

Riverside PTA NEWS



September 2016

connecting parents,
students, and teachers



September:

- 7 - Birthday Mom
- 7 - Books & Breakfast
7:30-9:15am
- 8 - Scc Meeting @ 4 pm
- 8 - Bond Meeting 6 pm
- 9 - BYU vs. Utah Spirit Day
- 9 - General PTA Board mtg.
9:30am
- 9 - Room Parent Tea 2:15pm
at school
- 12 - Hawaiian Day
- 13 - Sports Day
- 14 - PJ Day
- 15 - Crazy Hair Day
- 16 - Riverside
Colors Day
- 16 - FUN RUN
9:30am -12:00pm
- 22 - Classic Family
Skate Night 5:30-8:30pm
- 26 - Picture Day
- 27- Sonic Spirit Night
5:00-8:00pm
- 29 - Family Picnic
Night 6:00-7:00pm
- 30 - Eagle Nest Store

October:

- 5 - Birthday Mom
- 7 - General PTA
Board mtg. 9:30am
- 12-Boo to the Flu
vaccination clinic
4:00-7:00pm
- 20-21- Fall Recess
- 24-28-Red Ribbon Week
- 24 -Reflection entries due
- 28- Eagle Nest Store
- 31- Halloween Parade
9:30am
- 31- Halloween Classroom
Parties

Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

I hope the beginning of the school year has been as smooth and wonderful for you as it has been for me! I have been amazed at the way our rock star teachers, our incredible students, and you fantastic parents have made the transition to our new schedule along with the many changes that have gone with it!! Thank you for your support and patience as we work out the kinks and glitches along the way.

One of our big changes this year is the way we are doing Parent Teacher Conferences/SEP Conferences. We are following a model of the Utah State Office of Education called APTT. It stands for Academic Parent Teacher Teams. A letter will be mailed to each family to explain this in detail.

At Riverside, we have WIG goals for each grade level in Reading, Writing, and Math. WIG goals are Wildly Important Goals that each student should master in those areas. Our teachers and staff work hard with each student to ensure that we are on track to meet our established academic goals. We believe in all of our students and their capacity to learn and achieve academic success. We understand that you want the best for your children and are willing to do what you can to help them, but are sometimes unsure of what you can do to make a difference in their education. We'd like to be an effective team with you.

Educational research clearly documents that when families support student learning at home, there is a definite increase in grades, attendance, attitude, behavior, homework completion, social skills, state test results, and college attendance. The goal of the APTT model is to promote family-teacher collaboration to drive student achievement.

I want to personally invite you to join us by attending our first round of APTT meetings. All grade level meetings will be held on **Wednesday, November 9, 2016**. The APTT meetings will be 75 minutes in length. The meetings will cover:

- *A review of student progress data
- *The establishment of academic goals (individualized for YOUR student)
- *A demonstration of activities to use at home with your child
- *An opportunity to work with other parents from your child's class to build community

There will be two other APTT meetings this year. Please save the dates: **Wednesday, February 22** and **Wednesday, April 26**. These dates will replace the JSD dates for PTC/SEP Conferences (March 15-16). *Note: March 16 is still a "short day" and there is no school on Friday, March 17.

We want to work with every parent. Some of our parents will need translators to help us communicate clearly with them and work with them in the most effective way possible. Languages we are in need of translators for include Spanish, Portuguese, and Chinese. If you, or someone you know can translate for us, please contact the office at 801.565.7484. We look forward to seeing you at our first APTT meeting! If you have any questions, please call me at 801.565.7484 or send an e-mail message to ronna.hoffman@jordandistrict.org.

Thanks for all you do for your children,

Ronna Hoffman



Attendance Counts!

Dear Parents,

Did you know that September is Attendance Awareness month? I want to take this opportunity to let you know how much we love having your student at Riverside, on time, every day! When your children aren't here, we notice because we care and want them to be successful! Students who attend school regularly are more likely to graduate high school and find good jobs. Part of the reason for this is that in addition to being present to learn math and reading, students also learn the habit of being at a designated place on time and ready to work.

Throughout this year I will be working with students to encourage good attendance at school. I will also share attendance facts with you in this newsletter. I've included a newsletter from Attendanceworks.org that includes some steps you can take to help establish a habit of good attendance. My goal for Riverside students this year is "Strive for Five" meaning that students have five or fewer absences. Together, we can achieve this goal and prepare our students for a successful future!

All the best,
Lauren Peacock
Riverside Assistant Principal

FUN RUN

Riverside's Fun Run (run/jog/walk fundraiser) will take place on Friday, September 16th! This fundraiser will involve all students and promote physical fitness at Riverside. Our goal is to raise \$8,000.00 with the donated funds going directly to PTA sponsored school programs at Riverside! The money raised each year goes to pay for field trips, presidential fitness, reflections, field day, spirit weeks, breakfast & books mornings, teacher appreciation and much more.

COME OUT TO WATCH THE FESTIVITIES!!! Parents and family members are welcome to attend the event during their student's fun run session and to cheer them on as they make their way through the fun filled obstacle course to raise money for our school! So come out for the fun! Even better all parents & family members are invited to run with their students!

Race Times:

Am Kinder/Excel - 9:20-9:50
Kindergarten - 11:50-12:20
1st grade - 11:30-12:00
2nd grade - 9:50-10:20
3rd grade - 10:10-10:40
4th grade - 10:30-11:00
5th grade - 10:50-11:20
6th grade - 11:10-11:40



Before & After School Programs:

Mrs. Fox is looking for board games, legos, lincoln logs, erector sets and any other "building toys" you are no longer using.

The items donated will be used in the before and after school programs being offered at the school.

Please take any items you would like to donate to the main office. Also, if the items are donated in the month of September your child will receive an eagle ticket for each item donated.



REFLECTIONS

Entries are due at the school

Oct 24, 2016

Rules and Entry Forms can be picked up in the Media Center OR printed online at: <http://www.utahpta.org/reflections>



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Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

DID YOU KNOW?

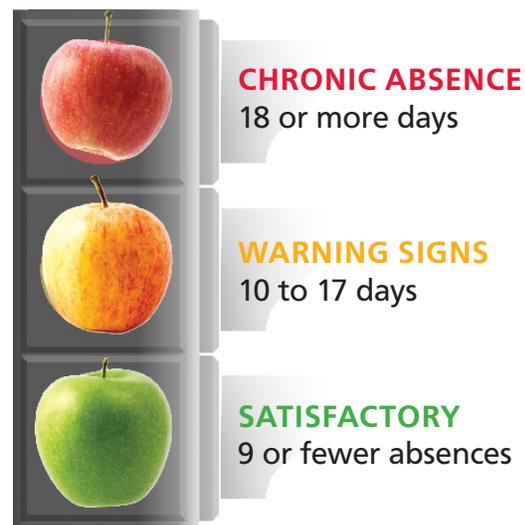
- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your child to her teachers and classmates before school starts to help her transition.
- Don't let your child stay home unless she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

For more on school readiness, visit attendanceworks.org and reachoutandread.org