

GAME ON



Nighthawk Newsletter

Back To School Edition

September 14, 2015

From The Principal's Office!

Dear Students, Parents and Staff,

Our theme for the year is GAME ON. It is such an appropriate theme. As we think about the importance of education in the lives of our students, and the difference we can make as we work together, I believe it is imperative we continually strive to be at the top of our games.

I love to read, but I don't always finish a book from cover to cover. This is mostly true for non-fiction. I will find useful information from many different sources of books, and then refer back to those books frequently. One of the books I have found myself referring back to on a continual basis is Mindset, by Carol Dweck. In this book she talks about the fundamental importance of learning by doing, or in learning from our mistakes, and the appropriate 'growth' mindset we must have to achieve this. I find much of her work refreshing, and see it as a missing catalyst to advancing better achievement results in our students.

Recently, a close childhood friend of mine referred me to a research project called PERTS (Project for Education Research That Scales). PERTS is an applied research center at Stanford University that partners with schools, colleges, and other organization to improve student motivation and achievement on a large scale. Their belief is that successful students must be internally motivated and resilient. Being resilient constitutes choosing to learn and to persist even when schoolwork or other situations are challenging. I feel this is a critical area of emphasis that we can work on together as parents and educators- this idea of resilient students, students that persist through challenging environments.

As part of their research, they have educational toolkits for both educators and parents. Please take the time to peruse the website at <https://www.mindsetkit.org>. The first part of change is sharing a common language to begin meaningful

dialogue I would like to start the dialogue about this topic as we begin to move forward this year. I have had such great conversations with many involved parents, and welcome these conversations even further. Please, take the time to investigate this topic and visit the website. I believe it will make a powerful impact in the lives of our students, and keep us all at the top of our games.

Mr. Woodhouse



From Our PTA Presidents!

We've spent all summer preparing for an exciting year filled with activities to help build our team and give us plenty of opportunities to play together! It was so fun to see so many familiar faces and lots of new faces, too at Back to School Night as we were selling shirts, signing people up for PTA and answering questions. September is one of the most fun and busiest times of the year as we adjust to school and dive right in to all the activities. We enjoyed our Room Helper's Huddle on September 8 at 3:45, for all of you who signed-up to Room Moms or Party Moms. Thank you for everything you do to help our teachers and our students by volunteering in the classroom. The service you provide there is invaluable. We appreciated those of you were able to stay and those of you who came just for our General PTA Membership Meeting, which was held right after the Room Helper's Huddle. It was great to see so many familiar faces and to see some new faces, too. During our General PTA meeting, we approved the budget for the year, went over some major calendar events and chose our nominating committee who will work to find the executive officers of the 2016-2017 school year.

The night after our General PTA meeting, we had our National School of Excellence celebration. Orem's Mayor Brunst and an Orem City Council Woman Margaret Black were in attendance, as were Dave Stephenson, Admin over Public Relations and Kimberly Bird, assistant to the Superintendent and former Northridge principal, representing Alpine School District. Utah PTA president Dawn Davies presented us with a banner and certificate to go along with our award. It was an excellent celebration and we'd like to thank all those who worked behind the scenes to make it happen and all the teachers, community members, teachers, and especially parents of Northridge who came to support our event. We had a lovely turnout and it was a great way to kick off celebrating the award and what it means Thank you for coming to party with us!

We also wanted to give a big thanks to those of you who have joined the PTA so far this year. Your support is so important us. It supports programs like Home Reading,

Running Club, Red Ribbon Week, Teacher Appreciation week, radKIDS, Safety Week and many others. The membership drive and competition will continue until Monday, September 23, 2015. Memberships are \$6 for an individual and \$12 for a family. Everyone who joins will be entered into a drawing to win a \$100 visa gift card. Individuals will receive one entry and families will receive three. The class who has the largest percentage of the class as members will receive a donut party as well.

One other note about membership—the Utah PTA is going digital. Instead of receiving a traditional card like you've received in past years, this year you'll receive an emailed digital receipt, so look in your email for that membership card!

We're excited for the carnival later this month and the opportunities it provides to bring together students, teachers, parents and the Northridge community. There will be lots of great new things as well as a revival some older favorites. Please plan to come support us the night of September 25, 2015 and have a great time!

We are looking forward to a fabulous year and hope you are, too! Get your GAME ON, let's go TEAM Northridge!

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Amy Fox
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National PTA School of Excellence Award

We Did It!!

Thank you for your support throughout last year to help Northridge earn the amazing distinction of being a National PTA School of Excellence. Northridge Elementary is the only school in Utah County and one of only three in the state of Utah to receive this prestigious distinction that honors a joint commitment of PTA and school leaders who want to work together to welcome all families, communicate effectively, support student success, speak up for every child, share power and collaborate with the community.

"This award speaks to not only the progress we made together last year in strengthening communication and partnerships between the school and parents, but also our legacy of strong relationships and working together for our children at Northridge," said PTA Co-President Amy Fox.

National School of Excellence

Our path to excellence began in August of 2014 with our first survey. We took your responses and set goals to do better. We made impressive strides by implementing specific practices and programs to improve our family engagement strategies and to address our goals throughout the school year. With your help, we completed our final survey in May and forwarded all of our data to National PTA.

“The partnership between Northridge Elementary and Northridge PTA is a true example of what can be accomplished when schools and families work together,” said Otha Thornton, president of National PTA.

“Northridge Elementary and Northridge PTA have put strong practices into place that involve families in the life of the school, and we are pleased to recognize them as a National PTA School of Excellence.”



Running Club



Running Club has begun!

Morning Running Club started September 1st and will be held every Tuesday and Thursday morning through October 20th. The Final Fun Run Event for registered participants will be held Thursday, October 22nd from 8-9am. Members are setting goals and working to achieve them.

Thanks to all the parents and family members who are supporting these awesome students in their endeavor to be active and get Friday Running Club for ALL STUDENTS started September 4th. It is held during lunch recess.

Every student has a card and can earn rewards for running/walking around the track. Students, wear tennis shoes or running shoes on Fridays and come join us on the track!

See You on the Track!



Reflections

The theme for the 2015-2016 school year is

Let Your Imagination Fly.

Join in the fun and express your ideas through Art, Literature, Music, Dance, Photography and Film. Starting October 5th, we will have a display table with category information and entry forms.

Until then please visit PTA.org. All entries are due by Oct 12th.

- 2015 Reflections Team



radKIDS Information

We had two weeks of 4th graders learning how to be safe and what to do in case they were ever in any danger. These 4th graders were awesome and even learned some new physical moves that they can use on any bad person that tries to hurt them. We then had the graduation on September 4th where they were able to practice these moves on a real "bad guy". Don't worry, he was padded from head to toe and didn't get hurt, but the r.a.d. KIDS could certainly hit or kick as hard as they wanted to, so they could get away and run to safety. This was a great group of kids. Thank you for sharing them with us.

2nd grade r.a.d. KIDS classes will begin next week.

If you are interested in observing any of our classes, please feel free to stop in and see what we teach these kids! We are volunteer instructors who have been trained to teach this great program which is also endorsed by Elizabeth Smart. Hopefully we are empowering your children! Every radKID knows these three things

- 1 No one has the right to hurt me, because I am special.
- 2 I don't have the right to hurt anyone else, including myself, unless they are trying to physically hurt me, then I have the right to stop them.
- 3 If anyone has tried, or does try, to hurt me, trick me, or make me feel bad inside, it's not my fault and I can tell.

Calendar Items

September

14-18 – radKIDS – Harris (9:20-10:45 am)
21-25 – radKIDS – Savage (9:20-10:45 am)
24 – School Pictures
25 – Carnival (4:30 – 7:30)
28 – Oct. 2 – radKIDS Broderick (9:20-10:45 am)

October

2 – Vision Screening (9:15-11:45)
2- radKIDS Graduation (3:45)
5-9 – radKIDS King (9:20-10:45 am)
6- PTA Board Meeting (10:00 am)
7-8 – Parent/Teacher Conferences
9 – radKIDS Graduation (3:45)
15-17 – Fall Break
19 – Professional Development Day/No School

Ballroom

It's Not To Late To Sign Up

Ballroom has started for the Level 1 and Level 2 students on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:35-4:35 in the big gym. Intro to ballroom starts Monday, Sept 14th at 2:35-3:35.

We are still in need of boys to sign up. If your 4th, 5th, or 6th grade boys are interested there are registration forms in the main office. Girls are also invited to sign-up however are not guaranteed a spot unless they sign up with a partner.

We need applications filled out ASAP. Also, if you signed up in the spring those registration forms have been misplaced/lost and we need you to refill out a form if you haven't already.

Questions? Call or email Trisha Maxwell at ntmaxwell@msn.com or 801-224-6860. Thanks.

BOX TOPS

FOOTBALL CHALLENGE

Are you a MIGHTY COUGAR or a RUNNING UTE??

Help support your team with the BOX TOP CHALLENGE!!



1. Save your Box Tops in a Zip Lock Back
2. Write your name and the # of Box Tops on the outside of your bag.
3. Place your bag in your team's box located right outside of your office.
4. Watch your team soar to victory!!
5. A drawing from the winning team will be held for a SWIG giftcard.



STAR Reading Program

Hello friends and family of Northridge.

STAR reading is a great way to volunteer at our school. Each volunteer comes in for one hour, twice a week to read with two students who struggle with reading.

The student stays the same all year, so you build a wonderful friendship. Mrs. Geyerman will train all volunteers, so you can be sure you will know what to do.

If you would like to help with this fun and worthwhile activity, send Mrs. Geyerman and email at ageyerman@alpinedistrict.org.



September

- 6- Julita Killpack
- 9- Sharee Ker
- 9- Ethelyn Lunt

October

- 11- Amy Geyerman
- 15- Sarah Broderick
- 16- Ruth Iman
- 17- Shaunell Petersen
- 27- Lara Whiting
- 28- Jenette Savage

COME GET YOUR GAME ON at the Northridge CARNIVAL



Friday Sept. 25th 4:30-7:30pm

This year we would like to welcome **Fun Services** to our **Carnival!!**
Their expertise in **fun** is going to make this year's Carnival the **best ever!!** Because we are using a company to help provide the fun, we will have **two types of wristbands** that we will be selling. We will have a...

“White” Fun Services wristband - \$10 (unlimited fun on 10 attractions)

The white wristband lets you participate in the following attractions **over and over and over again!!**

Jousting	T-Rex Crawl	Soccer Challenge
Bungee Run	Obstacle Course	Flush Em (Come flush Mr. Woodhouse, Mr. Welch, Mr. Holladay and Mrs. Smith!!)
Half Pipe Slide	Fan Swing	
Bounce House	Train	

“Blue” Northridge wristband - \$5 (10 punches)

The Blue wristband is accepted at all of the attractions. Each attraction requires a different amount of “punches.”

3 punches

Jousting*
Bungee Run*

2 punches

Fan Swing*
Half Pipe Slide*
Train*
Flush Em*
Soccer Challenge*
Bounce House*
Cotton Candy
Soda Pop Ring Toss

1 punch

T-Rex Crawl*	Football Throw
Obstacle Course*	Plinko
Alley Oops	Swing A Win
Ball Bounce	Tip the Cat
Cat in Can Circle	Candy Cannon
Racer	Popcorn
Crazy Block	Soda
Fish Pond	Water

*These attractions are available on the unlimited “White” Fun Services wristband.



Yummy Food Trucks like **Waffle Love, Corn Dog Commander, Mama Z's Calzones and Kona Ice** will be our means for **dinner** this year!! Please **pay** them with **cash or credit card, no wristbands accepted.**

We will also have our amazing **silent auction baskets** for you to bid on and buy!!



JOIN PTA AND WIN BIG!

Classroom Competition continues through
September 23th

WIN the opportunity to make a difference, and greatly benefit your child, and our school. **WIN**, as you have fun and make friends in the process of supporting the programs that are most important to you and your student. **WIN**, as you discover how rewarding it is to contribute in this way, to you child's educational experience!

Win a
100\$ Gift
Card!

Win a
doughnut
party for
you child's
class!

*All memberships already paid for this year will count. So let's get building our PTA TEAM! Whether you hope to become a PTA volunteer, or simply want to support our school, Northridge Elementary will benefit from your membership!

To join, return the attached form with payment to one of your children's teachers, OR go online to sign up and pay. All PTA info, including membership, is accessible through the Northridge website, under "Organizations." Please write checks out to Northridge PTA.

Thank you for joining the Northridge PTA!



*If this is a family membership, please provide information for the second member.

Member#1: _____ Member#2: _____

Address: _____

Member #1 Cell phone: _____ Member #2 Cell phone: _____

Member #1 Email Address _____

Member #2 Email Address: _____

I prefer to be contacted by: (circle one) Member #1: TEXT EMAIL Member #2: TEXT EMAIL

What kind of communication would you like to receive from the PTA?

- All Communication Upcoming events and activities When help is needed None

Student name(s), grade(s), & teacher(s): _____

PTA Membership Contest

Our membership is in full swing, and the difference between each of the top five places is one point, or one individual membership.

Currently the classes in the top five positions are:

Tied for 1st in the membership contest:
Mrs. King and Mrs. Sultz AM,

3rd place: Mrs. Iman and

4th: Mrs. Savage and

Tied for 5th: Mrs. Jensen AM, Mrs. Smith
and Mrs. Nebeker, PM (5th grade).

All separated by one point!



Join PTA and be
that one point
that helps your
child's class win
the competition
and a donut
party!



Facebook.com/NorthridgeElementaryPta
NorthridgeElementaryPTA@gmail.com
Google Calendar
Paypal.com/northridge Pinterest.com/northridge



GET INVOLVED!

Contact Amy Poole & Amy Fox @
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