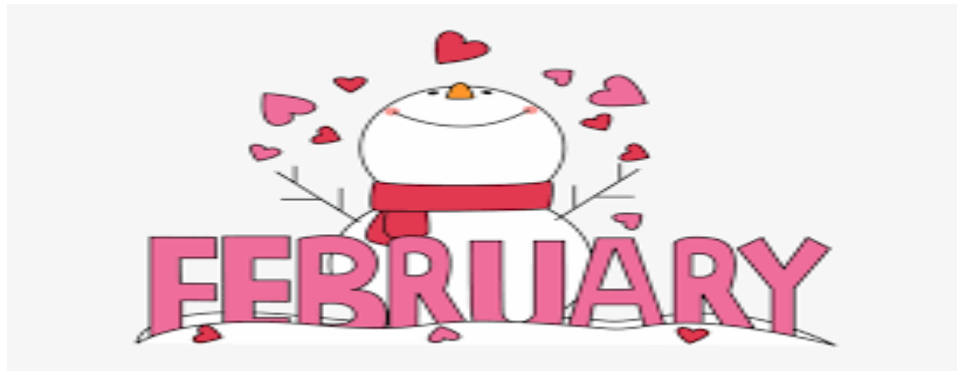


Arcadia Principal's February 2023 Newsletter



February 2023

Dear Arcadia Family,

February is one of my favorite months! Not only is my birthday this month (I share it with Mrs. Godfrey) but we have Valentine's Day and it's a short month! We have a lot going on as usual. Below are some things I'd like you to know.

Arcadia Math Night!



Math Night was January 25th and it was a resounding success! We counted over 400 bodies came into the building. Mathnasium and the teachers and volunteers taught families how to play math games at home to help their students learn and solidify math concepts and have fun doing math related activities. The choir and band performed during dinner and did a great job! I was so proud of them. Thanks to everyone who came and participated.

We're looking forward to having Culture Night in May to celebrate the diverse community that makes up our school.

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Attendance at Arcadia

Every Day Counts Attendance Report

Elementary School	October Attendance	Change from LY	November Attendance	Change from LY	December Attendance	Change from LY	January Attendance	Change from LY	February Attendance	Change from LY	March Attendance	Change from LY	YTD Attendance	Leaderboard
VALLEY CREST	89.5	-1.2	87.34	-2.46	85.19	-5.4							87.34	-3.02
GEARLD L. WRIGHT	94.25	2.6	91.08	0.11	86.03	-5.51							90.45	-0.93
ARCADIA	91.19	3.64	87.84	0.07	82.19	-5.55							87.07	-0.61
WEST KEARNS	91.74	2.56	87.83	-0.34	83.24	-5.56							87.60	-1.11
JOHN C. FREMONT	91.27	1.11	87.36	-1.52	84.52	-5.72							87.72	-2.04
SOUTH KEARNS	90.58	0.45	88.88	-0.2	83.84	-5.72							87.77	-1.82

Our attendance average in the district is 87%. We would like to be in the high 90s. Every day I give the school the previous day's report on which classes had 100% attendance. Each day, we only have one or two classes that have all students present. There are many students who have over 20 absences. As you are probably aware, **students cannot learn new content when they are not at school.** We need parents' help with this issue. Students need to come to school consistently. Parents are only allowed seven absences a year. If you're having a problem with this issue, please contact our social worker, Craig Kaluhikaua, or work with our attendance secretary, Sandra Perkes, to brainstorm ways to improve your child's attendance.

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As a reminder, students should not come to school if they have a fever, productive cough that is constant, a persistent running nose, or COVID symptoms. Pink eye or lice are other valid excuses for not attending school. If you take your child to a doctor/dentist appointment, please always ask them for a medical excuse note to give to Mrs. Perkes so she can mark your child medically excused.

Testing Schedules

Summative testing will take place starting at the end of April and will last most of the month of May. For your information, the testing windows and schedules are below **so you can plan appointments and other commitments around testing**. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions about testing or the testing schedules.



Test Name	Testing Window	Students tested
Granite Proficiency Checks – SchoolCity (OPTIONAL)	August 18 – June 2 (Depending on subject, available as Standards, Strands, Quarterly, and/or Pre/Post Semester assessments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ELA and Math: Grades 1-12 - Science: Grades 4-12 - Social Studies: Grades 7-12 - CTE, Arts, ELD, Health, P.E., World Languages, etc.: Grades 6-12
Acadience Reading	August 18 – September 30 (BOY) December 1 – January 6 (MOY) April 17 – May 26 (EOY)	Grades K-6
Acadience Math	August 18 – September 30 (BOY) December 1 – January 6 (MOY) April 17 – May 26 (EOY)	Grades K-6
RISE Benchmarks (OPTIONAL)	August 18 – June 2	ELA and Math: Grades 3-8 Science: Grades 4-8 Writing: Grade 5 & 8
RISE Fall Interim (OPTIONAL)	August 18 – December 23 (No Writing or Science)	
RISE Winter Interim (OPTIONAL)	January 4 – March 3 (No Writing or Science)	
RISE Summative	April 3 – May 26	
Growth Measure	August 18 – October 12 (BOY) December 5 – February 3 (MOY) March 20 – May 19 (EOY)	ELA: grades 6-11
High School Core Benchmarks – Pearson (OPTIONAL)	August 18 – June 1	ELA, Math, Science: Grades 9-12
Utah Aspire Plus Summative	March 6 – May 12	ELA, Math, and Science: Grades 9 and 10
ACT	March 7-9; March 14-16	Grade 11
DLM	March 13 - May 26	SPED students who qualify
WIDA-Access	January 5 - March 3	All MLLs: K-12
WIDA Screener	Throughout the school year	Initial testing for MLLs
AAPPL	Oct. 17 – Dec. 2	Dual Language Programs: Grades 3-9
KEEP	August 2 – September 13 (data entered by Sept 30) - Entry May 4 – June 1 (data entered by June 15) - Exit	Literacy & Numeracy: Kindergarten

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Open Enrollment Applications Clarification

There was some misunderstanding about my email explaining open enrollment procedures. Open enrollment is **only** for students who live out of school boundaries. If you move or have moved out of Arcadia's boundaries, please go [here](#) to fill out an open enrollment application if you would like your child to continue coming to our school. **There is no need for currently enrolled students to fill out an open enrollment form for next year unless you move.** Please contact me if you need further clarification about this issue.

Open Enrollment

The link below is for an **Open Enrollment Application** for both this current school year (late application period) and for next school year (early enrollment period). The **Early Application Period** for the 2023-2024 school year begins on Tuesday, November 15, 2022 and ends on Friday, February 3, 2023. This is the recommended time to apply for the next school year.

- Once an application is submitted a timestamped pdf copy of the application will be sent to the parent/guardian and to the requested school.
- Notification of the application's acceptance/denial will be given by email or phone:
 - Within in two weeks for the current school year,
 - By Friday, March 31, 2023 for the next school year.
- If the application is accepted as a *Provisional Enrollment* the student and parent/guardian will meet with a school administrator after the application is accepted to sign a Provisional Agreement.
- Students residing within Granite School District boundaries are given priority. Enrollment depends on space available in the requested grade, class, or program.

[Open Enrollment Application](#)

February Assemblies & Activities



We have some exciting assemblies and activities happening in February. **RDT Dance Company** will be at our school on the first to perform and teach our students about dance. On the 8th, **The Springville Arts Museum** will visit classrooms to share what is in the museum and speak about subjects related to the contents of the museum. On the 13th, our 5th graders will go on a field trip to hear the **Utah Symphony** perform and, on the 15th, **Arts, Inc.** will sponsor a **Hip Hop Assembly**. Every year, Arts, Inc. works with the district and schools to present relevant and inspiring

artists located within the state who perform for students and expose them to different art forms.

We're excited to present these cultural opportunities to our students and staff and feel it is important for the whole child to have these experiences.

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February Mobile Food Bank

This is just a reminder that the mobile food bank will be at our school on the 2nd. Bus students will receive food 10 minutes before school lets out and the rest of the student body will be able to receive food starting at 3:20 p.m. in the cafeteria. Please remind your students that they need to line up in the library hall as a family unit and enter the cafeteria together so we can optimize food



distribution and ensure everyone gets what they need. If you need food throughout the month, you can contact the [Utah Food Bank](#) or the [Murray Park Church of Christ Food Pantry](#) to make arrangements for your family's needs.

Junior High & High School Students



We continue to have problems at the end of the day – especially on early out days – with junior high and high school students coming on campus and bothering teachers by rapping on the windows and screaming, going to the playgrounds and loitering while our students are having recess, hanging out at various places outside of the building and being disrespectful (swearing, flipping off, etc.) adults who confront them and tell them they are only allowed to wait for siblings by the bike rack. It's to the point that administration and teachers will take photos of the offenders and forward them to administrators at Bennion Jr. High and Granite Police. I have warned these former students (and some that have never gone to our school) several times and they continue to ignore us and disrespect others. Going forward, I will give them one warning only and, if they do not comply with adult requests to wait in the appropriate spot, I will press charges for trespassing and disruption of a school. If you have students who have siblings who come to pick them up, please let them know what we will be doing and inform them that they are to wait for their brothers

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and sisters by the bike rack where the crossing guard and cameras can supervise them. Please let me know if you have any questions about this issue. I really appreciate your help and support.

SEPs (Parent/Teacher Conferences)

Parent/Teacher Conferences are the 6th and 7th of February. You may schedule an appointment with your child's teacher by going [here](#). Conferences this time will be mostly face-to-face. Virtual conferences will only be arranged due to extenuating circumstances. Conferences are scheduled at 12 minute intervals. Teachers are scheduled to have dinner from 5:30 – 6:00 p.m. and will be unavailable during this time.

This time around, we are having **student-led conferences**. This means that the teacher will facilitate the meeting but will mostly remain silent as your student explains to you (through their data notebook) how he or she has been doing – including behavior. Teachers will have several handouts for you to read after the conference and will briefly answer any clarifying questions you have that your student is unable to address.



Please keep your visits brief and within the time limit. If you would like to have an extended conversation with your child's teacher, please contact your teacher after your conference and schedule a separate time to discuss concerns or questions. Teachers have permission to end conferences within the time limit allotted. I really hope you take advantage of this opportunity to touch base and learn how your student is doing in class, with assignments and with behavior.

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Community Council Update



We continue to ask for two to three parents to join Community Council. Part of the council's responsibilities is to share **digital citizenship** information with students and parents. During SEPs, a video will be shown on this subject in the gym. It will loop so you can join at any time. The council will share print/digital information with you at a later date. The PTA newsletter will also address this issue. Please let me or a council

member know if you have any questions or feedback on our educational materials surrounding this subject.

Maturation for 4th and 5th Grade Students

Maturation for 4th and 5th grade students will be **on the 23rd from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.**

District sanctioned instructors will present information older students need to know about their health, hygiene and changes occurring with their growing bodies. District maturation information is located [here](#). **Girls will meet in the gym**

and boys will meet in the library. Permission slips will be sent home and need to be returned for students to participate in this opportunity. Parents (or grandparents, adult aunts/uncles, etc.) are required to accompany their students to this event. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions about maturation.



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Update Personal Information

Sometimes, when we call home or attempt to contact parents over the phone, we discover that the contact information written on the registration card is not accurate. When I send emails to the community, I routinely have around 12 emails bounce back with messages that they are no longer valid. I'm asking each of you to contact the



longer valid. I'm asking each of you to contact the office if your contact information has changed to update it on your student's registration card and in the computer. Not only is this a safety issue, but most of the information parents also receive from the school is sent via **email**, **text** or sometimes by **phone**. In order for you to be up to date on what is going on at Arcadia, it is important we have the correct contact information.

District Mental Health Resources

As educators, we have noticed an **uptick in mental health issues** with students and families. At the end of the newsletter, I have included mental health resources for you to have in case you or your student are experiencing mental health issues. If you or your student is in crisis, it is helpful for me, your student's teacher and our social worker know so we can offer help and support.



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Employee Spotlight

I meant to include this in last month's newsletter, but it slipped my mind. I would like to celebrate Mrs. Herbopelis this month! Mrs. Herbopelis is a first-year teacher in 1st grade. I drop into her class almost every day in the morning and have observed that she consistently uses best practices in teaching and classroom management. She is doing a great job forming relationships with her students. She is respectful to her colleagues and maintains good communication with her students' parents. She is a valued and important

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member of our staff and we're so lucky to have someone of her caliber at our school. Below I have included the poster that is outside of her door so you can get to know her a little better.

MRS. HERBOPELIS



TEACHER

I love reading, writing, and skiing. Teaching is my passion. I want every student to feel safe and welcome in my classroom!



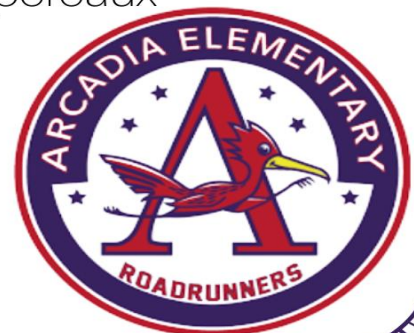
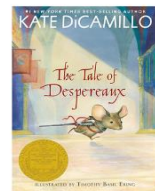
HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDED
Spanish Fork High School

COLLEGES ATTENDED
 SLCC & UVU

FAVORITE COLOR
Green 

FAVORITE FOOD
 Spaghetti

FAVORITE BOOK
The Tale of Despereaux



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Coming Up in March!

- March 1st – Utah Opera Assembly
- March 3rd – Kindergarten Registration
- March 6th – Safe Walking Routes Assembly
- March 9th – Mobile Food Pantry
- March 9th – PTA Monthly Meeting
- March 14th – Spring Picture Day
- March 15th – Arcadia Art Night
- March 16th – Early Out Day
- March 16th – Community Council
- March 17th – No School (Teacher Preparation Day)
- March 22nd – Community Council
- March 22nd – Quarterly Principal's Party
- March 23rd – End of 3rd Term
- March 23rd – Early Out Day
- March 24th – No School
- March 27th – 31st – Spring Break (No School)

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

All the best,

Matthew Graham
Principal
Arcadia Elementary

Office Phone: (385) 646-4756
Facebook: [ArcadiaElementary](#)
Website: [Arcadia Elementary](#)

