



# Nebo News



VOLUME XI ISSUE V

JANUARY 2022



## NEBO SCHOOL DISTRICT'S SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Nebo District has approximately 35,000 students in 2021-2022.
- 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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## Superintendent Rise Up with Courage

Welcome back from Christmas break! Hopefully you experienced peace, happiness, and joy over the holidays; plus at least one “long winter’s nap.”

The week before Christmas break was interesting, to say the least. Inclement weather impacted all of us, social media ‘challenges’ disrupted school life, and the Omicron COVID-19 variant brings a new wave of health concerns. For nearly two years now, we have had regular reminders that:

“Getting up in the morning is not for the faint of heart. The demands on us are many; the hours in the day are still capped at twenty-four. We get tugged, second-guessed, pulled in different directions, and at the end of the day we are left wondering what happened. And sometimes it seems like those are the good days” (Uncommon, Tony Dungy, p. 29.)

I am profoundly grateful to work with professionals like each of you who have the courage to rise up each day, face the demands and challenges of life, and serve our students. Your commitment to courage reminds me of two historical figures who both faced extreme challenges and drew similar conclusions about ‘courage.’

President Franklin D. Roosevelt battled the effects of polio, while guiding the country through the Great Depression and World War II. He stated that “courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the assessment that something else is more important than fear.”



Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for twenty-seven years, followed by governmental roles where he focused on ending apartheid. Mandela said he “learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear.”

Thank you for recognizing that meeting the emotional, physical, and academic needs of our students is “more important than fear” and rising up with courage to triumph over TikTok trials, a perpetual pandemic, and wintery weather.

We will continue to face difficulties, but the future is bright for our communities and our nation because of courageous educators like you who are dedicated to doing what is right for our children. After all, “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world” (Nelson Mandela).

Have a wonderful 2022!

**Dates to Celebrate:**

**Jan. 1-31**  
National Mentoring Month  
*Recognizing the need for every child to have a caring adult in his or her life.*

**Jan. 1**  
New Year's Day

**Jan. 4**  
World Braille Day  
*Celebrating the birthday of Louis Braille (1809).*

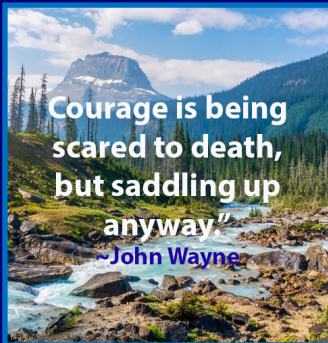
**Jan. 17**  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Observed.

**Jan. 23**  
National Handwriting Day

**Jan. 24**  
Compliment Day  
*Offer sincere compliments to five different people*

**Jan. 27**  
Holocaust Remembrance Day

**Jan. 28**  
Christa McAuliffe Day  
*Commemorating teacher Christa McAuliffe and the other six astronauts killed in the Challenger tragedy (Jan. 28, 1986)*



# Nebo School District's Sterling Scholars

**Springville High**

Business & Marketing: Spencer Neel  
Computer Technology: Lily Holladay  
Dance: Elena Wakefield  
English: Ben Tenney  
Family & Consumer Science: Wesley James  
Instrumental Music: Annabelle Gabbitas  
Mathematics: Abigail Payne  
Science: Lewis Miller  
Skilled & Technical Education: Chloe Sleight  
Social Science: Tessa Conrad  
Speech/Theater Arts/Forensics: Megan Gehring  
Visual Arts: Zach Jackson  
Vocal Performance: Paige Ballard  
World Languages: Logan Garnica

**Spanish Fork High**

Business & Marketing: Elizabeth Snider  
Computer Technology: Cole Gillespie  
Dance: Hailey Campbell  
English: Natalie Olson  
Family & Consumer Science: Macilynne Manning  
Instrumental Music: Jeff Sass  
Mathematics: Emily Wessman  
Science: Jesse Shepherd  
Skilled & Technical Education: Ellie Maughan  
Social Science: Delaney Hicks  
Speech/Theater Arts/Forensics: Brooke Grant  
Visual Arts: Madison Tanner  
Vocal Performance: Ariana Whatcott  
World Languages: Kate Jones

**Maple Mountain High**

Business & Marketing: Dallin Bingham  
Computer Technology: Jackson Coxson  
Dance: Alyssa Walker  
English: Ivy Drumm  
Family & Consumer Science: Miriam Brophy  
Instrumental Music: Asianna Madsen  
Mathematics: Parker Allen  
Science: Isaac Woolford  
Skilled and Technical Science: Oliver Davis  
Social Science: Jack Nemelka  
Speech/Theater/Forensics: Makenna Dockter  
Visual Arts: Julia Hart  
Vocal Performance: Camdyn Marker  
World Languages: Easton Carter

**Payson High**

Business & Marketing: Caden Rowley  
Computer Technology: Cambry Partridge  
Dance: Graycee Diamond  
English: Maya Sorenson  
Family & Consumer Science: Jaylee Cofran  
Instrumental Music: Cristian Munoz  
Mathematics: Londyn McMurdie  
Science: Emily Morrill  
Skilled & Technical Education: Kortni Lemmon  
Social Science: Madeline Remkes  
Speech/Theater Arts/Forensics: Sydney Lane  
Visual Arts: Whitney Linan  
Vocal Performance: Karen Rowley  
World Languages: Attikas Marchbanks

**Salem Hills High**

Business & Marketing: Kyle Campbell  
Computer Technology: Tyler Larsen  
Dance: Makinley Butterfield  
English: Ellie Wride  
Family & Consumer Science: Brie Ericksen  
Instrumental Music: Millie Knowlton  
Mathematics: James Levie  
Science: Jonah Ellsworth  
Skilled & Technical Education: Jake Clark  
Social Science: Erica Murdock  
Speech/Theater Arts/Forensics: Nathan Jordan  
Visual Arts: Luke Dalley  
Vocal Performance: Jason Flinders  
World Languages: Lexy Webster

## Thinking of retiring at the end of 2021-22?

Nebo is once again offering an Early Notice Incentive to those who have their retirement approved by the Board of Education at least four months prior to their retirement. The details are as follows:

- ◆ Any employee who is eligible for and retires from Utah Retirement System (URS) by at the end of the 2021-22 school year, can submit the final paperwork to the District by:
  - ◇ January 7, 2022, to receive \$1,000 in their January 31 paycheck, or
  - ◇ February 4, 2022, to receive \$500 in their February 28 paycheck.
- ◆ The final application deadline for this Early Notice Incentive is February 4, 2022.

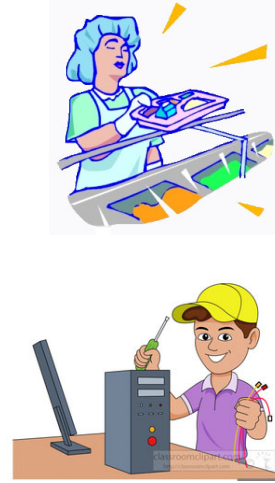
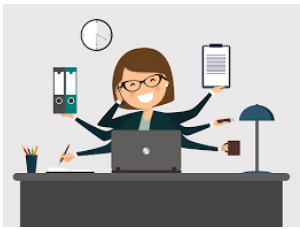
This incentive should be considered a one-time option for those who will retire at the end of the 2021-2022 school year and may not be offered in future years. You may schedule an appointment with Troy Bohling at 801-354-7480.

# Nominate Classified Employee of the Year

All of our Nebo employees are amazing and deserve recognition. It is that time of year to nominate our hard working friends who are classified employees. Our classified employees include bus drivers, secretaries, technicians, food service workers, custodians, technical support, and maintenance workers. They work hard each day to ensure a positive, safe environment for our students to learn.

Please take five minutes and nominate one or more classified employees who have made a difference in your life or in the lives of our students. The link will come in an email from Ryan Kay to make your nomination.

**Classified Employee Nominations**  
**Due by: February 11**



# December 2021 PEAK Awards

To read the nomination submissions, go to December 2021 PEAK Awards: <https://www.nebo.edu/news/3633>. To submit a PEAK Award nomination, go to employee page and scroll down, or go to: [www.nebo.edu/PEAK](http://www.nebo.edu/PEAK).



Nominated by: Natalie Taylor & Holly Moss  
**PEAK Award: LesLee Hunt, Teacher, Park Elementary**  
Board President Christine Riley, Superintendent Rick Nielsen



Nominated by: Susan E. Anderson & Jaxon Stevenson  
**PEAK Award: Robin White, Teacher, Spanish Fork Junior**  
Board President Christine Riley, Superintendent Rick Nielsen



Nominated by: Kodey & Kalee Crandall  
**PEAK Award: Kristin Valdez, Foods, Mapleton Elementary**  
Board President Christine Riley, Superintendent Rick Nielsen



Nominated by: Phena Brown  
**PEAK Award: Kayla Welch, Teacher, Spring Canyon**  
Board President Christine Riley, Superintendent Rick Nielsen



Nominated by: Myra Miller  
**PEAK Award: Amber Capell, Teacher, Salem Hills High**  
Board President Christine Riley, Superintendent Rick Nielsen



Nominated by: Bart, Matt, Seth, Leslie, Shannon, Melissa, Dawn  
**PEAK Award: Josh Jensen, Teacher, Spanish Fork High**  
Board President Christine Riley, Superintendent Rick Nielsen

# Nebo

SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Nebo School District**

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**www.nebo.edu**

## BE A Nebo Hero

**Tiffany Gibbons**, Teacher, Diamond Fork, "She excitedly greets students at her door, dancing and singing to the hall music with her neighboring teachers, and running drama games in her room during our twice daily E-Time. She attends to the personal needs of students by walking with them to the counseling office, letting them know that they are an important part of her class." Recognized by Cecily Yeager, Brenda Burr, Russ Sumens, and Riley McKenzie.

**Katie Bahr**, Teacher, Meadow Brook, "She is always helping others especially when it comes to ELL students. Providing students with goal making opportunities each week. She picks up extra duties and does her best." Recognized by Morgan Peterson & Megan Oropeza.

**Teresa Stewart**, Planning Time Technician, Rees, "She is an amazing planning-time teacher. She changes from computers to art and supervises crosswalk and recreation programs. She is dependable and willing with a cheerful heart." Recognized by Adam Gull.

**Dusty Averett**, Special Ed. Tech., SFHS, "She is always so willing to help whenever needed for the last 23 years. She is always the first to volunteer whether it is making copies, lesson activities, or assisting students. She goes above and beyond." Recognized by Alyssa Larsen.

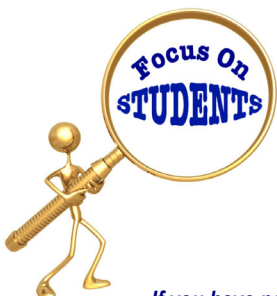
**Sheree Storrer**, Teacher, Park, "She is always positive with staff and students. Her willingness to put in the extra time and effort is a great example. She goes out of her way to cheer up a student or staff member. She has the kindest heart." Recognized by LesLee Hunt.

**Jaimie Dannelly**, Teacher, Maple Grove Middle, "She is so nice and helps us get our work done. She is very clear on rules. I love her because she rewards us." Recognized by a student, Libby Moore.

**Kathryn DeGraffenreid**, Success Coach, SHHS, "She provides exceptional service and is affectionately known as one of our amazing "school moms" as she is so caring and compassionate to all." Recognized by KyLynn James, Ryan McGuire, Karri Best, Curtis Burton, Kendall Call, Corom Hughes.

**Morgan Peterson**, Teacher, Meadow Brook, "She is always prepared and willing to jump in and cover for someone. She does what's best for students and does everything she can to create a positive classroom environment." Recognized by Megan Oropeza.

*If your successes are not listed, please get awards to [lana.hiskey@nebo.edu](mailto:lana.hiskey@nebo.edu) with Award Nebo News in the subject line.*



*If you have noticed any wonderful people or experiences that need to be recognized, please email them to [lana.hiskey@nebo.edu](mailto:lana.hiskey@nebo.edu).*

## Nebo Celebrations

### Student Celebrations

**Aaron Garcia Jr.**, PHS, makes the Team USA Boxing.

**Coleman Jarvis**, SHS, earns \$1,000 for winning the Make Your Mark Bookmark Contest.

**SFHS FFA** places at Nationals with 14 top state winners.

**Jesse Shepherd**, SFHS, wins First Place at FFA Nationals.

**MMHS FFA** places Third at Nationals.

**Catrina Stanton Jones**, Former PHS Student & current employee, is premiering on the Disney Plus' Foodtastic Show.

### Employee/Program Celebrations

**SHHS Fine Arts** is recognized as the Performing Arts School of Excellence in the Nation.

**Dave Boyack**, MMHS, was honored as the Outstanding Athletic Director Nationally.

**Tiffany Manwaring**, Sierra Bonita, wins the Nebo #Hashtag Award.

**Ryan Adair**, SHHS, was elected to march in the Rose Parade.

**Samantha Smith**, SHS, was selected Coach of the Year by the Utah High School Activities Association.

**Rick Nielsen**, Superintendent, was honored by BYU as Exceptional Educational Leader.

**SFJHS Team** wins the Nebo #Hashtag Award.