



THE COTTONWOOD CONNECTION

COTTONWOOD ELEMENTARY

APRIL 2009

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE BY KAREN MARBERGER

School Fundraiser: We wanted to thank all those who supported the school fundraiser this year. Our sales for cookie dough and chocolate this year earned the school \$4000. As was mentioned in a past newsletter, this fundraiser supports school programs including assemblies, field trips, student incentives, class activities and other special programs which are not funded by the PTA. We will continue to take direct donations to the school to support these programs if anyone would prefer to do that instead of participating in the fundraiser.

School Community Council: This is a mid-year report of the council's actions and activities for the first half of the year. Our school community council created the 08-09 School Student Achievement Plan (SSAP) which was submitted to the district school board in October and approved in December. Our school's SSAP plan is available for review on the district web page, www.graniteschools.org click tabs - Community, Community Councils, SSAP, Link to School Student Achievement Plan, Select School, 08-09 Plan year. The council also reviewed school budgets and approved the Quality Teaching Student Achievement school projects funding for this school year. In February, the council reviewed school assessment data to determine progress towards the SSAP goals and the council chair and principal met with district representatives to review our progress towards those goals. We followed the election process for new community council members and posted nomination forms but received no applicants by the deadline. The parent members of the committee appointed a new parent member for the 2009-10 school year and we welcome Paula Delis to the council for next year.

Anyone interested in participating in the District Community Council may obtain a flyer from the school office with more information or may access information and obtain a candidate interest form on the district web page (see above link). The district is seeking parents of Granite District students to serve as elected representatives for their school network. The candidate interest form needs to be submitted to the Granite School District by April 1, 2009.

At the end of the school year, a summary of the council's actions, student progress and specific information on how the school's LAND Trust monies were used to improve academic excellence as stated in the SSAP. This report will be in the

school newsletter at the beginning of the next school year.

School News: Following Spring Break, the teachers begin reviewing the curriculum that was taught this year in preparation for the state end of year tests (CRTs) which will be administered from April 27 – May 21, 2009. The end-of-year state curriculum testing (CRTs) will be conducted in our second through sixth grade classrooms. Grades 2-6 will be tested in two curriculum areas which are reading and math and grades 4-6 will also be tested in science. This will be the first year that grades 3-6 will have the testing administered on the computer. We will use both our computer lab and wireless laptop lab for this testing and students will be involved in testing throughout the day based on the testing schedule for the labs.

During the testing window, it is very helpful for the students to get a good night's rest, eat a healthy breakfast and **attend school every day on time**. As required by the mandates of the Elementary Secondary Education Act, *No Child Left Behind*, **we must test at least 95% of our students** during this testing window. Please help us by having your children in attendance at school each day unless your child has a serious illness and avoid scheduling any family activities such as vacations during this time period so that we may test all of our students. We greatly appreciate your support with this so that our students will perform to the best of their ability as these test results will be reported to the district, state and federal offices of education regarding our progress toward achievement of Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) which we hope to continue to reach this school year.

~Karen Marberger
Principal



- 4/1 April Fool's Day
- 4/3 Spring Pictures
- 4/8 Short Day 1:05
- 4/9-13 NO SCHOOL
Spring Recess
- 4/14 PTA Board Meeting 10am
- 4/17 Shakespeare Workshop
All Students & Parents
1:30-3:30pm
Community Council Meeting
3:30pm
- 4/21 Shakespeare Play
7pm at Olympus Jr.



- 4/27 - 5/15 CRT'S
- 5/1 Short Day 1:05
School Fun Run 1:30pm
- 5/8 Recycling
Short Day 1:05
- 5/12-15 Post Office Week
- 5/21 Short Day 1:05
- 5/22 NO SCHOOL
- 5/25 NO SCHOOL
Memorial Day
- 5/29 Grandparents Day

JUNE

- 6/3 6th Grade Promotion
- 6/4 School Carnival
- 6/5 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!
Short Day 1:05

Reflections News

Zach H is going to National Reflections with photography!
and
Jenny F received an Honorable Mention at State!
Congratulations!

Science Fair News

Aldo C. received the 2nd Place Award in the Engineering category!

Heather D. received the 3rd Place Award in the Health and Science category!

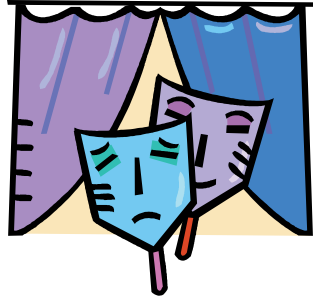
WAY TO GO!

Thank you to everyone that competed at the district level!



March

Paper Recycling \$34.50
Aluminum \$27.20
Target Rewards Program \$318.02



Cottonwood Elementary school will host a theater workshop presented by Michael Bahr, the director of the Utah Shakespearean Traveling Company on Friday, April 17th from 1:30 - 3:30 in the school auditorium. Parents, students of all grades and teachers are invited to participate in a variety of activities and will receive an overview of the play "Twelfth Night" which will be presented on the 21st. This will be a terrific opportunity to "brush up your Shakespeare" and get your family better prepared for "Twelfth Night" the following Tuesday. Please leave your younger children at home.

Actors from the Utah Shakespearean Festival will return to Cottonwood Elementary the following week to provide another wonderful performance for our families on Tuesday, April 21st at 7:00 p.m. at Olympus Jr. High. The play this year will be "Twelfth Night". Look for a synopsis and main character list coming home with your student that week. Please put this date on your calendars and plan to attend as a family. Students from Mrs. Williams', Mrs. Wagstaff's and Mrs. Burgess' classes will have interaction with the actors on Tuesday morning as they participate in a sixth grade workshop where Shakespearean text, improvisation and acting skills are taught.

All of this is possible, thanks to the PTA and their continued support of the arts for Cottonwood Elementary!

COTTONWOOD ELEMENTARY COMMUNITY OF CARING STUDENTS

April 2009

Kindergarten:

Milo H - McCracken AM
Isabel G - McCracken PM

1st Grade:

Luke W - Amott
Lauren F - Mahas
Austin T - Van Frank

2nd Grade:

Alyssa S - Homer
Ana Julia D - Larson
Alissa J - Phillips

3rd Grade:

Gabe S - Heiss
Katie D - Jordan
Rilee M - Pixton

4th Grade:

Elisabeth F - Fraser
Emillee W - Gilchrist
Sabrina L - Munson

5th Grade:

Beatrice B - Nistler
Kate R - Ross
Blake F - Wagstaff / 5th/6th Grade

6th Grade:

Robby F - Burgess
Emily T - Williams

Albertson's and Smith's Helping Our School

If you shop at Albertson's or Smith's and Smith's Market Place why not sign up online to be a community partner for Cottonwood Elementary. Once you are registered, every time you shop with your Savings Card at Albertsons or Smiths, they will give back a small percentage to our school for your child's classroom to use on

supplies, fieldtrips & other class activities determined by their teacher.

It is free and easy to do. Just sign up online and shop as you normally do with your Store Savings Card.

ALBERTSONS

www.albertsons.com click: Preferred Savings Card, click: In the Community, click: Community Partners, click: Shop-

pers Login, have your preferred savings card ready to type ID number.

SMITHS & SMITHS MARKET PLACE:

www.smithsfoodanddrug.com click: Earn & Learn, enter school or organization #80732. Have your Fresh Values Card ready to type in ID number.

IT ALL ADDS UP!!



Parents - FYI

March 19 - 20th
 The Springville Art Museum attended Cottonwood and had a 30 minute gallery experience featuring different media and Utah artists. They also conducted a studio experience for grades 3 - 6 which will include instruction on basic stick-figure drawings and some hands on time.

March 17th
 The Clark Planetarium Astro-Van came to do an assembly for the upper hall on science topics and do a special presentation for the 6th grade directly related to the 6th grade curriculum.

Both of these events are free for the school!

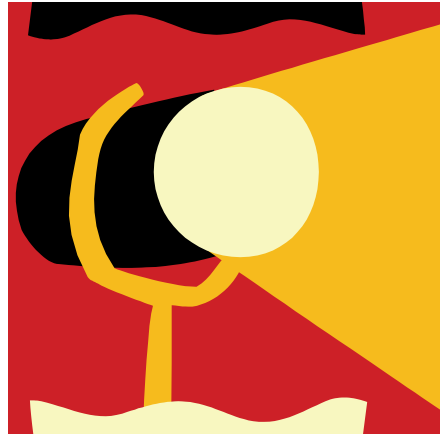


You've Got Mail!

Sharpen your pencils
 and get ready for
 Post Office Week!

May 12—15

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT



MRS. WAGSTAFF 5TH / 6TH GRADE

Mrs. Wagstaff has been married for 25 years! She has a son who goes to Cottonwood High School. Princess is the name of her beagle dog. Mrs. Wagstaff was born in Salt Lake and has been a teacher for 21 years. She loves to read, cross stitch and hang out at her cabin in Montana. One of her favorite restaurants is Carino's. Some of her favorite television shows are Moonlight and Numbers and her favorite movies are Pirates of the Caribbean and Ghost Whisper. This past summer she enjoyed reading the Twilight series. At the end of the school day she indulges in chocolate covered cinnamon bears (yum, yum)! Mrs. Wagstaff always has a great Halloween Costume!

MRS. FRASER 4TH GRADE

Mr. Fraser is married and has 6 children and 18 grandchildren! He enjoys traveling, wood working and sports. Mr. Fraser was born in Salt Lake. He has been teaching for 35 years. He enjoys eating out at Café Rio or Maddocks steak house. Some of his favorite T.V. shows are Bones, Monk, Psych and Numbers. This last summer Mr. Fraser was able to enjoy a cruise to Alaska! He also enjoyed camping and golfing. At the end of the school day Mr. Fraser likes to relax and enjoy the sunset!