

traverse mountain elementary

# Tiger times

ISSUE 7 • APRIL 2011

## APRIL AT A GLANCE

- 4th Talent Show
- 6th Spring Pictures
- 6th SCC Meeting 3: 30 p.m.
- 8th 4th Grade Field Trip to Heritage Park
- 11th-15th Spring Break – No School
- 22nd TRYathlon Activity
- 25th-29th School Community Council Elections
- 25th-29th Fine Arts Week

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It continues to be a busy time at the school as we enter into the spring. We are so proud of the accomplishments of all of our students at Traverse Mountain Elementary. As I passed a kindergarten student who was leaving for home, he was so excited to announce to me, "I was really good today! It was a great day." I couldn't help but think that this young boy wasn't excited just to be excited, but because he did the best he could and this accomplishment helped frame his attitude.

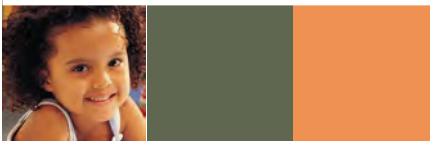
Have you ever noticed that people can usually find whatever they are looking for? If we look hard enough, we can discover both good and bad in almost anyone and anything. Some look at a glass and see it as half full. Others see it as half empty. How you see it is up to you. To help me remember to look at the glass half full and find joy, I read a quote each day that is posted above my office door, "A happy person is not a person in a certain set of circumstances, but rather a person with a certain set of attitudes."

After Spring Break, we will be heading into the end of year testing season. We hope all students can come to school prepared to do their best and approach the testing with confidence. Students in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades will be participating in state core testing in math, language arts, and science. These tests will be administered May 9-25. If your child may be absent during any of these days, please work with their teacher to make sure the testing is completed.

Since your child's current teacher is most familiar with your child's specific academic, emotional, and social needs at school, I will be working closely with each grade level team in creating class placements for next year. If you have specific concerns for your child, please communicate that with his/her teacher. We will strive to create a balance of classes: boys/girls, track, behavior concerns, academic levels, etc. We will plan to keep students on their current track and kindergarteners with older siblings will be placed on the same track for 1<sup>st</sup> grade. As you can imagine, this is a great task. Most importantly, we are fortunate to have a strong faculty where all are concerned for academic achievement for all students.

Thank you for entrusting us with your most precious possession. We look forward to this fun and busy season at school and appreciate your complete partnership in helping students LEARN, ENCOURAGE, ACHIEVE, & DREAM!

David Stephenson  
Principal



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# March Photo Highlights

**BELOW:** Congratulations to Lydia Bagley -Small Smiles Reading Award Winner



**ABOVE:** Congratulations Sama Salah - Ken Garff Road to Success Bike Winner



**ABOVE:** Students all dressed in black for Mr. Stephenson's 40th Birthday.



**ABOVE:** Mrs. Gifford with students practicing for a puppet show



**RIGHT:** Breakfast of Champions

Thanks to our great PTA for sponsoring the events and to Heidi Brown and Lindsay Nelson for all of their service throughout the year.



## TRAVERSE TRYATHLON



We will have a special assembly on Monday April 18th to kick off our new focus on fitness. As part of this kick off we will have a TRYathlon on April 22nd. This event is going to be **AWESOME** and we hope parents will come and cheer their students on as they TRY their best to beat Mr. Stephenson's time. Look for more information to come home on the 18th. If you are able to help on the day of the TRYathlon, please contact the PTA at [TraversemountainPTA@gmail.com](mailto:TraversemountainPTA@gmail.com)

**\*\*Don't forget to register your child for Kindergarten.**

It will help the school figure numbers for next year.

Spread the word!!



# DISTRICT MESSAGE

## Alpine School District Bond Update

Since the bond passed in 2006, Alpine School District has grown by 9,820 students and is projected to grow an additional 10,000 students in the next five years.

As part of the bond process, the district has commenced the process of determining what growth and capital needs projects should be included and the amount the bond will need to be to cover their cost. Research is being conducted and a survey is underway.

Public meetings will be held during the months of April and May to receive public feedback on the bond proposal. We invite you to attend to learn more about the bond and to offer input.

SCC/PTA input meetings will be held at the cluster high schools on the following dates and times:

American Fork High School Cluster—April 20 from 1-2 p.m.  
Lehi High School Cluster —April 20 from 1-2 p.m.  
Lone Peak High School Cluster—April 26 from 10-11 a.m.  
Mountain View High School Cluster —April 26 from 10-11 a.m.  
Orem High School Cluster —April 22 from 10-11 a.m.  
Pleasant Grove High School Cluster—April 22 from 10-11 a.m.  
Timpanogos High School Cluster —April 28 from 10-11 a.m.  
Westlake High School Cluster—April 28 from 10-11 a.m.

Community input meetings will be held in the evenings at the below secondary schools throughout the district:

May 4, 7 p.m.: Mountain View High School  
May 11, 7 p.m.: Willowcreek Middle School  
May 12, 7 p.m.: American Fork Junior High

We encourage and invite the participation and feedback of our Alpine School District community and stakeholders as we assess the needs of our ever-growing district. The capital needs assessment will not only deal with growth but also address aging facilities, safety and program concerns in all areas of the district.

## Alpine School Records Destruction Notice

Alpine School District is required to give public notice before destroying archived special education records. If you were born between January 1, 1984 and December 31, 1985, received special education services through Alpine School District, and want to claim your records before they are destroyed, please contact Lacey Jackson 801-610-8461 before Friday, November 11, 2011. Records will be destroyed December 30, 2011.

Dear Traverse Tigers,

At our March PTA Meeting we held our election for the 2011-2012 PTA Executive Board. I am excited to announce that I will be remaining as PTA President. It has been an honor to serve our children and our new school and I look forward to my second year as PTA President. Next year we are going to have an AMAZING board. Rachele Funk will serve as President Elect, Jenny Hester as Treasurer, Lyndsay Detro as Secretary, Gwen Whiting as Leadership VP, Julie Bettinson as Membership VP, Marianne Ludlow as Grant/Awards VP and Esther Rowland as Legislative VP. We are still looking for someone to head up Reflections as well as a few smaller positions. If you are interested in being a part of our PTA Board, please contact me at [Luvnbmamom@msn.com](mailto:Luvnbmamom@msn.com) as soon as possible.

On March 28th we held auditions for our Talent Show. All I can say is WOW. What incredible talent we have at our school. We were amazed by how many children auditioned and were sad that we couldn't let all of them perform. As a compromise our wonderful Principal decided to let any of the kids who didn't make it into the talent show perform during lunch on April 4th and 5th. Yay! A Big thanks to Sally Yates who has headed up the Talent Show and to the judges; Daniel Magnum, Dawn Harvey and Cristin Pulsipher for volunteering their time at the auditions. We still have a lot of exciting activities planned in the upcoming months, such as the TRYathlon, Teacher Appreciation Week and Field Day. If you would be willing to help on any of these committees please also let me know.

**Rikke Kotter**  
Traverse Mountain Elementary PTA President



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## LOOKING AHEAD

5th Grade to Hope of America  
May 3rd

5th Grade Boys to Clear Creek  
May 4th-5th

5th Grade Girls to Clear Creek  
May 5th-6th

Free Classic Skate Night  
May 6th 5-9pm

3rd-6th Grade Math Testing  
May 9th-13th

6th Grade Field Trip :Space Center  
May 11th

5th Grade Field Trip: Bean Museum  
May 12th

Kindergarten to Hogle Zoo  
May 13th

3rd-6th Grade Language Testing  
May 16th-25th

Teacher Appreciation Week  
May 23rd-27th

Dance Festival  
May 27th

No School: Memorial Day  
May 30th

Last day of School  
June 3rd