

The Freedom Elementary Post

May 2007

Volume I, Issue IX



Have a Great

Freedom Elementary

10326 N 6800 WEST
HIGHLAND, UT 84003

Phone:
801 766-5270

Website:
freedom.alpine.k12.ut.us

Upcoming Events

April

- ◆ 30th Teacher
May Appreciation
4th Week

May

- ◆ 4th PTA Walk-fest
Fund Raiser
- ◆ 13th Grandparent's
Day (see page
2 for times)
- ◆ 18th Last day to
turn in library
books
- ◆ 21st Birthday
Table: May and
July Birthdays
- ◆ 25th Dance Festival
- ◆ 28th Memorial Day
No School
- ◆ 29th Field Day
- ◆ 30th Awards
Ceremony
- ◆ 31st Last Day of
School

Principal's Message

"Life Lessons"

Over the spring break, I had a chance to sit down and watch one of my favorite sports movies called Hoosiers. I guess you could call me a sports movie junkie because some of my favorites movies are Field of Dreams, Seabiscuit, Hoosiers, Rudy (there are so many more.) All of these movies have some common life lesson that I have found helpful to me in my life. I would like to use the movie Hoosiers to help explain some of those lessons.

One of the biggest lessons that I see running throughout this movie was the idea that everyone needs a second chance. Too many times when we see someone make a mistake we tend to dwell on that event instead of giving them a second chance. This movie showed how a coach was given a second chance and the success he was able to have when given that chance (interesting how the voice of the people changed when success happened to the team.)

The second lesson that I learned from this movie was that of always reaching for the best despite what others may say. The coach stayed the course even when some of his most gifted athletes left the team and the townspeople were up in arms with his practice style. In addition, he believed in a gifted assistant coach even when he didn't believe in himself (getting him the help he needed.)

The third lesson I learned from this movie is that when you work hard you will build confidence in those things that you do and that confidence will bring about success. This little no-nothing team that failed in their first couple of games found out that when they continued to work hard that they started to win (all the way to the State Championship.)

The last lesson that I want to mention is that no matter what the odds, you can succeed even when no one believes in you. This little 1A team was able to overcome all odds by defeating a large highly favored 5A team that had won in the past. They used all of their skills to overcome what some would say are insurmountable odds.

To tie this into the school setting, I would hope that every child would always work hard, never give up despite the odds, befriend others, and always do their best. If they can do these things, they will find their confidence soaring and success following close behind. I want to thank everyone for all you have done this year. We have been successful because of what you have done.

Thank you!

Mr. Melville

To all parents at Freedom Elementary:

I am really excited to prepare for next year! Like many of you, I love working at the school. I know so many of you help in your kids' classes and serve in other ways at the school.

Did you know there are only 15 of us moms doing everything that happens throughout the year concerning PTA? That includes collecting and COUNTING Box Tops. Fun, right? It includes maintaining the Take Home Library. (I know MANY of you are involved in helping with that already! THANK YOU!!) It includes preparing for Dads and Doughnuts EVERY month, preparing for our massive fundraiser AKA the Walk-Fest, Reflections (HUGE, let me tell you) and all the other programs everyone seems to kind of appreciate like Red Ribbon Week, Family Week, Character Development, etc. You get the idea. We really like providing these activities for the students. We know the kids love them!

Did you also know that the average number of children each of us 15 moms has is 4? Wow!

We sure could use some help. If any of you out there are passionate about any of these programs, would you please, PLEASE consider helping us out? Reflections, for example, is a phenomenal program, but without more support next year we simply can't keep it up. Julia Lindsay needs help from parents to organize and review the entries. Amy Chapman needs help with Box Tops. We need more helpers for the Walk-Fest. So far no one has volunteered for the Birthday Table for next year. It's one day a month during school lunch to recognize the students having birthdays that month. We just say "Happy Birthday" and give them a pencil or something. No big deal, but it makes them feel special.

We'd be grateful for any help you might be willing to give with any of these programs.

Sincerely hoping my phone will start ringing.

Sincerely, Crystal Davies (766-1495)

Free Classic Skating Time Again!!!!!!

We had a great turn out from Freedom Elementary at our Classic Skating Night last time. We get our second night of skating on Monday, May 14 in Sandy. Bring the whole family and skate for free!

Roller skates are free. Roller blades are three dollars. You can bring your own roller blades, scooters or strollers. Come join the fun!

A Note from the Media Center:

All library books need to be returned May 14-18th during your student's scheduled library time. Friday the 18th it is imperative that books be returned to the library or paid for if they cannot be found. Your support in making sure your child's books are returned would be greatly appreciated.

I would encourage you to continue to read to your children during the summer. Here are some suggestions for how to raise a reader:

Take Home Library

Parents: The last day for books to go home from the Take Home Library will be this Friday, May 4th.

Please try and get your books read and back to school as soon as you can after that. We will collect them for 2 weeks following the 4th without any penalty.

Volunteers: Please come in to the Take Home Library at your regular time for two weeks following May 4th until we have collected all of the books. The

procedure for closing up will be noted on the board.

Thanks for all of your help! We would love for you to volunteer again next year--and feel free to pass the word on to friends and family. Sign-ups will be posted at Back To School Night in the fall. (We'd still love to have you even if your children have graduated from the program.) Contact Jenni Campbell at jenni@infoenix.com if you're interested.

Cafeteria Help Needed

The job would begin next school year. It would be for five hours per day. If you are interested, please call Neila Peterson. School: 766-5270 ext. 405; Home: 768-9936.

Attention!

There will be no lunch charges in May!
Thank You!

Nominate Your Favorite Teacher

Would you like to nominate your favorite teacher for Teacher of the Year? Send your teacher's name along with one paragraph describing why you are nominating him or her to freedomnewsletter@hotmail.com by Friday, May 11th.

FREEDOM ELEMENTARY WALK-FEST MAY 4, 2007

(PTA's only fundraiser this year.)

We're so excited about our Walk-Fest! Please come and cheer us on as we walk and dance around the track on Friday, May 4, at 12:40 p.m. (The a.m. kindergarten children will walk at 11:00 that same day.) You are also invited to walk with us as we work up a sweat!

Thurl Bailey was fantastic at the Pep Rally which kicked off the walk-fest! He taught us about keeping our bodies fit and healthy. We're very grateful to him for speaking at our school. Thank you to everyone who was involved with organizing the Walk-Fest and to all you students who helped raise money for our school! Good work everyone!

Teacher Spotlight: Ms. Jamie Luster

Ms. Jamie Luster was born in Provo and raised in Ephraim, Utah. She is the youngest of five children. She loves being the youngest because she has four great siblings to look up to and 17 nieces and nephews to play with. Her dad is a professor and her mom is a second grade teacher, so she has teaching in her genes.

This is her fourth year teaching, and she has been at Freedom all four years. When not at school, Ms. Luster loves to be outdoors and enjoy the beautiful weather and scenery. She loves to hike, run, play tennis, dance, and knit blankets. When she was in second grade, Ms. Luster wrote in a time capsule that she would be a concert pianist by 2005. Instead, she will have to settle with ward organist. ☺

Ms. Luster feels the best thing about working at Freedom is all of the fabulous resources available - especially the technology. And of course the students and faculty are pretty great.