

Superintendent Christmas—The Season to Discover the Power Within

NEBO SCHOOL DISTRICT'S SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Nebo District has approximately 34,000 students in 2019-2020.
- Nebo District has approximately 4,500 employees.
- Nebo District is the 6th largest district in Utah.
- Nebo District is the 5th largest employer in Utah County.

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There are hundreds of Christmas stories, songs, and traditions and it seems to me that a significant number of these show how someone learned to *Discover the Power Within* themselves. This Christmas season, I invite you to open your hearts to the many ways in which this special season can help you to *Discover the Power Within*.

On Santa's Team (author unknown)

My big sister dropped the bomb: "There is no Santa Claus," she jeered. "Even dummies know that!"

I fled to [Grandma's] because I knew she would be straight with me. I knew Grandma always told the truth, and I knew that the truth always went down a whole lot easier when swallowed with one of her world-famous cinnamon buns.

Grandma was home, and the buns were still warm. Between bites, I told her everything. She was ready for me.

"No Santa Claus!" she snorted. "Ridiculous! Don't believe it. That rumor has been going around for years, and it makes me mad, plain mad. Now, put on your coat, and let's go."

[Grandma took me straight to] Kerby's General Store, the one store in town that had a little bit of just about everything. As we walked through its doors, Grandma handed me ten dollars. That was a bundle in those days.

"Take this money," she said, "and buy something for someone who needs it. I'll wait for you in the car." Then she turned and walked out of Kerby's.

I was only eight years old [and] for a few moments I just stood there, confused, clutching that ten-dollar bill, wondering what to buy, and who on earth to buy it for. I thought of everybody I knew: my family, my friends, my neighbors, the kids at school, the people who went to my church.

I was just about thought out, when I suddenly thought of Bobbie Decker. He sat right behind me in Mrs. Pollock's grade-two class. Bobbie Decker didn't have a coat. I knew that because he never went out for recess during the winter. His mother always wrote a note, telling the teacher that he had a cough; but all the kids knew that Bobbie Decker didn't have a cough, and he didn't have a coat.

I fingered the ten-dollar bill with growing excitement. I would buy Bobbie Decker a coat. I settled on a red corduroy one that had a hood to it. It looked real warm, and he would like that. I didn't see a price tag, but ten dollars ought to buy anything. I put the coat and my ten-dollar bill on the counter and pushed them toward the lady behind it.



She looked at the coat, the money, and me. "Is this a Christmas present for someone?" she asked kindly. "Yes," I replied shyly. "It's ... for Bobbie. He's in my class, and he doesn't have a coat." The nice lady smiled at me. I didn't get any change, but she put the coat in a bag and wished me a Merry Christmas.

That evening, Grandma helped me wrap the coat in Christmas paper and ribbons, and write, "To Bobbie, From Santa Claus" on it.

Then she drove me over to Bobbie Decker's house [and] she and I crept noiselessly and hid in the bushes by his front walk.

Suddenly, Grandma gave me a nudge. "All right, Santa Claus," she whispered, "get going."

Forty years haven't dimmed the thrill of those moments spent shivering, beside my grandma, in Bobbie Decker's bushes. That night, I realized that those awful rumors about Santa Claus were just what Grandma said they were: Ridiculous! Santa was alive and well ...

AND WE WERE ON HIS TEAM!

Dates to Celebrate:

Dec. 1

Rosa Parks Day

Recognizing an important event in the civil rights movement

Dec. 3

International Day for People with Disabilities

Dec. 5

International Volunteer Day

Dec. 7

Pearl Harbor Day

Dec. 10

Human Rights Day

Anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948

International Animal Rights Day

Dec. 15

Bill of Rights

The first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution were ratified on this day in 1791.

Dec. 21

First Day of Winter

Dec. 25

Christmas Day



Thinking of retiring at the end of 2019-20?

With the Early Retirement Incentive Plans, we recognize that many of our outstanding employees will be contemplating retirement at the end of this school year. We will be sad to see these good friends and dedicated coworkers leave our ranks and are so appreciative of their service to students.

In order to find the best possible candidates for open positions in the current competitive job market, it is important for supervisors to begin hiring new employees as soon as possible. Therefore, we are once again offering an Early Retirement Notice Incentive to those who have their retirement approved by the Board of Education before mid-February. The details are as follows:

- ◆ Any employee who is eligible for and retires from Utah Retirement System (URS) by June 30, 2020, can submit the final paperwork to the District by:
 - ◇ December 6, 2019, to receive \$1,000 in their December 31 paycheck, or
 - ◇ January 3, 2020, to receive \$1,000 in their January 31 paycheck, or
 - ◇ February 7, 2020, to receive \$500 in their February 29 paycheck.
- ◆ The final application deadline for this Early Retirement Notice Incentive is February 7, 2020.

This incentive is a one-time option for those who will retire at the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Interested employees who will be retirement eligible and would like to learn more about this option and their individual benefits may schedule an appointment with Robert Fleming at [801-354-7414](tel:801-354-7414). Retirement eligible employees will be given first priority for appointments.

New Nebo CareHere Clinic for Employees

On Friday, January 24, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. Nebo School District will hold a ribbon-cutting event for the opening of the Nebo School District Health and Wellness Center in partnership with CareHere. This new facility will provide access to primary and preventive healthcare to Nebo School District employees and their dependents, covered by Nebo's health plan. This new Nebo CareHere Clinic is the launch of a collaborative partnership by Nebo School District, and a Tennessee-based industry pioneer and innovator in onsite healthcare, CareHere.



The Nebo's CareHere Clinic will offer low cost primary care services with low cost on-site generic medications. This type of cost savings is an obvious benefit to employees and their families. Perhaps just as important, this innovative model has a proven track record of a significant reduction of the employer's overall healthcare dollars spent, an important savings for the taxpayers of Nebo School District.

"This will be a great benefit for the employees of Nebo School District. Offering low-cost, no-wait health care to our employees will help keep them healthy and in the classroom doing what they do best, educating and inspiring Nebo Students," stated Ryan Kay, Nebo's Human Resource Coordinator. "I am excited for the opening of our new health care clinic."

CareHere will oversee and manage the operations of the facilities. Patients can schedule appointments online with the CareHere app. Appointments are never double-booked, so there is little or no wait time, enabling Nebo School District's employees to be served quickly, feeling better fast, and back to work.

Employee Open House

January 10, 2020

Information Meetings:

Payson High 9:00 a.m.

Springville High 11:00 a.m.

Spanish Fork High 1:00 p.m.

Nebo School District Christmas Card Winners

First Place:
Heather Gunnerson,
9th Grade, Salem Jr.
Teacher: Scott Shaffer
Cover for 2019 Nebo
School District
Christmas card



Second Place:
Kenadi Squires, 8th Grade,
Diamond Fork Jr.
Teacher: Ashley Mickelson
Cover for 2019 Nebo
Education Foundation
Christmas card



Third Place: Leah Ford,
7th Grade, Salem Jr.
Teacher: Scott Shaffer



Honorable Mention: Olivia Vincent,
8th Grade, Payson Jr.
Teacher: Kyle Vincent

Honorable Mention: Alyiah Beardall,
9th Grade, Spanish Fork Jr.
Teacher: David Hughes-Millman

November 2019 PEAK Awards

To read the nomination submissions, go to November 2019 PEAK Awards: <http://www.nebo.edu/news/2952>
To submit a PEAK Award nomination, go to employee page and scroll down, or go to: www.nebo.edu/PEAK



Nominated by: Julie Peery
PEAK Award: Kristin Northcutt, Facilitator, Mapleton Elem.
Board President Christine Riley, Superintendent Rick Nielsen



Nominated by: Emily Van Ausdal & Lori Cunningham
PEAK Award: Pamela Lyman, Teacher, Salem Hills High
Board President Christine Riley, Superintendent Rick Nielsen



PEAK Awards and Nominators for November



Nominated by: Diane Butterfield
PEAK Award: Randy Leetham, Bus Driver, Transportation
Board President Christine Riley, Superintendent Rick Nielsen



Nominated by: Ryan McGuire
PEAK Award: Russ Sumens, Teacher, Mt. Nebo Junior
Board President Christine Riley, Superintendent Rick Nielsen



Nominated by: Heather Balli
PEAK Award: Tylene Shelley, Nurse, Meadow Brook Elem.
Board President Christine Riley, Superintendent Rick Nielsen



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If your successes are not listed, please get awards to lana.hiskey@nebo.edu with Award Nebo News in the subject line.



- Ryan McGuire**, Principal, Mt. Nebo Junior, "He always has something good to say about every one. He is patient and kind. Students know he cares." Recognized by Jennifer Hansen.
- Micah Bradshaw**, Teacher, SFHS, "She is so willing to work with students. She is flexible and aims to please. She is a team player and works hard." Recognized by Leslie Swenson.
- Katelyn Finch**, Teacher, Cherry Creek, "Katelyn is a ray of sunshine. She is an exceptional teacher. She knows her students' goals and is a joy." Recognized by Bethany Clark.
- Tammy Howell**, Secretary, Park Elem., "She is always looking for ways to help. She is so loving to the students and parents in our school." Recognized by Nate Holt.
- Charla Andersen**, Teacher, East Meadows, "She is great in mainstreaming behavior issues. She has high expectations and a love for the students." Recognized by Nathan Melton.

Nebo District's Celebrations

Salem Hills High Girls' Tennis 2nd Doubles 5A **Springville High & Salem Hills High** received State Champions, Megan Mayo & Emilee Concurrent Enrollment Awards in 2019 by Utah Valley University.

Fall Academic All-State 2019-20

Girls' Cross Country

- Hailey Smith, MMHS
- Martha Gill, MMHS
- Rachel Sweat, MMHS
- Korinne Huntington, PHS
- Kaori McKinnon, SFHS
- Kierra Oyler, SFHS
- Kyra Feland, SFHS
- Ramsey Anderson, SFHS
- Willow Park, SFHS
- Abbie Cannon, SHS
- Katie Rex, SHS

Girls' Tennis

- Cozette Caron, PHS
- Jennifer Wilde, PHS
- Abigail Fisher, SHHS
- Meg Weeks, SHHS
- Sierra Edmondson, SHHS
- Erica Allan, SFHS
- Mia Colton, SFHS

Girls' Soccer

- Shelby Nelson, PHS
- Courtney Smith, SHHS
- Emily Critchfield, SHHS
- Laura Johnson, SHHS
- Gracie Sorensen, SFHS
- Abigail Rowe, SHS
- Joely Wilson, SHS
- Madison Henderson, SHS

Boys' Football

- Shadrach Christiansen, MMHS
- Tyler Bott, PHS
- Derek Rolfe, SHHS
- Isaac Barnum, SHHS
- Cooper Loveridge, SHHS
- Zachary Stones, SHHS
- Dallin Pepper, SFHS
- Jacob Moore, SFHS
- Carter Johnston, SHS
- Garrison Caswell, SHS

Boys' Cross Country

- Eldon Van Orman, MMHS
- Jacob Hamilton, MMHS
- Peyton Pratt, MMHS
- Bryce Marshall, SFHS
- Matthew Cable, SFHS
- Maxwell Colton, SFHS
- Colby Seeley, SHS
- Michael Eifert, SHS
- Timothy Harlow, SHS

Boys' Golf

- Brock Ramos, PHS
- Jakob DeLlamas, SHS

Girls' Volleyball

- Kaeli Monahan, MMHS
- Mandy Rothaug, MMHS
- Hailee Oldroyd, SHHS
- Lavinia Iketau, SFHS

If you have noticed any wonderful people or experiences that need to be recognized, please email them to lana.hiskey@nebo.edu.