

# Wasatch Elementary

30 R Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84103  
[wasatch.slcschools.org](http://wasatch.slcschools.org) 801-578-8564

## Principal's Message

## Upcoming Events

### September 2

Labor Day – no school!

### September 6

PTA Meeting @ 11:00am in the Library

### September 23

PTA Fundraiser Kickoff –  
Rally for Wasatch Arts!!

### September 27

Non-Student Day



Olive  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade



Zen  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade

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 Message from the PTA

**Not Your Parents' PTA.** I like to know what is going on. Life always seems a little bit easier to manage when I know what to expect, and when our family was new to Wasatch, it was strange going from a small preschool where we knew everyone to a much bigger school with its own routines and traditions. My network and friends had dispersed to different schools, and I felt a little lost. I had this idea of what it meant to be a PTA mom, and I wasn't sure that was me. But because I didn't know what was going on, and I was maybe a little lonely, I went to a meeting, and was pleasantly surprised to find a place with new friends. One of the things I love the most about Wasatch is that it is so much more than a school - it is a community. Getting involved with the PTA was how I found an easy way into that community.

**So what is a PTA & why is it important?** PTA's are advocates for children, families, and schools. We're moms, dads, grandparents, extended family and educators. We work in all different ways - we're stay-at-home parents, work-outside-of-the-home parents, and work-from-home parents. Some of us can make it to PTA meetings, some of us volunteer in the classroom, and some of us volunteer at evening activities. We're all juggling family, work and community responsibilities, but what we all have in common is that we love our kids, we love our school, and we want to empower and support our community.

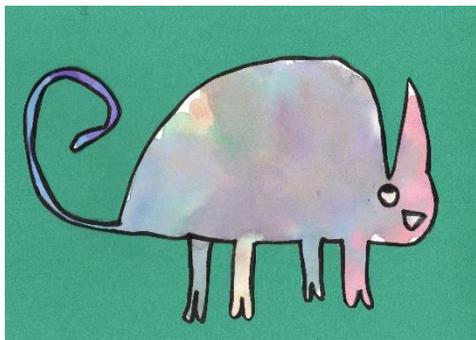
**Why should you join the Wasatch PTA?** As a PTA we can have a huge impact on the lives of Wasatch students and families. Our overall goal is community building, and we do so through volunteering in classrooms, supporting events like the Halloween Carnival and Family Fun Fest, and raising money to support our Arts program. Wasatch parents volunteer over 3000 hours a year, and we raised over \$60,000 last year. PTA membership only costs \$6 a year per family and membership gives you connections to the Wasatch community - it is a way to get to know teachers and parents better and be a part of improving the educational experience of our kids. While we would love to see you at a PTA meeting - we know that 11:00 am on Friday doesn't work for everyone and that meetings may not be your thing. There are all kinds of way to be involved and we're happy to help you figure out the best way for you to be part of the PTA. You can join online at [www.wasatchpta.com/join-pta/](http://www.wasatchpta.com/join-pta/). We're kind of a fun group who just wants to volunteer a little bit of time or skills to making Wasatch the best. When a lot of people chip in, big things happen.

**Want to know more?** We have a website - [www.wasatchpta.com](http://www.wasatchpta.com). You can learn more about what we do as a PTA and find out about upcoming events. You can buy Wasatch merchandise, school directories, and yearbooks. We have a subscription-based mailing list to keep you informed of upcoming events and volunteer activities. You can sign up here, [www.wasatchpta.com/stay-informed/](http://www.wasatchpta.com/stay-informed/), to get email updates from the PTA. We promise not to inundate you with emails - you can always unsubscribe if it is too much.

**We hope you'll join us - our first PTA meeting of the year is on September 6th at 11:00 am in the library. We don't bite and we have good snacks, and it is one of the best ways to figure out what is going at Wasatch and to be part of strengthening and supporting the educational experience of our kids.**

Valerie Stormont Meghan Looper  
PTA President  
vstormont@gmail.com

PTA Vice President  
meghan.elizabeth@gmail.com



Samuel  
Kindergarten



Azelia  
Grade 2

## A Message from the SCC

Welcome to new and returning Wasatch families!

The SCC, known as the Wasatch School Community Council, is comprised of our principal, Ms. Candler, school staff and, most importantly, parents.

Anyone and everyone is welcome to join or stop by. Children are always welcome and have access to use the school computers, work on school work or read. Meetings are held in the school library, on the third Thursday of the month, beginning at 3:15pm.

The SCC knows that the growth and responsibility of a school falls on all of us. It's why we come together to discuss educational, cultural and social shifts as we work together to provide a safe, inclusive and positive environment for all our children. From discussions of potential new program implementations to school lunch costs, we dig into it all.

At the top of our agenda every year is reviewing the distributions and allocations of the School LAND Trust funds. The School LAND Trust program brings tens of millions of dollars annually to academic programs in public schools across Utah, with an average of over \$40K for an elementary school, per school year. Determining where these funds are best allocated each year is one of our top priorities and discussions.

The SCC is a great opportunity to stay up to date on school news or changes, as well as share feedback with staff and other parents. If you are a parent with an idea, concern or just want to be involved, please stop by. Parents ensure the representation of various viewpoints and values within our community and we want those to be heard.

We hope you'll join us on Thursday, September 19th at 3:15pm, in the school library, for our first meeting of the year.

For more information about School Community Councils, visit:

<http://www.schoollandtrust.org/parents-and-councils/>

Brandon Bennett  
SCC Chair



## Introducing Playworks

Coach Katey is so excited to join the amazing team at Wasatch Elementary. Coach Katey graduated from the University of Utah with her Bachelors degree in Social Work where she studied early childhood development, parents rights in education and social justice issues. She lives in Bountiful with her husband, two children, and her best friend (a mini labradoodle named Cooper).

Coach Katey will be at Wasatch for one week out of each month to set up proactive systems that help make recess more safe and inclusive for all students. She will focus on using positive interventions to ensure every kid is getting the support they need to develop crucial social and emotional skills.

Coach Katey will spend most of her time out on the playground, teaching new games during class game times and building an environment where all students will thrive. Coach Katey will work with the Recess Team to empower every kid to get in the game and navigate the playground on their own. She will also be leading the Junior Coach Leadership Program. The Junior Coach Leadership Program consists of 4th, 5th, and 6th graders who will participate in team building activities and games to learn about conflict resolution, leadership, and recess game facilitation. Junior Coaches are responsible for leading activities at recesses for younger students.

# Library News

## Mrs. Tanner



Mrs. Tanner (a former kindergarten teacher) has taken the place of Mrs. Bullough in the library. She is excited to have the opportunity to get to know *each* student in the school and share her love of reading and inquiry. Students will visit the library each week with their classes to learn about new books, the Dewey Decimal/library organization system, build research skills, and become responsible users of technology.

## 10,000 Books

Our school has a goal of reading 10,000 books this year. Books that children read at home, in class, or books that are read aloud by a parent/teacher count toward our goal! Students will receive tracking logs in the next few weeks (older grades will track online through Microsoft Forms) or students can use their classroom reading logs to help us track our goal. When we reach 10,000 books we will have a school-wide celebration called, "Books, Bagels, and Buddies". Stay tuned each month to read about our progress.

## Battle of the Books

Our 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders have started reading for the Battle of the Books and are excited! This is a friendly competition between schools in the Salt Lake City School District to see which school can read the 20 pre-selected books and accurately remember details from the books in a trivia competition. Students formulate teams based on expertise and do not have to read all 20 books. The final battle between winning school teams is tentatively scheduled for the evening of March 3<sup>rd</sup> at Glendale Middle School. More information will come home as the year progresses.



## Digital Citizenship



(commonsensemedia.org)

Mrs. Tanner will be focusing a great deal on helping students build healthy tech habits and become responsible citizens of a digital world. She will be using resources from Common Sense Media for Education as well as other great sights. **Common Sense Media** also has great resources for parents regarding games, apps, and movies.

## Tech Tip



Many students are talking about a new game/YouTube videos called "Baldi's Education in School". This is *not* an educational game and rather, a horror video game. Be sure to check in with your kids and see what games they are playing and what videos they are watching. To help your children develop healthy tech habits:



1. Check for age/content appropriateness of games and videos
2. Stay in the same room while they are using devices: talk about what they are viewing
3. Set clear limits for content and device time limits

## Welcome New Wasatch Faculty and Staff!

Melinda Thorn, Kindergarten



Sonja Hales, Kindergarten Aide



Sarah Machol, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade



Lorraine Traugher, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade



Heather Pedersen, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade



Lisa DeFrance, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade



James Fearick, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade



Summer Millican, Interventionist

