

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 11, 2024



EVENTS 11/11-11/24 (SCHOOL EVENTS, PTA EVENTS, HOLIDAYS)

11/11-11/17 (B-WEEK)

11/18-11/24 (A-WEEK)

<p>Term 2 Essential Guiding Question: What Makes a Lifelong Learner?</p> <p>Homeroom: We Actively Listen to Understand</p> <p>11 Veterans' Day</p> <p>11 Food Drive Continues</p> <p>11 Ballroom 2:25-3:30</p> <p>12 ASD Hearing/Board Meeting 4:00 @ District Office</p> <p>13 Ballroom 1:25-2:40</p> <p>13 Girls' Basketball Tryouts 1:30-3:45 in the Gym</p> <p>13 Boys' Basketball Tryouts 3:45-6:00 in the Gym</p> <p>14 Girls' Basketball Tryouts 2:20-4:10 in the Gym</p> <p>14 Boys' Basketball Tryouts 4:10-6:00 in the Gym</p>	<p>Term 2 Essential Guiding Question: What Makes a Lifelong Learner?</p> <p>Homeroom: We Identify Needs and Advocate for Ourselves and Others</p> <p>18 Food Drive Continues</p> <p>18 Ballroom 2:25-3:30</p> <p>18 Science Demo Team Family Night 6:00-7:30</p> <p>19 SCC Meeting 2:30-3:30 in the TLC</p> <p>20 PTSA Eagle of the Month 9:00 in the TLC</p> <p>20 PTSA Meeting 9:30 in the TLC</p> <p>20 Ballroom 1:25-2:40</p> <p>20 Ballroom Concert 7:00-8:30 in the Auditorium</p> <p>21 Life Skills to Color Me Mine 9:30-12:30</p> <p>21 Girls' Basketball Game @ AF 3:00-4:30</p> <p>21 Boys' Basketball Game vs. AF 3:00-4:30</p>
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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It's been an emotional election season. Due to interlocal agreements between cities in the West and Central parts of the district, Alpine School District found itself on the ballot. Lindon, Pleasant Grove, Vineyard, and Orem decided not to enter into an interlocal agreement, so voters in these areas did not get to vote. At this point, it is highly unlikely that ASD will continue as one consolidated district in the future. We still await the official certification from the County, but if the current voting trends hold, Alpine School District will split into three smaller districts as of July 2027. The following communication was shared with ASD patrons from Superintendent Farnsworth. I'd like to share it here in case you missed it:

"Alpine School District recognizes that voters in our district have voted on propositions that, if passed, would create new school districts in areas that we currently serve. We are grateful that our system allows our community members a voice in public education. We are waiting for the tabulation and certification of votes, and we will respect the decision of our community members. As we learn more about the results, we will keep our community and employees informed. We appreciate our teachers, administrators, counselors, and support professionals, who have been patient and professional during this time of uncertainty for our schools and communities. Our employees will continue to deliver on their promise to help prepare students for a future full of opportunities. Our commitment is, and will always be, to achieve our Vision for Learning for each student we are privileged to serve."

It has been a particularly emotional time for our teachers and staff as we are faced with many unknowns moving forward. We agree with Superintendent Farnsworth that the thing that we do know is that your students remain front and center in all we do. This is a process that will take time to play out, and we welcome the partnership and support of our patrons over the next 2.5 years as very important decisions are made that impact your student's educational future. Stay tuned for more information as we receive it.

Mrs. Ross

NEW INFORMATION

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Student Spotlight: Cody Blumer

Cody is a new 7th grader and loves participating in as many things as he can try. This semester includes running cross country, the school musical 'Into the Woods', singing in the choir at General Conference, and racing on the Orem Youth Mountain Bike Team. And he is somehow able to do all this while keeping straight A's. Last week, Cody was awarded Rookie of the Year from the mountain bike team coaches. What an accomplishment! Congratulations Cody!



Students of the Week 11/4 and 11/11: Oaklyn Carter, Jackson Crane, Bria Robbins, Joseph Packer, Hyrum Snyder, Hudson Garner, David Cedeno and Annie Simmerman! Way to go!

START SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS!

Parents, we would like to spotlight Oak Canyon students that are up to great things outside of school. The challenge is that we are not always aware of these student accomplishments/events to be celebrated. Please click on this link if you'd like your student to be spotlighted in a future edition of the Principal's Newsletter!

<https://forms.gle/KvYAYNKbDtwrMbpA6>

NO TARDY TERM 2 UPDATE BY POD

It is a CRAZY close competition at this point with all 4 pods having an average of 98.5% of their students on time for class for the past 3 weeks. Keep up the GREAT work this week.

Weekly Stats:

Pod	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3
Water	98.75%	98.30%	98.46%
Earth	98.36%	97.77%	97.90%
Air	98.19%	97.98%	98.13%
Fire	98.70%	97.76%	98.20%

Cumulative Stats:

1st Place: Water Pod--98.50% On Time

2nd Place: Fire Pod--98.22% On Time

3rd Place: Air Pod--98.09% On Time

4th Place: Earth Pod--98.01% On Time

OCJH FOOD DRIVE

Each year we have a food drive to benefit families in need during the holidays. This year, donated food will first fill the OCJH Food Pantry to assist members of our school community. The remaining donations will be donated to the Community Action Food Bank. We will run the competition through students' Homeroom classes. The winning class will be determined by the class with the highest number of food items donated per student.

Appreciated donations for the OCJH Food Pantry include: applesauce pouches, chocolate chip granola bars, Nutri-Grain bars, fruit snacks, small bags of nuts, cup of noodles, Gatorade-small bottles, V-8 juices, Capri Sun, chips-small bags, and boxes of cold cereal.

Acceptable non-perishable donations for the Food Bank include: non-expired canned food, unopened boxes of cereal, unused hygiene items, diapers, unopened baby formula, etc.

Come on, Oak Canyon, let's see who's Homeroom is up to the task! Good luck!

WORLD LANGUAGE WOWS

Our fantastic World Language department has put together a fantastic way to share with faculty and families the amazing things our World Language students and teachers are up to this year. Just click [here](#) to access WOWS!



BOYS AND GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM TRYOUTS

Boys and Girls Basketball Tryouts will be held November 13th, 14th, and 15th. The Girls will be from 1:30-3:45 on Wednesday and 2:20-4:10 on Thursday/Friday. The Boys will be from 3:45-6:00 on Wednesday and 4:10-6:00. There are posters around the school with a QR code that can be used to sign up. Please reach out to Coach Baller or Coach Holmes with any questions.

FROM THE OAK CANYON PTSA

-Our PTSA does so much to support our school and students--selling suckers on Fridays, sponsoring the Eagle of the Month student recognitions, organizing Spirit Nights, making generous donations for school improvements, recognizing our honor roll students, and more! **We encourage all to join the PTSA**--the membership dues go a long way for our school. In addition, Eagle Cards are a great value for all of the discounted goods and services they provide. **To join the PTSA, purchase Eagle Cards, and/or donate for Teacher Birthday/Appreciation gifts, please visit the Oak Canyon PTSA store [link](#).**

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Strengthen Your Relationships

FREE WORKSHOP

for parents of kids aged 9-14

MONDAYS 6PM-8PM
LINDON COMMUNITY CENTER
25 N Main St Lindon



Sign up now!



**GUIDING
GOOD CHOICES**


Guiding Good Choices gives families information and tools that work to protect preteens and teens from the inevitable risks they encounter as they become more independent. Families will learn ways to build or maintain lasting relationships, because teenagers who are more closely connected to their families have better health and educational outcomes.

Practicing Your Growth Mindset Class


Thursdays 5-6pm
*Sign up for each monthly session
Taught by a Master in Therapeutic Recreation MTRS

Adolescence can be a time of self-discovery and rapid growth, physically and mentally. This class will be an opportunity for adolescents aged 12-17 to practice growth mindset through recreational therapy (RT). Growth mindset is a term used in positive psychology which reframes that challenges are opportunities for growth. This class will provide therapeutic activities with peers in self-expression, healthy thinking, gratitude, learning from failure, resilience, and adaptability.

SCAN
HERE!



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Questions? Contact Jamie 801-769-8625
jjensen@lindon.gov

TIMPANOGOS HIGH SCHOOL AND LINDON CARES

present

TABLE TALKS

FREE LUNCH & GIVEAWAYS

**WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 9TH**

KIM WILSON, NTP



**WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 13TH**

JILLIAN SEDERBERG, CTRS

FOR PARENTS & CAREGIVERS

12:15PM
MEDIA CENTER



ANXIETY & OUR BODIES

JOIN US FOR AN INFORMATIVE SESSION WHERE YOU WILL DISCOVER HOW THE FOODS YOU EAT CAN IMPACT GUT HEALTH, BLOOD SUGAR, AND MENTAL WELL-BEING FOR BOTH KIDS AND ADULTS. YOU WILL WALK AWAY WITH PRACTICAL TIPS TO SUPPORT YOUR FAMILY'S HEALTH FROM THE INSIDE OUT!





Please RSVP using the QR code for food count



EVERYDAY STRONG

LEARN HOW TO HELP YOUR TEEN TALK TO YOU WITHOUT CAUSING THEM TO SHUT DOWN. HEAR SIMPLE IDEAS TO SUPPORT MOTIVATION AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH.



REMINDERS:

BARK FOR SCHOOLS--PLEASE READ

Digital safety is critically important to us at Oak Canyon which is why we are now using Bark for Schools to help us protect our students both online and in real life.

Bark monitors for signs of potential issues like:

- Cyberbullying
- Suicidal ideation
- Sexual predators
- Threats of violence
- And more

Alerts at the first signs of danger:

When possible dangers arise on school-issued accounts, Bark for Schools sends us alerts so we can address the situation in a timely manner. These alerts also give us insights that help us promote the wellness of the entire student body.

Sign up to get alerts with Parent Portal:

Kids use their school-issued accounts both at school and at home, and families are often in a better position to respond to urgent alerts after hours, on weekends, and during breaks. In the coming week, you will receive an invitation to create your free account for the Bark for Schools Parent Portal. As soon as you opt-in, you'll be able to receive alerts if Bark detects potentially time-sensitive issues. Some alerts may be triggered by the system, but you will find there is no legitimate concern. Just because an alert is triggered does not mean a student has done anything wrong. Bark is an early warning system to allow you and the school to determine if there are legitimate concerns.

Check out these parenting resources

- [Visit](#) the Bark Blog to stay informed on all things kids and tech.
- [Download](#) this guide for helpful tips on talking to your child about common issues.
- [Join](#) the Parenting in a Tech World Facebook group and connect with other parents raising kids in the digital age.

Learn more about [Bark for Schools](#) — including their commitment to [student privacy](#). If you have additional questions, please contact us by replying to this email. Thank you for your support as we strive to help keep our students safe online.

TERM 2 NO-TARDY CHALLENGE

Starting on Wednesday, October 23, is our Term 2 No-Tardy Challenge. Students have ample time with our 7 minute passing periods to get from class to class on time. That said, many still are not. There are consequences for students with excessive tardies, but we're still not seeing the kind of urgency we'd like to see from students to be on time. There are incentives for students to be on time at the pod, class, and individual levels. The pod with the highest average percentage of students on time will receive a Pod Party. The homeroom class from each pod that has the highest average of on-time students to all of their classes will earn a Homeroom class incentive both at mid-term and at the end of the term. Finally, students who have no tardies in a week will earn individual points they can accumulate to redeem for prizes through Ken Garff Success in Education. These prizes range from gift cards to ski passes when students have earned enough points. Ultimately, we want your students to be on time and in class everyday. We appreciate your support and encouragement in this endeavor!

HOMEROOM NO CELL PHONE POLICY

We have learned a lot from our neighbors at PGHS as they have launched their no cell phone policy this year. At PG, students are expected to place their cell phones on airplane mode and in a cell caddy when they enter the classroom and leave their phone in the caddy until class is over. Students can access their phones during class breaks and at lunch. Timpanogos is also considering adopting this policy next year. So, we thought it would be a good idea to give this no cell policy a try during Homeroom. We haven't really policed it, and some teachers have been more consistent than others in their expectations. That said, before we adopt a similar policy, we'd like for students to really see for themselves what their participation is like when they are not distracted by their cell phones. Research shows that their phones are away from students, the greater the impact in the classroom. So, as of Tuesday, October 22nd, students will be expected to place their phones on airplane mode and in the phone caddy during the duration of homeroom. They will receive some Ken Garff Success in Education points for doing this each day that can be redeemed for prizes. More information about that is forthcoming. Please note that the expectation for student phones is that they are out of sight during all other classes, but they do not have to be in the cell caddy. That said, students are always welcome to place their phones there if they would prefer in all of their classes. We are anxious to do some action research of our own to inform our school cell policy moving forward.

WEDNESDAY STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

Just a quick reminder that on early-out Wednesdays all students go to lunch at 12:45 and buses leave at 1:15. Students are permitted to go home during lunch if they don't ride a bus. That said, we have quite a few students who are staying well beyond 1:15. Wednesday afternoons are when our teachers collaborate with each other and with other teachers from across the district. They are not available to students at this time. We appreciate your help and support in making sure your students have rides home and that they clear out of the school in a timely manner.