

MurrENEWS – December 19, 2008
Murray City School District, Murray, UT
Educating Murray since 1906!

MurrE-QUOTE

"Let peace begin with me,
let this be the moment now.
With every step I take,
let this be my solemn vow,

To take each moment and live each moment
in peace, eternally.

Let there be Peace on Earth,
and let it begin with me."

– *Words and Music by Jill Jackson and Sy Miller, circa 1955*

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DISTRICT HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The Murray City School District Offices will be closed during the official school holiday break from 4:30 PM, Tuesday, December 23, 2008 through 7 AM, Monday, January 5, 2009. Schools will be closed during the same days and re-open at their normal start times.

NEXT MurrENEWS IN EARLY JANUARY

The next issue of MurrENEWS will be sent by e-mail and available in early January. If you have any items that you would like to have included, please submit them to D. Wright.

HAPPY HOLIDAY WISHES TO ALL EMPLOYEES & PATRONS IN THE MURRAY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT!

SEE YOURSELF ONLINE @ DISTRICT HOLIDAY EVENTS

BE SURE to take a look at the cute holiday event pictures online in the District Photo Gallery (sincere apologies to MHS, Hillcrest & Viewmont for incorrect camera settings while taking pictures at their Holiday Luncheons.) Check it out, 'cause you never know who you may see on the World Wide Web.

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

LIBERTY ELEMENTARY STAFF HELPS OTHERS

This year, the staff at Liberty Elementary raised \$1260.00 through an effort to help others in need instead of exchanging gifts with each other. This was the largest amount that they have donated, and with economic concerns, they were delighted to see so much money raised for this year's worthy causes, The Road Home and Ronald McDonald House. Mary Ann Burch was in charge of this exemplary effort and is taking checks to the two organizations. Thank you for setting a great example, Liberty!

PARKSIDE HOLIDAY MOVIE A BIG HIT!

The Dec. 19 Parkside Annual Holiday Program featured a video presentation starring students from each grade and the crowd absolutely loved the program. Everyone was laughing and enjoying students "on the big screen" during the two morning "screenings." Brian Hill was the great parent who donated a whole day to filming the video; "associate producers" were Jai-Dee Riches, and Cheree Larsen. Kudos to all for great creativity!

RIVERVIEW HOLIDAY HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS & EVENTS

Caring students and staff at Riverview Junior High have worked hard this season to help make things a little better for others. A faculty service project involved making 21 stockings and stuffing them with staff donated goodies and great novels for girls at Stillwater Academy. The stockings were also made by staff at school under direction of Janet Wayman; Kathy Dale helped with collections and delivery.

Riverview's Sub for Santa raised about \$7000 to help seven families with Christmas. Student body officers, President Sam Fisihetau, VP Abbey Smiley, VP Jared Nalwalker, Secretary Ariana Fuller and all class officers put hours into organizing the events and counting the money. SBO teacher advisors Brandon Harrison and Jen Duehlmeier helped greatly, also.

And, not to forget the big RJH Student Faculty game, where Faculty squeaked a win by ONE point!

AT MURRAY HIGH ...

MHS Bell Ringers Perform with Mormon Tabernacle Choir

The Murray High Bell Ringers were from one of five high school honored to be invited to supplement the 100-person bell choir at the Mormon Tabernacle Choir Christmas Program at the Conference Center earlier in the month. They performed Thursday, Friday and Saturday in the concert, and Sunday morning on the televised Tabernacle Choir performance. The program will be shown next year during the holiday season on PBS where it is the most highly viewed holiday program each year in the country. It will also be released for sale at Deseret Book next Christmas.

MHS Coat Drive

Murray High School's Peer Leadership Team and Student Government have organized a fundraiser to provide shoes and coats for needy Murray School District children. So far, they've earned enough money to provide about 125 coats and 125 pairs of shoes, and are still working for more. They collaborated with Noodles & Co. for a donation recently and are planning to buy even more coats in the new year. This is a great effort from advisor Christy Waite and her group; please support them if you are able. Contact Christy for more information, cwaite@murrayschools.org

PINNACLE AWARDS NOMINATIONS DUE RIGHT AFTER HOLIDAYS

Forms for the 6th Annual Pinnacle Awards are due by the end of the day Friday, January 9, 2009. Five educators, one classified employee and one volunteer will be selected for recognition of their outstanding service to Murray education at the Pinnacle Awards Gala on March 5, 2009. Each Pinnacle winner will be a honored guest at the banquet, receive a nice cash award and many other great gifts. Anyone may nominate: district or school employees, parents and community members. Don't miss this opportunity to help recognize someone you feel is making a difference in the Murray City School District! Pinnacle application forms may be downloaded from the Murray Schools website: http://www.murrayschools.org/wworks/districtoffice_mef.shtml

BASEBALL WINTER WORKOUTS

The Murray High School Varsity Baseball program will begin having winter workouts for students in 8-12th grade wishing to improve their skills before spring try-outs. The workouts will be held starting on Tuesday, January 6, 2009 from 3:15-6:15 p.m. at Riverview Jr. High in the back gymnasium. Workouts will be held every school day until February 28. Every player is welcome and there is no cost to attend. Players need to bring all of their own equipment. Please contact Head Coach Jake Shewmake at MHS at 264-7460 or email jshewmake@murrayschools.com for more information.

2009 WINTER CLASSES SCHEDULED FOR MURRAY COMMUNITY EDUCATION

New classes have been scheduled for the Winter 2009 Community Education session. Check out what's offered and sign up as soon as possible, as some classes may fill up quickly. There are classes available for both youth and adults. The Murray Community Education Office is conveniently located at Murray High School in Room 139, across the hall from the Cafeteria. Or, you may call or email Joan Shuman, at 264-7414. See the 2009 Winter Class Schedule brochure and the Community Education Registration Form online at http://www.murrayschools.org/wworks/parents_communityeducation.shtml

DISTRICT ENERGY SAVER OF THE MONTH

Charlie Hollister, Electrician Specialist, District Maintenance Department

Charlie is always thinking of new ways to cut back our power energy costs and has been very creative in accomplishing this, completing changing over the lighting systems at Liberty and several other schools. Charlie was also responsible for upgrading thermostats at Horizon and in the Viewmont Portables, using the new Totaline Stats that are extremely energy efficient. He always works to help improve the district's electrical concerns. Along with the other staff in our outstanding District Maintenance Department, he makes a big difference in our district!

SPECIAL EDUCATION RELICENSURE PROGRAM INFORMATION

The School of Education at Westminster College has developed a series of seminars to bring special education teachers with expired licenses back into Utah's classrooms by providing the necessary training needed to fulfill the state's re-licensure requirements, at no cost to participants. In March of 2008, Governor Huntsman signed House Bill 68 that allows Utah's principals to hire special education teachers with an expired license so long as training is provided that enables them to perform their job. The Utah State Office of Education has awarded Westminster College a grant to support principals with this training requirement. Re-licensure seminars have been designed to address the most current topics, policies, and procedures in the field today. Faculty members will provide the necessary support to get

teachers through the renewal application process and the Praxis exam. Each participant who enrolls in the seminar series will receive academic support materials, individual mentoring provided by instructors, and reimbursement* for the cost of the registration and test fee for the PRAXIS exam as well as the re-licensure fee with the Utah State Office of Education. (*To receive reimbursement, participants must attend each of the seminars and provide evidence of payment to the USOE for licensure fees as well as a copy of PRAXIS exam results.) For more information, see <http://www.westminstercollege.edu/education/index.cfm?parent=6985&detail=9070&content=9072>

ANOTHER FUN RECIPE FROM www.northpole.com

Willy Wonka Bars

Ingredients:

1/2 cup margarine, softened
1 cup peanut butter
1/2 box powdered sugar
1 1/2 packages graham crackers
1 package chocolate chips
2 tablespoons margarine or 1/4 cup milk

Directions:

Combine margarine, peanut butter, powdered sugar and graham crackers.
Press mixture in pan.
Melt chips and 2 tablespoons of margarine or milk.
Spread over graham cracker crust. Refrigerate. Cut when cool.

DISTRICT CALENDAR REMINDERS:

12/19 Lady Spartan Basketball @ Provo; Soph 3:30, JV 5:15, Varsity 7 PM
12/19 MHS Boys Basketball @ SUU vs Davis; Varsity only 7:15 PM
12/19 & 20 MHS Wrestling/Viewmont Invitational @ Viewmont
12/20 MHS Boys Basketball @ SUU vs Cedar; Varsity only 6:05 PM
12/22 District Office Holiday Luncheon, 12 Noon-1 PM (*District Office will be closed during this hour*)
12/23 Longview Elem Sing-A-Long Assembly, 9:30 AM
12/23 Last Day of School before Winter Break
12/23 Lady Spartan Basketball @ Skyview; Varsity 5PM

12/24/08 – 1/4/09 Winter Break – NO SCHOOL

12/30 Lady Spartan Basketball @ Home vs Mountain Crest; JV 3:30, Varsity 5:15, Soph 7 PM
12/30 MHS Boys Basketball @ Home vs West Jordan; Soph 3:30, JV 5:15, Varsity 7 PM

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 CURRENTLY

CLASSIFIED OPENINGS:

- TA II - Indian Mentor Advocate @ MHS
- Murray Community Education - Computer Teacher

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.