



# The Oakcrest Acorn



[www.oakcrestpta.org](http://www.oakcrestpta.org)

8462 S. Hilltop Oak Dr., West Jordan, UT 84081 - (801) 280-7243

August 2008

Volume 5, Issue 1

Oakcrest PTA Newsletter

## Oakcrest Elementary 2008-2009 PTA Board Members

### ~ Executive Board ~

President: [Aaron Larson](#)  
President-Elect: [Michelle Moulton](#)  
Secretary: [Kim Foster](#)  
Treasurer: [Julie Baird](#)

### ~ Commissioners & Chairpersons ~

Collections for Education: [Holly Winn](#)  
Community Involvement: [Amie Crawford](#)  
Education: [Leo McCormick](#)  
Family Life: [Jamie Logue](#)  
Fundraising: [Open Position](#)  
Health: [Melissa Parra](#)  
Hospitality: [Amanda Hamblin & Rebecca Hammond](#)  
Individual Development:  
[Sara Gunderson-Muhlestein](#)  
Legislative VP: [Open Position](#)  
Melody Choir: [Open Position](#)  
Membership: [Bethany Blackham](#)  
Newsletter Editor: [Leo McCormick](#)  
Public Relations: [Mindy Brown](#)  
Reflections: [Ninette Tigner](#)  
Safety: [Jerusha Buckner](#)  
Student Birthdays: [Jennifer Higley](#)

### ~ School Representatives ~

Principal: [Norman Emerson](#)  
Assist. Principal: [Rebecca Bibo](#)  
Teachers: [Bobbie Evans \(1<sup>st</sup> Grade - B\)](#)  
& [Pat Buske \(2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - A Track\)](#)



## From The Principal's Desk

Dear Parents,

We are thrilled to begin the 2008-2009 school year.

As you know, this year presents all of us with a number of changes that present some unique opportunities for growth and improvement. First, as a result of the new school, the number of students at Oakcrest has decreased dramatically. This will make it possible for all teachers to remain in the same classroom all year long. Instead of moving out of classrooms when going off track, teachers will be able to avoid rotating. Students will not have to find a new classroom location each time that they return from being off-track. We feel that this will be a great benefit to all. Second, we will only have four buses arriving at Oakcrest each day instead of thirteen. With less congestion, it is anticipated that student safety will be improved. Also, it's great to have our sixth grade classes back from the Middle School this year.



We welcome a number of new staff members to Oakcrest. Rebecca Bibo will serve as our Assistant Principal. She has worked as a fourth grade teacher at Daybreak Elementary and we are pleased that she is at Oakcrest. We have several new teachers: Kimberlie Peterson in Kindergarten, Rupali Munot in Third Grade, Joseph Rees and Jan Brown in Fourth Grade, Sally Morris in Fifth Grade, and Gary Hansen in Sixth Grade. We also welcome Ben Springer as Guidance Counselor and Malia Allsop as a Reading Specialist. Each of these new staff members brings a great deal of expertise, experience, and enthusiasm to their positions, and we are looking forward to working with all of them.

We anticipate another great year at Oakcrest. We appreciate your support as parents of our great students.

Sincerely,

Norman Emerson



Greetings Oakcrest Community,

Welcome Back to School! I certainly hope everyone has had an enjoyable and safe summer break. Oakcrest Elementary is an outstanding school with an administrative and educational team that is dedicated to excellence. This year as Mr. Emerson and his staff continue their focus on academic excellence; your PTA will focus on increasing communication, recognition, and involvement. It's no secret that parental involvement is the key to maintaining excellence in education. Parents...please make an effort ~ or better yet, plan into your schedules to spend time at Oakcrest this year. Get to know your children's teachers and volunteer for as many opportunities as you can.

For the next year, I have the honor and privilege of serving as Oakcrest's PTA President. I have been a PTA Dad for many years...and each year I am delighted to connect with so many new people that share their talents, ideas, and passion for volunteer service and child advocacy.

As we begin this New Year at Oakcrest...we need your time and talents to help build a strong link between home and school. Your PTA at Oakcrest is looking for individuals with enthusiasm for the PTA organization and a willingness to serve and help assist with PTA programs and events throughout the school year.

We have recruited and appointed dedicated board members to specialize in making the volunteer experiences better than ever for Oakcrest parents. We recognize the value of our volunteers...and simply could not bring the programs and opportunities to our student community without YOU!!

Your PTA Board is motivated with energy and enthusiasm! Each member has been hard at work ...reaching out to teachers, parents, and families of the Oakcrest community in ways to help foster new opportunities for our community...to keep you more informed and help more individuals become more involved with the PTA.

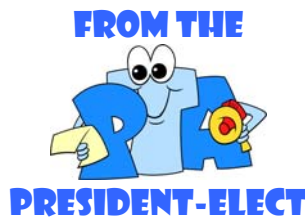
Thank you for visiting the PTA WEBSITE...we have had an overwhelming response....with membership enrollments, volunteer recruiting, and contact requests!! Our site is your online source for all PTA information...to keep you connected to school and PTA happenings.

Wishing you all the Best at Oakcrest!!  
Aaron Larson~~PTA President

Hello! My name is Michelle Moulton and I'm excited to be your PTA President-Elect this year! This will be an important learning and building year for me as I prepare to become your PTA President next year. I'm looking forward to serving this year by building communication between the PTA Board and the rest of the general membership. PTA does not function properly without the help of the many volunteers in our community and I hope to show appreciation to everyone who gives any amount of their precious time to our school.

Together we can make Oakcrest a spectacular place for each child's learning and growth.

Michelle Moulton  
President-Elect



**Utah PTA Mission Statement**

The Utah PTA will help every child realize his full potential and will:

**Advocate:** Support and speak on behalf of children and youth.

**Involve:** Encourage positive involvement in all facets of a child's life.

**Develop:** Assist in developing skills to raise and protect children and youth.



"Light the Way" [everychild.onevoice](http://everychild.onevoice).



## Green Ribbon Week Keep Oakcrest Students Safe!



Each year 1,070 pedestrians are hit by automobiles, and 40 of those are killed. 1/3 of these affected are children. Please help us celebrate Pedestrian, Automobile, and Bicycle Safety August 25-29. Oakcrest will be participating in the following activities:

**Mon, Aug 25** - Your student should bring home a Green Ribbon and Pledge. Please take a moment to discuss this pledge with your student and find an appropriate place to tie the ribbon. If your student returns the pledge to school, he/she will be able to sign the "Pledge Wall"

**Tues, Aug 26** - Wear as much green as possible! Remember to follow the Oakcrest dress code.

**Wed, Aug 27** - We will be giving away 50 bicycle helmets to students at Oakcrest who need them.

**Thurs, Aug 28** - Students will have the opportunity to hear from UDOT employee Peter Tang. He will discuss dangers and prevention of Automobile, Pedestrian, and Bicycle safety. K-3<sup>rd</sup> Grades 1:45pm & 4-6 Grades 2:45pm.

**Fri, Aug 29** - Walk/Ride your bike to school day! Plan a safe route with your student, then walk or ride that route as a family. Discuss the importance of crosswalks, sidewalks, helmets, seatbelts, and other safety measures. Upon arrival at school, families will receive a juice box.

Thanks for your support!

If you would like to help with any of these activities, have questions or comments, please contact Jerusha Buckner @ 352-7156 or [jerushabuckner@digis.net](mailto:jerushabuckner@digis.net)



### It Is The Mission Of The Education Commission To:

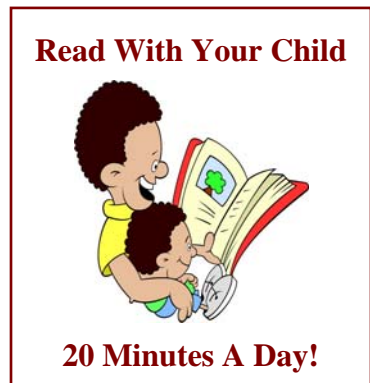
- Become knowledgeable about education issues in Utah.
- Promote the objectives of the PTA to help children in the home and school.
- Be a catalyst in strengthening the education of children through parental training.

Hello Parents, Teachers and Students!

Welcome to a new school year at Oakcrest Elementary! My name is Leo McCormick and I am your PTA Education Commissioner. I am extremely excited to have a more active roll in the PTA this year because I have a lot of fun and exciting activities planned out. The PTA Education Commission will be hosting the Book Fairs during parent/teacher conferences, the Breakfast with Books program, Kindergarten Orientation and the Science Assembly. We also want to host a parenting class. The dates will be announced in future PTA Newsletters.

The PTA fully supports our teachers at Oakcrest and our united goal for each Child to read 20 minutes a day. We encourage you to read to your children and once your children learn to read, to have them read to you. I could use extra help on my Book Fair and Breakfast with Books committees. You can sign up on the volunteer page of our PTA website [www.oakcrestpta.org](http://www.oakcrestpta.org). Thank you!

Leo McCormick, [leo.mccormick@oakcrestpta.org](mailto:leo.mccormick@oakcrestpta.org)  
Education Commissioner



## From a "T" in PTA!

It is my privilege this year to work with the best PTA that I have ever seen in my many years of parenting, grandparenting, and working in the educational field. I have been totally impressed with their innovative ideas, countless of hours of service, and support that they provide to the students, teachers, and staff at Oakcrest Elementary. They do all of this in such a cheerful manner that it is really contagious.

Last year our PTA was a vital part of the Oakcrest team. The service that they provided to us on track on - track off days was invaluable. The carnival was over the top. Our teacher appreciation week was absolutely awesome! I am sure that it will be remembered fondly for many years to come.

As I sat in on my first PTA board meeting as a teacher I was blown away by the plans that they have for this upcoming school year. I think that we are really going to see our Oakcrest Eagle spirits soaring this year.

Please support our PTA this year, in any way that you possibly can. If you have time please consider being a volunteer. Also, please consider donating to PTA.

Last year a parent who was also a PTA volunteer, told me at she thought she would serve only one year. However, she shared with me that she couldn't stop now, because she was having too much fun. It really is contagious!

Pat Buske  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - A Track



The PTA ♥ Mrs. Buske!



## HELLO!

I am your new 2008-2009 PTA Treasurer and my name is Julie Baird. I will be serving YOU, the Oakcrest Staff and Parents by keeping track of all the funds that we raise and spend this year. Please remember that every child benefits from the actions of your PTA and this year there are many exciting additions to our already great programs!

**BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP!!**

We are only allowed one fundraiser per year, our membership dues and any parent contributions as income. So, I urge every parent to join the PTA this year with your \$5.00 donation and/or a contribution online at our website, so that together, we can provide your child with more educational opportunities, rewards, field trips and recognition of excellence!

**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**



Julie Baird  
Treasurer

Hello! My name is Amie Crawford and I will be serving as the Community Involvement Commissioner this year at Oakcrest. I am a new PTA mom with much to learn, but I am eager to get in and get started! This year, I will be building upon the ideas and events that have already been formed. Currently, I am working with t-shirt vendors to create this year's "Spirit-wear." Embroidered Polo's and printed t-shirts will be available in the very near future. We are in preparations for another great *Teacher Appreciation Week*, as well as, the year-end

Carnival. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact us via the Oakcrest PTA website [www.oakcrestpta.org](http://www.oakcrestpta.org) or stop by our table at Back-to-School Night. Volunteers are the backbone of our school, and without your help, the events at Oakcrest could never be as successful as they are. I am excited about being part of this year's Oakcrest PTA, and hope to get to know you all very soon!

Community  
Involvement!



Amie Crawford  
Community Involvement Commissioner

**WE ARE NOW ONLINE!! COME VISIT US @ [WWW.OAKCRESTPTA.ORG](http://WWW.OAKCRESTPTA.ORG)**



It is that time of year again  
 For another great school year to begin!  
 We here, on the PTA Board, want you to be aware  
 That we, TOGETHER, have so much to share!



I am Jamie Logue and I am your Family Life Commissioner. My commission's goal is "To strengthen the home and improve the quality of life for all Utah children". I plan on working to achieve that by hosting a Family Art Night, a Family Cultural Night and a parenting class in conjunction with the Education Commissioner, Leo McCormick. I want to also participate in the "National Family Week" and "Take Your Family to School Week". I am so excited for this year to begin and to have these opportunities to be involved and encourage our Family-School Partnership.

Jamie Logue  
 Family Life Commissioner

**EVERYONE** is invited to join the PTA and attend our board meetings. You can see how your money is spent and participate in the decisions that affect your children at Oakcrest Elementary!  
 Join **NOW** at [www.oakcrestpta.org](http://www.oakcrestpta.org)!!!

Your Children Need You! Join PTA today! New this year you can sign up online at [www.oakcrestpta.org](http://www.oakcrestpta.org). or see the PTA for an envelope. Registration is only \$5.00 and it supports the PTA programs at our school such as: Field trips, Reading Program, Science assembly, Reflections, Green, Red and White ribbon weeks, Melody Choir and so much more!!!!


Bethany Blackham  
 Membership Commissioner

**JOIN THE** 

Hello Oakcrest! My name is Holly Winn and I am the Collection for Education Coordinator. This year we will be having different contests to see if we can increase the revenue to our school by collecting more Box Tops and Campbell's Soup Labels. Start collecting now so that your students can help their classes win these contests. If you would be willing to help cut Box Tops or Labels, please let the PTA know. FYI, we need the Box Tops cut on the line, and we just need the UPC off of the Campbell's label. I am excited to have a great 2008-2009 school year!


Holly Winn  
 Collections for Education Coordinator


1 Point Value





We need the UPC from the **BACK** of the Campbell's Soup label. **NOT** the front of the label.

5 Point Value





Box Top  
To Cut Out

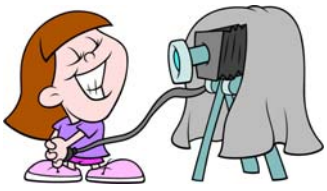
**Thursday, August 7<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm**

**Back-To-School Night & General PTA Membership Meeting!**

Please join us to meet your children's teachers & see presentations in the gym from the school administration and your PTA. Last school year's audit will be adopted into PTA record and we will present this year's budget for approval by a majority vote. We will also invite parents and families to join the PTA and become involved in the year ahead of us!!

**School Picture Day Is Coming!**

A & B Track is Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>  
 C & D Track is Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>



## Advice From Dear Edie the Eagle

Dear Edie,

I need your advice. My son just started Kindergarten this year at Oakcrest Elementary School. Having my son start school is a huge adjustment for us both and I am not sure what to do about it. We are both very stressed out, worried and anxious. Any suggestions how to ease our fears?

*Dear Stressed out, worried and anxious;*

*Sweetie, now just calm down, it is going to be ok! Edie is here to help you out, so don't you fret! Might I suggest you decrease your worries by meeting with your son's teacher. I am sure that you went with your son to his first day of school. Be sure to also go to Back-to-School night. Back-to-School night for A, B & C Tracks is Aug. 7th, and D Track is Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm. Parents should not be meeting their children's teachers for the first time at parent/teacher conferences in November. Develop a relationship with your child's teacher and communicate with them. Many teachers at Oakcrest welcome having parents volunteer in their classrooms. Ask your son's teacher if he or she needs assistance with classroom activities, parties or field trips.*

*You can find out more information about Oakcrest by going to the PTA website at [www.oakcrestpta.org](http://www.oakcrestpta.org) or the school's website at <http://schools.jordandistrict.org/oakcrest>. I do recommend that you look at both websites to keep yourself informed. The PTA website is especially fabulous! You can sign up to volunteer for one of several activities that your son will be apart of this year. Won't it be a great experience for you and your son to be at some PTA activities together at the school?!! There are Book Fairs, Breakfast with Books, Bring your Family to School Week, Green, Red & White Ribbon Weeks, Field Day and Reflections....just to name a few.*

*Be sure to get dad involved! PTA isn't just for moms anymore, we do need dads to volunteer also! By being involved at your child's school it will ease his fears and show him that you care about what he does at school. This will boost your child's confidence and make your child desire to do well in school. By spending more time with your son at school it will also decrease your anxiety of being separated from him. Good luck and I hope you have a wonderful school year!*

*Sincerely,  
Edie the Eagle*

## **Look Who Is New At Oakcrest!**



Please join us to welcome...

### **Ben Springer - Guidance Counselor & Intern School Psychologist**

Ben married his 7<sup>th</sup> grade sweetheart and they have 2 beautiful daughters, ages 2 & 3.

#### Some of Ben's Favorites

Holiday: **Christmas**                      Color: **Red**  
Hobbies: **Fishing, cycling and collecting comic books.**  
Snack/Candy: **Snickers**                      Drink: **Diet Coke**  
Food: **Ben says "starts with Mexican, ends with food."**  
Restaurants: **Café Rio or Market Street**  
Collects: **Comic Books!**  
Memories: **Going to school and playing basketball with his buddies at recess. Ben loved recess!**

**What does Ben like most about his job at Oakcrest?  
"Keeping school safe, kids happy, and holidays off!"**

### **Sally Morris, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, Reading - C Track**

Sally is married and has 2 cats. Sally married into a large family of 16 brothers & sister in-laws and 26 nieces & nephews.

#### Some of Sally's Favorites

Holiday: **Christmas "Being with family & decorations"**  
Color: **Green**  
Hobbies: **Loves to write, scrapbook, read & cook.**  
Snack/Candy: **Pringles stix & chocolate chip oatmeal cookies**                      Drink: **Water**  
Food: **Sally says Salmon (but we think it is chocolate!)**  
Restaurants: **Sweet Tomatoes/Red Rock Brewing Co.**  
Collects: **A magnet from every new place that Sally and her husband travel too.**  
Memories: **When she won a writing award. However, she also likes to look back to the times when she has rocked babies to sleep.**

**What does Sally like most about her job at Oakcrest?  
"The people - everyone is so friendly and nice!"**

# Happy Birthday!

## Teacher/Staff Birthdays in July & August



Jane Smith - 7/1  
Wendy Robbins - 7/7  
Eileen Bryner - 7/7  
Lee Dupaix - 7/20  
Cyndi Birge - 7/22  
Michelle Lovell - 7/24  
Laura Hodson - 7/28  
Madison Olson - 7/31  
Kim Foster - 7/31

Julie Dunn - 8/4  
Aubree Anderson - 8/6  
Margaret Blakey - 8/14  
Brenda Welch - 8/21  
Jennifer Fraley - 8/23  
Julie Carrion - 8/27  
Doris Purser - 8/27  
Marianne Poppa - 8/28

## July & August Student Birthdays...

Janzly Clark  
Tabitha Teny  
Emily Morris  
Madison Pursel  
Payton Fountaine  
Peyton Edwards  
Loschelle Hook  
Nataly Baquerizo  
Tristen Lopez  
Daniel Molina  
Preston Fenske  
Chans Corbett  
Danika Jaromillo  
Gavin Clark  
Kendra Skoglund  
Gabriel Jacoway  
Loren Benson  
Kiley Hancock  
Dylan Anderson  
Julio Morales  
Krystal Moller  
Emily Hilman  
Jamison Conforto  
Joshua Parrill  
Daniela Faria  
Leah Espinosa

Andreas Guerra  
Mackenzie Wood  
Devon Hamilton  
Tessa Richins  
Kade Peay  
Cassandra Gull  
Ethan McDonald  
Alexa Bringham  
Hunter Miles  
Jayci Nay  
Alaynah Truesdell  
Jordan Hansen  
Tatiana Olmedo  
Tsarin Crowther  
William Boyea  
Annabelle Medico  
Mckenzie Burgess  
Kateisha Moreno  
Lucy Conforto  
Luigie Pedroza  
Brennan Brown  
Mckay Loosli  
Matthew Cuthbert  
Stephany Zamora  
Mckenzie Christensen  
Jaeda Gasu

Abigail Morton  
Emma Danielson  
Kekoa Lucero  
Kylie South  
Skyler Baumgartner  
Kyle Hardey  
Courtney Adamson  
Ivan Gonzalez  
Lindsey Grappendorf  
Tyson Cordova  
Jace Wright  
Chandler Deyoung  
Trevor Butterfield  
Lavinia Latu  
Jonathan Fraley  
Connor Rickards  
Elaine Em  
Brandon Roberts  
Jackson McKenna  
Lucas Humphries  
Grace Curtis  
Caleb Brown  
Tyson Hoggan  
Tanner Burningham  
Soraya Corpuz  
Elizabeth Shutt

**Birthdays Continued...**

Julian Vasquez  
Joshua Orantes  
Jaden Wilcox  
Camryn Israel  
Josie Myers  
Courtney Rogers  
Abigail Crawford  
Lindsey Ramirez  
Cohen Christensen  
Katie Wood  
Adriana Valencia  
Abraham Cabrera  
Cameron Larson  
Maizie Evans  
Mason Rich  
Katelyn Mock  
Jared Clark  
Tarron Rhea  
Franklin England  
Tyler Hampton  
Mikayla Mills  
Selena Sitz  
Colby Warner  
Adysen Jakins  
Raven Vaughan  
Jordan Raver  
Elizabeth Olson  
Taran Smith  
Steven Sanders  
Jaxon Ashby  
Jessica Gray  
Jason Morrison  
Rachel Hirschi  
Raysa Conde  
Kyler Fuller  
Kaylin Marden




Vanessa Bohman  
Saul Ramirez  
Mercedes Brass  
Grace Lozano  
Taylor Cardwell  
Ashton Stephens  
Tayson Cutler  
Austin Roland  
Zoe Jones  
Amaya Ngonkeo  
Dario Acosta  
Aaron Valencia  
Stephanie Pena-Cruz  
Anastasia Fielding  
Hannah Christensen  
Mario Cabrera  
Adam Macki  
Percy Robles  
Kari Fisher  
Grace Johnson  
Parker Etherington  
Danika Christensen  
Carson Balser  
Raleigh Llewelyn  
Dylan White  
Katie Shepherd  
Maxwell Raver  
Jackson Brooks  
Cameron Winsor  
Michael Cruz  
Mason Johnson  
Jaden Simon  
Samuel Skinner  
Joshua Cruz  
Sydney Hamblin  
Mikayla Van Wagoner

Daviela Figueroa  
Morgan Thomas  
Adam Bringhurst  
Frances Mejia  
Jesika Knight  
Crystal Uresk  
Erika Jordan  
Hope Black  
Moroni Valencia  
Katrina Engellbrecht  
Fidel Bravo  
Shaylee Wolfgramm  
Aleksi Brown  
Wyatt Manzano  
Samantha Hulse  
Ernesto Chacin  
Miyah Poulsen  
Michael Bradshaw  
Kendyll Fisher  
Talon Elmer  
Ethan Nelson  
Dakota Perkins  
Parker Fuller  
Kurtis Olsen  
Thomas Bolman  
Sydnee Gerona  
Jaxon Simon  
Ngaira Moeai  
Kyson Stein  
Audrey Douff  
Logan Kearn  
Jordan Hammond  
Conner Smith  
Jared Farnsworth  
Austin Lamb  
Ryan Skeen

**WOW!!! Were you able to find your own name???**

**Jennifer Higley**  
**Student Birthday Coordinator**

## AUGUST 2008 OAKCREST PTA CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5 1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Kindergarten A,B,C Tracks	6	7 Back-To-School Night & General PTA Mtg @ 7pm A, B & C Tracks	8 A & B Track School Pictures 	9
10	11	12	13 Principal's Pride 11:30 Grades 2,3,5 12:00 Grades 1,4,6	14 PTA Board Meeting 5:30pm 	15 C Track Off	16
17	18 1 <sup>st</sup> Day of School For D Track	19	20 A & B Track Fundraiser Starts	21	22	23
24 Green Ribbon Week! 	25 Green Ribbon & Pledge!	26 Wear Green Today! 1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Kindergarten D Track	27 Bike Helmet Contest! Principal's Pride 11:30 Grades 2,3,5 12:00 Grades 1,4,6	28 UDOT Safety Assembly School Community Council 5pm Back-To-School Night 7pm D Track	29 Walk/Ride Your Bike To School Day!	30 

## SEPTEMBER 2008 OAKCREST PTA CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
31	1 Labor Day No School!	2	3 A & B Track Fundraiser Ends	4	5 B Track Off	6
7	8 C Track On 	9	10 Principal's Pride 11:30 - 2,3,5 12:00 Grades 1,4,6 C & D Track Fundraiser Starts	11 PTA Board Meeting 5:30pm 	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 C & D Track School Pictures 	20
21	22	23	24 Principal's Pride 11:30 - 2,3,5 12:00 Grades 1,4,6 C & D Track Fundraiser Ends	25	26 A Track Off	27
28	29 B Track On 	30				