

Emery County School District

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Emery County School District began implementing professional learning communities (PLCs) in 2016-2017 in an effort to not only improve teaching strategies, but to also enhance student growth within our schools. Teachers were organized around content areas and specific grade-levels and would meet quarterly during the school day to vertically and horizontally discuss the Utah core standards, student improvement, and common assessments. We realized the power of collaboration to influence culture, climate, and practice of teaching to improve student results. Throughout the past three years, Emery schools have sent groups of administrators, staff, and teachers to a Solution Tree PLC at Work Institute in an effort to enhance the opportunities and guidance through this collaborative process. Through the success and progress within the past year of working with professional learning communities, teachers were asking for more imbedded time within the day in order to collaborate with a more consistent schedule and process.


As elementary leaders of all six elementary schools in Emery County, in conjunction with our district leadership, we want to see our schools excel together. We have spent the last school year researching best practices, visiting other schools within the state, and talking with our faculty and staff members to determine what the logical next step would be to increase student engagement and learning.

From all the data and input we received, a weekly early release day was the best, and truly only, option. Providing schools dedicated time each week to meet, review data, and plan for student success is best practice in the education world, and we are excited that our school board understands and supports this vision. The short amounts of time before and after school is not sufficient enough to meet the growing needs our teachers have to meet to enhance student growth and progress. Beginning school year 2020-2021, Elementary schools will begin an Early Release Wednesday. This program will be piloted for one year and has oversight and support from the Superintendent and Emery District School Board.

Early Release Wednesdays (ERW) are days that will allow for schools and teachers to team, review data, discuss student progress, and plan to support students at three levels: those who don't understand, those who mostly understand, and those who have mastered the concept. ERWs are not simply teacher planning days. These precious hours that we have been given each week will be used to their fullest. Faculty and staff will be vertical teaming, grade level teaming, reviewing data, reviewing and creating assessments, differentiating lessons, professional development, and more.

The Benefits of Early Release

- The ability for teachers to provide stronger targeted lessons and assessments for students with follow-up plans for reteaching concepts students may not understand.
- Teacher teaming within the school and across the district to allow for the sharing of best practices and teaching.
- Teacher training and learning for continual strengthening of best practice skills and strategies
- Time for families to have dentist, doctor, or other appointments that won't require students to miss school.
- Students will have time at home one ½ day a week to complete any missing work, projects, and assignments.

JR Jones

Elementary Supervisor

It is the policy of the Emery County School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, or disability in programs, activities, and employment.

MID DAY WEDNESDAYS FOR ELEMENTARIES							
1ST SCHOOL	LOAD TIME	LEAVE TIME	2ND SCHOOL	LOAD TIME	LEAVE TIME	DELIVERED TO	DAY RUN
CLE	1:00 PM				1:10 PM	S. FLAT/N.W.ELMO/TWIN PEAKS	WED
HE	11:45 AM	11:50 AM	CLEVELAND ELEM.	1:00 PM	1:10 PM	CLEVELAND/CLEMO/COUNTY LINE	WED
HE	11:45 AM				11:50 AM	HUNTINGTON/CYN/LAWRENCE	WED
CWE	12:45 PM	12:55 PM	CASTLE DALE ELEM.	1:00 PM	1:10 PM	CD/WILBURG.LAWRENCE/HUNT/CLEV/ELMO	WED
CWE	12:45 PM	12:55 PM	CASTLE DALE ELEM.	1:15 PM	1:20 PM	ORANGEVILLE/CASTLE DALE	WED
CWE	12:45 PM	12:55 PM	FERRON ELEM.	1:15 PM	1:20 PM	CLAWSON/FERRON/EMERY	WED
FE	1:00 PM				1:10 PM	E. FERRON/CLAWSON	WED
CVM	3:15 PM		EHS FROM PAIGE		3:20 PM	S. FLAT/ N. W. ELMO/TWIN PEAKS	WED
CVM	3:15 PM		EHS FROM LARRY		3:20 PM	CLEVELAND/CLEMO/COUNTY LINE	WED
EHS	2:55 PM	3:05 PM	CANYON VIEW	3:20 PM	3:25 PM	S. HUNT/LAWRENCE	WED
EHS	2:55 PM	3:05 PM	CANYON VIEW	3:20 PM	3:25 PM	N. HUNT/CLEV	WED
EHS	2:55 PM				3:05 PM	ORANGEVILLE	WED
EHS	2:55 PM	3:05 PM	SAN RAFAEL	3:25 PM	3:30 PM	FERRON	WED
SRM	3:05 PM	3:15 PM	EHS FROM TAMMY	3:25 PM	3:30 PM	W. FERRON/,OORE/EMERY	WED
SRM	3:05 PM				3:15 PM	E. FERRON/CLAWSON	WED
SRM	3:05 PM				3:15 PM	CASTLE DALE/ WILBURG	WED
SRM	3:05 PM				3:15 PM	ORANGEVILLE	WED
SRM	3:05 PM				3:15 PM	ORANGEVILL/CASTLE DALE	WED
BCE	1:00 PM				1:10 PM	GREEN RIVER	FRI
GRHS	2:45 PM				2:50 PM	GREEN RIVER	FRI