

SHARON'S REPORT CARD – September 3, 2013

Sharon is a great place to be. We have outstanding teachers, students and parents. Yesterday the grade of each school in the state was reported publicly. I want to give you some information to help you understand the grading system.

We get points for Achievement and for Growth. Achievement is based on the number of students that are proficient on the State Tests. Growth is based on improved scores within a statewide cohort of scores calculated over time. It is a complex calculation.

We scored 229/300 in Achievement Points. This is 76%. We scored 191/300 in Growth Points. This is 63%. Our combined score or "School Performance" score was 420/600. This is 70%. We are just about at the state average. We are higher than most of the similar Title One schools and higher than 9 of the non-Title One schools in the district.

In Alpine School District 11 elementary schools were graded A, 48 schools were graded B, 16 schools were graded C or below. Sharon was given the grade of C. Our scores look about average. However Sharon is anything but average. It is phenomenal!

When compared to schools around the state with similar demographics we shine. The state also produces a special report called the PVA report (Polytoptic Vector Analysis), a statistical report that finds similar schools and compares them. It shows when compared to similar schools in the state, we are the top in the state. We have THE HIGHEST Proficiency in the state of Utah in Language Arts and we have THE HIGHEST Progress in the state of Utah in Math. But because we have so many students who are working to master English, when compared to schools without a limited English group we look just average. The highest performing school in the state of Utah is worthy of a celebration, but this grading system does not acknowledge it.

Many schools are just now starting to do what Sharon has been doing for years. All students below grade level in Reading are given extra Reading instruction and Reading Practice time before or after their regular day. Additionally, students who struggle with a math concept are given a re-teach time that is built into the day while those students at mastery are stretched mathematically. We do amazing things at Sharon. Weekly during Monday Collaboration, teachers review the progress of each student and make plans to meet their needs.

We believe that opportunities in music, art, PE and technology also increase brainpower and this leads to expanded skills in the academic subjects. We endorse a balanced education full of enrichment opportunities for all students.

I LOVE SHARON AND APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT OF OUR PARENTS. STUDENTS ARE TAUGHT WITH LOVE BY OUR WONDERFUL TEACHERS.

Please contact me if you have questions or concerns,

Sincerely, Linda Anderson

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