

MurrENEWS – March 10, 2009
Murray City School District, Murray, UT
Educating Murray since 1906!

MurrE-QUOTE

"As a general rule, the most successful man in life is the man who has the best information."

– Benjamin Disraeli

"He is wise who knows the sources of knowledge—where it is written and where it is to be found."

– A.A. Hodge

"I find that a great part of the information I have was acquired by looking something up and finding something else on the way." – Franklin P. Adams

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS RESOURCES – The Library of Congress is the world's largest library, with millions of books, recordings, photographs, maps and manuscripts in its collections. The Library's primary site (www.loc.gov) has made these resources available online for years. And now, the Library has launched two new sites: a personalized site (www.myLOC.gov) that presents items in compelling online exhibitions and a specific site for teachers (www.loc.gov/teachers) with lesson plans, interactive projects, and links to primary resources. These are great free resources for teachers and students.

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HUNTSMAN AWARD INFO

The 2009 Huntsman Awards for Excellence in Education Nominations was instituted and is funded by Jon and Karen Huntsman in order "to recognize, inspire and reward the best teachers, school administrators and volunteers in Utah for continually seeking ways to improve the quality of education in our public school system." Ten winners will be selected to receive this award and the prizes are \$10,000 for each.

We have many outstanding Teachers, Administrators and Volunteers here in the Murray City School District who would be extremely deserving of these awards and nominations are encouraged. They will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 2, 2009 with winners announced approximately 30 days later. If you nominated an educator in the past that was not selected for an award, please feel free to submit a repeat nomination. Here is a link to the Nomination Form, which also explains award criteria: http://www.huntsman.com/corporate/Media/HAEE_Nominations_2009_.pdf

MURRAY HIGH STUDENTS MAKE US PROUD!

Sterling Scholar State Finalists:

MHS had an exceptional number of students who made it to the state finals of the Sterling Scholar competition. An awards program under the direction KSL-TV will be held March 25 at 7 p.m. at Cottonwood High School to announce the final results. The program is free of charge, no tickets are required and there is plenty of seating available.

Anna Barmina (Visual Arts)

Alison Fidel (Speech/Drama)

Megan Campbell (Family/Consumer Science)

Adam Rueben (Business/Marketing)

Ryan Horne (Mathematics)

Rachelle Garrett (Music)

National Merit Finalists:

The MHS Class of 2009 has four National Merit Finalists who qualified for the 2009 National Merit Scholarship Program by scoring in the top 5% of more than 1 million students nationwide. All four Murray students have advanced into the top 1% and continue in the competition for Merit Scholarship awards which will be announced May 6, 2009.

Brandon Brockbank

Chad Curtis

Ryan Horne

Nathan Hurley

SENIOR GRADUATION PARTY

Graduation is right around the corner and donations are being solicited for the Senior All- Night Party at MHS on graduation night. "Shine 2009" is this year's theme and this great event offers an alternative activity for students to choose to attend a party without alcohol. There will be lots of fun with food, games, prizes, and the new addition this year of a "cash cube." Donations of cash or prizes from parents and businesses are needed to help pay for the event, so if you or your employer can help out, please call Darleene Moller at 265-0338, email freakles13@gmail.com

IHOP EVENT TELEVISED AS MHS STUDENTS RAISED MONEY FOR HOSPITAL

MHS Student leaders participated in a February Pancake Day event at the Murray IHOP to raise money on behalf of Primary Children's Hospital. Fox 13's Big Buddha broadcasted live from the event all morning as MHS and Cottonwood High competed in several fun competitions. The amount of money raised for PCH was around \$200 on behalf of Cottonwood, and \$949 on behalf of Murray High.

MURRAY PTA/PTSA NEWS

- **Two \$1000 PTSA scholarships** will be awarded to MHS seniors this spring. The scholarships are available to those seniors who have not already received scholarship money totaling \$1000 or more. Applications may be picked up in the Counseling Office and are due April 15th.
- **Reflections Competition Results** – Award of Excellence Finalist (goes to National competition):
Breiana Rodriguez – Viewmont Elem (Primary Division/Visual)
Students receiving Awards of Merit:
Tyler DeMann – Grant Elem (Primary Division Film/Video)
Parker Hill – McMillan Elem – (Jr. Middle Division Photography)
Katrina Draney – Horizon Elem – (Jr. Middle Division Theater)
Madisen Smith – Murray High (Senior Division 3D Arts)

AWARD FOR MURRAY HIGH'S ALAN SCOTT

MHS choral teacher Alan Scott was named Outstanding Senior High Music Teacher by the Utah Music Educators Association in February. He was selected from a group that included all of the secondary music teachers in the state. A well deserved recognition to a great Murray educator!

HILLCREST STUDENTS VISIT UTAH STATE LEGISLATURE

On March 6th, a group of Hillcrest Junior High students went to the Utah State Capital to meet with District 44 (Murray area) Representative Tim Cosgrove. The group included student body officers, class officers and peer leadership team leaders. Students were escorted on a tour of the capital building, which included a visit to both the House of Representatives and the Senate chambers.

RIVERVIEW JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS RECOGNIZED

Terrific Kids are students chosen by teachers for demonstrating respect, honesty, responsibility, tolerance and caring; sponsored by RJH, the PTSA and Kiwanis Club:

Gavin Rieben – made a positive impact on his teachers and his peers, who look up to him and appreciate his thoughtfulness to everyone

Kolby Strang – a talented, smart, determined student, but even more impressive is his goodness toward others

Tristan Meyer – a quiet, introspective young man who consistently adds to the animation of a classroom

Rebels with Honors recognizes students exhibiting good character and “caught doing something nice for other students:

Kenny James – always respectful, cheerful and offered to help many times with whatever was needed.

Ryan Bahr – during stressful times he stayed positive and ordered matching shorts for the stage crew.

Melissa Kidd – dependable, respectful; graciously gave extra help with upbeat attitude and happy smile.

LONGVIEW ELEMENTARY SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

Longview 6th Graders will once again be performed wonderful Shakespearian scenes under the direction of teachers Dale Johnson, Jennifer Allred and Nadine Stupelli. Performances were presented on two days in late February and the audience turn-out was excellent, as usual!

MURRAY DISTRICT SCHOOLS GRADUATION CEREMONY INFORMATION

Hillcrest Junior High School - Thursday June 4, 2009, 7 PM in the Hillcrest JH Auditorium

Riverview Junior High School - Thursday June 4, 2009, 7 PM in the Murray High Auditorium

Murray High School - Friday, June 5, 2009, 1 PM at Salt Lake Community College

PINNACLE AWARD GALA EVENT

The 6th Annual Pinnacle Gala Dinner was held in the MHS Commons on March 5, 2009. This year's Gala Emcee was KSL Television reporter Nicole Gonzales; dinner was prepared under the direction of Chef Jeffrey Gratton and Murray Schools food services provider, Sodexo. Honorees Janet Anderson, Rebecca Elder, Carmen Fiori, Carrie Hartman, CoCo James, Margaret Lewis and Kay Lee Schatten were each recognized by MEF business partners, friends and/or students. Superintendent Richard Tranter also gave remarks with Murray High students participating in serving, flower arranging and musical numbers. Members of the Pinnacle Committee are: Pinnacle Chair Teri Lennartson, Supt. Tranter, MEF Exec. Dir. Jeanne Habel, Dana Adams, Terri Dalley, Ann Marie Nielson, Clare Lange, John Riches, Kathy Searle, Dave Trujillo, Lesa Wilkinson, Shela Barker and D. Wright .

DON'T FORGET to "INVEST IN A KID"

It is never too late to participate in this very worthwhile Murray Education Foundation effort to raise money to use in funding many different areas of need, including literacy, math and science, arts and music, and after school programs. Absolutely 100% of all donations collected go directly to support programs for Murray District children. Here is a link to the MEF donation form:

http://www.murrayschools.org/wworks/pdf/districtoffice/mef_donforminvestkid_opendate.pdf

YOUR MURRAY SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

The Murray City School District newsletter, *Your Murray Schools*, was published recently in the Murray Journal. It contains an important message to the community from the Murray Board of Education. The Murray Journal is delivered into all homes in Murray City, and is also available to read online through this District website link:

http://www.murrayschools.org/wworks/pdf/communityrelations/2009_feb_ym_s_journal.pdf

UTAH STATE SUPERINTENDENT RETIRES

Utah State Superintendent of Public Instruction Patti Harrington recently announced she would retire from her position effective July 1, 2009. Harrington has had a 32-year career in public education and has been State Superintendent of Public Instruction since June 2004. Before that she was the state's associate superintendent for student achievement and school success. She came to the state office from Provo School District where she was superintendent. The Utah State Board of Education will form a search committee shortly to begin work to find a replacement for Harrington.

AN INTERVIEW WITH THE NEW UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

What are Arne Duncan's plans for public education in the next four years? Read an interview at

<http://www.nea.org/home/30607.htm>

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

In its sixth year, the Jiffy Lube "What Drives You?" scholarship program, funded by Utah Jiffy Lube owners, aims to assist students and parents looking for extra funding for secondary education. The

locally funded program will award \$13,000 worth of scholarships to eight Utah high school students. Scholarship money will go directly towards secondary education, either college or other qualified technical or professional program. The deadline is April 17 <http://www.yourturn2apply.com/utah.htm>

ARE YOU A YouTube STAR?

Students around the country are secretly filming teachers' worst moments and posting them online for all to see. How can educators protect themselves from the classroom paparazzi? Read more at <http://www.nea.org/home/11001.htm>

And along these lines, here is some good information to check out:

THE DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP WEBSITE <http://www.digitalcitizenship.net/>

Digital Citizenship is a concept which helps teachers, technology leaders and parents to understand what students/children/technology users should know to use technology appropriately. Digital Citizenship is more than just a teaching tool; it is a way to prepare students/technology users for a society full of technology. Too often we are seeing students as well as adults misusing and abusing technology but not sure what to do. The issue is more than what the users do not know but what is considered appropriate technology usage.

UPCOMING "GET FIT" EVENTS

March 10 – Free Family Skate Night at the Murray Ice Center, 5201 South Murray Park Lane; come skate with Grizzbee and enter to win great family fitness prize. Don't miss out on the night of fun, 7-9 PM!

March 16 through May 8 – Presidential Active Lifestyle Contest details will be coming home with kids soon, or ask their teachers.

March 17 – Leprechaun Leap, everyone welcome/one-mile run with prizes, Riverview JH back gym, 3 PM

April 22 – Swim Night at the Park Center Pool; make a splash with friends and family, 7-9 PM.

DISTRICT CALENDAR REMINDERS:

3/10 "Get Fit" Skate Night With "Grizzbee" & prizes, Murray Ice Center, 7-9 PM

3/11 Murray PTA Board & Council Mtg, DO, 9:30 & 10 AM

3/11 MHS Boys Soccer @Taylorsville, school campus, 3:30 PM

3/11 MHS (District) Band & Orchestra Festival Concert, 7 PM

3/11 Murray Board of Education Meeting, DO, 7 PM

3/12 Longview musical "DooWop Wed Widing Hood," 1:45 & 7 PM

3/12 MHS Choral Concert, 7 PM

3/13 DO Staff Luncheon, 12 Noon

3/13 MHS Baseball Varsity/JV Double Header @Home vs Davis, 3:30 PM

3/13-14 MHS Bell Choir "Spring Ring," MHS Main Gym, 7 PM

3/13-14 Utah's Family Links 2009 Conference, Murray High; Info at www.utahparentcenter.org

3/14 MHS Spring Fling, MHS Commons, 8-11 PM

3/15 "Replay" Musical Instrument Drive begins. Thru April 15 donate any used musical instruments for Murray Schools. Contact [Darlene Evans](mailto:Darlene.Evans@do.org) at the DO for more info, 801-243-8708.

Online calendar – 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 OR SPECIFIC CLASSIFIED OPENINGS

Murray City School District accepts applications on an on-going basis for the following classified positions: Education Aide, Teaching Assistants I, II, and III, Cook I and Cook II and Custodians.

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.