



2017-2018

BLOCK "N" HANDBOOK

Nelson's Block "N" Overview

The Block N Award is the highest award a student may earn at Nelson Elementary. The Block N Award is available to 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students and is awarded to all recipients at our special Block N recognition program at the end of each Semester.

In keeping with the spirit of Clovis philosophy to "be the best you can be," the areas and activities in which students can earn points have been grouped into these three domains: Mind, Body, and Spirit. Students must earn points in all 3 categories below.

Mind

Activities in this domain have to do with intellectual and artistic development.

Body

Activities and requirements in this domain have to do with physical development (physical fitness and athletics).

Spirit

The activities grouped in this domain have to do with character development. They are designated to provide opportunities for the development of such character attributes as caring for and service to others, active citizenship, cooperativeness, responsibility, and dedication.

Students who have earned the following total number of points will receive the Block N plaque and/or disc. Points are earned as a result of participation and/or achievement in the given domains.

	<u>First Semester</u>	<u>Second Semester</u>
Grade 4	22 points	22 points
Grade 5	24 points	24 points
Grade 6	24 points	24 points

The purpose of this award is to recognize individuals who exemplify the qualities that Nelson hopes to foster in all students: (1) the desire for self-improvement, (2) setting and reaching goals, (3) concern for and service to others, and (4) the willingness to be a positive role model to others.

In order to receive this award, a student need not be the "star" of his or her activity, but he/she must be an active and enthusiastic participant in the activities of the school, engage in the pursuit of excellence, and meet certain standards of achievement and performance. Individuals earning this prestigious award for the first time will receive the Nelson Block N plaque. Each semester thereafter, recipients will receive a medallion to be added to their plaque.

It is not necessary for a student to participate in every activity to achieve this award. There are numerous ways a student may receive the Block N award. **It is suggested**

that students, along with their parents and teacher, discuss and plan for this award at the beginning of each semester. This helps eliminate students over-extending themselves while encouraging others to participate. In the sections that follow, specific guidelines and requirements governing the earning of points in each domain are discussed.

Special Note: *We recognize that many Nelson students are involved in activities not sponsored or supported by our school programs. While we acknowledge the value of such activities, participation points will NOT be awarded for Block N purposes. All Block N points will be awarded for participation in Nelson activities only.*

General Rules

1. Students must complete the season or activity and be a member in good standing to earn points.
2. Students who drop out of a sport or activity after a two week grace period could become ineligible for the Block N award.
3. Students must have earned the correct number of points and must earn points in all three categories to be eligible for Block N.
4. All advisor/teachers/coach's initials must be present.
5. Once signatures have been obtained students must turn in their Block N form to GIS/Miss Monica for final signature.
6. Please note that eligibility for Block N Award requires a student to remain eligible each quarter for the PA activity. Students that are referred to the office for a proven moderate or major offense will be disqualified from Block N.

Block "N" DUE DATES:

Fall Semester: August 21, 2017 – January 19, 2018

Block N Forms Due to GIS/Miss Monica: Wednesday, January 24, 2018 @ 4:00pm

Spring Semester: January 22 – June 8, 2018

Block N Forms Due to GIS/Miss Monica: Friday, May 18, 2018 @ 4:00pm

*****Students will use grades from Progress Reports on May 16, 2018***

Mind

HONOR ROLL

1. Principals Honor Roll (All A's, GPA of 4.0) = 3 points/quarter
2. Honor Roll (GPA of 3.0 – 3.99) = 1 point/quarter - No D's or F's

Vocabulary Mastery

1. Vocabulary Mastery Award = 4 points/*1 semester only*
2. To qualify, students must demonstrate mastery by being able to define and/or write all vocabulary words in a sentence during the first or second semester.

Big Four Math Award

1. Big Four Award = 4 points/semester
2. To qualify, students must demonstrate mastery of the basic arithmetic facts by scoring 100% on the 100 fact sheet in three minutes, three times during each semester in the following areas: Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, and 90 Division.
3. During the second semester students can receive 2 points for the Big Four Math Award (if students have already passed the first semester). Students must pass with 100% accuracy on all four of the 100 fact sheets three times in two minutes. To ensure maintenance of these skills, students must requalify each semester.

Computer Standards Award

1. Computer Standards Award = 2 points/semester
2. To qualify, students must complete the following criteria:
 - 4th grade: Master all 22 lessons of the alphabet
 - 5th grade: Earn a 70% or better on all assignments and tests.
 - 6th grade: Earn a 70% or better on all assignments and tests.

Reading Medallion for AR

1. Reading Medallion = 4 points/semester
2. To qualify for Reading Medallion, students must earn the following AR points each semester. Points will be verified and awarded by the Librarian based on the following grade-level requirements:
 - Grade 4: 40 AR points with 80% comprehension
 - Grade 5: 45 AR points with 80% comprehension
 - Grade 6: 45 AR points with 80% comprehension

Perfect Attendance

1. Perfect Attendance = 2 points/quarter
2. To Qualify for Perfect Attendance, students must have their attendance verified by the registrar based on the following criteria:
 - Students with perfect attendance (no absences) or unexcused tardies
 - Students who complete an Independent Study (IS) contract are not counted as absent. The independent study contract must be initiated prior to the absence in accordance with district policy, completed and turned in the first day of return. The Independent Study work must earn a passing grade to count toward perfect attendance and can only be used for consecutive absences of 5 or more days

Essay Contest

1. Essay Contest = 1 point/quarter
2. To qualify, students must submit a completed essay which is acceptable to the classroom teacher for entry into a competition.

Poster/Art Contest

1. Poster/Art Contest = 1 point/quarter
2. To qualify, students must submit a completed poster/art project which is acceptable to the classroom teacher for entry into a competition.

Oral Interpretation (second semester only)

1. Oral Interpretation = 2 points/quarter
2. To qualify for Oral Interpretation, students must attend scheduled practices and participate/maintain appropriate behavior at the festival, as verified by OI faculty advisor.

Destination Imagination (first semester only)

1. Destination Imagination = 2 points/quarter
2. To qualify for Destination Imagination, students must participate/attend team trainings and practices, as verified by the DI Faculty Advisor, and participate at the District competition.

Robotics (first semester only)

1. Robotics = 2 points/quarter
2. To qualify for Robotics, students must participate on a Robotics team.
3. Student is expected to attend practices and competitions and abide by the Nelson/CUSD Code of Participation and Ethics while participating in Robotics activities, as verified by Robotics advisor.

GATE

1. GATE = 2 points/quarter
2. To qualify for GATE, students must meet all the responsibilities of the GATE program. These responsibilities and requirements will be outlined at GATE parent and student sessions.
3. GATE advisor will verify participation/behavior and award points.

Drama

1. Drama = 2 points/quarter
2. To qualify for Drama, students must participate in Nelson's Drama Club or a CUSD school Drama Production and attend practices, as verified by Drama advisor.
3. Students who drop or are permanently dismissed from the Drama program due to disciplinary reasons will not receive points for Block N.

Band

1. Band = 3 points/semester
2. Qualifying fifth and sixth grade students must participate in the Nelson Instrumental Band Program and attend all performances.
3. Students who drop or are permanently dismissed from the music program due to disciplinary reasons will not receive Block N points.

Orchestra

1. Orchestra = 3 points/semester
2. Qualifying fifth and sixth grade students must participate in the Nelson Orchestra Program and attend all performances.
3. Students who drop or are permanently dismissed from the Orchestra Program due to disciplinary reasons will not receive Block N points.

Choir

1. Choir = 3 points/semester
2. Qualifying fourth, fifth and sixth grade students must participate in the Nelson Choir Program and attend all performances.
3. Students who drop or are permanently dismissed from the choir program due to disciplinary reasons will not receive Block N points.

Science Fair (first semester only)

1. Science Fair = 2 points/quarter
2. To qualify for Science Fair students must submit a completed (with a completed board) science project in the Nelson Science Fair.
3. Those students who go on to Fresno County Science fair can earn 1 point for the second semester.

History Day (second semester only)

1. History Day = 2 points/quarter
2. To qualify for History Day students must enter and submit a completed History Day project to the county, as verified and approved by History Day advisor.

Spelling Bee (second semester only)

1. Spelling Bee = 1 point during 3rd Quarter
2. To qualify for Spelling Bee students must try out for Spelling Bee and attend scheduled practice sessions, as verified by Spelling Bee advisor.
3. If student advances to the county level of competition he/she will earn an additional point for the 4th quarter.

Body

Athletic Equipment Manager

1. Athletic Manager = 3 points/per athletic season
2. To qualify for Athletic Manager students must serve as a Sports Manager for any sport throughout the entire season and abide by the terms of the “Code of Participation and Ethics.”
3. Students that quit or have to be removed from the manager’s position for disciplinary reasons will not receive Block N points.

Athletic Teams

1. Athletic teams = 3 points/ per athletic season
2. To qualify for Athletic teams, students must participate on the team for the full season in accordance with a signed “Code of Participation and Ethics.” contract.
3. Students who enroll at Nelson after the season has begun may receive Block N points if they participate for at least 50 percent of the season.
4. Students who quit or have to be removed from the team for disciplinary reasons will not earn Block N points.
5. Teams include:
 - 1st Semester Sports
 - Football (5th and 6th grade)
 - Girls Volleyball (5th and 6th grade)
 - Cross Country (4th, 5th, and 6th grade)
 - Boys/Girls Basketball (5th and 6th grade)
 - Wrestling (4th, 5th, and 6th grade)

2nd Semester Sports

- Softball (5th and 6th grade)
- Baseball (5th and 6th grade)
- Boys Volleyball (5th and 6th grade)
- Track (4th, 5th, and 6th grade)
- Pentathlon (4th, 5th, and 6th grade)

Cheerleading

1. Cheerleading = 3 points/1st & 2nd Quarter
2. Cheerleading is offered for 4th, 5th, & 6th grade students. Students must participate as a cheerleader in accordance with the “Code of Participation and Ethics” and cheerleader participation contract. In order to receive Block N points, cheerleaders must attend the following events:
 - All home games (fall and winter) and rallies
 - Attend all practices
 - Football Carnival
 - Donuts with Dad, Muffins with Mom, and Goodies with Grandparents
 - All assigned school events

Students removed from the cheerleading squad for disciplinary reasons will not earn Block N points.

Competition Cheer

1. Competition Cheer = 3 points for 2nd Semester
2. Competition cheer tryouts are offered to all 4th, 5th, & 6th cheerleaders. Students who make the competition squad must participate in accordance with the “Code of Participation and Ethics” contract. In order to receive Block N points, competition cheerleaders must attend the following events:
 - After school practices & Saturday practices
 - Clovis West Spirit Night
 - Clovis West Showcase
 - Rally
 - Assigned school events

Students removed from the competition cheer squad for disciplinary reasons will not earn Block N points.

Spirit Squad

1. Spirit Squad = 1 point/per Quarter
2. Spirit Squad is offered to all interested 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students who participated in cheer tryouts. All members are expected to participate in accordance with the “Code of Participation and Ethics.” In order to receive Block N points, spirit squad members must attend the following events and practices:
 - Practice at lunch
 - Perform at Spirit Night
 - Cheer at Nelson football and basketball games
 - Assigned school events

Students removed from the spirit squad for disciplinary reasons will not earn Block N points.

Healthy Zone: P.E. (3rd quarter only)

1. Healthy Fitness Zone = 1 point
2. Students achieving “Healthy Fitness Zone” in all areas of the Physical Fitness Assessment will receive one Block N point during the 3rd quarter.
3. The five areas include: Sit and reach, mile run, modified pull-ups, trunk lift, and curl-ups.

Spirit

Student Council

Student Council = 1-3 points/semester

Candidates running for student council must fulfill all standards and expectations; turn in an application and speech on time, make a campaign poster, and give a speech to the student body.

1. Students NOT elected will receive one (1) point for running for office.
2. Students will receive two (2) points for being a classroom representative.
3. Students will receive three (3) points for being elected into office.

Student Council Members and Classroom Representatives must serve for the full term in accordance with the “Code of Participation and Ethics.” All officers/classroom representatives must serve for the entire semester. Members or representatives that regularly miss scheduled meetings will not receive Block N points.

School/Volunteer Service (Teacher/Administration Discretion)

All students have the opportunity to make worthwhile contributions to Nelson and earn one (1) point in this category. Students, teachers, event coordinators, and/or the administration may agree upon a school service project or task *prior* to the onset of a project. Volunteers must be in good academic standing and have teacher permission if volunteer service overlaps with any class time. Events available but not limited to:

- Santa Store (delivery after school)
- Spring Carnival
- PA Event set-up or clean up
- Event/Assembly Set-up/Breakdown
- Snack bar assistant to PTC
- Cross-Age Tutor/Reader

In order to receive a point in this category, a Service Validation form must be completed and submitted with the Block N point verification form at the end of each semester. The form will include a description of the volunteer service or project, and the teacher's/administrator's/event coordinator's signature indicating satisfactory completion.

Cafeteria Worker

1. Cafeteria Worker = 1 point/quarter
2. Students are given the opportunity to assist the cafeteria manager in serving lunches.
3. The cafeteria manager will validate that the student has worked in the cafeteria at least five (5) lunch periods during the course of the quarter.
4. If a student is absent or is unable to work on an assigned day, he/she should arrange with the classroom teacher/cafeteria manager for a "make-up" day.

Campus Beautification

All students have the opportunity to volunteer their time to make Nelson the cleanest campus in CUSD.

1. Campus Beautification = 1 point/quarter
2. Students interested in campus beautification must schedule with GIS five (5) 20 minute sessions of campus beautification, these sessions may be at lunch recess or after school. Jobs include but are not limited to:
 - Trash pick up
 - Weed pulling
 - Sweeping
 - Washing walls

Library Worker

1. Library worker = 1 point/quarter
2. Library workers sign up through the librarian and will work in the Media Center at least five (5) days during the quarter.
3. The Library workers tasks include: working at the circulation desk, shelving books, assisting students and visitors, assisting with computers, tidying the library, and other jobs as assigned.

Lunchtime Equipment Managers

1. Lunchtime Equipment Managers = 1 point/quarter
2. Students will transfer equipment daily to south side of MPR for classroom pickup after lunch.
3. Students who fail to complete their responsibilities will not receive points for Block N.
4. Students interested in this task will sign up with GIS for one quarter.

Lost & Found

1. Lost and Found Assistants = 1 point/quarter
2. Students interested in assisting the Resource Teacher in organizing the lost and found box will sign up for one day a week per quarter.

**Nelson's BLOCK "N" SCHOOL SERVICE
VALIDATION FORM**

_____GIS/Principal Approved School Project (prior to project)

Name: _____ Grade: _____ Fall/Spring

Description of volunteer service or project at school: _____

Responsibilities include: _____

Outcomes of this project include: _____

Teacher/Administrator

signature _____

Signature of teacher/administrator verifies that the above named student did fulfill their one week of responsibilities as outlined on this form prior to their volunteered time doing a service for you.