

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

- Nebo District has approximately 33,000 students 2017-2018.
- Nebo District has over 3,800 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's Message:

### Nebo Heroes Being your best when it matters most

My teenage daughter recently helped me put together a gift basket to award to an Instagram follower who posted about a #NeboHero. One item she insisted on including was a copy of the book "Wonder." Because I have not read the book, that didn't seem significant to me until I saw the movie on Thanksgiving. After seeing how much the movie touched me, my daughter leaned over and said, "Now you know why "Wonder" needed to be in a #NeboHero basket!"

"Wonder," by author R. J. Palacio, answers two questions posed by a class of fifth-grade students that reflect sentiments that echo our Nebo Hero theme:

"It was very important to me to thread in the theme of kindness, specifically the power of kindness. Overall, I wanted to show kids of all ages that their actions are noticed and remembered, and that their choices really impact the people around them."

"Auggie Pullman [the main character] made it through fifth grade with a little help from his friends."

"A lot of people . . . can relate to being like Charlotte Cody [assigned to be a friend]: nice enough, but not truly kind — at least for a while. The great thing about the Charlottes of the world is that they usually do get braver as they get older and then, watch out, world: they're out to *do good* for the world."

"I ended "Wonder" where I wanted to — a day in Auggie's life in which he's shown the love and respect he deserves. [It] doesn't mean he won't experience his fair share of hardships and struggles. But we also know that Auggie has what he needs inside him — the heart, the courage, the resilience — to meet any challenge. That's what makes him a wonder."  
(goodhousekeeping.com)

My daughter was right! So many of the people in this story demonstrate the characteristics of a true HERO: Being Your Best When it Matters Most by Helping people... with no strings attached, creating an Exceptional experience, taking Responsibility for your actions, and seeing life through a lens of Optimism. To paraphrase Kevin Brown, each HERO in "Wonder" really is an extraordinary person doing ordinary things when it matters most.

Thank you all for being Nebo Heroes for each of our 33,000 individual and unique Auggie Pullman's!



## 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. 4

World Wildlife Conservation Day

Dec. 5

International Volunteers Day

Dec. 7

Pearl Harbor Day  
Remembrance 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. 17

Anniversary of the Wright Brothers' Flight

Dec. 21

First Day of Winter

Dec. 25

Christmas Day

## Thinking of retiring at the end of 2017-18?

Nebo is 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 the Utah Retirement System (URS) by June 30, 2018, can submit the final paperwork to the District by:
  - ◇ January 5, 2018, to receive \$1,000 in their January 31 paycheck, or
  - ◇ February 2, 2018, to receive \$500 in their February 28 paycheck.
- ◆ The final application deadline for this Early Retirement Notice Incentive is February 2, 2018.

This incentive is a one-time option for those who will retire at the end of the 2017-2018 school year.

## Inclement Weather Procedure

On occasion, weather may be so extreme the district may close schools or implement a Delayed Start. If a Delayed Start is called at your particular school, a notice will be sent via phone, text, or email and your school's starting time will be postponed for two hours. Although the start time will be delayed two hours, we will work to ensure that the school itself will be open by the regular start time in order to accommodate working parents and students that arrive early.

If you have questions regarding the status of your school during inclement weather, please visit our website at [www.nebo.edu](http://www.nebo.edu). You will find a link on the left side of the home page that will take you to our Inclement Weather page. We plan to post inclement weather decisions on our site no later than 6:30 a.m. on the morning of the event.



## Fall Academic All-State Teams

### Girls' Soccer GPA 4.0

Claire Rowley, PHS  
Emma Card, MMHS  
Amber Messick, MMHS  
Natalie Pendleton, SFHS  
Hallie Rhees, SFHS  
Taralyn Gervais, SHS

### Volleyball GPA 4.0

Madison Houston, PHS  
Ashlee Allan, SFHS  
Brielle Cruz, SHS  
Megan Nusink, SHS

### Girls' Cross Country GPA 4.0

Bethany Graham, MMHS  
Clara Hansen, MMHS  
Jessica Jensen, MMHS  
Tess McInelly, MMHS  
Annicka Perry, MMHS  
Ashley Rothaug, MMHS  
Karissa Davis, SHHS

### Football GPA 4.0

Gavin Scholl, PHS  
Branson Blood, MMHS  
Marcus Krommenhoek, MMHS  
Ethan Nelson, MMHS  
Collin Reid, MMHS

### Boys' Cross Country GPA 4.0

Kaden Call, MMHS  
Jeffrey Black, SHHS  
Devin Berns, SFHS  
Zackary Dalley, SHS  
Oliver Harlow, SHS  
Brandon Johns, SHS

### Girls' Tennis GPA 4.0

Katie Petersen, SHS

### Boys' Golf GPA 3.96

Jackson Littledike, MMHS  
Trevor Sites, MMHS  
Michael McVey, SHHS

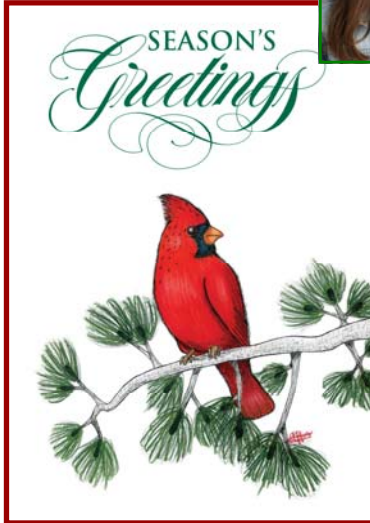
First Place: Alexis Nackos,  
Ninth Grade, Payson Junior High  
Teacher: Colleen Wilson  
Cover for 2017 Nebo School  
District Christmas card



Second Place: Natalie Miller,  
Ninth Grade, Mt. Nebo Junior High  
Teacher: Kyle Vincent  
Cover for 2017 Nebo  
Education Foundation  
Christmas card



Third Place: Abigayle Burris,  
Seventh Grade,  
Springville Junior High  
Teacher: Taneya Elison



# November 2017 PEAK Awards

To read the nomination submissions, go to November 2017 PEAK Awards:  
<http://www.nebo.edu/news/2312>. 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: Mt. Nebo & Veronica Solorzano  
PEAK Award: Judy Jacobson, Bus Diver, Transportation  
Superintendent Rick Nielsen & Board President Kristen Betts



Nominated by: Ryan Murray  
PEAK Award: Sue Miller, Secretary, Orchard Hills Elem.  
Superintendent Rick Nielsen & Board President Kristen Betts



Nominated by: Amy Mathews, Jenny Staheli, Jessica Jones  
PEAK Award: Marie Mitchell, Speech, Larsen/Goshen  
Superintendent Rick Nielsen & Board President Kristen Betts



Nominated by: Linda Baird, Mike Johnson  
PEAK Award: Quinton Morse, Custodian, Hobbie Creek  
Superintendent Rick Nielsen & Board President Kristen Betts



Nominated by: Mike Larsen, Pam Norton, Daun Sorensen,  
Brent Coffman, Lana Hiskey, Trent Mikesell, Everett  
PEAK Award: Tiffanie Miley, Assist. Principal, Springville High  
Superintendent Rick Nielsen & Board President Kristen Betts



Nominated by: Jesse Sorensen, RaShel Shepherd,  
Alyssa Behrend  
PEAK Award: Linda Walter, Teacher, Payson High  
Superintendent Rick Nielsen & Board President Kristen Betts



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



# Nebo District's Celebrations

**Student Celebrations**

SFHS Band — 1A STATE CHAMPIONS.

MMHS Band — 2A STATE CHAMPIONS.

Stephanie Zavala, Mt. Nebo Junior, was selected as the Daily Herald Student of the Week.

Bri Sorenson, SHS, was awarded the Mayor's Recognition Award by Springville City.

Makayla Cazier, MMHS, is competing at the Winter Swim Junior Championships.

**Employee/Program Celebrations**

MMHS wins the prestigious UIAAA Director's Cup Award for 2017. MMHS has earned this four times out of the last five years.

Amber Capell, Mt. Nebo Junior, was selected as the Daily Herald Educator of the Week.

Amy Banks, Diamond Fork Junior, recipient of the National Gallo Grant English Award.

Brent Coffman, Special Education and Federal Programs Coordinator, was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Utah Association of School Psychologists.

## BE A Nebo Hero

**Penny Wilson**, Secretary, Payson Junior, "She always demonstrates a love for serving students and completing her assignments." Recognized by Eric Archer.

**Joy Maughan**, Secretary, MMHS, "Her name says it all. She is always available to help at every turn. She makes everyone feel important." Recognized by Michelle Richins.

**Donna Baller**, Volunteer, Orchard Hills, "She loves the staff, teachers, and students unconditionally. She always has a positive attitude and loves to be at Orchard Hills! She is an inspiration to us all!" Recognized by Kim Andrews.

**Scott Shepherd**, Custodian, SHHS, "With Scott, you do not need ask for help -- you simply need to think it, and he has the job done the next day. Scott offers to help in every way, and then gets the job done, quickly." Recognized by Lee Gillie.

**Heidi Whittaker**, Parent Mentor, District Wide, "Heidi works tirelessly to provide assistance to families with special and educational needs. She is the voice of reason and definition of patience." Recognized by Kali Brown.

**Cassie Reese**, Teacher, MMHS, "She looks for ways to make the classes better for the students and invests time and energy to constantly becoming better." Recognized by Krista Prusak.

**Lynn Hansen**, Speech, Santaquin, "He is amazing and extremely helpful, knowledgeable and positive. He provides resources through difficult situations." Recognized by Ashley Love.

**Mikell Valgardson**, Teacher, Diamond Fork Jr., "Mikell is always going above and beyond to try and help teachers. As a new teacher, she has helped me already." Recognized by Melissa Bost.

**Andrew Lovell**, Teacher, Westside, "He encourages students to give community service. His teaching is engaging and authentic. He praises students and makes them feel safe." Recognized by Ashley Lovell.

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