

November 27, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians:

### **Around Willow Canyon**

We hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving break. It's great to be back at school! Thank you to the parents who presented information on Career Day the students loved learning about the various careers. We appreciate all of the continued support every family provides.

Jordan Credit Union has a Project 100 drawing to celebrate great teachers. **Mrs. Comer** was honored last week for her contributions to Willow Canyon. She does a wonderful job teaching and also helps with several jobs outside of her classroom. We are excited that she is being honored. The information below was presented to her along with a \$100 check from Jordan Credit Union. We are proud of her!

Mrs. Alanna Comer is a wonderful 4th grade teacher! She loves teaching math and science and works to have hands on learning experiences for her students. She is very knowledgeable when it comes to technology and provides learning experiences during the school day and after school. She teaches the Tech Troupe after school program providing students with fun engaging learning activities that they can use during the school day and at home. Mrs. Comer is very helpful. When there is a job to be done she is the first to volunteer. She helps all of us with technology and serves on the School Community Council. She started a weekly student broadcast a few years back and has kept this going for the school. She has also taught both the school and community about Internet safety. We appreciate her and all that she does for Willow Canyon!

We have a program for fifth grade students that's provided by the Sandy Police Department called the Nurturing, Opportunities, Values, and Accountability program – the **NOVA** program. Officer Howe, our school's resource officer, provides instruction one day each week for six weeks on being a good citizen and staying away from drugs and alcohol. Students complete different activities during this time. They go through a week without any technology devices such as TV or the Internet to help develop awareness of the other activities they can

enjoy with their family and friends. They discuss being responsible for their actions and obeying laws. Their NOVA graduation was last Tuesday. We are grateful to Officer Howe and the Sandy Police Department for all of the support they provide us as a school.

**Playworks/PE – This was left in for one more week, it’s hard to remember information like this after breaks.**

We are having a fun year in PE/Brain Boosters this year learning new skills and games. As the weather turns colder, children will want to wear their boots and coats to keep warm during recess. Please encourage your children to bring a pair of gym shoes on their Brain Booster day.

- **Tuesday, Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade**
- **Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and Extended Core**
- **Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and 4<sup>th</sup> grade**

**We will be playing games in the next few months where the children will be running and boots can hinder safety while running.** We have been working on Basketball the last few weeks. If your child has an opportunity to practice dribbling, passing and shooting the basketball, please encourage their success in practicing what they have learned. During December we will be learning new tag games the children can play on the playground and with friends. Please help promote kindness, inclusion, and safety when your kids are playing with others. You have fabulous children and we want to keep them safe and healthy so they can play all winter long.

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>

**The character trait for the month is being safe.** When we consider being safe at school we talk about two characteristics of the term. First, the most obvious characteristic of being safe with winter weather and storms coming, is for students to be dressed for the weather and be careful outside when there’s snow and ice. The other characteristic of being safe is being kind to others. When we are mean or treat others in an angry or hurtful way they do not feel safe at school. Everyone should feel safe at school. It is easier to focus on school work if

students feel safe and aren't distracted by mean behavior. Our definition of being safe at Willow Canyon is... we behave in a way that keeps us and those around us from being harmed. We do not do things that could injure someone or damage property.

Canyons District Special Education Department works with the **Utah Parent Center** to provide parents with resources and information. We have a school representative, Casie King, who attends meetings and forwards information to us. The link below is to the Utah Parent Center. They are a great resource. You can check this link for monthly information.

<http://www.utahparentcenter.org>

### PTA and SCC News

Thank you for the great support at Chic-fil-a Night!!

We are very excited about the **PTA newsletter**! You can find it on our website under the PTA tab. The link below will also take you to the newsletter. PTA is an important part of the school as you follow the newsletter you will see just how much they do every year!

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

We have a fabulous **School Community Council**. If you would like to serve on this Council, please stop by the office and pick up a School Community Council Candidate Form. As a SCC member you will help us with our Continuous School Improvement Plan (CSIP) and our School LAND Trust Plan that provides support and funding for our school improvement efforts. We value parent input and the SCC provides this opportunity.

Meeting dates for SCC are below, all meeting are in the conference room.

- October 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM – the minutes are attached to the SCC page on our website.
- November 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM- the minutes are attached to the SCC page on our website.
- January 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM

- February 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM
- March 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM
- April 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM

**One of the issues the School Community Council and school work together on is Internet safety for families. Mrs. Winter is our school representative for this, we appreciate her work. The link below will take you to information about being safe on the Internet.**

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

**Have a great week!**

**Marilyn Williams**

### **Save the Date**

- **Winter Choir is here!** Practices are in the morning on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 AM. The performances will be on **Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM**, students should be at school at 6:00 PM to get ready for the performance. **There will be another performance for the school on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM.**

### **Important Dates**

**Our next perfect attendance month is January!**

**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>

Tuesday, December 5

- A.R.T.S assembly at 8:45 AM

Wednesday, December 6

- PTA meeting in the conference room at 10:00 AM

Thursday, December 14

- Winter Choir concert at 6:30 PM. Please have the participating students at school by 6:00 PM.

Friday, December 15

- Winter Choir performance for the school at 9:00 AM in the gym.

Monday, December 18

- Orchestra Concert for the school at 9:45 AM, parents, family may attend if this works out better for your schedule.
- Orchestra Concert at 7:00 PM for parents.

Tuesday, December 19

- PJ day! Everyone wears their pajamas this day.
- Jordan High School Madrigals assembly at 1:00 PM
- This is the last day of school for the week, winter break starts on Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. It's a regular school day for all students from 8:20 AM until 2:55 PM, and the regular kindergarten schedule, it is not an early out day.

Wednesday, December 20 through Monday, January 1, 2018

- Winter recess, students do not attend school any of these days.

January 2, 2018- Happy New Year!

- Students return to school from the winter break.

## 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.

## Winter Information from Canyons School District

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