

PTA Notes

Utah PTA will help every child realize his or her full potential and will advocate, involve, and develop.

A Message From the PTA President

Thank you to all who have helped contribute toward the strength of Mt Mahogany PTA ...Your support is vital in determining our success! We express gratitude and appreciation to all of our WONDERFUL students, parent volunteers, PTA commissioners and teachers who provided assistance during our school walk-a-thon, SEP/Parent Teacher Conference, PTA membership drive, UDOT Walk 4 Four Program, PTA legislative conference, and Red Ribbon Week festivities. We would also like to thank Team Justus of Bobby Lawrence Karate for hosting our Red Ribbon Week Kick Off Assembly on Monday, October 26th. During the week of October 26-30th Mt Mahogany students participated in an array of drug prevention activities. Some of the weekly themes and activities included: "Lei" off Drugs Hawaiian day and don't be tricked drugs are NO treat day. During the week students tied red ribbons to chain link fence and wore red wrist bands to "take a stand and make a difference" pledging to be drug free. Many students also participated in a drug prevention poster and class room door decorating contest. Red Ribbon Week activities were concluded with a spooktacular Halloween parade and classroom activity.

Looking ahead for the month of November...ALL Reflection entries are due by Wednesday, November 4th. Winners will be announced at the November Student of the Month Assembly @ 9:30 am on Monday, November 16th (parents are welcome to attend this event). We will be having our A+ School Book Fair November 16th-20th. This year our Dads & Donuts, early morning reading=success literacy activity, will be held in conjunction with the Book Fair on Friday, November 20th. We will be holding two early morning reading sessions to accommodate the extended day schedule. "A" track will be asked to participate from 7:15 -7:45 am and "B" track will be asked to participate from 8:15 – 8:45 am. ***We are encouraging parents and students to visit the Book Fair for reading materials or to bring reading material from home for the early morning reading activity.***

We have some VERY EXCITING NEWS to report...During the month of September Mt Mahogany students were encouraged to participate in the UDOT Walk 4 Four Program. Students who walked to school 3 or more times a week during the four week period were eligible for a UDOT prize drawing held on October 7th celebrating International Walk to School Day...We are proud to announce that two of our Mt Mahogany students won prizes from the October 7th drawing. A water bottle was awarded to Saige Turner (1st grade) and Susan Falgoust (4th grade) was the recipient of a new bike and helmet compliments of UDOT! CONGRATULATIONS!

Be sure to check our PTA monthly calendar, also the school and PTA websites for upcoming meetings and events in November. (School website information - <http://www.alpine.k12.ut.us/phpApps/genericPage.php?pdid=2260>; PTA website - <http://www.justbetweenfriends.com>)

Jamie Anderson

Mt. Mahogany PTA President

November Calendar

November Theme: Dedicated Dad's

2	School Pictures Retakes
4	Reflection Entries Due!
6	Spirit Treats
12	PG Council Mtg @ PGJH 10:00 am
15	Reflection Winners Entries Due to PG Council
16	SOM Assembly/2 nd grade/Honesty
16-20	A+/Library Book Fair
20	Dad's & Donuts (Membership Drive)
25	Teacher Comp Day
26-27	Thanksgiving Break

A Message From the Family Life Commissioner

Research says that the family that can sit down at the table and eat together are less likely to have to deal with teens on drugs, or broken families. Mt. Mahogany just celebrated our Red Ribbon Week, Say No to Drugs! Here are a few activities that families can say YES to during the fall and winter holidays:

Laughing contest * Harvest the garden * Write/call/visit loved ones who live far away and tell them you are grateful for them in your families life and why * Play games when the weather is chilly * host a fashion show * Go for a jog/bike ride/swim * Visit neighbors and friends with thank you cards for something they did for you or your family this year * Learn to play an instrument * Do a hobby like art or remote control airplane flying * Read a good book together as a family by the fireside * Rake leaves at home or in the community * Plant bulbs for Spring * Research a topic of interest * Build something new or fix something broke * Make a new friend * Build your child's self confidence by praising them for good works more regularly * Go sign up for classes at the City Recreational Facility * Create a time capsule: put in what you think it will be like in 5, 10, 25, 100 or 1,000 years from now * Set a goal and achieve it this winter, teach your kids to do the same * Try out a new recipe with the family * Go on Nature Walks * Go Bird watch as they fly south for the season * Museums around town or in the county * Say I love you and give hugs * Attend a local theatre/musical production * Star Gaze with a bunch of warm blankets and winter clothing * Read bedtime stories together or just make them up as you go * Give service * Assist the Elderly * Research your family history as we as a country celebrate our pilgrim heritage * Donate volunteer work hours or food cans to the local food bank with your family * Reflect together as a family what virtues are and how to live them. Virtues like: Gratitude, hard work ethic, honesty, patriotism, generosity, beauty, happy/cheerful hearts, knowledge/wisdom, cleanliness, sacrifice, humility and of course patience * Plan, cook, eat & clean together as a family.

Happy Thanksgiving from Mount Mahogany's PTA: Family Life Committee.

Reflections

DON'T DELAY! REFLECTION ENTRIES ARE DUE NOVEMBER 4th!

Reflections Theme for 2009-2010: "Beauty Is..." Reflections is an annual program that encourages students' artistic talents. For more than 30 years, the Reflections program has invited children (preschool-grade 12) to create and submit works of art. Every year in Utah we have about 60,000 students enter the Reflections program. We have expanded the original categories of Music, Photography, Visual Arts and Literature to include 4 additional categories, including Dance, Theatre, 3D, and Film and Video. This is a wonderful program for our students. The excitement and enthusiasm that the Reflections arts recognition program generates for children, parents, schools, and communities is unmatched. The Reflections program offers your PTA an opportunity to showcase your school and students and demonstrate the importance of a quality arts education. In addition, the Reflections program offers students the opportunity to express themselves and receive positive recognition for their artistic efforts. Students may enter once in each category. It must be the work of the child, but the parents need to fill out every line on the registration form. If your child wants to participate, entry forms for the eight categories (Visual arts, Literature, Photography, Film & Video, Dance & Choreography, Theatre Arts, 3-D Arts, and Music), can be downloaded from the PTA section of the school website (<http://www.alpine.k12.ut.us/phpApps/genericPage.php?pdid=2260>) Forms may also be requested through the office. Read the requirements over carefully for the category that your child wishes to enter as they may be turned back for not following entry directions. Any student in grades Kindergarten through Sixth grade may enter. There is NO cost to enter. Class projects can all qualify as reflection entries ... same rules apply. All entries are due by November 4th. Winners will be announced at the November Student of the Month Assembly. Parents are welcome to attend this event.

Tips for Winning:

1. Type up literature entries and have students document on the entries "Artist's Statement" how his/her entry correlates with the theme.
2. Ask your child to take their time to think about it and work out their very best effort. Also, mat and cellophane visual art work, so that if it wins and goes on to District or State, it will travel well.
3. Google PTA.Org, go to Reflections to see what has won in the past.

If you have any questions, or would like to judge Music, Film & Video, or Theatre Arts this year, please contact Wendy Cook at 801-796-8947, or by email at wmcCook11msn.com. Thanks!

Book Fair

Book Fair November 17-20, 2009

Students will come to the book fair with their class on their library day and time during the week.

The Book Fair will not be open before school! It will be open after school until 4:00.

On Friday November 20th the fair will close at 1:00!!!!

Parents are welcome to come to the fair any time during the day.

Walk-A-Thon

Thanks to everyone who assisted with this year's Walk-a-thon—the weather was perfect, and it was a great success! We appreciate all the hard work of our volunteers, especially the Walk-a-thon Chairs, Christy Stevenson & Debbie Anderson. Additionally, we appreciate the support of the faculty and staff, as well as our business sponsors, Liberty Land, Lindon Walmart, American Fork Fitness Center, Pleasant Grove Recreation Center, Domino's Pizza, and Jason's Deli.

We are still collecting funds and have not yet reached our goal of \$8,000, but we are very grateful for all the funds that have been collected and turned in! It allows our PTA to operate and to fund many vital school projects as well. We will continue to accept late pledge envelopes, but in order to be eligible for the grand prizes, envelopes MUST be turned in by November 9th. (If you lost your envelope but would still like to be eligible, please place all your donation \$ in a regular envelope with your name, teacher's name, grade, and total funds that should be in there.) Our goal this year is high, and we may not reach it, but if we do, the faculty and staff will learn and perform the "Thriller" dance for the students ☺

The following students are the lap winners for their grade and will receive a medal and a special lunch some time in November:

Kindergarten James Harper Brock Eastwood Dylan (Naylor pm)	1st Grade Gabriel Aguirre Kyler Ferrell Yovanni Kedesma	2nd Grade Max Haynie Pieter tenBosch Christian (in Olson)	3rd Grade Noah Christensen Andrew Moody Nick Thomson
4th Grade Trevor Wakefield Bryann Carson Kenton Ridgeway	5th Grade Dezmond Mills Owen Mitchell Joshua Peay	6th Grade Brenan Busch Matt Smyth Kaleb Morris	Life Skills Corbridge Carter Allyce Naylor Chance Wakeland

Fundraiser winners will receive their prizes starting Nov. 2nd, and the grand prizes will be awarded November 16th at the SOM Assembly. Congrats to all our students who worked so hard! Mt. Mahogany students are the BEST!

SNAP (Student Neighborhood Access Program)

Safe Winter Walking

Winter is coming and it's important to stay safe while walking to school. Walking is a healthy way to get to school, not only for the student, but for the community as well. When more students walk or bike safely to school, not only is their health better, but there aren't as many cars around the school, which means cleaner air and fewer pedestrian/vehicle accidents.

To keep students safe we need to make them aware of winter hazards and encourage them to respect those conditions. Students can be safe when walking and biking to school by doing the following:

- Wear bright or reflective clothes so you can be seen in the dark.
- Dress in layers and wear boots with nonskid soles.
- If you have a dark coat, add a brightly colored scarf or hat or reflective gear.
- Slow down. Wear gloves to avoid putting your hands in your pockets as they can protect you if you slip and fall.
- Follow the safest routes on your school's SNAP map.
- Walk with a buddy or group.
- Walk on sidewalks if possible. If sidewalks are covered in snow and ice and you must walk in the street, walk against the flow of traffic and as close to the curb as you can.
- Look left, then right, then left again when crossing a street.
- Cross only at crosswalks.
- Before you step off of the curb into the street, make sure that any approaching vehicles have come to a complete stop where ice and snow are present.

More information about SNAP, including helpful tips, is available at www.udot.utah.gov/SNAPParents. Contact the school for your child's safe route map.

A Message from the Alpine School District

Alpine School District: Our Mission, Vision, Values, Goals

In the past few weeks, members of the School Board and district administration have met with each district school's SCC/PTA to review the Mission, Vision, Values, and Goals of Alpine School District.

The mission statement of Alpine School District is, **“Educating all students to ensure the future of democracy”**. The mission statement can be divided into four parts that represent our district values (based on the Moral Dimensions of Education).

“Educating” = to promote a caring and effective connection between teacher and student (Moral Dimension: nurturing pedagogy)

“All students” = to ensure all students can participate in the entire education program (regardless of ability, socioeconomic status or where the student lives; Moral Dimension: Access to Knowledge)

“To ensure” = to foster individual ownership of the educational program among all members of the educational family (Moral Dimension: Stewardship of the Schools)

“The future of our democracy”= to prepare our students for responsible participation in a democratic society (respect for rules, law and order; Moral Dimension: Enculturating the young in a social and political democracy)

Our vision is for our district to become collaborative professional learning communities that answer four essential questions. The vision centers on the use of collaborative teams functioning as professional learning communities. These collaborative teams answer the following four essential questions:

1. What do we expect students to learn?
2. How will we know what students have learned?
3. How will we respond to students who aren't learning?
4. How will we respond to students who already know?

This requires teachers to know the moment they step into their classroom each day exactly what they expect their students to learn and to be able to make assessments (both formal and informal) throughout the day to determine where their students are in learning that material.

Collaboration with other teachers (through professional development days, Monday early out and grade/department level meetings) is important so that teachers learn from each other and create common assessments in line with the four essential questions and other instructors teaching in the same curriculum area or grade level.

Finally, the goals as articulated by the Board of Education, are summarized in the Areas of Focus. During the “What Counts” process last school year, members of the community were able to offer feedback regarding specific characteristics that constitute a quality public school.

The Areas of Focus or goals of Alpine School District are:

- Student achievement** (the center of all we do)—Inspiring all students to engage in learning at their highest level.
- Teacher Quality**—Valuing quality teachers by recognizing excellence and facilitating continuous improvement in the art and science of teaching.
- Comprehensive Curriculum**—Educating students through a wide range of content and learning opportunities leading to the development of the whole child.
- Resources**—Identifying and providing requisite tools, skills, and personnel that lead students toward successful participation in the 21st Century.
- Community Relations**—Engaging parents and the broader community to support student achievement.
- School and District Culture**—Sharing values, beliefs and processes that sustain a positive, safe and nurturing environment to promote pride in the school and district.
- Leadership**—Developing and sustaining leaders who have vision and passion for student and employee success.

Thank you for all you do in your roles as citizens, parents, faculty, administration and staff to educate all students and ensure the future of our democracy. What we do every day, time and again, makes a difference in Alpine School District and supports the role of preparing the next generation of citizens, who represent our democracy's future.

Students of the Month (September 2009)

Student Name	Teacher	Grade	Student Name	Grade	Teacher
Wil Jackman	Ahrens	0	Kaori McKinnon	Rentschler	2
Hailey Smith	Brewer	0	Desi Adams	Valdez	2
Alyssa West	Bunting	0	Bridger Carson	Dobson	3
Kyle Fox	Lemmon AM	0	Andrew Moody	Lindley	3
Garret Hirst	Lemmon PM	0	Erica Lindley	Rutland	3
Alex Wood	Naylor AM	0	Spencer Safford	Van	
Katie Albrecht	Naylor PM	0	Spencer Safford	Wagenen	3
Makayla Harris	Christensen	1	Myranda O'Rullian	Van Zant	3
Jordan Beadle	Christiansen	1	Willow Snyder	Bean	4
Brayden Clark	Glass	1	Milagros Ponce	Briggs	4
Elizabeth Jack	Muir	1	Aaliyah Gines	Hillman	4
Skip Ludlow	Nielsen	1	Lauren Hammond	Kern	4
Madison McGee	Pack	1	Savana Lee	Dominquez	5
Mikaylee Anderson	Smith	1	Abby Hirst	Jen/McAll	5
Breanne Harris	Bahr	2	Shelby Ewell	Miner	5
Clyn Hansen	Makin	2	Daniel Avila	Parry	5
Bryant Price	McClure	2	Tyller Penrod	Anderson	6
Jessica Hardy	Olson	2	Franco Martinez	McBee	6
			Duncan Perry	Sumsion	6
			Holden McAuliffe	Walters	7