

Stakeholder Report 2016-2017

FOOTHILL ELEMENTARY

November 2016

Issue Number 17

foothill.alpineschools.org

HOME OF THE EXPLORERS
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Foothill's Mission:
"Inspire a passion for
learning by exploring the
past, discovering the
present, and creating
the future."

Foothill Explorers Leading the Way in the 21st Century!

A REPORT OF FOOTHILL

"Our children love to come to school!" "There is such a positive feel at Foothill Elementary!" "I have never seen a public school do these things!" "We love Foothill!" These are just a few of the comments we often hear from visitors and patrons at Foothill. Since its inception in 1999, Foothill Elementary has been an outstanding, one-of-a-kind school because of our amazing students, phenomenal faculty, and our incredibly supportive PTA.

As Foothill Explorers, we have forged new paths for our students that have truly helped them learn the knowledge and skills necessary to be prepared for the 21st Century and become the types of people that will contribute to society in significant ways. Many others have been inspired by our STEAM integration endeavors including Governor Herbert and his Education Commission, Utah state legislators, Mayor Brunst and his Orem City Council, and the Alpine School Board and District.

I hope you enjoy this stakeholder report as I highlight the many reasons why Foothill Elementary is so extraordinary. Thank you for joining us in our endeavors to prepare every student for the 21st Century!

Joseph Backman, PhD, *Principal*



FOOTHILL ELEMENTARY

Our Fabulous Faculty



STEAM Presentation to Governor Herbert's Education Commission

Foothill Elementary 21st Century Learning Timeline

Foothill Elementary is in its 4th year of pursuing STEAM integration to ensure deeper learning for all of our students as we prepare them for the 21st Century. Here is a timeline of our endeavors.

2013-2014 School Year: Started STEM Journey

- PTA provided engineering kits from Engineering is Elementary.
- Dr. Shumway, BYU Engineering and Technology professor and STEM expert, began working with our faculty. We learned the basics of STEM and the Engineering Design Process: a hands-on, minds-on approach to learning.

2014-2015 School Year: STEM and the Engineering Design Process

- Teachers received 4 days of professional development with Dr. Shumway to learn more engineering tasks to implement into their classrooms.
- Dr. Shumway continued to work with teams and our faculty on creating and implementing Engineering Design tasks. Grade-level teams visited Dr. Shumway's BYU lab.

2015-2016 School Year: STEAM integration

- Foothill received an Epic Grant, which exceeded \$370,000 from the Pedersen family that was matched by Alpine School District, local businesses, grants written by our teachers, and many Foothill families. This grant has brought our school to 1 iPad for every 2 students in each classroom and Chromebooks into our 3-6th grade classrooms.
- Multiple school visits from Alpine District School Board and cabinet members, BYU and UVU professors and dean, state legislators and administrators, and local schools.
- Foothill received the official Utah STEM designation (1 of 19 schools in the state).
- School STEAM presentation to Governor Herbert and his Education Commission.

2016-2017 School Year: STEAM integration and Knowledge, Skills, and Dispositions

- Launch of the Apollo Project: a 7-school effort to implement and pursue STEAM education to prepare every child for the 21st Century. Foothill hosted the summer trainings and our teachers helped provide the professional development.
- Dr. Amy Miner, BYU professor and integration expert, has worked with our teachers to help integrate STEAM principles in all subject areas, including the arts.
- Throughout this school year, teams have multiple opportunities to collaborate with their grade-level teams at the other seven Apollo Project schools.
- As a pilot school for Alpine School District, we have Renee Wakamatsu serving as our full-time instructional coach as support to all of our teachers.
- The Foothill Exploratorium began where engineering and STEAM integration occur through application with Shauna Crockett as our Technology Integrationist.
- We received the Beverly Taylor Sorenson grant to bring Caitlin Hall, our art-integrationist, to Foothill.
- Student Ambassador Leadership Team (SALT) formed.

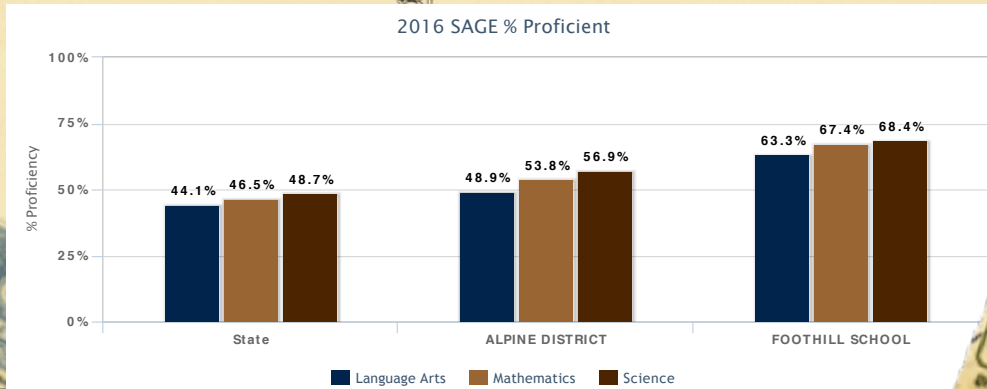
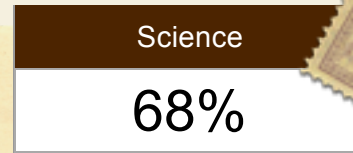
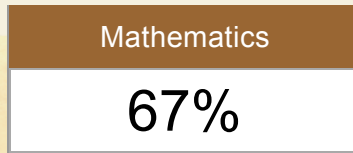
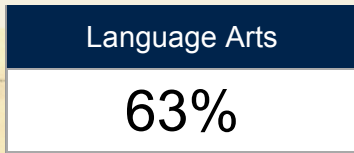


Foothill Elementary in the News!



- Official Utah STEM Designation for Foothill (<https://goo.gl/HA4zyT>)
- BYU Mckay Today Article on Apollo Project (<https://goo.gl/Objkf9>)
- KUTV News Morning Show on Foothill STEAM (<https://goo.gl/yUpAX7>)
- BYU Mckay Today Article on Foothill's STEM (<https://goo.gl/IdhPsg>)
- Deseret News: Foothill's Epic Technology Grant (<https://goo.gl/0zbVL4>)
- KSL Article on Foothill's Epic Technology Grant (<https://goo.gl/doOFKh>)
- Daily Herald: Foothill's Epic Technology Grant (<https://goo.gl/WgUbWf>)
- Apollo Project Liftoff YouTube Video (<https://goo.gl/I5I1Nb>)
- Foothill Elementary Welcome Video (<https://goo.gl/udfKXT>)





Students are Proficient and Growing!

Foothill Elementary has a long history of maintaining high academic standards, as indicated by our yearly state assessments. We continue to surpass both state and district averages. Foothill is one of the leading schools in the state for both achievement and growth. Our high academic accomplishments are due in part to the fact that the teachers of each grade level meet every week to ensure academic growth for all students. We also have amazing parent and community support throughout the year that helps us further meet student needs.

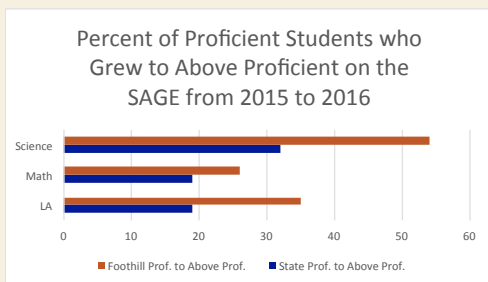
Dr. B's Challenge:
Be Kind
Be Optimistic
Learn
Work Hard
Live Life to the Fullest!

Our Vision Statement:
Foothill Elementary
welcomes all as we
honor, nurture, and
engage in the pursuit
of life-long learning.

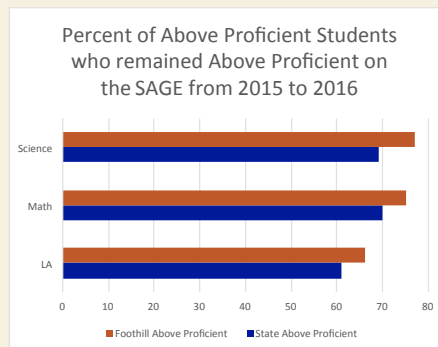
Proud to be a STEAM
school focusing on
integrating science,
technology,
engineering, arts and
math through a three-
way partnership with
BYU, businesses, and
Foothill Elementary.

The graph above shows the proficiency scores on the Spring 2016 SAGE at Foothill compared to Alpine School District and the state. Foothill has a greater percentage of students who are proficient in every subject area. When investigated further, it is incredible to see the growth of students from one year to the next. The following graph shows the percent of students at Foothill who moved from proficient (meaning they scored a 3 on the SAGE) to above proficient (meaning they scored a 4 on the SAGE) compared to the state average.

Foothill has a large percent of students who score above proficient (scoring a 4 on the SAGE). The following graph shows the percent of students at Foothill who remained above proficient from 2015 to 2016 on the SAGE compared to the state average.



That is a significant number of students growing, especially when you consider that Foothill already has a much higher percent of students who are proficient.



To make the data more meaningful, that means 95 students in language arts, 138 students in math, and 94 students in science who were above proficient remained above proficient. That is incredible when you consider how that will truly impact each child throughout their life.

Amazing Support From Our Parents!

TRUST LAND REPORT AND SCC

The School Community Council (SCC) serves as a liaison between the school and our patrons. Our wonderful council members this year are Aerwyn Whitlock (Chair), Lisa Oliver, Jill Clark, Irina Wong, Misty Rocha, Emily Powers, Karen Longmore, Sarah Bethel, and Joe Backman. We encourage you to share any concerns or questions to our current Council members. If you are interested in volunteering for the SCC, we hold elections at the end of each school year.

The main function of the School Community Council (SCC) is to develop the school improvement plan and allocate approximately \$40,000 Trust Land funds to support the plan. Our plan is related to our school goals to purposefully integrate language arts (literacy, writing, and communication) into our STEAM units. The funds which have been spent have been used to lower and support class sizes, support struggling students, and for teacher professional development. Additionally, the Council has the responsibility for school safety.

INCREDIBLE PTA SUPPORT

Our wonderful parents help make Foothill Elementary phenomenal. The incredible efforts of our PTA helped us earn more than \$370,000 for technology in our school. Here are a few of the many ways parents are involved in our school:

- Fall Festival
- Art Program
- Red Ribbon Week
- Student of the Week
- Teacher Grants
- Reflections Contest
- Book Fairs/Battle of the Books
- Spelling/Geography Bees
- Home Reading
- Teacher Appreciation/Dinners
- Knowledge Bowl
- Room Parent/Class Parties
- Choir, Orchestra, and Ballroom
- Fuel Up to Play 60

Special Points of Interest:

- Apollo Project
- STEAM School
- High Academic Achievement
- Foothill in the News!
- Amazing Support of Parents/PTA

FOOTHILL ELEMENTARY STAKEHOLDER REPORT

FROM:
FOOTHILL ELEMENTARY
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Preparing Every Child for the
21st Century!

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