



Aug/Sept. 2013

Back to School

From the Principal's Office



Welcome back to another great school year. Teachers and staff have been busy preparing for the first day of school on August 20. Our PTA Board has met and

they are ready for many fun school and family activities. I appreciate the many hours they spend serving the children of Northridge Elementary.

I want to thank all of you for your support of our 3K at the end of May. We raised over \$15,000 for our library remodel. With the extra money we were also able to purchase new tables and chairs. It is beautiful!!! Everyone will enjoy and appreciate this new addition. We are so grateful for your support and help with this project.

We have purchased the "KeepnTrack" software program. This program will allow us to monitor who is in our building for the safety of our students. It also tracks volunteer hours. You may go to KeepnTrack to fill out the Volunteer Application at any time. The URL is northridge.keepntrack.com/apply. For your convenience you may provide us with a Personal ID to make it easier to sign in. Please put your name and Personal ID on the sheet provided in the office and we will

get that entered in for you. The Personal ID must be at least 3 numbers or letters or a combination. We are asking that you please sign in and get a yellow badge when you come to visit or volunteer. We appreciate your help in keeping our children safe.

On a personal note thank you for your support. I am excited to begin a new school year, it has been lonely without the teachers and students. I appreciate all the "behind the scene" things that happen every day at school. We have amazing young people at this school and I feel lucky to be able to serve at Northridge as your school principal. I want you to know that my door is always open. I look forward to a fun, exciting year.

Calendar Items

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| August 19 | PTA luncheon for teachers |
| August 20 | School Starts |
| August 29 | Room Mothers' Tea 3:45 |
| August 29 | 5 th grade Storytelling Festival |
| September 2 | Labor Day |
| September 3 | PTA Board Meeting 10 a.m. |
| September 3-6 | Safety Week + Assembly |
| September 16 | School Pictures |
| September 20 | School Carnival 4-7 p.m. |



PTA President's Message



I can't believe we only have a couple weeks before school starts. I hope you've been able to have a fun-filled summer and are looking forward to a fun-filled school year. I'm excited to get back to school and move forward with all the PTA activities we have ahead of us. Our theme is "Connect. Build. Achieve." I want to **Connect** with teachers, parents, PTA volunteers and prospective volunteers. I know with a combined effort we can **Build** on our successes and refine our PTA efforts. Thanks for helping **Achieve** this goal.

Libby Lewis

Vision Screening

The Northridge Vision Screening is September 27th. If you would like to help our School Nurse, Robyn Shepherd, from 9:15-10:30am please email brossettelewis@gmail.com for details or look for the sign up at Back to School Night.

School Community Council

Welcome back to school from the School Community Council (SCC)! Don't have any idea what SCC is? This website will give you some valuable information. Please visit it at <http://www.schoollandtrust.org/school-trust/program/>. Some information you might be interested in:

- We meet once a month on the 2nd Tuesday at 1:00 pm. The public is welcome to attend.
- The committee consists of parent and teacher volunteers who have been voted or appointed to the committee.
- We develop a plan to improve our school in areas such as math, language, science and professional development for our great teachers.
- Included on the Northridge website are names of people serving on the committee and contact information so you can give them ideas or suggestions for improvements. Also included on the website are past minutes of meetings that have been held.

Safety of the children is part of the job of the SCC. The first two weeks of school there will be parent volunteers in the parking lot to help you learn the ins and outs of dropping off and picking up your children. Please be patient with all of us as we learn the best and safest way to go through the parking lot. With that said, here are a few DO'S and DONT'S when it comes to the parking lot!! Please pass on this valuable information to your students as well as anyone who may be dropping off or picking up your children throughout the year.

Safety First in Northridge's Parking Lot

ALWAYS

Enter the parking lot on the South side only.

Exit the parking lot on the North side only.

Drop off or pick up students in lane 1 next to the curb.

Pull forward as far as possible in lane 1 to drop off or pick up.

Exit lane 1 into lane 2 as soon as possible after dropping off students.

Watch for students/pedestrians using **ALL** crosswalks. Drive slowly and be alert!

Encourage your children to use the crosswalk on 50 East.

Be patient with others!
We are all human.
Put children's safety first.

EXIT THE PARKING LOT ON THE SOUTH SIDE ENTRANCE. Please use ONLY the North side to exit. It may seem faster to get out, but it is definitely more dangerous! Please keep children in mind.

Drop off or pick up any children in lane 2 or 3!!

Park in the red zone (either side of the crosswalk) on 50 East when picking up or dropping off children!! These children are small and can't be seen when you are parked too close to the crosswalk!

Get out of your vehicle to walk your child into the school or to pick them up after school when in lane 1, even if just for a few seconds. We have parking stalls for this and we want that lane to keep flowing so as not to get backed up into the street.

NEVER

Lane 1 – This lane (next to the curb) is primarily used for the dropping off and picking up of students only. **DO NOT EXIT YOUR VEHICLE IN THIS LANE.**

Lane 2 – This lane (the middle lane) is used to pull in and out of lane 1 and to help the flow of traffic run more smoothly. **DO NOT DROP OFF IN THIS LANE. THE RISK OF A CHILD BEING HIT IS TOO HIGH!**

Lane 3 – This lane (the lane next to the parking stalls) is used to drive thru the parking lot or enter or exit a parking stall. Please note that we have two handicapped stalls as well as three 10-minute parking stalls. Please use them for what they are labeled for. **DO NOT DROP OFF IN THIS LANE!**

If you need to know "why" on any of these rules, just attend an SCC meeting and we will be happy to answer your questions.

Thanks to all who help make Northridge Elementary a great school. We are excited for a wonderful year!

Teri Allred, SCC President

Running Club



Are you ready for Running Club? Running Club is ready for you! It's about time to put on your sneakers and get running/walking on the track! Everyone is invited to join on Fridays during lunch recess, starting the first Friday in September. It's a great way to be active, visit with or meet new friends, and earn prizes!

Our goal this year is to earn enough miles to get to as many capitals in the United States as possible. Last year, we made it to 15 capitals, so we have only 35 more to go!

Parents, if any of you are interested and willing to help out with Running Club this year, we would appreciate your support. If you have small children, they are welcome to come and enjoy being outside and active! Please contact Kathryn Ricks at Kathryn.ricks@gmail.com if you are able to volunteer your time on Fridays from 11:45am to 1pm.

See You Soon!

Silver Medal School



We're going for the silver! After earning the Bronze level for the Gold Medal Schools Program last year, Northridge Nighthawks are stepping it up as we do what it takes to earn the Silver Level this year. Gold Medal Schools is a program for schools that is run by the State Health Department. It encourages healthy living for both students and staff by requiring certain health related criteria to be met. By being physically active and eating healthy students are better prepared and able to achieve their highest potential academically.

To earn the Silver this year, we will work to accomplish the following:

1. PTA will coordinate at least one health related event this year.
2. A policy will be written that requires a teacher, faculty, and staff wellness program.
3. A variety of competitive and non-competitive programs must be offered to the students.
4. We will participate in Walk to School Day.
5. We will participate in a health-related walk.
6. A proven-effective tobacco prevention program will be taught.

Last year by accomplishing the bronze level, our school earned \$200 to go towards health related equipment for the school. This year we will earn \$300 by accomplishing the above criteria. Let's enjoy taking health to a new level this year!

Another Exciting Year of Ballroom about to Begin

Visit the Ballroom table at the Northridge Open House on August 16 from 3-5 to make sure your student has signed up, or to sign up if you haven't already!

Ballroom classes will start September 10th and 11th:

- 4th Grade Class: Wednesday's 3:35-4:20pm
- 5th/6th Level 1 PM Class: Tues/Thurs 8:15-9:00am
- 5th/6th Level 1 AM Class: Tues/Thurs 2:20-3:05pm
- 5th/6th Level 2 Class: Tues/Thurs 3:35-4:20pm

**Ladies: remember that if you didn't sign up with a partner, you are automatically placed on the waiting list. Find a boy to sign up for your class to be guaranteed a spot. All ladies on the waiting list will be informed if they got in the class by September 9th. I can't wait to meet you and your dancer(s)!

Shannon Johns, Ballroom Director
northridgeballroom@gmail.com
[801-358-3217](tel:801-358-3217)

Get Ahead with Box Tops

Don't forget to clip those Box Tops! We will have our first contest September 16-20. Again that is the week before the BYU and U of U football game. Support your team by bringing in your Box Tops to school and put them in the bin marked with your favorite team. Put your Box Tops in a bag or envelope with your name and teacher written on it for a chance to win in a drawing. Everyone that enters will have a chance to win. We'll draw 10 names for prizes! Thanks for your help Nighthawks!



Start Dreaming for Reflections



The theme this year is: Believe, Dream, Inspire. Everyone dreams—now it's time to turn your dream into a creation for this year's reflections contest. Get those creative juices going.

The final entry won't be due until October, but the time to start working on your project(s) is NOW before your homework and extra activities get overwhelming.

The categories you can enter in are Musical Composition, Literature, Dance Choreography, Film composition, Visual Arts, Photography, and 3-D. There will be rules and more information available in the in the office a couple weeks after school starts. For now, "Believe, Dream and Imagine" your way to starting on a Reflections entry!

Carnival News

Northridge Carnival
Fri., September 20
4:00-7:00 PM



Save the date!

Join The PTA!

You can help Northridge connect, build and achieve!

Why Join?

- To be involved in a child's education
- To have a voice
- To partner with administration
- To provide solutions
- To interact with other concerned parents
- To support the school



Fill out and return with \$6.00 membership fee to the office. Checks payable to Northridge PTA. Extra donations are greatly appreciated and are used to fund Northridge programs like Home Reading, radKIDS, Running Club, Safety Week, Storytelling, Red Ribbon week, White Ribbon Week and Teacher Appreciation. Thank you!

Northridge PTA Membership Form

Full Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Children attending Northridge:

Name _____ Core Teacher _____

Name _____ Core Teacher _____

Name _____ Core Teacher _____



Volunteer with Home Reading

Want to volunteer at Northridge but not sure how to juggle your preschoolers? Need a volunteer opportunity that works on your schedule? Look no further! Volunteer in the PTA Home Reading Library. In the Home Reading Library, volunteers check in and out books for Northridge students to practice reading on their individual levels.

Your preschoolers are welcome-- we even have a little play area set aside just for them! The Home Reading volunteer shifts are flexible too. Choose the day and time you want to volunteer. Volunteering in Home Reading generally can be done in about 30 minutes each week. Home Reading takes approximately 40 volunteers to run so we definitely need your help! Please contact Jennifer Fletcher or Shellie Pierce to volunteer.

Jennifer Fletcher
801-764-0672
jenfletcher@comcast.net

Shellie Pierce
801-380-4414



Chorus Members Make Music

The 2013-2014 Chorus will begin rehearsals on Monday, August 26 at 8:20 am or 2:15 pm (Ending time at 3:05 pm Wed. and Fri. and 2:05 pm on Mon). Returning members from last year and new members who applied and attended the preparation rehearsals last May should be at Chorus on time and ready to make music. :) Don Harvie will conduct the chorus and Kathy Vest will accompany. Questions? Email Mr. Harvie at धारविए@alpinedistrict.org or leave voice mail at [801-610-8114](tel:801-610-8114) ex.107

NORTHRIDGE ORCHESTRA!



Northridge has a legacy of having a great orchestra program each year. We're excited to begin our 2013-2014 season. We perform two concerts each year and participate in an orchestra festival with other elementary school

orchestras from our area. Our concerts will be November 14 and March 27. Festival is TBA.

The orchestra will begin rehearsals on **Tuesday, September 10**. We will start sign-ups at Back-to-School night, but we want to make sure we don't miss anyone who is interested! Orchestra is available to all students **3rd through 6th grades**. Jean Donakey will be conducting the orchestra with Kathy Vest as accompanist. **We are looking for someone to assist with the beginning groups in the morning and afternoon as well as the advanced group in the afternoon. This would include a teacher as well as parents who can assist the students during rehearsals. Also we need a cello coach for the morning and afternoon groups.** Please contact Jean Donakey if you have questions or if you would like to participate as a parent.

Orchestra rehearsals are held on Tues. and Thurs. at 8:25-9:10 a.m. for PM students, and 2:20-3:05 p.m. for AM students. As an extracurricular Northridge program, the orchestra fee is \$40.00 for the year. We will have a limited number of instruments available for rental, and the cost is \$60.00 for the year. If you are interested in renting a Northridge instrument we need to know as soon as possible so we can have them in good repair for you. Find us at Back-to-School night to ask questions and to sign up! I am excited to be working with the orchestra again this year!

Jean Donakey (H: [801-226-8560](tel:801-226-8560) or M: [801-361-2228](tel:801-361-2228); e-mail: jhdonakey@gmail.com)

Getting Ready for radKIDS

Heads up 2nd and 4th grade parents! The radKIDS safety class will begin the third week of school starting with the second graders. Here is the schedule (which may be subject to change):

- Ms. Harris: Sept. 3-6 and Sept. 13
- Ms. Broderick: Sept. Sept. 9-13
- Ms. Savage: Sept. 16-20
- Ms. Farr: Sept. 23-27
- Simulation for Harris & Broderick: Sept. 13, 3:45 p.m.
- Simulation for Savage & Farr: Sept. 27, 3:45 p.m.
- 4th Graders: Sept. 30- Oct. 4
- Simulation for 4th graders: Oct. 4th 3:45 p.m.

Your students will be receiving parental consent and medical forms the first week of school. Please fill these out and return them to the teacher quickly, as they are mandatory for student participation. Also, remember to send your child to school that week dressed appropriately for the physical activity (closed-toe shoes/ no dresses).



- Find your new teacher and classroom!
- Stop by the PTA tables and join the PTA!
- Check out our new school shirt!
- Sign up for extra curricular activities.
- Find a few ways to get involved in Northridge activities!