

I AM  
thankful  
FOR

# Centerville Elementary PTA NEWSLETTER

November 2018

Dear Centerville Elementary School Community,

We really appreciate your responses to the PTA Needs Assessment Survey distributed at the beginning of the school year. We have now received 155 responses! A large majority of the respondents indicated their desire to learn how to advocate for their child. Last week was the Utah PTA Advocacy Conference and there were some great classes on school safety and the SafeUT app, understanding data regarding student success, mental health, and how to be an advocate. I wanted to share some basic information on how to advocate for your child on a local, state, and national level. Advocacy is one of my favorite aspects of PTA!

## SPEAK UP FOR YOUR CHILD

### Local:

- Speak with your child's teachers and principal
- Join PTA!
- Check out the National PTA's "Parents' Guides for Student Success" to help you reinforce learning at home:

<https://www.pta.org/home/family-resources/Parents-Guides-to-Student-Success>

- Attend school PTA, community council, and school board meetings
- Write a letter to the editor concerning issues you are passionate about

### State:

- Write to your state legislators about issues that affect your children
- Meet with state leaders to discuss important issues
- Attend Utah PTA Convention or Utah PTA Day at the state capitol

### National:

- Access [PTA.org/TakesAction](http://PTA.org/TakesAction) and send an email to your member of Congress on issues important to students, plus get ready-to-go talking points
- Meet with your Congressional leaders to discuss important issues

For more information, please visit [PTA.org/Advocacy](http://PTA.org/Advocacy).

Thank you for all you do to learn about issues affecting our children, and for speaking up in their behalf. Contact us at [ptacentervilleelementary@gmail.com](mailto:ptacentervilleelementary@gmail.com) for more information or to get involved!

Thank you!

*Melanie Larsen*

PTA President

[ptacentervilleelementary@gmail.com](mailto:ptacentervilleelementary@gmail.com)

## PTA Events

11/6/2018	PTA Meeting 12:30-1:30 pm, Room 12
11/7/2018	ILP Dinner for Teachers
11/15/2018	Geography Bee 2:00 pm
11/21-11/23/18	No School

### \*Reflections\*

Thank you to all those who submitted entries for the PTA Reflections contest! Submissions were due October 25<sup>th</sup> and are now in the process of being judged at the school level. School finalists will have their entries advance on to the council level, where submissions will be judged against other elementary schools in our area. More information to come!

### PTA MEMBERSHIP PERKS!

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Pamela Winegar and Brynn Clinger! They won the PTA Membership drawing for October and both received a fall kitchen towel. Thank you for supporting PTA!

## Box Tops

Remember to send in your BoxTops! Please check the dates and make sure they haven't expired.

Remember: It's **HIP** to **CLIP**!

### How we used your PTA \$\$ in October:

- Prizes for fish pond at Fall Festival
- Supplies and incentives for Reflections and Ribbon Week

### Getting to Know your Centerville Elementary PTA Board:

*WHAT WE ARE THANKFUL FOR:*

**Melanie Larsen** – opportunities to learn and grow

**Emily Shipley** – proximity to mountains, which provide an elevated perspective

**Tiffany Rees** – modern medicine that helps us live healthy and happy

**Jen Chamberlain** – audio books and podcasts

**Bryttin Jones** – the beauty of all four seasons

**Danielle Creamer** – fascinating clouds that create stunning sunsets

**Mary Booth** – family, good books, and cooler weather

### Appreciation Shout-Outs:

Thank you to Kaye Gladwell and her committee for organizing Hearing Screenings in October! Also, thank you to Leah Bascom and her committee for running a fun and informative Red Ribbon Week (Drugs, Alcohol and Violence Prevention)!

### CONNECT WITH US!

We'd like to invite you to follow us on Facebook so you can stay up-to-date on all things PTA happening at Centerville Elementary! Here is the link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2082166678765690/>

Also, we welcome your comments and ideas! Please email us

at: [ptacentervilleelementary@gmail.com](mailto:ptacentervilleelementary@gmail.com)

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Want to make a BIG difference at no cost to you? Please go to **smile.amazon.com** and select "Centerville Elementary PTA, location: Salt Lake City" as your charity. Amazon will donate a portion of your purchase price for certain items directly to our school. YAY!