



A Message from the Principal

Welcome to the 2013-14 school year. The year is now in full swing, and many great things are happening. Seventh grade orientation and Back-to-School Night were terrific. I want to thank students, parents, staff, PTSA and Student Government for all of their help and support to make these events a big success. We had a great experience with online enrollment, thanks to you, our parents!

Our late start Friday collaboration time is running smoothly. Teachers have been very excited to have the time to discuss and plan for high student achievement. Many of our teachers have begun to use a new tool called Mastery Connect. Mastery Connect allows teachers to more easily monitor student progress toward mastering content standards, and identify students in need of additional support for learning.

We have renamed and expanded the Ketchup and Relish remediation and enrichment program. The program is now called Learning Enhancement and Acceleration Program (LEAP). Instead of waiting until halfway through the quarter to have an intervention for students with low grades or who have not mastered a concept, we are holding weekly LEAP sessions to give students more time and support for learning in those subjects where they need the most help.

Parents may access student grades and attendance over the internet at [www.jordandistrict.org /Parents & Students/ Gradebook](http://www.jordandistrict.org/Parents%20&%20Students/Gradebook). Parents received their password information with their registration packet. If you need your student's Skyward password, or your own, please come to the main office or have your student ask the office. Teachers are updating grades every Tuesday so students and parents can check progress.

You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter to receive school announcements and information from West Hills. You can also sign up to receive twitter messages sent directly to your cell phone. To set up the text message service, follow the instructions below. You can find us on Facebook at **West Hills Middle School**. To follow us on Twitter through your mobile phone via SMS texting –Text the message: **follow whmswildcats** to the phone number **40404**. You may also follow our Twitter account online at the following URL Address: <https://twitter.com/whmswildcats> (It is not necessary to sign up with Twitter to follow). This is just another way that we can improve communication with the community and ultimately, help our students achieve great things.

You may also be aware that we have two assistant principals who are new to the West Hills family. We are excited to have Wyatt Bentley, joining us from Brighton High School in the Canyons School District and Caleb Olson, who comes to us from South Jordan Middle School.

I look forward to the rest of the school year. Please contact me, or one of the assistant principals if we can be of help to you or your student.

Stacy Evans

Principal

West Hills Middle School

801-412-2300



A Message from the PTSA President

Welcome back Parents and Students! The PTSA has a lot of exciting things planned this year. I hope you'll make the decision to get involved and, at the very least, join PTSA. More members give our school a bigger voice and membership is packed with little perks. For the students, you can get into the games for free. For parents and students, there are many discounts offered to members, including ones from T-Mobile and various sporting events here in the valley.

I urge you to get involved, although signing up does not commit you to do anything. We are currently in need of a Volunteer Coordinator. If you're interested contact Sharna at 801-755-8625.

Here's to a great year, Wildcats!

Sharna Harrod
PTSA President

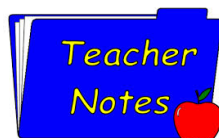


2013-2014 Year at a Glance

Student-Led Conference – October 2-3
 Book Fair – October 2-3
 Comp Day (no school) – October 4
 Reflections Due Date – October 16
 Fall Recess – October - 17-18
 Red Ribbon Week – October 21-25
 End of First Quarter – October 31
 Grade Transmittal Day(no school)- November 1
 Mulan Jr. Auditions – November 18-20
 Mulan Jr. Callbacks – November 21-22
 Thanksgiving Recess – November 27, 28, 29
 Winter Recess – December 23 – January 3
 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day – January 20
 End of Second Quarter – January 23
 Grade Transmittal Day (no school) January 24
 Washington and Lincoln Day – February 17
 Student-Led Conference – March 5-6
 Book Fair – March 5-6
 Comp Day (no school) - March 7
 Mulan Jr. Performances – March 21,24,25
 End of Third Quarter – March 28
 Grade Transmittal Day (no school) – March 31
 Spring Recess – April 17-18, 21
 Memorial Day – May 26
 Last Day of School – June 6

Welcome New Teachers and Staff

We want to extend a warm welcome to all of our new teachers and staff. We will be highlighting them in our next newsletter. We welcome back our returning teachers and staff as well. We want to thank ALL of our teachers and staff for the endless time and effort they put into making West Hills Middle School such an amazing school!!



Memory Book



Middle school is such a wonderful time of growth and development with so many experiences and memories that shape our children into the adults they become. The Memory Book captures many of these experiences and memories so that our children can look back on this

amazing time in their lives and relive those cherished moments. The Memory Book is available for preorder right now! You can order any day, any hour on Skyward. Here is how to order online:

Log in to your student's account and go to the "Fee Management" section. If you have already ordered and paid for a Memory Book it will show up on this page. If not, then choose "Make Online Payment". A new window will open and allow you to choose "Add Charges". Another window will open and allow you to choose "Add Memory Book. The window will close and you will need to place a checkmark in the glowing box next to Memory Book to verify that you wish to purchase it. At this point the line that reads: Total Remaining Balance will show \$25.00. You can then choose to "Pay With Credit Card" and complete the process to order the Memory Book.

Or, if you prefer, you can always send cash or a check with your student to school. Your student will need to go into the Front Office and the secretary will be more than happy to apply the payment to your student's account on the spot. You can then log in to Skyward and see the book ordered and applied to your student's account.

I recommend that ALL PARENTS that believe they have paid for a Memory Book log in to Skyward and verify. This is the best way to make sure your child has his/her book paid for as of today.

If you have not ordered a book yet then think about ordering one for your student's birthday or as a holiday gift. This book is an optional purchase, and is NOT included in your standard registration fees. Don't miss this opportunity to get a full-color Memory Book for your student. It is a fabulous way to help them commemorate another great year at West Hills Middle School.

Red Ribbon Week



Red Ribbon Week will be held Oct 21st - 25th this year. Information will be sent home with each student discussing what they learned during the week. Please remember to review and sign this off with your student to make them eligible for raffle tickets in the Red Ribbon Week drawing.



Reflections

Do you like to express yourself through writing, art, music or dance? The Reflections contest is going on right now! This year's theme is "Believe, Dream, Inspire" so think about who and what you believe in, who and what inspires you, and what you dream about. The categories include: Literature, Visual Arts, Photography, Dance Choreography, Music Composition, Film Production, and 3-Dimensional Artwork. There are lots of directions to go with this theme. Use your imagination and create something for this contest. All of the forms and information are available online at



utahpta.org under the programs tab and there are also forms and instructions in the main office. The box to leave your entries in is located in the main office. The due date has been extended a week to Wednesday October 16th so make sure you have all your stuff together by then and may the odds be ever in your favor!



Believe, Dream, Inspire



Mulan Jr.

Rumor has it our very own West Hills Middle School has undiscovered talent just waiting to be discovered and what better place for that to happen than the school musical. Our spring musical this year will be **Mulan Jr.**! We will be holding auditions for this on Nov. 18th - 20th with call backs on the 21st and 22nd. Rehearsals will run Jan-Mar and our performances will be the 21st, 24th, and 25th of March. The sign-up sheets for audition time slots will be posted outside the choir room at the beginning of November, and at that time, you'll need to pick up your permission form from either the office, Mr. Neves, or Ms. Coakwell to **have signed** and bring with you to your audition. Please remember you need to have earned a **2.0 or higher** for first quarter in order to be able to try out for the musical. See you then!



PTSA Membership

The PTSA is having a contest between TA classes to see which classes can get the most PTSA memberships. The top 10 TA classes will win a doughnut party on October 15th during their TA classes. Parents and students can join for \$6 each and parent memberships will also count towards their child's TA class. We will be selling memberships September 30 and October 1-2 during lunch and October 2nd and 3rd during student led conferences. You can also join online at www.jordandistrict.org/schools/middle/westhills/.

Legislative Corner

Jordan District Bond Information

Do You Have Questions about the Jordan School District Bond and Growth? As the November 5th election draws near, you may have questions about the Jordan bond and the tremendous growth that is bringing children into our schools in record numbers. We invite you to go to jordanbond.org to watch an educational video that was produced to explain what our schools are facing and what the bond will mean for you. Other things you will find on this site include: Bond at a Glance, Bond Priorities, and Frequently Asked Questions.

Mark Your Calendar For An Important Bond Open House! This is your opportunity to meet with District officials one-on-one at our Bond Open Houses located in the school media center. We will present an informational video and have bond education stations set up to answer all of your questions.

- **West Jordan High School**
Tues. Oct. 1, 6 – 7:30 p.m.
- **Copper Hills High School**
Wed. Oct. 2, 6 – 7:30 p.m.
- **Riverton High School**
Thurs. Oct. 3, 6 – 7:30 p.m.
- **Bingham High School**
Wed. Oct. 9, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
- **Daybreak Community Center**
Wed. Oct. 16, 6 – 7:30 p.m.



PTA Legislative Learning Opportunities

PTSA Legislative Advocacy Conference

This year's theme: Overcoming Intergenerational Poverty by Advocating for Our Leaders of Tomorrow.
Wednesday, October 23, 2013, Salt Lake Community College, 4600 South Redwood Road, 8:30
Registration, 9:00 – 12:30 Workshops, Lunch and Business Meeting at 12:45.

PTA Day at the Capitol

Mark your calendar! PTA Day at the Capitol is for all PTA members including Student Reps. Learn about laws that are being discussed. Meet your Legislators. See the Legislature in action. Wednesday, February 12th, 9:00-3:00.

Contact the West Hills PTSA if you are interested in either of these opportunities.



Utah PTA Opinion on new School Grading Law

Parents who wish to know the opinion of the PTA regarding the current law will find the following links useful sources of information: Utahpta.org and Jordanbond.org

West Jordan City Information

MEET THE CANDIDATE NIGHTS: Election Day is November 5th! This is a great way to get to know the candidates.

Wednesday, October 2, 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

City Hall - Council Chambers - 3rd Floor

8000 South Redwood Road

Thursday, October 10, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Joel P. Jensen Middle School

8105 South 3200 West

