

CRA NEWSLETTER, 4-2-2019

Parent Feedback Survey

We continue to sort and analyze the qualitative data from the recent school survey in hopes of drawing conclusions and gaining new insights on how we can best serve the students at Canyon Rim Academy. Additionally, we are conducting a longitudinal analysis to track how findings for specific questions change over time. Statistically there was little change from the survey last year, however we observed an upward trend in satisfaction on a few of the questions. We think it is important for you to know the general responses from the 235 who responded to the school survey. For each category we will identify the percentage agreement (lowest to highest) from parents:

- School Climate: 94% to 99%
- School Safety: 88% to 98%
- Principal: 88% to 94%
- Parent Support: 95% to 99%
- Teacher Emotional Support: 97% to 99%
- Teacher Learning Support: 96% to 97%
- Teacher Communication: 98% to 99%
- Board of Trustees: 80% to 94%

The school received much praise and many of you expressed these sentiments: “we have been very happy at CRA, no complaints”, “we are new to CRA this year, and we love it”, “I can’t think of anything that would make it better”, “the CRA teachers, administrators, staff and community have been so wonderful and have truly blessed my children’s lives (and mine) exponentially!”

There were additional calls for an updated building, a larger auditorium, and the need for air conditioning. Perhaps this parent said it best: “At this point it is the older facility that is holding back the ‘5-star’ rating.” As mentioned in last week’s newsletter, a task committee has recently been created to explore options including the viability of building a new school on this site. Others expressed thanks for the improved security measures including electronic door enhancements and some would like to see more controls put in place.

We took particular notice of the ideas that were shared. Among them included an open house for new students and parents before school starts, more use of hands-on activities in class and fewer worksheets, more adult supervision at recess, more parent input into policies and decision making, a gifted/talented option, additional diversity, better communication from the administration to the parents.

A few of you would like to see the school host a foreign language class or an immersion language program. The idea is a great one in principle, however we are struggling now with adequate space and don’t know how we could undertake another program at the moment. We prefer doing a few things really well rather than taking on so many programs that make the results of our efforts marginal at best.

All of your comments have been informative. We value your perspective. In the words of Steven Covey: “we must never become too busy sawing to take time to sharpen the saw.” One of the primary purposes of this survey is to ‘sharpen the saw’ or in other words -- seek continuous improvement. Thanks to all who participated.

Kent Fuller, Principal & Dave Garrett, Business Manager

Fun Facts about Canyon Rim Academy

In the next couple of months, we plan on sharing a few fun facts about Canyon Rim Academy that you may not know. This week's facts:

As of April 1, our student population is 516 students: 271 male and 245 female.

We have 62 employees at the school: 26 are full time, 36 are part time.

Additionally, we have teacher substitutes and a handful of other specialists and independent contractors that are not included in those totals. We are lucky to have many hands contributing to the education of our students. :)

Early Bird Beginning Chorus

Miss Susan will start the Early Bird Beginning Chorus for 1st, 2nd & 3rd graders this Friday, April 5. The chorus will be held every Friday between April 5 and May 24, 7:45-8:30 a.m. Students that want to participate should go to room 1 (the music room across from the Kindergarten classes).

Questions? Contact Susan Swidnicki at sswidnicki@canyonrimacademy.org.

Bank Day

Washington Federal will be at Canyon Rim this week for bank day on Wednesday, April 3rd during the lunch hour.

Clean Air Challenge

Hello - my name is Luke. I'm in 2nd grade.

Salt Lake City has bad air! I don't like to breath in this yucky air! I have heard that regularly breathing bad air can lead to heart and lung disease. The World Health Organization reported that 270,000 children a year die before reaching one-month-old because of poor air quality conditions. We can make a difference here at CRA. Please join me in a Clean Air Challenge. During the **first two weeks of April**, let's all try to leave our cars at home! You'll see a banner at CRA's pick-up/drop-off line and posters around school reminding you to walk, bike, scoot or skate when you can. Every little bit helps Salt Lake's air. Now last of all, look out cars! Get out of the way! Let bikes and scooters lead the way!

Kindergarten Music Informances

Kindergarten Parents, please join us for your child's interactive music informance with Miss Susan on Friday, April 12 in room 1, the music room.

Miss Shapiro's AM Class: 8:35-9:15

Mrs. Hedin's AM Class: 9:55-10:30

Miss Shapiro's PM Class: 11:20-12:00

Mrs. Hedin's PM Class: 12:40-1:15

CALENDAR

Thursday, April 4: Maturation Program for 5th & 6th grades, 2:00

April 8-11: 6th Grade Teton Science School

Tuesday, April 9: K Field Trip to Red Butte Gardens

AM Classes: 9:00-11:30

PM Classes: 12:15-2:45

Friday, April 12: Spring Picture Day

Monday, April 15: PTO Art Night, 6:00-8:00 p.m.