

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

We would like to thank all of our AMAZING Parent Volunteers, PTA Commissioners and Teachers who helped during the month of August/September with Open House, Back to School Night, Vision Screening, Hearing Speech/OT assessments, Spirit Treats and Health & Safety Week. We would also like to thank all of our WONDERFUL room mom/parents who attended the Room Parent Meeting on September 8th...We had an incredible response!

Special Thanks go to Brian and Holly Morgan of Farmer's Insurance (our 5k event organizers) and to all of our 5K Rampage Participants; including Maceys (our corporate sponsor) and The Pleasant Grove City Police Department for helping to make our First Annual 5k Rampage School Fundraiser a safe and memorable event. Be sure to check our PTA monthly calendar, also the school and PTA websites for upcoming events in October. School site:

(<http://www.alpine.k12.ut.us/phpApps/genericPage.php?pdid=2260> ; PTA website <http://www.justbetweenfriends.com>)

Thank you to all who have helped contribute to the strength of 137,000 PTA members statewide advocating for the welfare of Utah's children. Your dues help support all PTA and school activities (whether at school, home, or at your work place) that strengthen children and the family-school-community partnership.

If we have yet to receive your membership here are some other great incentives for you to join ... On October 30th all PTA members will be eligible for a prize drawing which will include some of the following: A one night get-a-way to The Anniversary Inn (\$200 value) compliments of Murdock Hyundai in Orem, Tee-Time for four with 9 holes of golf including golf cart compliments of Fox Hollow Golf Course, 5 Day Passes to The Quarry in Provo (\$20 value/each), \$5 gift certificates to Good Woods, & Movie Passes. In addition to these great prizes every member will enjoy discounts with T-Mobile, Southwest Airlines, Barnes&noble.com, Sharp, The HP Store, MedicAlert and MetLife Auto & Home. If we achieve 100% membership from our faculty PTA will provide a mouth watering catered lunch for all of our teachers! The class with the most PTA memberships will receive a Class Party compliments of PTA! **The cost for an individual PTA membership is \$5.00 or \$8.00 per couple. PTA Membership enrollment will be available at Fall Parent Teacher Conference, enrollment forms can be turned into your child's teacher or to the PTA box in the front office. (See attached membership enrollment form)**

Jamie Anderson
Mt. Mahogany PTA President

A Message From the PTA Liaison

If you signed up for PTA at back to school night or open house, you are already in the Just Between Friends system because it is also the PTA reporting system. In order to activate your account, log in at www.justbetweenfriends.com Your email address you gave the PTA is your username and your password is **pta2009** If you did not sign up for PTA, then you need create an account so you'll enter Mt Mahogany's token **170978tok**

After you log on, you'll receive a validation email from **Just Between Friends**. This email is not spam. It's important to open it and validate your account. This is for your protection and privacy to verify you want an account with Just Between Friends. Once your account is set up, play around and check out what you can do and see all the announcements from PTA. Be sure to put yourself and your student(s) in at least one group. This way you can get directed messages that are important to you. Questions? Email Kate Merrill at whosonfirst2009@gmail.com

Check your start page often to keep updated on the latest from PTA!!

Kate Merrill
PTA Liaison Coordinator

October Calender

Reflections/Red Ribbon Month
International Walk To School Month

- 2 – Spirit Treats
- 5 – Professional Development Day (No School)
- 7 – International Walk to School Day
- 8 - Jumpstart 'Read for the Record' Reading Marathon
- 7-8 – Fall Parent Teacher Conference/ SEP dinners (Membership Drive)
- 9 – Walk-A-Thon
- 12 – SOM Assembly/3rd Grade/Attitude
- 12 – Board Meeting 2:30 pm Library
- 14 – Walk-A-Thon Make-up Day
- 15-16 – UEA Fall Break
- 20 – PTA Advocacy Conference – Stake Capitol
- 22 – PG Council Meeting @ Manila 10 am
- 23 - Spirit Treats
- 26-30 – Red Ribbon Week

A Message From the Family Life Commissioner/Reflection Chairman

REFLECTIONS IS HERE!!!!!!!!!!!!

THEME FOR THIS YEAR: "BEAUTY IS..."

This is a great theme that allows every boy and girl to really think what Beauty is... in their life. Reflections is a fine arts program where the students of Elementary, Jr. High, and High School get the chance to show off what they love, their skills, their passion and their hard work. Parents & teachers can encourage children to do their very best work and to give it their very best thoughts and efforts. We love to see what they dream up, what they've invested in hobby wise with their talents and experience and what they've learned academically in school to bring out the very best entries year after year. We hope that all of the students in Mt. Mahogany can find and celebrate BEAUTY this year by entering Reflections 2009-10. Good luck to all. REMEMBER: Mount Mahogany Rams climb higher! Let's do a great job and give our very best today and always. That's what is beautiful to me.--Wendy Cook. Here are some important helps to make the most of this year's contest:

***ENTRY FORMS/MEDIA RELEASE FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE OCT.1- NOV. 4TH ALL ENTRIES NEED TO BE TURNED INTO THE OFFICE BY WEDNESDAY NOV. 4TH.

***JUDGING WILL TAKE PLACE AT SCHOOL ON FRIDAY NOV 6TH and students will be recognized and awarded during the November Student of the Month Assembly.

***All entries will be on display Monday Nov.9th-Friday Nov. 13th in the Library. Remind your children to go look at the entries but not to touch any of them as some are fragile and can easily break.

Entry forms are also available in English & Spanish on the school's website, however the media release form that needs to be attached to every entry is not on this website. Entry Forms are also found in the "justbetweenfriends.com" website, or google Utah PTA.org and click on Reflections>Entry Forms/Media Release.

***The entry forms and media release forms need every line on it filled out to enter the contest,

***PLEASE NO HALLOWEEN ENTRIES. These will be turned back to the students as the contestants who win will compete in District, Region, State and even on to Nationals. THIS PROCESS LASTS ALMOST THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, NOT JUST OCTOBER. Halloween entries will be brought back to the student before judging and will be asked to resubmit another entry. This will aid the success and chances of winning in their category/age group. It also helps to attach a typed version of the child's literary work. Hand written entries are welcome and being able to read them gives even a better chance in placing higher. Please encourage your child to tell why they did what they chose on the artists statement on the entry form as this is crucial information come judging time. It may mean the difference between going on to district or placing only on our school level.

***Entries need to be done by the student themselves. No Parents allowed. Parents may help video/record the works of their student, just not do the work of the student. For example, if a student writes a play and acts it out on stage the parents may assist in the taping of the play on to video. If the child chooses to do a FILM/VIDEO entry, the student only can do the taping or recording of the work. The same goes for any other category. If the child wants to compose a song (music & lyrics, music only, lyrics only) or choreograph/dance the parent may film it, but not develop the routine. For Visual Arts, the parent may assist the child in framing their work in a matted frame and getting it incased in a plastic envelope, filling out the entry form & media release form and turning it in but they are not to do the art work of their student.

***Every child who enters will receive recognition and those who advance to the next level will receive a medal and a prize this year.

***Please feel free to contact Wendy Cook (801) 796-8974 or wmcook11@msn.com if you have any questions, would like to volunteer, or judge a particular category. We are still in need of judges for film/video & Theater Arts.

Wendy Cook
Family Life Commissioner/Reflections Chair

SNAP (Student Neighborhood Access Program)

Walking to school is one of the best ways to promote health, activity and a safer, more economically friendly environment. This October, you can join students, teachers and parents all over the world by walking or biking to school. October is International Walk to School Month, and with it, the Utah Department of Transportation's Student Neighborhood Access Program (SNAP)™ wants to make sure students are safe while doing it.

Students can be safe when walking and biking to school by doing the following:

- Wearing bright clothes
- Looking right, then left, then right again when crossing a street
- Crossing only at crosswalks
- Walking with a buddy or group
- Following the safest routes on the school's SNAP map

When more students walk or bike safely to school, not only is their health better, but the entire community benefits - there aren't as many cars around the school, which means cleaner air and fewer pedestrian/vehicle accidents.

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.

'Partner' Approach with Teachers Leads to Student Success

Parental involvement influences a child's academic success, especially when parents and teachers develop constructive partnerships, according to Natalie Schwartz, author of *The Teacher Chronicles: Confronting the Demands of Students, Parents, Administrators and Society*. To support your child effectively this year, Schwartz suggests using a three-pronged approach to develop a cooperative relationship with his or her teacher.

(1) Open the Lines of Communication

Give the teacher your contact information at the beginning of the school year, and welcome the teacher to contact you for any reason. If you don't have a chance to meet the teacher at parent orientation, send a brief note or e-mail.

Find out how the teacher prefers to communicate, whether by written note, e-mail or phone, so you can ensure a quick response to your future questions and concerns.

Volunteer your time. Offer to come into the class to share information about your culture, career or interests if they are relevant to the curriculum. Offer to assist the teacher with administrative duties, project preparation or other useful tasks.

2) Maintain the Home-School Connection

Get involved. Volunteer with your school's PTA to support your child's teacher and school.

Stay informed. Set aside time to read the notices, newsletters, and progress reports the teacher sends home. Visit the teacher's website, PTA and the school's website regularly.

Communicate with your child. Ask your child if he or she handed in yesterday's homework assignments and studied for upcoming tests. Look over the homework to make sure it's high quality.

3) Tackle Problems Constructively

Approach the teacher as soon as you detect a problem. If you have a concern, your child's teacher will want to know about it so he or she can address the issue.

Don't contact the principal or another administrator instead of the teacher. This approach conveys to the teacher that you don't respect him or her as a professional, which will damage your relationship going forward. In addition, the principal is probably going to refer you to the teacher or get the teacher involved.

Adopt the right attitude. In a professional and respectful manner, explain your point of view and ask the teacher for his or her perspective. For example, you can say, "This is what I'm noticing... What's your take on the situation."

Listen to the teacher's viewpoint. The teacher offers an important perspective because he or she observes and interacts with your child in an academic setting.

Give the teacher your input. Tell the teacher what you know about your child's past academic experiences and behavior that will help the teacher serve your child better.

Value the teacher's recommendation. Parents are experts on their children, but teachers are experts in the field of education.

Offer to be part of the solution. Ask the teacher what you can do at home to help support what the teacher is doing in the classroom.

Remember, the teacher is your ally, not your adversary. Your child's teacher is on your side and shares your goal: the academic success of your child.

For more information, visit <http://parentteacherpartnerships.blogspot.com/> or e-mail natalie@laureltonmedia.com. (Taken from September On-Line Issue of PTA Parent.)

RAMPAGE 5K Run/Walk

We wish to thank Macey's as well as Brian & Holly Morgan with Farmer's Insurance for sponsoring our RAMPAGE 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, September 26. Other sponsors include: JDK Towing, Bobby Lawrence Karate, Salon 21, Diamond Rental, Wasatch Disaster & Restoration, and Pleasant Grove Fire and Police Departments. Also thank you to the many volunteers who helped in executing this great event.

Congratulations to Brandon Manwel 1st Place Male winner, Jamie Nebeker 1st Place Womens winner, McKenna King 1st Place Childrens winner, and Tamara Naylor 1st Place Faculty Member winner. All results are posted later in the newsletter. Congratulations to all racers and all who helped make this a successful day for Mount Mahogany.

Walk-A-Thon

Walk-a-thon October 9, 2009, 1:00 pm

PTA requires funding to operate, running the Take Home Reading Program, Red Ribbon Week, Field Day, and more. Additionally, we give thousands of dollars directly to the school, specifically for computer lab, music, and PE needs. Our annual Walkathon brings in almost all of the funding we use each year, and it gets the kids moving and having fun!

Let's break all previous records! Last year, we raised over \$7,500, and we're aiming higher this year. To encourage all students to participate, we've come up with some NEW and exciting incentives:

- ❑ Every student who raises \$5 in pledges or donations receives a FREE pedometer!
- ❑ Every student who raises \$10 in pledges or donations receives the pedometer, plus a FREE Liberty Land game of laser tag or mini-golf!
- ❑ Every student who raises \$25 in pledges or donations receives the pedometer, the Liberty Land game, and a FREE Domino's Cinnastix & Jason's Deli Kids Meal!
- ❑ Every student who raises \$50 in pledges or donations receives all the previous prizes, plus gets their name entered into a drawing for a FREE bike, PG Pool Pass/Recreation Center Pass, AF Fitness Center Family Punch Pass, and more!
- ❑ Additionally, the top 3 students who raise the most funds overall receive a \$50 Wal-Mart shopping spree!
- ❑ The class per grade level that brings in the most funds total will receive a root beer float party!
- ❑ The top 3 students per grade level who walk the most # of laps receive a medal, a certificate, recognition in the Pleasant Grove newspaper & Timpanogos Times, and get to eat a delicious catered lunch with Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Westover, & Mrs. Jensen on the lawn!
- ❑ The student in each class who walks the most laps receives a certificate and a FREE ice cream cone from Arctic Circle.
- ❑ Finally, if we meet our fundraising goal of \$8,000, Mr. Westover will . . . do something crazy—and students get to suggest what it is!

So don't forget to get those pledge envelopes filled in and turned in! Remember good safety, and only ask your family, friends, and neighbors you know. If you only get flat donations, please collect those funds and turn them in by Wed. Oct. 7th. If you have any pledges (based on # of laps), please collect funds after the walkathon and turn them in by Wed. Oct. 14th. Keep in mind that each lap is approx. 1/5 of a mile, and students average 13-25 laps in the 45-minute time duration, but some may do as many as 35! (Also, the kindergarten track is shorter, so they may have higher lap results.)

After the walk-a-thon, please collect the funds ASAP. We will accept late envelopes but cannot guarantee prize availability unless you turn your envelope in by October 23rd!

We hope you enjoy participating in this year's Walk-a-thon and appreciate your support!



WIN FOR YOUR SCHOOL! WIN FOR YOU!
We're giving away
1,000,000 Bonus Box Tops
to America's schools!

One Grand Prize: 500,000 Bonus Box Tops (a \$50,000 value!)
Two First Prizes: 250,000 Bonus Box Tops (a \$25,000 value!)

ENTER "The BIG CLIP SWEEPSTAKES" AND "A BETTER BACK TO SCHOOL SWEEPSTAKES" @ www.boxtops4education.com. Our school could earn up to \$40,000 just by asking family, friends, grandparents neighbors and co-workers to cut out the Box Top labels on any number of items and brands (General Mills, Betty Crocker, Toaster Strudel, Kleenex, Huggies, Viva, Hamburger Helper, Totino's, Gogurts, Pillsbury etc...), by sending BOX TOPS to school and by registering online at boxtops4education.com. Just go to this website, click on Market Place, and enter Mount Mahogany as the school of choice. Even though it's only 10 cents a Box TOP, it adds up to make a big difference for our students. BOX TOP earnings can go towards upgrading technology, the purchasing of much needed school equipment and supplies, introducing accelerated math and reading programs, aiding the School Chorus, helping PTA fund various school programs and activities for our children, including rewards and incentives for students and teachers. Start collecting BOX TOPS TODAY. Each week their will be a prize drawing in the front office for participants. To be eligible for the weekly drawing send the BOX TOPS to school with your child's first & last name, teacher and grade written on the back. HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR YOUR SCHOOL JOIN BOX TOPS TODAY!

RAMPAGE 5K RESULTS

1 Brandon Manwel (1st Place Mens)	:21'	56 Amanda Nielson	:37'30
2 Sterling Bone	:21'32	57 Michael Pierce	:37'38
3 Cannon Carter	:22'03	58 Megan Sorenson	:37'51
4 McKay King	:22'12	59 Erica Swenson	:37'51
5 Todd Naylor	:22'20	60 Michelle Kramer	:38'12
6 Jamie Nebeker (1st Place Womens)	:23'16	61 Emily McBee	:38'12
7 Rich Shelley	:24'17	62 Jackson McBee	:38'41
8 Matt James	:24:59	63 Kathy Bezzant	:39'02
9 Christy Stevenson	:25'28	64 Louise Zabransky	:39'05
10 Madison King	:25'42	65 Jeffrey	:39'06
11 McKenna King (1st Place Childrens)	:25'46	66 Kristy Gonzales	:39'20
12 Melynne Barron	:25'47	67 Parker Gonzales	:39'22
13 Ramon Navarrett	:26'08	68 Justin Kramer	:39'23
14 John Gittins	:26'24	69 Kathy Rasmussen	:39'24
15 Ashley Atkinson	:26'30	70 # 613	:39'34
16 Omer Ashtawy	:26'43	71 Chance	:39'35
17 Isaac Makin	:26'56	72 Libby	:39'40
18 Bret Naylor	:27'04	73 Garrett	:39'41
19 Kevin Degooyer	:27'11	74 Jared Garlick	:39'54
20 Nancy Horrocks	:27'17	75 Julianne Garlick	:40'26
21 Tamara Naylor (1st Faculty Member)	:27'21	76 Alison Mitchell	:40'27
22 Andrea Brown	:27'37	77 Logan Rasmussen	:41'35
23 Kennedy Brown	:29'18	78 Karli Brown	:41'36
24 Nikelle Bezzant	:29'46	79 Madison	:41'37
25 Kathy King	:29'57	80 Anne Makin	:41'38
26 Jeanette Dobson	:29'57	81 Ryan Rappleyea	:41'57
27 Lance Dobson	:30'05	82 Logan Rasmussen	:41'58
28 Kim Bahr	:31'17	83 Brylie Morgan	:42'14
29 Megan Adamson	:31'27	84 Stacey Goodman	:42'15
30 Zac Makin	:31'36	85 Talmage Goodman	:45'42
31 James Rawlinson	:31'44	86 Audrey	:45'42
32 Dusty Jorgensen	:31'47	87 Malene	:46'46
33 David King	:31'56	88 Caitlyn	:46'46
34 Marianne McAllister	:32'	89 Gina Rappleyea	:46'48
35 Mike Brown	:32'	90 Dallin Rappleyea	:46'49
36 Tracey Sprague	:32'27	91 Janet Bushman	:46'55
37 Rinda Shaughnessy	:32'29	92 Michele Nielsen	:46'57
38 Travis Wilkins	32'42	93 Alyssa Anderson	:47'57
39 Kristin Stanley	:32'44	94 Kris Anderson	:47'58
40 Travis Sorenson	:33'17	95 Scott Westover	:48'35
41 Elizabeth Thayn	:33'18	96 Melayne Williams	:48'36
42 Reno Mendenhall	:33'18	97 Fiona	:52'47
43 Melanie Mendenhall	:33'28	98 Anna Marugg	:52'56
44 Wes Carmichael	:34'35	99 Sheri Carmichael	:54'55
45 Elizabeth Bunting	:34'35	100 Loie Glass	:55'48
46 Jennifer Gordon	:34'42	101 CarolLynn Vredeveld	:55'56
47 Charity Smith	:34'55	102 Stephanie Glass	:56'12
48 Jennifer Brown	:34'56	103 Bret Brockbank	:58'18
49 Jeromy Julian	:36'06	104 Courtney Brockbank	1:01'16
50 Cara Robins	:36'26	105 Kjirsten Brockbank	1:05'44
51 Shellie Larson	:36'27	106 Colby Brockbank	1:05'47
52 Kim Lawyer	:36'46	107 Allysa Boren	1:05'47
53 Russell Cowley	:36'47	108 Arianna	1:05'51
54 Melanee Cowley	:36'48	109 Bryan	1:05'53
55 Janalee Burdette	:36'48	110 Hunter	1:05'53