

January 29, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Around Willow Canyon

We have parent, teacher conferences coming up at the end of February and mid year testing happening right now for reading fluency. It's a good time to think about what can be done at home to help students be successful. Reading every day can add up and make a difference for students according to the research of Hagy & Herman, 1987.

- Students reading 20 minutes per day read 3,600 minutes during the school year. This is 1,800,000 words per year. Student scores on state and local standardized tests are in the 90th percentile.
- Students reading 5 minutes per day read 900 minutes during the school year. This is 282,000 words per year. Student scores on state and local standardized tests are in the 50th percentile.
- Students reading 1 minute per day read 180 minutes during the school year. This is 8,000 words per year. Student scores on state and local standardized tests are in the 10th percentile.

Reading for 20 minutes each day during the school year provides a great return for a small amount of time. Sometimes it's hard to find books or materials your child is interested in and are motivating to read. Our school library and the Sandy City Library in our neighborhood both provide a wide variety of books. Mrs. Jolley, our librarian, has worked to make sure our media center is up to date with contemporary books that are high interest books. If your child loves certain topics, look for books or magazines that have information about the preferred topics, this can be very motivating. Magazines are great for daily reading. Any and all reading counts! Reading is an essential skill for learning. We appreciate your support at home as you encourage your children to read.

Teacher of the year award! It's very difficult to choose one teacher, they all work hard and do a great job! The link for writing a nomination is below. Please turn these into me by Friday, February 2nd.

<http://www.canyonsdistrict.org/district-news/item/11837-teacher-of-the-year>

We are excited to have the **book fair** again this year during parent, teacher conferences. The link below will take you to information about Willow Canyon's book fair. This also works as a cut and paste into the web address box.

<http://www.scholastic.com/bf/willowcanyonelemschool>

Our focus for the month is having a positive attitude. We will be learning about this during the month and encouraging the students to maintain a positive attitude, even when school work is hard. Learning new concepts can be challenging, and also very rewarding. Providing encouragement at home helps students build confidence and maintain a positive attitude about their studies. Thank you for everything you do to support your children here at school and at home.

PTA and SCC News

PTA newsletter

<https://willowcanyon.canyonsdistrict.org/index.php/pta>

Meeting dates for School Community Council (SCC) are below, all meeting are in the conference room.

- October 5th at 6:00 PM – the minutes are attached to the SCC page on our website.
- November 9th at 6:00 PM- the minutes are attached to the SCC page on our website.
- January 11th at 6:00 PM- this meeting has been canceled, we plan to meet on Feb. 8th
- February 8th at 6:00 PM
- March 8th at 6:00 PM
- April 12th at 6:00 PM

Web address for Internet safety information.

<https://www.common sense media.org/video/advice/digital-citizenship>

Have a great week!

Marilyn Williams

Important Dates

Save the date!

- **Parent, teacher** conferences are on Wednesday, February 28th and Thursday, March 1st from 3:00 PM until 8:00 PM
- **March 1, 2018, is Grandparent/Family day at the book fair.** We have done this annually and really enjoy it! Come eat lunch with your student and then go to the book fair.
- All family members need to go through the process of **registering as a volunteer** because they will be eating in the cafeteria with students. **This process must be completed.** Go to the link below to register if you haven't already and ask family members to do this before coming to school. It can take up to three days to get these approved, please complete it before March 1st. Policy requires this to be completed before participating in activities involving students here at school, if this has not been completed we can't allow family members to eat with the students.
- <https://foundation.canyonsdistrict.org/index.php/volunteer>
- The schedule for lunches is listed below. The time students are in the cafeteria eating is for the first 10 to 15 minutes of the scheduled lunch time.
 - All day kindergarten – 12:15 until 12:55 PM
 - First grade – 11:30 until 12:10 PM
 - Second grade – 11:45 until 12:25 PM
 - Third grade – 11:55 until 12:35 PM
 - Fourth grade – 11:20 until 12:00 PM
 - Fifth Grade – 12:10 until 12:50 PM

January is perfect attendance month!

Please register to be a volunteer before helping with a field trip or in classrooms. Approval of the application may take up to three days. We are unable to allow anyone who hasn't completed this process to help with student activities.
Volunteer link <https://foundation.canyonsdistrict.org/index.php/volunteer>

Monday, February 5 until Friday, February 9 is Literacy Week! The fun activities are listed below.

- Monday, February 5th, The Cat in the Hat day, reading Dr. Seuss books
- Tuesday, February 6th, Vote for your favorite book
- Wednesday, February 7th, Dress like a favorite book character
- Thursday, February 8th, Bring your favorite book for show and tell
- Friday, February 9th, Read-a-Thon! Teachers will determine the time and duration of

their classes participation.

- Read, read, read this week and also until February 26th! The class with the most minutes will receive a great award from PTA!
- Parents watch for notes coming home from the PTA to record your child's reading minutes. Please sign and return these to school.

Tuesday, February 6

- 2nd grade Living Planet Aquarium van visit, they are coming to the school

Wednesday, February 7

- 4th grade Water Van presentation
- 5th grade going to Eastmont Middle School for 6th grade orientation
- PTA meeting at 10:00 AM in the conference room

Thursday, February 8

- SCC meeting at 6:00 PM in the conference room

Monday, February 12

- 5th grade going to the Symphony, students wear more formal attire

Wednesday, February 14

- Valentines Day

Friday, February 16

- Students do not attend school, it's a teacher data day

Monday, February 19

- No school, President's Day

Thursday, February 22

- 5th grade field trip to the University of Utah's engineering program

Tuesday, February 27

- The Book Fair student preview

Wednesday, February 28

- Parent teacher conferences, the book fair open from 3:00 PM until 6:00 PM

Thursday, March 1

- Assembly at 9:00 AM to celebrate the three weeks of reading and give awards to students
- Parent, teacher conferences, the book fair open from 3:00 PM until 6:00 PM
- **Grandparent/Family Day, come eat lunch with your children and go to the book fair from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM.**
 - All family members need to go through the process of **registering as a volunteer** because they will be eating in the cafeteria with students. **This process must be completed.** Go to the link below to register if you haven't already and ask family members to do this before coming to school. It can take up to three days to get these approved, please complete it before

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◦ **Lunch times are listed below.**

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Friday, March 2

- No school, comp day for parent conferences

Daily School Schedule

First grade through Fifth Grade Schedule:

- The first bell rings at 8:15 a.m. and the tardy bell rings at 8:20 a.m., school gets out at 2:55 p.m. Monday through Thursday.
- The schedule for Friday is from 8:20 a.m. until 1:15 p.m.
- **Supplemental Kindergarten** follows the school's schedule for first grade through fifth grade.

Kindergarten Schedule:

- The AM session is 8:20 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Monday through Thursday. The schedule for Friday is 8:20 a.m. until 10:20 a.m.
- The PM session is 12:15 p.m. until 2:55 p.m. Monday through Thursday. The schedule for Friday is 11:15 a.m. until 1:15 p.m.

The link below takes you to the CSD website and information about heavy snow days and possible school schedule changes due to dangerous storm conditions.

<http://www.canyonsdistrict.org/district-news/item/4145-snow-day-csd-s-snow-closure-guidelines>

Winter Information from Canyons School District

SNOW DAYS: If the forecast holds, wintry weather is expected to roll into Salt Lake this week. The end of preparing our community for snow storms, here is a guide to how Canyons District w

communicate information about cancelled or delayed-start days as a result of dangerous travel conditions during the frigid months. Please remember: Unless extreme weather creates unsafe traveling conditions, schools operating under the Canyons District umbrella will remain open on scheduled school days.

Why keep schools open during snowstorms? Our 34,000 students count on us to deliver a quality education in a safe, welcoming environment. Unscheduled school closures disrupt learning and place a burden on parents who work full time and can't easily be home to supervise their children. Neighborhood schools also are a primary source of breakfast and lunch for many of our students.

What if I'd prefer to keep my child home? While school-closure decisions will be made in the best interest of a school community, the District respects the rights of parents and guardians to decide what's best for children in their care.

How will I know if school is canceled or delayed? Canyons District has established the following communications policies in the event of a school closure:

Announcements and information: Canyons District will employ its website, the Skylert emergency-communication system, and [Facebook](#) and Twitter (@canyonsdistrict) to alert parents about school closures. Parents and employees should listen to Wasatch Front radio and television stations for school-closure information.

What we will tell you: The District will communicate one of three messages: 1) Day and date a school is closed; 2) Day and date a school is starting late; 3) and day and date schools will be dismissed.

Telephones: Families are encouraged to call the District Office at 801-826-5000 for the latest decisions on school closures due to inclement weather. Please be patient, as the District Office may experience a high volume of phone calls on these days. Parents also may call their child's school.

Who will make the announcement: School closures will be announced when authorized by the Canyons Superintendent of Schools or his designee after consulting with senior staff members. The [National Weather Service](#) and other state, county and city agencies also may be consulted.

Closures are for one day only: All announcements are for one day only. *No announcement means schools will be open and operate as usual.*

Emergency plans: Families are encouraged to establish an emergency plan for their children in the event that schools are closed, have a delayed start or dismissed early. Parents are urged to instruct their children where to go or what to do if a parent is not at home.

Bus stops: Parents are asked to meet their children at bus stops when buses are running on delayed or emergency schedules.

Make-up days: Days lost because of inclement weather are made up on Washington and Lincoln Day Recess days or during Spring Recess.