

MurrENEWS – November 25, 2008
Murray City School District, Murray, UT
Educating Murray since 1906!

MurrE-QUOTE

“Gratitude is the sign of noble souls. “

– Aesop

IN THIS ISSUE ...

- **HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**
- **DISTRICT EMPLOYEE HOLIDAY RECEPTION SKD**
- **LIBERTY FOOD DRIVE TODAY**
- **MURRAY SCHOOLS STERLING SCHOLARS**
- **JENNIFER LIGHTFOOT AWARDED NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION**
- **TROOPS TO RECEIVE LETTERS FROM STUDENTS**
- **UTAH SYMPHONY PERFORMS FOR STUDENTS**
- **GRANT ELEMENTARY RECYCLES**
- **SCOLIOSIS SCREENERS NEEDED**
- **CAREER DAY EVENT AT MHS**
- **FIELD & ACTIVITY TRIPS REQUEST INFO**
- **DISNEY PRESIDENTIAL SITE & COMPETITION**
- **EDUCATOR EVENT**
- **MURRAY IDOL**
- **PTA NATIONAL FAMILY WEEK**
- **DISTRICT CALENDAR**
- **EMPLOYMENT**

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

to all of our Murray City School District employees, families & patrons!

2008 DISTRICT EMPLOYEE HOLIDAY RECEPTION SCHEDULE

Administrators from the Murray District Offices will be visiting each of our schools at the following times to bring holiday good wishes and lunch for the staff:

- 12/4 (Thurs) Murray High School, 11:15-11:45 AM & 12:30-1 PM
- 12/5 (Fri) Hillcrest Junior High, 11:40 AM-12:05 PM & 12:35 – 1 PM
- 12/9 (Tues) Viewmont Elementary School, 11 AM-12:30 PM
- 12/10 (Wed) Horizon Elementary School, 1:45- 2:30 PM
- 12/11 (Thurs) Parkside Elementary School, 12-1:15 PM
- 12/12 (Fri) Grant Elementary School, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM
- 12/15 (Mon) Longview Elementary School, 12-1:00 PM
- 12/16 (Tues) Riverview Junior High School, 11:40 AM-12:05 PM & 12:30-12:55 PM
- 12/17 (Wed) Early Childhood Education Center, 11:45 AM-12:15 PM
- 12/17 (Wed) Maintenance Department, 3:15- 4 PM
- 12/18 (Thurs) McMillan Elementary, 11:45 AM-12:45 PM
- 12/19 (Fri) Liberty Elementary School, 12-12:30 PM

LIBERTY FOOD DRIVE TODAY

The Liberty Elementary (160 West 6100 South) PTA is sponsoring a food drive today, Tues., 11/25 from 4-6 PM to help the Utah Food Bank. 97.1 KZHT Radio will be broadcasting and bringing fun prizes. Drop by and make a contribution to this worthwhile cause!

2009 MURRAY SCHOOLS STERLING SCHOLARS

Congratulations to the following exemplary students:

- Business/Marketing – Adam Ruben
- Computer/Information – Joel Morales
- Dance – Kiley Shepard
- English – Beth Peterson
- Family/Consumer – Megan Campbell
- Mathematics – Ryan Horne
- Music – Rachelle Garrett
- Science – Chad Curtis
- Social Science – Megan Lam
- Speech/Drama – Alison Fidel
- Trade/Technology – Johnathan Powell
- Visual Arts – Anna Barmina

MURRAY TEACHER AWARDED ESTEEMED NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION

Jennifer Lightfoot, kindergarten teacher at Viewmont Elementary, has achieved National Board Certification, a voluntary assessment program designed to recognize and reward accomplished teachers. Certification is achieved through a rigorous, performance-based assessment that typically takes one to three years to complete. As part of the process, teachers build a portfolio that includes student work samples, assignments, video recordings and a thorough analysis of their classroom teaching. Teachers are also assessed on knowledge of the subjects they teach.

Jennifer is now among the more than 70,000 National Board Certified Teachers, including another outstanding Murray employee, Murray High math teacher Belda Helms. The highly respected National Research Council of the National Academies found that students taught by National Board Certified Teachers make higher gains on achievement tests; and the Congressionally-mandated report also states that National Board Certification has a positive impact on teacher retention and professional development. For more information about NBPTS and National Board Certification, visit the NBPTS Web site at www.nbpts.org.

TROOPS TO RECEIVE LETTERS FROM MURRAY STUDENTS

Murray school students from four district schools sent over 1,600 letters to Troops overseas. These schools answered a request from Superintendent Tranter that came through the Governor's offices asking for volunteers willing to send good wishes to our men and women in the military who are stationed away from home at during this holiday time. Schools involved in this wonderful patriotic effort were Horizon Elementary, McMillan Elementary, Viewmont Elementary and Riverview Junior High.

UTAH SYMPHONY PERFORMS FOR MURRAY STUDENTS

The Utah Symphony performed concerts for elementary and secondary students on Monday, November 24 in the Murray High Auditorium. They also attended a "Meet and Greet" morning reception with high school music students in between performances. Murray Arts teachers and administrators are very appreciative of this outstanding effort by the Utah Symphony to make contact and bring inspiration to our budding musicians!

GRANT ELEMENTARY RECYCLING EFFORTS

Ginger Brakke's 4th grade class at Grant Elementary was recognized by KODJ 94.1 Radio for outstanding efforts in recycling. Class "Recycle Rangers" come to school early to gather recycling bins from each room and take them out to the dumpster before school starts. Students were featured on the radio and were also awarded a Pizza Party last Friday afternoon. We are proud to have these great kids recognized for their efforts!

SCOLIOSIS SCREENERS NEEDED AT JUNIOR HIGHS

If you have time to volunteer at the upcoming Scoliosis Screening dates, please contact one of you PTA leaders or school secondary nurse Hsiaoming Peng at 264-7400, hpeng@murrayschools.org. Volunteer numbers for this effort have been low and we could use more people. No medical or past experience is necessary.

Thank you and here are the dates:

- 12/16 Hillcrest JH Scoliosis Screening, PE classes, 7th & 8th grades, start 8:05 AM through school day
- 12/16 Riverview JH Scoliosis Screening, classes/Harrison, Duehlmeier, Searle, 7:55 AM-2:40 PM

CAREER DAY EVENT AT MHS

Murray High Career Day was held Nov. 20th during 2nd Period classes at the school. All 1,500 students had the opportunity to see presentations from 55 different career fields. Everyone attended three different sessions with presenters addressing career fields selected by students during their TEAM classes. MHS coordinating teacher for this annual event was Christy Waite.

TEACHER REQUEST INFO FOR FIELD & ACTIVITY TRIPS

Field and activity trips are to be done electronically now. If you have questions, please contact Janet Buonocore, Maintenance/Transportation Dept., 264-7410. Here are instructions for submitting trip requests:

- Log on to the District web page at www.murrayschools.org
- Click on the "District Office" tab
- Scroll down to the "Staff Services & Information Documents" section
- Click on "Activity Trip Transportation Request"
- Enter the required information
- Please read the paragraph at the top of the page. This information will help you determine how many buses will be needed. It will also help you determine if you will be using an "Activity" or "School" bus.
- All red checked boxes must be filled in.
- If the date of your trip is under 21 days from the departure date, the system will not accept it. You will need to call the Transportation Office (264-7410) to see if a driver and bus are available. If there is a driver and bus available, you will need to have your Principal enter the trip in the system and approve it.
- Fill in appropriate boxes. Please include a contact number if trip leaves after school hours, or is on a weekend.
- The Password is: murray
- Click on "Submit request"
- Scroll back to the top of the page. If trip is accepted, the system will acknowledge it & give you a "Trip ID" number. You should keep track of this number. You should also get an e-mail confirming your trip has been scheduled.

DISNEY PRESIDENTIAL SITE & COMPETITION

At Disney's *ePals 2008 Election Central* site, students can enter a competition to tell President-Elect Barack Obama about the issues that are important to them. Entries must be submitted by Jan. 10, 2009. Winners will be posted on Inauguration Day, Jan. 20, 2009. For contest details see: <http://www.epals.com/groups/elections/default.aspx>

BARNES & NOBLE EDUCATOR EVENT

The Murray Barnes & Noble will be hosting another Educator Holiday Shopping Event on Sat., Dec. 6. This will include a drawing for a cheesecake, door prizes and include a free tote bag for the first 15 teachers. Also during the day, an extra discount to use on both classroom and personal purchases will be offered. Books may also be ordered ahead of time for pick up at the event. For more info, contact Karina Kerr at B&N, 801-261-4853.

MURRAY IDOL

The Murray Arts Council will be holding auditions for the annual Murray Idol competition at Horizon Elementary School, 5180 South 700 West, Dec. 4 & 5 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. They are open to anyone between the ages of 11 and 30, attending a Murray school, residing in Murray City, or an alumnus of Murray or Cottonwood high schools.

The competition is only for solo vocalists who should prepare one song a cappella. The competition will be staged at Murray High Feb. 26/Junior Idol; Feb. 27-28/Murray Idol; and March 2 Finale/Results Night. Cash prizes will be awarded in both the junior division and the Murray Idol divisions. Last year's Murray Idol, Lauren Allred, made it to the semi-finals of this year's upcoming American Idol competition.

PTA NATIONAL FAMILY WEEK

National Family Week is the week of Thanksgiving, November 23 – 29 this year. In conjunction, the Utah PTA has an official program called Family Table Talk which involves having family meal and talking together. PTA leaders should refer to pages 375-377 in the Utah PTA Handbook regarding this program. For more information on this and other PTA programs, go to <http://www.utahpta.org/familylife.htm>

GET FIT DON'T SIT EVENTS

12/10 - Family Swim Night & Ducky Derby, at the Murray Park Center Leisure Pool; low cost swimming for only \$1, as well as the fun Ducky Derby activity, 7-9 PM.

PTA NATIONAL FAMILY WEEK

National Family Week has been celebrated in American schools since 1968. It is the week of Thanksgiving, November 23 – 29 this year. In conjunction, the Utah PTA has an official program called Family Table Talk. It is a very easy and fun family program, all you have to do is have a family meal and talk together during National Family Week. PTA leaders should refer to pages 375-377 in the Utah PTA Handbook regarding this program. For more information on this and other PTA programs, so <http://www.utahpta.org/familylife.htm>

DISTRICT CALENDAR REMINDERS:

NOVEMBER is PTA NATIONAL FAMILY MONTH; 11/23-29 National PTA "Sit & Eat Dinner" Week

11/25 MHS Swim Meet @ Home vs Hunter & Brighton, 3:30 PM

11/25 Liberty Elementary Food Drive & 97.1 KZHT broadcast @ school, 4-6 PM

11/26 MHS Boys Basketball @ Riverton; Soph 3:30, JV 5:15, Var 7 PM

11/27– 28 (Thurs–Fri) Thanksgiving Holiday – NO SCHOOL

12/2 Prevention Dimension Elementary Teacher Training, Granite Schools DO, 8 AM-4 PM

12/2 Hillcrest JH Scoliosis Screening, classes/Schroeder, Scott, McLaughlin, 8:05 AM-2:50 PM

12/2 MHS Swim Meet @ Home vs Highland, 3:30 PM

12/3 Lady Spartan Basketball @ Tooele; Soph 3:30, JV 5:15, Varsity 7 PM

12/3 Murray Board of Education Meeting, DO, 5 PM

12/4 (Thurs) DO Holiday Staff Luncheon @ MHS, Faculty Rm, 11:15-11:45 AM & 12:30-1 PM

12/4 Spec Ed Prof Development, RJH Rebel Rm, 2:30-4:30 PM

12/4 MHS Wrestling @ Highland; JV 5:30, Varsity 6 PM

12/5 Longview Elem Internet Safety Assembly, 9:30 & 10:15 AM

12/5 (Fri) DO Holiday Staff Luncheon @ Hillcrest JH, 11:40 AM-12:05 PM & 12:35 – 1 PM

12/5 PTA Reflections submission deadline; project drop-off 1-2:30 PM to at Kim Kingrey

12/5 Lady Spartan Basketball @ Home vs Judge; JV 3:30, Varsity 5:15, Soph 7 PM

12/5 MHS Boys Basketball @ Home vs Hunter; Soph 3:30, JV 5:15, Varsity 7 PM

12/5-6 MHS Wrestling/Titan Duals @ Syracuse

See the entire calendar online:

http://www.murrayschools.org/wworks/spotlight_upcomingdistrictevents.shtml

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MURRAY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Contact Denise McDougal at the DO for more info, 264-7487; dmcdougal@murrayschools.org

Check online at http://www.murrayschools.org/wworks/humanresources_employment.shtml

NO LICENSED OPENINGS at this time

CLASSIFIED OPENINGS:

- [Secretary II - Attendance Office @ MHS](#)
- [Secretary II - U's/Waivers Office @ MHS](#)
- [TA II - Indian Mentor Advocate @ MHS](#)
- [Recreation Specialist - Parkside Elementary After-School Program](#)
- [Murray Community Education - Computer Teacher](#)
- [Cook I @ Parkside Elementary and Viewmont Elementary \(2 openings\)](#)

The Murray School District MurrENEWS electronic newsletter is a Murray School District publication designed to share news and information. Please forward this email to anyone you think may be interested. To submit an item for MurrENEWS or to have parents, community members or other names added to the mailing list, contact D. Wright, Public Relations Specialist at the Murray City School District Offices, 801-264-7400, or email dwright@murrayschools.org.