



Oakwood Elementary
Holladay, UT
September 2015

PTA NEWSLETTER

Welcome back to school!

It's great to see so many returning families as well as new young faces. Oakwood is a great place...you will love it here. Our Oakwood Owls dream big; the sky's the limit!

We are so lucky that Oakwood has exceptional teachers and a caring staff. We also have extraordinary parents. I love all the fresh energy of a new school year and would encourage any parents who would like to get involved to please join us the first Thursday of every month for our PTA Meeting. It's at 1:00 in the PTA room. All of the fabulous programs at Oakwood like Meet the Masters, Owl Chorale, Chess Club, Grandparents Day, Book Fair and Art Night happen because of supportive volunteers. Thank you for all you do to make Oakwood a great community. I'm looking forward to an exciting year and to getting to know you better.

Sincerely,

Megan Woodward
PTA President

Meet the 2015-16 PTA Executive Board!

President	Megan Woodward
President Elect	Wendy DeBry
Legislative VP	Emily Gray
Leadership VP	Kimi Tanner
Secretary	Kari Sikorski
Treasurer	Ramona Bailey
Historian	Heather Gay
Membership Dir.	Janice Worley
Fundraising Dir.	Heather Ellefson
School Relations Dir.	Holly Fairbanks

Oakwood parents, guardians and staff, please join us at our monthly PTA meetings on the 1st Thursday of each month, we look forward to meeting and working with you!

CALENDAR

9/7 NO SCHOOL - Labor Day
9/9 MTM Training 2:00, Art room
9/8-18 No Sales Fundraiser
9/21-25 MTM assembly and projects
9/22-23 Grandparents Day/Book Fair
9/24 Picture Day
9/28-30 SEP Conferences/Book Fair/
Community Council Elections
9/29 "Boo to the Flu" Flu Shots
10/1 PTA Mtg 12:00
10/1 SHORT DAY
10/2 NO SCHOOL
10/6 Vision Screening



*We would like to offer a special welcome to
all new students and their families to
our kindergarten and elementary classes!
We love Oakwood and we know you will too!*

Last call!

If you haven't already done so...
sign up for your PTA membership,
order the school directory,
order a yearbook, and
purchase Oakwood Spirit Gear T-Shirts.
The last day for ordering T-Shirts is Friday, Sept. 25th

Fridays are Unify-day!
Wear your Oakwood Spirit Gear
or clothing in the school colors green & blue!
PTA members will be handing out treats one
Friday each month to participating students.



Oakwood Elementary Business Partners

We would like to invite the outstanding businesses in our area to become an Oakwood Elementary Business Partner!

Donations from our business partners will greatly benefit our students by helping to provide important items such as: Chromebooks, new and innovative textbooks, and enrichment and developmental opportunities for teachers in order to give our students the most fulfilling educational experience possible. Every dollar received will go directly to purchasing these desired items for our students.

Business Partners will receive community name recognition with banners hung at our school, ad space in our school directory and will be recognized in our monthly newsletters.

If you wish to be a business partner, or to assist us in inviting local businesses, please contact Kelsey Nichols at kelseyannichols@gmail.com or 801-706-5039, or stop in the school office for more information.



EMAIL Communication

Sign into the Parent Portal at www.graniteschools.org and set up your Portal Account if you haven't already done so. Please check your email address in the Portal Account to verify it is correct.

This is the email address that Oakwood Elementary will be using to communicate important school news and information with you. If you are not receiving school emails, please contact the school office for assistance.

Oakwood Elementary WEBSITE

schools.graniteschools.org/oakwood

The Oakwood Elementary website is an excellent source of information for you. Access PTA & SCC meeting minutes, the school calendar, school blog, parking lot rules & tips and more!

You can also find Oakwood Elementary on Facebook and Instagram.

School Community Council

Calling all parents! School Community Council elections are coming up and we need you! We have 3 spots open this year, and are looking for engaged, passionate people to help guide funding conversations that directly impact your child.

Every school in Utah has a community council made up of administrators, teachers and parents that oversee the school's funds from Utah's School Land Trust.

School Land Trust dollars fund activities that directly influence ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE. Last year we funded classroom aides, accelerated reading programs and math programs.

This is your chance to influence school decisions & be heard! Please submit a Declaration of Candidacy form to the office no later than 3:00 p.m. on September 18. The forms can be found on our website. Elections will be held during SEPs on September 28-30.

NO SALES FUNDRAISER



September 8-18

This fundraiser specifically supports the needs and academic enrichment of Oakwood Elementary.*

Operating a school is costly and budgets are shrinking. Your financial support helps us supplement Oakwood's budget and ensure that our students and teachers benefit from a variety of important activities and resources, including:

- classroom aides • supplementary reading program • additional technology
- field trips • science lab supplies • educational assemblies • literature circle novels
- positive student incentive programs

100% of all donations go directly to Oakwood Elementary.
All donations are tax deductible.

Thank You For Your Support!

*Our two other fundraisers this year are earmarked for the arts and PTA projects / programs.





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WALKING SCHOOL BUS PROGRAM

Several parents from Oakwood would like to start a Walking School Bus Program to increase the number of children who walk to and from school.

The Walking School Bus program will help to:

- Get more children and adults physically active by walking to and from school •
- Make it safer for children and adults to walk in the neighborhood
- Reduce traffic in our neighborhood and around the school
- Help neighbors get to know one another better

We are interested in having children walk as a group, supervised by an adult, to and from school starting September 1, weather permitting. You can find out more information about the state's Walking School Bus program here: www.udot.utah.gov/snap/CommonAccess/WalkingSchoolBus.php?id=25

So far, parents who live **NORTH** of Oakwood along Highland Drive are most interested, although if there is a group wanting to form a group going **SOUTH** of the school, please contact us, and we can help you get started.

Virginia & Chris Templin
801-244-7740
vpinslc@gmail.com

Riverton Music

is offering before school **band and orchestra** classes to all students in 4th through 6th grade. Classes will be held at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday and Friday for beginners, and Monday and Friday for intermediate students.

Sign up **before September 30th** at the school, on our website, or at the temporary Riverton Music location at 2290 E. 4500 S.

Remember Parking Lot

EXPECTATIONS:

- Put your cell phone away when you enter the lot.
- Pull into a parking stall if you plan to get out of your car for **ANY** reason.
- Pull all the way forward in **SINGLE** file line. Do not stop/park in outside lanes.
- Children should exit car curbside only.
- Use the crosswalk when crossing from parking lot.

SAVE THE DATE!!!

Oakwood Owl Arts Booster Club presents:
"Moonlit Tides" Family ART Night

Monday, November 16th
5:30-8:00 p.m.

If you are interested in helping or would like to donate items, contact Kimi Tanner at Kimijo@comcast.net.



Current Donation Needs:

The IRC relies on the Salt Lake community to provide basic home furnishings and other much needed items for newly arrived refugee families and individuals. Our current needs include:

- **Couches, Sofas, Loveseats, etc.**
- **Dining Tables (small & large)**
- **Kitchen/Dining Chairs**
- **Hygiene / Cleaning Supplies**

Contact Jesse Sheets, Donations Coordinator, at **801-883-8457** to schedule a donation pickup within the Salt Lake valley.



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Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school! I hope you had a chance to enjoy summer and the change of pace it brings. We are in full swing at school with new classes, new teachers, and new learning opportunities. Our staff came back rejuvenated and prepared for the new academic year.

Many of our teachers have attended Chromebook training over the summer to prepare for the arrival of Chromebooks generously donated by the PTA. This incredible donation was made possible by our PTA through your support of our "Fun Run" last spring. Everyone is excited to begin incorporating Chromebooks into the classroom to assist developing engaging, differentiated instruction and enhanced learning.

Each fall Oakwood sponsors a **"No Sales Fundraiser"** to help support the needs and academic enrichment of our school. The fundraiser will run from September 8-18. We have a goal of raising \$10,000 to support a variety of important activities and resources, including field trips, classroom aides, a supplementary reading program (AR), additional Chromebooks, science lab supplies, educational assemblies, leveled reading library, positive student incentives, and a new writing program. A suggested donation amount of \$20 per student would help us reach our goal. Remember – 100% of all donations go directly to Oakwood Elementary. You can find more information on the school's website along with donation forms and directions for donating online. Thank you so much for your support.

Riverton Music will be offering "before school" **band and orchestra classes** again this year. Classes will be held at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday and Friday for beginners and Monday and Friday for intermediate students. Classes are open to all students in fourth through sixth grade. Please sign-up at the school, on our website, or at the temporary Riverton Music location at 2290 E. 4500 S. The music program has been very successful and we have been extremely impressed by the growth and progression of students who are participating in band and orchestra.

Once again, Oakwood will participate in the **"Every Day Counts"** attendance program. Last year, out of 63 elementary schools, Oakwood came in 47th place in tardies and attendance. After initiating the **"No Tardy Party"** incentive activities, our school rose to 19th place and then moved into the top ten. We recognize how important it is to have students at school every day and attending on time. Our expectation is that children are in their seats ready to learn, by the bell at 9:05 a.m. so they are not marked as tardy.

Governor Herbert has declared September to be "Attendance Awareness Month." You can read his Declaration on our website. Granite District and the Granite Education Foundation are also working to provide exciting incentives to reward students for their good and improved attendance. Let's set a goal to be one of the top ten schools for the month of September. We need your support in stressing the importance that **"Every Day Counts."**

Our School Community Council will have three vacancies this year. Elections will be held during SEP Conferences on September 28, 29, and 30. Please consider serving on this important committee.

Parent representatives work together with nominated teachers and the principal to allocate School LAND Trust Funds for school improvement. Please submit a Declaration of Candidacy form to the office no later than 3:00 p.m. on September 18. The forms can be found on our website.

Sincerely,

Dianne J. Phillips
Principal