PARTIES POLICY

**Purpose:** Parties and celebrations are useful ways for enhanced learning and enjoyment.

**Policy:** Parties will be planned around curriculum and learning objectives at the discretion of the teacher. The following guidelines are designed to allow for classroom celebrations and recognitions while maintaining WSU Charter Academy curriculum goals.

**Health Awareness**
Utah State Law prohibits students from consuming “homemade” food in the classroom setting. All foods must be store-bought and packaged. Students should not bring treats, candy, or other foods to class at any time unless specifically approved by the teacher. Teachers should encourage parents/guardians to provide health-conscious foods that can be consumed by all students in the class. Allergies and food limitations of the students must be identified at the beginning of the school year. Teachers are responsible to know of these food limitations. Medical forms and Doctor Verification forms must be filed with the school.

**Planning and Approval**
Parties must be approved and planned by the teaching team (teachers, administrators). Themes, study topics and events are the basis for in-class celebrations and parties. Teachers must be careful to respect cultures and beliefs of the individual students in the class by sending out a personal survey to all guardians.

**Party Theme Examples**
Individual birthday celebrations can be held at the discretion of the teacher. All students should have opportunities to celebrate their birthday regardless of when their actual birth date is. Friendship celebration themes help students feel a part of a caring community. Students are encouraged to bring a card for each student in the class. Other learning objects such as writing their own name and that of their peers, reading each other’s names and enhanced creativity are met. Other celebrations and parties are of high interest to the students and can be a motivating factor for learning.