

NOVEMBER
2012

Foothill Elementary School

Stakeholder Report 2012-2013

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Our Test Scores
- School-wide Reading Program
- Service Learning
- Student Recognition Programs
- Academic Diversity

FOOTHILL FACTS

Established in 1999

Ranked in the Top 25 in the state by KSL & the Deseret News

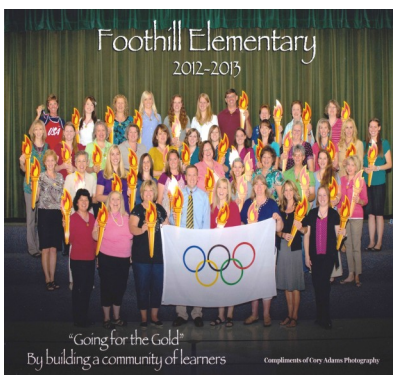
School Motto:
"Exploring the Possibilities"

School Mascot is Foothill Phil the Explorer

17 Teachers Hold Multiple Teaching Endorsements

The Faculty Holds the Following Degrees: 32 Bachelors; 7 Masters; 1 Doctorate

Going for the Gold in 2012



With the many choices available in education today, we realize how privileged we are that you have chosen Foothill for your students' educational experience. We are confident you and your student(s) will be pleased with your choice. We would like to present to you this Annual Stakeholder Report from Foothill Elementary for the 2012-2013 school year.

This Stakeholder Report contains our yearly progress scores. These scores indicate that Foothill surpassed all goals set by the State in every area in Math, Science, and Language Arts (English). Also, the state has instituted a new accountability system called Utah's Comprehensive Accountability System (UCAS). This system now allows schools to look at both proficiency and academic growth of students. Our scores on the UCAS have provided us information that will be helpful as we continue to improve our science and writing instruction.

As Foothill Explorers, our faculty consistently rallies around our mission statement that declares that we are "Inspiring a passion for learning. Exploring the Past, Discovering the Present, and Creating the Future." Using this mission statement to focus our efforts, the Foothill community in preparation for this school year

selected the theme of "Going for the Gold by Building a Community of Learners." At Foothill we are academically diverse as we offer educational opportunity to all learners across the spectrum from Life Skills to Accelerated Learning Lab students. As we continue to implement the new Utah State Core, it is our desire to continue to differentiate our instruction by providing all students access to learning. Thus our focus on building a community of learners.

This report is intended for use by students, parents, teachers, staff, community members, and all others who have a stake in the success and vision of Foothill. As the world united in the recent Olympic Games, we invite you to unite with us as we strive to "Go for the Gold by Building a Community of Learners" for our students.

- Dr. Vallen Thomas, *Principal*

Collaboration At Work

Each Monday, teachers work collaboratively in meetings focused on student learning. They work in grade level teams using the resources of our data collection programs and our school-designed common assessments. In these meetings, teachers are guided by four questions:

1. **What do we expect students to learn?**
2. **How will we know what students have learned?**
3. **How will we respond to students who are not learning?**
4. **How will we respond when students already know it?**

These four questions provide a framework for analyzing data, developing learning benchmarks, and implementing strategies focused on student learning. Through this process, our teachers are able to identify strengths as well as areas of needed improvement. For example, our school goal to raise our Language Arts scores to 91% and Math to 90% was largely accomplished during our collaboration time on Mondays. In these meetings, we unpacked the elementary core standards and developed a scope and sequence to teach writing and reading. Those efforts have led to cross-grade level instruction that has strengthened student learning. This Stakeholder Report reflects not only this collaborative work but some of the progress that has been made towards our goals for continuous improvement.

What is Gold Medal About Foothill?



**Wheel of Fortune
Winners**



Lunch with Principal

Leadership Team



Great Teachers & Students



Often parents, teachers, and students are asked, “what is great about your school?” So, we have compiled some unique points about what we feel makes Foothill a GREAT school:

Academic Achievement

- School-wide Reading Program — see the story on page 3.
- High Achievement Scores — see the stories on page 3.
- Explorer Time: Tuesday – Friday, students who need just a little extra instructional support to re-learn important concepts receive that extra help in our Extra Miler Club. At the same time, other students are provided enrichment/extension-learning opportunities meant to enhance their learning.
- Home Reading Library: A joint effort with our PTA for students to take home level-appropriate books to build students’ capacity to read.

Celebrating & Building the Student

- Wheel of Fortune: Student recognition program that celebrates academics and citizenship.
- Dr. T’s Readers: Student book club sponsored monthly by the principal.
- 5th Annual Spring Run-Off 3K Race: Promoting student fitness and raising funds for the school.
- Lunch with the Principal: Students honored by celebrating success with the principal over lunch.

Academic Diversity

- Life Skills: Specialized classes for students with learning disabilities.
- Accelerated Learning Labs: Classes designed for students with accelerated learning capabilities.
- Behavior Management: Nine week course for students with behavioral concerns in the district.
- Knowledge Bowl: An academic competition that tests students’ knowledge of science, arts, & history,

Fine Arts — Forming Well-rounded Students (see www.foothillarts.org)

- Visual Arts Program: PTA volunteers assist teachers in instructing students in various art techniques.
- Performing Arts Programs: Partnership with our PTA /teachers which includes two choirs and a beginning orchestra.

Service Learning — Pouring the Foundations of Leadership

- Leadership Team: Training of our sixth grade students in leadership service skills.
- Food Drive: Annual competition to raise food for the Utah Food Bank.
- Penny Wars: Students raise funds for Primary Children’s & Shriners Hospitals.

Trust Lands Report & The SCC

The main function of the School Community Council (SCC) entails developing the school improvement plan, and allocating \$25,406 Trust Lands funds to support the plan. Our plan is related to our school goals of increasing our reading and math scores. The funds which have been spent have been used for our school-wide reading program, math sup-

ports, and for providing teacher professional development (See the full Trust Lands report on our webpage under the School Info tab). Additionally, the Council also has the responsibility for developing a safe walking plan for the school.

The Council serves as a liaison between the school and our patrons. Members of the

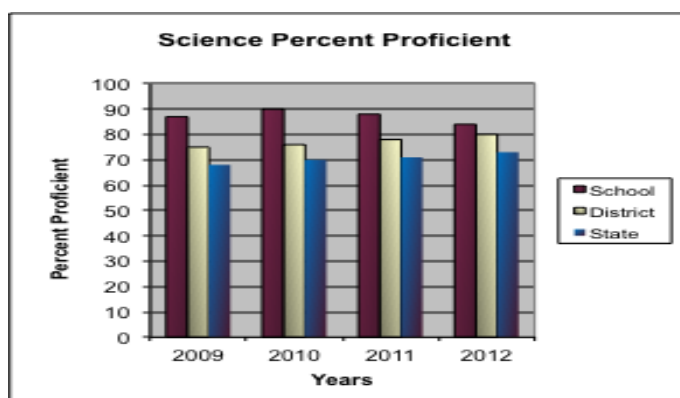
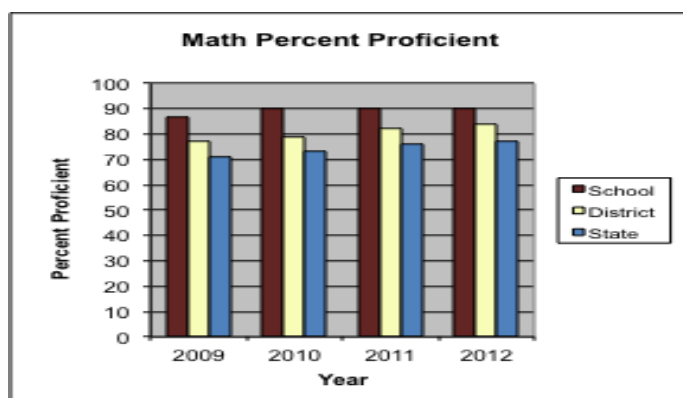
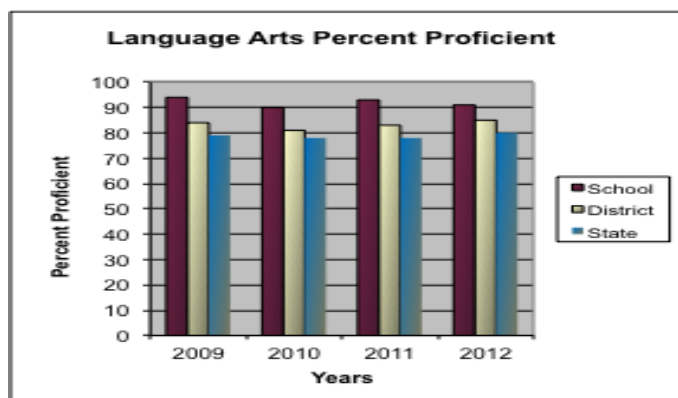
Council consist of five elected parent positions, two elected school personnel positions, and the school principal. All members serve a two-year term. We encourage you to share any concerns/questions to our current Council members: Kristin Davenport, Aeryn Whitlock, Lane Livingston, Iriana Wong, Jamie Madsen, Renee Wakamatsu, and Dr. Vallen Thomas.

“Going for the GOLD by BUILDING a Community of Learners.”

Overall Strong Academic Tradition

Foothill Elementary has a long history of maintaining high academic standards, as indicated by our yearly state Criterion Reference Tests (CRTs). We continue to surpass both state and district averages. Over the past five years, our students have scored in the top ten proficiency rank on CRTs in all three subjects. Our high academic accomplishments is due in part to the fact that each grade level meets every week during collaboration to ensure academic growth for all students, and also because of the amazing parent and community support we receive throughout the year.

Gold Medal Learners: Foothill 2012 CRT Scores



- **Language Arts:** We are in the fifth year of our school-wide reading program. It is through this program that we have seen great successes with our students gaining a mastery of reading concepts. This model helps us to serve the needs of all children; ranging from those at-risk readers to advanced readers who need more of a challenge. Additionally, our teachers are providing a new rich writing curriculum centered around the rigor of the new state core.
- **Math:** Foothill Math scores have continued to improve over the years as we examine the data and target specific areas of need. The last five years we have implemented a balanced approach to Mathematic instruction. This balanced approach offers students both conceptual understanding and computational accuracy. With a concerted effort by the faculty, we have developed various re-teach programs to ensure that students increase their understanding of Math concepts.
- **Science:** While we continue to score well above state and district averages in Science, we are exploring ways at doing even better. As we seek to improve we will be integrating our Science instruction with our Language Arts in effort to provide deeper understanding and exposure to each part of the scientific process. Classes will continue to provide an interactive approach to further increase the students' understanding of key science concepts.

2012 School Improvement Goals

- **Reading/Writing:** Increase our Language Arts scores to 94% of our student passing at mastery level on the CRT. On the Direct Reading Assessment (DRA) have 90% of our student passing the benchmark level on the 2013 Spring DRA.
- **Math:** Increase our Math scores to 92% of our students passing mastery level on the CRT.
- **Science:** Increase student mastery to 87% on the Science CRT.



FOOTHILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Foothill Elementary Home of the Explorers

INCREDIBLE PARENT SUPPORT

A great school is not great without the support of the best parents! There are many ways parents can become involved through volunteering in our PTA:

Fall Festival
Art Program
Red Ribbon Week
Student of the Week
Teacher Grants
Reflections Contest
Book Fairs
Spelling Bee
Tutoring
Teacher Appreciation
Knowledge Bowl
Room Parent
JAZZ Reading Incentive Program



In the last year our parent volunteers donated over 3,450 combined hours to the children and teachers of Foothill!!!

Foothill Four

1. Courage

"We live in a world
of possibilities...
When we believe it,
we'll see it."

- Dewitt Jones



4. Respect

2. Courtesy

3. Responsibility