6990 South 300 East Midvale, Utah 84047 Phone (801) 826-8350 • Fax (801) 826-8351 Justin Pitcher, Principal • Dayna Bodell, Assistant Principal

January 11, 2018

Dear Supporter and Friend in Education:

Hello! I am a local PTA mom writing on behalf of East Midvale Elementary. Our school is a full Title One School that serves a student body where over 75% of our students qualifying for free or reduced lunch. Our school is comprised of students from preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. We serve over 600 students with nearly 1 in 5 who are English Language Learners including 24 refugee students from various countries and over many that are in transitional living arrangements such as shelters and hotels from within our school boundaries. Our mission is to create a community of learners by providing quality research-based instruction to every student and know that we are making a difference as we moved from a D to a B on the Pace report card. We serving a diverse population with unique needs, our teachers and staff of over 80 employees work tirelessly to provide the best educational experience for all students.

One educational experience we feel is particularly important to our students is their participation in field trips. Research suggests that students who are able to participate in culturally-enriching field trips demonstrate stronger critical thinking skills, display higher levels of tolerance, and have more historical empathy and an increased taste for being a cultural consumer in the future. Studies show that these benefits are much larger, in general, for students in high-poverty schools where cultural opportunities aren't as significant.

Our primary funding for these field trips comes from an annual fundraiser organized by our PTA. **Please consider a cash donation** in support of our efforts. This year we will be doing a one-mile fun-run that every student will participate in. The fun-run will be held on May 4, 2018. The fun run is a mile in length and students are encouraged to ask family members to participate by sponsoring their child with a cash donation. In addition to raising money for our field trips, we feel that this type of fundraiser fosters good health, teamwork and cooperation, and a sense of community. **All donations need to be received by April 20, 2018. Your donation is 100% tax deductible** and greatly appreciated.

Thank-you in advance for your generosity and investment in our children's future and educational interests. If you have any questions, please contact one of the following below.

Sincerely,

Lesley Baer - PTA Fundraising Chair Mama baer@msn.com or 801-918-6017

Wendy Court - PTA Fundraising Co-Chair Wsperry\_2000@yahoo.com or 801-592-4090