



The Oakcrest Acorn



www.oakcrestpta.org

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October 2008

Volume 5, Issue 3

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](#)

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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](#)

~ 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,

Our school year is off to a great start. Although having our sixth grade at Sunset Ridge last year was a huge success, it is good to have all grade levels housed once again here at Oakcrest.



We have welcomed a number of new staff members this year. Ms. Rebecca Bibo is serving as Assistant Principal. We have also welcomed the following teachers: Kimberlie Peterson, Rupali Munot, Joseph Rees, Jan Brown, Sally Morris, and Gary Hansen. Ben Springer is Oakcrest's new Guidance Counselor.

Student safety continues to be our very top priority. We appreciate the manner in which those of you who drive your children to school have observed the safety guidelines we have established for the drop-off lane and east parking lot. Please remember that if students are dropped off in the east parking lot, an adult must escort them across the crosswalk.

Each year, all Utah schools receive two "report cards," the Utah Performance Assessment System for Students (U-PASS), and the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) report that is issued by the United States Office of Education. We are pleased to inform you that Oakcrest's end-of-level test scores have shown outstanding progress. Oakcrest has met the State's level of performance and has therefore passed the U-PASS. The U-PASS standard recognized the academic progress that the school as a whole and all its subgroups have demonstrated.

With the exception of one subgroup (English Language Learners), Oakcrest's student's met the AYP benchmarks dictated by NCLB (No Child Left Behind). Under NCLB, however, if even one subgroup does not meet its benchmarks, the school as a whole is deemed not to have made AYP. As stated above, the following subgroups achieved the AYP standard in Language Arts and Mathematics:

(Principal's Desk Continued on page 6)

FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT

It is hard to believe that Summer is behind us and Fall is here.....things are off to a great start at Oakcrest Elementary....and the momentum is building.

On behalf of the entire PTA board and our membership....I want to express our gratitude for the terrific participation we had during our fundraiser this year for our big PTA fundraising event. The funds you have helped raise are going towards providing exciting opportunities this year to our students, teachers, and our school.

As you may have already heard, we have many fun and educational events planned to help parents and teachers come together to provide our students with the best educational opportunities we possibly can. Your PTA is growing...we are seeing many new faces join our child advocacy mission. Strong friendships are forming as we help our kids be the best they can be. All of us look forward to working with you and serving your children in the events to come.

Green Ribbon Week was a great time and it was fun greeting you as you walked to school with your students. Our Fall PTA supported events are ramping up and geared for success. The Box Top Contests kick off our collection efforts. Our 5th grade Maturation Program will assist our developing students transition during adolescent stages. This year's "Bully Blocker" theme for prevention awareness will bring new messages to our students. The Reflections Program gets underway and offers an artistic opportunity for all students. Breakfast with Books invites students and parents to the school for reading adventures. Halloween will bring out the creative spirit in all of us as we prepare for fun classroom parties and festivities.

Our membership drive continues and we encourage you to join the PTA today if you haven't taken time to join yet. Becoming a member of the PTA is easy and is open to all parents, step-parents, aunts, uncles, cousins, grandparents and anyone else who would like to be a part of providing support to all Oakcrest Elementary students. Membership is only \$5.00 for individual and \$10.00 for a family membership. Signing up is easy... Visit the PTA at www.oakcrestpta.org to join online or stop by the school office and join the PTA.

Even if you can only participate a few times this year, *WE STILL NEED YOU!* Every membership is important and every member makes a difference just by joining the PTA.

Thank you for supporting Oakcrest...together we are doing many great things....your contributions and dedication to your students and our school are making a noticeable difference.

Aaron Larson~~PTA President



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.

Block-A-Bully!

Help Oakcrest Eagles Soar to Stop Bullies!

Dear Parents,

Please take the time to read this newsletter and talk to your child about ways you can help make Oakcrest Elementary a Bully-Free School!

School Bullying is widely regarded as a serious personal, social and educational problem that affects a substantial portion of school children. Not only does bullying cause harm and distress to the students who are bullied (Calaghan & Joseph, 1995; Olweus, 1993, 1997; Rigby, 1988; Slee, 1996), it also inflicts emotional and developmental scars that can persist into adolescence and beyond (Kochenderfer & Ladd, 1996; Olweus, 2001).

What you can do to help:

DEFINE A BULLY:

A bully is a BOY or a GIRL!

1. Bullying is one-sided, it only goes one way!
2. Bullying is intentional, its on purpose!
3. Bullying is repeated, it will happen over and over again!

HOW ARE KIDS BULLIED?

1. Bullying can be physical
2. Bullying can come from a group.
3. Some bullies use mean words.
4. Bullying is NOT teasing back and forth.

REPORTING BULLYING

1. If you see someone being bullied, don't just stand there. People that just stand there are called BYSTANDERS. Don't be a Bystander. Do something. Walk away and tell an adult. (Remember, telling an adult that you or someone you know is being bullied is NOT TATTLE-TELLING. You are helping your school stay safe!
2. If you see someone being bullied, a good idea is to take the victim, (or the person being bullied), away from form the situation. Help them walk away and KEEP COOL.
3. Staying COOL and CONFIDENT is key! You see, bullies like to pick on MICE and LIONS! What I mean is, when some kids are bullied, they act like a MOUSE: Sad and silent. They don't tell anybody and never get help.
4. When other kids are bullied, they act like LIONS! They FREAK-OUT and the bully kind of likes it. Bullies like to pick on MICE and LIONS. Be an Oakcrest Eagle, cool, confident, and fly high above the bullies!

Take the time this week to discuss what bullying really is and follow these simple steps to HELP MAKE OAKCREST ELEMENTARY BULLY-FREE!

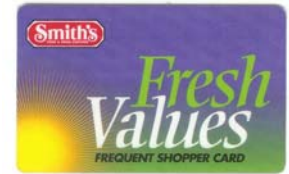
-Ben Springer, School Psych Intern




Register your grocery cards today!

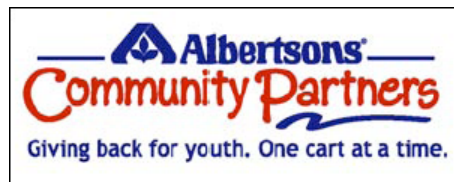


Smith's is proud to offer Oakcrest the "Earn & Learn" Program, which has proved so successful in contributing much-needed financial support to school organizations dedicated to serving children. The Earn & Learn Program will help Oakcrest PTA raise funds by simply using your Smith's Fresh Values Card.



Register your  online at www.smithsfoodanddrug.com, using our Organization name: Oakcrest Elementary and/or Organization number 80061. Every time you or a family member shops for groceries and swipes their Fresh Values card, our school automatically starts earning a donation. Smith's will pay Oakcrest a percentage of the fund equal to the percentage of total earned contributions attributable to our school.

PTA Members who do not have Internet access can signup by calling
1.800.764.8897 press "2" for EARN & LEARN



Albertson's is proud to offer the Community Partners Program!!
Giving back to the community...one shopping cart at a time!

Earning money for youth and education is now easier than ever – Albertson's is a Community Partner to Oakcrest Elementary. Shoppers earn money for our school - just by using their Preferred Savings Card.

Take a moment to register your  card TODAY!!

Log on to www.albertsons.com and follow the "In the Community" links!

~OR~

Call Albertson's Customer Care @
877-932-7948
ask for "Shopper Card" assistance

PTA AWARDS

Do you know of someone who needs to be acknowledged for their outstanding efforts while working with our children? Then why not nominate them for a PTA award! Categories are as follows:

*Golden Apple Award Outstanding Volunteer – This Award is given to a volunteer who renders volunteer service to children through the education system. Nominees will be considered on the basis of quality as well as quantity of volunteer commitment.

*Golden Apple Award Outstanding Educator – This award recognizes a professional educator currently working with students in grades preschool to 12th. Six winners will be selected based on their relationship with students, parents, PTA and the community.

*Utah PTA Advocacy Award – This award is given to a local PTA for excellence in their efforts to support and speak on behalf of children and youth.

*Utah PTA Outstanding Administrator Award – This award recognizes an outstanding school administrator currently working with students on an elementary or secondary level.

*Utah Spirit of PTA Award – This award recognizes an outstanding volunteer who has given consistent and outstanding service through the PTA. This person must be a member of the PTA and exemplify the PTA Purposes and mission.

Submit your names to Michelle Moulton emmoulton@msn.com or Mindy Brown mindybrown2@msn.com Along with your name submission please include a brief statement explaining why this individual should receive that particular award and your contact information. Sometimes we neglect to honor those in who we appreciate the most, don't miss out on this opportunity!

You can also find additional categories for awards on the PTA website <http://www.utahpta.org/awards.htm>

Mindy Brown
Public Relations

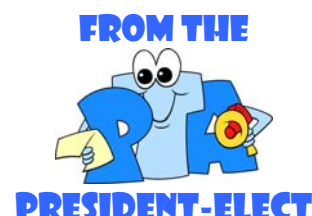


Introducing...The Community Involvement Commission

The Community Involvement Commission is in place to serve YOU! Not only does the Community Involvement Commission include volunteers, it also helps to bring parents, teachers, students and our surrounding community together to make the Utah PTA statement of "every child...one voice" come true. Amie Crawford is our Community Involvement Commissioner. Along with Cindy Chamlee, volunteer coordinator, and Holly Winn, who is over our collections for education programs (Box Tops/Campbell Soup Labels/Cream O'Weber), Amie has worked tirelessly to bring our Oakcrest community together. Our Community Involvement team has also worked to bring volunteers to the classrooms with a room parent program. Another event that will certainly be one of the highlights of the year is Teacher Appreciation Week beginning in April. This commission also caters to the teachers during SEP conferences, bringing snacks and beverages to the faculty during break times.

Thanks Amie, Cindy, and Holly for your dedication to the Community Involvement Commission!

Michelle Moulton
President-Elect



(Principal's Desk con't from page 1)

Asian, African-American, American Indian, Caucasian, Hispanic, Pacific Islander, Economically Disadvantaged, and Students with Disabilities. Again, the only subgroup that did not achieve the AYP standard this year was Limited English Proficient.

We congratulate Oakcrest teachers and students for their great work in accomplishing these great successes on year-end testing. We appreciate your help in reading with your children each day and helping them continue to excel in their schoolwork.

We are looking forward to a great year!!

Sincerely,



Norman Emerson



Happy Autumn! This is Sara, the Individual Development Commissioner, and this is my favorite time of the year! Snuggly sweatshirts, car rides to see the changing leaves and caramel apples are things I look forward to! With the weather soon getting chillier and the kids in the house more, it is a perfect opportunity to start working on the Soaring Eagle requirements. *The Soaring Eagle Award* is given at the end of the year to students who best exemplify excellence in scholarship and citizenship. The requirements are tailored to each grade and a list can be found online at <http://schools.jordandistrict.org/oakcrest/classinfo/classes.html>. Just click on your child's grade and below the list of teachers is the link to the requirements. Your child, no doubt, will already be able to do many of the listed items, but this could be a fun opportunity for you and your child to discover hidden talents and to "think outside the box." Children love incentives to accomplish goals and that might be as simple as a few hours of "your undivided time." I am still looking for additional volunteers to help set-up, decorate and take down tables for the Principal Pride Luncheons. If you can spare two hours of your time every two weeks please contact me at 282-1813 or e-mail me at sara.muhlestein@oakcrestpta.org.

Sara Gunderson-Muhlestein
Individual Development Commissioner

Can I Borrow \$100? (From the website *Character Counts*, Commentary by Michael Josephson)

Tim knew his father was an important lawyer who worked most nights and weekends. So he was disappointed but not surprised when his father didn't attend the last soccer game of the season. That night he got up the nerve to interrupt his dad's work to ask: "How much do lawyers make?" Annoyed, his father gruffly answered, "My clients pay me \$300 an hour."

Tim gulped, "Wow, that's a lot. Would you lend me \$100?"

"Of course not," his father said. "Please, just let me work."

Moments later, he heard his son sobbing and he called him back. "Son," he said, "I'm sorry. If you need some money, of course I'll lend it to you. But can I ask why you need it?"

Tim said, "Well, I've saved \$200 and if you lend me a hundred, I'll have enough."

"Enough for what?"

"To buy an hour of your time so you can come to our banquet on Friday and see me get the most valuable player award. Will you come?"

The father felt like he was stabbed in the heart as he realized the cost of his priorities. None of his clients needed him as much as his son, and nothing he could do as a lawyer was more important than what he could do as a father. How had he missed that insight? It's always difficult to balance job demands and family needs, but the test of whether you work too much is simple: Are you able to be the kind of parent your child deserves? Few people look back on their lives and wish they'd spent more time at the office; a lot of them wish they'd spent more time with their kids. This is Michael Josephson reminding you that character counts.

* This story is derived and adapted from one that was circulated on the Internet without attribution. The original source is unknown.



Three for Me Encourages Male Involvement

Did you know that fathers and father figures have a unique impact on the educational and emotional lives of children when they become more actively involved?

Three for Me helps more men get involved in the educational lives of their children by asking them to volunteer just three hours of time to working with the school. Dads can make a difference! Research shows that the more involved dads are, the better the child does in school. When dads are involved, whether he lives at home or not; children learn more, perform better in school, have a higher level of sociability, have fewer behavior problems, it boosts a child's confidence and children enjoy school more.

Here are just a few things men can do to honor their commitment:

At Home

- ~Go over your child's homework.
- ~Work with your child on projects around the home.
- ~Share stories about when you were in school.

At School

- ~Volunteer at career day, a class party, or a field trip.
- ~Tutor a child.
- ~Read to your child's class.

In The Community

- ~Ask your employer to find a way to work at the school.
- ~Do community service with your children.

Leo McCormick
Father, Volunteer &
Education Commissioner



“WOW!”

..Is The Reflections Theme For 2008-2009

Arts and culture enhance children's learning experiences and bring children's imaginations to life. All children deserve a quality arts education and cultural awareness opportunities. We invite all students to express themselves and to showcase their talents by participating in the Reflections Program with the PTA.

Prizes are awarded in all six categories:

- Photography ♦ Visual Arts ♦ Dance Choreography
- Musical Composition ♦ Literature ♦ Film Production

All entries are due on November 10th.

Reflections rules and entry forms can be found at the Utah PTA website:

<http://www.utahpta.org/individual.htm>

One entry form is needed for each entry. Each child can enter into all six categories.

The Awards Night will be Nov. 19th.

Ninette Tigner

Reflections Chairperson 878-4176

Call if you have any questions.



It isn't too late to join the Oakcrest Melody Choir!

All students in 2nd to 6th grade, 7:40am to 8:20am on the stage every Tuesday & Thursday.

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

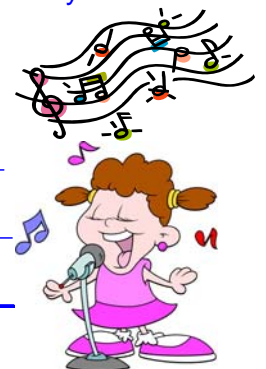
Teacher name: _____ Grade: _____

Home address: _____ Phone: _____

Email address: _____

(parent signature)

(date)



WE ARE NOW ONLINE!! COME VISIT US @ WWW.OAKCRESTPTA.ORG

PTA Fundraiser

We have successfully finished A and B tracks fundraiser. Thank you to everyone who participated in supporting the PTA. The total sales from A and B tracks for the complete fundraiser is 15,200.50!!

That is Awesome!

The cookie dough should be here in about 1 1/2 weeks as well as the other items. I will be sure to let you know as soon as possible. We haven't quite hit our goal yet but C and D tracks fundraiser numbers haven't come in yet.

I have no doubt that we will hit our goal. Because of your success we will be able to continue supporting all the fun programs that the Teachers and students at Oakcrest love.

Thanks,
Alissa Knight
Fundraiser Chairmen



Did you know that our school collects
PROJECT A+ LABELS?????

Each label is worth 24 cents to our school. Look for these labels on **TYSON PRODUCTS**, clip the **TYSON PROJECT A+™ LABEL**, and send it to school. It is that easy!



Holly Winn
Collections For Education

Look Who is At Oakcrest!



Both of these great teachers are on our PTA Board!

Bobbie Evans, 1st Grade - B Track

Bobbie is married with 3 girls, ages 13 (8th grade), 8 (3rd grade) and 2 1/2. This is Bobbie's 3rd year at Oakcrest.

Some of Bobbie's Favorites

Holiday: Christmas - All the sights, sounds & smells!

Color: Pastels - Pink, blue, yellow & purple.

Hobbies: Reading, swimming, traveling with my family & going to Disneyland!

Snack/Candy: Reese's Peanut Butter Cups & M&M's.

Drink: Water, A&W Rootbeer, peach pleasure smoothie

Food: Chocolate, Chinese, brownies & mint ice cream

Restaurants: Panda Express & Fazoli's.

Collects: Disney stuff, books & penguins.

Memories: As a little girl Bobbie got to go on stage on a show called Hotel Balderdash and pour the magic milk from the milk jug.

What does Bobbie like most about her job at Oakcrest? "The Kids! They are bright, happy and so many come from many interesting places."

Pat Buske, 2nd Grade - A Track

Pat has four children and 7 grandchildren from New York to Texas.

Some of Pat's Favorites

Holiday: Christmas! Specifically Christmas Eve!

Color: Blue

Hobbies: Scrapbooking, rubber stamping & Broadway Musicals.

Snack/Candy: Dark Chocolate Drink: Pepsi

Food: Italian

Restaurants: Cheesecake Factory

Collects: Holiday pins, old cookie cutters.

Memories: My favorite memories were always with my grandma!

What does Pat like most about her job at Oakcrest? "The kids first, then the faculty and staff!"

HAPPY BIRTHDAY !!!



Teacher/Staff Birthdays in October

Belynda Paxton- 2nd

Shana Richards- 12th

Linda Hagmann- 19th

Tena Parsell- 20th

Norman Emerson- 23rd



Student October Birthdays....

Jared Leger 1st
Ashlyn Harper 1st
Sandy Islas 1st
Kyara Brown 2nd
Amy Thompson 3rd
Chase Maestas 4th
Dominic Erickson 4th
Deryk Gallegos 4th
Ellena Archuleta 4th
Bernardo Ochoa 5th
Hannah Cook 5th
Joseph Melton 6th
Caitlin Pyne 6th
Natalia Sosa 6th
Andrew Hill 6th
Marlie Taylor 7th
Michael Gonzalez 7th
Jackson Allfrey 8th
Talmage Davies 8th
Jack Miller 8th
Rachel Wood 8th
Isaac Franson 9th
Jordan Higham 9th
Sabrina Lyons 10th
Kaylee Barker 10th
Ammon Watts 10th
Alia Gee 11th
Dawson Cloward 11th
Jerry Jensen 12th
Benjamin Palacios 12th
Sarah Higley 12th

Brooklynn Rasmussen 13th
Kaden Horstmanshoff 14th
John Elkins 14th
Gannon Marquez 14th
Rachel Barker 14th
Rorie Thompson 15th
Christopher Chamlee 15th
Ignacio Gonzalez 15th
Keith Cunningham 15th
Abigail Smith 16th
Carlos Morillo 16th
Taelor Druce 16th
Matthew Larsen 17th
Carter Saltzgeber 18th
Travis Helms 19th
Emma Archuleta 19th
Caden Hamre 19th
Trevon Allfrey 20th
Jason Carrillo 20th
Mia Hodgson 20th
Jorgen Hyllested 21st
Kaitlyn Malloy 21st
Angel Garcia 22nd
Joshua Lyon 22nd
Brock Marden 22nd
Christina Pyne 22nd
Daven Yan 22nd
Isacc Rivas 23rd
Jade Fullmer 23rd
Rilie Atkinson 23rd
Camryn Telford 23rd

Taylee Bills 23rd
Hallie Webb 24th
Porter Watts 25th
Madison Shipley 25th
Melissa Franco 25th
Calysta Clark 25th
Kaitlyn Thorpe 25th
Jordyn Baker 25th
Marianne Santos 25th
Hailee Walker 25th
Brodee Henderson 26th
Steven Baker 27th
Charmaine Penney 27th
Samantha Rios 27th
Hannah Gillett 28th
Colton Soha 28th
Skyler Rodeback 28th
Karina Aramburo 29th
Jada Mccubbin 29th
Cody Smith 29th
Jordon Draper 29th
Kaden Bravo 29th
Brevan Peterson 29th
Oakley Prows 29th
Abbie Carlile 30th
Matthew Byers 30th
Dulce Figueroa 30th
Ethan Mejia 30th
Quinton Vance 31st
Cameron Timpson 31st

Student birthday celebrations.....B & D Tracks on Oct. 1stA & C Tracks on Oct. 29th

Jennifer Higley
Student Birthday Coordinator

OCTOBER 2008 OAKCREST PTA CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		B&D Track BOX TOP CONTEST Sept. 29-Oct 3 	1 B&D Track Student Birthdays ZooMania Assembly K-3 1:15p 4-6 2:15p	2 Melody 7:40am-8:20am 	3 B&D Track Breakfast With Books 7:30a-8:25	4
5 Bully Blocker Week	6	7 Melody 7:40am-8:20am 	8 Principal's Pride 11:30 Grades 2,3,5 12:00 Grades 1,4,6	9 Melody 7:40am-8:20am PTA Board Meeting 5:30pm	10	11
12	13 Columbus Day 	14 BCD Track Picture Retakes  Melody 7:40-8:20	15 Last Day for D Track 	16 UEA Recess NO SCHOOL!	17 UEA Recess NO SCHOOL!	18
19	20 A Track 	21 Melody 7:40am-8:20am 	22 A&B Tracks Vision Screening Principal's Pride 11:30 Grades 2,3,5 12:00 Grades 1,4,6	23 Hearing Screening A&B  Melody 7:40-8:20	24 A&C Track Breakfast With Books 7:30a-8:25	25
26	27	28 Melody 7:40am-8:20am 	29 A&C Track Student Birthdays 	30 Melody 7:40am-8:20am School Community Council 4:30pm	31 Happy Halloween 	

NOVEMBER 2008 OAKCREST PTA CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
2 Daylight Savings Time – Fall Back One Hour	3	4 Election Day Melody 7:40am-8:20am	5 Principal's Pride 11:30 Grades 2,3,5 12:00 Grades 1,4,6	6 A&C Track SEP Conf. Melody 7:40am-8:20am	7 A&C Track SEP Conf. Last Day for B Track	8
9	10 Reflections Entries Due! C Track Back To School	11 Veterans Day Melody 7:40am-8:20am	12	13 Melody 7:40am-8:20am PTA Board Meeting 5:30pm	14 Ririe Woodbury Dance K-6 9:30am	15
16	17 PTA Food Drive Begins Today	18 Melody 7:40am-8:20am 	19 Reflections Awards Night Principal's Pride 11:30 Grades 2,3,5 12:00 Grades 1,4,6	20 B&D Track SEP Conf. Melody 7:40am-8:20am	21 B&D Track SEP Conf.	22
23 PTA National Family Week Sit Down, Eat Dinner & Talk!	24	25 Melody 7:40am-8:20am 	26	27 No School!  Thanksgiving	28 No School!	29
30		