

Fabulous Foothill Parents,

What an incredible school year this has been! As the year began, I could never have expected all of the great things that have occurred at Foothill this year. Of course, we remember our Epic fundraiser, and how through the combined efforts of our PTA, parents, teachers, local businesses, and Alpine School District we were able to raise more than \$360,000 to enhance student learning through technology and STEAM. This coming school year, this grant will allow us to have enough technology for a two student to every one-device ratio. This technology will not replace or remove any of the rich learning for students that has always occurred at Foothill, rather, will build upon great instruction to enhance students' learning opportunities.

We are proud to be a STEAM school! Our district has designated Foothill as a pilot school for the entire district because of the rich instruction provided for students to think and learn more deeply through STEAM. We are also excited that we received the state designation as a STEM school. Our purpose in being a STEAM school is to engage our students even more and to help them learn and be creative problem solvers. We are happy that our efforts have attracted multiple visitors to learn from the great things we are doing at our school, much like we have visited other schools to learn from their experiences. We were happy to have Alpine School District school board, superintendent, and cabinet visit Foothill; BYU and UVU professors and dean; local business owners; the Utah STEM Principal's Academy; and others. Our efforts at Foothill with STEAM will be implemented into seven neighboring elementary schools that feed into Orem and Timpanogos High Schools this coming school year.

Our theme this school year has been, "Leaving a Legacy." We have seen many clear examples of legacy leaving this school year. Our wonderful PTA has provided thousands of volunteer hours and has left a legacy that will be remembered for years to come. They made our Epic technology grant not only a possibility, but also a reality, while carrying on their many services to the school ranging from our Epic Fall Festival, to the astounding art and music programs, to the many extracurricular activities they provide. Our teachers, the heroes of our school, provide rich daily instruction for our students while providing a nurturing, positive environment for our students day after day. We could never thank our phenomenal teachers enough. They are the heart and strength of Foothill. We have also seen many examples of leaving a legacy from our wonderful students. We are proud of their achievements, for spreading sunshine through their childlike happiness, and their daily acts of kindness.

I am grateful to be the principal at Foothill Elementary. It is truly an honor to work with such wonderful parents, teachers, and students. We hope you will join us for our exciting events and activities this last month of school including our PTA-sponsored Art Gala and Spring Concert on May 12th from 6:45-8:00, the Foothill Spring Run-Off 3K on May 20th at 1:30, and our dance festival on May 25th at 9:30 to name just a few. Have a wonderful May!

Sincerely,

Dr. Backman (Dr. B.)
Principal, Foothill Elementary

Be Kind. Be Optimistic. Learn. Work Hard. And Live Life to the Fullest!