



# The Pioneer Post

Term 1, 2014—2015

Act Responsibly • Communicate Effectively • Think Critically



## The Principal's Message

I love Lehi Junior High School. We have an incredible faculty and staff dedicated to making your junior high experience a great one. This is my fourth year as principal of this great school, and I want to just take a minute to remind you of our school's focus.

Our goal is to help ALL students be successful. We will continue to help you to learn at high levels and to work to ensure you have a positive experience. We want each of you to feel comfortable at school and feel supported in accomplishing your goals. At Lehi Junior, we believe the key to your future success in life is connected directly to your performance here at our school. All of our efforts, including FLEX time, lunch and learn, Late Bus Wednesdays, and before and after school time, are focused on helping all students to be successful. We believe that all students can succeed.

We are continuing with our school focus on middle school completion and credit status of 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Success in these areas requires that all students learn and earn credit in all their classes.

We want all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to meet middle school completion requirements. We will do everything we can to help you to reach these requirements. Eighty-nine percent of our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students reached this goal last year. We extend the challenge to all 8<sup>th</sup> graders to make this your goal.

Each 9<sup>th</sup> grade student should be on track for graduation. Learning the curriculum and earning all of the official high school credits should be the focus of our 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Our 9<sup>th</sup> graders set the bar super high last year with 97% on track for graduation. We would love to see every single one of you on track for graduation at the end of this year.

The bottom line: We want every student at our school performing at, or above, grade level so that each student can achieve his or her goals.

We want every person who walks the halls of this great school to feel important and valued. Please be an active participant in our BE NICE campaign. It starts with each of us taking just a moment to be polite or to share a kind word.

We have an amazing group of students in our school and we want to make sure that everyone loves coming to our school. We are a growing school and sometimes this can present challenges. As we move forward this year, I am confident that together we will continue to make our school a great place to learn.

Thank you for being so amazing.

Principal Joel Perkins

## Lehi Pride Assembly and Dance

The student council organized a successful Lehi Pride Assembly and Dance to begin the new school year. The assembly started with a performance by the Lehi Junior High Dance Company. This performance was followed by a trivia game "Are you Smarter than a Lehi Junior Student?" which pitted students against teachers in a series of questions about Lehi Junior High and its faculty. The students and teachers seemed to enjoy seeing baby pictures of many of the faculty members as a part of this assembly. The dance was likewise enjoyed by those who attended. The theme was Lehi Pride, and many students wore their purple, black, and white gear and started the new school year with their friends at the dance.

## Fine Arts Fundraiser

The Fine Arts Department is doing a school wide fundraiser to purchase a classroom set of iPads. The week of September 22-26, we will be collecting "stuff" (defined below). Donations can be brought to the front or back doors of the auditorium before or after school all week. Prizes will be given to the top donators (1st prize-iPad Mini, 2nd Prize-special lunch for the student and five friends, 3rd prize-\$25 gift card to Cinemark.) Start collecting now so we can FILL THE STAGE!

Types of thing we're looking for: anything cloth; clothes, sheets, towels, blankets, fabric, shoes (can be leather), belts (can be leather), sleeping bags, totes, backpacks, diaper bags, stuffed animals. "Stuff" can be ripped, stained, and full of holes.

## Dates to Remember

**Parent Teacher Conferences**  
September 24, 25  
3:30-7:30 P.M.

**Reality Town / Explore Test for 9<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
October 3

**Parent Mental Health Education Night**  
October 8

**Picture Retake Day**  
October 9

**Orchestra Concert**  
October 14  
7:00-8:30 P.M.  
High School

**Fall Break**  
October 16, 17

**Professional Development Day-No School**  
October 20

**End of Term**  
October 24

**Reflections Due**  
October 27

**General Election Day**  
November 4

**Advanced Choir Festival**  
November 6

**Band Concert**  
November 18, 19



## Reality Town

Reality Town is less than 3 weeks away, and we could still use additional parent volunteers to help the students that day. This is a fabulous program that all of our 9th grade students participate in, but it requires over 100 parent volunteers to make sure it runs smoothly. The date for Reality Town is Friday, October 3. Because we have so many 9th grade students, we will be holding two sessions this year: 7:45-11:30A.M. and 11:30A.M.-2:45P.M. If you can volunteer for either shift (or even part of one of the shifts), please contact Karen Ashman at Karen\_Ashman@juno.com or 801-768-9543.

## Ninth Grade Reality Town/Explore Test

The ninth graders at Lehi Jr. will have a very important day on Friday, October 3rd. They will be doing two activities that day which are designed to assist with their college and career readiness. We hope they will all be able to attend that day!

For half of their school day 9th graders will be doing the popular simulation known as "Reality Town". In the simulation, they turn 30 years old and have all of the financial responsibilities of adulthood, along with an occupation of their choice to provide financial resources necessary. If parents would like to volunteer to assist with this simulation, they should contact Paula Peterson at [\(801\) 768-7015](tel:8017687015).

The remainder of the day for 9th graders will be used to take the EXPLORE test. This test is a preparatory experience for the American College Test (ACT) which students take in the 11th grade. We are excited to offer this opportunity to all of our students at no cost. Each ninth grader will receive a score report with specific feedback as a part of the College and Career Readiness meetings to be held in a few months.

## College and Career Readiness Planning

Eighth graders will be the first group to have their College and Career Readiness Planning meetings this year. Students will receive more information regarding these appointments in their history classes during the week of October 6-10. Individual appointments with counselors will be available for the remainder of October and November through the Online Scheduling System.

## Mental Health Education Night

Lehi High School is sponsoring a Parent Mental Health Education Night on October 8 from 6-8 P.M. We encourage all interested parents of Lehi Junior High School students to attend.

Lehi High School  
Parent Mental Health Education Night  
October 8, 2014 @ Lehi High School Media Center  
6:00P.M. – 8:00P.M.

Warning signs and more common symptoms of mental disorders include:

- Persistent irritability
- Major changes in appetite or sleep
- Social withdrawal
- Anger

Mental health disorders can disrupt school performance, harm relationships, and lead to suicide (the third leading cause of death among adolescents). A social stigma continues to surround mental health disorders; this ongoing stigma regarding mental health disorders inhibits some adolescents and their families from seeking help. Mental health issues are often first identified at school. Come and learn about what things are being done at Lehi High School to address these needs, and what resources are available in the community and throughout the state.

Presenters include:

Lehi High School Hope Squad  
Lehi High School Counseling Department  
Cathy Beldsoe – Hope4Utah  
Michael Riquino – Wasatch Mental Health

## Media Center

*Divergent*, *Heroes of Olympus* and *Michael Vey* series are currently the most popular books in the Lehi Junior High School library. New books are arriving weekly, and we love to have ordering suggestions from our students. We are open daily from 7:45 a.m. until 3:15 p.m., except Mondays when we close at 2:00 p.m. A broad range of books is available for students to use for research, as well as for recreational reading. We encourage students to come in to browse, to study, and to check out books. Students who have suggestions for new books should contact Mrs. Bramall or Mrs. Gurney. Stop by to see our latest displays, and read magazines, and browse the shelves.

Students may check out three items at a time, and most books may be kept for two weeks. Fines for overdue books should be paid in the media center. Fines do not accrue on days school is closed. Students are able to login to the library catalog to check fines, renew books, and place holds on our website:

<http://ljhsmediacenter.weebly.com> The PTSA will be sponsoring a book fair in the media center September 24-25 during Parent Teacher Conferences. Please plan to come in and support the book fair. Proceeds go to our library to purchase new books.

## **Foreign Language**

The Foreign Language Department is excited for another school year. There are over 300 students enrolled in the Intro to Foreign Language class. This class offers great insight into the language and cultures of France, Latin America, and China. New this year the Intro class also includes a rotation of Student Success. We are excited to help in the effort to keep students on track for middle school completion.

We currently have 325 students in level one and 155 students enrolled in second year language classes. Invite your students to show you all that they are learning. We are disappointed to no longer offer German but hope to bring it back soon. If you want German as a course, make sure to let your counselor and the administration know.

Students who are not enrolled in a language class can still participate in Flex enrichment activities with the Foreign Language teachers throughout the week. Students can enjoy games, food, movies, and dances. Check the Flex schedule weekly on the school website to see what is being offered.

Finally, we have many exciting things planned for our students this year. We invite you to donate through the Alpine Foundation to help us buy authentic food, reading materials, digital recorders, and pay to go to the BYU Language Fair. Any help you could give would be greatly appreciated.

## **National Junior Honor Society**

Members of the Lehi Junior High School chapter of the National Junior Honor Society are making plans for another great year. NJHS is the leader among organizations and societies that promote recognition for students who reflect outstanding accomplishments in the areas of scholarship, character, leadership, citizenship, and service. Students selected for this outstanding organization must have GPA's of 3.7 or higher and have demonstrated a high level of leadership and character.

Our first meeting/party will be Oct. 2 during Flex. Membership applications will be available at the beginning of second quarter for interested students. Seventh through ninth graders with a 3.7 GPA or higher are eligible to join. If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Monica Bramall in the media center.

## **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat Auditions**

Auditions for the school's production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat will be the week after Fall Break. Cast and Techie packets will be available in the Drama room the 1st week of October. All students are invited to audition!

## **From the Lunchroom**

The ladies here in the lunch room and Lehi Jr are very excited to begin a new school year. It is great to meet new 7th grade students and also see familiar faces from last year.

We encourage you all to check out school lunch and breakfast. We have some new menu items as well as long time favorites.

This year we will be offering strawberry milk at lunch once a month. New for breakfast is a yummy berry smoothie served with an English muffin & jelly on Fridays.

Thanks to all of you for your support. We love serving you!

## **Patriot Day**

To commemorate September 11<sup>th</sup>, Patriot Day, and National Day of Service and Remembrance, students showed their patriotism by dressing in the colors of the flag. 7<sup>th</sup> graders wore red, 8<sup>th</sup> graders wore white, and 9<sup>th</sup> graders wore blue. A home room competition was held during A2 with donuts awarded to the winning three classes. Mrs. Price's class took 1<sup>st</sup> place with 87% of the students dressed in the patriotic colors, Mr. Bentley's class took 2<sup>nd</sup> place with 85% of the students dressed in the patriotic colors, and Mrs. Nelson's class took 3<sup>rd</sup> place with 82% of the students dressed in the patriotic colors. Although we arrange the students into a giant flag on the field, it was fun to see all of the colors going through the halls.

## **September Spirit Week**

The student council is organizing a Spirit Week for the week of September 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. They are planning several flex activities and some dress-up days. They will also be selling suckers at lunch and during parent teacher conferences as a fundraiser for the various activities throughout the year such as the honor roll and recognition activities.