

# Wyatt Elementary

*"Home of the Wallaroos"*

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Dear Wyatt Families,

I'm so delighted to be gearing up for the 2015 – 2016 school year. I am honored to be principal of this wonderful school and part of this amazing community! I'm looking forward to getting to know you and each and every Wallaroo!

I hope that you will all feel welcome and please know that I love to visit with parents. I also like to spend time with the kids so if I'm not in my office I may be in the classroom. Having been a teacher for over 25 years, I can tell you that my heart will always be that of a teacher first. We have great teachers here at Wyatt and I know your child is going to love coming to school every day!

One of our biggest initiatives in the district is to increase student engagement – what that means is that we want our students to be doing, doing, doing, not passively, just being present in a class. When students are doing the work, they are putting their minds to work – we need them to be thinking, questioning, creating and problem solving. Today's students have access, understanding, and great enthusiasm for technology. Many students have ipads and tablets at home that they have been using since they were quite young. It's only natural that they would want to be using these devices here at school too. That's why we are ecstatic about the PTA Technology Fundraising Campaign that if successful, would bring ten tablets/ipads into each grade level. Our teachers have received extensive training on incorporating learning with technology. Learning and technology are not separate things, they go together. The students are craving opportunities to use their ingenuity to be young innovators, engineers and problem solvers here at school. By having the devices available they can use them to explore ideas while collaborating with their peers. I always wonder if we are doing enough to help prepare our kids for what the future holds.

I hope that you will take part in this important Wyatt event! Please watch for the PTA newsletter for updates about the campaign and all the other great things that are going on at Wyatt.

I look forward to seeing you Thursday at Sneak-a-Peek. Be sure to get your registration forms completed by Thursday so you can open the parent portal to find out the name of your child's teacher on August 20.

Thanks so much,

Cynthia Hentges

Principal