

2016  
NOVEMBER

# explorer NEWS

## principal's message Dr. Joseph Backman

Fabulous Foothill Parents,

This school year marks our fourth year of pursuing STEM/STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics). We have learned a lot along the way and have been pleased with the results. I would like to share a brief overview of our STEAM journey.

- 2013-2014 School Year: Started learning about STEM
  - o PTA provided engineering kits from Engineering is Elementary.
  - o Dr. Shumway, BYU Engineering and Technology professor and STEM expert, began working with our faculty. He taught us the basics of STEM and the Engineering Design Process: a hands-on, minds-on approach to learning.
  - o Partnership with Moxtek began, which inspired us to partner with other businesses.
- 2014-2015 School Year: STEM and the Engineering Design Process
  - o Teachers received 4 days of professional development with Dr. Shumway to learn more engineering tasks to implement into their classrooms.
  - o Dr. Shumway continued to work with teams and our faculty on creating and implementing Engineering Design tasks. Teams visited Dr. Shumway's BYU lab.
- 2015-2016 School Year: STEAM integration
  - o Foothill received an Epic Grant from the Pedersen family that was matched by Alpine School District, local businesses, grants written by our teachers, and many Foothill families. This grant has brought our school to 1 iPad for every 2 students in each classroom and Chromebooks into our 3-6th grade classrooms.
  - o School visits from Alpine District School Board and cabinet members, BYU and UVU professors and dean, state legislators and administrators, and local schools.
  - o Foothill received the official Utah STEM designation (1 of 19 schools in the state).
  - o School STEAM presentation to Governor Herbert and his Education Commission.
- 2016-2017 School Year: STEAM integration and Knowledge, Skills, and Dispositions
  - o Launch of the Apollo Project: a 7-school effort to implement and pursue STEAM education to prepare every child for the 21st Century. Foothill hosted the summer trainings and our teachers helped provide the professional development.
  - o Dr. Amy Miner, BYU professor and integration expert, has worked with our teachers to help integrate STEAM principles in the arts and all subject areas.
  - o Throughout this school year, teams will have multiple opportunities to collaborate with their grade-level teams at the other Apollo Project schools.
  - o As a pilot school for Alpine School District, we have Renee Wakamatsu serving as our full-time instructional coach as support to all of our teachers.
  - o The Foothill Exploratorium began where engineering and STEAM integration happen with Shauna Crockett as our Technology Integrationist.
  - o We received the Beverly Taylor Sorenson grant to bring Caitlin Hall, our art-integrationist, to Foothill.

### IN THIS ISSUE

pres. message - 2

calendar & birthdays - 2

the news - 3-4

nursing news - 5

extra info - 6

## out of the loop?

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## Dr. B's Readers

1st-2nd Grades

Magic Tree House #1 Dinosaurs Before Dawn by Mary Pope Osborne

3rd-4th Grades

Each Little Bird That Sings by Deborah Wiles (Battle of the Books)

5th-6th Grades

Number the Stars by Lois Lowry (Newberry Award Winner)

Why do these events and accomplishments matter? They have equipped our already amazing teachers with tools and instruction to further deepen student learning. The results on our assessments indicate that the majority of our students are achieving at high levels and we are moving our students to much higher levels of proficiency when compared to other schools in the district and state. Thank you for all of your support and help along this STEAM journey!

Sincerely,

Joe Backman (Dr. B)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1	2	3	4
7 Early Out	8 Election Day	9 PTA Mtg 1pm	10 Reflections Award Ceremo- ny 6:30 pm	11
14 Early Out	15	16	17	18 Trimester Ends
21 Early Out	22 Grandparent's Day	23 No School	24 No School Thanksgiving	25 No School
28 Early Out	29	30	1	2

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Shauna Crockett	Nov. 14
Karen Longmore	Nov. 26
Amy Harward	Nov. 29

### NEXT MONTH:

Dec.1 - Holiday Concert 7 pm  
 December 23-January 2  
 Christmas Break - No School

## president's message

### Amy Oakey

October was a busy month for PTA. The students had a lot of fun during Red Ribbon week. We would like to thank Priscilla Beckstead and her committee for creating such a fun week for the students! They kicked off the week with a motivational assembly with Sam Jolley, a quadriplegic body builder, as the guest speaker. He helped the students learn that anything is possible if they put their minds to it. They had a fun theme and activity for each day of the week where the students could participate and receive a little prize.

The Scholastic Book Fair went very well. We were happy with all the books that we had this year. We would like to thank all the parents who volunteered to help make the book fair run smoothly. And Mrs. Hebert for overseeing the book fair to make sure everything was taken care of. We would also like to thank the parents and students who helped support the book fair.

A special thank you to Amy Wolsey, Jill Clark and Stefanie Beck for the delicious dinners they provided for the teachers during Parent Teacher Conferences. Thank you!

Reflections deadline was the 19th and we received many entries. The theme this year is "What is Your Story?" It will be fun to see all the work that the students put into their entries and learn more about them as they tell their story. There will be a Reflections Recognition evening in November so watch for the date on that. Foothill has very talented students! We would like to thank Jenna Wood and her committee for all they are doing with this program.

Angie Farley does a wonderful job keeping the PTA website, Instagram, and Facebook up to date. If you are wondering what the PTA is doing at Foothill go to one of these sights and you will be able to see.

We would like to say thank you to all the parents who come and volunteer at Foothill. You are the everyday heros that our students look up to!

The next PTA meeting will be on Wednesday, November 9th from 1-2 in the library. We would love to see you all there!

# THE news

Meet new faces at Foothill!

We have BYU students here experiencing the world of teaching with incredible teacher mentors! We love having them here!

Kayla Clements is a student teacher with Mrs. Bethel. Mrs. Clements is from Seattle, Washington. She is having fun getting to know and work with wonderful first graders. In her free time she loves to scrapbook and crochet. Her favorite food is pizza – just plain cheese.

In Mrs. Ficklin's class, we have two practicum students. Dayna Bergeson grew up on a farm in Moses Lake, Washington and has also lived in the Philippines for a few years. She has been dancing her whole life and loves photography and art. Miss Bergeson's motto in life is "Choose to Be Happy."

Also in Mrs. Ficklin's class is Maggie Wu. She moved from Taiwan to America just 2 ½ years ago and met her husband at BYU. They have a 2-month-old baby. Mrs. Wu loves to sing and feels that singing is a great way to help students be engaged in a lesson.

We also have two practicum students in Mrs. Longmore's class. Allie Fellows is from Texas. She is a competitive swimmer on BYU's swim team. She has participated with study-abroad in Denmark. Mrs. Fellows taught swimming and enjoyed challenging and building confidence in her students.

Erica Murdoch is also in Mrs. Longmore's class. She grew up in Washington, and has also visited thirty states and seven different countries, including Costa Rica and England. Mrs. Murdoch loves learning, has an "unquenchable thirst for knowledge" and speaks fluent Spanish.

Welcome to all of those joining us at this incredible school of Explorers!

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!

2017 Season

Jan. 9, Jan 30, Feb 13, March 13 4-6pm

4-6 pm

Cost is \$200

(or \$160 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

## Battle of the Books KICK-OFF PARTY!!!

Come have pizza & raffle prizes!

Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup>

3:30-4:30 in the Library

Meet with your team and come up  
with your own fun team name and  
get your t-shirt!

## Opportunities for the Timpanogos Storytelling Festival

### 1. Patriotic Storytelling Contest with Cash Prizes (Due Date November 14)

Timpanogos Storytelling is proud to partner with America's Freedom Festival in Provo to offer the opportunity for K-12 students to compete for cash prizes. Contestants are invited to submit short pieces via YouTube (1-3 minute stories for grades K-9 and 3-5 minute stories for grades 10-12) related to the 2016 theme of "Freedom" online by November 14, 2016. Winners will be notified by January 9, 2017 and receive cash prizes (\$75 for grades K-6, \$100

for grades 7-9, and \$250 for grades 10-12). Click [here](#) for submission links and additional details. Since applications are accepted online, this is a great opportunity for students no matter where they are from in the state.

### 2. National Youth Storytelling Showcase Submissions (Due Date February 3)

Ten youth from around the nation are selected each year as National Torchbearers. They attend the Timpanogos Storytelling Conference and Festival for free, learning more about storytelling from professional storytellers and perform during the events. If you have a student that would be interested in applying, find out more information by clicking [here](#).

### 3. Timpanogos Storytelling Festival Youth Auditions (Due Date Early March)

Over twenty Utah students perform onstage with professional storytellers throughout the week of the Timpanogos Storytelling Festival. If you have a student that would be interested in trying out, auditions are held each March. We will send out further information on how to get involved in 2017, but we wanted to make sure teachers knew about this opportunity in case they have a student they think would be interested in participating.

### Other upcoming Timpanogos Storytelling programs:

The general public is invited to the annual Hauntings Storytelling Contest on Monday, October 24 at 7:00 pm. The contest features six finalists from throughout Utah and Idaho competing for the title of the Scariest Storyteller. The program is at the Orem Public Library and is free to attend.

Storyteller Kim Weitkamp will perform at the annual Learning Edge Administrator's Conference on Tuesday, November 15. She will also lead two workshops on using storytelling in education settings.

Storyteller Bil Lepp will perform at Provo City Library at 7:00 pm on Thursday, November 17. The program is free, but, because of demand, tickets are required. Tickets can be obtained starting November 3 by clicking [here](#).

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Dear Parents,

We live in one of the greatest nations on earth. It is great for many reasons. Let us celebrate our freedom to vote. Abraham Lincoln said "The ballot is stronger than the bullet." Let us utilize this privilege and pray that God will continue to bless America as the "land of the free."

Vote yes on Amendment B, and for the Bond. Both will help to make Alpine School District a better place for our students.

Thank you for all you do and kindest regards,

Mauvia Christensen  
Director of Alpine School District PTA



# nursing news

NURSING NEWS NOVEMBER 2016

“Influenza” is a contagious disease that spreads around the United States every year usually between October and May. Different influenza viruses occur each year. The flu vaccination you received last year WILL NOT protect you from the influenza viruses THIS YEAR! EVERY FLU SEASON IS DIFFERENT!

ANYONE can get the flu. Flu strikes suddenly and can last several days. Flu is most dangerous for infants and young children, people 65 years and older, pregnant women, and those with weakened immune systems.

ALL people who DON'T have an allergy to the vaccine should be vaccinated. People with a history of a neurological disorder, Guillian-Barre Syndrome should not get this vaccine.

It takes about 2 weeks for protection to develop after vaccination. A dose of the flu vaccine is recommended EVERY flu season. The best time to receive the vaccine is at the beginning of the flu season.

Each year thousands of people in the U.S. die from the flu and many more get hospitalized. The flu vaccine can keep you from getting the flu, make flu less severe if you do get it, and keep you from spreading flu to your family and other people.

THE BEST WAYS TO STOP THE SPREAD OF INFLUENZA ARE:

- GET YOUR VACCINE.
- WASH HANDS FREQUENTLY
- PRACTICE COUGH AND SNEEZE ETIQUETTE
- AVOID TOUCHING YOUR EYES, NOSE, OR MOUTH
- CONTACT YOUR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER WITHIN 48 HOURS IF ILLNESS DEVELOPS.
- STAY HOME WHEN ILL.

There are many immunization clinics being held in Alpine School District. Check with your student's schools or check the Alpine District website for dates, times, and locations of these immunization clinics!

LET'S ALL SAY "BOO TO THE FLU" THIS YEAR!!!!

Best Wishes for Good Health!

Kim Lowe, RN, School Nurse

Submissions to the December Newsletter are due by November 25th.  
Send submissions to [oremfoothillpta@gmail.com](mailto:oremfoothillpta@gmail.com)  
with Newsletter in the subject.

*You're invited!*

**FOOTHILL ELEMENTARY**  
PRESENTS OUR



**Holiday  
Concert  
2016**



**Thurs. Dec 1st  
7 pm**

**CHOIR,  
ORCHESTRA &  
BALLROOM TEAM**