Dear Parents and Students,

I just started reading a book that I think is applicable to students and all of us. It is called *The Formative Five* by Thomas R Hoerr. The book states that in addition to academic proficiency, there are five skills that need to be developed to help students succeed in school and life. Dr. Hoerr suggests that empathy, self-control, integrity, embracing diversity, and grit are needed by every student.

Empathy means seeing the world from someone else’s perspective. Self-control includes the ability to shut out distractions and delay self-gratification. Integrity focuses on distinguishing between right and wrong and acting ethically. By embracing diversity, students are able to not only recognize but also appreciate differences in people. Finally, grit is persevering when faced with difficulties and challenges.

As we help our students develop these characteristics, we will see them be more successful in everything they do.

Thanks for all you do.

Mr. C.
Don’t forget to buy a yearbook, they are on sale now for $19.

School Activities
Dec 21—Jan 4—Winter Holiday (No School)
Jan 16—Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No School)
Jan 19—Parent Teacher Conf. 2:30pm-5:30pm
Jan 23—PLC Day, School out at 11:45am
Feb 1—Piano Concert
Feb 17—End of Trimester 2
Feb 20—Washington and Lincoln Day (No School)

CCR - College and Career Ready
7th grade students will start meeting with the counselors for their first CCR. CCR stands for College and Career Ready and begins in the 7th grade followed up every year by counselors. The purpose of this meeting is to get students thinking about future goals and options available to them. If a parent would like to attend this meeting with their student, please call the school to schedule an appointment or email staci.glazier@washk12.org

The 30 day grace period for free or reduced lunch status for 2016-2017 school year has now expired. If you have not gone online to complete a new application, then your child has automatically been moved to full pay status.

To check if you qualify for free or reduced status for the remainder of this year, please complete the online application ASAP. Remember that the district policy states there is no charging for meals. Students need to have money in their account prior to eating.

Click here to access the application Meal Benefit Application
I am the newest Special Ed Teacher for Language Arts and Math. I have worked for the district for 10 years at other schools including Pine View Middle, Hurricane Middle and Hurricane High.

I am married to Mr. Baker (H.I.S. Band Teacher). We have three boys ages 6, 4 and 5 months.

I enjoy spending time with my family at Zion National Park. I also do some sewing on occasion and reading when I get the chance. I love to plan parties of any kind! I enjoy getting people together! I love the color yellow and can go for nachos ANYTIME! My all time favorite teacher was Mrs. Gregg, my junior Honors English teacher and debate coach. She was so easygoing and really a great teacher.

I started volunteering in a Special Education behavior classroom when I was 19 years old and a social work student at the University of Utah. I really enjoyed working with the students and talking with the teacher about strategies that worked for students who needed help with their behavior and social skills. Ultimately, I changed my major to teaching. I volunteered with the reading specialist at North Elementary in Cedar City and became a paraprofessional while finishing my Special Education/Elementary Education dual degree at SUU.
We received a mysterious piece of mail addressed to one of our students. Upon opening the mail he found that a good Samaritan had returned his lost wallet! His school ID card was in his wallet and that is how they found him. Dacen was so excited!!

Are You Ready for the Reward Zone???

January 27th will be here before we know it!! **We have designated the last Friday of every month, during homeroom, as the Reward Zone!** That means, students without missing and/or incomplete assignments in any of their classes, get to participate in a school-wide homeroom activity. In December, homerooms all over the school got to play games or bring devices from home! So don’t forget to remind your student to turn in and complete all of their assignments! Be ready for the Reward Zone!
News from the Office

Office Hours are Monday—Friday 7:10am—2:50pm

ATTENDANCE—If your child will not be at school please call 635-8931 or email jennifer.gray@washk12.org. If you are checking your student out of school, you will need to come into the office and sign them out. You must have ID in order to check out a student. We will not release students to anyone who is not on your contact list.

Character Ed

January we will be learning about Habit 4: Think Win Win. Stephen Covey states, "A person or organization that approaches conflicts with a win-win attitude possesses three vital character traits:

1. Integrity: sticking with your true feelings, values, and commitments
2. Maturity: expressing your ideas and feelings with courage and consideration for the ideas and feelings of others
3. Abundance Mentality: believing there is plenty for everyone

Many people think in terms of either/or: either you're nice or you're tough. Win-win requires that you be both. It is a balancing act between courage and consideration. To go for win-win, you not only have to be empathic, but you also have to be confident. You not only have to be considerate and sensitive, you also have to be brave. To do that--to achieve that balance between courage and consideration--is the essence of real maturity and is fundamental to win-win.