

June 4, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Around Willow Canyon

Watch for a summer bingo game coming home to help students keep their skills sharp over the summer.

There will be prizes for students who complete a bingo row and a black out party for students who complete all of the activities on the bingo card. This is part of our enrichment program for students. We are excited to see how much they have done when we return in August!

I want to share with you some of what we have been doing for the past school year. We can't thank you enough for the support you provide at home. We have worked hard to meet the diverse needs of our students. Every year we are required to develop a school improvement plan. This is a State and District requirement. The State provides additional school level funding through the School Land Trust program. We work with our School Community Council to develop an annual plan for success. According to the testing over the past month, we have some great successes and areas we have identified for improvement. We have completed a lot of professional development over the year for teaching language arts. Our SAGE English Language Arts scores are good, they are higher than last year. We have worked hard on writing and these scores are good as well. Our SAGE Math and Science scores are good, math is an area of strength across all grade levels. Our DIBELS reading and math scores are reporting a lot of good student growth. Information will be emailed to you from the District about accessing your child's SAGE scores. The DIBELS scores will be sent with report cards on the last day of school. We will continue to work to improve our student results and focus on growth.

What we are doing to help every student make growth.

- We use Land Trust funding for what we call Tier 2 instruction. This is a second round of instruction for students in reading and math. We provide small group instruction targeted to meet student needs with the student's teacher and in Tier 2 during center learning time. Students are provided additional instruction in Tier 2. The interventionists are trained in the best practices for student growth. They also collaborate with the teachers to ensure their instruction is quality instruction targeted toward student growth.
- We also use Land Trust funding for finding ways students can extend their learning. There are opportunities for each grade level. In first grade students worked on deep reading skills and sentence structure. In second grade the students worked on Story Weaver competition. In third grade students participated in the Battle of the Books competition. Fourth grade students worked on higher level math skills and Battle of the Books. In fifth grade the students participated in Chess Club, debate, and Battle of the Books. We also participated in the District's Monster Math competition for the grade levels. Summer Bingo is part of this program, helping students keep their skills sharp over the summer and have fun at the same time. We are working to expand these opportunities for the students.
- We are implementing a system of behavior supports throughout the school. We teach the students the expectations at the first of the year, after winter break and after spring break. We use Pride Paws as a way to provide positive praise as we see students following through with the expectations. We also give out stars to those students who are great examples. The star students come to my office and spin the wheel to get a prize. This has been fun for me, I enjoy spending a few minutes celebrating the great things students are doing. The District has funded a Behavior Aide to support behaviors in a positive way by helping us teach the expected behaviors and reinforcing these behaviors. The behavior aide works with students to help them when they need additional support with behaviors throughout the school day. We will be funding another person to help us next year with positive behavior supports.
- **Our teachers are dedicated professionals who are very knowledgeable and caring.** They are active participants in professional development and discussions as grade level teams and also as vertical teams, kindergarten through fifth grade. They guide instruction throughout the school year to ensure every student is successful.

We have the best PTA there is anywhere! They do so many activities and cheer on the students all year long. They provide field trips and parties and help us create the fun memories of school.

Our School Community Council is also exceptional! They help us with our school improvement plans and also give great input about issues like the parking lot, safe walking to school and all of the safety issues we are concerned about at school. They bring an important voice to conversations about ensuring Willow Canyon is a quality school.

We have a lot going on every school year and work to keep our expectations high for all of our students. We care about each child and want all of them to thrive. We can't thank you enough for the time you spend reading, practicing math, and helping with other homework. When you as parents are partners with us, even when there are concerns, I believe this is one of the most powerful aspects of student growth and performance. **I am grateful every day to be part of your child's life at school.**

Thank you for another great year of school!

Marilyn Williams

PTA and SCC News

PTA newsletter

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

Important Dates

Monday, June 4

- Mrs. Blanchat's class field trip to Buttercup Park
- Mrs. Winter's class field trip to Wildflower Park
- Miss Hunsaker's class field trip to McDonalds

Tuesday June 5

- Fifth Grade Graduation at 8:45 AM
- Miss Hunsaker's class graduation 10:30 AM
- First Grade walking field trip to the Sandy City Fire Station
- **Last day lunch money can be taken. Please make sure there isn't a balance owing on lunch accounts. Also, please pay for June 6th in advance.**

Wednesday, June 6

- PTA meeting in the conference room at 10:00 AM
- Last day lunch is served. Lunch money can't be turned in this day. **Any lunch money turned in after June 5th will have to be taken to Canyons District Office at 9361 South 300 East.** The phone number to the Nutrition Department is 801-826-5381.
- Mrs. Comer's class field trip to Wildflower Park
- Mrs. Pedersen's class field trip to Buttercup Park
- First grade field day, games here at the school
- Willow Canyon's annual Meet Your Teacher for first grade through fourth grade at 2:35 PM. Students will meet next year's teacher! Parents are invited to attend.

Thursday, June 7

- Last day of school, the time is 8:15 AM until 12:20 PM. Neither breakfast nor lunch will be served.

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.

