

GAME ON



Nighthawk Newsletter

New Year Edition

January 13, 2016

From The Principal's Office

There is a quote from an unknown source that speaks to me:

"We are so often caught up in our destination that we forget to appreciate the journey, especially the goodness of the people we meet on the way. Appreciation is a wonderful feeling, don't overlook it."

There is a focus this time of year- a focus on renewal and change. New year's resolutions and a promise of new beginnings bring a sense of hope. I am, and will always be, incredibly grateful for a second chance at many things. These intended destinations however have not been without their share of disappointment and loss, often because the journey did not take me to the destination I had desired. However, as I reflect back on these experiences, it wasn't the missed destination that inspires me, it is the effort I put into getting to the destination- the journey along the way- that moves me.

Hard work, character, and a propensity for innovation and risk-taking are critical for students to develop, yet it can be difficult to engender these qualities in our students without deliberate focus on these characteristics. It is something I feel equally as passionate about as helping them master core subject areas. I have invited each of you to read "Mindset" by Carol Dweck as part of my principal book club. We had a wonderful meeting the other week, with a great turnout and discussion on how we can work together to realize these principles a school. We will also be having a second meeting for chapters 3 and 4, and encourage you to attend this next session on January 26th at 12:00 in the library. I am sensitive to just how much time your students spend in our care, and we want to be as effective as we can in working as a team to reinforce points that will help them be successful. The points in this book I feel are a great discussion point to move us forward.

We are also reading a book entitled "Leader in Me" together as a school, and will be kicking that off this month. The book focuses on Stephen Covey's "7 Habits of Highly Effective People", and incorporates these into a program for schools. This is another book that is a good starting point for discussion about the values we want to reinforce as a school. It is important to us as a school that we get your input as well. If any of you would like to be a part of these discussions, please email me with interest. I would be happy to provide you with a copy of either book.



I express my appreciation to each of you for your encouragement, support, and effort you place within the school. Your investment in our school makes all the difference. You make a difference. Let's have a great beginning to 2016!

Sincerely,

Mr. Woodhouse



Assistant Principal Intern

My name is Danny Blackhurst. I have taught in Alpine District for the last 10 years at Lone Peak High School as the Agriculture Education instructor and the FFA Advisor. I earned my bachelor's and master's degrees at Utah State University and am currently working with SUU to finish my administrative license. I have a wife of 11 years and 3 great children. We spend our free time riding our horses and competing at events in the National Cutting Horse Association. We have had the opportunity to travel all across the country for these events. My wife and I have also both finished in the top 10 in the world standings in the classes we compete in.

I will be working with Mr. Woodhouse and the great staff at Northridge Elementary from now until the end of April to complete my administrative internship. I look forward to meeting all of you and anticipate having a very positive experience working at Northridge this spring.



From Our PTA Presidents

It's difficult to believe that the school year is already half-way over. As a PTA, we enjoyed the first half of year as we implemented programs that have given us opportunities to interact with both new and experienced volunteers and to get to know the students, parents and community of Northridge. We look forward to the rest of the year and are excited about the activities we have planned and hope that you will be, too. During January, we will be holding our annual Reading Program. Mr. Woodhouse has some fun challenges planned, so look for more details coming home shortly. In conjunction with our emphasis on reading, we also have the second in our Parent University, which will focus on how parents can help with reading strategies by Rachelle Bolingbroke, Director of Elementary Curriculum in Alpine School District. This should be a great opportunity for all parents to learn ways to help their students get more from their reading. We are also preparing for second annual Take Your Family to School Week in February, which we hope you will all plan to attend.

Working in PTA with the Northridge Community has been a great blessing. It has provided opportunities to know more about the workings of the school, to plan fun activities for the students, to make new friends and be a part of a great team all working together for the same goal: the successful education of the students at Northridge. It's that time of year when we are

looking to fill the Executive Board for next year. We will need a new President-elect, Leadership VP, Legislative VP, Communications VP, Secretary, Treasurer and Teacher VP. We'd like to personally invite you to consider nominating yourself or someone else to serve in one of these positions next year. To nominate someone, submit their name on a piece of paper to the PTA box by Tuesday, February 2 at 10 a.m. More information will be available about this process later in the newsletter. Thank you to the many volunteers who donate hours of their time to ensure that things run smoothly and that we're able to offer the many programs we do. Thank you, in advance, for your contributions to the nominations process. If you ever have any questions or concerns, or suggestions, please contact us.

Amy Poole

amypoole@gmail.com

Amy Fox

amyjfox@outlook.com



PTA Executive Board

Nominations for PTA Officers Needed! We are looking to fill our PTA Executive Board for the 2016-2017 school year. If you would like to be involved or if you know someone who you think would be great for one of these positions, please make a nomination.

We are looking for nominations to fill the following Executive Board Positions:

President Elect(s)- would serve as president(s) 2017-2018 school year. Train to serve as president(s), assist where needed in preparation to conduct all PTA mtgs., keeps in contact with principal on a regular basis, co-signs on all PTA checks with treasurer, oversee all PTA programs and events and help board members as needed. You can serve as co-presidents, meaning you can serve with another person.

Treasurer - Responsible for all financial reports, bank records and money. Works with President to create budget for the year and gets approval from the PTA board. Responsible for writing all PTA checks.

Secretary- Takes minutes and records all business in PTA meetings, other secretarial responsibilities.

Leadership VP- Provides training to board members, oversees awards, thoughts/training at PTA meetings.

Legislative VP- Over bylaws, standing rules and awareness of important legislative issues that may affect our children.

Communication VP- Coordinates and produces newsletter, manages Facebook posts, etc.

Teacher VP- Acts as a liaison and communications link between the PTA board and the faculty.

All Executive Board members attend training as needed and requested by the State, Region, Council, and Local PTA as well as monthly Executive Board and General Board Meetings.

These are brief overviews of the responsibilities, if you want more information on a certain position feel free to contact the PTA at northridgeelementarypta@gmail.com

To nominate someone, write your nomination(s) and place it in a sealed envelope. (You can put your name on the nomination if you would like, but it is not required. You can also nominate yourself if you would like to serve in one of the positions. We will keep nominations confidential). Put sealed envelopes in the PTA Box in the office by 11 AM on Tuesday, February 2.

The Nominating Committee will contact each of the nominees and select a willing nominee for each position to be presented at our next general PTA meeting on Tuesday, March 1 at 10 a.m.

Nominees should current PTA member, but It's not too late to join. You can join Northridge PTA by clicking here...http://northridgepta.weebly.com/store/c1/Featured_Products.html Thank you for support of the Northridge Elementary PTA as we work to serve the students and the Northridge community. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at northridgeelementarypta@gmail.com

The Nominating Committee includes Iliana Gardner, Stephanie Haymore and Libby Lewis.

Thank you! The Northridge PTA



Encourage Reading Contest

Northridge Nighthawks,

Get your Game On and be part of Team Read at Northridge. We'll kick off our Reading Program Tuesday, January 19 and read thru Sunday, February 7. We will have weekly drawings for students who have read at least 20 minutes for 5 days and have turned in a signed entry form. Each of those weekly entries will also go in to a Grand Prize Drawing for a Kindle Fire. Students can also earn two extra Grand Prize Drawing Entries by reading at least 17 days during this program and turning in a signed special Grand Prize Entry. Entry forms will be due each Monday.

Mr. Woodhouse has some fun shenanigans planned for each week that we have at least 80 percent of our students turning in their entries for 5 days and something extra crazy for the Grand Prize Reading Assembly.

So let's get our Game On and Read!!

Support Staff Week

Northridge has a wonderful staff of people, who work hard every day to help the school run successfully and make sure that the students have the best possible experience at school.

This year we are dedicating a week to thank those people for their contributions. February 1-5 will be Support Staff Appreciation Week!

This week will focus on showing appreciation to our teacher aides, custodians, lunch workers, secretaries, and other district staff.

More information will be coming home about what parents and students can do to support the PTA in our efforts this week.

Book Fair

Feelin' Groovy Book Fair

Come support Northridge at the book fair! 25% of all sales stay right at our school.

Tuesday Feb. 2 - 11:30-4:00

Wednesday Feb. 3 - 11:30-7:30

Thursday Feb. 4 - 11:30-7:30

Friday Feb. 5 - 11:30-4:00



Heart Healthy Feb.

Heart Healthy February 2016 Is Almost Here!

For the month of February, Northridge Running Club wants to encourage the students to enjoy being "heart healthy" by being aware of and tracking their exercise.

Starting Monday, February 1st, students may record and turn in any minutes that they exercise at home. All time turned in will be converted into miles for each student's class.

Each student can watch his/her class' progress on the bulletin board by the main office. The miles will be added to the running club bulletin board as well.

Here's how your children can participate from home:

They can bring a note to class with their **FIRST AND LAST NAME** on it, **TEACHER'S NAME**, **HOW MANY MINUTES** they exercised, **WHAT TYPE OF EXERCISE** they did, and a **PARENT'S SIGNATURE**. All of the above information needs to be included or their minutes will not count.

We will track each class that turns in miles by averaging miles per class size. The class with the most miles at the end of February will be rewarded. We hope this will encourage students to enjoy being active throughout this month.

Thank You for your support!

The Northridge PTA

Help Wanted

STAR
Reading

Home
Reading

PTA
Board
Nominees

Spirit
Friday
Committee

Book
Fair

Many Other
Opportunities

GET INVOLVED!

Contact Amy Poole & Amy Fox @
amypoole@gmail.com amyjfox@outlook.com

5th Grade Maturation

Our maturation program for all 5th graders will be held February 5th at 1:00. Parents are invited and encouraged to attend with their students. We will begin with a combined meeting in the small gym and hope you will plan to attend and support our wonderful 5th graders.

School Spirit Fridays

We've Got Spirit, Yes We Do! We've Got Spirit, How about YOU???

Wear your school shirts (or school colors) on FRIDAYS for a treat at lunch!

On the FIRST FRIDAY of every month, the class with the most school shirts or colors worn, wins the SPIRIT TROPHY (and special treat) for the ENTIRE month!

Let's have fun while we celebrate our Northridge Pride!

We are looking for "**Spirited**" parents to join us and help make **Fridays FUN** at Northridge! If you are looking for an easy and enjoyable way to contribute to our team, join the **SPIRIT COMMITTEE** today.

Contact EMILIE NUTTALL for more information:
801-735-8470 emilienuttall@gmail.com

Home Reading

VOLUNTEERS NEED TO HELP IN HOME READING

We are looking for parents to help in our Home Reading program. We have several shifts available. It is a great way to help at school that does not take too much time.

Shifts normally last about one hour, and you can come in at your convenience during the designated time that day. We have shifts available on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (between 9:30-12:00) or Thursday (between 12:45-3:00).

Feel free to bring your young children with you we have a little play area with toys to help keep them busy while you trade books.

If you are interested or have any questions, feel free to contact Jennifer Fletcher at 801-404-2231 or Angie Welling at 801-369-7174.

Where's The Spirit Trophy?

Ms. Iman's Class

Outstanding Educator

Please take the time to nominate 1-2 teachers that are making a big impact at our school, for the Outstanding Educator Award.

You can vote by email to northridgееlementarypta@gmail.com or in the ballot box in the school lobby.

Please include some details/experiences of why you feel this teacher should receive this award. What makes this educator different? How do they go above and beyond?

Let your voice be heard and place your vote. Don't forget to include your name, phone number, and email on your ballot.

For questions contact:

Emilie Nuttall
VP Leadership

Take Your Family To School Week

Save the date!

****Take Your Family To School Week****

Feb. 16-19, 2015

Come eat school lunch with your child!

"STEP IN MY SNEAKERS"

Thursday, Feb. 18th

6:00 pm

Parent University

We hope that those who have attended these informative parent nights this year have enjoyed them. Here is what's still coming up:

Thursday, Jan. 21 at 6:30 p.m. –

Reading Strategies for Parents with Rachelle Bolingbroke, Director of Elementary Curriculum, Alpine School District

Thursday, Feb. 18 at 6:30 p.m. –

Take Your Family to School Week Family Night

Thursday, March 31 at 6:30 p.m. –

Safety Speaker, details TBA

Thursday, April 21 at 6 p.m. –

Parenting Tools from Family Therapist
Crystal Heer

Storytelling Contest

Northridge
Storytelling



2015-2016

Our school festival begins with classroom competitions:

February 8th-12th

Winners will compete within their grade levels:

Wednesday, February 17th

The final school-wide assembly will take place:

Wednesday, February 24th

Winners will be eligible to audition for the Timpanogos Storytelling Festival

Storytelling guidelines:

- Stories are not to be memorized or read from books, but may be retold from books.
- They may be original tales, fairy or folk tales, etc.
- Stories must be no longer than 10 minutes.

Questions? Call Noel Thomas: (801) 224-7409

What's your story?

Who Will Rule The School!?

It is time for our next **BOX TOPS CHALLENGE**...
And this time we want to see whether the **BOYS** or the **GIRLS** of Northridge Elementary can bring in more Box Tops.



This competition will run through Valentines Day, which means there is plenty of time for both the **BOYS** and the **GIRLS** to bring in their Box Tops... We will hold a drawing from the winning team for a gift card to Krispy Kreme at the end of the competition.

KEEP CLIPPING!!!

So far we have collected over **10,000** Box Tops..

That means that we have earned over **\$1,000** for
field trips!! THANK YOU SO MUCH for taking the time to
CLIP THOSE BOX TOPS!!!



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 an email at ageyerman@alpinedistrict.org.

Calendar Items

January

18 - Martin Luther Kind Day - No School
19 - Feb. 7 - Reading Program Contest
19 - Outstanding Teacher Nominations Due
21 - Parent University Series - Reading @ 6:30 pm
26 - Principal's Book Club @ 12:00 pm
29 - STEM Science Fair

February

2 - PTA Meeting @ 10:00 am
3-4 Parent Teacher Conferences
5 - 5th Grade Maturation @ 1:00 pm
8-12 Storytelling - Classroom Judging
15 - President's Day - No School
16-19 Take Your Family to School Week
24 - Storytelling Assemblies
26 - Utah PTA Day at the Capitol



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



January

05 - Barbara Ascione 07 -Michelle Brady
08 - Amy Andersen 16 -Jeanne Harris
31 -Angela Stonehocker

February

16 - Yvonne Manookin 18 - Sherri Burton
22 - Lynette Christiansen
27 - Stephen Bunker 28 - Debbie Smith