

MOUNTAIN VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

BLOCK MV HANDBOOK



**An Introductory Guide for Earning the
“EXEMPLARY GOLDEN BEAR AWARD”**

CLOVIS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

2023-2024

Foreword

The Exemplary Golden Bear Block "MV" Award is the highest award that is offered to upper grade students at Mountain View Elementary School. The recipients of this award truly exemplify the Sparthenian concept of Clovis Unified...to "be the best you can be in mind, body, and spirit". In essence, the award comes through goal setting, hard work, participation, and follow-through....the ingredients of life-long learning and success. The Exemplary Award Program, used in nearly every elementary school in Clovis Unified, began more than twenty years ago. It started out as a simple way of getting students involved in school. At Mountain View, it has become a focus on the total program that is offered to our students. We feel that students should be well-rounded in several different categories, and when presented with various options will choose to become involved...."to get in the game of life". We hope participation in the Exemplary Golden Bear Block "MV" process will inspire students to try more activities, recognize important opportunities, and open the door to new interests and hidden talents. Whatever the situation, we feel that the Exemplary Golden Bear Block "MV" Program has something to offer everyone. To those who persevere in receiving the award, there is satisfaction in knowing that they, indeed, are among the "Best of the Best"!

*Tom Wright
Principal*

PHILOSOPHICAL STATEMENT

Education plays an important role in preparing children for future challenges. This entails much more than merely teaching skills and imparting knowledge. The school must also provide a wide range of experiences for children and a framework within which positive attitudes can be nurtured. In essence, the school is an environment where children assume a variety of roles and engage in diverse experiences that allow them to explore and develop the many facets of their unique personalities and talents. It stands to reason that those who are involved in school activities and who learn *how* to participate in a variety of settings will have a better understanding of their own individual interests and abilities. Moreover, there is strong evidence to suggest that involvement and goal setting help students develop poise, self-confidence, and well-roundedness which are essential ingredients in exercising freedom of choice and decision-making as an adult.

This is what the **EXEMPLARY GOLDEN BEAR BLOCK “MV” AWARD** is all about. The award really has several functions. First, it is a vehicle to motivate students to become active participants in school activities. Second, it is a *blueprint* for parents and teachers to use in planning, encouraging and setting goals with children regarding their involvement in school activities and programs. Third, it helps to affirm that the nurturing of responsible, well-rounded individuals is important. Finally, it is a significant form of recognition for students who have met the criteria for the award.

Planning and commitment are the key factors in earning this award, not necessarily ability and talent. This handbook outlines the criteria for achieving the **Block "MV" Award**. We hope that it will be useful to parents, teachers, and students working together in pursuit of a worthwhile goal.

OVERVIEW

The Exemplary Golden Bear Award is the highest award a student may earn at Mountain View Elementary. The **Block “MV” Award** is available to fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students and is awarded in May at our Block “MV” Award Program.

The criteria for earning this award reflects a broad base of participation, achievement, and service. In order to earn the Block "MV" Award, a student must complete the required number of items in each of the following categories:

Mind – Academic Performance: 4 Items Needed per Semester

Body – Athletics: 5th/6th graders - 2 Items and 4th graders – 1 Items Needed per Semester

Spirit - Leadership & School Service: 3 Items Needed per Semester

Spirit – Character: 2 Items Needed per Semester

Spirit - Performing Arts: 2 Items Needed per Semester

Spirit - Community Involvement: 1 Item Needed per Semester

The purpose of this award is to recognize those well-rounded individuals who exemplify the qualities that Mountain View hopes to foster in all of its students, namely: (1) the desire for self-improvement; (2) dedication and commitment in reaching for goals; (3) concern for and service to others; and (4) the willingness to be a positive role model to others. The word *EXEMPLARY*, in fact, means: (1) *deserving imitation*; (2) *servicing as an example*; and (3) *worthy of being a model*.

A student need not be a "superstar" to earn this award; however, he or she must be an active and enthusiastic participant in the activities of the school, engaged in the pursuit of excellence and meeting certain standards of achievement and performance. Individuals earning this prestigious award receive a **Block "MV"** plaque presented at a special program toward the end of the school year.

Over the past 20 years, the Exemplary Award Programs have had a positive impact on both individual students and the total school programs in the Clovis Unified School District in the following ways:

- Many students who had been reluctant to participate or try new things have now become much more active and involved.
- The quality of student participation has improved as students have taken the responsibilities and commitment of their involvement more seriously.
- It has provided parents and teachers with a means to identify students who either were too heavily involved in school activities or not involved enough resulting in the ability to offer appropriate guidance.
- Parents, teachers, and students view the "school-life" of a student as a total picture, not isolated bits and pieces.

It is our hope that all students will actively pursue this award, making it a part of their planning for their total school experience. Whether or not the student actually receives the award, striving for it will hopefully enrich and enhance his/her educational foundation.

In the sections that follow, specific guidelines and requirements governing the earning of points in each category are discussed. We encourage parents and teachers to work closely with students in planning and setting goals.

We appreciate the input and participation and the support of the Mountain View community as we work to make the concept of this award meaningful to students and an important thread in the fabric of the Mountain View educational program. Block "MV" students represent the best Mountain View has to offer!

General Guidelines

1. The student must complete the activity's guidelines to be signed off on an item.
2. The student will obtain the advisor's/coach's signature to confirm that the activity was completed.
3. The student must complete the correct number of items in each area to be eligible for Block "MV".
4. Each check off item will only be counted once.
5. The office will not accept the application for consideration without the teacher's signature.
6. Students who are eliminated from more than one PBIS Activity or suspended from school are **NOT** eligible for Block "MV".
7. Students who are referred to the office for disciplinary measures, may be disqualified from the Block "MV" Award as determined by Administration.
8. Final consideration for Block "MV" is processed through Administration.
9. All deadlines are final and late submittals will **NOT** be accepted.

Mind: Academic Performance – 4 Items Needed Each Semester

Classroom Teacher/Activity Advisor signs off the following items:

GPA REQUIREMENTS

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must achieve the following:

Principal's Honor Roll Award - GPA of 4.0 needed per quarter and no marks of "N" on report card.

Honor Roll Award - GPA of 3.0-3.9 needed per quarter and no marks of "N" on report card.

MATH FACTS MASTERY

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must adhere to all of the following:

- Master all four Math Facts (+,-,x,/ in under 4 minutes, three times each)
- May only be earned 1 time per year

PRINCIPAL'S MATH ALL STAR

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must adhere to all of the following:

- Master all four Math Facts (+,-,x,/ in under 3 minutes, three times each)
- May only be earned 1 time per year

HUNGRY BEAR READER AWARD

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must adhere to all of the following:

- Meet the full quarterly reading goals for the AR Program for the specific grade level.
- May be earned every quarter

ESSAY CONTEST

Students may complete an essay for a community, school, or district sponsored contest. Contests will be provided each quarter and announcements will be made about their due dates.

- Contest entry must be approved by the classroom teacher and be submitted on time.
- Teacher's signature is required to receive credit for Block "MV".

iReady MATH AND READING TYPICAL GROWTH

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must meet their typical growth target score on the second or third iReady diagnostic

- Can be earned in both Math and Reading in either semester
- Each (Math or Reading) can be earned only once

iReady MATH AND READING STRETCH GROWTH

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must meet their stretch growth target score on the second or third iReady diagnostic

- Can be earned in both Math and Reading in either semester
- Each (Math or Reading) can be earned only once

GATE

In order to be signed off for this item, the GATE qualified student must adhere to all of the following:

- Attend GATE meetings regularly, participating and contributing in a positive manner
- Complete all projects designated by Site GATE Coordinator
- This may be earned only at the end of the second semester

Chess Club

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must adhere to all of the following:

- Attend Chess Club meetings regularly, participating and contributing in a positive manner

**THE FOLLOWING MIND CATEGORY OPPORTUNITIES ARE TO BE
PHASED IN AS THE PROGRAMS DEVELOP ON SITE – NOT ALL OF THESE
MAY BE AVAILABLE THIS ACADEMIC YEAR**

SCIENCE FAIR PARTICIPATION

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must adhere to all of the following:

- Apply to be involved in Science Fair.
- Attend Science Fair meetings.
- Know how to access Science Fair resources on the school’s website.
- Know how to download Science Fair forms in the school’s library.
- Conduct an original Science Fair experiment.
- Keep a Science Fair log.
- Complete an original Science Fair board project of high quality (as determined by instructor).
- Complete **ALL** of the requirements for Science Fair as discussed at the Science Fair Meeting.
- Science Fair teacher signs off for Block “MV” credit.

DESTINATION IMAGINATION (DI)

Destination Imagination is an organized activity where students form teams which are challenged to find practical solutions to a variety of hypothetical problems. Teams from throughout the area compete on both long term projects and spontaneous problem solving.

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must adhere to all of the following:

- Participate in one DI Team Challenge.
- Participate in one district level competition.
- Complete **ALL** of the requirements for DI as discussed at the DI Meeting.
- For more information, please go to: www.idodi.org
- DI Teacher/Coach signs off for Block “MV” credit.

ROBOTICS PARTICIPATION

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must adhere to all of the following:

- Participate on a Mountain View Robotics team.
- Participate in a district level competition.
- Complete **ALL** of the requirements for Robotics as discussed at the Robotics Meeting.
- Robotics teacher/coach signs off for Block “MV” credit.

HISTORY DAY PARTICIPATION

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must adhere to all of the following:

- Apply to be involved in History Day.
- Attend History Day meetings.
- Complete and enter a History Day project of high quality (as determined by instructor) in the Mountain View History Day Fair.
- Complete **ALL** of the requirements for History Day as discussed at the History Day meeting.
- For more information, please go to: www.nhd.org.
- History Day teacher signs off for Block “MV” credit.

SPELLING BEE

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must adhere to all of the following:

- Take the district written spelling test to try out for the Mountain View Spelling Bee Team
- Attend Spelling Bee Practices
- Complete **ALL** of the requirements for Spelling Bee as discussed at the Spelling Bee meeting
- Spelling Bee Coach signs off for Block “MV” Credit

Commitment to Character – 2 items needed each semester

Golden Bear Award

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must achieve the following:

- Be recognized at quarterly awards for outstanding effort in the classroom
- May be earned once per year

Broncomania Character Award

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must achieve the following:

- Be recognized at any of the CN Broncomania events for demonstrating outstanding character on their school athletic team
- May be earned once per semester

Character of the Month Award

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must achieve the following:

- Be recognized at quarterly awards for outstanding character at school
- May be earned once per year

PBIS Reward

In order to check off this item, the student shall:

- Earn the PBIS Reward Activity at the end of the quarter
- May be earned each quarter of the school year

Body- Athletics: 5th and 6th graders – 2 items / 4th Graders – 1 items

Mountain View provides a variety of athletic programs for students. The goals of our athletic program are: (1) to provide opportunities for students to participate in and experience athletic competition at levels and in contexts appropriate to their needs, experience, and skill, (2) to teach and develop proficiency in the skills associated with each sport in contexts appropriate to the student's needs, and (3) to develop the personal qualities of discipline, commitment, teamwork, and sportsmanship associated with being a member of a team. The sports programs at Mountain View are an important part of the overall instructional program aimed at developing the well-rounded individual. All students in the upper grades are encouraged to participate. Students who enter their sport season with a 2.0 GPA will be required to complete and submit a weekly progress report to give to their coach. Please see the Athletic Handbook on policy regarding student athletes and grades.

- Students who participate in athletics will be placed on "A", "B", or "C" teams based on skill level, experience, and participation except track. To earn Track item credit, athlete must participate in at least one track meet. (See Athletic Handbook for specifications)
- Participation on a team for the full season must be in accordance with the athletic "**Code of Participation.**" Team membership is open to all students who want to participate however, in

some cases students must “tryout” for roster positions on the teams due to league rules and the limited space available on playing fields.

- **Students who enroll at Mountain View after the season has begun** may receive credit if they participate for at least 50 percent of the season.
- The coach must sign off for participation.

<u>FALL</u>	<u>WINTER</u>	<u>SPRING</u>
Cross Country Football Girl's Volleyball Cheer Squad	Girl's Basketball Boy's Basketball Wrestling Cheer Squad	Boy's Baseball Girl's Softball Boy's Volleyball Track Cheer Squad

Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA) - Healthy Fitness Zone

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must adhere to all of the following:

- Meet the requirements for the student’s specific age to earn this award

Superintendent’s Physical Fitness Award

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must adhere to all of the following:

- Meet the requirements for the student’s specific age to earn this award

Spirit: Leadership and School Service – 3 Items needed

STUDENT COUNCIL

In order to check off this item, the student shall:

- RUN for a student body office in the fall or spring, even if not elected, student earns only 1 item.
- Be elected to a student body office and serve for the full term in accordance with the "**Code of Participation**" in the fall or spring, **student shall earn only 1 item.**
- Student Council Teacher/Advisor signs off for Block “MV” credit.

DRAMA

In order to check off this item, the student shall:

- Sign up and attend all required drama rehearsals
- Participate in all of the school’s drama productions
- Follow all of the requirements as discussed at the drama meeting
- Drama Coach signs off for Block “MV” credit

KIDS ON PATROL (KOPs)

Students participating as members of the KOPS teams are expected to follow all school rules while helping others to be safe in the hallways. In order to check off this item, the student shall:

- Complete the application/contract for KOPS
- Fulfill their commitment on each assigned day and time every week
- KOPs Advisor signs off for Block “MV” credit

KID NATION

Kid Nation is an ongoing opportunity for our students to celebrate diversity and help others gain a broader understanding and appreciation for the cultures that make our society great. In order to check off this item, the student shall:

- Attend Kid Nation meetings regularly (90% attendance)
- Participate fully in activities and discussions
- Kid Nation Advisor signs off for Block “MV” credit

LIBRARY APPRENTICE

A Library Apprentice completes tasks such as working at the circulation desk, shelving books, assisting students and visitors, tidying the library and other jobs as assigned. Sign-ups for Library Assistant will only occur **once per quarter**. Application deadlines are final. Late applications will not be accepted.

In order to check off this item, the student shall:

- Apply on the designated days (once per quarter) and be selected by the Library Technician.
- Be selected and serve as a Library Assistant within the time frame designated by the Library Technician.
- Work in the Library Media Center as scheduled by the Library Technician.
- Required service must be completed prior to the Block “MV” turn in deadline.
- Library Technician signs off for Block “MV” credit

PEER MEDIATION

The Mountain View Peer Mediation Teams are open to students in grades 4-6. These groups may assist with multicultural activities, supervision and encouragement of school rules, and mediation of minor disagreements or misunderstandings among students .

In order to check off this item, students shall:

- Serve on the Peer Mediation Team in accordance with the Code of Participation for the entire semester.
- Complete the training and fulfill duty requirements.
- The Peer Mediation advisor signs off for Block “MV” credit.

MV TRASH CREW

The MV Trash Crew serves the school by volunteering their time at lunch to help keep the campus clean. In order to check off this item, students shall:

- Work under the direction of the Trash Crew Advisor to clean areas of campus
- Adhere to the schedule provided and be a productive member of the clean-up crew
- The Trash Crew advisor signs off for Block “MV” credit.

CARE BEARS CLUB

As part of The Care Bears Club, students serve their peers by providing support in the classroom or playground. In order to check off this item, students shall:

- Apply with supervising teachers and abide by all classroom rules and requests of the teacher
- Adhere to the scheduled times/tasks assigned by supervising teacher
- The Care Bears Advisor signs off for Block “MV” Credit

LUNCH HELPERS

As assigned by teacher, in order to check off this item, students shall:

- Complete a full week’s duties serving in the cafeteria
- Assist with cleanup each day at the conclusion of their lunch service
- Lunch Helpers are signed off by their classroom teacher.

Spirit: Performing Arts
4th, 5th & 6th graders need 2 items per semester

Participation in the performing arts improves the whole student. It is an outlet for creativity, and the opportunity to become skilled in a craft.

The following activities qualify for **Block “MV”** credit:

BAND/ORCHESTRA

- Student must complete the entire year of band/orchestra instruction.
- Student must perform at all school band/orchestra events, and pass all required skills tests.
- Band/Orchestra Director’s signature is required to receive credit for Block “MV”.

CHOIR

- Student must complete the entire year of choir instruction.
- Student must perform at all school choral events and festivals.
- Choir Director’s signature is required to receive credit for Block “MV”.

4th Grade Music (Vocal Music and Recorder)

- Student must complete the entire year of Music instruction.
- Student must perform at all school choral events as scheduled.
- Student must earn a Satisfactory (S) or Outstanding (O) during each quarter for their participation.
- Music Director’s signature is required to receive credit for Block “MV”.

ART OR POSTER CONTEST

Students may complete an art piece, a poster, or an essay for a community, school, or district sponsored contest.

- Contest entry must be approved by the classroom teacher and be submitted on time.
- Teacher’s signature is required to receive credit for Block “MV”.

ORAL INTERPRETATION

Oral Interpretation is a way for students to practice their drama, reading, and memorization skills while having FUN! Through recital and choreography, students perform a selected poem, passage, or skit. Participants compete against other Clovis Unified Schools at a district-wide competition to be held in February.

In order to be signed off for this item, the student must adhere to all of the following:

- Apply to be involved with Oral Interpretation
- Attend Oral Interpretation meetings and rehearsals
- Complete **ALL** of the requirements for Oral Interpretation as discussed at the Oral Interpretation meeting
- Participate in the district level competition

Oral Interpretation Advisor signs off for Block “MV” Credit

Spirit: Service Learning – 1 Item Needed

The goal behind the Service Learning section is to encourage children at a young age to be positive contributors in our community. Students must commit to **1.5 hours** of community service during each semester school year with a community organization. Please clear your organization with your child's teacher.

Examples include, but aren't limited to:

- SPCA
- Community Food Bank
- Poverello House

In order to check off this item, students shall:

- Be actively involved in a community organization by volunteering a minimum of 3 hours within the school year.
- Complete the Service Learning Form, including a brief description narrative written by the student describing what service they performed and how it benefitted the community.
- Parents **MAY NOT** sign off their own children in this category, and the action of the child should have an obvious positive impact on the greater community.
- Complete one item in this category.

CODE OF PARTICIPATION

"Being the Best We Can Be"

The Mountain View Co-Curricular program is an integral part of our total school program. It is an opportunity to allow all students to acquire progressively the skills, knowledge, and attitudes that lead to maximum development within their individual capabilities. It also affords the child an opportunity to develop social skills needed in order to be a well-adjusted individual. When students elect to participate in a co-curricular program (i.e., chorus, sports, etc.), they must recognize that they have assumed certain responsibilities and obligations to the coach advisor, to the members of the activity, and certainly to themselves.

Mountain View School will maintain a "no cut" policy for all athletic teams. We encourage each and every child who has a desire to be part of a team while giving each individual the maximum amount of playing time possible.

Upon entering any sport or other co-curricular activity, students agree to participate in accordance with the Code of Participation. The code is enforced commencing with the second week of practice.

- Students are required to attend practice/rehearsal as established for the activity. Absences or tardies may be excused as with classroom attendance. The participant has the obligation to clear these with the teacher or coach.

- Students joining a sport or other co-curricular activity will be given one week grace period to determine whether they wish to continue with the activity throughout the entire season. The student and/or athlete will not arbitrarily or unilaterally "quit" a sport, activity, band, chorus, etc. After the grace period, the student may drop the activity only after consultation between the student, parent, coach or advisor and principal.

- Students are expected to respect and properly care for all property and/or equipment issued in conjunction with the activity. Team uniforms are the property of the school. Students who negligently lose or cause undue damage to a uniform will be charged for its replacement.
- Students will maintain a satisfactory level of scholarship ("C" average) and demonstrate satisfactory behavior and citizenship.

CODE OF ETHICS

1. The student will be respectful of his/her teammates, opponents, and all supervising adults.
2. The student will contribute as well as encourage others to contribute in their efforts towards the team's success.
3. The student should inspire competitiveness in teammates without personal antagonism toward the opposing team.
4. The student will be a gracious and humble winner.
5. The student will elect to place team betterment over individual accomplishment.

CERTIFICATION OF AWARD RECIPIENTS

STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY - STEP ONE

1. All students in grades 4-6 will complete and maintain the Block "MV" worksheet throughout the school year by adhering to all sign up, sign off, and due dates.
2. Each student will complete appropriate forms and gather signatures as required prior to due date.
3. Students registering credit in the "Service Learning" category must turn in the form.
4. Each student will turn in his/her completed form to the teacher by the specified date.

TEACHER'S RESPONSIBILITY - STEP TWO

1. The teacher, advisor or coach will regularly monitor and review the completed form with all students.
2. The teacher will review the students'/class' progress and goals on a periodic basis.
3. The teacher will verify all category items and signed forms.
4. The teacher will submit the forms of those who have met the criteria for the award to the *Block "MV" Certification Committee*.
5. Students whose forms are submitted to the certification committee are considered *CANDIDATES* for the award.

PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITY - STEP THREE

1. The parent will monitor school newsletters, their child's planner, and the marquee for information regarding Block "MV".
2. The parent will discuss with the child which activities they will participate in to ensure thoughtful planning.
3. The parent will review their child's progress and goals on a periodic basis.
4. The parent will submit any and all questions to the classroom teacher as soon as they arise.

BLOCK "MV" CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE - STEP FOUR

1. The committee will consist of the principal, the G.I.S., and three lead teachers.
2. The committee will review the forms of all candidates in order to verify accuracy and, more importantly, to ensure consistency in interpretation among the classrooms.
3. The committee will consider all matters where credit may be in dispute and make the decision.
4. The committee will certify and announce the EXEMPLARY RAMS, inform parents, and schedule the Block "MV" Award Program.

“Be the best you can be in Mind, Body, and Spirit”



FALL SEMESTER 2023-24
Block MV– Community Involvement/School Service Form
DUE to classroom teacher – January 26, 2024

Student: _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____ Room _____
(please, clearly print name)

In order to receive credit for the Community Involvement/School Service Section, students must volunteer at the school site or a community organization for a minimum of 1.5 hours during the Fall Semester of the 2023-24 school year. The list below is meant to be a guideline. Please check with your child’s teacher to ensure your volunteer organization meets the requirement. The following examples below are examples of acceptable organizations:

- SPCA
- Poverello House
- Community Food Bank
- Children’s Hospital
- Other (to be authorized by the child’s teacher) _____

I hereby request that the above checked item count toward my community involvement as sponsored by _____ during this school year.

Name of sponsoring organization

My leader, supervisor, or representative of the above organization has judged my participation (1.5 volunteer hours during the Fall Semester) to be satisfactory and in keeping with the spirit of the Mountain View Code of Participation as certified by his/her signature below. This activity meets the criteria for the Community Involvement/School Service category as outlined in the Block MV Handbook.

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

SPONSOR CERTIFICATION

I certify that the individual named above volunteered for 1.5 hours during the Fall Semester 2023-24 school year as a member of the organization indicated above and has actively participated in a consistent and acceptable manner. I recommend that s/he be granted credit toward the Mountain View Block MV Award for Community Involvement/School Service. If you have any questions, you may contact me at this phone number _____.

Print Name

Signature

Title

Name of Organization

Date

