

Wasatch Peak Academy—School Report 2014

1. Mission of our charter school-

Mission Statement: Wasatch Peak Academy will provide a meaningful educational experience utilizing service-learning and dual-language instruction to inspire students:

- A genuine appreciation for community and country;
- A perpetual enthusiasm for learning;
- A willingness to embrace leadership opportunities; and
- A standard of individual academic excellence.

2. See latest document from Marlies with demographics

3. Supports we offer students and teachers that help keep our school's academic and engagement performance in the top quarter of Utah charter schools

- WPA was involved in piloting the C-MAP mentoring program, which was instrumental in establishing performance pay and establishing school and teacher goals based on student outcomes. WPA strives to have all teachers and aides highly qualified. Mentor teachers serve as support for new teachers and the school is committed to having all teachers meet state and national standards of excellence.
- Professional development is important to the success of WPA's teachers. The principal establishes school professional development opportunities for staff while allowing teachers to choose Professional Development opportunities outside of school that meet their individual goals and needs. The school has supported individual teacher development by paying for registration, etc.
- Extra time has been provided for teaching assistant's professional development, as well as just time with their assigned teacher. Teaching assistants work with students below benchmark in specific content areas such as reading and math.
- WPA administration worked early with teachers on the implementation of the common core, now the Utah Standards. Teachers were working with students a year in advance of the required implementation. Standards for academic excellence are at high levels. Specialists in Title I, Spanish, Special Education, Art, Music, and Technology add to the culture of best practice and excellent in teaching and learning.
- There is a culture of appreciation at WPA by staff, administration, and the Governing Board.

4. Best practices we would recommend to other LEAs to achieve the same high ranking

- Case Management Team: WPA has a case management team that looks at individual student progress. The team meetings help to generate intervention ideas for individual students as well as giving teachers a chance to share best practices.
- Board Governance: WPA has had training in and follows a board governance model that

allows the board to focus on the “what” and the administration to carry out the “how”.

- Working with a strong Educational Service Provider- WPA has contracted with Academica West since it opened its doors. The relationship has been beneficial in maintaining financial stability and meeting USOE report compliance and legal requirements.
- Strong Administration: WPA has had great administration that hires well and implements the charter vision.
- Effective Evaluation System: WPA has used an effective teacher evaluation system that looks at specific content areas for elementary teachers. The evaluation process has allowed administration and teachers to have crucial conversations about student performance and how to improve student outcomes. Data-driven decisions are made to provide the best instruction for students’ needs.