry to read out loud, they learn to analyze the text as a literary critic, to grow and develop as a performer, to communicate a message to an audience and to perform an artistic creation.

READY WRITING (grades 3-5): Given two hours to write an essay on one of two topics, ready writing helps students refine their writing abilities. This helps them to learn to write clearly and correctly a paper that is interesting and original regardless of the topic area.

SOCIAL STUDIES (grade 5): This contest is designed to encourage students to expand their knowledge of social studies, particularly in the areas of history, government systems, economics, citizenship, and culture. Students will be given an objective test containing approximately 40 questions, which must be answered in 30 minutes. Each year a primary source will be emphasized.

SPELLING (grades 3-5): The spelling contest is designed to give students exposure to a wide variety of vocabulary words. It is not a contest of memorization. Students learn the rules of English, meanings and definitions, and root words.

STORYTELLING (grades 2-3): To tell a story, the participant must develop skills in listening, thinking and speaking. Students will read a story, approximately 600-1100 words, which they must then tell back to the judges in their own words. Preparing for this contest also allows for the development of creative expression—something being given more attention in the professional world.