



Wasatch Elementary

30 R Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84103
wasatch.slcschools.org 801-578-8564

Homework Support for Eureka Math

Salt Lake School District has implemented a new math program. You may have noticed that there are many changes to the previous “traditional” math programs. Although it may seem strange and daunting, it is a wonderful program that really develops a child’s thinking and rational as to ‘why’ and ‘how’ math problems work. They are required to explain their thinking and develop models to demonstrate understanding. As confusing as this program may seem... have no fear! There is a web site developed in San Francisco that helps support parents and their understanding of the Eureka Math Program.

Simply go to:
<http://embarc.online/course/index.php>. Click on your child’s grade level. Then click on the Module that they are working on. There you will find a section entitled: Parent Newsletter for Topic _____. Once you open it, you will see a newsletter that explains the rational, objectives, and has models that explain how to help your child with that math topic. It also gives examples of the models used in that topic. This will help with understanding how to help them with their assignments and to study for the tests. Please note, not every grade has 100% of the topics turned into newsletters. Most of them are there, but a few grades, such as Module 1 for second and part of sixth grade are missing.

We hope this helps both you and your child with our new math program. Enjoy!

Upcoming Events

December 1

Story Cupboard Book Fair

December 7

Community Engagement Breakfast @ 8 a.m.

December 8

Small Business Friday from 1 – 3 p.m. in the library

December 14

SCC @ 3:15 in the library

December 15

Arts Showcase Meeting @ 11:30 a.m. in the conference room

December 25 – January 5

Winter Break – NO SCHOOL

No district employee or student shall be subjected to discrimination in employment or any district program or activity on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status. The district is committed to providing equal access and equal opportunity in its programs, services and employment including its policies, complaint processes, program accessibility, district facility use, accommodations and other Equal Employment Opportunity matters. The district also provides equal access to district facilities for all youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code, including scouting groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries and complaints regarding unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation: Whitney Banks, Compliance and Investigations, 440 East 100 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111, (801) 578-8388. You may also contact the Office for Civil Rights, Denver, CO, (303) 844-5695.

A Word from our PTA

This time of year, I am reminded about what I am thankful for and I am thankful for our amazing principal, our extremely caring and competent teachers and our welcoming, supportive and vibrant Wasatch community.

Art Cards

- Student Art Cards- Special thank you to Julie Lewis, Jen Levy, Rachel Preslar and everyone who worked so hard on our children's fabulous art cards. They are amazing!

Community Building

- Small Business Friday-December 8th 1-3pm in the Auditorium -please stop by to support the amazing entrepreneurs in our community.
- Thank you to Dawn Ann Bullough and all of the parent volunteers for all of their hard work to make the Story Cupboard book fair successful. We received just over \$2000, all of which goes toward purchasing books for our library, teachers and students.
- Gina Roper has graciously assumed the role of new parent liaison-please reach out to her at gina.roper@gmail.com with any questions/concerns.
- Sock Drive- December 11-15th and silly sock day on December 13th.
- Coming in January- Together with Bryant Junior High, we will host a viewing of the acclaimed movie "Screenagers" followed by a discussion led by expert panelists.
- Next PTA Meeting: January 12, 2018 in the library from 11-12:50pm.

Teacher Support/Student Enrichment

- Thank you for making time to meet with your kids' teachers and for your generous support in feeding them over the dinner hours.
- The Veteran's Day performance was as amazing as usual, thanks to all the hard work of Ms. Parker, Mrs. Barnette, Jean Gardner, Dawn Ann Bullough, and Deborah Candler!

Thanks so much for all you do! We hope you all have a safe and joyous holiday season.

Sincerely,

Christine Lipson, PTA President
(christinelipson@gmail.com)

Meghan Looper, PTA Vice President
(Meghan.elizabeth@gmail.com)

Council Corner Updates from Your Wasatch SCC

When I was elected to the School Community Council in 2015, one of the priorities of the council was to strengthen our relationship and communication with our neighborhood middle school, Bryant. As part of that endeavor, our chair at the time, Janet Barnette, was very vocal about sharing the positive changes, dispelling rumors, altering negative perceptions and becoming more positively invested in Bryant. I would like to share a few words that Janet wrote in a Wasatch newsletter article from that time: "I've made it a personal goal to stop talking about the past and to be a positive voice for what is happening in the present. I do so because I care about the success of our neighborhood school. I can send my daughter elsewhere, but in two and three years her brothers will follow. Think of what the Bryant experience will be for them tomorrow if we make the investment in our school today. As parents, we want Bryant to be the middle school experience where our kids thrive, not simply survive. We want Bryant to be the school we would be proud to send our kids." I know that Janet and her daughter have not regretted the decision to attend Bryant.

At our November SCC meeting, we invited the new Bryant school counselor, Lisa Warner, to join us. Lisa is not from here and has no bias or knowledge of Bryant's past or current reputation. She was baffled by how few students came to Bryant from Wasatch and Ensign. She loves Bryant, the faculty, and the students. She is passionate about her job, excited about the current path that Bryant is pursuing, and wishes to be involved in changing negative opinions that continue to exist. We discussed this pervasive negativity that parents and students have of Bryant, why parents choose to send their children to other schools, ways to encourage increased enrollment from Wasatch and Ensign, and how to communicate with our community regarding all of the positive changes that have been occurring over the past few years. You may not be aware of the following: Bryant was the top performing middle school in the Salt Lake District for 2015-16, over the past 2 years they have shown significant increases in academic growth, their neighborhood ELP students score just as high as those in the magnet ELP programs, and they offer a diverse selection of after school activities including robotics, science, and art to name a few.

My involvement in the SCC has given me the opportunity and the responsibility to get involved, become informed, and be instrumental in increasing support of Bryant. Regardless of what middle school your children attend or will attend, I am asking parents to reflect on the importance of our community, our neighborhood, and all the schools that are in our neighborhood. You can start by becoming more involved, more informed, and more supportive. You can change negative thoughts and perceptions to positive ones. You can discuss all of this with your children, as they often will adopt the opinions of their parents. Together, we can help Bryant succeed.

There will be an open house at Bryant in January for prospective students. I would encourage all 4th, 5th and 6th graders to attend, as I know that 10 year olds are already talking about where they are going to middle school. Watch for details in the January newsletter.

Please join us at our next meeting on Thursday, December 14th at 3:15 in the library.

Tracie Sexton
SCC Chair

Art Attack

For the month of December we would like our students to think about how the last three months of focus, Line, Form/Shape, and Color all relate to one another.

How are they alike, or different? How do they complement each other? Help your students see these three elements of art, and how they come together out in the community.

Bookmark Contest Winners

The Utah Education Savings Plan invites students throughout the state to create a bookmark and enter it in a contest that they sponsor. Wasatch Elementary had two winners this year. This is quite the accomplishment considering 1,500 students in the state of Utah entered this contest this year. Only eight winners are chosen, and Helena in the sixth grade, and Milo in the second grade were among those eight.

Helena and Milo were honored at a luncheon on November 6. They each received 400 copies of their bookmark, a poster of their work, and a \$1,000 scholarship to Utah Education Savings Plan. It was a wonderful event for these students and their families. Milo won for the K-3rd grade, and Helena for the 4-6th grade entries.

We have been fortunate to have five winners from Wasatch over the last six years. We are proud of our artists at Wasatch.





PARENTING CLASSES AT WASATCH

Wasatch Elementary is hosting a parenting workshop provided by Utah State University extension: Healthy Relationships Utah. The workshop is called Fathering with Love and Logic. "Fathering" meaning, fathers are encouraged to attend, but anyone in a parenting role is welcome. The workshop will be taught by Richard O'Keef, father of six children and author of the book, How to Get Kids to Behave.

Love and Logic is a popular curriculum that has been around for over 30 years and teaches parents how to raise responsible kids and enjoy parenting. Parents will learn how to put an end to arguing, how to teach responsibility, how to set and enforce limits, how to avoid power struggles, and how to get kids to do chores without nagging.

The workshop is free, due to a Federal Grant. There are five classes that will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 every Wednesday evening for five weeks starting January 10, 2018. There will be food provided at every class. It's important that everyone attend the first class to be eligible for food and other incentives. Preregistration is required. To register, please email your name and date of birth to deborah.candler@slcschools.org. The workshop is limited to the first 14 people who register.