

MurrENEWS – February 6, 2009
Murray City School District, Murray, UT
Educating Murray since 1906!

MurrE-QUOTE

“Think left and think right and think low and think high.
Oh, the thinks you can think up if only you try!”
– Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel)

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CONCERNED ABOUT EDUCATION CUTS? CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS

Our Murray Legislators have worked very hard to try to preserve education dollars. If you would like to speak to them or any Utah state legislators, here is contact information:

Senator Pat Jones, Minority Leader (D) pjones@utahsenate.org

Office (801) 322-5722; Home (801) 278-7667

Senator Gene Davis (D) gdavis@utahsenate.org

Home (801) 484-9428

Representative Tim Cosgrove (D) tcosgrove@utah.gov

Home 685-0673

Representative Lynn Hemingway (D) lhemingway@utah.gov

Cell 231-2153

Representative Mark Wheatley (D) markwheatley@utah.gov

Home 264-8844

FOR A LIST OF ALL UTAH STATE LEGISLATORS, go to the Utah State Legislature website where you’ll find all of their email addresses and phone numbers: <http://www.le.state.ut.us/>

The State Senate and House information links are, specifically:

Senate – <http://www.utahsenate.org/perl/roster2009.pl>

House of Representatives - <http://www.le.state.ut.us/house/members2005/membertable1add.asp>

2009-10 BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICERS ELECTED

New District leadership was elected at the January Board of Education Meeting. Changes are reflected below:

President Laura S. Baker – Precinct 4, Central Murray

Vice-President Lloyd Naylor – Precinct 3, Northeast Murray

Mitzie Huff (outgoing president) – Precinct 1, Northwest Murray

Darrell L. Pehrson – Precinct 2, Southwest Murray

Marge Tuckett – Precinct 5, Southeast Murray

SALT LAKE TRIB STORY ABOUT MURRAY HIGH'S DEBBIE SORENSEN

http://www.sltrib.com/ci_11565811

01/29/2009 Salt Lake Tribune

Passionate about education, Debbie Sorensen of Cottonwood Heights has been assistant principal at Murray High School for six years. A former English teacher and eight-year principal at Riverview Junior High, Sorensen said her greatest reward is the students who return to visit. (more – see link above)

TEACHER ACCOMPLISHMENT: MARSHA NEWMAN OF MCMILLAN

Marsha Newman, 5th grade teacher at McMillan has also been accepted to attend the Larry H. Miller seminar for history teachers. The nine-day June 2009 seminar will begin in Boston, move to New York City and conclude in Philadelphia. The Revolutionary War theme for the seminar is “From the Boston Massacre to the Constitutional Convention.” Congratulations, Marsha!

SUPPORT MHS BASEBALL!

The Murray High Baseball Program will be holding an Annual Fundraising Auction Dinner, Thurs, Feb 12 at 6 PM. The event will include a catered dinner from the Lion House Restaurant, a live and a silent auction. There will be hundreds of locally donated prizes and items to be bid on and raffled. Tickets for the dinner are \$15 in advance; \$20 at the door. To purchase tickets or for info contact MHS Baseball Coach Jake Shewmake at 661-8684; or 264-7460. **Tryouts for Murray High's baseball program for 9th-12th graders is March 2, 3:30 p.m. at RJH. Prospective players should bring their equipment and plan to stay until 7 PM. For more info, call Coach Shewmake at MHS; jshewmake@murrayschools.org.**

UPCOMING DISTRICT MUSICALS

From Mary Ann Kirk, Murray Parks & Recreation Program: Theatrical productions funded through State ZAP moneys will be presented throughout the remainder of the year. Double check with your schools for scheduling specifics, but here are some tentative and some permanent times for those productions:

Riverview – “Seussical the Musical”, February 5, 6, 7 at 7 PM

Parkside – “Rogue of the Railway”, February 11 & 12 at 7 PM; school assembly on Feb 11 at 1:30 PM

Longview – “DooWop Wed Widing Hood”, March 12 at 1:45 and 7 PM
Grant – “Hickory Dickory Rock”, March 20 at 1:30 and 7 PM
Liberty – “Big Bad Musical”, March 24, 1:45 and 7 PM
Horizon – “Dance Through the Decades”, April 17 at 1:45 and 7 PM
Viewmont – “I Wish”, April 23 & 24, times TBA

Murray High Theatre Department (not a ZAP Grant production) – “See How They Run”, MHS Little Theatre, February 19, 20, 21 & 23; tickets \$4 students, \$5 adults, \$6 at door/seating is limited, 7 PM.

FAMILY “SOCK HOP” DANCE

Friday, February 13th at Riverview JH, 7-9 PM – This event is sponsored by *Get Fit, Don't Sit Murray* and will feature fun and fit contests, including Hula Hoop, Limbo and the Craziest Socks. Prizes will be awarded, so don't miss out on this great FREE activity. Everyone is welcome!

IEP COACHES

The Utah Parent Center (UPC) has prepared a cadre of individuals to serve as IEP Coaches. These people are specially trained volunteers available to coach parents as they prepare for or participate in IPE meetings. For more information, call Jennie Gibson at 272-1051, email jennieg@utahparentcenter.org

CONTACT FOR UTAH CULTURAL CELEBRATION CENTER IN WVC

Here is a good resource for schools and PTA leaders: Susan Klinker, Program Director at The Utah Cultural Celebration Center in West Valley. She has assisted tremendously in helping McMillan Elementary find excellent cultural programs. Call 801-965-5100.

FREE AUDIO BOOKS

Students may download audio books to a MP3 player from www.pioneer.ut.gov. This is a great resource for students who struggle with reading or a great assignment learning about new technology. Be aware that there is a timestamp on the file that makes it disappear after two weeks

U OF U SPRING PROGRAMS FOR KIDS

In addition to the usual spring break and summer camps to keep kids entertained on days when school is not in session, University of Utah Youth Education is offering one-day campus for upcoming teacher preparation holidays. Students in the area will be out of school on various upcoming Mondays or Fridays through March, and Youth Ed program officials believe that a need exists for alternative day care on those specific days. For a complete list of classes, or to register, go to <http://continue.utah.edu/youth/>

FREE NEWSPAPERS IN EDUCATION

Newspapers In Education lessons are available for educators to use in their classrooms. To order, a teacher will need to set up an account at www.nowutah.com/education. The lessons are available at no cost to teachers and students in Utah and are delivered directly to the schools. Topics are:

Go Green with the Utah Jazz – This educational section covers vital information about the environment and conservation, perfect to use in the classroom and then send home with students. The educational section includes current information, statistics and appropriate student activities.

Heart Health – This education insert sponsored by the American Heart Society provides excellent information about heart disease and stroke. It includes risk factors and how nutrition and exercise can reduce the chances for heart attack and stroke.

Make a Plan, Emergency Preparedness – This educational insert introduces many ways that families can prepare for disasters. Make a plan, get a kit and be informed. This insert is filled with valuable information to help people prepare for emergency situations.

WRITE AN ESSAY – WIN A BUS!

Utah students are invited to enter an essay competition sponsored by Lake City Trucks to find America's greenest school. The winning school will receive a plug-in hybrid bus valued at \$200,000. The winner will be chosen based on 500-word essays in which students describe what makes their school green through recycling programs, conserving energy, environmentally-minded landscaping and other factors. More information on the contest and how to enter is at www.AmericasGreenestSchool.com

UTAH GOV STATE OF STATE ADDRESS

From Governor Huntsman's January 27, 2009 Address: *"WE ARE ONE"*

(edited for length by D. Wright to focus on education and child-related comments;

full version is available on the Governor's website <http://www.utah.gov/governor>)

Distinguished guests and fellow Utahns;

..... We are beginning a new chapter for our nation and for our state. There is a sense of anxiety, pain, heartache and, yes, hope, on display almost everywhere.

..... Let me state from the top that today's economic conditions make it imperative that we ensure a level of trust between the people who call Utah home and their elected officials. In a time of financial distress, inadequate healthcare, a shaky housing market and apprehensiveness, we must reach beyond traditional political boundaries in seeking solutions that are uniquely our own.

Our first and most urgent priority must be to prudently and wisely balance our budget, as we always have. Let's not forget, unlike many other states, we have tools we can utilize, and with these options we have added flexibility in minimizing impacts to our most critical priorities.

..... We are facing difficult decisions that have real impacts on the lives of Utah families. We are sensitive to this and must be ever vigilant in our realignment of state programs and resources. Let us be mindful of the children we are impacting, the jobs we are eliminating and the critical road and building projects we are delaying.

..... We are one. We must acknowledge it is all of us, our kids, our communities and our businesses that are being impacted by our decisions. And none of these decisions is more important than education.

The amazing gains we have made in education have enhanced opportunities for everyone, improving our state's ability to provide companies with a skilled workforce. In turn, businesses are providing more and better-paying jobs to our children. This keeps our kids and our grandkids, our brain power, here at home.

Early childhood learning is critical for their long-term success, quality of life and our state's competitive edge in attracting world-class jobs. Early results indicate kindergarten students are six times better prepared for a successful first grade experience if they attended full-day kindergarten. On behalf of my daughter Gracie and so many others: Legislators, thank you for making this available to our kids.

We are leading the nation in educating our kids in 21st century languages like Chinese and Arabic. So,

to the thousands of students studying Mandarin Chinese I say: Gongxi gongxi. "Congratulations!"

Yet, our kids' literacy in these critical foreign languages must be matched by their mastery of numbers, an area that is in need of strengthening. We must keep pace. Through additional emphasis and reprioritizing, I have asked both public and higher ed to make this year the "Year of Math."

Workforce demands in quantitative skills continue to increase; yet, our workforce preparation is inadequate. We can and must do better in embracing our knowledge-based economy. Every child ought to have the opportunity to prepare for post-secondary training. This will be our economic development engine and our strongest tool in attracting companies to Utah.

The Utah College of Applied Technology was created to be responsive to industry and meet the demands of a growing technical workforce. As employment demands change, we must assure that this system is dynamic in fulfilling the needs of the 21st Century. I want to thank the legislative task force that worked to put together HB 15. While there are still issues to be ironed out, I think it is safe to say we all agree on the goal: a UCAT system that is more responsive to real-time business needs and is more accessible to Utah's students.

Of course, the biggest influence in the classroom is the person leading, molding and mentoring the students. My grandfather called them educators. We have embarked upon a journey to offer our teachers a more competitive wage. While in these times we may not be able to further that investment, we must not lose ground.

If you want a glimpse into the future our teachers are cultivating, in the Capitol tonight stands a display from schools across the state, showing "Utah as One." These projects have pictures, poems, collages and drawings depicting the wonderful scenes of our state and the unity sought after by our diverse youth. This week I invite all to come visit this colorful gallery. Be inspired by it as I was, and be reminded of the power of youth.

By the way, our youth would like me to point out that Utah is rapidly becoming one of the hottest movie-making destinations between New York and Los Angeles. And if SB 14, sponsored by Senator Lyle Hillyard, is successful the entire cast of High School Musical may need to become permanent residents of our state. Please welcome one of HSM's biggest stars Lucas Grabeel.

.....Though we are one in community, we are many in number. Utah is now the fastest-growing state in America. People are flocking here for the unmatched quality of life, high-paying jobs and the essence of everything we love about America. We also continue our trend of being the youngest state in the union. These are tremendous attributes, but if unplanned for, they can carry a significant burden.

..... When times are good economically, as we have seen in recent years, we sometimes become preoccupied with our own selfish interests. But when times get tough, we are reminded of the power of our community, of people reaching across boundaries to help others, reawakening the need to improve the human condition.

..... I reiterate my call to all who can hear me: find someone in need and help them - whether it be a neighbor, a friend or a perfect stranger. We all have something to give, even if it is just a hand to hold, and there are so many in need right now.

..... I know we will prevail! And we will continue to occupy our rightful and well-earned position as the greatest state in America. The journey is up to us and the decisions made by this very body will lead us there. This is the time to unite with one purpose and one mind.

Because together we can succeed. Together we will thrive. Together we will overcome. Together we are one.

May God bless you and the great State of Utah!

DISTRICT CALENDAR REMINDERS:

2/6-7 Riverview JH "Seussical the Musical" presentation, 7 PM each night

2/6 Lady Spartan Basketball @West; JV 3:30, Varsity 5:15, Soph 7 PM
2/6 MHS Boys Basketball @West; Soph 3:30, JV 5:15, Varsity 7 PM
2/6 MHS Debate Competition VS Davis
2/6-7 4A State Swim Team Championship Meet @ BYU
2/10 MEF Board Meeting, DO, 7 AM
2/10 Hillcrest JH Vision Screening 7th Grade make-up, Main Office, 10 AM
2/10 Spec Ed Prof Development, RJH Rebel Rm, 2:30-4:30 PM
2/10 Lady Spartan Basketball @Highland; JV 3:30, Varsity 5:15, Soph 7 PM
2/10 MHS Boys Basketball @Highland; Soph 3:30, JV 5:15, Varsity 7 PM
2/11 Murray PTA Board & Council Mtg, DO, 9:30 & 10 AM
2/11 MHS Registration Fair & Orientation, all 9th, 10th, & 11th grade students and parents invited, 6 PM
2/11 & 12 Parkside Musical, "Rogue of the Railway," 7 PM; Feb 11 School Assembly, 1:30 PM
2/11 Murray Board of Education Meeting, DO, 7 PM
2/11-13 State Wrestling Tournament @ UVU
2/12 Viewmont Elem Maturation Program, 9 AM & 10 AM
2/12 Grant Elem Maturation Program, 1:15 PM & 2:15 PM
2/13 Riverview JH Early Bird Readers, Library, 7:15-7:55 AM
2/13 MHS Debate Competition VS Clearfield
2/13 Lady Spartan Basketball @Home vs East; JV 3:30, Varsity 5:15, Soph 7 PM
2/13 MHS Boys Basketball @Home vs East; Soph 3:30, JV 5:15, Varsity 7 PM
2/13 Family Sock Hop, Get Fit Murray FREE Event, Riverview JH, 7-9 PM. Everyone is welcome.
2/14 MHS MORP Dance, 7 PM
2/16 (Mon) Washington & Lincoln Day – NO SCHOOL

See the entire calendar online at

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

LICENSED OPENINGS:

TLC - Woodshop Teacher – Hillcrest Junior High

CLASSIFIED OPENINGS:

Computer Teacher – Murray Community Education

Drill Team Head Coach (for 2009-10 school year) – Murray High

Library Aide II/District Consortium Delivery Aide@District Media Center – Riverview JH

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS: At the present time we have a surplus of substitute teachers and are not accepting applications.

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.