

2015  
NOVEMBER

# explorer NEWS

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## Dr. B.'s *Readers*

1st-3rd Grades  
The Sword in the Tree  
by Clyde Bulla  
(Battle of the Books)

3rd-6th Grades  
Sideways Stories  
from Wayside School  
by Louis Sacher  
(Battle of the Books)

Fabulous Foothill Parents,

### principal's message Dr. Joseph Backman

What an incredible start of our school year! Thank you for your support and generous donations to Foothill Elementary in helping us not only match the \$150,000 grant for technology, but to help us raise more than \$180,000, all of which will be matched. The amazing part of this grant has been the united effort of our PTA, teachers, our district, and local business. The Fall Festival and Book Fair monies represent the support of hundreds of Foothill families. In addition, we have had over 70 families donate specifically to our grant. Twenty-two of our busy teachers applied for grants and received them. Alpine School District has donated a significant amount to our grant as well. We have had multiple businesses partner with Foothill and have given generously.

In addition to the amazing donations we have received, many have partnered together to ensure this incredible endeavor will happen successfully. The district is ensuring we have the necessary infrastructure, technician support, and professional development as we utilize technology to enhance and accelerate student learning. We have had conversations with businesses to partner in a greater effort to improve education. Also, we have spoken with leaders at the state level who are looking to Foothill as a pilot school to learn from as they propose legislation this coming year. Those we have spoken with have caught our vision of helping all students learn at deeper levels through STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) education.

At Foothill, technology will serve as an accelerator to student learning. Technology is not a 'squirrel' that is now distracting us away from what we have been doing. Rather, it fits directly into STEAM and our mission and vision at Foothill. We desire for our students to be creative thinkers who know how to work together effectively to solve real-world problems.

Thank you! Thank you for your incredible support and participation in this Epic Technology Grant.

In last month's PTA newsletter I wrote about how we at Foothill Elementary are proud to be a STEAM school (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics). We have been fortunate to have Dr. Shumway, engineering and technology professor at BYU, provide professional development for our teachers. Dr. Shumway has helped us not only to catch the vision of STEAM education for all of our students, but has helped each of us gain the skills and understanding to teach it effectively.

Did you know our passionate, dedicated, wonderful teachers collectively spent 1,500 hours in STEAM professional development this past summer. How incredible! That is a lot of time, especially during the summer break. This time was in addition to teachers setting up their classrooms and preparing for next year. Teachers were paid to attend this professional development and their summer collaboration to compensate them for their time. Nevertheless, there are few faculties that would be so willing to devote so much time to growing and learning professionally. We are blessed to have the greatest teachers in the world here at Foothill!

Sincerely, Dr. Backman (Dr. B.)  
Principal, Foothill Elementary

## UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 Early Out Red Ribbon Wk Choir	3 Election Day Red Ribbon Wk Ballroom	4 Red Ribbon Wk Orchestra Robotics Club	5 Red Ribbon Wk Ballroom	6 Red Ribbon Wk
9 Early Out Choir	10 Ballroom	11 PTA Mtg 1pm Orchestra Robotics Club	12 Ballroom	13 Trimester Ends
16 Early Out Choir	17 Ballroom	18 SCC Meeting Orchestra Robotics Club	19 Ballroom	20
23 Early Out Choir	24 Grandparent's Day Ballroom	25 No School	26 No School Thanksgiving	27 No School
30 Early Out Choir	1 Ballroom	2 Orchestra Robotics Club	3 Ballroom Holiday Concert	4

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Bobbie Paonessa	Nov. 01
Shauna Crockett	Nov. 14
Karen Longmore	Nov. 26
Amy Harward	Nov. 29

## NEXT MONTH:

Dec. 3 - Holiday Concert  
6:45-8 p.m.

Dec. 9 - PTA Meeting 1 p.m.

December 21-January 1

Christmas Break - No School

## WE DID IT!!!

Thanks to our Foothill families, teachers, faculty, local businesses and especially Todd and Andie Pedersen for making an EPIC Difference at our school!

At the school assembly celebrating the success of reaching and exceeding our goal for technology, I read a book to the kids called "The Dog Poop Initiative" by Kirk Weisler. The story is about how many people noticed a problem, complained, avoided, and pointed. Then along came a hero who saw the problem, addressed it, and went to work to solve it. Largely, I wanted to dedicate the reading of the book to Todd and Andie Pedersen, who really stepped up to help and challenged the PTA to solve the technology problem at the school; but I believe that everyone who contributed large and small were just like the hero in the book.

In September, the PTA went to work to help solve the technology problem at our school. When the call went out to our community to help, you and all of the other donors became the Heros. In every challenge we have choices. You could have complained about it, pointed blame, and avoided it; but you didn't! You took action and contributed, and look at what we were able to accomplish!

I'm proud of, and deeply grateful to the parents, faculty, kids and community here at Foothill. We definitely have "Hero's" in our midst. It is this culture at Foothill that always has and will continue to help our kids get the best education and have the brightest futures. As we work to supply our teachers and children with the tools they need to be most successful we honor the legacy of those who have made this all possible.

In moving forward, Foothill has formed a Technology Committee made up of technology leaders, teachers, administration, and parents. The hope is to implement computers into each classroom in the coming months. Mr. Pedersen and other large donors have given the committee the charge to find a successful technology model already working in a similar school and to duplicate it. Every effort will be made to research and learn from the challenges and issues dealt with in other schools so that money and time will not be wasted in our implementation. Alpine School District is already set to work on the added infrastructure of the school and teacher training has begun.

Thank you again! We look forward to the value and added benefits that greater access to technology will have in our classrooms as we bring our kids up to speed in this 21st century of learning.

## president's message Lisa Oliver

# THE news

**RESPECT YOURSELF - BE DRUG FREE!  
RED REIBBON WEEK: NOVEMBER 2-6**

MONDAY NOV 2	TUESDAY NOV 3	WEDNESDAY NOV 4	THURSDAY NOV 5	FRIDAY NOV 6
Wear a your	Dress like a	Who do you want to	Crazy day	Say NO to drugs
pajamas	Crayon day	be?		
				
play hopscotch	have fun coloring	Meet a real hero	Dance like a super- star	Wear red or a red ribbon
				

**As you are planning your calendar for the school year,  
don't forget ski and snowboard school!  
Lessons make a great Christmas gift too!**

**sundance**

**SKI AND SNOWBOARD SCHOOL**

for

**Foothill Elementary**

**Ages 8 and up for skiing,  
9 and up for snowboarding!**

**2016 Season**

**Jan. 25, Feb 8, Feb 29, March 21**

**4-6pm**

**Cost is \$184**

**(or \$144 with season pass)**

**Ski/snowboard rental available for \$10 per week**

**Helmet rental for \$5 per week**

**To sign up, contact Katrina Larson for a form  
leifandkatrina@yahoo.com or 801-361-0287**

## **BOOK FAIR**

Thanks to everyone who supported the library by purchasing books at the Monster Book Fair. A big thanks to all of the volunteers that helped run the fair.

We had more than \$10,000 in sales! The school received \$2500 in profit that went towards our Epic Technology Fundraiser

Thank you for donating to books to our classrooms. A total of 87 books were donated through our Classroom Wishlist program.

We hope you are enjoying your new books and we will see you at the next book fair February 2nd through February 5th, 2016!

# MORE news



## TECHNOLOGY GRANT

Congratulations! We did it! Our school raised \$180,000 to be used for technology. It was graciously matched by Todd and Andee Pedersen, giving the school \$360,000 for technology. We look forward to the many opportunities this will give our students.

## BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

We are so excited about the turnout for the inaugural Battle of the Books Event here at Foothill Elementary. If you haven't paid your \$5 yet please get that to Mrs. Hebert as soon as possible. Teams will be out soon and the deadline for reading the first three books is fast approaching! The lists are on page 6 of this newsletter!

## REFLECTIONS

The Reflections Awards Night was October 22nd and we got to see all the amazing entries and enjoy a performance of some dance choreography by Rebecca Partridge in Wakamatsu's class. We had a great turnout and hope to get even more entries next year as students see what a great experience it is to develop creativity and win some awards at the same time! Many thanks to all the parent volunteers who made it happen and especially Sarah Warnick for heading this up! Pictures of the winners are on pages 7-11 of the newsletter.



NURSING

# news

A concussion is a temporary loss of normal brain function, due to the brain shifting inside the skull from a blow to the head. The brain is made up of soft tissue and it's cushioned by blood and spinal fluid. When someone gets a blow to the head or hits something very hard, the brain suddenly shifts inside the skull and can knock against the skull's bony surface. This causes a concussion.

Sometimes, concussions last for a short time. Other times, a person can have symptoms of a concussion that last for days or weeks. But even concussions that seem to be short can be serious.

Anyone who sustains a head injury should stop participating and be removed from the activity or sport. Even without a loss of consciousness, it's important to watch for symptoms of a concussion.

Common initial symptoms include:

- \*a change in level of alertness
- \*extreme sleepiness
- \*a bad headache
- \*confusion
- \*repeated vomiting
- \*seizure

**SOMEONE WITH ANY OF THESE SYMPTOMS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM!**

Concussion symptoms may not appear initially and can develop over the first 24-72 hours. Young children can have the same concussion symptoms as older kids and adults, but changes in mood and behavior may be less noticeable.

Though most people recover quickly from concussions, some symptoms, including memory loss, headaches, and problems with concentration may linger for several weeks or months. It's important to watch for these symptoms and contact your doctor if they persist.

Kim Lowe, RN, School Nurse

Submissions to the December Newsletter are due by November 20th.  
Send submissions to [oremfoothillpta@gmail.com](mailto:oremfoothillpta@gmail.com)  
with Newsletter in the subject.



### 5<sup>TH</sup>-6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE 2016 LIST

Black Stallion	Farley, Walter
Boy of the Painted Cave	Denzel, Justin
Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe	Lewis, C.S.
Crooked Kind of Perfect	Urban, Linda
From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler	Konigsburg, E.L.
Frozen Stiff	Shahan, Sherry
Great Turkey Walk	Karr, Kathleen
Indian in the Cupboard	Banks, Lynne
Kite Fighters	Park, Linda
Mysterious Benedict Society	Stewart, Trenton Lee
Running Out of Time	Haddix, Margaret
Secret School	Avi
Secrets at Sea	Peck, Richard
Shiloh	Naylor, Phyllis
Sideways Stories from Wayside School	Sachar, Louis
Soup	Peck, Robert Newton
Tale of Despereaux	DiCamillo, Kate
Trouble with Tuck	Taylor, Theodore
Tuesdays at the Castle	George, Jessica Day
Wild Wings	Lewis, Gill

### 3<sup>RD</sup>-4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE 2016 LIST

America's Paul Revere	Forbes, Esther
Bunnicula: A Rabbit-Tale of Mystery	Howe, Deborah
Cats in Krasinski Square	Hesse, Karen
Christopher Mouse: The Tale of a Small Traveler	Wise, William
Cricket in Times Square	Seldon, George
Dandelions	Bunting, Eve
Dinosaurs Before Dark	Osborne, Mary
Enormous Egg	Butterworth, Oliver
Henry Huggins	Cleary, Beverly
Honus and Me: A Baseball Card Adventure	Gutman, Dan
How Ben Franklin Stole the Lightning	Schanzer, Rosalyn
Invisible Inkling	Jenkins, Emily
Jake Drake, Bully Buster	Clements, Andrew
Judy Moody Gets Famous!	McDonald, Megan
My Rotten Redheaded Older Brother	Polacco, Patricia
Spunky Tells All	Cameron, Ann
Stuart Little	White, E.B.
Swamp Angel	Isaac, Anne
The Sword in the Tree	Bulla, Clyde
Yellow Star: The Legend of King Christian X of Denmark	Deedy, Carmen Agra

# FOOTHILL ELEMENTARY REFLECTIONS WINNERS 2015

*"Let your Imagination Fly"*





**Literature:** *Medals of Participation* Benson Thayer, Analise Dean, Seth Gale

*Awards of Merit* Eric Jensen, Amanda Partridge, Beck Wood

*Awards of Excellence* Gwendolyn Walker, Rebecca Partridge, Mercy Thomas, Katherine Collings



**Visual 2D:** *Medals of Participation* Eddie Hansen, Nathan Jespersion, Weston Warnick, Kaya Dean, Rylee Moore, Amanda Partridge, John Packer, Jacob Hemmert, Sarah Williams, Grace Kofford, Mindi Cherrington

*Awards of Merit* Rebecca Partridge, Julia Collings, Meili Hollingshaus, Jonathan Jensen, Annika Wood, Peter Johnson

*Awards of Excellence* Emma Webb, Anjali Jarman, Britton Black, Max Young, Alivia Dean





**Dance Choreography:** *Award of Excellence* Rebecca Partridge



**Film Production:** *Awards of Excellence* Corinne Perez, Asher Gough, Owen Faller



**Visual 3D:** *Medals of Participation* Amanda Partridge, Kiersten Olson

*Award of Merit* Rebecca Partridge

*Awards of Excellence* Kyle Carlson, Jarrett Nelson, Britton Black, Elena Jensen, Camilla Partridge



**Photography:** *Medals of Participation* Rebecca Partridge, Gabe Farley, Cole Wolsey, Isaac Yokota, Grace Webb

*Awards of Merit* Peter Livingston, Hope Golly

*Awards of Excellence* Shelby Anderson, Jarrett Nelson, McKay Nelson, Amanda Partridge, Camilla Partridge



**Music Composition:** *Awards of Excellence* Jessica Wood, Rebecca Partridge, Jackson Allen, Eden Gough, Camilla Partridge

**FOOTHILL ELEMENTARY**  
921 North 1240 East  
Orem, Utah 84097

