

# Alpine Online K12 School

## Alpine Online Arrows



Hitting the mark of excellence!

### *Stakeholder Report*

*November 2012*



The mission of Alpine Online School is to partner with students, parents, and the community to ensure that all students learn.

The vision of our school is to create a safe and structured environment where students and staff, along with parents and guardians, come together as a community of life long learners.

Alpine Online School is a fully accredited online school offered by Alpine School District for students who are primarily home schooled and reside in the State of Utah. Alpine Online School provides students in Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade with customizable online courses that engage learners through interactive lessons and multimedia presentations. These courses are available at anytime through a virtual classroom, allowing students to complete their coursework from the convenience of their home, at their own pace, and on their own schedule.

As principal of the Alpine Online School, I want to thank you for your support. We are excited by the progress we are making toward our School Improvement Goals and are happy to highlight some of our accomplishments in this Stakeholder's Report.

Principal Heather Neilson

## Science Based Field Trips

Our School LAND Trust goal for science is to provide our students with a comprehensive science program that emphasizes critical thinking skills. Starting in November, the Alpine Online School advisors will provide supplementary Blackboard courses that are based on the Utah Science Core Curriculum. They will also create and distribute study guides that go with these online courses.

We are also scheduling monthly science-based field trips for all students enrolled in our school. According to Gerber (2001), "informal learning environments, such as museums and science centers, demonstrate a positive effect on student's scientific thinking abilities." Below you will find a few of the informal learning environments that we will be visiting during the 2012-13 school year.

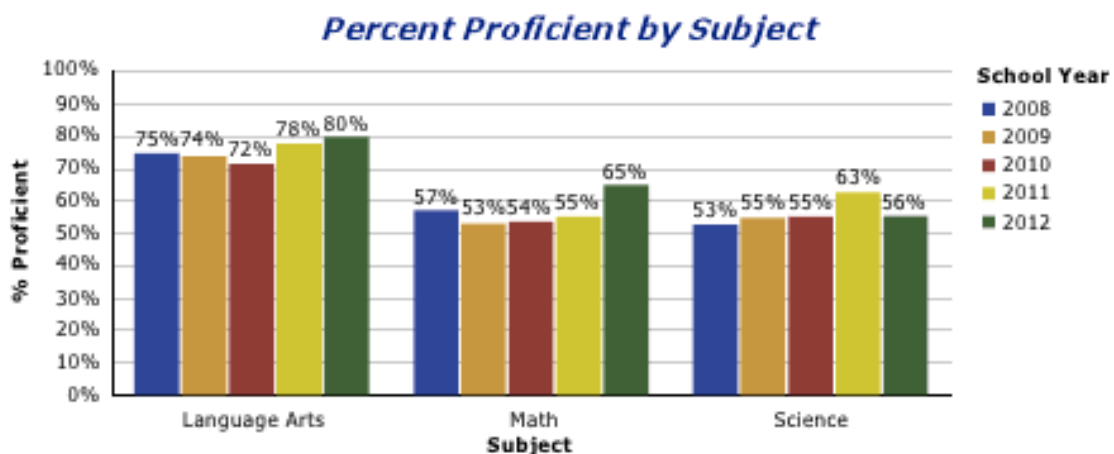
- Black Island Farms & Cornbellys
- Bingham Copper Mine
- Nature Hikes
- BYU and Clark Planetarium
- Peaks Arena & The Olympic Oval
- Astro Camp
- Hogle Zoo

We are excited for these field trips and look forward to seeing you there!



Below you will find a CRT proficiency graph that tracks our year-end testing results for the past five years. We are encouraged by the improvement our students have made in math and language arts. We also realize the growth potential our students have in science. Our school community council is trying to close the achievement gap by designating School Trust LAND funds to provide science based field trips and supplementary science Blackboard classes for our students during the 2012-13 school year.

## Alpine Online Data Review

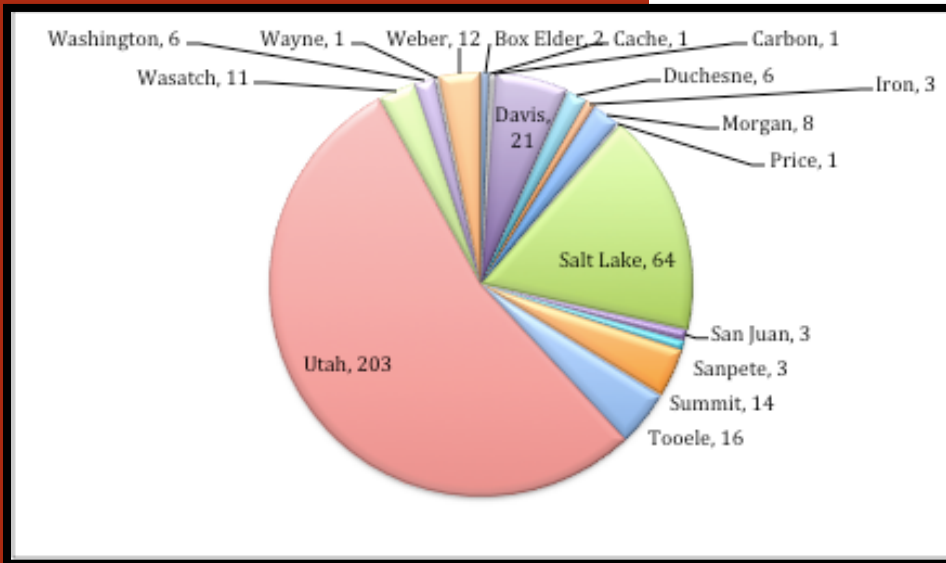


## Our School at a Glance

The Alpine Online School enrolls students from all over the State of Utah. The majority of students are K-8, with a growing 9-12 population. Older students are more likely to maintain some participation at their local school through dual enrollment.

Specifically:

- 54% of our student population comes from Utah County.
- We enroll a significant number of students from Salt Lake (17%), Davis (6%), and Tooele County (4%).
- 389 K-8 students are currently enrolled.
- 40 high school students are currently enrolled.
- 8% of our K-8 students are dual enrolled with their local school.
- 33% of our 9-12 students are dual enrolled with their local school.



## The Blue Ribbon Raffle



We have set up every Alpine Online School student enrolled in grades K-8 with a *Study Island* account.

*Study Island* is a computer-based program that was designed to help children master the Utah State Standards and prepare for end of level testing. When a student uses *Study Island*, they are able to earn *Blue Ribbons* by becoming proficient in the Utah Core Curriculum math and language arts objectives and standards. At the end of the 2012-13 school year, children will be able to exchange the *Blue Ribbons* earned by working through their age appropriate grade level activities for raffle tickets. These raffle tickets can be entered into

a prize drawing during the last week of April. You can view the prizes by visiting the Blue Ribbon Raffle page on our school website. (See link below.)

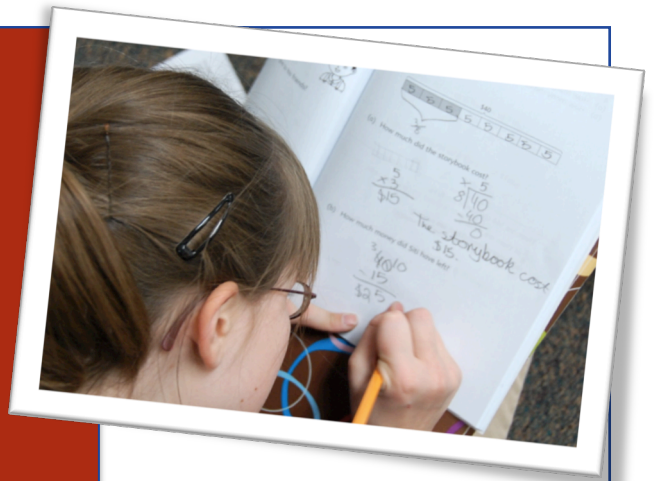
<http://alpineonline.alpineschools.org/uncategorized/blue-ribbon-raffle>

# Math Instruction

Over the past few years, we have been focusing on increasing the math achievement of our students. In order to address the learning needs of the students enrolled in our school, we provide two options for math instruction. One option is through K12.com's math program and the other option is through Saxon Math. We have also purchased Timez Attack for all of our students in Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Timez Attack is an interactive educational computer game designed to help kids learn and master their math facts.

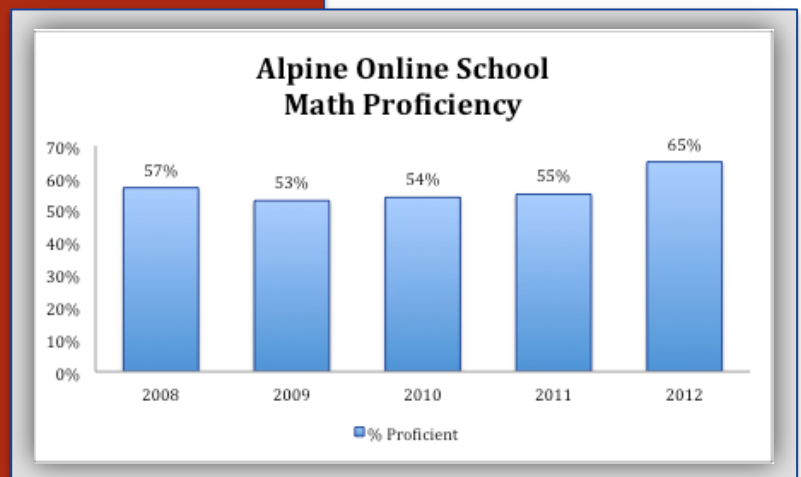
Our community council has also addressed the learning needs of our secondary math students by designating funds for the purchase of an instructional math DVD for students using Saxon math. This DVD includes comprehensive instruction for lessons and investigations, as well as step-by-step solutions for all problems. A math teacher was also hired to create online math lessons that complement the K12 math program. You can find these tutorials on our school website under the resources tab.

As a result of the efforts made by all educational stakeholders, our math scores have gone up 10% from the 2010-11 school year. We are excited about the improvement and look forward to the additional growth that will take place in 2012-13 school year.



## Reading Achievement Plan

Our 2012-13 School LAND Trust goal for reading is focused on increasing the comprehension and fluency level of our students. The DIBELS reading test was administered in September 2012 to all K-3 Alpine Online Students. The results of this test will be used to guide their parents and advisors in planning and implementing daily instructional activities. This type of targeted learning, customized to the needs of the student, is one of the strengths of Alpine Online School.





When a student enrolls in the Alpine Online School, they are issued a laptop computer to use for their schoolwork. Many of these computers are getting old and need to be replaced. As part of our School LAND Trust plan, we will be replacing the computers of students who have a laptop that is three years old or older. For additional information on this program, please contact Heather Neilson, Gina Jackson, or your Alpine Online Advisor.

## Faculty and Staff

Heather Neilson: Principal  
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Gina Jackson: Secretary  
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Chantel Adams: Advisor  
Julie Burnside: Advisor  
Kathryn Persch: Advisor  
Gini Phillips: Advisor  
Bre Ahrens: Special Education  
Ashley Billingham: School Counselor  
Karma Guthrie : Registrar

## Alpine Online School Community Council

School community councils are authorized by state statute (Utah Code 53A-1a-108) and were created to give parents the opportunity to become key partners in local school decision-making. In addition to reflecting the needs and wishes of the community regarding the education of their children, members of the Alpine Online School Community Council will review school testing data and aide the chair, principal, and school members in developing a School Improvement Plan (SIP), School Land Trust Program, and professional development plan. The council will also help us plan and carry out meaningful field trips and activities for our students and families. We are happy to introduce our new community council members for the 2012-13 school year: Terrie Cox, Jacob Ong, and Emily Vandyke. They will be joining our returning member, Chaundra Wilson, to carry out the duties of the council as required by law and school board policy. If you have an idea or concern you would like to discuss with a council member, you can find their contact information by visiting our website.

<http://alpineonline.alpineschools.org/uncategorized/community-council>