



traverse mountain elementary
TIGER TIMES

ISSUE 1 • OCTOBER 2010



OCTOBER AT A GLANCE

October 4th	Vision Screenings
October 4th-8th	Book Fair
October 6th-7th	Parent Teacher Conferences
October 11th	Reflections due
October 14th-17th	NO SCHOOL—Fall Break
October 18th-22nd	Red Ribbon Week
October 20th	Picture Makeup Day
October 22nd	9:15am—5th and 6th Grade Breakfast of Champions
October 25th	Fall Carnival
October 29th	Halloween Parade and Parties

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Traverse Mountain Community,

It has been a spectacular month as we reached the one month mark in our new school. A special thank you to everyone for making it special for everyone! We had a great experience developing our school's mission statement: WE WILL LEARN, ENCOURAGE, ACHIEVE, & DREAM. Notice that the first letters of the four key words creates the word LEAD. It was a comprehensive process in gathering input from stakeholders. It is our intent that the mission statement encompasses all that we are about while at the same time being easy enough for students, parents, and teachers to remember.

October is always an exciting time at school. We have our Book Fair and Parent Conferences during the first week. Your partnership with your child's classroom teacher is appreciated and essential in achieving the best opportunities for your child's success. By using student-led conferences, we are encouraging students to be the leader of their own learning. Be sure to get your conference scheduled using the Online Scheduler linked to our school website: <http://traversemountain.alpinedistrict.org>.

We invite all to come participate in whatever manner you can. You can volunteer in the classroom, enjoy lunch with a child and volunteer during lunch recess, or simply be sure to attend any or all of the activities we have planned throughout the school year.

Looking forward to seeing everyone during Parent Conference Week!

David Stephenson
 Principal



Vision Screening
October 4th



Fall Break
October 14th-17th



Parent Teacher Conferences
October 6th-7th



5th/6th Grade Breakfast of Champions
October 22nd 9:15am



Monster Mania Book Fair Oct. 5-8

Tuesday & Friday: 3:00-4:30pm
Wednesday & Thursday: 3:00-7:00pm
Checks and credit cards welcome.

Proceeds to purchase books for our library!

"Together We Can..." Reflections Due!
October 11th



Picture Makeup Day
October 20th



Halloween Parade & Parties
October 29th

Calling all goblins & witches!
Come to the Halloween Carnival
October 25th 5:00-8:00pm
(look for more info to come...)



Don't forget to send in your Box Tops! The class that brings in the most by Oct. 29th wins a pizza party!



Help earn money for our school every time you shop at Smith's! Take the barcode on page 3 in and have your cashier scan it.

If you are interested in ordering a school hoodie or t-shirt, email TraverseMountainPTA@gmail.com

Red Ribbon Week—October 18th-22nd

Monday, October 18th: Turn Your Backs on Drugs! (Wear your clothes backward to school.)

Tuesday, October 19th: Drugs Are Crazy! (Come to school with crazy hair.)

Wednesday, October 20th: Team Up Against Drugs! (Wear your favorite team jersey.)

Thursday, October 21st: Put a Lid On Drugs! (Wear a hat to school.)

Friday, October 22nd: Give Drugs The Slip! (Wear slippers or funky socks to school.)

Tile Wall

We are excited to announce that we will have a tile wall at our new school! The students have been busy creating self portraits. These will be placed on tiles and permanently installed on our schools walls. We are asking that each family pay the small cost of \$7 per tile for your student's tile/tiles at Parent Teacher Conference so that we can make this project possible. We would like all Traverse Tigers to have an opportunity to put their mark on our new School and hope that all can participate.

Calling All Voters!

Election Day is rapidly approaching! The positions up for re-election this year include: U.S. Senate, U.S. House, Governor/Lieutenant Governor, State Senate, State House, and State School Board.



Election Day—November 2nd
Early Voting—October 19th-29th

For voter registration, candidate information, and all other voting information visit: <http://elections.utah.gov/>

We are currently working on getting our polling location changed to our own Traverse Mountain Elementary. Watch for updates in the mail. Let's all get out and vote!

- Kasey Lighten, Legislative VP, PTA Executive Board

Did you know?

The first frost of the year almost always falls sometime in October. Good bye, summer!

Healthy Classroom Parties

Room parents are asked to join in the fight against childhood obesity by bringing healthy foods to classroom parties—Halloween, Christmas and Valentines.

The purpose of the PTA Health Commission is to provide and utilize resources that are targeted to protect and improve the health of children and youth; to design, identify, and implement programs in areas of priority and concern; and to build public awareness that will improve the quality of life for the children of Utah.

Utah PTA Health Commissioner, Liz Zentner, along with several community partners are asking local grocers to offer healthy, fun, festive specialty items that parents may purchase for classroom healthy parties. In Utah, health department rules prevent parents from preparing food in their own kitchens for classroom parties. Most parents don't want to take junk food to the classroom parties, but can't find anything that would be healthy and attractive to children at the same time.

Fruit, vegetable, and deli trays, with a little creativity, can be made in the shape of a Halloween character, a holiday decoration or a Valentie Heart. It can be as simple as cutting cheddar cheese into cubes and arranging them in the shape of a jack-o-lantern; arranging fresh or dried fruit to look like a wreath, or making a heart-shaped fruit or vegetable tray. Even the bakery can get involved by making healthier cupcakes—using angel food cake, whipped cream frosting and fruit for decorations. No more than one treat, such as a cookie or cupcake, should be offered at any classroom party. All other food items should be healthy.

Who is involved: Local Grocers, Utah PTA, Action for Healthy Kids, Gold Medal Schools, Utah Partnership for Healthy Weight, Salt Lake FIT.

Who it will benefit: Utah elementary school children and parents. We hope this will benefit our local grocery stores too.

Childhood obesity is endangering the health and futures of many of Utah's school children. Children need to be taught a healthier way to celebrate special oc-



The Hutchings Museum will become a magical place as they present the

Magical Museum

Come celebrate the Halloween season with live owls, a scavenger hunt, & enchanted rock puppets. Watch the Potions & Care of Magical Creatures demonstrations. Meet famous witches and wizards & magical characters as they roam the halls. There will be a wizard marketplace with Honeyduke's Candy Shop, Magic Stone Store, & more!

October 8th & 9th, 5:00pm - 8:30pm

(Museum will close between 3 & 5pm)

The Hutchings Museum, 55 N. Center Street
\$3 per person, age 3 & up
Buy "Galleons" (spending money) for \$1 each

PARENTS:

**YOUR MISSION, SHOULD YOU
CHOOSE TO ACCEPT IT...**

DON'T LET YOUR KIDS SELF DESTRICT!

Willowcreek PTSA presents:

**Pop Culture And Its Effects On Youth
& Drug Trends In Today's World**

October 28th • 6:00pm & 8:00pm

These classes will be instructed by Paul LeBaron, a 17-year veteran of the Long Beach Police Dept.

For a more detailed description of these classes, visit the Willowcreek Middle School website. Space is limited, so please send an RSVP to willowcreekptsa@gmail.com.

These classes are for ADULTS ONLY due to the sensitive nature of the topics to be discussed. Children will not be allowed to attend.

DISTRICT MESSAGE

Despite the revenue cuts from the State funding in the past two years, Alpine School District is doing everything possible to keep the effects to the classroom minimal. Some of the ways that Alpine School District helps to keep the adult to student ratio low includes the use of extended schedules at the elementary level and teacher assistants at both the elementary and secondary levels.

Approximately ten years ago, some elementaries in Alpine School District began using an Extended Day schedule. Today, over 75% of our elementary schools use either a Standard or Modified Extended Day model.

This means that one half of the students, in grades first through sixth, begin at 8:00 (Track A) and the other half begin at 9:15 (Track B). This schedule provides many instructional advantages for students, primarily by having smaller groups at the beginning and end of each day. Subjects such as reading and math are worked on in the small-group time when only half the students are here.

During the time when all students are at school, teacher assistants are made available to some of the larger classrooms. Specialty classes such as physical education, music and art are also offered during this time based on each individual school's preference.

With Alpine School District being such a large school district and having limited classroom space, teacher assistants are a valuable part of our schools. They provide assistance to teachers and administrators in the daily operation of our schools. Their tasks vary from monitoring student assignments to reviewing homework or working one on one with students.

Teacher assistants were put in place to deal with rapid growth and space constraints in our schools, according to Dr. Gary Seastrand, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services and Schools.

"The number of teacher assistants allocated is based on two factors—a formula that takes into account the number of students and their needs in addition to the principal's discretion," said Dr. Seastrand.

Teacher assistants play a key role in our schools through their hard work, dedication and knowledge of the students. Every day these essential support staff members provide 607 instructional hours assisting teachers in educating students. They are an integral part of our students' overall educational experience.

Due to fiscal responsibility exhibited by Alpine School District, the use of teacher assistants and extended schedules, our students are enjoying the best adult to student ratio and classroom experience possible in today's tough economic times.

PTA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the PTA Board, welcome to Traverse Mountain Elementary School. We are very fortunate to have such a beautiful new school as well as a wonderful group of parents, teachers, staff, volunteers, and of course, our AWESOME principal, Mr. Stephenson.

I am proud to be serving as your PTA President. I am excited to work with and support our amazing teachers, who continually strive for excellence in the classroom. I'd also like to thank our dedicated PTA Board Members, Committee Chairpersons, and all of the parents who spend their personal time in making a difference in our children's lives. I would welcome parents to contact me us at TraverseMountainPTA@Gmail.Com to see how you can partner with us in making this year a success.

Our children are our number one focus in all that we do. With your help we can continue to give them a wonderful, safe and invigorating learning environment. Please join with us throughout the year at our many different programs geared at giving our students an opportunity to learn and experience many new and exciting avenues.

Rikke Kotter

Traverse Mountain Elementary PTA President



LOOKING AHEAD

**Minimal Monday
November 1**

**3rd and 4th Grade
Breakfast of Champions
November 19th**

**NO SCHOOL
Thanksgiving Break
November 24th-28th**



If you can **DREAM** it,
You can **DO** it!

- Walt Disney



2500 W. Chapel Ridge Road • Lehi, UT 84043
(801)610.8725 • (801)701-6280 (fax)

Smith's is giving \$1,000,000 to Schools!

Dear Parents:

Earn money for your child's school every time you use your Fresh Values card at Smith's! With your support, Smith's Earn & Learn program has already contributed \$13.8 million to schools. This school year, Smith's will be contributing another \$1,000,000 to local participating schools.

Sign-Up is Easy!

To enroll, simply present this letter and your Fresh Values card to your cashier during your next visit to Smith's. Your cashier will scan the barcode on this letter to link your child's school to your card. Then, use your Fresh Values card every time you shop to help earn money for your school! Your enrollment will be valid until 9/30/2011.

If you have participated in Smith's Earn & Learn before, you must re-enroll each year. All enrollments completed after 6/1/2010 will be valid until 9/30/2011. All other enrollments expire on 9/30/2010.

How Your Earnings Add Up

Smith's is giving \$1,000,000 to schools this year. Your school's share will be based on the percentage of purchases made by Earn & Learn participants linked to your school compared with purchases made by all Earn & Learn participants. The more purchases made by participants linked to your school, the more your school will earn. The points earned towards Earn and Learn will in no way affect any other points you may be earning i.e. fuel, or other programs..

For example, if Earn & Learn participants linked to your school purchase 1% of all Earn & Learn purchases, Smith's will donate 1% of \$1,000,000 to your school, or \$10,000.

How Are Funds Distributed?

The accumulation period for this year is 8/1/10 through 7/31/11. Next August, a check and will be mailed to your school.

Note: Schools must register with Smith's Earn & Learn to receive a donation. Eligible Schools must be a qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit, state-accredited, k-12 school located within Smith's operating areas in Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Utah, and New Mexico.

To sign up or learn more about Smith's Earn & Learn, visit our website at www.SmithsFoodAndDrug.com.

Traverse Mountain Elementary

Lehi, UT



1 00000 80160 4
Enrollment Barcode

Cashier: To enroll Fresh Values card in Smith's Earn & Learn program for this school, scan customer's Fresh Values/rewards card, then scan this barcode. The enrollment will automatically become effective within three days.