

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I want to report to you the great things that happened during the school year. Our theme for the year was *Everything is Awesome, Everything is Cool When You're part of the Wildcat Team!* Willow Canyon offers a multi-tiered system of supports involving enrichment activities to extend student learning strengths and focused interventions to support specific learning needs. We provide positive behavior interventions and supports and teach each child how to manage his or her own behavior during the school day. Willow Canyon teachers are knowledgeable, dedicated, talented, and maintain high achievement expectations for all students. They provide top quality instruction on a daily basis and work toward our common goal of every student being successful.

Some of our *Awesome* and *Cool* accomplishments are listed below.

- We work to meet student-learning needs using all resources available to us.
 - Classroom instruction is excellent due to our amazing teachers. They are very professional and skilled at crafting and presenting lessons tailored to meet the needs of their students. They participate in collaboration meetings and consider student results as they develop their instruction following the Utah State Core Standards in all subjects.
 - Canyons District supports having time during the school day for teachers to collaborate as a professional learning community and has provided funding for students to attend Brain Booster classes for art, P.E., STEM, and library while teachers worked together to plan instruction and participate in professional development. This has been very valuable time for both the teachers and students. We appreciate the Canyons Board of Education and the District Administration for providing the funding for Brain Boosters and teacher collaboration time.
 - Teachers regularly participate in professional development provided by the District and by our Achievement Coach, Tana Allred. They also have high expectations for themselves and the instruction they provide.
 - We have Tier 2 reading and Tier 2 math services for students who need more focused instructional interventions. Students participated in skill focused, small group instruction with their teacher and also with an instructional aide who is trained and supervised by our

Achievement Coach. Instruction was meant to target specific learning needs. These are flexible groups, students move in and out of these services based on personal learning needs.

- We have an Education Technology Specialist, Danae Reff, who provided student instruction and professional development for teachers. She supports teachers with bringing technology into their classrooms. We have a five-year technology plan that is funded mainly through the annual Art Festival fundraiser for the school.
- We achieved our school improvement goals of having 80% of students fluent in reading and math and also increasing our SAGE scores from last year to this year.
- We provided opportunities for all interested students to participate in activities to extend their learning and collaborate with other students in small groups to reach a goal.
 - *Battle of the Books* was one such activity. We had 79 students who participated; there were enough students to form 16 teams from third, fourth, and fifth grade. Students read an extensive list of books and competed in a contest to see which team remembered the most key details in each book. The competition was in March and all of the teams did an amazing job! The list of books is available for next year; summer is a great time to read the books and start getting ready for next year's competition.
 - Students in fourth and fifth grade participated in the Science Fair. They all did a great job on their projects!
 - Our second grade participated in Story Weavers. This is a competition that celebrates the oral tradition of telling stories. Twenty students participated. Six moved on to the District competition where three of our students received awards.
 - Another enrichment project that some of the second grade students participated in was developing and writing a research paper and giving an oral presentation.
 - We participated in the Monster Math competition as teams working together to solve complex math problems. Participating students all did a great job!
 - We entered student artwork in the South Towne Center Elementary Art Show and had three students win awards.
- We implement *Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports*, known as PBIS. We taught all students the expectations in class and in all areas of the

building during the first weeks of school and reviewed these in January and March. We relied on positive praise to support the students in making good choices. Students received thousands of Pride Paws and multiple stars for going the extra mile during the school year. We are very proud of the great behaviors students exhibited through the school year.

- We participated in social skill lessons, provided by Dr. Alec Brown, our school psychologist, meant to teach students what appropriate behavior looks like and sounds like. We focused on our three expectations of being respectful, responsible, and safe as well as being a good friend, filling each other's bucket with kindness, putting forth your best effort, having confidence, and celebrating success. There were 304 students who received an award during the school year for being excellent examples of the monthly social skill we were learning.
- We implement a program entitled *Bully Prevention In a Positive Behavior Support* that is based on research. This program is meant to give students the tools they need to be advocates for themselves and others. It also provides a consistent response by the students and adults if it becomes necessary to intervene within a situation.
- We continued our focus on attendance this year, as this is so important for student success. We have had fun giving out the perfect attendance awards in each classroom during the year. There were four perfect attendance months; September was the first month with 65% of students, November had 40%, February had 36%, and April had 53% of students with perfect attendance. We plan to continue this into next year.
- Student Council was very active during the school year. They organized a community service project to provide hats, scarves, and gloves for the homeless shelter. They volunteered at the Ronald McDonald house. They also partnered with the Sandy City Police Department to provide Sub for Santa for families. They assisted teachers through the school year, helping them in class. They were involved in the beautification of our school grounds with help from a local scout group. They also provided daily morning announcements to welcome everyone to school.
- Thank you to our great Student Council Advisors, Mrs. Morrison and Mrs. Winzenried. Our student council members are listed below.

Drew Anderson

Sugar White

Colton Austin

Kirianna Jolley

Austin Haycock

Katy Jones

Kyson Wilcox

Chelsea Ballou

- Our Fourth Grade Broadcast Team provided weekly Monday Morning Broadcasts to include more students in the process of weekly announcements. Students have done book reports and paid each other complements during the broadcasts. The Broadcast is fun and can be viewed at a time during the day that works for the class schedule. We want to thank Mrs. Comer for being a great Broadcast Team Advisor. She also helped us meet the requirements for being a *Common Sense Digital Citizenship School*, we learned a lot about Internet safety this year. The Broadcast Team members are listed below.

Broadcast Crew #1

Film Technicians:

Staley Garcia

Josie Morgan

Parker Bettinson

Rhett Robinson

Editors:

Miles Wagner

Jessica Defa

Broadcast Crew #2

Film Technicians:

Sara Newman

Jake Richards

Katie Koski

Luke Jackson

Editors:

Courtney Rosler

Daniel Smith

Johann Baramki

- We had great graduation programs at the end of the year in fifth grade, Miss Hunsaker's class, and Kindergarten. We are excited that our kindergarten students will be with us for the full school day next year!
 - Part of our fifth grade graduation tradition is having time with Lance Allred, the first deaf player in the NBA. He spoke to the students about setting and achieving goals and characteristics of leadership.
 - Our fifth grade students have been wonderful examples of perseverance and strong character. We will miss them and send them to middle

school with our love and best wishes.

- We have focused on meeting Canyons School District's goal of every student being college, career, and citizenship ready when they graduate from high school. Elementary school provides the important foundation required for students to meet this goal. We participated in a few activities meant to get students thinking about their future choices as they move through school and into adulthood.
- Tool Day was a day to learn about the tools of different trades. Many parents came to school and shared information about their chosen careers. It was a lot of fun. Parents shared great information about a variety of careers.
- Fifth grade participated in Biz Town. Students learned about personal finance and future career opportunities.

As parents, you have provided a lot of support for the school. Some of the activities you helped us with are listed below.

- The PTA had their annual membership drive and Fun Run fundraiser in the fall. All proceeds were used for PTA sponsored activities. The funding was used to pay for all field trips in every grade level, combined, these cost over four thousand dollars. The Reflections Contest, Red and White Ribbon weeks, Teacher Appreciation Week, spirit days, and monthly birthday visits to classrooms were funded through the PTA. They also helped organize room parents and activities and parties in classrooms.
- Our School Community Council met six times during the school year. They helped develop our school improvement plan and discussed important issues from a parent's point of view. This was very valuable feedback for the school. We appreciate this partnership.
- Our Parent Teacher Conferences had nearly 100% attendance. Countless reading charts, math fact practice sheets, and homework assignments have been returned daily. Thank you to each of you for supporting homework practice.
- Students had the opportunity to participate in Winter Choir.
- Students participating in Orchestra performed two times here at school and at the Monster Concert sponsored by CSD.
- PTA also helped with the volunteers needed for the school's Art Festival fundraiser on May 19th which raised \$5,893 that will go toward purchasing a Chrome Book Lab for the school. The Fun Run in the fall was PTA's fundraiser and membership drive. All proceeds from the Fun Run were used

to provide PTA sponsored activities and field trips during this past school year.

We are so grateful for all of the support you have given your children and Willow Canyon. It's been a busy and fun year. We look forward to seeing you in August and hope everyone has a great summer!

Sincerely,

Marilyn Williams