



The Oakcrest Acorn



www.oakcrestpta.org

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February 2009

Volume 5, Issue 7

Oakcrest PTA Newsletter

Oakcrest Elementary 2008-2009 PTA Board Members

~ Executive Board ~

President: [Aaron Larson](#)
President-Elect: [Michelle Moulton](#)
Secretary: [Kim Foster](#)
Treasurer: [Desiree "Desi" Jones](#)

~ Commissioners & Chairpersons ~

Collections for Education:
[Holly Winn & Nisha Winsor](#)
Community Involvement: [Amie Crawford](#)
Education: [Leo McCormick](#)
Family Life: [Jamie Logue](#)
Field Trips: [Samantha "Sam" White](#)
Fundraising: [Alissa Knight](#)
Health: [Melissa Parra](#)
Hospitality:
[Amanda Hamblin & Rebecca Hammond](#)
Individual Development:
[Sara Gunderson-Muhlestein](#)
Legislative VP: [Desiree Desi" Jones](#)
Melody Choir: [Suzanne Robbins](#)
Membership: [Bethany Blackham](#)
Newsletter:
[Leo McCormick & Melanie Stewart](#)
Public Relations: [Mindy Brown](#)
Reflections: [Ninette Tigner](#)
Safety: [Jerusha Buckner](#)
Student Birthdays: [Jennifer Higley](#)
Volunteer Coordinator: [Cindy Chamlee](#)

~ School Representatives ~

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



From The Principal's Desk

Dear Parents,

January was an exciting month at Oakcrest. We enjoyed observing the democratic process and having our students learn about the election and participate in the Inauguration.



Our teachers continue to help our students make impressive academic gains. We recently received the results of the IOWA tests that, according to State guidelines, were administered to 3rd, 5th, and 6th grades. Those grade levels showed impressive gains, especially in the areas of reading, language arts, and mathematics. Also, scores in the areas of social studies and science remained above the national average.

Please continue to support your students' efforts to meet their reading goals for the Ken Garff Road to Success home reading program. Our school wide goal is 2,940,000 minutes. Our students have done a great job this year and have accumulated 967,000 minutes. This is a great start, but we still have a long way to go! We appreciate your support of this program.

Please continue to observe the safety guidelines we have established for the drop-off and pickup zone on the east side of the school. Please remember to walk your children across the crosswalk if you choose to park in the parking lot.

Thank you for your support of the teachers, the PTA, and all of Oakcrest's programs.

Sincerely,

Norman Emerson

FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Oakcresters,

This month will be an active one for Oakcrest's School Community. The PTA is gearing up for "Take your Family to School Week". This will be a terrific time for families to visit our great school. I sincerely hope that you will be able to attend some of the fun events planned.

February also includes the continuation of the recruiting efforts for filling the variety of PTA positions for next school year. Our Nominating Committee will report on the nominees for executive positions as we prepare for the coming elections in March. As you know...the PTA is a great collaboration of community volunteers. We will be seeking to create interest for position assignments for the coming year in the months ahead. Now is the time to begin thinking of how you would like to serve in our school. The PTA has a place for everyone...whether you are able to give a lot of time...or only a few hours in the year...we have opportunities for you. Whether you serve on campus...or at home or work...there is a place for you. Look for more information coming to you in March.

Speaking of volunteer spirit...I am most pleased to see the volunteer hours contributed by this community. We are half way through the school year and PTA has logged over 1300 hours with more than 300 volunteer occurrences. In addition to PTA...general school volunteer hours surpass 1,200 hours with over 700 individual volunteer contributions. In total, our community has given more than 2,500 hours of time to Oakcrest in over 1,000 volunteer occasions. This is what I call Eagle Pride coming from our outstanding parents and supporters. THANK YOU!!

One last note...soon you will be seeing our PTA needs assessment come your way. Your PTA will be looking to you for feedback on what we do well...and not so well. We strive as a volunteer organization to foster continuous improvement and effectiveness to bring quality academic and social programs to your children...as well as field trips and family events. Next year we will be looking at new and different avenues for fundraising...by considering alternate programs and events than those previously hosted. With your feedback and suggestions...we are confident that we can bring funds into Oakcrest that serve our programs while offering new and quicker benefits to our supporters.



Aaron Larson

~~PTA President 2008-2009~~



Campbell's Soup Labels



Remember to save these Campbell's Soup Labels....
we will be having a classroom contest in March!

Holly Winn
Collections For Education



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.

FROM THE



Introducing...the Individual Development Commission!

"Have your kids been invited to the Principal's Pride lunch or did they participate in Reflections? If so, you have seen a small part of what the Individual Development Commission does for our school. Sarah Gunderson-Muhlestein, with the help of Ninette Tigner (who was our Reflections chair), works endlessly to provide the kind of great programs that help our children strive for and reach their highest potential. Currently, Sarah is working with the teachers on putting together a very special recognition night for the Soaring Eagle awards at the end of the year. Sarah believes in helping children become the best they can be and she has done a fantastic job as our Individual Development Commissioner."



**Michelle Moulton
President-Elect**



"I'm McGruff the Crime Dog - - world famous for my advice on how to stop crime before it happens, and for my great sense of humor. But seriously, my job is to help people, especially kids, learn how to be safe and make their neighborhood safer."

Students and Parents!! Go to www.mcgruff.org for GAMES, Safety tips, comics, and much more!!



**Jerusha Buckner
Safety Commissioner**

**We have a student at Oakcrest Elementary that won Reflections in the Photography category at the Local, Council, and Regional levels...and now she is going on to the State level!!!
"WOW!"**

A Very Special Congratulations To Loren Benson! Good Luck At State Loren!



The Oakcrest Melody Choir Will Be Singing "Movie Music!"

Melody will start again on **Tuesday, Feb. 3rd**. Any students that wish to join Melody for the Spring Concert can fill out this permission slip with their parents. The Spring Concert will feature "Movie Music" which will include selections from **High School Musical** and **Harry Potter!** All students are welcome from 2nd to 6th grade. Practice is held 7:40am to 8:20am on the stage every Tuesday & Thursday. ONLY NEW MEMBERS need to fill out this form.

My Child _____ (please print name carefully)
has my permission to participate in the Oakcrest Melody Choir, which meets every Tuesday & Thursday from 7:40am – 8:20am on the Oakcrest stage for rehearsals.

Teacher name: _____ Grade: _____

Home address: _____ Phone: _____

Email address: _____

(parent signature)

(date)





We love the students at Oakcrest!



Let's help them earn money for special events. Please send in your clean dry grocery bags and place them in the recycle bins by the gym. Remember any color but black will do.

Nisha Winsor
Collections For Education



The Oakcrest PTA & Sunset Ridge PTSA Executive Boards Need You!!!

We need to fill all four Oakcrest Executive PTA positions for the 2009-2010 school year; President, President-Elect, Secretary & Treasurer. If you know of anyone that would love to join the PTA Executive Board next year, please nominate him or her. You can even nominate yourself! It is a large time commitment, but it is also very rewarding! For a further explanation of the duties for each office, please contact Leo McCormick @ 573-2757 or leo.mccormick@oakcrestpta.org. You can also check out the PTA website for more information about each executive board position at www.utahpta.org.

Mindy Brown, Norman Emerson & Leo McCormick
Oakcrest PTA Executive Board Nomination Committee



Do you want to be a part of your CHILDS experience in Middle School? If so, we are looking to fill the following positions on the PTSA Board for the 2009-2010 school year, at Sunset Ridge Middle School: President, President Elect & Treasurer.

If your are interested or know someone who might be please contact:
Bonnie Wright 963-1150 or Sandy Greenwood 963-2427



We have some FUN PTA sponsored activities coming up...if interested in **VOLUNTEERING**, please email volunteers@oakcrestpta.org. Get involved...in your inner child...and become an Oakcrest Elementary Volunteer!

Collections/Box Tops/Soup Labels: this is on going, dates TBD

Wal-Mart Recycling: this is ongoing, dates TBD

Principal's Pride Luncheons: this occurs every other Wednesday

Bring Your Family to School Week: February 17-20. Events scheduled throughout the week.

Book Fair: March 5-6 (Thursday and Friday) for A & B Tracks. March 26-27 (Thursday and Friday) for C & D Tracks. Many shifts will be available.

SEP Teacher In-Flight Service: March 5-6 (Thursday and Friday) for A & B Tracks. March 26-27 (Thursday and Friday) for C & D Tracks. Many shifts will be available.

Breakfast with Books: Friday, April 3 for C & D Tracks and Friday, April 24 for A & B Tracks.

Kindergarten Orientation: Friday, April 3 at 2pm.

Teacher Appreciation Week: Wednesday, April 29 - Wednesday, May 6

Field Day: Wednesday, June 10 for A & C Tracks and Wednesday, June 24 for B & D Tracks.

Amie Crawford
Community Involvement Commissioner



Did you miss your chance to purchase your *OAKCREST SPIRITWEAR*? We have a small number of shirts and hoodies still available for purchase! Prices for each are:

HOODIE Prices:

Youth Small	\$17.00
Youth Medium	\$17.00
Youth Large	\$17.00
Adult Small	\$18.00
Adult Medium	\$18.00
Adult Large	\$18.00
Adult X-Large	\$19.00
Adult XX-Large	\$20.00
No XXX-Large available	

T-SHIRT Prices:

Youth Small	\$6.50
Youth Medium	\$6.50
Youth Large	\$6.50
Adult Small	\$6.75
Adult Medium	\$6.75
Adult Large	\$6.75
Adult X-Large	\$6.75
Adult XX-Large	\$7.75
Adult XXX-Large	\$8.75



*Note: hoodies are running a bit small; it is recommended that you order at least one size bigger than you normally would.

If interested, please fill out the order form and return to your student's teacher. **Please make checks payable to OAKCREST PTA.** Orders will be filled on a first come - first served basis.

STUDENT NAME _____ **TEACHER** _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ **GRADE** _____ **TRACK** _____

T-SHIRT SIZE	PRICE PER T-SHIRT	QUANTITY TO ORDER	AMOUNT DUE
Youth Small	\$6.50		
Youth Medium	\$6.50		
Youth Large	\$6.50		
Adult Small	\$6.75		
Adult Medium	\$6.75		
Adult Large	\$6.75		
Adult X-Large	\$6.75		
Adult XX-Large	\$7.75		
Adult XXX-Large	\$8.75		
TOTALS			

HOODIE SHIRT SIZE	PRICE PER POLO SHIRT	QUANTITY TO ORDER	AMOUNT DUE
Youth Small	\$17.00		
Youth Medium	\$17.00		
Youth Large	\$17.00		
Adult Small	\$18.00		
Adult Medium	\$18.00		
Adult Large	\$18.00		
Adult X-Large	\$19.00		
Adult XX-Large	\$20.00		
TOTALS			



Be sure to speak with your student's teacher if you have any questions concerning this month's curriculum focus.

Kindergarten: Presidents, Groundhog Day, money, simple addition, measurement, and distinguishing between beginning and ending sounds. Continue to work on sight, number, and color words.

First Grade: Valentines Day, Presidents, and National Symbols. Continue addition, subtraction, problem solving, and telling time.

Second Grade: Friendship and cooperation will be taught as we celebrate February holidays. Math concepts are continuing addition and subtraction with and without regrouping.

Third Grade: Healthy lifestyles, geometry, citizenship, punctuation, plurals, folk tales, and multiplication.

Fourth: National Symbols, Rocks, Minerals, and double-digit addition with regrouping.

Fifth: Poetry, non-fiction, fractions, geometry, colonization, states, and capitals.

Sixth: Microorganisms, ancient civilizations and the effect on the world, fractions, story problems, keyboarding skills, and persuasive essay writing.

Related Resources: Find books at your students reading level by going to <http://src.scholastic.com/ecatalog/> or any Salt Lake County Library. Cross Curricular activities can be found at <http://www.uen.org> and then clicking on Student Interactives.

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are endless." Mother Teresa



Getting Ready For Kindergarten

If you have a child who will start Kindergarten in the 2009-2010 school year, or you know of a neighbor who will have a Kindergartener start next year, we need you to contact the office to begin the registration process. Kindergarten orientation will be held on April 3rd @ 2pm. Please call Katie Corsi at 280-7243.

If your child is going to start Kindergarten this July, now is the time to get him or her ready by developing their "Super-Ready" literacy skills with these 5 easy steps.

1. **Alphabet Knowledge:** Turn on the TV closed-caption option so words are a part of your child's TV experience. Start by pointing to the words on the screen as you hear them.
2. **Phonological Awareness:** Use Dr. Seuss books and sing along like "Clap, clap, clap your hands" where children clap to syllables.
3. **Rapid/Random Order Learning:** By age 5 a child should be able to identify letters, numbers colors and objects in "rapid" and "random" order. You can use flash cards for this.
4. **Writing Skills:** By age 5 a child should be able to write their own name.
5. **Phonological Memory:** A child should be able to retell their favorite story.

For more information go to The PTA Parent article, *Developing Your Child's "Super-Ready" Literacy Skills* at <http://www.pta.org/2580.htm#1>.



Leo McCormick
Education Commissioner

Happy Birthday!!!

Teacher/Staff Birthdays in February

Michael PT-1st Sally Morris-1st Kim Peterson-15th Peter Gallagher-23rd
Nancy Sabuco-26th Christine Morse-28th

Student February Birthdays

Gustavo Villalobos-1st
Jacob Jensen-1st
Tevin Bruce-1st
Ethan West-1st
Travis Scott-2nd
Jaxon Quibell-2nd
Adlyn Dang-2nd
Ethan White-2nd
Jazlyn Lopez-3rd
Kameron Martinez-4th
Janae Tigner-4th
Michaela Sagers-4th
Fernando Falquez-5th
Douglas George-5th
Dylan Cardwell-5th
Braxton Hotton-5th
Dallin Robertson-6th
Samuel Gwynn-6th
Emily Perez-7th
Sabrina Johnson-7th
Antonio Martinez-8th
Aldo Bejarano-8th
Genesis Kirkham-8th
Karla Delgado-8th
Cameron Webb-9th
Justice Walker-9th
Anthony Sanchez-9th
Zachary Nordquist-10th
Brian Cunico-11th
Dallin Harward-11th
Sade Baxter-12th

Andrew Macki-12th
Amy Mendoza-12th
Richard Brutka-12th
Jaden Johnston-12th
Andree Ashby-12th
James Basinger-13th
Adyson Tibbitts-13th
Ethan King-13th
Alyssa Laubershimer-13th
Andrew Gibson-13th
Zachary Gibson-13th
Jarod Nickell-14th
Brandon Sarabia-14th
Julieta Gonzalez-15th
Gabriella Olesen-15th
Kolbryn Kearl-17th
Nikki Vaughan-18th
Angela Mendoza-18th
Lesiely Velasquez-18th
Benjamin Fielding-18th
Emilee Johnson-19th
Tanner Christensen-19th
Marshall Turner-19th
Leilani Wadsworth-20th
Caitlee Corpuz-20th
Madison Albreetsen-20th
Skylor Thomas-21st
Xander Olesen-21st
Tayson Jorgensen-22nd
Whitney George-22nd
Gabrielle Anderson-23rd

Justin Lewis-24th
Lindsey Buchanan-25th
Taylor Hatch-25th
Althemar Marrero-26th
Jessica Herrera-26th
Lizette Medina-26th
Tyson Brooks-26th
Brynnon Elmer-26th
Arieanna Parra-27th
Precious Faamausili-27th
Arantza Flores-27th
Evelin Serna Meza-28th
Jaden Taylor-28th
Cameron Serassio-28th
Erika Wisden-28th
Dillon Bell-28th
Dylan Fenske-28th

Student Birthday
Celebrations.....

A & C tracks Feb 4th
B & D tracks Feb 25th

Jennifer Higley
Student Birthday Coordinator



JOIN THE



This New Year Brings New Opportunities For You To Join The PTA!!! Make it your one resolution to keep this year ...to become more involved in your child's education! Join the PTA and volunteer at the school! Join online at www.oakcrestpta.org. Your \$5.00 donation supports programs like Field Trips, Assemblies, Melody Choir, Red, Green and White Ribbon Weeks and so much more!!!



Family Art Night




On Wed. Feb. 11th from 6PM-8PM in the gym
This fun event will allow kids and families to create Valentine Letter Boxes. Bring empty shoe boxes with lids, Oatmeal Canisters, ect.
Free Popcorn - Free Fun - Free Imagination
Any donated boxes would be very appreciated!
They can be dropped off at the school anytime.

FEBRUARY 2009 OAKCREST PTA CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2 Groundhog Day	3 5 th Grade To The Symphony	4 Tracks A & C Student Birthdays	5	6	7
8	9 Mother Monday Take	10 Family Sharing Night at Home Your	11 Family Art Night 6pm-8pm Principal's Pride 11:30 Grades 2,3,5 12:00 Grades 1,4,6 Family	12 Welcome To Class Thurs 8:25a PTA Board & General Mtg @ 5:30pm To School	13 Father Friday 5 th / 6 th Grade Dist. Science Fair Week	14 Valentine's Day
15	16 NO SCHOOL President's Day Holiday	17 PTA Founders Day	18	19	20 DARE Grad. Tracks A&C 10am C Track Off	21
22	23 D Track On	24	25 Tracks B&D Student Birthdays Principal's Pride 11:30 Grades 2,3,5 12:00 Grades 1,4,6 DARE Grad. Tracks B&D 2pm Hogle Zoo Visits To 4 th Grade	26 School Program 7pm	27 PTA Day At The Legislature	28

MARCH 2009 OAKCREST PTA CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5 SEP Conf. Tracks A & B	6 SEP Conf. Tracks A & B Spring Pictures B Track Off	7
8 Daylight Savings Time Begins	9 Steve James Assembly 1:30p K-3 2:30p 4-6 C Track On	10	11 Principal's Pride 11:30 Grades 2,3,5 12:00 Grades 1,4,6	12 PTA Board Mtg @ 5:30pm	13	14
15	16	17  St. Patrick's Day	18	19 School Community Council 5:30pm	20	21 First Day Of Spring 
22	23	24	25 Principal's Pride 11:30 Grades 2,3,5 12:00 Grades 1,4,6 Spring Pictures	26 SEP Conf. Tracks C & D PTA Election Mtg @ 6pm	27 SEP Conf. Tracks C & D  A Track Off	28
29	30 B Track On	31				