



The Husky Herald

March 2021

Good afternoon, Horizon and ATEC West Community,

I can't believe that we are just about to conclude two-thirds of this school year! Our 2nd trimester ends this Friday, March 5th. Be looking for your students' progress reports to be sent home in the coming weeks.

It's now been a month since the beginning of a significant change of lifestyle with the impact of Covid-19 to our state in March 2020. I'm so thrilled with the progress we've made as a community, state, nation, and world to deal with this threat to our health and safety. We have some students and staff who have had to quarantine or isolate during this school year but we haven't ever needed to close the school completely, and for that I am extremely grateful! Much of that gratitude goes to staff and parents who stay home or keep their sons and daughters home when they are sick. Combined with our commitment to physical distancing, frequent sanitizing, and facemask wearing we have been able to enjoy the benefits of in-person learning. We continue moving forward with hope for what the remainder of this year will bring!

Christopher Reeve said, "So many of our dreams at first seem impossible, then they seem improbable, and then, when we summon the will, they soon become inevitable." We each have hopes and dreams for our own lives as well as for each of our students. Within our school we work tirelessly to educate and support students so they can achieve their maximum potential and be contributing members of the community. Society and our education system didn't always have expectations that our students could learn and contribute. However, as caring adults who deep down believe in our students' varying abilities to learn and grow, we can help them achieve far more than previously thought possible. Those expectations and dreams guide our decision-making. It's no longer good enough to just keep these students happy and healthy. We believe our students *can* learn—and be happy and healthy too 😊 As we do what we can to ensure student safety, connection, and confidence, we create the conditions needed for them to thrive—learning the essential knowledge, skills, and dispositions to be successful in their lives. As Mr. Reeve said in his quotation, as we summon our will and faculties to guide, instruct, care, and advocate for our students, dreams become inevitable.

Sincerely,

Dan Heaps, Principal

Upcoming Dates

March 5	No School – Teacher Work Day
March 5	Last Day of 2 nd Trimester
March 15	No School – Professional Development Day
March 17	School Community Council @ 1:15pm in the Conference Room
March 19	Crazy Hair Day!
March 25	Earthquake Drill @ 9:45am
April 5-9	No School – Spring Break

Important Items

Hiring Need: Paraeducators: We are in need of a few paraeducators at this time (Both ATEC West and Horizon). Please share this link with anyone you know who would be interested and a good fit at our school:

<https://www.applitrack.com/alpineschools/onlineapp/JobPostings/view.asp?FromAdmin=true&AppliTrackJobId=574>

Utah Parent Center: The Utah Parent Center is a great resource for families! Here is a little bit about them:

The Utah Parent Center has partnered with Alpine School District to provide free assistance to families of children with special education needs. The Parent Consultant serving families in Alpine School District offers:

- training
- information
- referral
- assistance

Services are offered to parents and professionals through the provision of one-on-one consultations. Maria can help you by:

- Providing a private consultation in-person, by e-mail or over the phone regarding questions or concerns about the special education process.
- Providing information about what supports and services that may be available to help your struggling student.
- Providing information on the IEP process and your rights and responsibilities under IDEA.
- Helping you prepare for IEP meetings and providing support during IEP meetings.
- Connecting you to resources and supports in your community.
- Providing information about upcoming events in the district and statewide.

***All services provided are free and confidential. No information will be released without your consent.*

Link: <https://utahparentcenter.org/projects/districts/alpine-school-district/>

Contact info for Maria Wiscombe (our district liaison with the center):

Email: maria@utahparentcenter.org

Phone: [\(801\) 318-1959](tel:(801)318-1959)

Facebook Group: We have a private Facebook group for our school! We encourage any and all parents, guardians, and staff to join. We use this Facebook page to send out reminders, information, upcoming events, faculty spotlights, highlights from classes, and more.

Facebook Link:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/289655102455482/?multi_permalinks=305455714208754¬if_id=1598468796536556¬if_t=group_activity&ref=notif

Substitutes: The district is in need of substitute teachers. Feel free to go to or share the following link to get set up for substituting: www.ess.com/alpine. If you know of someone who is specifically interested in subbing at Horizon, please let us know so we can put them on our preferred sub list.

Our Mission (Our Purpose)

United as a team, we are committed to the growth of our students, empowering them to be contributing members of the community.

Our Vision (Our Ideal Future)

We envision a positive, engaging, and collaborative school culture, which prepares and inspires our students to achieve their maximum potential.