

Cole Exemplary Block "C" Award

BLOCK "C" (EXEMPLARY BULLDOG AWARD): The Exemplary Bulldog Award is the highest award a student may earn at Cole. Block "C" is available to fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students, and is awarded at the end of each semester. The criteria for earning this award reflects a broad base of participation, achievement, and service.

The purpose of this award is to recognize well-rounded individuals who exemplify the qualities that Cole hopes to foster in all of its students: 1) desire for self-improvement; 2) dedication/commitment in reaching goals; 3) concern for and service to others; and 4) willingness to be a positive role model to others.

A student need not be a "superstar" to earn this award; however, he/she must be one who is an active participant in school activities, engaged in the pursuit of excellence, and willing to meet high standards of achievement. Individuals earning this prestigious award will receive a beautiful Block "C" plaque and a medallion presented at the Block "C" Award nights. Students who receive the award each of the six semesters will receive special recognition at the second semester ceremony of their sixth grade year.

Parents are asked to monitor their child's progress throughout the semester. Students need to be encouraged not to quit a team or activity and reminded periodically about the options available for participation. Please avoid a last minute rush to determine whether or not the student should receive the award.

OVERVIEW OF CATEGORIES: There are five categories in which students must earn points. Points vary per category. The categories include: Mind, Academics, Fine Arts, Athletics, and Student Leadership and Volunteerism. Teachers will review the items with interested students. Many of the items in each category are self-explanatory; those that require an explanation are listed below.

MIND

Star Testing – Students who score Proficient or Advanced on the STAR test in Language Arts or Math the previous spring may receive one point in the fall semester.

LAFT Testing – Students who score Proficient or Advanced on a LAFT test in the spring semester may receive one point.

Principal's Writing Club – Students may write an essay about any of the Character Traits or another topic of interest to the student. The topic must be approved by the Principal. Minimum word requirements are: 4th grade, 250 words; 5th grade, 300 words; 6th grade, 350 words. Essays must be neatly written or typed AND must be edited for grammar, spelling and punctuation. Essays with more than five errors will not receive credit.

ACADEMICS

Academic Enrichment – Students may choose from the following to earn this point.

- a. **Read** two award winning books. **Write** a comparative essay in final draft form. (See minimum word requirements under Principal's Writing Club.) **Submit** to your teacher.

- b. **Read** two books (at least 100 pages) of different genres. **Create a commercial** using PowerPoint, video, poster, brochure, 3-D design, or other project (approved by teacher) comparing the two books. **Include** author, title, highlights only. **Submit** to your teacher.
- c. **Invent a spelling game** that can be used in either primary or upper grade to play weekly with any list of spelling words. **Write** clear directions. **Create** and include all of the parts and pieces necessary to play the game. **Submit** to your teacher.
- d. **Create a project about a famous person in history, based on your grade level social studies focus** (4th grade – California; 5th grade – United States; 6th grade – Ancient World). Create a video, PowerPoint, skit, first-person narrative, brochure, 3-D design, diorama, or other project (approved by teacher). **Submit** to your teacher.

FINE ARTS

Poster Series – Design a series of three **wellness posters** reflecting a specific theme. **Themes** may include, but are not limited to healthy eating, Character Counts, anti-bullying, physical fitness, etc. Teachers must approve theme and rough draft. **Posters** should be completed on 12 X 18” paper, be in full color, neat, and in final-draft form.

Multicultural Awareness – Students must attend three meetings of Cole’s Multicultural Club. Students may either write an essay recording what they learned and participated in at each meeting OR draw two pictures on 8 ½ X 11” paper showing something they learned about a culture at the meeting. Student should share the essay or pictures at one of the meetings.

Community Fine Arts Participation – Students may participate in an organized fine arts activity or group such as a regional choir, community play, arts classes, etc. Advisor must sign verification form.

ATHLETICS

Bulldog Fitness Club – This is for students involved in a sports activity outside of school or who want to complete a weekly personal exercise activity. Students must complete and log an average of two hours per week for a nine-week period. A parent or coach must sign the verification form. Students may also choose to exercise at school during their recess and have the teacher on yard duty sign the form. Activities that can count towards the Bulldog Fitness Club include, but are not limited to: soccer, Karate, gymnastics, dance, running, walking, biking, etc.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP & VOLUNTEERISM

Community Involvement – Students may choose from the following to earn this point:

- a. **Complete five** hours of community service such as picking-up trash in a park, planting flowers for a neighbor, service with an organized church or non-profit group, etc. Parent/Advisor must sign verification form.
- b. **Select** a community or current event issue you are concerned about. **Research** the topic. **Write a letter** to the editor of The Fresno Bee or the mayor stating your concerns AND your ideas to solve the problem. **Have your teacher approve the letter before sending.**

If you have any questions, please ask your child’s teacher well in advance of the deadline for turning in the Block C application. Students should verify their points at least two weeks prior to the end of the semester.

