

Block G Guidelines

The Block "G" Award is an award used to recognize students involved in all areas of our school. The Block "G" Award can be earned by all fourth, fifth and sixth grade students and is available each semester. The criteria for this award reflects well rounded participation and service, as well as achievement. Recognition of students who earn Block "G" is done each semester, culminating at the end of the school year with a family formal reception.

In keeping with the spirit of the 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 listed 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 designed 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 "G" 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	20 points	22 points
Grade 5	22 points	22 points
Grade 6	22 points	22 points

The purpose of this award is to recognize those "well rounded" individuals who exemplify the qualities that Garfield hopes to foster in every student, namely: (1) the desire for self-improvement; (2) dedication and commitment in 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, engaged in the pursuit of excellence and have met certain standards of achievement and performance. Individuals earning this prestigious award will receive a Block "G" engraved plaque and/or discs. Thereafter, a student will receive a **disc** to be added to their plaque upon meeting the Block "G" requirements each semester.

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 this award, striving for it will hopefully enrich and enhance his or her educational foundation.

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 "G" 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 category are discussed.

Special Note: We recognize that many Garfield students are involved in activities not sponsored or supported by our school programs. While we acknowledge the value of such activities, participation points will **NO LONGER** be awarded for Block G purposes. All Block G points will be awarded for participation in Garfield activities only.

Mind

HONOR ROLL

1. Principal's Honor Roll (All A's, GPA of 4.0)= 3 points/quarter
2. High Honor Roll (GPA of 3.5-3.99)= 2 points/quarter
3. Honor Roll (GPA of 3.0-3.49)= 1 point/quarter

COMPETENCY AREAS

B.E.A.R. (Be Excited About Reading) AWARD

1. Two (2) points per quarter will be verified and awarded by the classroom teacher based on the Accelerated Reader requirements for earning B.E.A.R. Students **must** earn the B.E.A.R. award in order to receive 4 points per semester.

BLUE RIBBON CUB

Each quarter teachers will select students from his/her class who have shown outstanding citizenship and achievement both inside and outside the classroom.

1. A student chosen for this award will receive 2 points in the semester received.

ACADEMIC ALL-STAR

Each quarter teachers will select students from his/her class who have shown outstanding effort in any selected subject area.

1. A student chosen for this award will receive 2 points in the semester received.

ESSAY/SPEECH CONTEST PARTICIPATION

(Participation means submitting a completed essay or speech which is acceptable to the teacher for entry into a competition.)

1. A student whose essay or speech earns a school level award and/or is chosen to represent the school in higher level competition will receive 1 point.
2. A student whose essay or speech earns an award or awards at the district, county, state and/or national level will receive a total of 2 points.

POSTER CONTEST PARTICIPATION

1. A student whose poster earns a school level award and/or is chosen to represent Garfield in a higher level competition =1 point.
2. A student whose poster earns an award or awards at the district, county, state or national level will receive a total of 2 points.

GENERAL GUIDELINES WHICH APPLY TO ALL CO-CURRICULAR/CLUB ACTIVITIES:

1. Advisors for each activity will award points and verify that students have participated. Attendance at all meetings and/or practices is mandatory. Specific conditions concerning requirements for participation will be discussed under each activity where applicable.

ORAL INTERPRETATION (second semester only)

All students may try-out for the Oral Interpretation Teams. Students who make the team and participate will receive **2 points** for the **second semester only**.

ROBOTICS

Robotics is a technology, building and learning activity club. Students learn RoboLab or Mindstorms programming language. Students also learn the basics of Physics.

1. Participation on a school team that represents at the Robotics Regionals=**3 points for the 1st semester**.
2. Students will receive an **additional 1 point** for earning an award at the regional level for the 1st semester.
3. Students will receive an **additional 2 points** for earning an award at the world level for the 2nd semester

SIGN LANGUAGE CLUB

Sign Language Club is a year-long activity. Students meet on a regular basis to learn American Sign Language (ALS). Each participant who is active and attends meetings on a regular basis with no more than one (1) absence will receive **1 point** per semester.

DRAMA PRODUCTION (first semester only)

The drama production is held during the first semester. Students meet on a regular basis to prepare for the production.

All students may try out for the production.

1. Each participant including backstage crew, will receive a minimum of **1 point**.
2. The lead character will receive **4 points total**.
3. Chorus members will receive **3 points total**
4. Each participant can receive up to **4 points (points vary depending on role and time commitment determined by drama teachers)**.

Body

OVERVIEW OF THE GARFIELD ATHLETIC PROGRAM

Garfield provides a variety of athletic programs for students. The goals of our athletic program are: (1) to provide opportunities for students to participate and experience athletic competition at levels and in context appropriate to their needs, experience and skill; (2) to teach and develop proficiency in the skills associated with each sport; (3) to develop the personal qualities of discipline, commitment, teamwork, and sportsmanship associated with being a member of a team.

The sports programs at Garfield are an important part of the overall instructional program aimed in developing a well-rounded individual. All students in the upper grades are encouraged to participate in league play against other Clovis Unified schools.

Garfield has a “no cut” policy. This means there is an opportunity for all students to participate in the sports program at a level appropriate with their skill level and experience.

Participation in elementary athletics is generally open to 4th, 5th and 6th grade students that have not reached their 13th birthday prior to September 1st.

- Grade Point Average: Students are expected to maintain a 2.0 GPA and adhere to district and site policies.

- **Eligibility Semester Rule:** The rule comes into effect when a student enters the fifth grade. Students in fifth grade have four (4) consecutive semesters in which to compete in elementary athletics. If a student is retained for any reason, his/her eligibility runs out at the end of the fourth consecutive semester.

Coaches will award points and in so doing, verify that students have participated. Specific conditions concerning requirements for participation will be discussed under sport where applicable.

PHYSICAL FITNESS ASSESSMENT (second semester only)

1. Students who place in the Healthy Fitness Zone in all five areas on the spring assessment will receive **2 points**.
2. A student who reaches the Presidential Level will receive **3 points**.

AFTER-SCHOOL ATHLETIC TEAMS

The after school interscholastic program is designed for fifth and sixth grade students. Fourth grade students may participate in Cross Country, Wrestling and Track.

EQUIPMENT MANAGERS

1. A student who is selected by a coach to be an equipment manager will receive 3 points for service during the entire season of that sport. Points are awarded by the coach.

FOOTBALL, VOLLEYBALL, BASKETBALL*, BASEBALL & SOFTBALL

Students who go out for these sports will be placed on “A”, “B” or “C” teams based on skill level and experience.

1. Participation on the team for the full season = **3 points**.

***Indicates that this sport may run into the next semester.**

CROSS COUNTRY, WRESTLING*, TRACK

These sports are open to fourth, fifth and sixth grade students.

1. Participation on the team for the full season = **3 points**.
2. An individual will receive an **additional point** for an award or awards earned at the district level.

***Indicates that this sport’s finals may run into the next semester.**

CHEERLEADING

Cheerleading is open to students in grades 4-6. The cheerleaders are selected via tryouts in the late spring for the following year. Points are given by Cheer Advisors based upon their requirements.

1. Students may earn 3 points for the 1st semester.
2. Students may earn 3 points for the 2nd semester

PEP

Pep squad is open to all fourth, fifth and sixth grade students. The Pep Squad members are selected via tryouts in the late spring for the following year. Points are given by Pep Advisors based upon their requirements.

1. Students may earn 3 points for the 1st semester.
2. Students may earn 3 points for the 2nd semester.

OUTSIDE SPORTS

While we value the importance and encourage our students to be physically active on competitive sports teams, Block G points will not be awarded for participation in non-Garfield sponsored

sports. (Please note Garfield Soccer is not a school-sponsored team, rather a community sponsored activity.)

SPIRIT

STUDENT COUNCIL

1. A student will receive **2 points** for being elected and serving on the council for the full semester.
2. If the student is NOT elected they will receive **1 point** for running for office and delivering a campaign speech at the election assembly.

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Students will earn 1 points for serving on student council for the semester. The student must be actively involved with in the committee and attend and fully participate in HRC events.

CUB COUNSELING (5th & 6th grade students only)

Any student who trains and becomes certified as a peer counselor and remains in the program for an entire semester receives **2 points** for that semester.

SCHOOL SERVICE

Any student who voluntarily takes their free time (before school, after school, morning recess or lunch recess) to participate in school service (campus beautification, custodial support, teacher support, etc.) for a full quarter will receive **1 point for 5 days of service and 2 points for 10 days of service**. Additional points will NOT be given for additional days of service.

COLOR GUARD

Garfield Elementary Color Guard is open to any 4th, 5th or 6th grade student that is interested in earning Block G points by raising and/or lowering our national and state flags before or after school. All Color Guard members will be trained proper flag care and folding. Students can earn 1 or 2 points per quarter depending on how often they perform Color Guard duties. See Mrs. Persons for more information.

ROAR LEADERSHIP

Any student who voluntarily serves as a ROAR Leader will receive **1 point** for 5 days of service per quarter. Additional points will NOT be given for additional days of service. Students must sign up with the vice principal.

LIBRARY CUB

Any student who voluntarily takes their recess time(s) to volunteer in the Library as a Library Cub will receive **1 point for 5 days of service and 2 points for 10 days of service** per quarter. Additional points will NOT be given for additional days of service. Students must sign up with Mrs. Hale in the Library.

CHARACTER COUNTS AWARD

Each quarter teachers will select students from his/her class for displaying outstanding citizenship and behavior represented by the six pillars of Character Counts.

1. A student chosen for this award will receive **2 points** in the semester received.