



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear West Hills Community,

It's that time of year again, and we're not just talking about Spring! It's time to take state tests. Over several weeks, all school children in Jordan School District will be taking tests. West Hills Middle School will be administering the State required SAGE tests.

- Writing (March 24, 2014 – April 11, 2014)
- Language Arts (April 14, 2014 – May 23, 2014)
- Mathematics (April 14, 2014 – May 23, 2014)
- Science (April 14, 2014 – May 23, 2014)

Students prepare for these exams all year long, and parents can help students be ready for these important end-of-year tests. Here are a few suggestions to assist your child:

### **Attendance**

Students need to be in school to take the test, but it is also vital that they come every day prior to the tests. Teachers continue providing new content lessons, and reviewing course and curriculum information. Important learning opportunities will continue taking place every day.

### **Help Children Understand Why We Test**

Tests are yardsticks. Schools use them to improve teaching techniques, develop curriculum, and strengthen the school climate. Tests are used to examine student growth in learning, and used to identify students in need of additional time and support for learning.

### **Get Plenty of Sleep and Eat Well**

Make sure your child gets plenty of sleep and a good breakfast each day of testing. Children who are tired and hungry are less able to concentrate in school and handle the demands of testing. School breakfast in our West Hills cafeteria is a great option for some families. Breakfast is only \$1.00 for our students (\$0.30 for those students who qualify for reduced price meals).

Testing doesn't need to be an unpleasant event. In fact, tests can be fun. Preparation will lend a hand in making the testing experience more enjoyable. If you have questions about testing, and the dates, please call the school. This is a great time to see our West Hills students shine!



## *Comcast Cares Day*

Comcast is partnering with the city of West Jordan and Sunset Ridge Middle School in two separate service projects as part of the Comcast Cares Day initiative. This event is also part of the "I love West Jordan" day of service. Comcast Cares Day is on Saturday, April 26, 2014 from 8:00 – 12:00. Registration/Breakfast will be held at Veterans Memorial Park (1985 W 7800 S.) from 7:00 am -8:00 am. Afterward, participants will be assigned to various service projects to be done between 8:00 am – 12:00 pm. The purpose of these projects will be to clean up and beautify the city. Examples of service include: planting trees and washing windows. Lunch will be provided from 12:00 – 1:00. Participants will also receive a free t-shirt for their involvement. Comcast donates money for each registered participant to be used toward a non-profit organization. West Jordan leaders are planning to use this donation to subsidize the playground project at Ron Wood Regional Park. Preregistration was encouraged but not required. It is not too late to come out and help beautify our city!



## *Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week*

Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week is May 5-9 this year. Please take a minute to thank our awesome West Hills teachers & staff for all they do!!





## *Mulan Jr. Musical*

Thank you to everyone who participated in and helped with our musical Mulan Jr. It was a great success! It was so much fun to get to know and work with these talented kids. Great job everyone!



## *PTA Day at the Capitol*

On February 12th, over thirty West Hills students attended PTA day at the Capitol. They took tours, observed the House and Senate chambers, went to classes and participated in a mock debate about laws governing air quality. A terrific and educational time was had by all. This is an annual tradition sponsored by the West Hills PTSA. Any students that are PTSA Student Reps are invited to participate. Look for PTSA Student Rep applications at Back-to-School night, and remember to join PTSA to support all the awesome events they sponsor at our school.

