

2016-17 RIVERTON ELEMENTARY THEME IMPORTANT DATES

# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

by Cindy Tingey

Hello, Hello! Another school year is almost upon us. Summer is going too quickly, but I am so excited to see the students again. 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will begin class on August 23, 1<sup>st</sup> grade students will begin class on August 24, and Kindergarten students will begin class on August 31. Parents with a 1<sup>st</sup> grade or a kindergarten student will need to schedule an interview time with the teacher. The scheduling window will open on August 17<sup>th</sup>. Look for the mailer to explain how to make an appointment.

September is "School Attendance Awareness Month." Let's establish a pattern of daily school attendance beginning August 23 and continue that great habit through June 2!

Please remember that attendance at school is important for a variety of reasons. One important reason is academics. When students are absent, they miss content that builds throughout the school year. They also miss valuable interactions with their peers that increase understanding and activities that provide connections for learning. Lessons are integrated through multiple subject areas, so when a child misses reading, he or she also miss content for science, social studies, grammar, vocabulary, and comprehension.

Chronic absenteeism may cause concerns socially. Students learn social patterns, behaviors and acceptance at school. Being absent may delay learning of these skills and can hinder a student's ability to interact

appropriately with peers. This can cause apprehension or anxiety about coming to school.

Also, students learn the habit of being at a designated place on time and prepared to do work. That habit extends throughout their life. School is a great place to learn how to plan ahead and prepare to be somewhere on time.

### ABSENTEEISM FACTS:

- Chronic absence is considered 10% or about 18 days of the year. That is about 2 days a month.
- Chronic absenteeism in kindergarten can predict lower test scores, poor attendance and retention in later grades.
- Students with chronic absence patterns have a 7.4 times higher rate of dropping out of school.
- Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> graders' absenteeism rates are as high as those in high school.
- 1 out of 10 kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students are chronically absent.

Last year, the pick-up and drop-off area went well after a few changes were made to the beginning routines. Thank you for being considerate to other patrons and watching out for the safety of all students at Riverton Elementary. Included in this newsletter are the drop-off/pick-up instructions. Please read and help the school community by following the expectations.

I look forward to working with you and your students this year.

Riverton Principal,  
Cindy Tingey

## First Day of School!

Only 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grades come this day. Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grades will be doing interviews. Please schedule an appointment on the online scheduler:

<https://www.canyoncreeksoftware.com/scheduler/ut/jordan/>

August 23

## First Day of School for 1<sup>st</sup> Grade!

Kindergarten interviews will continue. Make sure you have an appointment!

August 24

## Kindergarten Interviews Continue

Please schedule an appointment on the online scheduler:

<https://www.canyoncreeksoftware.com/scheduler/ut/jordan/>

August 25-26

## Birthday Bunch!

Let's celebrate all August birthdays at lunch! Parents/guardians are invited to sit with their student during lunchtime if they have a birthday in August.

August 31

## Kindergarten Starts!

See the school website for registration information.

August 31

## No School!

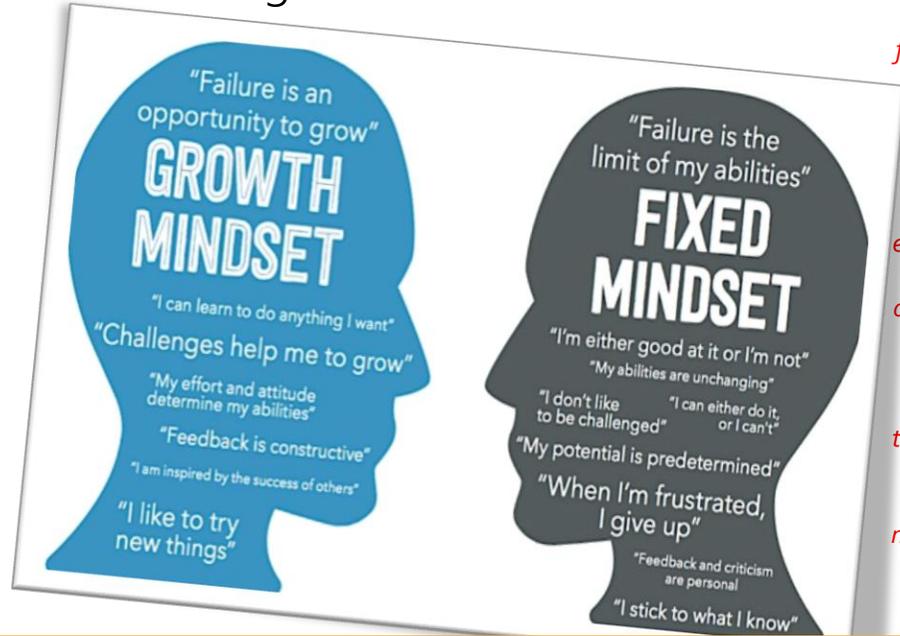
Labor Day Holiday!

September 5

According to Carol Dweck, "In a fixed mindset, people believe their basic qualities, like their intelligence or talent, are simply fixed traits. They spend their time documenting their intelligence or talent instead of developing them. They also believe that talent alone creates success—without effort. They're wrong.

In a growth mindset, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work—brains and talent are just the starting point. This view creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishment. Virtually all great people have had these qualities. Teaching a growth mindset creates motivation and productivity in the worlds of business, education, and sports. It enhances relationships."

## What is a growth mindset?



*This year we will be focusing on how to develop a growth mindset which will enable us to stretch ourselves to do hard things! Watch for tips to try at home in later newsletters.*

### As school starts, please keep in mind the traffic pattern so that all students can arrive safely and on time to school:

- **Green curbing:** This is the bus zone. We have 6 buses that pick up students. Cones make off the space for the buses. We work to try to minimize the space as buses come through. If cones are marking off an area, do not drop off or pick up students in this area.
- **Red curbing:** Cars are not permitted to drop off, pick up or park in these areas. Please move forward to the next available space or park in the parking lot.
- **Yellow curbing:** Vehicles are permitted to drop off and pick up in these areas. Please remain in the vehicle as you drop off and pick up your student. When students exit or enter the vehicle on the passenger side, exit the drop-off and pick-up lane quickly and safely.

We have put in to place some additional procedures to help with traffic flow. Watch for a teacher to help keep traffic moving at the intersection. Go through and if a lane is needed, wait for the dotted lines. Traffic turning left at the intersection need to stay in the left lane until the dotted lines to make the lane change. Please be aware that students are crossing at the crosswalks. Keep eyes on the road and move ahead slowly.

Traffic Pattern

