

2700 KEARNS BOULEVARD PARK CITY, UT 84060

OFFICE: (435) 645-5600 FAX: (435) 645-5609

Superintendent Message

May 1, 2023

To Our Park City Educational Community,

In recent years, equity has become an increasingly important topic in education, and for good reason. As we look to support the next generation of public schools, it is imperative that we prioritize equity in all aspects of our educational system in alignment with the PCSD Vision and Mission.

Equity means ensuring that all students have access to the resources and opportunities they need to succeed, regardless of their background or circumstances. It means recognizing that different students have different needs and tailoring our approach to education accordingly. And it means being intentional about addressing the systemic barriers that have historically prevented certain groups of students from reaching their full potential. This work has been evident in PCSD and requires both internal and external support and accountability across every classroom, program, and school site.

The importance of equity cannot be overstated. Studies have shown that students who attend schools with greater levels of and attention to equity tend to have better academic outcomes, higher levels of engagement, and greater overall well-being across all student groups. In contrast, students who attend schools with greater levels of inequality are more likely to struggle academically, experience disciplinary issues, and drop out of school.

As we work collectively to support the next generation of public schools, we must be intentional about creating equitable learning environments for all students. This means providing access to high-quality teachers, resources, and facilities in all communities, regardless of socioeconomic status. It means investing in programs and initiatives that support historically marginalized groups of students, such as students of color, students with disabilities, and students from low-income families. And it means engaging in ongoing efforts to identify and address systemic biases within our educational system.

In this month of May 2023, we highlight our exceptional personnel: educators, educational support staff, administrators, coordinators, outreach liaisons, administrative assistants, school nurses, psychologists and social workers and all operational personnel who stand at the forefront in supporting our community's children in their ongoing growth and development.

By prioritizing equity in our public schools, we can create a more just and equitable society. We can ensure that all students have the opportunity to reach their full potential, regardless of their background or circumstances. And we can build a stronger, more vibrant community that values and supports the success of all its members.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jill Gildea Superintendent of Schools

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE